

Miscellaneous.



FOR THE FREE PRESS.

A reply to the answer in the Free Press of the 14th ult. to the Enigma of the 10th March.

If *Sim* had been the only friend,
That did our enemy attend,
In vain would he have sought the lovely
bride,
When absent from her guardian's side;
His countenance, so fierce and vile,
Must have betray'd his flattering smile;
This well he knew, then call'd to hand,
A friend, who soon arranged the plan:
With language eloquent and kind,
His every sentiment refined;
White Satan rules and sways the heart,
Conducted by insidious ART.

STANZAS.

Oh! who that has loved with devotion and
zeal,
And felt the sweet passion transfixed in
his heart;
Oh! who that is lov'd, in return, does not
feel,
The soul piercing anguish and pain 'tis to
part.
When the farewell embrace round the fair
neck is flung,
And the nectarine kiss on the lip is im-
press'd;
When the touching adieu is pronounced by
the tongue,
Or the half-smother'd sigh perchance
breaks from the breast.
When down the fair cheek, flows affection's
own tear,
Bespeaking the sorrow, which then fills
the heart;
And the moment for parting forever, is near,
Oh! who does not feel the pain 'tis to part.

THE BACHELOR'S CHOICE.

An oval face, a slender waist,
Describe the female to my taste;
Her age, eighteen, or rather more,
But not exceed an honest score. (*twenty*)

Complexion fair, her movements nice,
Each step adjusted with advice;
Her countenance must grave appear,
Not over coy, nor yet severe.

Her features regularly neat,
Each limb entire, and all complete—
No blemish must the eye displease,
And in her walks advance with ease.

Her attitude must be upright,
Indeed, I fancy it polite, }
Near perpendicular or quite; }
Her hair an auburn, eyes a blue,
With cheeks well flush'd with rosy hue.

Her bosom should unsullied show,
Pure as the white ethereal snow;
Her mein majestic, and her brow,
Confess she might to Cupid bow.

Not too austere, but like the dove,
Would always innocently love;
Dispos'd to share a mutual bliss,
And elevate the bridal kiss.

Her mind must also, be correct,
Therein I'd wish for no defect;
In temper cheerful, though serene,
'Twixt a coquette and prude between.

Her judgment good, opinions wise,
Not vain, nor over much precise;
Reserved, and thoughtful in a crowd,
Not talkative, nor arguing loud.

When 'tis my fortune thus to wed,
With joy I'll mount the nuptial bed;
'Till then, 'tis my nocturnal lot,
To slumber on a lonesome cot.

Criminal Code.—It was the opinion of a great man, that a just proportion of moderate punishment, provided it were certain, would prevent almost every species of crime. In this sentiment we fully concur. It must be clear, that the more severe the denunciation of the law is, the more the culprit's chances of escape are multiplied. Offenders calculate, that prosecutors in such cases, will be loath to come forward—that evidence will not be forthcoming—that the Jury will be unwilling to convict—and finally, as a last chance, that the Executive will extend mercy. Crime, with

bad characters, is always a matter of calculation; the desire of a supposed present good, is always its incentive. Make punishment a matter of as certain calculation as the supposed good, and the extent and amount may be safely reduced; because, the offender will balance the certain disadvantage against the uncertain advantage.

We are led to these remarks from a knowledge of the fact, that in an instance which has just transpired, the Governor has exercised (most properly) his prerogative of remitting punishments. We have an act upon our Statute Book, which provides that any person guilty of *Mayhem*, which is the violent depriving another of the use of such of his members as may render him the less able to defend himself, or to annoy his adversaries, shall, for the first offence, stand in the pillory two hours, have both his ears cut off, and receive thirty-nine lashes on the bare back; and for the second offence, shall suffer death, without benefit of clergy. Under this act, a person convicted of the above offence, in Davidson county, has been sentenced to undergo the penalty, attached to the first violation of the law. Governor Burton has however, so far mitigated the punishment, as to do away the barbarous part of *cropping*. A Penitentiary (of which we have always been the advocates) would substitute certainty of punishment in cases of this kind, for a system of abortive cruelty, so revolting to humanity, that it cannot be enforced.

We learn that a conviction for the same offence was found by a Jury, at Warren Superior Court, held last week, and no doubt, a similar application will be made to the Governor.—*Raleigh Reg.*

Executions.—The Raleigh Register, after announcing the execution of negro *Ned*, on the 13th ult. makes the following remarks:

"We have more than once expressed our sentiments as to the worse than uselessness of public executions, and the recent event is another melancholy proof of how little moral effect, these legal exhibitions of death are. We were shocked to see numerous parties of *females*, dressed in their best attire, returning from the tragic scene they had been witnessing, laughing and sauntering carelessly along, perfectly unconscious that they had a few moments before been present, when a soul had been violently separated from its earthly companion, under circumstances the most awful. When we add, that there were individuals, in such a beastly state of intoxication, that not even this horrid spectacle could sober them, we would ask any dispassionate man, what good is done by public executions!"

At the recent trial of *Sarah Howland*, for murder at Newport, (R. I.) while the counsel were employed in packing a jury, a man was asked if he had formed any opinion relative to the case about to be laid before him, and replied, "That he believed with Elisha R. Potter, it was time

somebody was hung for the credit of the State!" [She is sentenced to be hanged on the 18th inst.]

Chastising a Wife.—In the case of the State against Forkener, for whipping his wife, (tried at the recent Superior Court for Warren County,) Judge *Ruffin* held, that although in civilized society it was universally considered as dishonorable and disgraceful, for persons in elevated situations to lift their hands against their wives, yet the law was made for the great bulk of mankind, who were obliged to labor for their bread, and clearly is, that a husband has a right to inflict moderate punishment on his wife—the only question for the jury was, whether the whipping was excessive, barbarous and unreasonable—if so, they would convict, if not they would acquit. [Acquitted.]

At the Spring Term of the Superior Court for Rowan county, held in this town last week, Judge Norwood presiding, an action of damages for *Slander*, Betsey Kincaid vs. Thomas Hendricks, was tried—\$50 for plaintiff—costs probably two or three hundred doll's. *Salisbury Car.*

In our paper of the 3d inst. we mentioned that the Rev. Mr. Manier had been convicted, at Oxford, of an attempt to ravish a young woman, and fined \$25.—We have since been informed, by a gentleman of the bar who was present, that Mr. Manier was not found guilty of an attempt to commit a rape, but of an *assault*—hence he was fined only \$25.—*ib.*

Cherokee Lands.—Gen. George Lee Davidson, of Iredell county, and Gen. Alexander Gray, of Randolph county, of this State; and Gen. John Cocke, of Tennessee, have been appointed Commissioners to treat with the Cherokee Indians, for the cession of all their lands in North-Carolina, and so much in Tennessee as will be necessary for facilitating the cutting of a Canal between the Hiwassee and Camasaga rivers.—*ib.*

Public Dinners.—The Hon. Nathaniel Macon, being on a visit week before last, to Louisburg, was invited to partake of a public dinner, which he declined. In reply to the Committee, he says: "Permit me to say to you, that I have never been at a public dinner given to any man for public services, and that I never approved them. Now, I am too old to change an opinion so long practised on, without discovering it to be erroneous."

Wonderful.—A correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer, says: "Mrs. W. consort of Mr. W. of Cumberland county, Va. after having lived in a married state for about twenty years, without ever having conceived before was, on Wednesday last, in the forty-third year of her age, delivered of a fine son. Mrs. W. has been twice married; with her former husband she lived about twelve, and with the latter, she has lived about eight years, during all of which time she has been a healthy robust

woman. Mr. W. is also, a remarkably healthy, temperate and industrious man. This occurrence opens a field for investigation, to gentlemen of the medical faculty, from some one of whom we would like to hear the reasons why conception has been thus long protracted, as well as, why should it take place at this time?"

Slavery.—We have, long since, on good information, been quite satisfied that the fate of the black population in our Southern States has been materially mistaken by us, in supposing it to be doomed to wretchedness, cruelty and oppression, and we have only waited for a fair opportunity to make public the reasons on which this opinion has been formed. We have principally derived it from many impartial and unreserved personal conversations with numbers of those ladies and gentlemen, who annually come to pass the summer months with us; a custom which should be regarded and encouraged as a national blessing; a custom which has a powerful, an inevitable but insensible tendency, to assimilate the manners, fashions and modes of thinking and acting of distant residents of the same nation, and soon make them insensible to those little nameless and unimportant differences, that cannot on every account be too soon obliterated even from memory. From the above source we have occasionally obtained the most satisfactory information, that with occasional exceptions, of course, the condition of the black population there, particularly on the plantations, is one of contentment, of gayety and happiness; and that the connexion of owner and slave is one of mutual attachment.

New-York Ec. Post.

Liberia.—The Colonization Society acknowledges the receipt of letters from Liberia, up to the 11th February, representing the Colony as in the enjoyment of health, peace and prosperity. The colonists are engaged in constructing new and more extensive fortifications, and various other public buildings, and are making great improvement in their condition. The agriculture of the colony promises well for this year. Tobacco is 75 cents the pound, and none can even be bought at this rate. A valuable grant has been obtained of the Junk territory, 42 miles south of Cape Messurado, and a factory commenced at that place. The establishment at St. John's, Grand Bassa, Young Sister's and Factory Island, are still maintained, and promise important advantages.

Haiti.—From late accounts, would seem to be fast returning to her ancient state of vassalage under the French government. Emissaries of the French are insinuating themselves into the notice and favor of the colored authorities of the island, and, in prosecuting their designs, leave no means untried to prejudice and embitter their minds against all the friends of liberty, especially the American residents, who receive the greater portion of their disguised abuse.