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POETRY.

SONG OF THE AMERICAN EAGLE.

BY A LADY OF VERMONT.

I build my nest on the mountain's crest,
Where wild winds rock my eaglets to rest;
Where the lightnings flash and the thunders crash,
And the roaring torrents foam and dash;

For my spirit free shall henceforth be
A type for the son of Liberty.

Aloft I fly, from my eyrie high;
From the vaulted dome of the azure sky;
On a sunbeam bright take my air flight,
And float in a flood of liquor light;
For I love to play in the nontulle ray,
And bask in a blaze from the throne of day.

Away I spring with a tireless wing;
In the feathery cloud I poise and swing;
I dart down the steep where the lightnings leap,
And the clear blue canopy slowly sweep;

For dear to me is the revelry
Of a free and fearless liberty.

I love the land where the mountains stand
Like the watchtowers high of a patriot band—
For I may not bide in my glory and pride
Though the land be ever so fair and wide;

Where luxury reigns o'er voluptuous plains,
And fetters the free born soul in chains.

Then give to me in my flight to see
The land of the Pilgrims ever free,
And I ne'er will roam from the haunts I love,

But watch, from my sentinel track above,
Your banner free, over land and sea,
And exult in your glorious destiny.

Oh, guard ye well the land where I dwell,
Lest to future times the tale I tell,
When slow expires in smouldering fires
The godly heritage of your sires.

For Freedom's light rose clear and bright
From fair Columbia's beacon height,
'Till ye quenched the flame in a starless night.

Then will I tear from your pennon fair
The stars ye set in triumph there!
My olive branch on the blast I'll launch,
The fluttering stripes from the flag staff wrench.

And away I'll flee, for I scorn to see
A craven race in the Land of the Free.
Brandon, Vt., January, 1844.

FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

MARL.

Mr. Editor: As the attention of our farmers, seems to be attracted to the subject of Marling, it may not be improper to insert in the Press, an extract from the Farmer's Register for 1836. Besides its great fertilizing effect, its advantages to health may be considered as second only in importance. By giving this a place in your paper, you will confer a favor on one who feels a great interest in the improvement of Edgecombe soil.

AGRICOLA.

Healthiness produced by Marling.

"The results of marling may be considered in a point of view more elevated, and still more important, than that of fertility which it gives to the soil: they may perhaps have much influence on the healthiness of the country where it becomes a general practice.

It is known that the calcareous principle is one of the most powerful agents to resist putrefaction. It is employed to make healthy, places inhabited by men and animals, in which sickness or contagion is found; it serves to neutralize the emanations of dead bodies undergoing putrefaction; it destroys the deleterious effects which escape from privies, and which sometimes cause the death of those who are employed to cleanse them.

It even seems that calcareous countries are only unhealthy when they are interspersed by marshes, or when some causes, foreign to the soil and climate, determine the unhealthiness, as in countries on the borders of the sea, where the flowing of the tide, and the mingling of salt and fresh waters, infect the air by deleterious emanations of their combination. In the val-

leys of rivers bordered by calcareous mountains, which enclose unhealthy countries in the interior, insalubrity commences there only as the calcareous soil, which is attached to the mountain, gives place to silicious soil. In the same plain and far from a mountain, salubrity is seen to diminish in the same proportion that the calcareous soil of the surface does.

For the support of this system, we also cite the ponds of Berri on calcareous soil, whose emanations have nothing unhealthy: the laying dry of the ponds Parraey, in the canton of Ligneres, has added nothing to the healthiness of a calcareous country naturally healthy. And in the same canton, the pond of Villiers, which is said to be seven leagues in circumference. Does not cause disease on its borders. Besides, during the month of August, the water of the ponds on calcareous soil does not become blackish, as often happens in silicious ponds. The water would then be made wholesome by the calcareous principle, in the same way as their emanations. Without pretending to explain, entirely, facts so remarkable, we will, however, observe, that the calcareous element, possessing a great force for combining with the principles which are encountered in the soil, may very well hinder the formation, or hasten the decomposition, in the bosom of the earth of these substances so little known, which, having become volatile and breathed by man, or acting in every other manner on his organs, dispose him to receive disease.

These deleterious substances, which infect the air of unhealthy countries, can take their rise only from the ground; for the soil alone distinguishes an unhealthy country from the neighboring regions which are healthy. All other circumstances of the atmosphere, temperature, its variations, and climate, are common to both; the unhealthy country is constantly exchanging its vitiated air for the pure air of its neighbors. It follows then of course, that the unhealthy exhalations of the soil should be constantly renewing the injurious principle which beneficial winds tend to carry elsewhere.

We will add that this calcareous principle possessing a great force of absorption on the constituent parts of the atmosphere, may seize on the deleterious principles themselves, which will have escaped its interior action, and decompose them for the profit of vegetation; that this principle, as we have heretofore seen, by making vegetation more active, increases the force of absorption of plants, and favors the advancement of leguminous plants which live principally at the expense of the atmosphere; that this vigorous vegetation, as it is known, to make the air healthy; either by emissions of oxygen, or by the absorption of carbonic, or by some other means, which nature has kept a secret.

We will remark again, that the waters which spring from calcareous mountains, and which are more or less charged with the calcareous principle, conveyed over marshy meadows, invigorate them, and make leguminous plants and grasses grow there. Calcareous waters, then make the soil healthy, and the soil made healthy in its productions, will be likewise so in its emanations. Besides, the soil too moist under cultivation, as we have seen before, is found invigorated by Marl; its products become those of healthy soils; waters that remain there, are there also modified, as well as the soil. In moistening the marled soil, these waters are charged, more or less, with the calcareous principle, which they transmit with the sap to vegetables; they are then, themselves made healthy and capable of giving health, since they become favorable to vegetation, instead of being unfavorable, as before marling.

It would be an insufficient opposition to say, that a small addition of calcareous principle to the soil could not affect the general unhealthiness of the country; on the contrary, it seems that this ought to be the most active means that could be employed; for, we have seen before, that the deleterious exhalations, which are mixed in the air that we breathe, and which infect it under the gaseous form, proceed from the soil; and we ought to think that it is from the upper or cultivated layer, because the lower, which the water could not penetrate, could no more give passage to the gaseous emanations. Besides, we cannot imagine an action more direct and more intimate, than that of Marl on ploughed land. One conceives that it can attack the unhealthy principle in the soil as well, and in the same manner, as lime water, or slacked lime, destroys them, in habitations, or dead bodies, and in privies. These great effects are produced by a single and superficial application, while the addition of Marl is made, and acts on every part of the ploughed land; and it is in their own laboratory, before they can be formed, and even in their elements, that the principles of insalubrity are attacked. In short, the calcareous principle which changes the nature and productions of all the vegetable mould, ought necessarily to change the combinations, and modify the elements of them. The emanations of the soil, which are the

result of these combinations, ought then to change also; and these emanations ought to cease being unhealthy, because the general and known effect of the calcareous principle is to give health. The opinion, that considers the calcareous principle and consequently Marl, as one of the great causes of health, although it may not have yet received its sanction from the experiential discussion of enlightened men, is then, not only supported by conjectures, which explain and render it probable, but is also founded on facts; which give it to all appearance, a great degree of certainty. It would then be under the double report of salubrity and fertility, that we can consider the introduction of Marl into a country like ours. This double end ought to sustain our efforts and we would reap, from our labor, a sufficient recompense, if we could aid in inducing the introduction of Marl into this important but unhealthy portion of our country. No one doubts, at the first glance, that Marl is suitable to almost all the extent of the unhealthy country; its soil is almost all entirely moist and argo silicious in composition; on which Marl displays the greatest activity.

We ought not to conclude on this subject, without observing that Marl, to diminish sensibly unhealthiness in the whole of a country, ought probably to be extended to a great part of its surface. The Marl of each farm would cause a diminution of unhealthiness, according to what we think for that property itself and its inhabitants; but they would still suffer from the unhealthy emanations of the neighboring places, which had not been marled. Salubrity would increase in proportion as the general marling would increase; and when the whole surface would experience the benefits of Marl, then, with the healthiness which would preserve individuals for labor and increase of the population, with the fecundity which would offer the greatest products without being obliged to increase the labor, we would see the country advancing rapidly towards a better future. Then, by the force of things, and at the same time that the marling would develop its results, we would come to the draining of the greater part of the swamps, which would be the only remaining source of unhealthiness."

LETTER FROM GEN. JACKSON.

Hermitage, Feb. 12, 1844.

Hon. A. V. Brown:

My Dear Sir: Yours of the 23d ult. has been received, and with it the Madisonian, containing Governor Gilmer's letter on the subject of the annexation of Texas to the U. States.

You are not mistaken in supposing that I have formed an opinion on this interesting subject. It occupied much of my attention during my presidency, and I am sure has lost none of its importance by what has since transpired.

Soon after my election in 1829, it was made known to me by Mr. Erwin, formerly our minister at the court of Madrid, that whilst at that court he had laid the foundation of a treaty with Spain for the cession of the Floridas, and the settlement of the boundary of Louisiana, fixing the western limit of the latter at the Rio Grande,* agreeably to the understanding of France—that he had written home to our government for powers to complete and sign this negotiation; but that, instead of receiving such authority, the negotiation was taken out of his hands and transferred to Washington, and a new treaty was there concluded, by which the Sabine, & not the Rio Grande, was recognized and established as the boundary of Louisiana.

Finding that these statements were true, and that our government did really give up that important territory, when it was at its option to retain it, I was filled with astonishment. The right to the territory was obtained from France: Spain stood ready to acknowledge it to the Rio Grande; and yet the authority asked by our minister to insert the true boundary was not only withheld, but in lieu of it, a limit was adopted which stripped us of the whole of the vast country lying between the two rivers.

On such a subject, I thought with the ancient Romans, that it was right never to cede any land or boundary of the republic, but always to add to it by honorable treaty, thus extending the area of freedom; and it was in accordance with this feeling that I gave our minister to Mexico instructions to enter upon a negotiation for the retrocession of Texas to the United States.

This negotiation failed, and I shall ever regret it as a misfortune to both Mexico and the United States. Mr. Gilmer's letter presents many of the considerations which, in my judgment, rendered the step necessary to the peace and harmony of the two countries; but the point in that time,

* That this boundary could have been obtained, was doubtless the belief of our minister in Spain; but the offer of the Spanish government was probably the Colorado—certainly a line far west of the Sabine.

which most strongly impelled me to the course I pursued, was the injustice done to us by the surrender of the territory, when it was obvious that it could have been retained without increasing the consideration afterwards given for the Floridas. I could not but feel that the surrender of so vast and important a territory was attributable to an erroneous estimate of the tendency of our institutions, in which there was mingled somewhat of jealousy to the rising greatness of the south and West.

But I forbear to dwell on this part of the history of this question. It is past, and cannot now be undone. We can now only look at it as one of annexation, if Texas presents it to us; and if she does, I do not hesitate to say that the welfare and happiness of our Union require that it should be accepted.

If in a military point of view alone, the question be examined, it will be found to be most important to the United States to be in possession of that territory.

Great Britain has already made treaties with Texas; and we know that farseeing nations never omit a circumstance in her extensive intercourse with the world, which can be turned to account in increasing her military resources. May she not enter into an alliance with Texas? and reserving (as she doubtless will) the north-western boundary question as a cause of war with us whenever she chooses to declare it, let us suppose that, as an ally with Texas, we are to fight her! Preparatory to such a movement, she send her 20,000 or 30,000 men to Texas; organizes them on the Sabine, where her supplies and arms can be concentrated before we have even notice of her intentions; makes a lodgment on the Mississippi; excites the negroes to insurrection; the lower country falls, and with it New Orleans and a servile war rages through the whole south and west.

In the mean while she is also moving an army along the upper western frontier from Canada, which, in co-operation with the army from Texas, spreads ruin and havoc from the Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico.

Who can estimate the national loss we may sustain, before such a movement could be repelled with such force as we could organize on short notice?

Remember that Texas borders upon us, on our west, to 42 degrees of north latitude, and is our southern boundary to the Pacific. Remember, also, that if annexed to the United States, our western boundary would be the Rio Grande, which is of itself a fortification, on account of its extensive, barren, and uninhabitable plains. With such a barrier on our west, we are invincible. The whole European world could not, in combination against us, make an impression on our Union. Our population on the Pacific would rapidly increase, and soon be strong enough for the protection of our eastern whalers, and, in the worst event, could always be sustained by timely aids from the intermediate country.

From the Rio Grande, over land, a large army could not march, or be supplied, unless from the gulf by water, which, by vigilance, could always be intercepted; and, to march an army near the gulf, they could be harassed by militia, and detained until an organized force could be raised to meet them.

But I am in danger of running into an unnecessary detail, which my debility will not enable me to close. The question is full of interest, also, as it affects our domestic relations, and as it may bear upon those of Mexico to us. I will not undertake to follow it out to its consequences in those respects; though I must say that, in all its aspects, the annexation of Texas to the United States promises to enlarge the circle of free institutions, and is essential to the United States, particularly as lessening the probabilities of future collision with foreign powers, and giving them greater efficiency in spreading the blessings of peace.

I return you my thanks for your kind letter on this subject, and subscribe myself, with great sincerity,

Your friend and obedient servant,

ANDREW JACKSON.

P. S.—The papers furnished me by Mr. Erwin, to which I have referred in this letter, can be placed in your possession, if desired.

A. J.

From the Madisonian.

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from the President of the United States to General Jackson.

Washington, Feb. 16, 1844.

Dear Sir: I take great pleasure in enclosing a copy of the act for your relief from the fine imposed by Judge Hall; which passed the two Houses, and was approved by myself on the same instant that the committee presented it to me. Strongly impressed with the justice of the measure, I did not hesitate, in my annual message at the opening of Congress, to urge it upon that body; and it has afforded me no ordinary satisfaction to affix to it my approval.

Permit me, my dear Sir, to present to you my cordial congratulations at this act of justice, and this new proof of the high estimate which your country places upon your valuable services at a time when the stoutest hearts entertained serious apprehensions for the safety of New Orleans. Nothing is now left upon her judicial records to sully in any degree the glory of the memorable defence of that city. That you may live long to enjoy the constantly increasing tokens of public esteem, is my sincere prayer.

I renew to you assurances of my highest respect.

JOHN TYLER.

Letter from General Jackson in reply.

Hermitage, Feb. 27, 1844.

My dear Sir: Although greatly afflicted and debilitated, so that I can scarcely wield my pen, I cannot forego an attempt to acknowledge the receipt of your very kind letter of the 16th instant, which is received and now before me, with the copy of the act which passed the two Houses of Congress, and was so promptly approved by you, restoring the unjust fine imposed by Judge Hall. The kind expression you have been pleased to employ in conveying them receives, as it deserves, a tender of my grateful thanks.

I feel grateful to my country for the unselfish appeal to Congress to perform this act of justice to me. I feel grateful to you, sir, for your bringing to the notice of Congress, in your official message, the justice of removing the stain upon my character by the imposition of this unjust fine, for using the only means in my power to defend the city of New Orleans, by declaring martial law, which the judge, when declared, approved with uplifted hands, saying: "Now the country may be saved—without it, it was lost." And for this act, the judge, sitting in his own cause, and refusing to hear my defence, tendered under his own rule, imposed this fine.

I feel grateful to Congress for removing this unjust imputation on my memory, by the passage of the act you have enclosed me; and with these grateful feelings, I am now prepared to go hence whenever an all-wise Providence may will it, without regrets of any kind, but with overflowing gratitude to the American people for their generous support they have yielded me through all the official stations to which they have been pleased to call me.

I have just received from that faithful and trust worthy officer of yours, Mr. McClintock Young, his letter of the 7th, and one from the Secretary of the Treasury, advising me that the amount of the fine, &c. &c. would be remitted me at Nashville, so soon as the warrant passes the usual form. For this evidence of your kindness, I again thank you.

Very respectfully, I remain your most obedient servant.

ANDREW JACKSON.

United States Army.—From a report just published, it appears that the regular army of the country consists of 8000 men, and costs the nation the annual sum of eight million of dollars. This would be one thousand dollars for each man. The pay of a private is given at ninety-six dollars per annum, and his clothing and rations would perhaps amount to about as much more, making about two hundred dollars per annum. The pay and expenses of the officers, is stated at about two millions, leaving about five millions of dollars for the expense of the War Department, the salaries of the Secretary of War, and of the Indian and Pension Departments, Clerks, &c.

Leap Year.—The Editor of the Temperance Herald, (published at Camden, S. C.) on the first day of its appearance, announced to his fair readers that the present being leap year, conferred upon them certain privileges, an ongst which was that of paying their addresses to the gentlemen, any one of whom, should he so ungracious and ungentlemanly as not to receive them favorably, forfeited his horse and watch.

The paper had been issued but a few hours when Miss Lydia Green entered the office, made proposals to the astonished Editor, and demanded his hand or the forfeit. He freely relinquished his gray horse and patent lever, rather than relinquish the right of making a selection for himself, whilst the lady appeared to be equally well pleased with her bargain.—Balt. Sun.

The man of the Nantucket Telegraph overheard the following dialogue on New Year's night:—"Will you take my arm?" said a gentleman to a young lady after the dance broke up. "La, yes, and you too, seeing it is leap year," was the quick reply.

Young ladies and gentlemen are, very plenty now-a-days—but there is a great demand for boys and girls, which, in the present sublimated state of civilization, are wholly exterminated.