

The Altoona Tribune.

McCRUM & DERN.

[INDEPENDENT IN EVERYTHING.]

EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

VOL. 8.

ALTOONA, PA., TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 1863.

NO. 11.

THE ALTOONA TRIBUNE.

H. C. DEHN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Published weekly, (except on Sundays, and public holidays,) at the office of the Tribune, No. 10 North Second Street, Altoona, Pa., at the rate of \$1.00 per annum, in advance.

Advertisements, payable in advance, at the rate of \$1.00 per square for the first week, and 50 cents for each subsequent week.

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Choice Poetry.

FALTER NOT—QUAIL NOT—ON TO THE FIGHT.

Falter not—quail not—on to the fight,
Our cause will yet triumph—on to the fight,
The foe will be vanquished through faith and bold,
For we fight for the cause of our father's old.

For liberty, freedom, Union and laws,
For God's interest—his God's chosen cause;
A cause that has triumphed over tyranny's might,
The cause of humanity, justice and right.

A nation whose people have ever been blessed,
Quail not—will fall not—on to the fight!
Our cause will yet triumph—on to the fight!
The hand that sustained us in days that are past,

Will restore us the Union and freedom at last,
The hand that has guided us through our darkest hour,
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intellectual endowments are far superior to his physical beauty.

"I am much obliged to you for that sermon, Miss Maria Sedgeland; it does not require the assistance of a spy-glass or microscope to discover the state of your feelings in regard to this vexed question.

The truth is you are envious or jealous, because I have made an impression on the heart of Mr. Fitzgibbon, while you can pick up a poor shiftless fellow, who picks up letters in a printing office. Ma will put a stop to your courtship, and if you were at the altar pa would forbid the bans.

The next morning, immediately after breakfast, Maria was requested to go into her aunt's room. She had been seated but a few moments, when the aristocratic old lady came into the apartment and observed, "I have been informed that without my knowledge or consent you have accepted the attention of a young man employed in a printing office."

"Well, aunt," remarked Maria, blushing to the temples, "Mr. Raymond came from my native town; and we have been acquainted ever since we were children—He is a respectable young man, and a well-known guest in the best circles of society."

"Well, Miss, I shall put an immediate stop to such an interview as you have with him. You shall not go with him to the theatre nor drink wine with him at parties."

"He never goes to the theatre and he never drinks wine. He belongs to a division of the Sons of Temperance."

"So he is a cold water rat! Now I hate him more than I did before, and if he ever comes to my house I will drive him away with a broom stick."

"John," said Mr. Mullins to his servant man, "take this letter down to the hotel where Mr. Fitzgibbon boards, and give it to him yourself with my compliments."

It was just nine o'clock, and yet Mr. Fitzgibbon was still in the embrace of Morphew. The waiter, glad to awaken the sleeper, and feed him, so that the dining room might be seen in readiness for the next meal, awoke him at once.

He usually spent an hour at his glass, unappreciating his curls, facing his eyes, &c. Whilst he was dressing and decorating his person, John commenced conversation with an intelligent waiter, who was an old chum of his.

"I guess Maria is going to have a party to-night, and this note is to ax the gentleman to attend."

"You do not call him a gentleman, I hope. He is as cross as a bear with a sore head, and is more trouble at the table than any other six boarders in the house. He smells the soup until his moustache dips into it, and then pronounces it unfit for the pigs; he says that the beefsteak is tougher than sole leather—the butter as strong as Samson—and the pies and puddings not to be compared to such luxuries in London. We have to be as careful in feeding him as though he were a wild beast, gnashing his teeth on the keeper of the menagerie."

"Why how you talk, Bob. Miss Clara takes quite a shine to him, and she would have thrown a kettle of hot water on you if she heard what you said now. I should not wonder if they got married before long. She says he is the son of a lord."

"Son of a devil, more likely."

"Well, if they should pair off, after billing and cooing a while, I hope he will make Miss Clara stand around, and she has a horrid temper, and Miss Sedgeland has to put up with her ill-humor."

"She is half the time scolding her because a workman went with her to meeting on Sunday."

"Are the old folks rich?"

"They are well to do in the world, but they need not turn up their noses at poor folks; for I remember the time when old Mullins couldn't cut such a swath as he does now. He used to keep a barber shop, and had some idea of taking my father into partnership with him, but father refused to have anything to do with the old skin flint. He griped every cent until it squealed, and soon saved enough to go to brokering on a small scale. Folks used to laugh, and say one pole would do for both branches of business. Now he uses soft soap, and shaves notes, and is ashamed of the more honest and honorable calling of shaving faces. I wish the old man would try his hand on the face of the dandy who is after his daughter."

"Yes, John, I think he could improve his looks, but then if a man makes a beast of himself, I can see no earthly reason why he shouldn't look like one. I believe this stranger who palmed himself off as a distinguished foreigner is an impudent impostor, without either wit, money or morality; and should be sorry to have him marry your young mistress."

"Well, John, I read books and study human nature, and if I am not vastly mistaken, the ill-looking, ill-matured stranger, foppish of whom we have been speaking, is a vile fellow, and he ought to be exposed. I think it would be a good idea to get Mr. Raymond to publish him."

"Do you mean Raymond the printer?"

"He is the very man that went to church with the lovely and graceful Miss Sedgeland last Sunday, and Missus has vowed he shall never darken her doors again."

"What an old goose she must be. Mr. Raymond is loved and respected by all who know him. Several of our oldest, most wealthy and influential citizens have clubbed together and raised funds enough to buy a press and types, and have engaged him to edit a newspaper they design to publish. He is the famous author of the thrilling sketches under the initials of 'G. R.'"

"Miss Clara says she wouldn't touch him with a pair of tongs, and that he is a low fellow, fit only to associate with vulgar people."

"Pshaw! that's all moonshine. The time may come when she will be glad to be in his company. There is an accomplished and pretty young lady boarding here who gave the mitten to Mr. Fitzgibbon, but she would be delighted to have Mr. Raymond except her hand, her fortune."

As John surmised, that very evening there was a grand soiree at the house owned and occupied by the haughty homely Mrs. and the hard-fisted Mr. Mullins.

An early hour, the washed, combed, brushed, curled, dressed, perfumed and decorated Mr. Fitzgibbon might have been seen ascending the flight of granite steps, and after spelling out the name engraved on the door plate, pulled the bell with such violence that the lap-dog howled with the car bells, and the servants started in alarm, and the old woman wondered what on earth was the matter.

He was escorted into the pleasant room which was handsomely furnished with the most fashionable furniture. After being introduced to the company he present, he made a low bow, tried to smile, scraped his foot on the carpet, and then awkwardly fumbled like a bale of dry goods on the sofa; after which he looked up with an air of wondrous wisdom and importance, which seemed to say, "what think ye of this imported specimen of gentility?"

He really was a remarkable looking object. His coarse hair was oiled, curled and scented. He stared at every person in the room through his quizzing glasses. He wore on his unintellectual face, moustache, imperial, whiskers and goatee, looking like an ass that had swallowed a horse, and left the tail sticking out of his mouth. His red carrot fingers were hooped with huge rings, and a broad large enough for a looking-glass stuck upon his ruffled shirt bosom.

Most persons could have seen at a glance that he was one of those non-descript creatures who know but little of themselves externally, except what they learn from the looking-glass, and who know nothing of themselves, internally, except what they feel from the liquor-glass. The following conversation between the parties will afford an idea of the mental calibre of the distinguished gentleman.

"It is a beautiful evening, sir," remarked one of the company.

"Very fine."

"How do you like our climate, sir?"

"Very fine."

"You have seen the falls of Niagara, I am told. What do you think of that sublime and beautiful water wonder?"

"It is very fine."

"I think I saw you at the meeting which was recently addressed by the Hon. Daniel Webster; what do you think of his eloquent and magnificent speech?"

"It was very fine."

"How do you feel, sir, when excited by the thrilling, electrifying eloquence of our Demosthenes?"

"Very fine."

"The sensation must be akin to the trumpeting of the storm when the winds do battle. What are your sensations during a storm at sea?"

"I am very sick at the stomach; at such times, but when we have a smooth sea and a fair wind, I feel very fine."

The conversation was here interrupted by the appearance of Mrs. Mullins and her daughter. They were richly dressed and gorgeously jewelled, and Clara, notwithstanding the unmistakable lines which ill-temper had traced upon her countenance, was very beautiful to look upon. The moment they entered the room, Mr. Fitzgibbon rose from his seat—and squeezed the hand of Miss Clara, and told her she looked lovely, and "very fine."

In the course of the evening, he ventured to say she was a charming girl, fit to be the wife of a lord, and he meant what he said, poor honor.

Maria was present at the party, and her aunt availed herself of an early opportunity to ask her how she would like the attention of such a man as Mr. Fitzgibbon.

"Best at a distance," said she, "I could not endure such a bundob dandy, whose head is as empty as his hat."

"You are quite right, how dare you speak so disparagingly of my company in my own house?"

"Why, aunt, he has been winking at me most impudently through his quizzing glass. He is not a gentleman and

ought to be requested to leave the house. If he does not, by your permission I will retire to my room."

"I suppose you are anxious to see the journeyman printer," but if he dares to show his face within reach of a poker, I will drive him into the street. I have a will and a way to punish upstarts who do not know their own place and have no regard for the higher order of society."

At a late hour that night, or rather at an early hour the next morning, the party broke up; but unfortunately Mr. Fitzgibbon had partaken too freely of wine, and sober John was nominated and appointed a committee of one to lead the eminent stranger to his lodgings.

The next day it was rumored in different parts of the city, that a lord, duke, knight or earl, or something else had fallen in love with Miss Mullin, the broker's daughter. Maria received a severe caudling from her aunt, and ditto from her dear cousin, because she spoke so contemptuously of Mr. Fitzgibbon.

Miss Mullin's jealousy induced her to believe that several young ladies were not only smitten but deep in love with the golden calf she worshipped, and in order to make sure of the idol of her affections, she and her parents went to work in good earnest to bring about a match and have the parties united in matrimonial alliance.

The landlord to whom Mr. Fitzgibbon was indebted for board and borrowed money, did not press his claims, for fear he might lose a customer.

In a short time arrangements were made for the wedding. Milliners, tailors, shoemakers, and confectioners, were all busy at work. The day selected, the guests were invited, and all the interested parties were on the tip of anticipation, when an event occurred which is related as follows:

"Write, did you see the new paper?"

"Yes, I saw it, but you know as well as I do, that I have no time to read newspapers. Clara is to be married next Monday, and I shall have to be as busy as a dress-maker, or cut a sorry figure at the wedding."

"But here is a fist pointing to a paragraph about Mr. Fitzgibbon, the distinguished foreigner."

"Do read it, pa," said Clara, smiling, "I knew he would make a noise in the world. A man of his rank in society, having such a princely fortune, and a variety of accomplishments, such fascinating manners and such superb talents, cannot fail to make a great sensation among the people competent to appreciate his genius. Let us hear it, pa."

"We have received the London Times."

"Hear this, ma, the news is from England. I suppose my envious, jealous cousin, who told me she believed somebody to be an impostor, will see her mistake."

"Do let me read without interruption, if you please."

"We received, by last night's mail, a copy of the London Times, which contained the following startling and unexpected announcement: 'John Gammon, who was a servant in the service of Win. Fitz, Esq., has robbed his mother of considerable clothing and jewelry, and it is supposed he has sailed for America. He is about thirty years of age, of medium size, has dark eyes, coarse curly hair, and a scar on his left cheek, which he received from the watchman who arrested him