



The Tarborough Press,

BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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Letters addressed to the Editor must be post paid or they may not be attended to.

VARIETY.



FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

TO AMANDA.

Lady, life is bright to thee,
All a vision of delight;
Lady, nought is dear to me,
When I want thy lovely light.
Let the festive scene pass by,
With its beauty, with its glare;
I heed not how the moments fly,
If Amanda is not there.
Lady, things that fit along
Thy rosy path of girlish glee,
Mav enchain with siren song,
But are not what they seem to be.
Lady, life is like a stream,
With its scenery lovely bright;
But along its margins teem
Hideous forms of gloomy night.

SILVIUS.

SELECTED FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

Mr. Howard: Here is a *moreau* for you! I defy the whole host of "metre ballad mongers" to beat it. They are the lines of Lee, the mad poet. Hide your heads, ye worshippers of the gentle nine!

Oh! that my lungs would bleat like butter'd peas,
And by their frequent bleatings catch the itch;
And grow as mangy as the Irish seas,
To engender whirlwinds on a shabby witch.

Not that a hard-rowed herring dare presume,
To swing a tith-pig in a catskin purse;
Because of the great hail stones that fell at Rome,
A lessening of the fall might take it worse.

I grant that drunken rainbows lulled to sleep,
Roar like Welch rabbits o'er a fair maid's eye;
Which made him laugh to see a puddling creep,
For creeping puddings only please the wise.

The reason's plain, for Charon's western barge,
Running full tilt against the subjunctive mood;
Beckoned to a porpoise and made the charge,
To fatten padlocks on antarctic food.

AN ABDUCTION PLAN.

The Richmond Whig of Thursday contains a letter from John H. Pleasants, Esq. detailing a plan which he says, was determined on pending the Presidential election of 1840, for the abduction of Mr. Van Buren from Washington, in the happening of a certain contingency. The letter is in reply to an anonymous note addressed to Mr. P., asking for information as to the true nature of the plan, if it was formed, as it was likely, the writer said, to be talked of and exaggerated.

In November 1840, before the final returns were from New York, the Whigs of Richmond apprehended for 24 hours, that the State had gone against them. The Democratic papers claimed it, which Mr. P. says, afterwards appeared to be a stratagem to affect Pennsylvania, which voted a few days after New York.

This was not suspected in Richmond at the time, and the Whigs were thrown into the greatest consternation; for, says Mr. P., "if New York had thus disappointed the sanguine calculations made upon her vote by the Whig Party, it was not doubted that Pennsylvania whose vote was hoped for rather than confidently expected, would follow her lead, and the vote of Virginia was already sufficiently in to render it next to certain that she had voted for Mr. Van Buren." The excitement in the city was very great, and was much increased by the 'universal conviction of the Whig party' in Richmond, that there had been fraudulent voting in Virginia to such extent? If by this fraudulent voting the State should be cast for Mr. Van Buren, and the States of New York and Pennsylvania had gone as it was then feared, it was assumed that he would have been indebted to fraud in Virginia for his election. The Whigs enquired, says Mr. P., what was to be done? Legal gentlemen were consulted, who decided there was no remedy in such an event—that the returns of the Presidential Commissioners were final and conclusive, and could not be looked behind.

Mr. P. says, political and party passions already in high ferment, were still further inflamed by the assurance that the laws could afford no redress for the monstrous

crime of strangling the voice of a free People by corrupting the ballot boxes. If it should even be demonstrated that it had been committed.—In this state of feeling, three individuals who happened to be together, interchanged opinion, found an entire concurrence of sentiment among themselves, and hastily arranged the heads of a plan for redressing the wrongs of the country by securing the person of Mr. Van Buren previous to his inauguration. Three things were to precede putting it in execution. 1. The election of Mr. Van Buren. 2. That he could not have been returned without the vote of Virginia. 3. Proof, carrying positive and undoubted certainty with it that this majority in Virginia was fraudulent. The preliminaries ascertained, twenty persons, men who could depend on one another, were to be admitted into the association under the pledge of secrecy and fidelity. Ten of the number were to proceed to Washington in a fast steambot, giving out that their object was a jaunt of amusement, to witness the approaching inauguration. It was imagined that there would be little difficulty in finding an opportunity of conveying Mr. Van Buren on board by stratagem of force, and this done the boat was to run with all despatch for Albemarle Sound, previously agreed upon as the destination. There the ten were to be met by their associates, and Mr. Van Buren to be escorted by the whole into the upper Districts of North Carolina. Cornwallis' 'most rebellious People in America,' and whom we knew to be known as staunch Whigs as their fathers were in 1780. Arrived there a manifesto was to be published, addressed the American People, declaring the motives and objects of the act, and the vicinage assembled and appealed to. Mr. Van Buren himself was to be treated with the greatest possible respect and courtesy compatible with safe custody. The manifesto was to demand a new election and the restoration of the rights of the majority.

The Trade Register contains a list of the Banks that have failed in the United States since the report of the Secretary of the Treasury for 1841, with the amount of capital, circulation and specie of each. The capital of the whole of them, one hundred and fifteen in number, is set down in the table at \$132,362,398; the circulation of the whole at \$43,329,554, and the specie on hand at \$10,289,571.

Perry's Victory.—The Anniversary of the memorable battle of Lake Erie was celebrated on Saturday last at Providence (R. I.) by a grand Military Festival and Review, to which all the companies of the State were invited. The Journal says the pageant was the most brilliant one of the kind ever witnessed there.

Rail Riding.—A man made his appearance lately in Castile, Wyoming county, N. Y., and palmed himself off as a drover. He exhibited a large roll he called money, and declared that "he was right in town with a pocket full of rocks!" Certain gentlemen were his humble servants forthwith. They rode round for him, purchasing horses, buggies, and stock. He drove the best horses and the handsomest buggy in town, and was the admired of all observers. He examined and purchased a quantity of cattle; and all were to assemble at the hotel on a certain day to receive their pay.—A crowd assembled, but our hero was minus the needful! The duped became clamorous, and the drover insolent. A Lynch court was held; the criminal was sentenced to be dipped thrice in the horse trough—to have one side of his head shaved; and to be rode out of town on a rail; which sentence was carried into effect forthwith.

Conviction of Stegall.—We have just been informed that Stegall, the individual charged with the murder of the German Pedlar, in Halifax county, in March last, was put on his trial before the Superior Court, Judge Leigh presiding, on Saturday last, and that on Monday, the Jury rendered a verdict of guilty of murder. The evidence although circumstantial was such as left not the least doubt of his guilt, on the mind of any individual.

We trust that the Executive arm will not be interposed to shield the culprit from a punishment demanded no less by the security of society than by the just claims of the law.—*Danville Rep of Friday.*

A Moderate Fortune.—It is stated that the Rothschilds of London have offered to compound their tax, under the new Income Tax Act of Sir Robert Peel, for the three years at £24,000. In other words they are willing to be let off with the payment to the tax collector of \$40,000 a year. They admit therefore if the report be true, that their annual income is at least one million three hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

It is a Humbug.—The Richmond Whig gives a humorous sketch of a series of experiments in Animal Magnetism, before a select company, (Mr. Ritchie being one of the number,) by two young gentlemen of that city—one the Mesmeriser, and the other the Mesmerizee. The eyes of the latter, after being magnetized, were effectually bandaged, and in that condition he swallowed, tasted, saw, and heard with the faculties of the operator, as in the case of Mr. French, and just as successfully establishing the "community of sensations" to the satisfaction of all present. Mr. Ritchie declaring both results to be similar, though more perfect than those of Mr. French! So far, so good—but then came the grand denouement. The two young gentlemen, having thus shown their ability to deceive the persons present, declared that there was no magnetism about the matter—that he who was supposed to be in a profound sleep was all the while wide awake, and that he was enabled to give correct answers to the questions asked by pre-concerted arrangements with the pretended magnetizer.

The Divining Rod.—The art of discovering water courses under the surface of the earth by means of a green rod newly cut from the peach, hazel or cherry tree, has been known in Europe for several years. It is said the discovery was made in Germany, but by whom is uncertain. Until a very late period it has been considered an imposture, and ranked with the arts of magicians and other vain pretenders to mysterious powers. This opinion of the power of the 'divining-rod' or 'magic wand,' as it has been termed, has undoubtedly arisen from the fact that in the hands of many persons the action of the rod is wholly imperceptible, while in others the attraction of the water, especially if it be near the surface and the vein large is surprisingly great. When the wand is of a brittle nature, the attractive power is so forcible as frequently to break it.

From the numerous experiments made in France, since the commencement of the present century, by Thouvenel and other men of science, the claims of the divining rod are found to rest on well known material powers. The art of finding water by its means is well established and promises to be of great utility to our country. The theory explaining the phenomena of the 'magic wand,' supposes that the water forms with the earth above it, and the fluids of the human body, a galvanic circle. This circle is more or less perfect, as the state and condition of the body of the operator qualifies it to be a better or worse conductor of the galvanic fluid. The human body is one of the best conductors yet discovered, and weakly or debilitated persons are said to be better conductors than persons in sound health, and the attraction is greatest when the skin is wet, particularly the hands & arms. Salt water, or a weak solution of muriatic acid, are the best fluids for moistening the skin. The effect will be increased if the operator be barefooted, his feet and hands having been previously wetted with either of the aforesaid fluids, but if he have silk gloves or stockings on, the rod will not be suspended by an electric or in immediate contact with an electric no attraction will be felt, and the degree of attraction varies as any substances lying between the water and the hand of the operator are more or less adapted to conduct the galvanic fluid.

Such are some of the facts stated by writers on the subject, but of the reality of the powers attributed to the 'divining-rod,' we now need no foreign authorities to carry conviction to every intelligent mind. We have in this city several operators; men of the most unquestionable character, whose powers have been tested by the severest scrutiny, and who have never failed to convince the most incredulous. The writer has known several stout unbelievers thrown into the most ludicrous predicament by suddenly discovering that they themselves were among the magi, and had all the powers of the best water-finders! The powers of the 'magic wand' being natural powers, it only requires that the natural means be present in any individual to produce the necessary result.

Any person may discover whether or not he has the powers of a water-finder by the following experiment:—Let him cut a branch of peach or cherry tree having a fork with two twigs of a length and thickness nearly equal, and slender enough to be quite flexible. If formed correctly it will nearly represent the letter Y. Let him take the small ends of the twigs, one in his right hand and one in his left, and hold it so that the main branch, where the fork begins, shall be uppermost and nearly perpendicular to the earth, but a little inclining forward. Holding it in this position, let him walk slowly and carefully over the ground where water is to be sought for, and if the body of the operator be a good galvanic conductor, the wand when over a vein of water that is near the surface, will be drawn forward and downward with considerable force; and if the vein be large it will point directly down to the earth. The causes of this phenomenon being natu-

ral, and invariable as the principle of gravitation, water will always be found nearer the surface of the earth when thus indicated by the divining-rod, than in other places.—*Delaware Journal.*

The New York Journal of Commerce states that the world of science is indebted to Col. Payerne, of London, for the discovery of means whereby persons are enabled to remain under water in diving bells any desirable time within the limits of twenty-four hours, without a supply of fresh air from above. This desirable object is obtained by taking down in the bell two chemical substances—the one to absorb the carbonic acid gas as fast as generated by the lung—the other to give out oxygen gas to supply the place of that consumed. The first of these is found in pure potassa, which readily absorbs half its own weight of carbonic acid gas;—the other is the sulphate of potassa, which when heated, gives out a very large proportion of pure oxygen. With these two simple bodies, says the Journal, Col. Payerne lately descended in a diving bell, to the bed of the Thames, where he remained for the long and hitherto unattained period of seven hours, cut off from all communication with the upper air, without experiencing any of the unpleasant effects usually attendant upon such experiments, to the great surprise of a number of distinguished men of science, who witnessed his performance without the knowledge of his novel application of a couple of well known facts in Chemistry.

The Jonesborough (Tennessee) Whig gives a long account of an assault committed upon its Editor, (the Rev. W. G. Browlow,) on a Sabbath day, at a camp meeting, by Col. Fayette McMullen of the Virginia Senate, and two of his brothers, with clubs. The editor drew his pistol and snapped it at Col. McMullen's breast, but the cap exploded without firing.—The Editor was severely bruised and cut before the combatants were separated. The cause of the assault was a harsh criticism, in the columns of the Whig upon a speech delivered by the Colonel at the Polk-barbecue at Rogersville a few weeks ago.

The old Horse Eclipse in Market!—Mr. Wm. Dodd, of Georgetown, Ky., the agent of Col. Wm. R. Johnson, of Virginia, advertises for sale, Eclipse, Mons. Tonsen, Sidi Hamet, and some fine brood mares. If not previously disposed of at private sale, they were to be sold at auction, at Lexington, on Saturday last, the 24th. Mr. D. in his advertisement remarks of Eclipse, who was twenty eight years old on the 24th of May last, that he is in fine health and vigor, having the appearance of his youthful days. Perhaps a horse of the same constitution never was seen or heard of before.

Good News.—The interest on the Debt of the State of Alabama due January 1st, 1841, was last week remitted to London. This will do something toward the restoration of our National character for honesty in Europe.

What Next?—We received the "Petersburg Intelligencer" of the 22d inst with the following endorsement, viz: "This paper is made entirely of *Morus Multicaulis leaves.*" The specimen is very fair indeed, and the body or texture of the paper is most excellent and substantial. The colour is not so white as it might be, but, no doubt, as its use becomes more general, some means of bleaching it will be devised. It is now an excellent Printing paper, and we should like to know at what price per Ream, the Manufacturer can furnish it. We copy from the "Intelligencer," the following account of the Experiment:

Some twelve months ago, our Townsman Dr. P. C. Spencer, conceived the idea of manufacturing paper from the leaves of that, of late, much neglected plant, the *Morus Multicaulis*, and communicated his ideas on the subject to our neighbor.

With the assistance of Mr. William Miller, the Manufacturer of the Matocca Paper Mill, Dr. Spencer has succeeded in manufacturing excellent paper from *Morus Multicaulis leaves*, and we have now in our possession several numbers of our issue of today printed on this paper.

The discovery of Dr. S. will prove, we have no doubt, highly useful. The difficulty of procuring suitable rags has been a drawback on the operation of Paper Mills. This difficulty will now be obviated. Such is the prolific nature of the *Multicaulis* plant, that in one year's time a sufficient number can be raised to supply "stock" to all the Paper Mills in the United States.

Dr. S.'s discovery, we have no doubt, will be much improved upon,—and we should not be surprised, if, in the course of a year or two, the use of rags in the manufacture of paper were entirely abandoned.

Raleigh Register.

Murders.—William Martin, of Stokes county, was recently killed by a man named Tilly, who is now confined in jail awaiting his trial for the fact. Tilly was in Martin's employ, as overseer, and had for some time cherished ill will towards the deceased. Some altercation took place in the woods where the hands were about making boards, and Tilly struck Martin on the head with his gun, which fractured the skull and caused instant death. The accused we understand acknowledges the act but says he did it in defence.

There is also in Stokes jail a man by name of Dunkley, awaiting his trial for stabbing a man, in the neighborhood of Boyles' store, who died of the wound.

Greensboro' Pat.

A heavy gale was experienced at Furks Island on the 30th ultimo, occasioning a loss of salt to the amount of over one hundred thousand bushels. At Grand Furk the loss was equally severe.

Washington Whig.

Suicide of Dr. Peters.—Dr. Joseph Peters, of New York, "manufacturer and vender of Peter's celebrated pills and lozenges," committed suicide on Saturday night by strangling himself with his pocket handkerchief in his room at the boarding house of Mr. George Ruck, No. 127 Liberty street. Deceased it seems had been for several years in poor health, and of late has been very much depressed in spirits. One day last week he purchased some prussic acid for the purpose of destroying himself, but was prevented by some of his friends who became acquainted with the fact, to whom he stated that he was very much embarrassed in his pecuniary affairs, from which it was impossible for him ever to be extricated. He was a man of 30 or 35 years of age, and of temperate habits. On Saturday night he retired as usual, and on Sunday morning was found dead in his bed chamber, having strangled himself with his handkerchief by attaching it to the bed post, his leg resting upon the floor. A letter was found in his room addressed to his wife who is at present in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.—*Phil. Inq.*

Poisoned Spring.—Some one is writing to Mr. Gwin, Representative in Congress from Mississippi, giving him an account of a poisoned spring of water that has been discovered in the unsettled part of the State of Arkansas. One report says, "Some hunters, on arriving at the place, being thirsty, a part of them drank of the water, and were immediately affected, and in a few hours died; upon which the rest became alarmed, and refrained from drinking; and, on examination, they found the earth for a mile or two around the Spring, strewn with bones of birds, beasts, and some human bones."

Madisonian.

Distressing Accident.—As the morning train west, yesterday morning, approached Schenectady, the engineer discovered a man sitting on the rail, with his head resting on his knees, apparently asleep; but, as he was in the shade of the bridge, he was not discovered until the train was within a few rods of him. The engine was immediately reversed, the breaks applied, and the alarm given, but the man could not be aroused to his danger, nor the engine prevented from striking and dragging him forward some two rods, his legs becoming entangled in the machine, and badly broken. He was taken to Schenectady, and every attention bestowed upon him; but it was supposed he must die. His name was ascertained to be Ezra Smith, but his residence was not known.—supposed to be Utica.—*Albany Argus.*

New French Colony in the Pacific.—The Paris Journal des Debats publishes a letter from Valparaiso, which discloses a project of the French Government, of making a settlement at the Marquesas Islands, situated in the Pacific Ocean, in 11 degrees of South latitude. This letter states that—

Rear Admiral Dupetit Thouars, who had arrived at Valparaiso in the Reine Blanche frigate, was believed to have been sent to those seas for that purpose. He was to be joined by a flotilla of four corvettes, one of which the Triumphant, had already reached there, having on board a company of Marine Artillery. A large transport, the Jules Cesar, had been freighted by the Rear Admiral, and laden with a considerable quantity of building materials, which he had purchased previous to his departure. The captain had been instructed not to open his despatches until he was far out at sea. "If the expedition has this object in view," adds the correspondent of the Journal des Debats, "it is a noble conception, for the situation of the Marquesas Islands is peculiarly favorable, being placed precisely on the road of the new line of communication between Europe and Asia, across the Isthmus of Panama."