American Volunteer.

BY JOHN B. BRATTON. "OUR COUNTRY—MAY IT ALWAYS BE RIGHT—BUT RIGHT OR WRONG, OUR COUNTRY." AT $2 00 PER ANNUM.

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Political.

ADDRESS OF THE STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

To the people of Pennsylvania:

FELLOW CITIZENS—The members of the State Central Committee of the Democratic party, appointed by the late 4th of March Convention, deem it a duty, in the fulfilment of the object of their appointment, to address you in relation to the present condition of the country, and call your attention to the importance of the approaching election.

Never at any period since the commencement of our history have the people at large, and especially the Democratic party had more cause to congratulate each other upon the progress of free principles in improving the condition and extending the happiness of man. The people of these United States are all, without respect to party or sect, in the full and peaceful enjoyment of the most enlarged civil and religious rights, which are not only secured by constitutional provisions, but by that which is much stronger, the good sense and sound judgement of an enlightened and liberal community. It also gives us unfeigned pleasure to join in congratulations upon the general prosperity which pervades all the business and pecuniary relations of the people. Notwithstanding the predictions of our leading Federal opponents of the ruin and desolation which was to follow the election of the Democratic candidates in 1844, our prosperity has been onward ever since, and at no period of our existence as a people, have all the departments of industry—agricultural, mechanical, commercial and manufacturing, been in a more prosperous and healthy condition, and labor more in demand at fair rates of compensation than at the present time. It is when labor commands its just reward that an honest and industrious community is always the most happy.

This condition of things we have reason to believe rests on a substancial basis, and is the result, in a great degree, of a sound and liberal system of policy founded upon just principles of commercial intercorse and reciprocity, in connection with a constitutional system of finance on the part of the general government, calculated to prevent excessive issues of paper money, and to maintain a sound currency.

Our Federal friends, however, would have you believe that all our present prosperity results from the scarcity of provisions in Europe, and the consequent high prices in this country. That the scarcity in Europe of Breadstuffs has tended to raise prices in this country, we will not deny. Every man of common sense knows this to be a fact. But every person of intelligence and candor is also bound to admit that the reduction of the duties on our flour and grain in the English ports, with the modification of our own tariff on their productions, is calculated to enlarge the trade between the two countries, and increase the export of our grain and flour permanently; and as this will increase the ability of our citizens to purchase and consume manufactures, it will add to the prosperity of every branch of industry in the country. In regard to the Iron and coal interests, they will be especially benefitted by the demand for iron to make railroads to carry the products of agriculture to market and to supply the wants of an enlarged internal as well as external commerce. In fact, we regard our domestic manufactures as so well established, that with moderate but certain duties properly arranged they can withstand the competition of the world; and in this opinion we are confirmed by the judgement of practical men who are engaged in enlarging old, and building new establishments under the present tariff, without any reasonable hope of an immediate change.

Our opponents, however, having been driven by the experience of the country from all their old positions in regard to a bank of the United States, a high protective tariff, and their opposition to the Independent or Constitutional Treasury, now seek to find cause of opposition to the Democratic party in the war with Mexico. In regard to the bank, they told the people that it was indispensable to their prosperity and that the country could not exist without it. They even excited their partizans to madness and encouraged a revolutionary spirit amongst the people by denouncing General Jackson as a tyrant and an usurper, for his opposition to a monster bank which sought to place itself above the constituted authorities of the nation, and to control the government.—A distinguished member of the Federal party on this occasion addressed the populace of Baltimore, on Sunday, and by way of encouraging and justifying their conduct, declared "that in revolutionary times there was no Sabbaths." Now the same partizans say that a Bank of the United States "is an obsolete idea."

Before the modification of the tariff of 1842, they declared that if the act of 1846 became a law, that nearly all the furnace, forges and manufactories of the country would have to stop; that men would have to be turned out of employment to starve; and that the productions of the farmer would rot on his hands for want of a home market.

How these predictions have been verified let the present condition of the country answer. They made the like predictions in regard to the operations of the Constitutional Treasury; yet it has been in operation about a year, and the country has never enjoyed a higher degree of prosperity.

Their opposition to the Democratic party on account of the Mexican war, is entirely consistent with their former conduct and practice.

In speaking of our opponents we are compelled to call them by their proper name of Federalists—not in derision or unkindness, but because it is impossible to designate them by all the names they have, at various times, assumed to suit the emergency in which they were placed, and to avoid the guilt and odium of their political offences.

There is no fact which goes further to establish guilt than that of the accused changing his name so that he may not be known. This the Federalists have done over and over again, until many of them have persuaded themselves that they are not Federalists but good honest "Democratic Whigs."

It is, however, a fatal self-delusion, and a mere hallucination of the mind. They have no just claim to the name. There were men in that day who took sides with the enemy against the Whigs of the Revolution, just as the leaders of the present opposition party take sides now against the constituted authorities of their country.

The Whigs of that day were the advocates of the rights of their country, and were willing to sacrifice every thing but honor in resisting the tyranny and oppression of the King and Parliament of Great Britian, and for the establishment of a free and independent government.

Taking then their sentiments and conduct as the test by which to determine what constitutes a Whig, what just claim can the Federalists make to the name? May we not appeal to the fathers of Democracy who are yet amongst us to prove that from the establishment of the constitution to the present day, the leading Federalists, in all the difficulties we have had with foreign powers, took sides against the Democrats and justified the enemies of their country, just as they are now justifying the Mexicans, and condemning Mr. Polk and the Democratic party?

When Great Britain was insulting our flag, impressing our seamen, naturalized and native, and siezing and condemning our ships and merchandize under various false pretences prior to the declaration of the war of 1812, Mr. Jefferson was anxious to bring them to a sense of justice without resorting to war by the adoption of peaceful measures. It was for this purpose the embargo and non-intercourse laws were adopted. These laws were denounced by the Federalists from one end of the Union to the other as unconstitutional and oppressive; and such was the feeling amongst the New England portion of them, that the laws could not be executed, and thus was their object defeated.

They then denounced Mr. Jefferson, and the whole Democratic party as pusillanimous, and said they could not be kicked into a war.

At length, when Mr. Madison, who had succeeded Mr. Jefferson, recommended war as the only alternative left to preserve the rights and honor of the nation the Federal tune was changed. The Democrats were then denounced for making war without preparation, and by many the war was declared as wicked and unjust, as the leading Corwin Federalists now denounce the Mexican war.

Many of the New England orators declared it "unbecoming a moral and religious people to rejoice at our victories," and thus was the opposition to the war continued, and the arm of the nation in a degree paralized by the machinations of Federalism, until it ended in the unparralleled victory of the 8th of January, 1815, at New Orleans, achieved under the auspices of Andrew Jackson. The result of this war gave almost a death blow to Federalism, and then it was that they began to deny their ancient name, and to seek for others more popular, in order to deceive the people and screen themselves from the odium of their traitorous conduct.

But their opposition to Democratic men and measures, with a few honorable expectations, continues the same, no matter what name they may assume.

During the administration of Gen. Jackson, a treaty was concluded with France, by which indemnity was secured to some extent, to our citizens, for spoliations on our commerce by that nation. For some cause, after the treaty was concluded, the French Chambers of Deputies refused to make the neccessary appropriations to carry it into effect and to pay what the treaty stipulated should be paid, and the draft of our government for one of the instalments was dishonored. This was an act of bad faith on part of France, to which the administration was determined not to submit, even at the risk of war; and Gen. Jackson suggested that if the treaty was not carried into effect in good faith, we would have a right to make reprisals. How did the Federal party behave on this occasion? Their newspapers were filled with denunciations from one end of the Union to the other against the administration for its rash and uncalled for recommendations which would, as they said, involve the country in war.

Mr. Livingston, who was then in France as our Minister, urging upon the French government the necessity of the execution of the treaty to preserve the amicable relations of the two governments, said the greatest obstacle he found in the way of effecting the object was the Federal press, particularly the National Intelligencer, at Washington, which he requested the Secretary of State to strike from the papers sent to the legation, on account of its anti-American character, which was done. It will also be recollected that during this difficulty, it was anticipated, from news received just at the close of the session of Congress in the year 1835, that France might take advantage of the then unprepared condition of the country and make a sudden declaration of war. It was therefore proposed to place an appropriation of three millions of dollars at the disposal of the President to meet the contingency. The proposition was at once acceded to by a Democratic House of Representatives, and the appropriation was granted by an overwhelming vote of that body. But how was it treated by a Federal Senate? Rejected instanter in the most unparliamentary and indignant manner. One of the leading and most distinguished members of that body, and the head and front of Federalism, declaring that he would not vote, for it, "*if the enemy were at the walls of the Capital battering it down.*"

The appropriation was lost by a disagreement between the two Houses. Nothing daunted however by the anti-American conduct of the Senate, General Jackson adhered resolutely to his purpose until he compelled Louis Philippe to make a virtue of necessity by paying the indemnity. Now we know that our opponents, who call themselves Whigs, insist that they are not the old Federal party. This however as we have before said, is a mere evasion to avoid the odium of their former deeds. We know there have been individual changes; that some Federalists have come into the Democratic ranks, and some who were Democrats have gone into the ranks of Federalism. Such changes will no doubt be constantly occurring; but the great body of the parties are essentially the same, and their principles identical. Has not Philadelphia been always a Federal city—and is it not now a Whig city? Were not Lancaster and Adams counties always Federal counties—and are they not now Whig counties? Were not Massachusetts and Rhoad Island always Federal States—and are they not now Whig States?

Do not these facts show conclusively that modern Whiggery is *old Federalism*. Again, look at old Berks and old Northampton counties, in this State.—Were they not strongly Whig counties in 1776—Democratic in 1799, for Jefferson against Adams—Democratic in the war of 1812—and are they not Democratic still? And again, look at the States of Pennsylvania and Virginia—were they not Democratic in the days of Jefferson, Madison and Jackson and are they not still Democratic? Do not these few facts show clearly that parties are essentially the same at this time as they were in the early days of the Republic? Of this fact, however, we have further evidence, growing out of the relations of the parties to the present war. The Democrats believe that the unjust conduct of the Mexicans towards our citizens, and their repeated aggressions upon our national rights, and especially their assassinations of our officers and soldiers upon our own soil, prior to the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, fully justify the course of the present administration in the prosecution of the war until an honorable peace shall be obtained, and some guaranty given that it will be observed.

It is indeed, a matter of history that we had just cause of war with them long since, but, knowing our own strength and their weakness, we forbore, and have endured more wrongs at their hands than would have been tolerated by us from Great Britain, France, or any other nation on the globe. At length embolden by our forbearance, and mistaking our magnanimity for weakness or cowardice, Mexico declared and commenced the war herself. Now the Federal party, especially the leaders, labor in their papers and in their speeches to prove that this is an unjust and wicked war, for which the Democrats are alone responsible, just as they did during the war of 1812, with Great Britain, and as they indicated their course in 1835, in our threatened difficulties with France.

If the present opposition, to the Democratic party is really a Whig opposition, the word must have some meaning very different from what it had in the days of the Revolution. In those days the Whigs took part with their country, and the Tories with the enemy. It seems, however, that our opponents have found out that if they cannot alter things, they can change names.

For a full history of the causes which led to the war, we respectfully refer to the annexed extracts from the last annual message of the President, and from the proclamation of Gen. Scott to the Mexicans, the latter of which, we presume, our opponents will at least admit is good authority.

We regret the existence of the war, and the causes which brought it on; but we deem it the duty of every good citizen to sustain the administration in its vigorous prosecution until the enemy shall evince a disposition to make peace on fair and honorable terms. The Mexicans commenced it, and those in our own country who take sides with them by denouncing the constituted authorities of the country and placing our own government in the wrong, are responsible for its continuance.

If the Federal press, and especially the National Intelligencer, caused so much difficulty to Mr. Livingston, in France, in adjusting our differences with that government, what must be the effect of the same press, and all others of like stamp, now on the Mexicans, a people much less intelligent as a body than the French, on the question of peace?

This is a question worthy of the attention of the arithmeticians of our Federal opponents.

Here we will drop the subject for the present simply remarking that we know that there are many good and patriotic men in the ranks of our opponents who do not approve of the course of their leaders, and who ought not to render themselves subject to our remarks by their adherence to a party that is habitually wrong.

To such we say, in all kindness and sincerity, examine your position, and if you find yourselves acting with those who are opposing their country, come over to the Democratic party. It is the party of the country, and whatever may be its errors, it will never be found taking sides in time of war with the common enemy.

It was our intention when we commenced this address to call your attention particularly to the affairs of our own State, and contrast the present condition of the Commonwealth with its condition a few years ago. We have, however, extended our remarks in relation to matters connected with the general government, beyond what we intended, and will not therefore weary your patience at this time, by going at length into the administration of affairs in our own State. We shall reserve this for the subject of another address.

The State improvements are doing well, and will from the most authentic information we have been able to obtain, clear at least one million of dollars to the treasury during the present fiscal year, after the payment of all expences, unless some unforeseen casuality should occur. We know of no waste or frauds that are being perpertrated on the funds of the Commonwealth. We believe they are faithfully collected and applied to their proper use. The accounting department has been assiduously engaged in settling old accounts, and enforcing the payment of arrearages, from which a very considerable sum has, within the last year or two, been realized. The interest on the public debt, we believe, will be punctually paid on the 1st of August; and, if the same sound policy and economy is continued in the administration of our affairs that has prevailed during the present administration, it will continue to be paid promptly for all time to come. Not only so, but we feel assured that in a very short time a respectable sinking fund can be established, to extinguish a portion of the public debt annually, without any increased taxation.

The administration of Gov. Shunk has fully realized the expectations of his most sanguine friends. He is honest and capable, sound in his principles and firm in their maintenance. To his firmness we are greatly indebted for the prevention of many bad measures during the last session, when the Federalists were in the ascendant. We believe the prosperity and well being of the Commonwealth demand his re-election, and therefore urge you to be active, united and energetic in his support.

Our candidate for Canal Commissioner is admitted on all hands to be a most unexceptionable and excellent man, well qualified for the situation and will add strength to our party.

The accounts we have of our prospects, from all parts of the Commonwealth, are highly flattering to our success. We must not, however, suffer this to make us to confident. We have a vigilent and never tiring opposition to contend with, ever ready to avail itself of our indifference, errors or negligence. It therefore behoves every Democrat to be at his post, and to perform his duty to himself, to the well tried candidates of the party, to his State and his country.

L. REILY, *Chairman.*

ISAAC G. M'KINLEY, *Secretary.*

Extract from President Polk's Annual Message of December last.

The wrongs which we have suffered from Mexico almost ever since she became an independent Power, and the patient endurance with which we have borne them, are without a parallel in the history of modern civilized nations. There is reason to believe that if these wrongs had been resented and resisted in the first instance, the present war might have been avoided. One outrage, however, permitted to pass with impunity, almost necessarily encouraged the perpetration of another, until at last Mexico seemed to attribute to weakness and indecision on our part a forbearance which was the offspring of magnanimity, and of a sincere desire to preserve friendly relations with a sister republic.

Scarcely had Mexico achieved her independence, which the United States were the first among the nations to acknowledge, when she commenced the system of insult and spoliation, which she has ever since pursued. Our citizens engaged in lawful commerce were imprisoned, their vessels seized, and our flag insulted in her ports. If money was wanted, the lawless seizure and confiscation of our merchant vessels and their cargoes was a ready resource; and if to accomplish their purposes it became necessary to imprison the owners, captains and crews, it was done. Rulers superseded rulers in Mexico in rapid succession, but still there was no change in the system of depredation. The government of the United States made repeated reclamations on behalf of its citizens, but these were answered by the perpetration of new outrages. Promises of redress made by Mexico in the most solemn forms were postponed or evaded.—The files and record of the Department of State contain conclusive proofs of numerous lawless acts perpetrated upon the property and persons of our citizens by Mexico, and of wanton insults to our national flag. The interposition of our government to obtain redress was again and again invoked, under circumstances which no nation ought to disregard.

It was hoped that these outrages would cease, and that Mexico would be restrained by the laws which regulate the conduct of civilized nations in their intercourse with each other after the treaty of amity, commerce and navigation of the 5th of April, 1831, was concluded between the two republics; but this hope soon proved to be vain. The course of seizure and confiscation of the property of our citizens; the violation of their persons and the insults to our flag pursued by Mexico previous to that time were scarcely suspended for even a brief period, although the treaty so clearly defines the rights and duties of the respective parties that it is impossible to misunderstand or mistake them. In less than seven years after the conclusion of that treaty our grievances had become so intolerable that, in the opinion of President Jackson, they should no longer be endured.

In his message to Congress, in February, 1837, he presented them to the consideration of that body, and declared that "The length of time since some of the injuries have been committed, the repeated and unavailing applications for redress, the wanton character of some of the outrages upon the property and persons of our citizens, upon the officers and flag of the United States, independent of recent insults to this government and people by the late extraordinary Mexican minister would justify in the eyes of all nations immediate war." In a spirit of kindness and forbearance, however, he recommended reprisals as a milder mode of redress.

He declared that war should not be used as a remedy "by just and generous nations confiding in their strength for injuries committed, if it can be honorably avoided," and added, "it has occured to me that, considering the present embarrased condition of that country, we should act with both wisdom and moderation, by giving to Mexico one more opportunity to atone for the past, before we take redress into our own hands. To avoid all misconception on the part of Mexico, as well as to protect our national character from reproach, this opportunity should be given with the avowed design and full preperation to take immediate satisfaction, if it should not be obtained on a repetition of the demand for it.

"To this end I recommend that an act be passed authorizing reprisals, and the use of the naval force of the United States, by the Executive, against Mexico, to enforce them, in the event of a refusal by the Mexican government, to come to an amicable adjustment of the matters in controversy between us, upon another demand thereof, made from on board one of our vessels of war on the coast of Mexico."

Committees of both Houses of Congress to which this message of this President, was referred, fully sustained his views of the character of the wrongs which we had suffered from Mexico, and recommended that another demand for redress should be made before authorizing war or reprisals.

The Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, in their report, says: "After such a demand, should prompt justice be refused by the Mexican government, we may appeal to all nations not only for the equity, and moderation with which we shall have acted towards a sister republic, for the necessity which will then compel us to seek redress for our wrongs, either by actual war or by reprisals. The subject will then be presented before Congress, at the commencement of the next session, in a clear and distinct form; and the committee cannot doubt but that such measures will be immediately adopted as may be necessary to vindicate the honor of the country, and insure ample reparation to our injured citizens."

The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives made a similar recommendation. In their report, they say that they "fully concur with the President that ample cause exists for taking redress into our own hands, and believe that we should be justified in the opinion of other nations, for taking such a step. But they are willing to try the experiment of another demand, made in the most solemn form, upon the justice of the Mexican government, before any further proceedings are adopted."

No difference of opinion upon the subject is believed to have existed in Congress at that time. The Executive and Legislative departments concurred; and yet such has been our forbearance, and desire to preserve peace with Mexico, that the wrongs of which we then complained, and which gave rise to these solemn proceedings, not only remain unredressed to this day, but additional causes of complaint, of an aggravated character, have ever since been accumulating.

Shortly after these proceedings, a special messenger was despatched to Mexico, to make a final demand for redress; and on the twentieth of July 1837, the demand was made. The reply of the Mexican government bears date on the 29th of the same month, and contained assurences of the "anxious wish" of the Mexican government "not to delay the moment of that final and equitable adjustment which is to terminate the existing difficulties between the two governments;" that "nothing should be left undone which may contribute to the most speedy and equitable determination of the subjects which have so seriously engaged the attention of the American government;" that the "Mexican government would adopt, as the only guides for its conduct, the plainest principles of public right, the sacred obligations imposed by international law, and the religious faith of treaties;" and that "whatever reason and justice may dictate respecting each case will be done."

The assurance was further given, that the decision of the Mexican government upon each cause of complaint, for which redress had been demanded, should be communicated to the government of the United States, by the Mexican minister at Washington.

These solemn assurances, in answer to our demand for redress, were disregarded. By making them, however, Mexico obtained further delay. President Van Buren, in his annual message to Congress of fifth of December, 1837, states, that "although the larger number" of our demands for redress, and "many of them aggravated cases of personal wrongs, have been now for years before the Mexican government, and some of the causes of national complaint, and those of the most offensive character, admitted of immediate, simple, and satisfactory replies, it is only within a few days past that any specific communication in answer to our last demand, made five months ago, has been received from the Mexican minister; and that "for not one of our public complaints has satisfaction been given or offered; that but one of the cases of personal wrong has been favorably considered, and that but four cases of both descriptions, out of all those formally presented, and earnestly pressed, have as yet been decided upon by the Mexican government."

President Van Buren, believing that it would be vain to make any further attempt to obtain redress by the ordinary means within the power of the Executive, communicated this opinion to Congress, in the message referred to, in which he said, "On a careful and deliberate examination of the contents," (of the correspondence of the Mexican government,) "and considering the spirit manifested by the Mexican government, it has become my painful duty to return the subject as it now stands, to Congress, to whom it belongs, to decide upon the time, the mode, and the measure of redress." Had the United States at that time adopted compulsory measures, and taken redress into their own hands, all our difficulties with Mexico would probably have been long since adjusted, and the existing war have been averted.

Magnanimity and moderation on our part only had the effect to complicate these difficulties, and render an amicable settlement of them the more embarrassing. That such measures of redress under similar provocations, committed by any of the powerful nations of Europe, would have been promptly resorted to by the United States, cannot be doubted. The national honor, and the preservation of the national character throughout the world, as well as our self-respect, and the protection due to our own citizens, would have rendered such a resort indispensable. The history of no civilized nation in modern times has presented within so brief a period, so many wanton attacks upon the honor of its flag, and upon the property and persons of its citizens, as had at that time been borne by the United States from the Mexican authorities and people.

[Did our columns permit, we should publish all that portion of the message relative to the Mexican war, as it is the clearest and most comprehensive exposition which has ever been penned on this subject.]

Extract from Gen. Scott's Proclamation, dated, Jalapa, Mexico, May 11, 1847.

"Whatever may have been the origin of this war, which my country saw itself forced to undertake by irremediable causes, which I learn are unknown to the greater part of the Mexican nation, we regard it as a necessity; such is it always to both belligerents, and reason and justice, if not forgotten on both sides, are in dispute, each believing them its own. You have proof of this truth as well as ourselves, for in Mexico, as in the United States, there have existed and do exist two opposite parties, desiring—the one peace, the other war. But Governments have sacred duties, from which they cannot depart; and often these duties impose, for national reasons, a silence and a reserve sometimes displeasing to the majority of those who, from views purely personal or individual, make opposition. To this a Government cannot pay any regard, expecting the nation to place in it the confidence merited by a magistracy of their own election.

Reasons of high policy and of continental American interest precipitated events in spite of the circumspection of the Cabinet at Washington, which, ardently desiring to terminate its differences with Mexico, spared no resources, compatible with honor and dignity, to arrive at so desirable an end; and when it was indulging the most flattering hopes of accomplishing its aim by frank explanations and reasonings, addressed to the judgment and prudence of the virtuous and patriotic Government of Gen. D. J. Herrera, the misfortune least looked for dispelled this pleasant hope, and at the same time blocked up every avenue which could lead to an honorable settlement between the two nations. The new Government discarded the national interests, as well as those of continental America, and elected in preference foreign influences the most opposed to those interests and the most fatal to the future of Mexican liberty and of republican system which the United States hold it a duty to preserve and protect. Duty, honor, and dignity itself impose upon us the necessity of not losing a season of which the monarchial party was taking violent advantage, for not a moment was to be lost, and we acted with the promptness and decision necessary in a case so urgent, to avoid thereby a complication of interests, which might render our relations more difficult and involved."

Poetical.

From the Charleston Mercury.

"THE SPRING RETURNS, BUT NOT TO ME RETURNS."

They call the Spring time glad and gay, but sad to me is spring:
I dread the tender memories, its flowers and wild birds bring.
Of laughing hearts and lustrous forms, that in my childhood played
A never-tiring jubilee, in home's sequestred glade.

How many dead!—and those who live to me are as the dead;
The feeling, folding us in one, with the springs of old is fled;
And thinking of that kindliness, which instinct seem'd to be
I wonder how this green world now's a desert waste to me.

My Father's in his honored grave. In the old time 'twas his pride,
To train his son to manliness, as I sported by his side.
My mother, now bow'd low with years, was then a matron fair,
And often blessed her haughty boy, as she smoothed my truant hair.

Spring!—'Twas a bright spring morning when my angel daughter died;
Her sister fell upon my neck, and in agony we sigh'd—
When a flock of glittering birds lit down on the lawn before the door,
And wanton, wild mirth music to the smiling heavens did pour.

I would have hailed them gaily, in hours of joy or ease,
But then they seemed to come in spite, to mock our miseries;
My crush'd heart deem'd it cruel wrong that any thing was gay,
When our sorrow was so mighty—our darling torn away.

Her little lap, from morn to morn I'd heaped with April flowers,
When will they ever bloom again, unglomed by those dark hours?
Oh! when the spirit's blossoming is withered on life's way,
Say not unto the desolate that Spring is glad and gay.

The dew-drop on the rose of May, to me is memory's tear,
Dissolving for a season from the night-frost of despair;
And the freshness which the breathing earth as now I turned it gave—
Was a whisper from the early loved—from the *buried*—from the GRAVE. J. A. S.

Miscellaneous.

DEATH OF A WIFE.

The death of a true wife is beautifully drawn in the annexed portrait by Channing. Her reserve and shrinking delicacy threw a veil over her beautiful character. She was little known beyond her home; but there she silently spread around her that soft, pure light, the precociousness of which is never fully understood till it is quenched. Her calm, gentle wisdom, her sweet humility, her sympathy, which, though tender, was too serene to disturb her clear perception, fitted her to act instinctively, and without the consciousness of either party, on his more sanguine, ardent mind. She was truly a spirit of good, diffusing a tranquilling influence too mildly to be thought, and therefore more sure. The blow which took her from him, left a wound which time could not heal. Had his strength been continued, so that he could have gone from the house of mourning to the haunts of poverty, he would have escaped for a good part of the day, the sense of his bereavement. But a few minutes' walk in the street now sent him wearied home. There the hovering eye which had so long brightened at his entrance was to shed its mild beam on him no more. There the voice that had daily inquired into his labors, and like another conscience had whispered a sweet approval, was still. There the sympathy which had pressed with tender hand his aching head, and by its nursing care had postponed the hour of exhaustion and disease, had gone.

He was not indeed left alone; for filial love and reverence spared no soothing offices; but these, though felt and spoken of as most precious, could not take the place of what had been removed. The great loss produced no burst of grief. It was still, deep sorrow, the feeling of a mighty void, the last burden which the spirit can cast off. His attachment to life from this moment sensibly declined. In seasons of peculiar sensibility he wished to be gone. He kept near him the likeness of his departed friend, and spoke to me more than once of the solace which he had found in it. He heard her voice from another world, and his anticipations of that world, always very strong, became now more vivid and touching.

HARD BOILED EGGS.

Many of our old friends at the South remember Mike Craft, some years ago a well known Cotton Broker at Mobile. Mike was a great wag, and enjoyed fun rather more extensively than most folks.

There started from Mobile once upon a time, a party of two or three dozen ladies and gentlemen on a pick-nick excursion. Among other edibles wherewith to regale themselves when they became hungry, they had provided a few dozen fresh eggs. Mike was acting as a sort of steward of the party, and he determined to have some sport by way of compensation.

The party arrived at its destination, enjoyed its fishing and the like, and about mid-day made preparations for dinner. There was one individual in the crowd, a choleric old fellow, who was very fond of soft boiled eggs, and it was more for his accommodation than any thing else, that the stock had been laid in. A fire was made, the utensils prepared, the water boiling, when he directed his "boy"—a favorite strapping negro, about fifty years old—to boil the eggs.

"Boil them just as usual, Bill, be sure that they are not done too much."

In a minute or two the eggs, smoking hot, were produced. The fellow broke the shell—the egg was as hard as a stone.

"What the d—l did you boil these so long for? go boil some more."

Bill shortly brought half a dozen more, and the egg eater again commenced operations.

"D——n it, these are harder than the others, you stupid jackass; you know exactly how I like 'em."

The poor servant stammered out that he hadn't boiled them longer than usual, but made another attempt. He met with no better luck whatever. On cracking the first and finding it to be something like a big piece of chalk, the old fellow, thoroughly angry, commenced pelting Bill with them. It made but little impression on the darkee, probably because they did not happen to hit him on the shin. The ladies and gentlemen present seemed to enjoy the sport immeasurably, although busily engaged in discussing the cold viands and the sparkling champagne.

"Just put in a dozen eggs there," said the old gentleman, "and I'll hold the watch—we'll see if we cannot have them done right this time. D—n your picture, I'll sell you as soon as I get home, and for five dollars at that, if I can't get more."

They were boiled exactly one minute. "Now let's see if we hav'nt something fit to eat."

To his utter astonishment, the last lot was found to be as hard and as solid as all the rest. He tried it again with the same result.

"Why Mike! Mike Craft,"—calling to the boy who was busily engaged at a little distance, serving up cold oyster pie to two or three of the fair sex, "where the d—l did you buy these eggs?"

"Bought them fresh to market."

"They are most extraordinary eggs—I can't boil them *dat* any how."

"That's no wonder," said Mike, "*I had them boiled an honest two hours last night.*"

Mike used to laugh over the joke up to the time when finally he was dressed in his wooden surtout and carried to his long home.—*Cincinnati News.*

BEAUTIFUL ALLEGORY.

Night kissed the young rose and it bent softly to sleep. And stars shined, and pure drops hung upon its blushing bosom, and watched its pure slumbers.

Morning came with her dancing breezes, and they whispered to the young rose, and it awoke joyous and smiling. Lightly it danced to and fro in all the loveliness of health and youthful innocence.

Then came the arden tsun-god sweeping from the east and he smote the young rose with his golden shaft, and it fainted. Deserted and almost heart-broken, it drooped to the dust in its lovliness and despair.

Now the gentle breeze, who had been gamboling over the sea, pushed on the light bark, sweeping over hill and dale—by the neat cottage and the still brook, fanning the fervered brow of disease, and tossing the curl of innocent childhood—came tripping along on the errands of mercy and love; and when she hastened to kiss it, and fondly bathed its forehead in cool refreshing showers, the young rose revived, looked up and smiled, flung its ruddy arms as if in gratitude to embrace the kind breeze; but she hurried quickly away when her generous task was performed: yet not without reward, for she soon perceived that a delicious fragrance had been poured on her wings by the grateful rose; and the kind breeze was glad in her heart and went away singing through the trees.

Thus true charity like the breeze, which gathers a fragrance from humble flowers it refreshes, unconsciously reaps a reward in performance of its offices of kindness and love, which steals through the heart like a rich perfume to bless and to cheer.

LATEST FASHIONS.

Our lady readers will devour the following description of the latest London and Paris fashions; which we find among our foreign files received by the Cambria.

Moire and shot tafitas, poults de sioe of plain colors, lilac, ecru, and checks, are fashionable for walking dresses; and flounces or ruches, pinked in crete de coq, are used for all silk materials; others are in deep vandykes edged with gimp, and tor bareges, relieved by a heading of gimp. For the pardessus fancy alone determines the color,—it can scarcely be said which prevails; for the morning, green orange, and violet glace, with black for the evening, white, pink, and mauve. Black lace in profusion, or rich gimps, ornament morning dresses, and point lace with silk embroidery, for the evening. Sleeves, with a few exceptions remain unchanged; for silks, in thinner materials, they are wide and put into a risband closing half-way up the arm, with under one of muslin: the corsage full also to a band, with ceinture of ribbons and long ends. Printed tartatanes are worn over silk skirts; the corsage high and full on the shoulders, forming doporie. Plaids and checks are mostly confined to morning dresses, but check satins are still used in dress in pale colors, with single flounce and a very deep heading, giving the effect of a second skirt. Gimp buttons have quite replaced those imitating stones, &c. The broad catalan fringe is very pretty on silk to replace the flounce, and ribbon is very much used in every possible way that it can be introduced. Two very deep flounces, or three, five, and even nine are sometimes used on robes of taffetas glace, commencing at the waist, and give great roundness to the skirt.

Some plain bareges have bouillons to the knee.—The mantelet is become a necessary part of our toilet, whether named mate, cape, or escharpe; it undergoes various changes both in form and trimming; those of black lace are termed Luisa. The Clarrissa Harlowe recalls the English mantelet of the last century; it is a white mantelet of embroidered or plain muslin, linen cambric, or lawn. The French mantelet, Maria Antoinette, is rather pointed behind, with end formed by the fulness from the shoulders; made of the palest taffetas, trimmed with rich white lace. Numerous little manteaux are made of taffetas in light colors, trimmed with two rows of broad black lace, one row at the edge, the other above, and a third forms pelerine at the throat and ornaments the armhole. Fancy straws, mixed with mohair, are very much worn, and ornamented either with flowers, feathers, or lace—paille de riz, crape tulle. All the lighter materials are now in demand, and leghorns are also worn, ornamented with a plume of three feathers, or bunch of flowers. Some very light straw bonnets are trimmed inside with colored tulle. For morning neglige, checked ribbons, on very dark velvet, are used.

BLUSHING.—What a mysterious thing is a blush! That a single word, a look, or a thought, should send that inimitable carnation over the cheek—like the soft tints of a summer sunset! Strange, too that it is only the face, the human face that is capable of blushing! The hand or foot does not turn red with modesty or shame; more than the glove or the sock which covers it. It is the face that is the heaven!—There may be traced the intellectual phenomena; with a confidence amounting to a moral certainty.—A single blush should put the infidel to shame, and prove him the absurdity of the doctrine of chance.

QUANTITY OF CORN TO AN ACRE.

We have often heard it remarked that 100 bushels of shelled corn never were raised upon an acre of land at a single crop; and if we recollect rightly, we read in the reported proceedings of a late meeting held in Boston, of the Legislative Agricultural Society, that there were several individuals present, who would be willing to go a *long* distance to see an acre of corn containing a crop of 100 bushels. For the benefit of all who may be sceptical on this point, we will give the result of a little experiment made by us a few days ago, and has since been repeated by others with but a trifling variation.

From five ears of Brown corn, nine or ten inches in length we shelled a full quart, Winchester measure, which when counted, contained 2,000 kernels, or 64,000 grains to a bushels.—In referring to Mr. Brown's article on the cultivation of this corn, in our March No., it will be seen that he plants his corn in hills, three feet apart one way and two the other; and that at the first hoeing, he reserves *three* stalks to a hill, each of which we may reasonably conclude, will produce one ear, and in many cases, two or more.

Admitting that an acre thus planted will contain 7,260 hills, and that each hill will produce an equivalent of three ears, ten inches in length, the result according to the premises above, will give 1367 bushels of shelled corn!

BUSINESS ENGAGEMENTS.

They are of far more importance than people generally suppose. By men who are thrifty, and successful in making money, they are always promptly attended to; and when you know a man to be in a constant state of excitement, and always "hard pushed" for the "dollars needful" you may be sure that he seldom keeps an engagement. Promptness in keeping them and not competition, is the life of business. Often have we known a poor but honest man establish his credit, merely going to dine with his friend at the appointed hour; and we have known more than one business man lose his credit by thinking more of his cigar than the engagement he had made.

DEW DROPS.—Why uncle *Dew*little, how *dew* you *dew*? *Dew* come in and rest a little while, *dew*; how *dews* aunt Hanna *dew*? and what is she *dewing* now, and *dew* tell us about the news. Come, *dew* set up to the table and *dew* as we *dew*, *dew* help yourself, and *dew* talk some, and *dew* not make me *dew* all the talking, for I shant *dew* it. Now *dew* say something, *dew*.

☞ If a *miss* is as good as a *mile* how many young ladies would make a *league*?
Cleve. Plaindealer.
We think we could make a "league" with one.
Buffalo Courier.

☞ An eastern auctioneer advertised for public sale of late, sundry silk dresses, &c., winding up with, "one bottle of rum, one bottle of whiskey and several other articles suitable for ladies."