

SUNBURY



AMERICAN.

H. B. MASSER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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DR. J. B. MASSER is the local agent for the above Insurance Company, in Northumberland county, and is at all times ready to effect insurances against fire on real or personal property, or renewing policies for the same.
Sunbury, April 29, 1851.—H. B. MASSER.

SELECT POETRY.

THE PRINTER BOY.

WORDS BY JESSE HUTCHINSON.

[Written for the ALLEGHANY and SUNG by them at the New York Printer's Festival.]

I'll sing you a song of a Printer's Boy
Whose bright and honest name
Stands out in glowing capitals,
Upon the scroll of fame—
Who in the days that tried men's souls,
In freedom's darkest night—
Stood manfully with Washington,
And battled for the right,
Ben Franklin was that Printer Boy one
Of the olden times.

Long shall the world extol his name,
The patriot and sage,
Who fully justified his faith,
Was proved on every page.
His form, corrected and revised,
Is now worked off and pressed;
A new edition in the skies,
A star among the best.
All honor to that Printer Boy, one
Of the olden times.

Historical.

RUSSIAN DIPLOMACY.

From the N. Y. Evening Post.

It is difficult fully to understand in this country the *autocracy* of the Emperor of Russia—that is to say, the absolute power of a single man over the liberty, prosperity and life of so many millions of men. It seems as firmly established as it is mighty. Yet however absolute this power, it is surrounded with great and unforeseen dangers.

After the partition, Poland was suffered to enjoy for sixteen years a comparative tranquillity. But Russian ministers continued to act their part vicariously, in presence of the weak, though accomplished, King Stanislaus. One of them at that time was Count Stackelberg, a man of high abilities and consummate experience, but who, conscious of the power of his court, showed himself proud, haughty, and anxious to engross homage and profound respect from all.

Lord Cloncurry relates, in his recently published Personal Recollections, that being at Rome in the last years of the past century, he got acquainted with many Russians of high rank, such as Orloff, the favorite of Catharine II., and Potemkin, son of the celebrated minister. The introduction of the Muscovite element, he says, made a strange mixture in our society; when sometimes discussions arose that brought the habitual steady English love of freedom into a conflict of argument with the fierce barbarian vigor of the Russians; and that, too, in presence of the polished feebleness of some noble subject of the church.

A few years after, the terrible earnestness of his words was fully realized; for this same Count Potemkin, then military governor of St. Petersburg, played the most prominent part in the assassination of Paul I.

The government being absolute, the natural consequence is, that absolute obedience becomes the first duty and chief merit of agents in every station. To obey and to succeed, whatever the purpose, becomes the paramount qualification to secure favor and promotion. Thus the diplomacy, which represents talent, skill, and attainments of highest order, and the mighty interests of the state, has gradually assumed that character, by which the ruler capriciously of the government is strongly and faithfully reflected.

Talents can be applied in two ways; to achieve noble things, beneficial to civilization and mankind—or to serve selfish ends, ambition and usurpation. Both spring from the principles of the government. When free, it promotes liberty and the real welfare of nations; when absolute, it is an engine of despotism, producing its natural effects, ignorance and a slavish spirit. How admirably are both exemplified in the character and policy of the United States and Russia!

It follows that Russian diplomacy is led to use as its favorite means, intrigue, craft, and deceitful artifices—or, haughtiness, arrogance, and domineering, according to circumstance. It is conscious that it is the surest way to please the Master; and it is conscious also that behind it stand the armies, ready to support and execute every politi-

cal scheme. Personally, the diplomatic agents may be worthy, talented and refined; but as agents, a mischievous, intriguing system of policy is forced upon them. They must comply, or (always a hard sacrifice) resign.

Many striking illustrations are found in history, of the working of this diplomacy. We will only mention now the partition of unfortunate Poland in 1772; which was prepared and accomplished by Russian diplomacy; a crime, the parent of other future crimes, the fatal cause of bloody catastrophes! Sir James Mackintosh says: "The two great powers, [England and France] alike deserters of the rights of Europe, and betrayers of the liberties of Europe, saw the crime consummated without stretching forth an arm to prevent it. Had there been a spark of spirit, or a ray of wise policy in the councils of these countries, they would have been followed in their resistance by all the secondary powers, whose very existence depended on the general reverence for justice."

The first partition consummated, (and it must especially bear upon Catharine II., who was, says Mackintosh, the greatest criminal) a second was deemed right and necessary, because useful, (1793)—and the third which destroyed the last shadow of nationality and independence (1795) and the two last were attended with such horrors of war, such dreadful hecatombs, that history itself shudders with abhorrence! "These tremendous scenes," Mackintosh eloquently says, "closed the resistance of Poland, and completed the triumph of her oppressors! Thus fell the Polish people, after a wise and virtuous attempt to establish liberty, and an heroic struggle to defend it, by the flagitious wickedness of Russia, by the foul treachery of Prussia, by the unprincipled accession of Austria, and by the shortsighted, as well as mean-spirited, acquiescence of all the other nations of Europe."

The Russian ministers at Warsaw, before the last partition, were really the viceroys of the Czarina. Here is a masterly sketch of three, by Mackintosh:

"Keyserling, a crafty and smooth German priest; Saldern, a desperate adventurer, banished from Holstein for forgery, and Reppin, a haughty and brutal Muscovite, were selected, perhaps from the variety of their character, to suit the fluctuating circumstances of the court; but all of them spoke in that tone of authority which has ever since continued to distinguish Russian diplomacy."

After the partition, Poland was suffered to enjoy for sixteen years a comparative tranquillity. But Russian ministers continued to act their part vicariously, in presence of the weak, though accomplished, King Stanislaus. One of them at that time was Count Stackelberg, a man of high abilities and consummate experience, but who, conscious of the power of his court, showed himself proud, haughty, and anxious to engross homage and profound respect from all.

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In the evening, the new minister was invited to the king's card-table. Meanwhile the morning's adventure had been extensively circulated, and he was aware of it. Smothering with the wound, he determined upon revenge. But the rulers of courts prescribe courtesy, the laughter of Russia was mighty. After beginning the play he soon made a slight mistake. It was corrected; but presently he threw down a *knave*, and exclaimed: "Here is the king!" "You mistake," said Stanislaus, "it is a *knave*." "Ah! pardon sir, it is the second time to-day that I have mistaken a *knave* for a king!" The king smiled imperceptibly; the Ambassador of Russia looked more dignified than ever, and this time the laughter was on the side of the happy pretor. After this, the minister played well—much better than the Russian Ambassador.

We have dwelt the longer on this grand and dismal episode of Poland, because it is a characteristic of Russian policy in that age, because the crime is still living and bleeding in our time, and because it has been revived by the recent example of crushing another generous and patriotic nation. Though the Russian diplomacy of our times has somewhat improved and grown better than the old, yet Russia has in a great part preserved the former spirit; to meddle, to encroach, to domineer insolently and as the representative and supporter of despotism, she is eager to fight against, and to crush liberty—nationality, which she calls rebellion and anarchy.

Brides its official ministers at the divers capitals of Europe, the Russian Cabinet has a large number of other agents, shrewd and refined people in general, such as travellers, courtiers or princes, women to pry into certain secrets, journalists to fight with the pen, spies to mix with the humbler classes and report their spirit. Sometimes, moreover, adventurers, men of "execution, as the French call them, are intrusted with peculiar duties. Acknowledged scoundrels are

paid and employed by the Russian Court. Mackintosh says, in a note to his account of the partition of Poland: "It was about that time (1782) that Count de Goertz, then Prussian Ambassador at Petersburg, gave an account of the Court of Russia to the Prince Royal of Prussia, who was about to visit Petersburg, of which the following passage is a curious specimen: '*La Prince Borodinski est reconuue seculer, et memo, commettd employe encore de temps en temps.*'"

Young noblemen, too, possessing polished manners, have been intrusted with the delicate mission of having intrigues with women of the courts, to obtain state secrets, which could in no other way be procured. Titled women likewise have a busy and important part to act, for the official minister cannot reach every secret, and be acquainted with the intimate feelings of certain classes or persons. An elegant, refined and apparently wealthy lady, familiar with ladies of high life, can easily in an unguarded moment, penetrate into the secrets of a family, of an important personage, and supply the minister with an available, and sometimes necessary information.

Sometimes young men of rank are intrusted with the same commission, and if handsome, ingenious and adroit, so much the better for attraction and success. One of these envoys deceived, in the most cunning way, Napoleon himself, who was not easily entrapped. Some months before the formidable expedition to Russia, 1812, a Prince Czernicheff, a young man, went to Paris, as a traveller, to enjoy, as he said, the thousand refined luxuries of the Metropolis of Europe. He had plenty of money, and he lavished it in the most splendid manner. He was peculiarly fond of ladies, and assiduous in his attentions to the sex. He seemed solely engrossed with the pleasures of elegant society. Yet he found time enough to fulfil a very important mission, that is to say, to obtain official accounts of the forces and resources which the Emperor intended to use in the expedition. He effected this by bribing a clerk of the Department of War. When Napoleon got intimation of it, he ordered Prince Czernicheff to be instantly arrested; but the Prince had already fled, and was safe beyond the frontier. The clerk was convicted and shot.

It is said that England likes to boast of having covered the country with a vast net of railroads, which secures the most rapid, constant and highly beneficial communication throughout different parts of the kingdom. Russian diplomacy is to its country of the same efficiency for information and power, as the system of railroads to England. It is a complete, admirable, but much to be watched organization!

THE RELIGION OF PAYING DEBTS.—One of our religious exchanges has the following strong remarks on this subject. They drive the nail into the head and then clinch it: "Men may sophisticate as they please, but they can never make it right, and all the bankrupt laws in the universe cannot make it right, for them not to pay their debts. There is a sin in this neglect as clear and as deserving church discipline as stealing or false swearing. He who violates his promise to pay, or withholds the payment of a debt when it is in his power to meet his engagement, ought to be made to feel that in the sight of all honest men he is a swindler. Religion may be a very comfortable cloak under which to hide, but if religion does not make a man, 'deal justly,' it is not worth having."

PARSON BROWNLOW makes the following reply to a remark of one of his exchanges that the parson is so prone to discontent and so much desires to have things his own way that he would quarrel with the angels in Heaven: "I expect to go to heaven when I die, but whether I create any 'discontent' there or not, depends upon affirmative answers to the following questions: Will there be any Senatorial elections there? Will the nominations of candidates take place in caucus? And if so, will any faction attempt to cast any more votes than it is entitled to? In either case I will raise a row. But those with whom I am at war in this world, need have no fears of being involved, as they are not likely to get there!"

HOUSEHOLD MEASURES.—As all families are not provided with scales and weights referring to ingredients in general use by every housewife, the following may be useful:—Wheat flour, one pound is one quart. Indian meal, one pound two ounces is one quart. Butter, when soft, one pound one ounce is one quart. Loaf sugar, broken, one pound one ounce is one quart. White sugar, powdered, one pound one ounce is one quart. Best brown sugar, one pound two ounces is one quart. Eggs, average size, ten eggs are one pound. Sixteen large table-spoonfuls are half a pint, eight are one gill, four, half a gill, &c.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND's daughter, Lady Augusta Lennox, married on 27th of November last to Prince Wilhelm of Saxe Weimar, has received from the Great Duke of Weimar the title of Countess of Dornberg. Not being of princely blood, she could only be married *morganatically*, or with the left hand, and cannot receive the title of Princess. We presume, however, she thought Prince Wilhelm "a good enough Morgan" for her, without the title.

THE BATH OF BLOOD.—From the proof-sheets of "The History of Hungary" in De Puy's Kosuth and his Generals," now in the press, the Buffalo Commercial extracts a most thrilling tale of romantic history: About the year 1610, Elizabeth Bathori, sister to the king of Poland, and wife of a rich and powerful Hungarian magnate, was the principal actor in the most singular and horrible tragedy mentioned in history. She occupied the castle of Csejta, in Transylvania. Like most other ladies of that period, she was surrounded by a troop of young girls, generally the daughters of poor but noble parents, who lived in honorable servitude; in return for which, their education was cared for, and their dowry secured. Elizabeth was of a severe and cruel disposition, and her hand-maidens led no joyous life. Slight faults are said to have been punished by most merciless tortures. One day, as the lady of Csejta was admiring at a mirror those charms which that faithful monitor told her were fast waning, she gave way to her ungovernable temper, excited, perhaps, by the mirror's unwelcome hint, and struck her offending maid with such force in the face as to draw blood. As she washed from her hands the stain, she fancied the part which the blood had touched grew whiter, softer, and, as it were, younger. Imbued with the credulity of the age, she believed she had discovered what so many philosophers had wasted years in seeking for. She supposed that in a virgin's blood she had found the *elixir vitae*, the fountain of never failing youth and beauty. Remorseless by nature, and now urged on by irrepressible vanity, she thought no sooner flashed across her brain than her resolution was taken; the life of her luckless hand-maiden was not to be compared with the precious boon her death promised to secure. Elizabeth, however, was wary as well as cruel. At the foot of the rock on which Csejta stood, was a small cottage, inhabited by two old women, and between the cellar of this cottage and the castle was a subterranean passage, known only to one or two persons, and never used but in times of danger. With the aid of these old crones and her steward, Elizabeth led the poor girl through the secret passage to the cottage, and after murdering her, bathed in her blood. Not satisfied with the first essay, at different intervals, by the aid of these accomplices and the secret passage, no less than three hundred maidens were sacrificed on the altar of vanity and superstition. Several years had been occupied in this pitiless slaughter, and no suspicion of the truth was excited, though the greatest amazement pervaded the country at the disappearance of so many persons. At last, however, Elizabeth called into play against her two passions even stronger than vanity and cunning. Love and revenge became interested in the discovery of the mystery. Among the victims of Csejta was a beautiful virgin, who was beloved by and betrothed to a young man of the neighborhood. In despair at the loss of his mistress, he followed her traces with such perseverance, that, in spite of the hidden successful caution of the murderers, he penetrated the bloody secrets of the castle, and burning for revenge, flew to Pres-burg, boldly accused Elizabeth Bathori of murder, before the Palatine, in open court, and demanded judgment against her. So grave an accusation, brought against a person of such high rank, demanded the most serious attention, and the Palatine undertook to investigate the affair in person. Proceeding immediately to Csejta, before the murderers or her accomplices had any idea of the accusation, he discovered the still warm body of a young girl, whom they had been destroying as the Palatine approached, and had not time to dispose of before he apprehended them. The rank of Elizabeth mitigated her punishment to imprisonment for life, but her assistants were burned at the stake. Legal documents still exist to attest the truth of this apparently improbable circumstance. Paret, a distinguished English traveller, who visited Csejta about twenty years ago, says: "With this tale fresh in our minds, we ascended the long hill, gained the castle, and wandered over its deserted ruins. The shades of evening were just spreading over the valley, the bare, gray walls stood up against the red sky, the solemn stillness of evening reigned over the scene, and as two ravens, which had made their nests on the castle's highest towers, came toward it, winging their heavy flight, and wheeling once round, each carrying a hoarse welcome to the other, slighted on their favorite turret, I could have fancied them the spirits of the two crones, condemned to haunt the scene of their former crimes, while their infernal mistress was cursed by some more wretched doom."

MELTING OF METALS.

The enclosed memorandum, cut from an exchange, has elicited some discussion, and the query is, from what did Fahrenheit base zero or 0 in his scale—was it the point at which alcohol freezes or not? An article in your paper explaining this would be interesting.

The following are temperatures on Fahrenheit's scale, at which some of the most remarkable effects of heat are produced: 2,786° Cast iron melts. 2,900° Gold melts. 1,986° Copper melts. 1,878° Silver melts. 1,560° Brass melts. 1,141° Heat of a common fire. 980° Red heat. 218° Sulphur melts. 212° Water boils. 184° Alcohol boils. 98° Blood heat. 36° Olive oil freezes. 31° Water freezes. 20° Wine freezes. 14° Oil of turpentine freezes. 10° Oil of vitriol freezes. 39° Mercury freezes. 45° Nitric acid freezes. 60° Greatest cold ever observed in the Arctic regions. 135° Greatest cold yet produced by artificial means.

A mixture of 7 parts of snow and 4 of diluted nitric acid, gives a cold of 30° below zero. Three parts of snow and two of diluted acid reduce the temperature to 46° below zero.

VALUABLE COW.

Isiah Michner, of Buckingham, communicates to the Bucks County *Intelligencer* an account of a productive cow of his that gave, three weeks after calving, during a period of seven days, an aggregate of 46 gallons of milk—the cream from which weighed 39 lbs.—the butter from which weighed 21 lbs. Her feed during the week, was one quart of cake meal, and three quarts of corn meal, weighing five and a half pounds, night and morning, made into a mash with clover heads; at noon, four quarts of wheat bran, weighing three lbs., made into slop with hot water, and given warm, and the same at night at 9 o'clock; making seventeen lbs. of corn meal, cake meal, and bran united, for each twenty-four hours, or one hundred and nineteen lbs. net weight, for the week, which was worth, at mill price, \$1.28, or 18¢ cents per day. The hay that she ate I suppose to be 150 lbs., (I did not weigh it) worth 75 cents, making cost of keeping during the week, \$2.03.

THE Knickerbocker Magazine ludicrously illustrates the necessity of a reform in medical nomenclature. Very much confounded, he says, was Dr Doane, a few years since, by a remark of one of his patients. The day previous, the Doctor had prescribed that safe and palatable remedy, the syrup of buck-thorn, and left his prescription duly written in the usual cabalistic characters—"Syr. Rham Cath." On inquiring if the patient had taken the medicine, a thunder-cloud darkened her face, lightning darted from her eye, as she roared out—"No! I can read your doctor writing, and ain't a-going to take the syrup of iam-cats for anybody under Heaven!"

SORROWFUL OCCURRENCE.—One of the young ladies at Westtown Boarding School—a daughter of Homer Eachus, of Delaware county—fell from one of the third story windows, on Saturday morning week, and was seriously injured that she died in a very few minutes. It is supposed that on being awakened by the six o'clock bell, she hurried to the window to open the shutters, and that they being frozen to the frame, she applied too much force, and when they gave way, lost her balance and fell out.

A LEGAL friend of ours the other day was about entering a haberdasher's shop in Broadway when a young buck, with a large monstache and small income, born like Jaifer 'with elegant desires,' drove up a pair of spanking bays glittering with their splendid caparison. "Ah, G—," said he, how do do?—how do do? How d'you like me ho'es! Fine animals, but very costly.—What do you think I gave for the pair?—'I guess you gave your note,' said G—. 'Good mawning!' responded the blood; 'good mawning!'—*Knickerbocker*.

HOW TO MAKE NICE CANDLES.—Candle-wick, if steeped in lime and saltpetre, and dried in the sun, will give a clearer light and be less apt to run. Good candles may be made thus:—Melt together ten ounces of mutton tallow, a quarter of an ounce of camphor, four ounces of beeswax, and two ounces of alum; then run it into moulds, or dip the candles. These candles furnish a beautiful light.

SMALL POK.—Dr. Wm. Fields, of Wilmington, Del., says in a letter to the Blue, Heel's Chicken, that one table spoonful of good brewer's yeast, mixed with two table spoonfuls of cold water, and given from three to four times a day to an adult, and in less quantities to children, is a certain cure for the small pox.

A LARGE LOAD.—In Philadelphia, on Thursday afternoon, the 21st inst., one hundred and two passengers were stowed in the immense sleigh Kosuth, on the route from the Exchange to the Girard College. It was drawn by six horses.

ANOTHER KOSUTH.

One of the most devoted and successful Protestant pastors in Bohemia, at the present time, is Rev. Frederick William Kosuth. He is said to be near related to the Governor of Hungary. In 1846, he undertook to gather a church of Bohemian Protestants at Prague, the scene of the labor of the Bohemian martyrs, Jerome and John Huss. Several converts were made from among the Papists previous to the year 1848. The revolutions of that year gave religious liberty to the Austrians, and Kosuth availed himself of the precarious boon. His preaching place was soon crowded, and hundreds of Papists became converts to his doctrine. In 1849, he commenced a periodical by the name of *The Herald of the Bohemian Brethren*, which soon attracted the notice of the Government and was suppressed. Very severe opposition, of course, has been excited on the part of the Papal priesthood. They have denounced him in terms the most bitter and uncompromising; setting him forth as the real Antichrist, and publishing the most absurd calumnies against him, so as to provoke the insults of the mob and to crush him as their fathers did the Bohemian martyrs. But they could not arrest the progress of the truth. His congregation numbered, last July, (as we learn from a correspondent of Count Valerian Krasinski, at Prague), eleven hundred souls, of whom seven hundred are converts from Popery, including three priests. At that time he had purchased an old Hussite church, (which had been shut up since the year 1620,) for \$2750, of which sum he had, with great pains, collected and paid \$600. The remainder was to be paid in annual instalments of \$300. It will be remembered that after the battle on the Weissenberg, near Prague, in 1620, the Brethren were subjected to all manner of persecutions, their ministers banished, their churches closed, and they themselves, in 1624, expelled the country. Blessings on the man who labors for the restoration of those ancient sanctuaries! Let him be remembered by all who have learned to revere the name of Kosuth, and much more by those who glory in the cross of Christ.—*N. Y. Evangelist*.

A CORRESPONDENT of the John Bull says:—I happen to know one of our bishops, second in worth to none on the bench, who was thus reproved by a noble Roman lady—a wonder, my lord, you are not ashamed to have a wife and half a dozen children? I should be more ashamed, he answered very gravely, to have the children without the wife.

THE Direct Railroad from West Chester to Philadelphia was placed under contract, on the 17th inst., Messrs Clark, Malone, and Gonder, of this State, are the contractors, and they have agreed to take \$15,000 in the stock of the Company. The road will probably be completed in the year 1853.

LORD CAMPBELL has laid down as a rule, that every plaintiff or defendant who is to be called as a witness must be out of court from the commencement of the case until he is put into the box, and that as soon as he has been examined he must again leave the court.

ONE of the worst things to fat on is Envy. In our opinion, it is as difficult for a grudging man to raise a double-chin, as it is for a bankrupt to raise a loan. Plumbeuses comes not from roast beef, but from a good heart and a cheerful disposition.—*Albany Dutchman*.

A RABBI IN A LEGISLATURE.—At Albany, on the 19th inst., the opening prayer in the State Senate was made by Rabbi Wise, the minister of the Jewish Synagogue in Albany. Rabbi Wise is a German by birth, and is one of the most talented of the Hebrew clergy in this country.

AN Old Soldier of the Imperial Guard, named Cantillon, of whom the Emperor Napoleon made mention in his will, has just died at Rancey. He was accused in 1815 of having fired a pistol shot at the Duke of Wellington. The Emperor bequeathed him 10,000 francs.

EVIDENCE.—"How," said a country court Judge to a witness, "how do you know that the plaintiff was intoxicated on the evening referred to?" "B—cause I saw him, a few minutes after supper, trying to pull off his trousers with a boot-jack." Verdict for the defendant.

GREAT numbers of partridges have been frozen to death in New Jersey during the recent severe weather. A Washington paper states that not less than 500 of these fowls were offered for sale in that market, last Saturday. The writer is afraid the whole race of partridges will become extinct.

AN Organ grinder, of Vienna, died lately in that city, leaving a fortune of about £500. LOLA MONTES has diamonds in her possession valued at \$200,000.