

Miscellaneous.



Selected for the Free Press.

A POPULAR SCOTCH BALLAD.

"Comin' thro' the Rye."

If a body meet a body,
Comin' thro' the rye;
If a body kiss a body,
Need a body cry?
Ev'ry lassie has her laddie,
Nane they say have I;
But all the lads they smile at me,
When comin' thro' the rye.
Among the train there is a swain,
The lad I loe sae well;
But where's his hame, or what's his name,
I dinna choose to tell:

If a body meet a body,
Comin' from the town;
If a body kiss a body,
Need a body frown?
Ev'ry lassie has her laddie,
Nane they say have I;
But all the lads they smile at me,
When comin' thro' the rye.
Among the train there is a swain,
That lad I loe sae well;
But where's his hame, or what's his name,
I dinna choose to tell.

If a body meet a body,
Comin' thro' the glen;
If a body kiss a body,
Need the world a' ken?
Ilk a Jenny has her Jocky,
Nane they say have I;
But all the lads they smile on me,
Then what the waur am I?
Among the train there is a swain,
The youth I loe sae well;
But where's his hame, or what's his name,
I dinna choose to tell.

GAMING.

New-York, Jan. 4.—The coroner's inquest which was held yesterday upon the body of Mr. Oliver G. Kane, returned a verdict, that the deceased came to his death from the ball of a pistol, fired by himself. The inducement to commit the fatal deed, may perhaps, be inferred, from his having left a slip of paper in the office of the National Insurance Company, of which he was Secretary, on which he had written the following:

"My fate may be read in the tragedy of the Gamester." O. G. K.

It is somewhat remarkable that his predecessor in the same office, committed suicide some two or three years since. Mr. Kane was a young man of very respectable parentage and connexions, and universally esteemed. He has been married only two years, and left a most accomplished and amiable wife, and an infant child, whose affliction at this melancholy bereavement is almost insupportable.—*Ex. Post.*

[The following remarks from Noah's Enquirer, suggested probably by the above circumstance, is judicious and timely. It inculcates salutary truths, and warns against formidable dangers.]

"Gambling is not an inherent vice; it is a hectic excitement, produced by gradual indulgence; it steals imperceptibly upon us. Men commence by playing cards in their own houses, or in the houses of their friends—whist, loo, and brag: they play for a trifle and win, and their cupidity is excited to win more, and not finding the resources in the domestic circle, they discover and frequent gambling houses: they are permitted to win at first, in order that their appetite may be whetted,

and in the end they are sure to be ruined. Every faro bank has 25 per cent. in favor of the banker; and yet, with a knowledge of this fact, men madly stake their last dollar on a card, and then come home to witness the misery and distress brought on their families.

"It is difficult to check a confirmed vice, or reform a corrupt age, but much may be done by parents to guard against the approach of vice. Let cards be prohibited in families: let the rising generation have no example before them, which can excite them to gamble, or lead to this deplorable propensity. What commences merely as an amusement, terminates in ruinous attachment. It must be a family without resources, without the charms of social converse, without a cheering fireside, without amiable intercourse, without good books, that must fly to cards to pass away the time. Parents should use every rational effort to make their homes comfortable and attractive to their children. Innocent amusements of every kind should be encouraged to a reasonable extent; improving conversation and the society of chaste females should not be lost sight of. It is by early and correct impressions, and proper examples, that the path through life is to be rendered safe and happy.

"We are, however, very defective in our domestic systems. Take an honest mechanic, who by his labor has realised a handsome fortune, and we shall find but few in that class who will bring up their sons to a similar mechanical employment. They appear to be ashamed of the honest occupation by which they have made fortunes. The boys must be gentlemen lawyers or doctors—wear fashionable clothes—have money in their pockets—keep a gig—resort to gambling houses, or houses of ill fame, and ruin follows. Parents who can give their sons fortunes, will be certain that such fortunes will not be wasted if they bring them up to be industrious and economical.

"Employment is the grand secret and the grand charm to ensure tranquillity, good principles, and happiness; it is idleness that is the parent of vice, and the root of evil."

Ely's Safety Carriage.—Yesterday afternoon, Mr. Ely made an experiment in front of our office, with his improvement in the manner of attaching horses to carriages, which he calls his *Life, Limb and Property Preserver*. This consists in a contrivance for loosening the horses from the carriage at the pleasure of the person driving, and in such a manner that the animals are disengaged and the carriage stops immediately. What adds to the excellence of the invention, is the circumstance that the horses are prevented by it from injuring themselves in their flight, and even from escaping to any great distance. A description of the invention has been left with us, but it is too long for our columns. So far as we are able to judge, we regard it as an improvement of great value and importance to the preserva-

tion of human life. We are informed, that Mr. Ely has gratuitously allowed the old line of stages running to Greenwich, permission to make use of his invention.—*New-York Ev. Post.*

Canals.—It is estimated by Gov. Clinton that the New-York Canals, independently of the income already derived from them, exceeding the interest on the cost by 2½ per cent. have increased the property of the state, to the value of a hundred millions of dollars.

Savannah, Jan. 4.—It is now over a week since SHAD made its appearance in our market, and for several days past it has been plentiful. They were selling yesterday, at from 25, to 50 cts. each.

Mr. Randolph.—In a recent debate in Congress, Mr. John Randolph, made the following remarks on the late destruction of the Turkish fleet at Navarino, by the allied squadrons:

"Sometimes (said Mr. R.) our humanity is up for the Greeks—it has not yet, so far as I know, been asked for the Trojans—it may, very possibly, be some day up for the Trojan—and we are called to rejoice in a victory of the three first powers of Europe over a handful of semi-barbarians, in the harbor of the ancient Pyles. Sir, instead of any triumph, in my opinion, that victory was a stigma... a stain... upon the naval glory of all those nations concerned in it... I mean of those who had any glory to lose. With immense odds in their favor, they attacked and killed, and murdered hand to hand, as brave a set of men as the sun ever shone upon. And what are we to assist the Greeks for? To build up a nest of pirates in the Aegean! They were so of old... long before the time of Ajax and Agamemnon... pirates they are... pirates they have been... and pirates they ever will be. Why, sir, our force will not be able, even in that small, placid... that halcyon sea, I might call it... to protect our own commerce from their row boats and their corsairs. In saying this, Mr. R. said, he knew that he was running against the prejudices of the country, and that philanthropy which was so much in vogue. But, said he, what was I sent here for, but to oppose those prejudices whenever it is practicable?"

The Times.—The people always find fault with the times, and some most always have reason: for the merchant gains by peace and the soldier by war: the shepherd by wet seasons and the ploughman by dry: when the city fills, the country grows empty; and while trade increases in one place it decays in another. In such variety of conditions and courses of life, men's designs and interests must be opposite to one another, and both cannot succeed alike: whether the winner laughs or no, the loser will complain, and rather than quarrel at his own skill or fortune, will do it with the dice, or those he plays with, or the master of the house. When any body is angry, and anybody must be in fault: and those persons which

cannot be remedied, of accidents that could not be prevented, or miscarriages that could not be foreseen, are often laid upon the government, and whether right or wrong, have the same effect of raising or increasing the popular discontents.

The Marriage Question.—A few weeks since we inserted an article, stating that the New-York Presbytery had unanimously decided to erase the section of the confession of faith, forbidding a man to marry his deceased wife's sister. The last New-York Observer states that on the 30th of May, the sense of 68 Presbyteries on the subject was communicated to the General Assembly, 50 of which were found to be against the erasure, and 18 in favor. About the 10th of June, the same question came up before the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church, and was decided in the same manner, by a vote of 41 to 15.

A fair hit.—The barbers in New-York, it is said, have resolved to raise the price of shaving Adams men to twelve and a half cents, their faces having grown so much longer since the election, that it requires double the time and labour to shave one of them, that it does to shave the compact phiz of a Jacksonian.—*Noah.*

Something New.—A society of ladies has been formed in Maine, "for the purpose of improving the manners of the gentlemen." Well done, ladies! you have a hard task on hand, and we must request an equal attention to *morals* as well as manners. If your experiment succeeds, we advise the establishment of *branches* in our different cities, especially at Washington; much improvement is wanted there, but you will have barren soil to commence operations with. We should like to hear the nomenclature of the association.—*ib.*

Breaking up housekeeping.—In England lately some persons were alarmed by an uncommon noise in a house as they were passing it. A constable was procured, who on entering found a man, perfectly sober, and of decent appearance, engaged in breaking his furniture, which was of the best kind, to pieces. On being asked his reasons for such conduct, he with great good humor and mildness replied: "Gentlemen, I have used every endeavor to keep a house above my head for the last three years, but on account of my wife being a drunkard, I find it impossible to do so any longer." Every article in the house lay in the middle of the floor broken to pieces.

Names.—A rather ludicrous scene took place in Worcester, (Eng.) lately. A coach passing along nearly ran over a servant girl, when the coachman called out, "take care, Sally." The girl, however, without attempting to escape the danger, looked up to the coachman with an air of offended pride, and said, "it isn't Sally, or any such common stuff, it's Amelia Ann."