

CONFESSIONS OF A SWORD SWALLOWER

I have been connected with the conjuring and tumbling professions, and every branch of them, for forty-six years.

Twenty years ago, the rival parties in office and opposition were led by two men the most dissimilar in character and sentiment, but who might equally claim the merit of having raised themselves by their own ability and perseverance to the distinguished positions which they held.

At one time I used to swallow three swords, a knife, and two forks, of course keeping the handles in my mouth, and having all the blades in my stomach together.

When I found myself injured by the swallowing, I had lost my appetite, and the doctor advised me to take honey and liquids, tea, beer, and sometimes a drop of grog.

I tried then and there, and I did swallow him. It felt cold and slimy as it went down. I didn't feel afraid, for I kept tight hold of him by the tail; and no one has any right to be afraid of a grass snake.

I have taken five shillings, and as low as one shilling, when I swallowed snakes in the streets of London.

And mankind are wisely furnished with an instinct that forbids them to put much faith in those who have little in themselves. Peel in his latter days seemed to have keenly felt and silently to have mourned over his political isolation.

When I was slapper making I had from 3s. 6d. to 4s. a dozen, the bistory costing me 1s. 6d. leaving me 2s. for a dozen.

CHARACTERS AND CAREERS OF PEEL AND BROUGHAM.

From the London Times. Twenty years ago, the rival parties in office and opposition were led by two men the most dissimilar in character and sentiment, but who might equally claim the merit of having raised themselves by their own ability and perseverance to the distinguished positions which they held.

It hardly violates, therefore, the maxim of the classic sage, until their career in life has closed, if we venture to compare the characters of these distinguished individuals, and to contrast their relative services to their country.

Bigotry was imputed to Peel as a reproach; sedition was the muttered taunt perpetually on the lips of Brougham's enemies. Neither probably was just. The youthful secretary for Ireland found himself plunged into a lion's den, and the accusation against him is that he made friends of the Orange boys of prey, and eventually named them.

So, too, with the vehement clamor of the vindication of an injured Queen—the irresistible advocate of education reform—and the exultant boaster, when candidate for the West Riding, that he sought the suffrages of the people on the ground that he possessed "neither property, station, nor influence."

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ANALYSIS OF THE VOTE ON MR. PEARCE'S BILL.

An examination of the vote in the Senate of the United States, upon the passage of the Pearce adjustment of the Texas boundary bill, may not be uninteresting at this juncture.

For the bill, in round numbers, 8,500,000 Against the bill, 6,650,000 Absent, 1,924,000

So that, if the absent Senators be regarded as opposed to the bill, it would have a small majority of the population against it; but there is little or no doubt, that if Mr. Clay, Mr. Downs, Mr. Pratt and Mr. Mangum, had been present, they would have voted for the bill.

For the bill, in round numbers, 9,678,000 Against the bill, 6,650,000 Absent, 746,000

If, therefore, these absent Senators would have voted, had they been present, as here supposed, then the majority of the population for the bill would have been 2,228,000.

The following whigs voted for the bill, viz: Messrs. Badger, of North Carolina; Bell, of Tennessee; Berrien, of Georgia; Caldwell, of Indiana; and Giddens, of Rhode Island, Cooper, of Pennsylvania; Davis and Winthrop, of Massachusetts; Pearce, of Maryland; Phelps, of Vermont; Smith, of Connecticut; and Spruance and Wales, of Delaware.

Governor Seward's vote against the bill was a natural one. He is not the man to play second fiddle to anybody. He is looking to the Presidency, not now, but at some distant day, and his chief business is, evidently, to vote upon all public measures as to anticipate the feelings of the public mind hereafter.

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KOSSUTH'S LETTER TO GENERAL CASB.

General: It is already ten months that I have the anguish of exile to endure. Nature has man's mind with wonderful elasticity endowed. It yields to many changes of fate, and gets accustomed even to adversity.

You remember you, patrician of Venice, who, when banished, feigned high treason, that he might at least from the scaffold cast over the Riado a glance once more.

Neither have I the consolation to have found mitigations of this grief at the hospitable hearth of a great free people, the contemplation of which, by the imposing view of freedom's wonderful powers, warms the despondent heart, making it in the destiny of mankind believe.

It is not a coward lamentation which makes me say all this. General, but the lively sense of gratitude and thankful acknowledgments for your generous sympathy. I wanted to sketch the darkness of my destiny, that you might feel what benefit must have been to me your beam of light, by which you, from the capital of free America, have heightened my night.

Yes, General, your powerful speech was not only the inspiration of sympathy for unmerited misfortune, so natural to noble, feeling hearts; it was the revelation of the justice of God—it was a leaf from the book of fate, unveiled to the world. On that day, General, you were sitting, in the name of mankind, in tribunal, passing judgment on despotism and the despots of the world; and as sure as the God of justice lives, your verdict will be accomplished.

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ELECTRO-MAGNETISM AS A MOTIVE POWER.

The important Question Settled.—Professor Page, in the lectures which he is delivering before the Smithsonian Institution, states that there is no longer any doubt of the application of this power as a substitute for steam.

He exhibited the most imposing experiments ever witnessed in this branch of science. An immense bar of iron, weighing one hundred and sixty pounds, was made to spring up by magnetic action, and to move rapidly up and down, dancing like a feather in the air, without any visible support.

The most beautiful experiment we ever witnessed was the loud sound and brilliant flash from the galvanic spark, when produced near a certain point in his great magnet. Each snap was as loud as a pistol; and when he produced the same spark at a little distance from this point, it made no noise at all.

He then exhibited his engine, of between four and five horse power, operated by a battery contained within a space of three cubic feet. It looked very unlike a magnetic machine. It was a reciprocating engine of two feet stroke, and the whole engine and battery weighed about one ton.

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STEAMBOAT NAVIGATION BETWEEN FAYETTEVILLE AND WILMINGTON.

The undersigned Proprietors of the Cape Fear Steam Boat Company beg leave to tender their thanks to the public for the liberal patronage received during the last season, and to take this opportunity to inform their patrons and the public generally that the boats added over fifty per cent to the capacity of the New Steamboat "Chatham," in navigating the river at all stages of water, giving their goods up without delay, especially in the spring season, when the river is usually too low for steam boats of ordinary draught to run.

The Steamer Co Graham, 24 years old Chatham, do Telegraph, do DIBLE & GROTHERS, do Exports, do

All the above Boats, are in the very best condition for the Fall business. The undersigned feel warranted in appealing to the shipping public for some increased patronage as will remunerate the vessel, and promise with every confidence that the boats of this Line shall be as well if not better served than they can be by any other on the River.

The arrangements for the Captains are intended to be permanent, and should experience suggest the necessity of any further increase of boats, the public may rely upon their being put on the River without delay.

One of the many things which I regret when I review my past life is, that I did not, from earliest youth, at least as soon as I was able to do it, take and preserve (I believe the technical word is "file") some good newspaper.

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RAIL ROAD HOTEL.

THE Subscriber having taken the above House, recently kept by Mrs. M. Nutt, would respectfully inform his friends, and the public generally, that the house is now open for the reception of Rail Road Passengers, and others, who may favor him with a call.

Proprietors, JOHN D. WILLIAMS, Agent, Cape Fear Steamboat Company, Fayetteville, July 19, 1856.

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