

THE DEMOCRAT.

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WE MUST WORK FOR THE PEOPLE'S WELFARE.

W. H. Kitchin, Owner.

VOL. 2.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1885.

NO. 1.

GIFTS.

If I could give you what would outlast time—
Remain as fixed as polar star above—
Something to live and thrive in any clime,
I'd give my love!

And should you ask for that more true than steel,
A something of yourself, a kindred part,
My inmost thoughts I'd then to thee reveal,
And give my heart!

Should friends desert you, fortune cease to smile,
Should joy itself appear beyond recall,
Your weary moments I would then beguile,
And give my life!

But if some lofty sacrifice you'd ask,
How glad I'd yield me to your dear control,
And give—since giving is love's sweetest task—
My very soul!

And, oh, believe me, could I turn away,
One cruel shaft, one pang of this world's strife,
From your great heart, this day I'd give my life!

(For the Democrat.)

AMONG THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

"Hilo."

Or Waiakea harbor is most delightfully located on the eastern side of the island of Hawaii, and on approaching it from sea, the whole surrounding country being well studded with trees and perennial verdure, even to the water's edge, and presenting none of that bleak arid appearance which is so common and remarkably striking upon nearing most of the other ports, exhibits one of the most pleasing and extremely picturesque sites that the islands can afford.

The harbor, which is a natural one, being formed seaward by a reef, composed of coral, sand, and lava, and extending from east to west some 1500 fathoms, assumes a somewhat semicircular shape, the diameter of which is from 1000 to 1200 fathoms; it is spacious and extensive, well protected, and being seldom visited by strong winds affords a most convenient and safe asylum for vessels.

The depth of water in the harbor varies from 20 to 50 feet. Large numbers of whaling vessels annually visit this port, independent of merchant ships &c. As inducements, for whale ships especially to visit this port, it would not be amiss to state, that very rarely does the Captain experience difficulty with his crew, which fact can be attributed to no other cause than that of the impossibility of the men obtaining anything in the shape of intoxicating liquors, for the sale of which happily no license has been granted on this island and so stringent is the law that the boarding houses are strictly prohibited from even making beer, or giving it to their boarders.

In enumerating what ships can obtain, in the first place, an abundant supply of fresh water can be had all the year round from the numerous streams and rivulets which empty themselves into the bay, a supply of recruits, such as sweet potatoes, squashes, bananas, oranges, beef, pork and poultry, can always be obtained, and Irish potatoes, although not grown in the neighborhood are procured in readiness from the whaling fleet in the spring and fall of every year. Cabbage is grown in abundance on the island.

With regard to the temperature of Hilo it is remarkable for its equality, and though at certain seasons of the year humid, the climate may be, and is considered salubrious and temperate. This island is well wooded, the woods extend back into the mountains, and reach to within two or three miles of the sea coast, and contain an almost inexhaustible supply of timber, a great deal of which is the ohia, which for durability in a great measure resembles the oak.

The principal articles of export are coffee, arrowroot, pulp, goat skins, hides, sugar, molasses, and syrup. The production of the three last named commodities having varied of late years, but all of which might be very extensively, and profitably raised, were the communications with the interior of the country more accessible, where there are

thousands and thousands of acres having a soil of extraordinary fertility at present almost entirely uncultivated, congenial to and capable of producing most abundant crops; but the state of the roads renders them almost impassable to any but foot passengers, and the hitherto most expeditious mode of conveyance, being by means of sticks slung across a native's shoulders with the burdens at the ends, makes it much to be regretted that although so favorable to commerce Hilo, in an agricultural point of view is so lamentably crippled. With more available roads and bridges, but few ports on any of the islands of the Pacific, with an industrious population could pour into market such an amount of produce.

There are two volcanoes on this island which are continually burning, and on approaching the island at night they look like immense fires on the summit of the mountains. Mauna Loa is the larger and is about 60 miles from Hilo, Kilauea the smaller being about 25 miles from Hilo. Mauna Loa has the largest active crater in the world.

On the 11th of August 1855, a great volcanic eruption commenced on Mauna Loa. For fifteen months this great furnace continued to disgorge its floods of molten minerals with an energy not a little startling.

If we take into account the amount of incandescent matter discharged, the length, breadth, and depth of the stream, and the time of its continuance, this eruption has no parallel in the history of volcanic phenomena with which we are acquainted. The lava stream was about seventy miles in length, and about two miles in breadth, and from ten to three hundred feet deep. The angle of descent down the side of the mountain proper, is about 61. In some places however it is 20, 30, and 50 degrees, and in many places the burning flood plunged over perpendicular precipices in awful splendor. The velocity down the steeper parts of the mountain was some forty miles an hour.

From the base of the mountain to the shore the country is an inclined plane on an angle of two or three degrees with a surface broken and irregular, and forming a valley or water shed, down which rivers which water the town and bay of Hilo all rush. Down this valley the burning river came sweeping away forest, consuming the jungle, startling the wild herds, rending the rocks, evaporating the waters, licking up the dust, filling the atmosphere with smoke and sulphurous gases, darkening the orbs of heaven, and throwing its baleful glare against the sky. Falling into the channels of the principal streams, it filled and obliterated many of them, while the remainder sent down waters so dark and fetid as to be unfit for use.

A. ST. C. B.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Not Too Large.

Arkansas school teacher (to boy)—"Why doesn't your father buy you another book?"

Boy (holding up a volume of "Benton's Thirty Years in the American Senate")—"Cause I ain't wore this here one out, yet."

Teacher—"Cut that book is not the kind you want. You must begin with a first reader."

Boy—"This one is the first. It's the first one I ever had. Pap flogs that when this one is read up he will flog me some whar an' git another. This ain't too big for me, fer lemme tell you, I ken hold a yearlin' calf when I try."

Teacher—"Why, you can't spell, yet."

Boy—"Nuther ken pap."

Teacher—"You don't know your letters."

Boy—"Nuther does man."

Teacher—"Well you'll have to get another book or I can't teach you."

Boy—"Wall then, that let's me out. Here, Bose," (calling his dog) "we'll go out an' tree another 'possum."—*Traveler.*

(For the Democrat.) DEBATING SOCIETIES.

Wherever we find man in contact with his fellow man, wherever we find the least trace of literary culture or philosophic spirit, there we find meetings under some name for free discussion. Oral discussions were among the earliest and most effective means of eliciting truth and diffusing knowledge. Among all the schools of the various philosophical sects of antiquity, free and open disputation was the favorite method of testing the soundness of theory and finding out the disguises of error. We learn not only from ancient history, but also from modern that these apparently transient conflicts of opinion have wrought great and mighty changes. Social, civil and religious. It is here for the first time, that many a master mind has felt a real consciousness of that strength which afterward rendered them distinguished. Many who have aspired to distinction in public life, whose hopes were directed toward the great scenes of controversial encounter, and whose ambition was to reach the zenith of political power, took their origin in the debating society. The purpose of debate is to establish truth. It is often indeed used as a means to its proper aim but never from its proper profession. What mountains of prejudice, what barriers of interest, what shades of ignorance have often been swept out of the pathway of truth by prompt displays of controversial power. The world is flooded with pretensions, theories, theories and systems; not only pretensions but pernicious.

They are the prolific sources of schemes affecting every interest of humanity. They infest chambers of commerce and halls of legislation. They start up in educational bodies and seek to sway the decisions of all deliberative assemblies. Now debate to be effective must bring all it assumes to the test of logic. It asks nothing but a fair field. Its motto is hear both sides—a motto broadened only by error, for error hates to be seen except in her own light and in her own chosen position.

To debate successfully requires practice. It is capable of indefinite improvement. It is serviceable in every station. In the debating society a young man of any promise soon comes to discern the value of profound and patient thought, close investigation, rigid analysis and careful deduction.

These come to be indissolubly connected with the idea of a good debate. While mere words, tones, gesture, however fluently uttered, however gracefully managed, fail utterly to carry convictions to the minds of his audience he must disdain all aids of sophistry, all idle rhetoric and rely for success only on a manly logic which alone can carry conviction to the judgment of his hearers. Reason soundly—see that every link in the chain of your argument is strong and sure, for they are present who are eager to find the least flaw.

Should you put your trust in wit, irony or sarcasm, be cautious in the use of these dangerous weapons, remembering that often in such case the recoil is far more dreadful than the discharge. There are many advantages derived from the exercises of a debating society. Tempting takes lessons from caution—timidity learns self-reliance, presumption abates under the check of prudence, and many other features of character exercise a friendly influence one upon another. This wholesale discipline has often been acknowledged by men of the most illustrious rank. It is especially the experience and therefore the testimony of those who in early life while yet

"Chill penury repressed their noble rage," found in these humble organizations a fostering mother to that genius which in after years was to be the "applause of listening Senates to command."

Indeed it would be hard to find a man who has risen to any eminence either as a statesman or an orator, who was not under more or less

obligation to the exercises of a debating association. The more educated, the least educated, each in appropriate measure have experienced the benefit.

The celebrated Lord Mansfield after having graduated with the highest distinction of the University at Oxford, England and, even after his entrance upon his leading studies, sought improvement in a debating club.

Herein were discussed some profound legal questions, questions involving many intricate points of law. He entered into these discussions with all the earnestness of real life. He was careful, copious and thorough every way in his preparations. The practice here acquired served in a high degree to render him ultimately one of the first Jurists of the age. Curran is another example, everything seemed to be against his cherished aspiration. Awkward and ungainly in gesture, hasty and inarticulate in utterance, with a voice naturally harsh he early acquired the name of "Stuttering Jack." Since the days of Demosthenes no man apparently had such obstacles to contend with.

After completing his College course, he like Mansfield sought aid in the debating society. He patiently stood the ridicule which his awkwardness awakened. He bore failure with fortitude. He turned all criticism to good account, and at length became one of the most effective orators of which any age or country can boast.

Fox, the great English debater, distinguished alike for the good and the bad that marked his strange career gave a powerful, though unconscious testimony to the value of debating associations, when he confessed as he did that he had acquired skill as a debater at the expense of the House of Commons. He had made it a point to speak on every question important or not merely to improve himself in the art of debating. What success he ultimately reached as a deliberate orator may be learned from a witness, no less competent than the celebrated Edmund Burke, who declared that Fox came by slow degrees to be the most brilliant and accomplished debater the world ever saw. One more example and that from our own country. We refer to Henry Clay a name that awakens at once the thought of every thing that is fascinating and convincing in deliberative eloquence.

Without wealth, without patronage, without acedemical discipline he rose by means of unyielding perseverance to be among the princes of eloquence in a land abounding in the most gifted orators. Henry Clay owed frankly his obligations to the exercises of a debating society. It has been my purpose to point out the advantages promised by a well conducted debating society, and I trust that those who meet in Edmonstouk's Hall in coming years look back to those debates as stepping stones to their future greatness.

M. L. V.

BETHESDA, Md.

Nov. 13th 1885.

Love-Making in England.

English girls seldom marry before the age of 22 or 23. Some marry well at the age of thirty. A marriage in England is not arranged in a few days or even in a few months. A young man of 20 engages himself to a young lady of 15 and lovers remain engaged three or even five years. These are the woman's good time. During the engagement she enjoys almost all the sweets of married life without any of its troubles, and she is free. Sometimes she does her best to make the engagement last as long as possible. She prefers to murmur words of love to her betrothed to shutting herself up with him in some semi-detached cottage wherein to be moan the high price of bread and butter and coal. On the day she is married she is settled, as they say in England, that means she is established. I would define this word "settled" more correctly by saying that her business is done for her. I do not wish at all to convey the idea that woman finds no happiness in the English household. Nothing is further from my mind. I think, on the contrary, she can enter it with

more confidence than can her sister across the channel, because she assumes less responsibility and because her mother has invariably versed her most thoroughly in domestic economy. Women in England know nothing at all about their husbands' business, no more than a clerk knows about the private affairs of his employer; and it is even a difficult thing for her to say whether he is making a fortune or on the verge of bankruptcy. When her husband dies an Englishwoman who has no fortune may become a governess, a housekeeper or a nurse. That is servitude. An Englishman gives his wife so much a month for household expenses and so much for her wardrobe—her wages, as it were. She evinces no surprise when she learns one fine morning that her husband is taking her to a sumptuous abode, nor when she learns that they must move some evening in the dark without making a noise. She goes with the furniture in a double sense.—*Con.*

A GREAT REFORM.

Some time ago, the Rev. Henry Flint delivered a temperance lecture in Little Rock. Several days since he returned to this place, and, while standing on the sidewalk, engaged in pleasant conversation with a party of friends, Old Nat Lucas, of Briar Root Swamp, approached, held out his hand and said:

"Brother Flint, I am powerful glad to see you. My name's Lucas."

"Brother Lucas, I am pleased to meet you," said the preacher.

"Yes," Mr. Lucas continued, "I am glad to see you for you done a great good for me."

"I am glad to hear it."

"Yes, I attended the temperance lecture you delivered here some time ago, and since then I have been a changed man."

"Thank heaven!" said the preacher proudly glancing at his friends.

"Yes," Mr. Lucas went on, "before I heard that lecture, I drank a quart of whiskey every day."

"Is it possible?"

"It's a fact. You showed me where I was drifting. You proved to me that reform was necessary."

"My dear Mr. Lucas, you don't know how I am delighted. The good I have done you is worth the entire trouble of coming here and delivering the lecture. I would like to accompany you home, some time. Is your wife living?"

"Yes, sir."

"She is of course thankful for the great and happy reform?"

"Oh yes. She was surprised when I told her."

"I suppose I would be a welcome visitor at her house?"

"That you would."

"Well, sir, do you know that it does me good to hear you talk? A man engaged in any sort of elevating labor is always proud to hear that his efforts have been productive of good. Do you not feel much better?"

"Oh, yes, a heap better."

"How much whiskey did you say you drank a day?" asked the preacher with excusable fondness for hearing of his work.

"A quart."

"You don't say so?"

"Yes I do."

"Well, well. And now you are strictly temperate?"

"Oh, no, but I've cut down the quart nearly one-half."

The lecturer's countenance fell so low that he had to reach down to pick it up. The friends looked at one another and grinned.—*Traveler.*

RIGHT IS RIGHT.

Some of the young newspaper men think that because a measure is popular it is necessarily wise and to be desired. The cry is why oppose Civil Service, it is sure to pass. Why get in the way and be crushed? Such men would make poor leaders. They would always run with the crowd. Truth is truth, right is right, the same yesterday, today and forever. In the South, among reflecting men, might does not make right. Those who have studied with any sort of care both Parliamentary and Congressional history know how of-

ten vicious and foolish laws have been enacted. When the South stood up against the infamous unconstitutional laws the cry might have been sent up, "Why oppose; the laws are sure to be enacted and executed, whether the South agrees or not." Here is the doctrine that might makes right. The South did oppose and the fight was so manly and vigorous that after awhile the better classes in the North began to see the infamy of such legislation—"the hell-broth" Senator Vance referred to recently in the *Star*—and uniting with the South the most vindictive laws were repealed or mitigated and the Republican Supreme Court of the United States pronounced them unconstitutional.

Right is right and might cannot alter it. If it is wise and democratic, in the true sense, to import into the United States the British system of life tenure—of putting men in office and keeping them there as long as life lasts—if this be the true way then by all means let us have it. But if this system be the right one for us, then wise men of the past were very blind and ignorant, for they did not attempt to incorporate into our system the British system of life tenure and official aristocracy. Washington, Madison, Jefferson, Jackson, Clay, Webster, Calhoun, McDuffie, Badger, Gaston, and the great men of the past lived under a cloud and never knew what was the chief end of American politics and the great boon of all the ages, for they never heard of or favored or enjoyed that so-called reform that keeps the enemy in the offices and gives a life perpetuity to official existence. Great is Diana of the Ephesians! Greater is the great American humbug—British Civil Service Life Tenure.

Yes it is bound to come and North Carolina must jump on the train and ride with the boys or be crushed. This is the delicious poppycock that is dished out just now on the Blair bill. If iniquities are to be perpetrated and new-fangled humbugs are to be embraced, all right. What North Carolinians should attend to is—the motto of David Crockett—"Be sure you are right—then go ahead."

If Silver is a right standard of value, then let North Carolina stand by silver, if every other State turns idolater and bows down before the great Golden Calf set up by the Northern plutocrats and monopolists. If Civil Service be undemocratic, unrepresentative unnecessary; if it be dangerous and unwise then let North Carolina oppose it to the bitter end, and say to all who favor it—"We will have nothing of this British system. We believe in reform. We believe in having honest, capable, faithful men in office, but we believe in rotation in office—the old, sound democratic doctrine of the past, that worked so well—and we believe that the party in power should hold the offices."

If the Blair educational bill be loaded with dynamite and danger, and if it violates the letter and spirit of the Constitution then North Carolina should decline to be a party to the wrong and should steadily refuse any of the alluring bait in the shape of millions taken from the Treasury. If Federal school teaching in the States be wrong then oppose it if the heavens fall. Right is right.

If the South will do its duty in these and other questions, upholding right, preserving inviolate the constitution, refusing all bribes, and then if evil and disaster should come it will be sustained, strengthened, comforted by the assurance, by the grateful reflection that it had no hand in the matter—that it sought to prevent the bad results. Principle is eternal. Expediency is temporary and dies.—*Star.*

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Scotland Neck, N. C., Jan. 26, 1885.

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