# Altoona Tribune.

McCRUM & DERN, [INDEPENDENT IN EVERYTHING.] EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

VOL. 5. ALTOONA, PA., THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1861. NO. 47.



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OREAPOLIS, Cass County, N. Ter.
July 14, 1859.-tf

REFERENCES:
Rev. A. B. Clark, Altoona, Pa.
Wm. M. Lloyd & Co., Bankers, Altoona, Pa.
McCrum & Dern, Editors, "
Thos. A. Scott, Supt. P. R. R., "
D. McMurtrie, Esq., Huntingdon, Pa.

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References:
Hon. Wilson McCandles and Andrew Burke, Esq., Pittsburgh; Hon. Samuel A. Gilmore, Pres. Judge of Fayette Judicial District; Hon. Chenard Clemens, of Wheeling, Va.; Hon Henry D. Foster, Greensburg; Hon. John W. Killinger, Lebanon; Hon. Wm. A. Porter, Philadelphia; and Hon. George F. Hamelton, Pittsburg. June 16, 1859-1y.

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Jan. 2, '56-tf.] J. SHOEMAKER.

## The Root and Herb Doctor,
OF PHILADELPHIA, HAS LEFT for the Rocky Mountains, for a new supply of Roots. He will return again and can be consulted at John Wood's Hotel, Altoona, on the 21st day of November and on the 19th day of December. Also, one day in each month for several months thereafter, notice of which will be given in this paper. DR. W. LEVINGSTON.
Sept. 20, 1860.

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Pittsburg, Nov. 8, 1860.-2m

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He has always on hand a lot of

CHOICE MINCE MEAT.

He is at all times prepared to supply cakes, candies, &c., for pic-nics and other parties. He invites a share of public patronage, believing that he can render full satisfaction to all.

Remember, his store and saloon is on Virginia street, two doors below Patton's Hall. OTTO BOSSI.



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## Select Poetry.

### BE EARNEST.

Be earnest in the calling,
Whatever it may be;
Time's sands are ever falling
And will not wait for thee

With zeal and vigor labor,
And thou wilt surely rise,
Oh, suffer not thy neighbor
To bear away the prize!

But form thy purpose gravely—
Then quickly push along
And prosecute it bravely,
With a resolution strong.

Thou wilt be defeated;
But pressing firmly on,
Find all at length completed—
Thine object fully won!

Be earnest in devotion,
Old age is drawing near;
A bubble on Time's ocean,
Thou soon will disappear!

In practice, and in spirit,
Here worship thou the Lord;
And thou shalt then inherit
A rich and sure reward.

## Select Miscellany.

### A FUNNY SPEECH.

The Wisconsin Legislature have formally considered a proposition to abolish all laws for the collection of debts. The mover of the bill—Mr. Elmore—is a great wag, as is evidenced by the following extract from his speech upon that subject:

The speaker proceeded to review the present system of collecting debts It was all a humbug and a cheat, a matter of technicalities and legal shuffling. Lawyers gave advice in order to obtain a fee and encourage litigation. Judges made blunders and mistakes. He had little experience in the law and that was rich. [Laughter.] He would give a history of it. The speaker then related how he had purchased a yoke of oxen about fifteen years ago—paid fifty dollars for them—a few days after, the son of the man of whom he bought the oxen came to him and said the oxen were his. He insisted on having pay over again, and commenced a suit before a justice. The jury didn't agree. Finally, through the blunders of the Bushwood Justice of the Peace, the case went against him. He appealed it to the Circuit Court in Milwaukie. There I lost again and said to my lawyer: "I will give you ten dollars to quote Pennsylvania law to Judge Miller and have a new trial ordered." [Great laughter.] He took the ten dollars and performed the duty.

A new trial was then granted, and venue changed to Walworth county. Judge Irwin was then the Judge. Any man who wanted to gain a case in his court had either to go hunting with him and let the Judge claim all the game that was shot, or else pat his dog. Well, I patted the dog. [Laughter.] I fed the dog with crackers. [Renewed laughter.] The case was decided in my favor. When I heard the decision I thought to myself the dog had followed me long enough—I turned round, gave him a kick—[laughter.] The yelp of the dog had hardly subsided ere I heard the Judge say, "Mr. Clerk, this judgment is set aside and a new trial granted." [Great laughter.]—Mr. Speaker, that kick cost me $200! [Convulsive laughter.] You have no doubt seen a suit in a Justice's Court in the country. There is time spent by jurors and hangers on, besides other costs, at least $50, besides the ill feelings and dissensions caused by it. It is all a cheat. The litigants had better set down and play a game of old sledge to decide the case.

It would be more sure to settle the disputes justly.

A young lady who was employed in braiding a guard chain for a gentleman's watch, was asked what it was for. "A bell rope, sir," replied she. "I acknowledge it is a *belle* rope," rejoined he, "and a pretty one, too; but I suspect we shall find a *beau* attached to it when it is finished."

### Major Jack Downing on Secession.

We reproduce, for the benefit of the present day and generation, the following letter on Nullification, from the celebrated pen of Major Jack Downing:

WASHINGTON CITY, Jan. 17th, 1833.

*To the Editor of the Portland Courier, in the Merchant's Church Building, second story eastern end, Fore street, easey down East, in the State of Maine.*

My Kind and Dear Old Friend: The President's message to Congress makes crackling work here. Mr. Calhoun shows his teeth like a lion. Mr. McDuffie is cool as a cowcumber, though they say he's got a terrible tempest inside of him, that he'll let out before long. For my part I think the President's message is about right. I was setting with the President in the east room last night, chatting about one thing and another, and the President says he, Major Downing, have you read my message that I sent to Congress to-day? I told him I hadn't. Well, says he, I should like to have you read it, and give me your opinion upon it. So he handed it to me and I sot down and read it through.

And when I got through, now, says I, Gineral, I'll tell you jest whot I think of this ere business. When I was a youngster, some of us Downingville boys used to go down to Sebago pond every spring and hire out a month or two carting logs across the pond. And one time I and cousin Ephraim and Joel, and Bill Johnson, and two or three more of us, had each a whopping great log to carry across the pond. It was rather a windy day, and the waves kept the logs bobbing up and down considerably bad, so we agreed to bring 'em along side and side, and lash 'em together and drive some thole pins in the outermost logs, and row 'em over together. We went along two or three miles pretty well. And, by and by, Bill Jones begun to complain. He was always an uneasy, harumscarum sort of a cap. Always thought everybody else had an easier time than he had, and, when he was a boy, always used to be complaining that the other boys had more butter on their bread than he had. Well, Bill was rowing on the leeward side, and he begun to fret and said his side went the hardest, and he wouldn't give us any peace till one of us changed sides with him.

Well, Bill hadn't rowed but a little ways on the windward side before he begun to fret again and declared that side went harder than 'tother, and he wouldn't touch to row on that side any longer. We told him he had his choice, and he shouldn't keep changing so. But he only fretted the more, and begun to get mad. At last he declared if we didn't change with him in five minutes, he'd cut the lashes, and take his log and paddle off alone. And before we had hardly time to turn round, he declared the five minutes were up, and up with hatchet and cut the lashings, away went Bill on his own log, bobbing and rolling about, and dancing like a monkey to try to keep on the upper side. The rest of us scrabbled to as well as we could, and fastened our logs together again, though we had a tuff match for it, the wind blew so hard. Bill had not gone but a little ways before his log begun to roll more and more, and by and by in he went, splash, head and ears. He came up puffing and blowing, and tried to climb up on it, but the more he tried the more the log rolled; and finding it would be gone goose with him pretty soon if he stayed there, he begun to sing out like a loon for us to come and take him. We asked him which side he would row if we would take his log into the raft again? O, says Bill, I'll row on either side, or both sides, if you want me to, if you'll only come and help me before I sink.

But, said the President, I hope you didn't help the foolish rascal out till he got a pretty good soaking. He got soaked enough before we got him, says I, for he was jest ready to sink for the last time, and our logs came pesky near getting scattered, and if they had, we should have all gone to the bottom together. And now Gineral, this is jest what I think; if you let South Carolina cut the lashings you'll see such a log rolling in this country as you never see yet. The old Gineral started up and marched across the floor like a boy. Says he, Major Downing she shan't cut the lashings while my name is Andrew Jackson. Tell Sargent Joel to have his company sleep on their arms every night. I told him they should be ready at a moment's warning

I wish you would give cousin Ephraim up to Agusta a jog to know why he don't write to me and let me know how the Legislator is getting along.

I remain your loving friend,
MAJOR JACK DOWNING.

"I vants to shippen der Lucila," said a foreigner to the clerk in a shipping office.

"Well," said the clerk, pen in hand, "what's your name?"

"It is Hans Nannootebiastinidtadnedemuseighyporobelkvenxquilgwpaintetismnpluripf," said Duchy, gravely, spitting out his old quid and taking in a fresh one.

"Heaven!" said the clerk, "I can't write that. Look here, Mister, what is it in English, do you know?"

"Yaw, Ich does. It ish Yon Smidt."

### REMARKS OF REVERDY JOHNSON.

The following touching and impressive remarks before the Supreme Court, were made by Hon. Reverdy Johnson on Thursday last, at the close of an argument on the Albany Bridge case:—

May it please your Honors, indulge me with a word or two more before I conclude.

This may be the last time that the Court will sit in peaceful judgment on a Constitution acknowledged and obeyed by all.—God, in his providence, and for our sins, may, in his inscrutable wisdom, suffer the folly and wickedness of this generation to destroy the fairest, noblest fabric of constitutional freedom ever erected by man. Its whole history, from the moment of its operation even to the present hour, bears evidence of its unrivalled excellence.—Our country, our whole country, has, from the first, prospered under it, and *because of it*, with a rapidity, and in a manner, before or since unknown to nations. That prosperity vindicates the wisdom and patriotism of its great and good founders.

Is this prosperity now to cease? Is it now to be dashed to the earth? Are the hopes of civilized man, the world over, now to be blasted? Are we to become the jest, the scorn, the detestation of the people of the earth? Is all memory and reverence for the great dead, who living we admired and adored, to be now forgotten? Is all gratitude for the mighty, trying struggles, of our fathers now to end? Are the warnings, the parting warnings of the peerless man of all this world now to be disregarded and despised? Is the country of Washington, consecrated by his valor, wisdom, and virtue to freedom and peace, now to be converted into a wild scene of disorder, fraternal strife, bloodshed, war? May Heaven in its mercy forbid!

May it stay the arm of the madman, arrest it in mid-career before it strikes the fatal paricidal blow. May it give time for reason and patriotism to resume their sway? May it remove the delusions of the misguided, strengthen the efforts of the patriotic, impart heavenly fire to the eloquence of the faithful statesman; silence, by the universal voice of the good and true men of the nation, the utterings of treason now tainting the air and shocking the ear of patriotism, and the whinings of imbecibility, now discouraging and sickening the honest public heart! May it, above all, re-kindle that fraternal love which bound us by ties stronger, infinitely stronger, than any which mere government can create, during the whole of our Revolutionary struggle, and has since cheered us on our pathway to the power and renown which has made us, until now, the wonder and admiration of the world!

But if all shall fail us and ruin come; if chaos, worse than chaos, is to be our fate, the spirit of those who have departed, and the survivors who have administered justice in this tribunal in the general wreck and wretchedness that will ensue, will be left this consolation: that their recorded judgments, now, thank God, the rich inheritance of the world, and beyond the spoiler's reach, will, till time shall be no more, testify to the spotless integrity, the unsurpassed wisdom, the ever bright patriotism of the men who from the first have served their country in this temple, sacred to justice and duty, and the matchless wisdom of our fathers, who bequeathed it and commended it to the perpetual reverence and support of their sons, and remain a never dying dishonor and reproach to the sons who shall have caused or permitted its destruction.

WHAT IS LIFE?—The mere elapse of years is not life. To eat, and drink, and sleep—to be exposed to darkness and the light—to pace around the mill of habit, and turn thought into an implement of trade—this is not life. In all this but a poor fraction of the conciousness of humanity is awakened, and the sanctities still slumber which make it worth while to be. Knowledge, truth, love, beauty, goodness, faith, alone can give vitality to the mechanism of existence. The laugh of mirth that vibrates through the heart—the tears that freshens the dry wastes within the music that brings childhood back—the prayer that calls the future near—the doubt which makes us meditate—the death which startles us with mystery—the hardship which forces us to struggle—the anxiety that ends in trust—are the true nourishments of our natural being.

"DAT'S JEST WHAT I'D LIKE TO KNOW."—The Columbus (Ohio) *Journal* reports a row in that city:

"A large African, whose back might answer for a black-board in a public school, was arrested, and a boulder, weighing about two pounds, was found under his shirt bosom. On being questioned as to how it came into his possession, he exclaimed with a look of blank astonishment: 'Dat's jest what I'd like to know, how dat infernal rock got into my bosom. I 'spect some niggar must have throwed it dar.'"