

Portrait.

From the Spirit of the Times. THE CANARY.

Sing away, little bird, sing away. In that dear little cage of thine; No sorrow can sadden thy lay. Or make thee at fortune repine. Oh thy soft yellow plumage so neat, The sun glistens brightly to-day; I see you have plenty to eat, Then sing, little bird, sing away!

HOW STATUES ARE MADE.

The following letter, in the Literary World, from George H. Calvert, describes the process of sculpture, and contains information that will undoubtedly be highly interesting to a large portion of our readers. It contains also some most admirable remarks upon the "Greek Slave," by Powers, which still further commend it to notice:

PROCESSES OF SCULPTURE.—The Greek Slave.—This statue having, on its first presentation to the American public, excited unbounded admiration and enthusiasm, a brief account of it will be interesting to its author's fellow-countrymen.

The Greek Slave is the second ideal work of the American sculptor, Hiram Powers; the Eve being his first. The clay model was begun and finished in the summer and autumn of 1842. American sculptors having been hitherto obliged to work abroad, but few of our citizens had opportunities of witnessing the labors of the studio; acceptable, therefore, will be some explanation of the several processes through which a work in sculpture must pass, ere the artist can present his conception smoothly embodied in marble.

The conception being matured in the artist's mind, the first step in the process of giving form to it is to erect, on a firm pedestal, a skeleton of iron, whose height, breadth, and limbs are determined by the size and shape of the proposed statue. In this case it would be about five feet high, with branches, first at the shoulders, running down forwards for the arms, then at the hips, to support the large mass of clay in the trunk, and thence divided in two for the legs. About this strong simple frame is now roughly built, with wet clay, the predetermined image. Rapidly is this moulded into an approximation to the human form; and when the trunk, head, and limbs have been definitely shaped, then begins the close labor of the mind. The living models are summoned, and by their aid the surface is wrought to its last stage of finish. I say models, for to achieve adequately a high ideal, several are needed. Nature rarely centres in one individual all her gifts of corporal beauty. For the Eve, Powers had more than a score of models. The modern Christian artist cannot be favored as was the painter Zeuxis of old, to whom a Grecian city, that had ordered from him a picture of Helen, sent a number of its choicest maids, that out of their various graces and beauties he might, as it were, extract one matchless form. For the "Slave," the character Powers had established in Florence for purity and uprightness obtained for him one model (who is not a professional sister) of such perfection of form as to furnish all he could derive from a model. With this breathing figure before him, and through his precise knowledge of the form and expression of every part of the human body, obtained from the study of nature and his own deep artistic intuitions, the clay under his hand gradually grew into life, as it assumed the elastic, vital look, which no mere anatomical knowledge or craft can give, but which is imparted by the genial sympathy with nature's living forms in alliance with a warm sensibility to the beautiful—qualities which crown and render effectual the other less elevated endowments for art. Thus, by the most minute manual labor, directed by those high and refined mental gifts, the clay model of the "Slave" was wrought out; and there the artist's work ended; the creation was complete. The processes whereby it was now to be transferred to marble, though of a delicate, difficult kind, and requiring labor and time, are

purely mechanical, and are performed, under the artist's direction, by uninspired hands.

In order that the soft clay image be transformed into a harder substance without suffering the slightest change in its surface, a mould is applied to it, in the same way and with the same material as when a cast is taken of the living face or head, by means of semi liquid plaster of Paris. The clay figure is entirely covered with this substance from one to two or more inches thick, provision being made for taking of the arms and for splitting the trunk after the plaster shall have hardened. The clay is then all taken out, the hollow mould is cleaned, and then refilled with semi-liquid plaster of Paris.—When this, which now occupies entirely and minutely the place of the clay, has in its turn become hardened, the outside crust of plaster is broken from it, and then is laid bare an exact fac-simile of the original clay figure in hard smooth plaster of Paris, capable of bearing the usage of the studio, and of receiving the many marks that are to guide the marble-cutters, whose work now begins.

First comes the blocker-out, with his heavy mallet and coarse chisel, under whose rough blows the white block soon begins to grow into a rude likeness of humanity. Then a finer workman, who loosens more of the folds that overlay the beaming image that the artist is bent on disclosing from the centre of the marble. And, finally, the artist himself, or, as in this case, a refined worker, schooled under the eye of Powers, gives the finishing touches, reproducing, with unsurpassed accuracy, in the transparent pure marble every swell and indentation and minutest curve, all the countless delicacies of detail, which, combined with and forming grand sweeping lines, characterize the original as moulded in clay by the hand of Powers.

And now, in the midst of us, here is the marvellous work, drawing from our hearts a flood of vivifying, purifying emotion; a revelation made by its author to his countrymen of the power and majesty of art. They who have looked in silent delight on the Venus of the Tribune in Florence, no longer enjoy a unique privilege. On our native shore, sprung from the warm bosom of native strength, a fresh emanation from the exhaustless soul of beauty, stands a work as resplendent with the impress of genius as the famed Grecian goddess, as sublimely simple, as vividly graceful, and more touching in its moral appeal. The stronger the genius, the simpler the elements wherewith it delights to work.—How simple, how common are those by which such overpowering effect is wrought: a young maiden in a condition of painful constraint. But the two great sources of human interest—the human body, and, shining through it, the human soul—are here. The artist had the creative vision to reproduce, in its indescribable symmetry, its matchless grace, its infinite beauty, that chief marvel of the earth, the human body, making transparent through these attributes deep inward power and emotion; and it is because he has had this inspired mastery that, standing before his work, the beholder is not only spell-bound by beauty, but awed by a solemn ineffable feeling, and mysteriously drawn closer in to the chastening presence of God. G. H. CALVERT.

Mrs. Lafayette.—In 1784, Mr. John Adams, who was afterwards President of the United States, was residing in France for a season. His wife who was a very worthy woman, called one day on the lady of Gen. Lafayette, and soon this lady visited Mrs. Adams in return. Mrs. Lafayette was very modestly dressed, while the American ladies present were mostly in very gay attire. While at the table, one of those who sat near Mrs. Adams whispered to her saying, "Good heavens, how awfully she is dressed." Mrs. Adams rebuked the observation, and returned the whisper by saying that "the lady's rank placed her above the little formalities of dress." We wish it was the case now that all who occupy honorable places would feel themselves above such small matters, and indeed that every one would consider that a brilliant and well trained mind, good conduct, and agreeable manners set those off that possess them to almost infinitely better advantage than costly array and sparkling diamonds.—Exeter News Letter.

A witty friend of ours being asked if he was in favor of the war replied, "Yes, I am in favor of the war. I went against a war once to my great cost, and you will never catch me in another scrape of that kind. This time," said he, "I go in for war, pestilence, and famine." How admirably does this stroke of irony take off the cold hearted and hot-headed demagogues of the day. For there are demagogues who do not go in for the war, nor for any thing else, simply because they deem it just; but they go in for war, pestilence and famine, if they could gain their own selfish ends by it.—Illinois Journal.

Aye, and there are those who, from the fear of being compared to the old Hartford Convention federalists, by their votes approved of the war in direct contradiction to their known sentiments, and in direct violation of their own consciences. Approving of the war and energetic means for its termination are two things. How much more sublime and admirable was the course taken by Mr. Calhoun, who stood up to his responsibility in spite of any narrow party interests. Such are the men who dignify and adorn a station or a party.—New World.

We hear it stated that a petition is in circulation, urging that no widow shall be allowed to marry until all the single ladies are disposed of.

Gold Pens—their Manufacture, &c.—

The following account of the manufacture of Gold Pens, we copy from the N. York correspondence of the Charleston Courier. That portion of our readers who have a taste for noting the origin, progress, &c. of such matters, will find it interesting.

New York, Oct. 8, 1847.

There are now two very pretty controversies going on in the newspapers here—one between the friends and the opposers of "Amalgam" for filling teeth, and the other between the rival sellers of gold pens. Whether Amalgam be well or evil for filling teeth, the controversy at any rate fills the teeth of the newspaper publishers, for such a war as this is only carried on at advertising rates. The controversy about gold pens waxes rather warm, the dealers trying to undersell each other, until a pen and sizer case can be bought at \$14. The first pen I bought cost \$5. This business, by the way, is a striking instance of the rapidity with which in this country a Yankee notion grows up to be a matter of mercantile importance. It is only nine years since the first gold pen was manufactured, and now they are numbered by thousands weekly. I well remember using silver pens previously to 1835, but they were without hardened points, or elasticity, and soon became useless. In 1838, the Rev. Mr. Cleveland conceived the idea that pens might be made of gold which would be better than quill pens, and more economical, although made of such costly material. He communicated his ideas to Brown, who improved on them, and who was the first maker of gold pens in this or any other country. After Brown came Bagley, and then a dozen other makers, such was the demand for the article—Bagley is the most extensive manufacturer. Surprising as it may seem, he employs a capital of \$80,000 in this business. His expenses are \$1,000 per week. Platt & Brothers in the early stages of the manufacture, made a contract with Brown & Bagley for all the pens they made, and thus had the monopoly of the market for three years. The gold \$75,000 per annum of this article, nearly one half of which was profit. Bagley then went on, and has made a rapid fortune. His pens rank the first in the market, although Brown's, and the "Richieu" pen, made by E. Watson & Co., are equally good. In the manufacture of pens, the gold is first rolled out in ribbons, and then cut with a die to the required shape, the points put on, and then ground down to the required nib. The points are iridium, a new metal formed with platinum. The points are all imported generally, without the ceremony of an introduction to the Custom House, and cost from \$7 to \$55 per ounce. The pen and case sell from \$10 to \$30 per dozen. The manufacture of the silver cases is a distinct business, and employs a large capital. It is not easy to make an estimate of the number of pens manufactured per annum, but it is not probably less than 1,000,000, of which Brown & Bagley make about one half. A person who had not thought of the subject, would scarcely suppose that eight hundred pounds' weight of gold were used up every year in the manufacture of such a trifling article as pens, a business unknown ten years ago—yet, such is the fact. The demand for the article is enormous, and it is now difficult to find a person who writes at all, unprovided with this most economical of all pens. One export of 1,000 gross has been made to England, where they sell for a guinea a piece.

THE KEY OF DEATH.

In the collection of curiosities preserved in the arsenal at Venice, there is a key of which the following singular tradition is related:

About the year 1699, one of those dangerous men whose extraordinary talent is only the source of crime and wickedness beyond that of ordinary men, came to establish himself as a merchant or trader in Venice. The stranger, whose name was Tebaldo, became enamoured of the daughter of an ancient house, already affianced to another. He demanded her hand in marriage, and was of course rejected. Enraged at this, he studied how to be revenged. Profoundly skilled in the mechanical arts, he allowed not himself to rest until he had invented the most formidable weapon that could be imagined. This was a key of large size, the handle of which was so constructed that it could be turned round with little difficulty. When turned, it discovered from the other end a needle lancet of such subtle fineness, that it entered into the flesh, and buried itself there, without leaving external trace. Tebaldo waited in disguise at the church in which the maiden whom he loved was about to receive the nuptial benediction. The assassin sent the slender steel unperceived, into the breast of the bridegroom. The wounded man had no suspicion of injury but seized with sudden and sharp pain in the midst of the ceremony, he fainted, and was carried to his house amid the lamentations of the bridal party.

Vain was all the skill of physicians who could not divine the cause of this strange illness, and in a few days he died. Tebaldo again demanded the hand of the maiden from her parents, and received a second refusal. They too perished miserably in a few days. The alarm which these deaths, which appeared almost miraculous, occasioned, excited the utmost vigilance of the magistrature, and when on close examination of bodies, the small instrument was found in the gangrened flesh, terror was universal, every one feared for his own life. The maiden thus cruelly orphaned, had passed the first few months of her mourning in a convent when Tebaldo, hoping to bend her to his will, entreated to speak with her at the gate. The face of the foreigner had been ever displeasing to her, but since the death of all those most dear to her, it had become odious (as though she had a presentiment of his guilt), and her reply was most decisive in the negative. Tebaldo, beyond himself with rage, attempted to wound her through the gate, and succeeded; the obscurity of the place prevented the movement from being observed. On her return to her room, the maiden felt a pain in her breast and uncovering it, she found it spotted with a single drop of blood. The pain increased, the surgeon who hastened to her assistance, taught by the past, wasted no time in conjecture, but cutting deep into the wounded part, extracted the needle before any mortal mischief had commenced, and saved the life of the lady. The State inquisition used every means to discover the hand which dealt those insidious and irresistible blows. The visit of Tebaldo to the convent caused suspicion to fall heavily upon him. His house was carefully searched, the invention discovered, and he perished on the gibbet.

The Electric Telegraph wires in London are being put under ground in pipes. Raising the wire on poles is, at best, but a careless mode of securing them.

From the Raleigh Star. LIEUT. YARBROUGH.

We look with much interest to any intelligence we can catch of the gallant young men who went from this city last winter as volunteers in the service of their country to Mexico. We are, therefore, gratified to learn from the following extract from a late letter of Capt. Henry, that Lieut. YARBROUGH, son of Col. EDWARD YARBROUGH, of this City, has been placed in a post of honour and great responsibility for so young an officer—a compliment furnishing the most satisfactory evidence of his good conduct and soldierly bearing in the army.—A report that General Filasola, (a great General) and other Mexican commanders, with large forces—having heard that the main strength of Gen. Taylor's army had been withdrawn to reinforce General Scott—were marching upon the remainder of his army, reached the camps of Buena Vista and Saltillo and created much excitement, and caused the movement alluded to by Capt. Henry. It, however, happily turned out to be a false rumor. The following is the extract:

"On the 21st inst. [August] in the midst of another of those stampedes so incident to this service and so fashionable in these parts, I suddenly broke up our comfortable quarters in 'Colegio del Cristo,' and by orders of General Wool through our military Governor and commandant Major Washington, on that day took position on these heights [Heights of Saltillo] to support the heavy battery of Captain Prentiss. I was immediately joined by another company of our regiment, viz: co. 'H,' commanded by Lieut. Yarbrough, sent in by order to give the battery a stronger support; so that, the two companies are now encamped in regular order under my command; and well prepared to meet the enemy coming from any direction, or to give the corps of artillery posted in front of us that support which 'infantry of the line' are so well calculated to afford the former in an engagement."

Lieut. Bryan.—Our gallant young townsman, Lieut. Francis T. Bryan, being on a visit to his parents and friends in this city, the occasion was improved, on Saturday night last, by the Committee charged with the duty, to present him with the sword voted to him by a public meeting of his fellow-citizens of Raleigh held some months since. The ceremony was performed in the Senate Chamber, in the presence of a large and brilliant assemblage—the sword having been presented by Duncan K. McRae, Esq., in an eloquent address, which was very neatly and appropriately responded to by Lt. B. The sword was made, under the direction of C. B. Root, Esq., by N. P. Ames, of Cabotville, Mass.—is a splendid specimen of rich and beautiful workmanship—and bears the following inscription: "Lieut. Francis T. Bryan—Presented by his fellow-citizens of Raleigh, N. C., for his gallantry and good conduct at the battle of Buena Vista."—Raleigh Star.

THE RAIL ROAD.

Next Tuesday, it will be recollected, is the day appointed for the meeting at Yanceyville, N. C., in behalf of the Richmond and Danville Railroad. A strong delegation should be in attendance from this place.

Since the highly successful mission of Messrs. Tunstall, Witcher, Towns, and others to Richmond, in behalf of this improvement, there can be no doubt that the company will be forthwith organized and the work soon commenced.

The sentence has indeed already gone forth, the people have pronounced it—this road shall be constructed, and who will idly attempt to estimate the benefits that are to flow from it! No longer will it take four or five days to perform the trip from here to Richmond—eight or ten hours will suffice for that purpose! No longer will our farmers be shut out from the best of markets—no longer will it cost them more to send a hoghead of tobacco from this county to Richmond than it can be shipped from St. Louis by the Lakes to the same market for! No longer will the rich mineral resources of this region of the State be neglected and forgotten; no longer will the grass grow in our streets, or the traces of decay be every where visible in our town; but this whole section of country, unsurpassed in the extent of its natural resources, shall "bloom and blossom as the rose."—Danville Herald.

A Georgia Cotton Factory.—A correspondent of the Savannah Georgian, writing from Green county, thus describes the Scull Shoals Cotton Manufactory, situated about fourteen miles northwest of Greensborough, on the Oconee river. The other is the Cutright Manufacturing Company, on Long Shoals, seventeen miles southwest from Greensborough. The capital invested is \$100,000, and I understand the prospects of the Company are flattering. Ample provision is made for the education of the children of the operatives who are too small to work. A clergyman is employed by the Company, who devotes his whole time to the instruction of the operatives. I am told that the morals of the operatives are good. The wages vary from 6 to 10 dollars per month. It is with pleasure that I state, that the company, at the national fair in the city of Washington, received the first honor for domestics, and some time after, the American Institute awarded the medal to this company for yarns, notwithstanding there were more than 300 competitors for the honor. I wish success to all the manufacturing companies of Georgia.

No State possesses water resources to a greater extent than Georgia; and I hope that the enterprising citizens who have invested their capital in manufacturing establishments will meet with success far beyond their expectations.

A blast was made, on the 11th instant, at the gneiss quarry of Hon. Geo. G. Leiper, Ridley township, Pennsylvania, which cut out a block of the following dimensions: Depth, 13 feet 6 inches; width, 56 feet at one end and 24 at the other; length, exteriorly, 146 feet; interiorly 110 feet. By a rough estimate, the solid contents may be set down at 75,000 cubic feet, with a weight of 5,770 tons. The bore was thirteen feet deep, two inches in diameter at the bottom, and two kegs of powder were employed.

DR. KUHLS' MEDICINES: RESTORER OF THE BLOOD, FOR CHRONIC AND OTHER DISEASES. DYSPEPSIA, general debility, decline, diseases of the skin, of the liver, of the lungs, coughs, Fever and Ague, bilious affections, etc. Price, per bottle, \$2 50; pint do. \$1 50.

DEPURATIVE POWDER, For Freer and Ague, Bilious Affections, Inflammatory Diseases, Gravel, Worms, Head-Ache or Malaria, Fullness of the Head, Dimness of Sight, &c., which is to be taken in the Restorer. Price 50 cts. per box.

Universal or Strengthening Plaster, for disease of the chest, pains, weaknesses, etc. 50 cts.

ABYSSINIA MIXTURE, An incomparable Tonic. 50 cents.

GOLD MINE BALSAM, An incomparable Tonic. 50 cents.

THESE MEDICINES are of Dr. Kuhl's own discovery, prepared by himself, and have been disposed of in this country for about ten years past, with unparalleled success. A great number of testimonials are in the possession of his agents, and may be seen by calling at their stores. We present here two specimens of them.

From the Randolph Herald. Letter from J. M. A. Drake, Esq., Clerk of Sup. Court, Ashborough, N. C.

ASHEBOROUGH, N. C., Jan. 15, 1847. DR. KUHLS.—Dear Sir: I take pleasure in bearing testimony to the beneficial results of your Medicines. Mr. Noah Smitherman, was severely attacked with Inflammatory Rheumatism, during the Summer of 1844; he resorted to your Medicines for relief, and soon obtained it; he was effectually cured by the use of the Restorer of the Blood, &c. I can further say, that no person has ever tried them sufficiently, but what have been well satisfied with their efficacy. Respectfully, J. M. A. DRAKE.

From the Milton Chronicle. Letter from J. R. Callum, Esq., Milton, N. C.

DR. KUHLS.—Dear Sir: Your Medicines have given entire satisfaction in this section of country. The Abyssinia Mixture especially, is highly approved of. It has never failed to cure in every case. It sells like hot cakes. I have never had enough to supply the demand. You will please send me a large supply of it as soon as you arrive at home. Yours respectfully, J. R. CALLUM.

Milton Drug Store, Aug. 14, 1847.

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DR. LE... VEGETABLE... The only known... Dr. Le Roy's Pills have been... into the United States... of peculiar value... new or foreign countries... ment in their digestive... quently fatal—of the... This mostly develops... attended by headache... Roy's Pills may be de... dence as a preventive... have already occurred... to health. Other purg... relieving the body of... weak by the process... Dr. Le Roy's Pills on... strengths at the same... they produce are cur... distinguishes them from... dicitary laxatives are... worse than the drugg... their effects on the bow... pel the Heart and Liver... active discharge of the... are a strong digestion... and thus they secure he... by keeping the entire... in a state of action, re... be affected by external... England to Australia, a... bundantly supplied with... es of which" says the... ter in the London Medical... is worth more in applica... than a great quantity... added, that persons goi... be sure to carry along w... invaluable Pills. They... in need, for they will... of hope and spirits, in... food, change of climate... out which travellers, and... tries usually have to re... leave for Mexico without... Pills in his knapsack.

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DR. KUHLS.—Dear Sir: Your Medicines have given entire satisfaction in this section of country. The Abyssinia Mixture especially, is highly approved of. It has never failed to cure in every case. It sells like hot cakes. I have never had enough to supply the demand. You will please send me a large supply of it as soon as you arrive at home. Yours respectfully, J. R. CALLUM.

Milton Drug Store, Aug. 14, 1847.

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From the Randolph Herald. Letter from J. M. A. Drake, Esq., Clerk of Sup. Court, Ashborough, N. C.

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