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VARIETY.



FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

FREE SCHOOL RHYMES.

The Whigs have said, "let there be light" To lead the "workies" out of night; In other words, "let there be schools" For manufacturing working tools.

Money, and nought but money can Effect this great enlightening plan; And nought but "workies" can produce The "one thing needful" for its use.

MORDECAI IN THE GATE.

To His Excellency, the Governor of North Carolina and the Members of the Legislature of that State.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—"At the ninth annual meeting of the American Lyceum, held in the city of New-York on the 3rd, 4th and 6th of May, 1839, the following resolutions, proposed by Professor Brooks, of Massachusetts, were mutually considered and unanimously adopted: viz.

"Resolved, That it is expedient to hold a National Convention for one week in the 'Hall of Independence' at Philadelphia, beginning on the 23d of November next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of discussing the various topics connected with elementary education in the United States.

The undersigned having been appointed to form the committee, do now in obedience to their instructions respectfully address you on this paramount subject.

degree? What should be the qualification of teachers? Are normal schools (or seminaries for the preparation of teachers) desirable? On what plan should they be established? Is a central normal school for the Union desirable? Should it be under the direction of Congress or a society of citizens?—What connection should the common schools have with academies, colleges and universities? What models for school houses are best? Will a "board of Education" established by each State, afford the best supervision, and secure the highest improvement of the schools?—How can itinerant teachers and lecturers best supply destitute places? Is a national system of instruction desirable?—How should a school fund be applied?—In what part of each State has the greatest progress been made in elementary education? How may school statistics, which must be the basis of legislation, be most easily collected? What features of the systems now in operation in Holland, Germany, Prussia, France and Great Britain, may be most usefully adopted in this country?

FELLOW CITIZENS:—The discussion of these and kindred topics will probably elicit a mass of information the importance of which cannot be easily overstated.—We would therefore urge those who shall attend the Convention, to come prepared for making known the valuable facts they can gather. Believing that all the talent of a country should be so tempted forth, by judicious culture, as to bring it into profitable and harmonious action; that it is important to the public good as well as to private happiness that we should receive the requisite supply of useful information; and that each faculty which the Creator has implanted in childhood should be developed in its natural order, proper time & due proportion, we invite you to secure the attendance of delegates from your State prepared to promote this first duty of our republic—the education of our youth.

Believing that our country must look to intelligence as its defence and to virtue as its life-blood; and that the plan now proposed, originating in the most enlightened views of freedom and humanity, will be the first in a series of means for securing the greatest good to future generations, not only among us but to our sister republics, the Lyceum desires to bring into a focus all the light which can be collected in our land. Some of the most distinguished gentlemen in several States have promised to be present; and we would suggest the expediency of inviting the members of Congress (who will be on their way to Washington about the time of the meeting) to join the Convention.

With the most heartfelt good wishes for the success of every effort for the benefit of the young both in your State and throughout the Union, we are, Your friends and fellow citizens, T. PRELINGHUYSON, of N. J. CHAS. CROOKS, of Mass. JOHN GRICOM, of Penn. H. R. SCHOOLCRAFT, of Mich. T. DWIGHT, Jun. of N. Y. New York, June, 1839.

P. S. We respectfully invite each Editor of a newspaper in the United States to give his patrons the opportunity of reading the above circular; and to add this postscript as recording our sincerest thanks for his friendly co-operation.

Eoneguski.—We are gratified to find that this new novel, written by a distinguished citizen of North Carolina, has met with approbation from so respectable a source as the Democratic Review. The author had, no doubt, reasons satisfactory to his own mind, for concealing his name from the public—but so far as a name can influence its success, that would have given credit to Eoneguski, with the admirers of brilliant talent and private virtue. We trust the reading public will procure this work and pronounce upon its merits after a perusal. To such an issue it may be safely committed.—Raleigh Standard.

The New Orleans Courier estimates the loss on this year's exportation of Cotton from that port at two millions of dollars, according to the most moderate calculations.

Jacksonville, Sept. 14. More Indian News.—A gentleman direct from Middle Florida informs us, that on the 25th ult., while a party of regulars attached to a Post near the Suwannee River, were engaged in building a bridge about two miles from the Fort, they were fired on by a party of Indians, (the number our informant did not know,) and six of their number killed. They were under the command of a Sergeant, who was among the slain. They were rallied by a private, and although inferior in point of numbers to their savage foe, succeeded in beating the Indians back, and securing their dead and wounded. Six of their number shouldered each a dead man, and retreated, the Indians pursuing and firing upon them. They succeeded, however, in getting to

the Fort, promptly returning the fire of the Indians during the whole distance. The conduct of the regulars in this short but severe engagement, is said to have been very brave and soldier-like.—Three or four Indians were seen to fall, being borne off by their companions.

Savannah Georgian. A man named Pizarro Edmunds has fled from Richmond to avoid the consequences of the crimes of swindling and forgery, after having resided some years in that city in good credit and with a reputation unsuspected by the most critical observers of men. He was a member of the Common Council and President of the Union Savings Bank.—Norfolk Her.

Tornado.—A violent tornado passed in the vicinity of Newark, N. J., on Wednesday last whose force it seems was nearly equal to the well remembered New Brunswick tornado. Some individuals at work upon the salt meadows, hearing the noise of its approach, took refuge in a solitary house and were severely injured when the spout swept over the house, with awful power, carrying away the whole upper story and leaving two of the family who had fled to the second floor, with no other covering than the broad canopy above. The barn and out houses on the north were shivered into ruins and the fragments scattered two and three hundred yards along the path of the storm. A horse and wagon at the door were turned completely over, the wagon and harness torn from the horse, passing lengthwise over him and shivered into atoms the strong-iron joints being torn asunder.—ib.

Miss Westfalls.—The statement going the rounds of the papers, that this young lady, the victim of Capt. Appleby, was dead, is untrue. The Buffalo Republican says, the report was put in circulation by her worthless father, to extort money from Appleby for a settlement of the case.

Smuggled Goods.—Jesse Hoyt, the collector of New York, has recently detected an extensive and organized system of defrauding the revenue by importations of goods under false invoices. Within the last two weeks he has ferreted out the schemes of the smugglers, and taken possession of goods in New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, exceeding \$800,000 in amount.

It is stated in the Philadelphia Inquirer, that a person in the employ of some of the parties implicated in the recent seizures of smuggled goods in that city, has become States evidence and developed much important testimony as connected with the affair. The plan, it is added, extended to a number of individuals.

It is estimated that the late seizures of foreign goods at Boston, Philadelphia, and principally New York, amount to nearly two millions of dollars.

The Case of the Amistad's Crew Decided.—The New York Journal Commerce, Saturday, 2, P. M. has the following postscript. "We learn that a member of the Grand Jury arrived in this city this morning in the steamboat from Hartford and states that Judge Thompson decided, that in view of the facts presented by them, the Courts of this country had no jurisdiction in the case, and that the transaction was to use the same as if taking place in Havana. Consequently the Grand Jury found no bill against the prisoners."

Persecution in Madagascar.—The Queen of Madagascar has been for four years engaged in a violent persecution of the natives who had embraced the Christian religion. Six refugees lately arrived in London from that Island. In 1835 the English missionaries had collected 5000 of the native children into schools, and two churches had been erected and well filled. The missionaries have been obliged to abandon the Island, and some of their converts have suffered death.

The Spanish Government, by a formal decree, has prohibited the Methodist Missionaries from exercising their functions in any part of the kingdom.

Live and Learn.—The Baltimore Patriot notices the simple mode adopted by a gentleman in that city to set forward a stubborn horse which in passing he observed a carman beating unmercifully. The horse had refused to move a step forward for hours, albeit he backed more readily than desired. The gentleman ordered a rope, which he directed tied to the tail of the horse, and passing between his legs out at the front. He took hold of it and gave it a pull. The horse looked wild for an instant as if taken by surprise, and at the same time gave indications, by kicking up, that he disliked the new plan of driving. The rope was pulled strongly, and the horse with a very quick motion started off. The triumph was complete, and the infliction of more cruelty spared.

The plan is the one used in driving stubborn mules in South America.

Knowledge is Power.—At a meeting which took place the other evening for the purpose of forming a North Mechanics' Institution, Mr. Basil Montague, as an illustration of the maxim that knowledge is power, related the following anecdote:—He was walking a few months ago in Portland place, when he observed a large crowd of people assembled, and found that it was in consequence of a large mastiff dog having a lesser one in his grip. Several persons tried, by splitting the mastiff's ear, and by biting and pinching his tail to make it let go its hold, but in vain. At last a delicate and dandified young gentleman came up and made his way through the crowd into the circle, requested to be allowed to separate the dogs: assent was given amid jeers and laughter, when the dandy slowly drew from his pocket a large snuff-box and having taken a pinch himself inserted his fingers again into the box, and withdrawing a large pinch deliberately applied it to the mastiff's nose. The snuff operated so powerfully on the animal's olfactory nerves, that it not only immediately let go its hold, but made its escape as fast as it could. The dandy was loudly cheered, upon which he stopped for a moment and said, "Gentlemen, I have merely given you a proof that "knowledge is power."

It is stated in a French print that an artist of Paris has succeeded in preparing a chemical compound, that he calls Anti-Septic Fluid, which preserves animal bodies from corruption more perfectly than the ancient practice of embalming. The mode which is applied is very simple. All that need be done is to inject the fluid into the carotid artery or any other of the great vessels. This preserves the body without any external corrosion or disfigurement, and without internal mutilation, without disembowelling or the removal of the brain. Bodies thus preserved, it is said look more like waxen figures than corpses. In birds the plumage, and in beasts the color, skin and hair, are retained in all the freshness and beauty of life.

New York Evening Post.

First Rate Business.—A doctor in Vermont had a son who studied his father's profession, removed to a distant State, married, and went into practice. After a lapse of about three years, the father visited his son, and during his visit he requested the latter to take him around his "ride," that he might see the extent of his son's practice. During the excursion the old gentleman remarked two new meeting houses, with graveyards attached, which the younger informed him had been filled since his residence there. He also told his father that he had frequent calls to a distance from his regular circuit. Upon the old gentleman's return home, his wife asked "how Fred was doing." "Well; very well; first rate," he replied; "he has already filled one graveyard full, another nearly so, & is doing a pretty fair chance business all about in other parts of the country."

Equal to Morus.—almost.—The Rohan Potato appears to be taking a prominent stand among the wonders of this prolific age. From all quarters we have accounts of the most astonishing yield which was resulted from its cultivation. It is stated in the Franklin (Pa.) Repository, that Mr. Samuel Ruthrauff, of that County planted seven ounces of Rohan Potato this season which yielded fifty pounds! The same paper mentions that Messrs. Hurst & Deer, of Philadelphia, obtained five bushels, as the product of five potatoes. The Philad. U. S. Gazette says that Mr. Wolbert a farmer near Philadelphia, planted in his garden two of the Rohans, weighing, together, three-quarters of a pound. They were cut into twenty-four sets, and planted two feet apart, on the 10th of April. Their yield was as follows:—201 potatoes, measuring one bushel and a half peck, and weighing sixty-three pounds nett.—Norfolk Herald.

Scene on board a Steamboat.—The Louisville Journal gives the following account of an occurrence on board a steamboat: An amusing incident occurred the other day on board a steamboat bound up from New Orleans, between a gentleman and a ruffianly blackleg, who were engaged at a game of poker. The betting upon the game ran up to \$8,000, when the gentleman exhibited the four aces. "You certainly hold the strongest cards, but I think here is a document that can take the money," said the blackleg, making a motion for the bank bills with one hand and drawing a bowie knife with the other, and pointing to the inscription, "Hark from the Tombs." "I think you are mistaken in your calculations," retorted the gentleman, coolly pocketing the money and displaying a cocked pistol with the inscription, "A doleful sound." The discomfited had not another word to say.