

H. B. MASSER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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A Family Newspaper—Devoted to Politics, Literature, Morality, Foreign and Domestic News, Science and the Arts, Agriculture, Markets, Amusements, &c

NEW SERIES VOL. 6, NO. 14.

SUNBURY, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA. SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1853.

OLD SERIES VOL. 13, NO. 40.

TERMS OF THE AMERICAN. THE AMERICAN is published every Saturday at TWO DOLLARS per annum...

H. B. MASSER, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Business attended to in the Counties of Northumberland, Union, Lycoming and Columbia.

HENRY DONNEL, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Office opposite the Court House, Sunbury, Northumberland County, Pa.

WM. M. ROCKEFELLER, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Dec 23, 1851.—If.

M. L. SHINDEL, ATTORNEY AT LAW. December 4, 1852.—If.

CLINTON WELCH, ATTORNEY AT LAW, LEWISBURG, PENNA.

WILLIAM PRACTICE in the several Courts of Union and Northumberland counties. Rises to Hon. James Burnside, Bellefonte.

DOCTOR I. W. HUGHES, OFFICE on Broadway, near the Episcopal Church, Sunbury, April 14, 1853.—If.

LAWRENCE HOUSE, SUNBURY, PA.

THE subscriber respectfully informs his friends, and the public generally, that he has opened the "Lawrence House" and will do his best endeavors to please the public.

SAMUEL THOMPSON, Sunbury Feb. 26, 1853.—If.

Dilworth, Branson & Co. Importers of and Dealers in Foreign and Domestic Hardware, CUTLERY, & C

CORNELIUS F. BAKER, V. C. BAKER. CORNELIUS, Baker & Co., MANUFACTURERS OF Lamps, Chandeliers, Gas Fixtures, &c.

BURTON & LANING, MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS, No. 124 Arch Street, second door above Sixth PHILADELPHIA.

WM. McCARTY, Market Street, SUNBURY, PA.

EMERSON'S ARITHMETIC Nos. 1, 2, 3, & 4. and Foster's Rhymed Reader, just received and for sale by W. M. McCARTY

SELECT POETRY.

TO A, B, C, & Co.

Ye wee bit, brook'd things! I mind The time when first I spied your face,

My grandire, with well-meaning care, Bore me to where the mistress was there,

Oh! 'twas a most unavailing measure, To take the weenie, small as me,

I liked ye not—I'll ne'er deny it— And did the best the dose to shun—

For ye are pills, that every wee thing Is, will he, nill he, doomed to take,

And now, I love ye well; I'm thinking Acquaintance wears disgust away;

Eye! and at times my bosom feels Some pity for the life ye're leading,

Some busy trifler travels—dies— Makes a murder, plough or sidge,

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delved night and day. Ralph pursues his studies, occasionally argues at a debating society, and at length becomes quite a genius,

I called to take tea one evening with one of these ladies, when to my surprise, and somewhat to my confusion, I found with her the identical blue-eyed beauty whom I had so adaciously kissed.

I was formally introduced to her, but neither of us betrayed any sign of previous acquaintance, except by blushing to the eyes.

While tea was getting ready, the lady of the house went out of the room to give some directions and left us alone. Heavens and earth, what a situation! I would have given all the pittance I was worth to have been in the deepest dell in the forest.

I felt the necessity of saying something in excuse of my former rudeness; I could not conjure up an idea, nor utter a single word. Every moment matters became worse.

I felt at one time tempted to do as I had done when I robbed her of the kiss—bolt from the room and take to flight; but I was chained to the spot, for I really longed to gain her good will.

At length I plucked up courage, seeing her equally embarrassed with myself, and walking desperately up to her, I exclaimed: "I have been trying to muster up something to say, but I cannot. I feel that I am in a horrible scrape. Do have pity on me and help me out of it!"

A smile dimpled about her mouth and played among the blushes of her cheek.—She looked up with a shy but arch glance of the eye that expressed volumes of comic recollections; we both broke into a laugh, and from that moment all went well.

Passing the delightful description which succeeded, we proceeded to the recount of Ringwood's love affair—the marriage and the settlement.

That very autumn I was admitted to the bar, and a month afterwards was married. We were a young couple—she not much more than sixteen, and I not quite twenty—and both almost without a dollar in the world.

The establishment was well suited to our circumstances; a low house with two small rooms, a bed, a table, a half dozen chairs, a half dozen knives and forks, a half dozen spoons—every thing by the half dozen—a little delph war, everything in a small way; we were so poor, but then so happy.

We had not been married many days when a court was held in a country town, about twenty-five miles distant. It was necessary for me to go there, and put myself in the way of business—but how to go! I had expended all my means on our establishment, and then it was hard parting with my wife so soon after marriage. However, go I must. Money must be made, or we would soon have the wolf at our door.

I accordingly borrowed a horse, and borrowed a little cash, and rode off from my door, leaving my wife standing at it, and waving her hand after me.—Her last look, so sweet and becoming, went to my heart. I felt as if I could go through fire and water for her. I arrived at the country town on a cool October evening. The inn was crowded, for the court was to commence on the following day.

I knew no one, and wondered how I a stranger, a mere youngster, was to make way in such a crowd, and to get business. The public room was thronged with all the idlers in the country who gather on such occasions. There was some drinking going forward with a great noise and a little altercation. Just as I entered the room, I saw a rough bully of a fellow, who was partly intoxicated, strike an old man; he came swaggering by me, and elbowed me as he passed. I immediately knocked him down, and kicked him into the street. I needed no better introduction. In a moment I had half a dozen rough shakes of the hand and invitations to drink, and found myself quite a personage in this rough assembly.

The next morning the Court opened.—I took my seat among the lawyers, but felt as a mere spectator, not having any idea where business was to come from. In the course of the morning a man was put to the bar, charged with passing counterfeit money, and was asked if he was ready for trial. He answered in the negative. He had been confined in a place where there were no lawyers, and had not had an opportunity of consulting any. He was told to choose one from the lawyers present and be ready for trial on the following day.—He looked around the Court, and selected me. I could not tell why he should make such a choice. I, a beardless youngster, unpracticed at the bar, perfectly unknown. I felt diffident, yet delighted, and could have hugged the rascal.

Before leaving the Court he gave me one hundred dollars in a bag, as a retainer fee. I could scarcely believe my senses, it seemed like a dream. The heaviness of the fee spoke not lightly in favor of his innocence—but that was no affair of mine. I was to be advocate, not judge or jury. I followed him to jail, and learned from him all the particulars of the case; from thence I went to the clerk's office and took minutes of the indictment. I then examined the law on the subject, and prepared my brief in my room. All this occupied me until midnight, when I went to bed and tried to sleep. It was all in vain. Never in my life was I more wide awake. A host of thoughts and fancies kept rushing through my mind; the shower of gold that had so unexpectedly fallen into my lap, the idea of my poor little wife at home, that I was to astonish her with my good fortune! But the awful responsibility I had undertaken, to speak for the first time, in a strange court, the expectations the culprit had formed of my talents, all these and a crowd of similar notions kept whirling through my mind. I tossed about all night, fearing morning would find me exhausted and incompetent—in a word, the day dawned on me a miserable fellow.

I got up feverish and nervous. I walked out before breakfast, striving to collect my thoughts, and tranquilize my feelings. It was a bright morning—I bathed my forehead and my hands in a beautiful running stream, but I could not allay the fever that raged within. I returned to breakfast but could not eat. A single cup of coffee formed my repast. It was time to go to court. I went there with a throbbing heart. I believe it had not been for the thoughts of my little wife in her lonely house, I should have given back to the man his hundred dollars, and relinquished the cause. I took my seat, looking, I am convinced, more like a culprit than the rogue I was to defend.

When the time came for me to speak, my heart died within me. I rose embarrassed and dismayed, and stammered in opening my cause. I went on from bad to worse, and felt as if I was about to drop. Just then the public prosecutor, a man of talents, but somewhat rough in his practice, made a sarcastic remark on something I had said. It was like an electric spark, and ran tingling through every vein in my body. In an instant my diffidence was gone. My whole spirit was in arms. I answered with promptness and bitterness, for I felt the cruelty of such an attack upon a novice in my situation. The public prosecutor made a kind of apology. This, for a man of his redoubtable powers, was a vast concession. I renewed my argument with a fearful glow, carried the case triumphantly, and the man was acquitted.

This was the making of me. Everybody was curious to know who this new lawyer was that had suddenly risen among them, and bearded the Attorney General at the very onset. The story of my debut at the bar, on the preceding evening, when I had knocked down a bully and kicked him out of doors, for striking and old man, was circulated with favorable exaggeration.—Even my beardless chin and juvenile countenance was far more credit than I deserved.—The chance business which occurs in our courts came thronging upon me. I was repeatedly employed in other cases, and by Saturday night, when the court closed and I had paid my bill at the inn, I found myself with an hundred and fifty dollars in silver, three hundred dollars in notes, and a horse which I afterwards sold for two hundred dollars more.

Never did a miser gloat more on his pelf and with more delight. I locked the door of my room, piled the money in a heap upon the table, and walked around it; and with my elbows on the table, and my chin upon my hands, and gazed upon it. Was I thinking of the money? No; I was thinking of my little wife and home.

Another sleepless night ensued; but what a night of golden fancies and splendid air-castles. As soon as morning dawned I was up, mounted the borrowed horse with which I had come to Court, and led the other which I had received as a fee. All the way I was delighting myself with the thoughts of the surprise I had in store for my little wife; for both of us expected nothing but that I should spend all the money I had borrowed, and should return in debt.

Our meeting was joyous, as you may suppose; but I played the Indian hunter, who, when he returns from the chase, never for a time speaks of his success. She had prepared a snug little rustic meal for me, and while it was getting ready, I seated myself at an old fashioned desk in one corner, and began to count over my money and put it away. She came to me before I had finished, and asked me who I had collected money for.

For myself, to be sure, replied I, with affected coolness; I made it at Court.

She looked me for a moment in the face incredulously. I tried to keep my countenance and play the Indian, but I would not do. My muscles began to twitch—my feelings all at once gave way, I caught her in my arms, laughed, cried and danced about the room like a crazy man. From that time forward we never wanted for money.

STRENGTHENED RAILROAD LAW. HARTFORD, June 9.—The Committee on Railroads have reported to the Legislature a bill, which provides that all trains shall come to a full stop at all drawbridges, and wherever the track crosses that of other roads. It attaches heavy penalties for every instance of these regulations being disregarded. The engineers are to be fined and imprisoned, and the President or Directors being parties thereto, shall be fined \$1000. It also requires men to be stationed at all the switches, under similar penalties, and where speed is over thirty miles per hour, a brakeman is required for every car, under a penalty of \$1000. Engineers neglecting to stop the train when persons are seen upon the track, are to be deemed guilty of manslaughter, if such persons are killed.—The President of all roads within the State must reside within its boundaries, and the officers of roads out of the State are not to be allowed to hold any offices upon roads in the State, under a penalty of \$1000 per day.

Mrs. SWISSERMAN, in a beautiful tribute to the memory of Jesse Hutchinson, of the Hutchinson Family, in the Pittsburg Visitor, says she met the family at Akron, a year ago, and that Jesse, with all his family, was a firm believer in spiritual manifestation. "He pledged himself," says the Visitor, "to convince us of their truth, as soon as he was sent to the spirit land. Almost his parting words were that, after death, he would come and rap around us, so that we should have no peach nut to believe."

CONSELLVILLE RAILROAD.—We learn from the Pittsburg Gazette that the borough of West Newton has subscribed \$30,000 to the stock of the road, and the borough of McKeesport \$100,000.

EFFECTS OF CLOTHING.

The London Lancet presents some excellent ideas on the subject of clothing. Let a person in bed be covered with sufficient blankets to promote perspiration, and let those blankets be covered with an oil or India rubber cloth, or impervious fabric; in the morning the blankets will be dry, but the under surface of the India-rubber cloth will be quite wet. The blankets by their dryness, show that the exhalations of the body pass through them, and would pass through them to the surrounding air, had they not been intercepted by the impervious outer covering. Thus it is inevitable that the habitual use of an impervious covering is injurious. Its effect must be to place the body in a constant vapour-bath, in which the insensible or healthy perspiration is constantly becoming condensed into the form of humidity, and, being prevented from passing off in its elastic and invisible form, the perspiration is thus constantly checked, and skin eruptions must be the result. Nevertheless, it must be less injurious to check perspiration, in some degree, by a water-proof overcoat, than to get soaked with rain. There can be no doubt but water-proof fabrics may be made very light, and so formed as to be worn in wet weather, and yet allow some room for perspiration. But still they are not healthy, and should never be put on except in cases of extreme necessity. Any person who has worn a water-proof outer garment for some time knows, by experience, that it causes weakness and chills.—No person should wear a garment but such as allows the vapor or perspiration, which is continually exuding from the skin, to pass off freely. For this reason, frequent change of entire clothing conduces to health. Clothing should be light and warm, and not too tight. A happy change in the fashions has taken place within a few years; it is the substitution of loose outer garments for the old-fashioned tight, close, and pinching overcoats.—Too few flannels are worn in America, especially along the eastern coasts, where sudden changes are frequent, and where many cold rains fall during the winter season.—Children should always have their outer garments for winter, made of woolen materials. Although India-rubber overshoes are excellent for walking in the streets in wet weather, or when there is a thaw, with snow upon the ground, they should be taken off as soon as the wearer enters a house. They prevent perspiration in a great measure, and are only useful as a lesser evil than getting completely wet from outside water.

OVERDOING IT.—A well known Methodist minister who was traveling on horseback through the State of Massachusetts, stopped one noon on a sultry summer's day at a cottage by the road-side, and requested some refreshment for himself and beast. This was readily granted by the worthy New England dame, so the parson dismounted, and, having seen his horse well cared for, entered the cottage and partook of the refreshment which was cheerfully placed before him. For some time past there had been no rain, and the country around seemed literally parched up. The minister entered into conversation with the old lady, and remarked about the dryness of the season. "Yes," she replied, "unless we have rain soon, all my beets, cucumbers and cabbages will be good for nothing, and I think that all the ministers ought to pray for rain." The worthy divine informed her that he was a minister, and that he should be happy to comply with her wish. He accordingly knelt down and prayed fervently that the gates of Heaven might be opened, that showers might descend and refresh the earth. He then arose from his knees, and having kindly thanked his hostess, bade her good day, mounted his horse and departed. But he had not been gone more than an hour when the clouds began to gather and a tremendous shower of hail and rain descended, and with such force as to wash the contents of the old lady's garden clear out of the ground. "There!" said she, "that is always the way with those tarred Methodists, they undertake to do anything, but they always overdo it!"

QUEER ARRANGEMENT.—The New York and Erie Railroad Company, according to the terms of their recent arrangement with the Central Railroad Company, virtually abandon one hundred and thirty miles of their road.—They run to Buffalo instead of Dunkirk, and take their boats from the latter port.

THE SOLDIERS OF 1812.—A large and enthusiastic meeting of the soldiers of the last war with England, was held on Saturday evening, at the County Court House, in commemoration of the anniversary of the Declaration of War, by President Madison. An eloquent address was made by Dr. Sutherland, who also submitted a series of resolutions which were unanimously adopted. They recognized the annual observance of the 18th of June, as an anniversary of the Declaration of War; also, that an appropriate statue of James Madison be provided for by Congress, and erected beside that of Gen. Jackson, in the Capitol grounds, and that a national convention of those who fought in the War of 1812, be held in this city on the 8th of January next.—Phila. Ledger.

"ARE these pure canaries?" asked a lady of a bird dealer. "Yes, mam," said the dealer confidently, "I raised them six birds from the outside of their heads.—Advers.

One may observe that women in all ages have taken more pains than men to adorn the outside of their heads.—Advers.

THE WAISTS OF AMERICAN LADIES. The unnatural length and ridiculous smallness of their waists baffle description. A waist that could be spanned in an English metaphorical expression used in a novel, but it is an American fact; and so alarming does it appear to an Englishman, that my first sentiment, on viewing the phenomenon, was one of pity for unfortunate beings who might possibly break off in the middle, like flowers from the stalk, before the evening is concluded. No less extraordinary is the size of the ladies arms. I saw many which were scarcely thicker than a moderate-sized walking-stick. Strange to say, when these ladies pass the age of forty, they frequently attain an enormous size. The whole economy of their structure is then reversed, their wrists and arms becoming the thickest parts of the body. Here is a subject worthy the contemplation of the ethnologist. How come it to pass that the English type—which I presume has not, in every case, been so affected by the admixture of others as to lose its own identity—how comes it to pass, I say, that the English type is so strangely altered in a few generations? I have heard various hypotheses; amongst others, the habits of the people—the dry climates. The effect of the latter on a European constitution would have appeared to me sufficient to account for the singular conformation, if I had not been persuaded by natives of the country, that the small waist is mainly owing to tight lacing. This practice, it is said, is persevered in to an alarming extent, and if reported to be true, it is to be feared that the effects will be felt by future generations to a greater degree than they are at present.—Dublin University Magazine.

THE WEST CHESTER INJUNCTION.—Last Monday was named as the return day of the subpoena in the application for an injunction upon the authorities of that borough, in the matter of the subscription to the West Chester and Philadelphia Railroad. The 11th of July has been fixed for the argument before the Supreme Court in the Philadelphia case, but no day has yet been designated in the former.

ENORMOUS BLOCK OF COPPER.—The Lake Superior Journal says that one of the largest and finest masses of native copper ever seen has recently been shipped for New York.—It is a square block, weighing five thousand and seven hundred and twenty pounds, and presents plain surfaces of the metal from three to four feet in length, and about three feet in width. It was cut from a mass weighing eighty tons.

A verdict of \$2000 damages was rendered in the New York Court of Common Pleas on Wednesday, against Dr. Talbot Watts, as compensation for injuries done to the health of a patient by the administration of a patent medicine called "Watt's Nervous Anodyne." The medicine was given for epileptic fits, and its effect was to produce permanent mental derangement and idiocy.

Gen. Torres, who was killed at the battle of Buena Vista, has been promoted to the rank of general of brigade, by Santa Anna, and his family are to draw a pension accordingly.

During a discussion between Dr. Duper and Watson, Boston, Dr. W stated that in the course of four years and a half he had taken from the citizens of Boston and vicinity, one hundred barrels of blood; and had administered forty nine pounds of mercury.

THE EARTHEN.

Two children of this aboriginal tribe of Southern Africa have been brought to England from the banks of the Orange River.—The Earthmen are branches of the Bushman tribe, and derive their name from the fact that they burrow in the ground. They are hunted like vermin by the Hottentots and the Kaffir. Their chief sustenance is game; but at those seasons of the year when it is no longer to be found, they live upon locusts, eat the exuviae of ants, and derive a scanty nutriment from the secretion of the skins of the animals they have slain. The specimens of these peculiar creatures, who in their original nature are created a remote from the brute creation, are under 40 inches in height. They are not likely to grow at any period of their life to a higher stature than four feet; for this small measurement is about the average of their race.

These curious children, who are respectively 14 and 16 years of age, are described as being exceedingly intelligent, the intercourse which they have had with the family with whom for the last few months they have been associated having so far had its influence as to bring forth those attributes which they obviously enjoy in common with the rest of the human species. Their appearance is anything but disagreeable. The flat nose, the breadth across the eyes, and the thick lips, betray their African origin; but the expression of the face in either case is mild, and by no means displeasing, whilst their deeply-bronzed skin is smooth and delicate to the touch. The hair of the head has the peculiarity of growing in small tufts or balls, the scalp in other parts being perfectly bare. These little Earthmen are naked to the waist, which is girdled with a mat of feathers. The forehead is encircled with chaplets of grass, and the neck, wrists, and ankles are garnished with glass beads. They speak a little English, and have already been taught a few accomplishments, such as drumming a tune or two on the pianoforte, and singing drolls and jig tunes. There is evidently much latent intelligence.

—Baltimore American.

TO DESCRIBE HER BODY, describes her mind; one is the transcript of the other; her understanding is not shown in the variety of matters it exerts itself on, but in the goodness of the choice she makes.

She does not display it so much in saying or doing striking things, as in avoiding such as she ought not to say or do.

No person of so few years can know the world better; no person was ever less corrupted by the knowledge.

Her politeness flows rather from a natural disposition to oblige, than from any rules on that subject, and therefore never fails to strike those who understand good breeding; and those who do not.

She has a steady and firm mind, which takes no more from the solidity of the female character, than the solidity of marble does from its polish and lustre. She has such virtues as make us value the truly great of our own sex. She has all the winning graces that make us love even the faults we see in the weak and beautiful in hers."

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