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CONDITIONS.

The price of this paper is *two dollars and fifty cents* per annum—but if paid half yearly in advance, two dollars only will be charged.

Advertisements, making no more in length than breadth, will be inserted three times for one dollar; and for every subsequent continuance twenty-five cents.—Those of greater length in proportion.—Rule or figure work double those rates.

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Letters addressed to the editor must be

From the Pittsburgh Mercury.

JEMIMA WILKINSON.

This consummate and successful imposter upon her visiting the city of Philadelphia, resided during her stay in that city, at the house of my father. The novelty of such a character, attracted general notice. Our family became incommoded by the numerous visitors that were desirous of communicating with her, on the important subject of religion. Her popularity as a preacheress, has never been surpassed. The Methodist Episcopal St. Georges Church, was by the trustees granted her, in which her oratory was displayed to the wonder and astonishment of thousands who attended her ministrations. She was masculine, by articulation and appearance.—Her jet black hair, which she always kept moist, by frequent washing which made it assume a glossy appearance, with black eyes and fair complexion, gave her an interesting appearance. She possessed a commanding and audible voice.

Upon any occasion when she walked out, the crowd that attended her person, became so great that it was inconvenient for to be seen in public. After this discovery she would not be seen walking. When she paid a visit, or attended divine service, her followers had her conveyed in a carriage to her destined place. I remember perfectly well, that the street and pavements opposite my fathers house, were without intermission crowded daily.

Our next door neighbor, S. W. became one of her proselytes, and when Jemima took her departure from our city, this infatuated lady, forsook her husband and children and accompanied her, with a number of others, to her new settlement. This lady did not continue a long time absent from her family, before she returned in disgust against this imposter. The report which circulated respecting the circumstance of this womans re-appearance, was as nearly as I can recollect as follows.

When her, and her followers, were seated in the chapel; and after a long silence, Jemima arose from her seat, and with an audible voice proclaimed, "Sarah—Sarah—Sarah!—I have a message from God unto thee—this night thy soul will be required of thee." She then sat down. Mrs W. has been heard to say, that such a terror seized on her mind, and the rest of her auditors as tongue could not describe. This was on account of their having imputed faith in her as a prophetess. This happened in the winter; and a remarkable

providence was manifested in the preservation of Mrs. W's life. The house in which they resided being much crowded, Mrs. W. had for her bed companion a white domestic, one of the sisterhood—when the appointed time arrived for the members of this destroyed family to retire which was nine o'clock, Mrs. W. with a palpitating heart went to her chamber and occupied the front part of the bed. The girl, in consequence of having had a large washing on that day, did not retire that night until near twelve o'clock. Mrs. W. could not close her eyes in sleep, and awaited the time of her expected desolation with an awful suspense—but judge her surprise when about the hour of ten o'clock, her room door opened. Hearing this, she concluded her bed-fellow had finished her work, and was coming to bed; but to her astonishment Jemimah entered dressed in white, with a veil over her head, holding a lighted candle in each hand, and passed close to her bed side, with a very slow pace, looked at Mrs. W. without uttering a word, after which she retired. Mrs. W's mind was racked with ten thousand contending fears, and she could not close her eyes. She continued in this state until the hour of 11 o'clock arrived. Jemima re-appeared, after the same manner as before, represented, pursued the same course as before, and retired without uttering a word: Mrs. W. could not fathom her mysterious conduct. At the approach of midnight, her apprehensions became insupportable. It so happened by the orders of an over ruling hand that before the hour of twelve o'clock, the girl did retire and in order to accommodate her, Mrs. W. removed to the back part of the bed; and the girl took her warm place; and on account of her being much fatigued, she soon fell asleep—About the dead hour of midnight the door again opened. All was darkness; and Mrs. W. could not perceive the object that entered, but she heard it approaching towards the bed. Of a sudden the girl began to struggle for existence.—Mrs. W. not knowing the cause, gave the alarm; and a person fled with precipitation from the room. Mrs. W. interrogated the girl respecting the cause. Her answer was that some person had her by the throat and was trying to strangle her. Here was at once a development of the character of this fiend, this monster of depravity.

From this circumstance, it appears self-evident, that Jemima's two first visits with the candles, were to reconnoitre and ascertain the exact position of her intended victim; that her prediction should be verified; and by that means, a confirmation of her possessing supernatural powers would be established in the minds of her credulous followers. But happily her design was frustrated by Mrs. W's leaving her first position; and her murderous intention was defeated. Had Mrs. W. maintained the place she first occupied, her success would have been complete. On account of the fatigue of the girl her sleep would have been so heavy that she would be insensible to the struggles of Mrs. W.—Consequently, the morning light would have proclaimed her devotees, her knowledge of future events, and of her having a direct intercourse with Almighty God. Such was the credulity of her followers, that they viewed her as a second Christ.

After the public notoriety of the diabolical means she had resorted to, for the further purpose of imposition, many anecdotes got in circulation respecting her, which became the topic of general conversation and shall be the subject of another communication, as I conceive every particular that relates to this extraordinary and wonderful woman, must be interesting to the community.

From the Boston Daily Adv. Aug. 24.

NEGOTIATION.

Between Great Britain and the United States for the extinction of the Slave Trade.

It has been repeatedly mentioned that propositions have been made by the British government, for some arrangement with this country, for carrying into effect by joint efforts, the wishes which are expressed by both on this subject, but we have seen no account, published in this country of the precise nature of the negotiations which have been had between the two governments. The following narrative which is copied from the Thirteenth Report of the African Institution, published in March last, gives a very satisfactory view of the whole transaction.

In the month of June last, Lord Castlereagh addressed a letter to Mr. Rush, the American minister in London, respecting the more effectual abolition of the African Slave Trade; in which his lordship observed, that, with the exception of the crown of Portugal, all states had now either actually prohibited the traffic in slaves to their subjects, or fixed an early period for its cessation, whilst Portugal had also renounced it to the north of the equator; that, from May 1826, there would not be a flag which could legally cover this detested traffic, to the north of the line; and that there was reason to hope, that the Portuguese might ere long be also prepared to abandon it to the south of the Equator; but that, until some effectual concert should be established amongst the principal maritime powers to prevent their respective flags from being made a cover for an illicit Slave Trade, there was but too much reason to fear whatever might be the state of the law on this subject, that the evil would continue to exist; and in proportion as it assumed a contraband form, would be carried on under the most aggravated circumstances of cruelty and desolation; and that it was from a deep conviction of this truth, founded upon experience, that the British government, in all its late negotiations upon this subject, had endeavored to combine a system of alliance for the suppression of this most injurious practice, with the engagements which it had succeeded in contracting with the governments of Spain and Portugal for the total or partial abolition of the Slave Trade.

His lordship inclosed to Mr. Rush copies of those treaties, together with the acts which had received the sanction of parliament for carrying them into execution. He also transmitted a copy of the treaty which had just been concluded with the king of the Netherlands, for the like purpose; to which his lordship was induced to call Mr. Rush's attention more particularly, as it contains provisions calculated to limit the powers mutually conceded by the former treaties, in a manner which, without essentially weakening their force might render them more acceptable to the contracting parties.

Lord Castlereagh earnestly begged of Mr. Rush to bring these documents under the serious consideration of the President of the United States; intimating to him the earnest wish of the British Government that the exertions of the two countries might be combined upon a somewhat similar principle, to put down this great moral disobedience to the laws of both countries, wherever it might be committed; and expressing his belief, that this could not effectually be done except by mutually conceding to each other's ships of war a qualified right of search, with a power of detaining the vessels of either State with Slaves actually on board; and remarking that if the American Government were disposed to enter into a similar concert, and could suggest any further regulations the better to obviate abuse, the British Government would be most ready to listen to such suggestions: their only object being to contribute, by every effort in their power, to put an end to this disgraceful traffic.

Mr. Rush most readily promised to transmit to his government copies of Lord Castlereagh's Note, and the documents which accompanied it.

Towards the latter end of December, Mr. Rush transmitted an answer to Lord Castlereagh.

In this Note, Mr. Rush states, that he had been distinctly commanded, in the first place, to make known the sensibility of the President to the friendly spirit of confidence in which the Treaties between Great Britain, Portugal, Spain, and the Netherlands, and the legislative measures of Parliament founded upon them, had been communicated to the United States; to the invitation which had been given, that they would join in the same or similar arrangements, the more effectually to accomplish the beneficial object to which they look. He was further commanded to give the strongest assurances that the solicitude of the United States for the universal extirpation of the Slave Trade continues with all the earnestness which has so long and steadily distinguished the course of their policy in relation to it.

Of their general prohibitory law of 1807, Mr. Rush says it is unnecessary for him to speak, his lordship being already apprised of its provisions; amongst which the authority to employ the national force, as auxiliary to its execution, will not have escaped attention.

But he has in charge to make known, as a new pledge of their unremitting and active desire in the cause of Abolition, that so lately as the month of April last another act of Congress was passed, by which not only are the citizens and vessels of the United States interdicted from carrying on, being in any way engaged in the trade; but in which also the best precautions that legislative enactments can devise or their penalties enforce, are raised up against the introduction into their territories of Slaves from abroad, under whatever pretext attempted, and especially from dominions which lie more immediately in their neighborhood. The peculiarity in the eighth section of the Act, which throws upon a defendant the labour of proof as the condition of acquittal, Mr. Rush persuaded himself would be regarded as signally manifesting an anxiety to suppress the hateful offence; departing, as it does, from the analogy of criminal jurisprudence, which so generally requires the independent and