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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Pennsylvania Legislature.

SKETCH OF THE DEBATE

On Gov. Bigler's Bank Vetoes, in the House of Representatives, April 20, 1852.

Mr. James of Warren, moved to postpone the reconsideration of the bills for the present. He said, he hoped the motion to postpone would prevail. He was opposed to hasty action.

Mr. Bonham said he trusted the House would not postpone the consideration of the bill. Every member, he had no doubt, had made up his mind on this subject. He believed that it was very doubtful whether we had the power to postpone the re-consideration of the bills, under the terms of the constitution. The constitution says, on the return of a bill by the Governor to the House in which it shall have originated, with his objections, they shall enter the objections at large upon their journals, and "*proceed* to reconsider it." Now, sir, have we the right to postpone the reconsideration of it?

Mr. Rhey, (speaker) said he would inform the gentleman from Cumberland that such had been the constant practice since the adoption of the new constitution. The motion was first made to reconsider, and then the reconsideration might be postponed for the present.

Mr. Bonham. I am aware, sir, that such has been the practice, but is it right? I deem the language of the constitution, "shall proceed to reconsider it," to mean that we shall not only undertake the reconsideration of the bill, but go on with it.

In this case, sir, I would deem it highly appropriate to take action at once. I am afraid of combinations being formed to pass these bills by two thirds, if we give their friends the time to rally their forces. I have seen enough of this combination during this session to convince me, sir, that delay may be dangerous. That combination has interfered injuriously with the legitimate legislation of this House. It has been most manifest during the entire session, and when that combination was perfected, these bank bills were all gorged up in one place, the sluices then were opened, and they sailed through this hall in fine style. All things were prepared and ready, and then the work was done. I deprecate the passage of these bills by the constitutional majority. The people of the commonwealth would never forgive us, if we permitted these bills to become laws under such circumstances. That was done under a similar emergency in 1814, when the patriotic Snyder vetoed a batch of bills like the present. The State had sorely felt the evils of that legislation, and I hope, sir, it will not be re-enacted again at this day. I hope, sir, we will sustain the present Governor triumphantly in the noble stand he has taken on this vital subject. I am afraid, sir, of delay in this matter. There is a large amount of capital struggling for chartered privileges, and we do not know the direction it may take in this hall. I am afraid of delay, sir. Let us act at once, and promptly take the vote in accordance with the requirements of the constitution.

Mr. James, of Warren. I wish, sir, to notice a remark which fell from the gentleman from Cumberland, (Mr. Bonham,) that a combination had been formed in relation to these bank bills. He had seen a statement of a similiar character in one of the newspapers of the borough. In an article on that subject the editor had charged that there was such a combination, and that it obstructed legislation.—It went on to state, that the banks had controlled the whole legislation of the session. If a party question came up, no more reliance could be placed on bank democrats than on whigs. And further, that if a majority of the democratic party desired to carry any measure, all that was necessary to defeat it, was for "some grey headed sinner in the whig ranks to run round to the bank democrats and say: if you vote for *that* I will kill your [illegible] and the instant the bank democrats were voting with the whigs."

Now, sir, this charge is repeated in substance by the gentleman from Cumberland, (Mr. Bonham,)—and I deem it my duty to say that it is unqualifiedly —*incorrect*.

Mr. Bonham. I said nothing about sinners or grey headed sinners. (Laughter.)

Mr. James. No, sir, I am aware of that, but that does not make much difference. The intimations are the same as contained in the article referred to, and whether that article was penned from instructions thrown out by any member or members of this House, I do not know, but I think the statements in it are certainly incorrect and unfounded. I hope the House, will not force a vote at this time, as we are not prepared to act with due deliberation.

Mr. Gillis. I hope the reconsideration of this bill may be postponed for the present. I cannot say how I may vote at the end. I will vote as I believe to be right on this subject, but I want some time for deliberation.

Mr. Schell. I think, Mr. Speaker, we are as well prepared to vote on this question now as we will be at another time—at least let us proceed with the reconsideration of the bill. I do not think the members want more time to consider the subject. I know that some of the democrats, some five or six, who voted for these bills, are prepared to sustain the Governor in the course he has seen proper to take, and I presume we are all ready to act in the matter. There is no necessity for delay.

Mr. Flanigan said he was much astonished by the course of members on the democratic side of the House. He then proceeded to denounce in very strong language, the action of the democratic members, in having voted for these bank bills, and now being willing to "go it blind," and follow the Governor. He was astonished at the course of the gentleman from Fulton, (Mr. Schell) in wishing to stifle discussion, and apply the gag law. He said it would be recollected that the gentleman from Cumberland, (Mr. Bonham) occupied the time of the House, the other day, for two hours in speaking on this subject, for the purpose of staving off action upon them, and that on the next day he spoke for three quarters of an hour when the question was called up again.

The Speaker, (Mr. Rhey.) The gentleman from the city must confine his remarks to the question before the House. Whether the gentleman from Cumberland spoke one day or two days, had nothing to do with the question of postponing the reconsideration of this bill.

Mr. Flanigan. Well, sir, I desire to discuss the merits of this bill, but I do not feel prepared to do so at this time. I will say, however, in answer to the gentleman from Cumberland that—

The Speaker. Well the gentleman cannot go into the merits of this bill on the question to postpone.

Mr. Flanigan. If I am to be choked off, sir, I will be heard in some shape or form—in some other way.

Mr. Schell. If there is any thing more to be dreaded than another it is the *terrible* denunciation of the gentleman from the city, (Mr. Flanigan) in which he is so fond of indulging. I hope the gentleman, however, will have an opportunity of being heard on this question.

The question was then put on the motion to postpone, and resulted as follows—yeas 35, nays 47.

The bill for the charter of the Mauch Chunk Bank was then before the House. The question was "shall the bill pass." The yeas and nays were called and resulted as follows—yeas 26, nays 49.

The bill for the charter of the Valley Bank of Monongahela was next in order. The yeas and nays were called and resulted—yeas 25, nays 50. So the bill fell.

Mr. Hart then moved that the bill for the establishment of a system of free banking be made the order for Saturday next—lost—yeas 37, nays 45.

A motion was then made that 1000 copies of the Governor's message be printed for the use of the House. To this an amendment was offered that 1000 copies in English and 500 copies in German be printed.

Mr. Broomal then moved to strike out all the resolution, except so much as authorized the printing of 500 copies in the German language.

On this question also, the yeas and nays were required by the whigs, evidently for the purpose of consuming time, and to prevent any action before the adjournment. The yeas and nays were as follows—yeas 9, nays 58.

The question then recurring on the original resolution, Mr. Madeira moved to amend by striking out one thousand copies in English and five hundred in German and inserting one thousand copies in English. It here became very manifest that the whigs were carrying on their opposition to the resolution for mere factious purposes.

Mr. Bonham moved the previous question, which being seconded, the question was "Shall the main question be now put" and resulted as follows—yeas 40, nays 2.

The whigs refused to vote at all, so that the House might be deprived of a quorum.

Mr. Bonham then moved a call of the House, which was seconded; but the main question not having been sustained, by reason of no quorum voting, and the hour of one having arrived, the Speaker declared the House adjourned until 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

By this time the whigs looked as black as ten thunder clouds and as terrible as ten furies.

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon the House re-assembled, and Mr. Broomal of Delaware opened the ball.

He moved as an amendment to the resolution, that the names of those persons who had voted for these bank bills on their passage and had afterwards on the veto being received voted against them, be published along with the message.

The Speaker ruled the amendment of the gentlemen out of order.

Mr. Broomal would like to know for what reason.

The Speaker said the amendment related to an entirely different subject. The resolution was to publish the veto message, and the voting of the members or having their names published was a different matter entirely.

Mr. Broomal—Well I would like to ask the Speaker, if the voting to sustain the veto is not a part of the same subject.

The Speaker—The gentleman can take an appeal from the decision of the chair. Does the gentleman wish to appeal.

Mr. Broomal—I do not. But I wish to say, sir, that we have witnessed a remarkable scene here this morning. The gentleman from Fulton, (Mr. Schell) said in debate, that he knew the members who had voted for these bills, would vote to sustain the veto, but he (Mr. Broomal) had not believed it, till he saw it.

Mr. Schell—I stated that there were some five or six whom I heard say that they would sustain the Governor if he vetoed the banks, as they expected a veto from their being all crowded together and passed in one or two days.

Mr. Broomal—Well, I would like to see the names of the members published along with the message. It would present a beautiful spectacle.

The Speaker here said he would not allow the gentleman from Delaware to discuss the propriety of the names of certain gentlemen being published. The proposition has been ruled out of order, and if the gentleman is agrieved he has his remedy by appealing from the decision of the chair.

Mr. Broomal—Yes, a beautiful remedy, by appealing from the decision of the Speaker, after the votes which has just been taken. Well, sir, I have a right to speak of the propriety of the publication of this message, and I wish to state my reasons why I am in favor of publishing it. The gentleman from Cumberland (Mr. Bonham) the other day made a very long and very able speech on this question, the question about which this veto is given, and that gentleman's speech has been published, I believe, and the Governor's veto should be published also. It has been a powerful document. But the other day some fifty odd gentlemen voted in favor of some of these bills and against the propositions submitted by the gentlemen from Cumberland, and in the short space of time intervening, a large number of those who thus voted, turned round and voted the other way. Now, sir, a veto message, or any other document which can produce such results ought to be printed.

Mr. Speaker, I have some slight prejudice against this veto power, this saying by one man "I forbid." I dont like it. But perhaps it is natural. During the last winter there were some two or three vetoes sent in to bills in which mistakes had been made by the transcribing clerks, and the only way in which these mistakes could be corrected was to veto the bills. I should have felt very bad had those bills been vetoed on other grounds, and I had voted for the bills, to have turned round and voted against the bills. Whigs on this side of the House would have felt very badly under such circumstances—almost as bad as those members who voted for those banks and now voted against them, must feel. [Laughter.]

I have a prejudice, sir, against one man referring to his opinions for the guidance of the actions of others here equally as intelligent as himself.

"I refer you to my message to be found at such a place." Now the Governor does not even assign his reasons to us for these vetoes. He sends back two bills here, and refers to reasons given to some other bill for not having signed them.

The Speaker reminded the gentleman from Delaware, that the message to which the Governor referred for his reasons accompanied the bills returned, and had been read at the clerk's desk.

Mr. Broomal—Yes, but it still referred us to the veto of another bill, and this message did not purport to be more than a copy of the real veto which he had sent to the Senate.

I dont like the power, sir, and I dont like this mode of exercising it. I think it is all wrong.—We have derived that power from the British Constitution.

The Speaker—Does the gentleman from Delaware pretend to say that that was the origin of the veto power? Does he not know that it existed in the Roman republic?

Mr. Broomal—I dont pretend to say any thing about that. I merely say that *we* derived it from the British constitution. It has come down to us in that way. And I say, sir, that I have a prejudice against the exercise of this power. I am willing to admit that the executive is right in expressing his opinions, and I give him great credit for expressing them and adhering to them, and it would present a noble spectacle if this House would express its opinions in the same way, and *stand by them*.

Mr. Schell, (Fulton.) The gentleman from Delaware has been complaining of the exercise of the veto power. He is but bringing forward again one of the old exploded principles of the whig party. That party has had occasion to find much fault with this healthful and purifying feature of our government. I, sir, look upon the veto power as the conservative feature of our form of government. The whig party in 1848 carried on the campaign by making opposition to the veto power—it was their great stalking horse. I recollect hearing a whig stump orator during that campaign make a speech, more than half of which was in abuse of the veto power. The whig party have no doubt found it an inconvenient feature of our government. It is the great preventative of hasty and unconstitutional legislation. Why, what would have been our position in this House at the present session, if this power had not existed?—The House would have disgraced itself. Much of the legislation passed here this winter is a disgrace to the House, not so much from the fault of the House itself, as from the workings of this abominable private calender, by which most objectionable bills are snaked through, without the members knowing it. I believe the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. Broomal) and the gentleman from Cumberland (Mr. Bonham) both endeavored to prevent the adoption of the rule, which authorizes the private calender legislation. I wish they had been successful. We are now witnessing its evil effects. The veto therefore is the only thing which now saves us from many bills becoming laws which should never pass this House, and which *would* never pass, if they were properly examined.

But the party with which the gentleman from Delaware acts, are hostile to this veto power from the force of habit. They have long denounced it—yet I had hoped they had grounded their opposition. It seems not however, and to-day's proceedings will convince the people of the State, that the old warfare on the part of the Whigs is to be renewed and the exercise of this power be made again a party issue.

Mr. Broomal—As to the remarks of the gentleman from Fulton (Mr. Schell) in relation to the consistency or the views of the whig party on this veto question, I deem it scarcely necessary to reply—for I dont claim to be a whig. Neither would I like any body to call me a democrat (laughter). I claim to be a *freeman*—that is my position, and that is the important position in the present aspect of the subject matter before the House. I believe the whigs are pretty consistent kind of men, and are looked upon as pretty clever fellows, if they are the same sort that lived in the days of the revolution.

Mr. Schell.—That is not the sort we have up in our region of the country. (Laughter.)

Mr. Bonham said he did not rise for the purpose of entering into the controversy between the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. Broomall) and the gentleman from Fulton (Mr. Schell) in relation to the consistency of the whig party, or the peculiar views of that party as to the exercise of the veto power—but merely to set the gentleman from Delaware right in his historical researches as to the origin of this power, or the source from whence we derived it. I am a good deal astonished, sir, at the want of historical accuracy manifested by the gentleman from Delaware in this debate. He states that the veto power as we have it engrafted on our constitutions, state and national, came from the British government—when the gentlemen ought to know that is dated far beyond that—that it existed with the happiest results as far back as the days of the Roman republic, when it was exercised as a protection to the right of the people, by the Tribunes who were elected by the people, against the aristocratic, partician legislation of the Roman Senate. It was considered a great triumph for popular rights when this power was exorted from the partician interests of that wealthy and powerful nation.

Mr. Broomall rose to explain.

He had said nothing about the origin of the power he merely said that we had got it from the British constitution; it had come down to us in that way as most of our laws.

Mr. Bonham—The gentleman from Delaware is much mistaken. The veto power as was once exercised in the British monarchy is a very different power from the qualified veto, which we have in our American constitutions. That power was absolute and unqualified—the veto power which we have is not so, but a law may be passed by two thirds of the two Houses of any of our state legislatures, or of congress, in spite of the veto. We did not derive this power from the British government, no more than we adopted the other features of that government. The people of this country took other models for their guide; they looded to all the free governments began, and adopted the good, repudiated the bad, and the result is, that they framed the most perfect form of government that has ever existed on the earth.

The gentleman from Delaware says that this veto power is not now exercised even in Great Britian. I know, sir, that it has not been exercised in that country since their revolution in the seventeenth century—and I can tell the gentleman the reason. That government is an oligarchy, made up of the landed nobility and the aristocracy. They have no constitution to bind and fetter their legislation.—Every act of parliament is supreme. The house of lords necessarily legislates to suit the aristocratic interests. The house of commons, which is filled up by the sons of the nobility, through the "rotten borough system," by which they can buy their way to a seat in parliament, will also, as a general rule, legislate to subserve the interests of the privileged classes of that country. Or even if they should happen to pass a bill squinting towards favoring the mass of the people, the house of lords can stop its progress and prevent its becoming a law. What, therefore, does the executive of that country want of a veto? The only use which would be made of such a power might, perhaps, be to protect, to some feeble extent, the rights of the masses of the subjects of that proud and tyrannical government. Hence the politics of that country have concentrated into a contest between two aristocratic factions, one as conservative and oppressive as the other. Hence the crown cares little which party is in power, and as soon as either party which happens to be in the ascendancy, is defeated in the house of commons, their ministers retire from office and a new set take their places. The veto power would only be in the way of oppressive, of tyrannical legislation, and hence it is not wanted there, and its exercise has grown into disuse.

But our position, sir, is different. We have a constitutional government, with certain well defined rights and powers. These powers are admirably distributed, They are of a three fold character—legislative, executive and judicial. The legislative power requires the joint action of our two Houses and the executive, unless two thirds of the two houses agree, when laws can be passed without the sanction of the executive. These are the features of the constitutions of all our state governments, and of the constitution of the national government. The history of this country has shown that the exercise of the veto power has always been in favor of the rights of the people, and against hasty, ill advised or unconstitutional legislation. It is exercised by a person who is elected by the people of the whole state, or of the nation, and who is directly responsible to them. Our legislative bodies may pass acts that are highly injurious and improper, and without incurring much responsibility. The responsibility is much divided. They act as bodies of men usually do, and what is done by the whole is done by no one in particular. Men, for instance, are elected to the legislature; they vote for certain measures, which perhaps may be highly prejudicial to the interests of the state and the people, and they go home and are forgotten by the state at large—are never heard of afterwards except in their own immediate neighborhoods. They felt no responsibility for their vote, except to their own immediate constituents, who may have had particular views or particular interests to subserve. Look at the history of the past legislation of this state, and what I assert will be manifest. But this veto power is placed in the hands of the executive of the whole people, and the people look to him, and he feels responsible to them.

But, sir, I have spoken of the three fold powers conferred upon those who represent the people in the varied capacities under our constitutional form of government—the legislative, executive and judicial. The legislative bodies and the executive make the laws, or the legislative bodies alone, provided two thirds of each house agree to pass a law in defiance of the wishes of the executive, be he the Governor of a state or President of the United States. If two thirds of the legislative branches do not agree, he has the power to arrest the legislation. If they do, he is powerless. This is the qualified veto, under our system of government.

But, sir, there is a more powerful veto than this—the most powerful of all in our government. The veto of the judiciary, not only of measures passed by the legislature—but by the legislature and the executive combined. Here is the great power, which can unmake laws which have been enacted under the most solemn forms. Look at your supreme courts.

In a small dingy room in the capitol at Washington sit some nine persons, surrounded by no circumstances of pomp or display, conning over old musty papers, with scarcely light enough to decipher the written or printed characters before them—and yet those little, old, decrepid men wield more power in your government than your President and Congress. A scratch of their pens can undo the labor of Congress for months and years. And yet no person objects to this tremendous power. It is necessary for the due administration of the government. It is a veto power of the most decided and absolute character—far more despotic that that complained of by the gentleman from Delaware and the whig party—and yet it is a power exorcised in accordance with the terms of the constitution, and is intended as a protection of the rights of the people from legislative encroachments, from the tyranny of irresponsible majorities.

But this qualified veto power exercised by the executive, has more than once saved the liberties of the country. In the hands of the great and good Jackson, it was a potent power for good. By it he arrested with an iron nerve and a strong arm legislation of the most profligate and dangerous character. We may well feel the importance of this power. The oligarchy of Great Britian do not want such a power to interfere with their selfish views and illiberal and aristocratic policy. They want the supreme power in parliament, where they have got it, by the practice of that government, and where they will keep it, so long as they are able to keep down the people and preserve their unholy privileges. And for the same reason the money power of this country has found it a most inconvenient barrier to privileged and class legislation. No wonder our whig friends are dissatisfied with this excellent provision of our constitution. It stands much in their way in the consumation of their schemes. How easy it would be to get legislation to suit them, were it not for this hateful veto power, our past legislative history most abundantly verifies. The gentleman from Delaware says he has a strong prejudice against this power. But he says, also, that he is not a whig. I believe he is more than that. I think the gentleman from Delaware desires to be considerd a federalist, a whig of the deepest dye. He has spoken of the whigs of the revolution, but I am inclined to believe, sir, that they are not the persons with whom the gentleman could have assimilated, but that the gentleman's political affinities are with *another party*, which entertained strong anti-republican principles at that period. I feel sure that many of his views would not be sanctioned by his fellow whigs of the present day, that they would not endorse many of his political sentiments. The section of the state from which the gentleman comes was not celebrated for its patriotic impulses, at a time when he considers that the whigs were pretty clever, honest fellows. He disclaims the title of democrat, and I think with good reason. In that he is honest, as well as candid. No person would, however, mistake him on that subject.

But the beautiful workings of this veto power were strikingly illustrated in the history of his own, the whig party. They once elected a certain John Tyler to the Vice Presidency. By a Providential dispensation he became the President of the nation. And what was his course when he felt the responsibility—which I have already referred to—of his position, as the representative of the whole people? when he sat in a place where the Argus eye of the whole people could look at him and through him? Why, sir, he rose with the emergency, and "honest John Tyler," in despite of the shackles of the party, met the just expectations of the people. He felt his position—he knew there was no escape, and although [illegible] measures, yet he showed that he loved his country more. He fought the battles of the great Jackson over again, and he was the victor.

But, sir, I did not rise to enter into the merits of the controversy, which so unexpectedly sprang up between the gentleman from Fulton and the gentleman from Delaware, on the course and policy of the whig party on the subject of the veto power. I merely wished to set the gentleman from Delaware right as to his historical reminiscences—for I conceive he had fallen into a most remarkable error for one so well informed as I know that gentleman to be on political topics generally.

Mr. Kelso (Erie). This veto message, sir, has not been to me unexpected, from certain intimations which reached me in relation to the matter. And, sir, I saw here this morning what incensed my feelings no little. I saw the right arm of the executive, the thinking part of the executive, and of the administration, I might say, here in this hall, this morning, sitting among the members and taking down the ayes and noes, when they were called on the question to postpone and on the votes for the passage of the bank bills. He was here, sir, [illegible] in hand, in the cotton field.

Mr. Bonham interposed. I presume the gentleman from Erie refers to the Secretary of the Commonwealth (Mr. Hughes.)

Mr. Kelso—I do refer to him.

Mr. Bonham—Well, I think the gentleman is somewhat ungenerous and unkind in his remarks, not only towards the Secretary himself, but towards his fellow members on this floor. It will be recollected that the Secretary brought in these important messages of the Governor, and it being a matter of public interest, having the privileges of the floor from his position, he very naturally tarried to see the result of the vote, as any one would have done. He may have kept tally, which is done every day by members and others, on questions of far less interest than this.

Mr. Kelso—The bills were not taken up for an hour or two after the messages were brought in, and the Secretary should have been elsewhere attending to his duties.

The Speaker (Mr. Rhey.) The gentleman from Erie is mistaken as to the time which elapsed after the messages were brought in, and the question of reconsideration entertained.

Mr. Kelso—Well, sir, I contend that his conduct was improper. He should not have been where he was. It looked too much like applying the lash in the cotton field. I am opposed to this one man power, sir. It is a power liable to great abuse and should be greatly curtailed if not entirely abolished.

Mr. Gillis (Elk.) If I recollect rightly, sir, the whig party themselves are a little fond of the exercise of the veto power. In the fall of 1838 they desired to veto the voice of the people expressed through the ballot boxes, and "treat the election as though it had never been held." Here, sir, was the veto power with a vengeance. The gentlemen on the other side of the house cannot have forgotten that attempted veto, or else their memories are much more treacherous than I take them to be.

And, sir, if I recollect rightly in 1841, Mr. Clay, after this great attempt in Pennsylvania to veto the voice of the people, moved a series of resolutions in the Senate of the United States, proposing to change the constitution of the country so as to dispense with the harmless qualified veto, which the President possesses. That was a veto power too feeble for the whigs—they preferred something of a revolutionary character—something like the "buckshot war," to exercise their skill in vetoes.

I am in favor, sir, of this message being printed and I hope the resolution will be adopted.

The question was then taken and resulted as follows—the whigs refusing to vote—ayes 54, nays 1, (Mr. Merriman.)

When a man now a days wishes to communicate the intelligence that a daughter has been added to his family, he says that domestic affairs have reached a crisis.

I MUST NOT TEASE MY MOTHER.

BY MRS. L. H. SIGOURNEY.

I must not tease my mother,
For she is very kind,
And every thing she says to me
I must directly mind;
For when I was a baby,
And could not speak nor walk,
She let me in her bosom sleep,
And taught me how to talk.

I must not tease my mother,
And when she likes to read,
Or has the headache, I will step
Most silently indeed,
I will not choose a noisy play,
Nor trifling troubles tell,
But sit down quiet by her side,
And try to make her well.

I must not tease my mother,
I heard dear father say,
When I was in my cradle sick,
She nursed me night and day.
She lay me in my little bed,
She gives me clothes and food,
And I have nothing else to pay
But trying to be good.

I must not tease my mother,
She loves me all the day,
And she has patience with my faults,
And teaches me to pray;
How much I'll try to please her,
She every hour shall see,
For should she go away or die,
What would become of me?

The Secret.

"I noticed," said Franklin, "a mechanic among others, at work on a house erecting but a little way from my office, who always appeared to be in a merry humor, who had a word and a cheerful smile for every one he met. Let the day be ever so cold, gloomy, or sunless, a happy smile danced like a sunbeam on his cheerful countenance.—Meeting him one morning, I asked him to tell me the secret of his constant happy flow of spirits.—"No secret, Dr.," he replied, "I have got one of the best of wives, and when I go to work, she always has a kind word of encouragement for me, and when I go home she meets me with a smile and a kiss, and then tea is sure to be ready, and she has done so many little things through the day to please me, that I cannot find it in my heart to speak an unkind word to any body." What an influence then hath woman over the heart of man, to soften it and make it the fountain of cheerful and pure emotions. Speak gently, then, a happy smile and a kind word of greeting, after the toils of the day are over, cost nothing, and go far toward making home happy and peaceful."

The most recent discoveries are said to consist of a pair of spectacles to suit the eyes of potatoes.

The club with which an idea struck the poet.

A stick to measure narrow escapes.

The hook and line with which an angler caught a cold.

The umbrella used in the reign of tyrants.

A knot from the board a man paid twenty shillings a week for.

A glass of lemonade made of a sour temper and the sweets of matrimony.

The Realities of Life.—The seeds of great empires, like the germs of all true greatness, in youth the natural and the moral world, are imperfectly sown. The acorn is blown about for months, the sport of every fitful breeze, before it finally takes root in the soil; and the season must follow season, and fashion must ebb and flow for many years, before the mature oak spreads its branches to the skies, and bids defiance to the wintry blast. Myriads of little shell fish die, and for centuries the water rolls above them before the coral reef is formed; but it is formed and slowly yet surely, rises its head above the waves.

"Why art thou sad, my love, to-day? what grief is frowning o'er thy heart? Why dost thou droop and turn away, and who do tears unbidden start? When first I wooed thee in thine Isle—thy Erin Emerald of the deep—I saw thee, sweetest, only smile, nor even thought that thou could'st weep. The sun of summer lights the earth, the zephyr's kiss is on thy cheek; all nature calls thee back to mirth, then be not pry thee, love, so weak." While thus I spoke, my bosom's queen, one deep, fond glance upon me stealing, exclaimed, "Be jabers, but you're green! Its onions sure I'm afther peeling!"

A Sensible Landlord.—The Frankford Herald is responsible for the following:

A little incident transpired some weeks ago at one of our Frankford hotels, which, under the present temperance excitement, is not unworthy of notice. The names of the parties we shall withhold from the public for shame sake.

A little girl entered the tavern, and in pitiful tones told the keeper that her mother had sent her there to get eight cents.

"Eight cents," said the tavern keeper. "What does your mother want with eight cents? I dont owe her anything."

"Well," said the child, "father spends all his money here for rum, and we have had nothing to eat to-day. Mother wants to buy a loaf of bread."

A loafer remarked to the tavern-keeper, to "kick out the brat."

"No," said the keeper, "I will give her the money, and if the father comes here again, I'll kick him out."

An Irishman, one gloomy day in December, applied to a merchant to discount a note at rather a long, though not an unusual date. The merchant remarked that it had a great many days to run, when the Irishman said, "That's true for you, my honor; but then you don't consider how short the days are at this time of year."

Poor hans, he bit himself mit a snattlerake and vash sick into his bed six long weeks in de month of August, and all do dime he say vater! vater! and he did not eat notin till he complained of being better so ash he could stand upon his elbow and eat a little tea.

Flogging in Schools.—Miss Boots, a teacher in a primary school in Cincinnati, has been bound over for trial, by the mayor, for improperly flogging a pupil because he could not spell correctly.

"I am very much afraid of lightning," said a pretty girl. "And you may be," replied a despairing lover, "as your heart is made of steel!"

"Bring in your Bill."—This is what the honey suckle said to the humming bird, and what a few of our subscribers ought to say to us. Suppose they try it on.

An Indian chief once went to the office of the American Commissioner, at Chicago, to whom he introduced himself as a very good Indian, a great friend to the Americans, and concluded by asking for a glass of whiskey. The Commissioner gravely told him that they never gave whiskey to good Indians, who never wished for any such things—that it was used only by bad Indians.—"Then," replied the Indian, quickly, "no one damn rascal."

"My son," said an affectionate mother to her hopeful heir, who was about to be married, "you are getting thin." "Yes, mother," he answered, "I am getting thin, and I expect you will soon see my sin."

Kossuth's Eloquence.

On the 15th of March, when Kossuth was in St. Louis, he delivered a speech commencing as follows. As a specimen of the imaginative it is, perhaps, unsurpassed in prose in the English language:—

"Ladies and Gentlemen:—To-day is the fourth anniversary of the Revolution in Hungary. Anniversaries of Revolutions are almost always connected with the recollections of some patriots, death-fallen on that day, like the Spartans at Thermopylæ, martyrs of devotion to their fatherland. Almost in every country there is some proud catafalk, or some proud tombstone, adorned on such a day by a garland of evergreen, the pious offering of patriotic tenderness.

"I passed the last night in a sleepless dream.—And my soul wandered on the magnetic wings of the past, home to my beloved bleeding land, and I saw in the dead of the night, dark veiled shapes with the paleness of eternal grief upon their sad brows, but terrible in the fearless silence of that grief, gliding over the churchyards of Hungary, and kneeling down at the head of the *graves*, and after a short prayer, rising with *clenched fists*, and *gnashing* teeth, and then stealing away fearless and silent as they came; stealing away—because the blood-hounds of my country's murderers lurked from every corner on that night, and on this day, and lead to prison those who dare to show a pious remembrance to the beloved. To day a smile on the lips of a Magyar is taken for a crime of defiance to tyranny, and a tear in his eye equivalent to a revolt. And yet I have seen with the eye of my home-wandering soul, thousands performing the work of patriotic virtue.

"And I saw more. When the pious offerers have stolen away, I saw the honored dead, half risen from their tombs, looking to the offerings; and whispering gloomily, "still a cypress, and still no flower of joy! Is there still the chill of winter and the gloom of night over thee, Fatherland? Are we not yet revenged!" and the sky of the east reddened suddenly, and boiled with bloody flames, and from the far, far west, a lightning flashed like a star-spangled stripe, and within its light a young eagle mounted and soared towards the bloody flames of the east, and as he drew near, upon his approaching, the bloody flames changed into a radiant morning sun, and a voice from above was heard in answer to the question of the dead:

"Sleep yet a short while—mine is the revenge! I will make the stars of the west the sun of the east! and when ye next awake, ye will find the flower of joy upon your cold bed."

"And the dead took the twig of cypress, the sign of resurrection, into their bony hands and lay down."

Vulgar Language.

There is as much connexion between the words, and the thoughts as there is between the thoughts and the words: the latter are not only the expressions of the former, but they have a power to re'act upon the soul and leave the stains of their corruption there.—A young man who allows himself to use one profane or vulgar word, has not only shown that there is a foul spot on his mind, but by the utterance of the word he extends that spot and inflames it till by indulgence, it will soon pollute and ruin the whole soul. Be careful of your words, as well as your thoughts. If you can control the tongue, that no improper words are pronounced by it, you will soon be able to control the mind and save that from corruption. You extinguish the fire by smothering it; or by preventing bad thoughts bursting out in language. Never utter a word anywhere, which you would be ashamed to speak in presence of the most refined female, or the most religious man. Try this practice a little, and you will soon have command of yourself.—*Morality*

On Education.

[illegible] more than ninety who are what they are good or bad, useful or pernicious to society, from the instruction they have received. It is on education that depends the great difference observable among them. The least and most imperceptible impressions received in our infancy have consequences very important, and of long duration. It is with these first impressions, as with a river, whose waters we can easily turn by different canals, in quite opposite courses, so that, from the insensible directions the stream receives at its source, it takes different directions, and at last arrives at places far distant from each other; and with the same facility we may turn the minds of children to what direction we please.

A Last Look.—There is a feeling that resembles death in the last glance we are ever to bestow on a loved object. The girl that you have treasured in your secret heart, as she passes by on her wedding-day, it may be happy and blissful, lifts up her laughing eyes, the symbol of her own light heart, and leaves in that look darkness and desolation to you forever. The boy your father-spirit has clung to, waves his hand from the quarter-deck, as the gigantic ship bends over the breeze, the wind is playing through the locks your hands so oftentimes have smoothed; the tears have dimmed his eyes, for mark, he moves his fingers over them—and this is a last look.

The Illustrious Farmer.—Custis, in his "Recollections of Gen. Washington," draws the following portrait of the illustrious farmer:

"Fancy to yourself a fine noble looking old cavalier, well mounted, sitting firm and erect in his saddle, the personification of power, mellowed yet not impaired by time, the equipments of his steed all proper and in perfect order, his clothes plain, and those of a gentleman, a broad brimmed white hat, with a small gold buckle in front, a riding switch from the forest, entirely unattended; and thus you have Washington on his farm, in his last days at Mount Vernon.

"His rides on his extensive estates would be from eight, twelve or fourteen miles: he usually moved inspecting every thing; but when behind time, the most punctual of men, would display the horseman-ship of his better days, and a hard gallop bring him up to time; so that the sound of his horse's hoofs were always heard at the hour of meals.

☞Women make their advances as Time makes his. At twenty, when the swain approaches to pay his devoirs, they exclaim, with an air of languid indifference, "Who is he?" At thirty, with a prudent look toward the ways and means, the question is: "What is he?" At forty, much anxiety manifests itself to make the hymeneal selection, and the query changes itself into, "Which is he?" But at fifty the anxious expectant prepares to seize upon any prey, and exclaims, "Where is he?"

A countryman applied to a lawyer for advice.—After detailing the circumstances of the case, he was asked whether he had stated them exactly as they occurred. "Aye, sir," he rejoined, "I thought it best to tell you the plain truth—you can add the lies to it yourself."

As long as a man gets six dollars a week he can live and get along rather quietly and contented; but as soon as his wages reach twelve dollars a week, he needs twenty four—gets in debt and "busts up," at that! Man is a high pressure engine—vanity's the steam, money the fuel—apply the principle and you have the facts. Make a note on't!

☞Men pursue riches under the idea that their possession will set them at ease, and above the world. But the law of association often makes those who begin by loving gold as a servant, finish by becoming themselves its slaves; and independence without wealth, is at least as common as wealth without independence.

Sol—There is a young lady up town who says that if a cart wheel has nine follows, it's a pity that a woman like her can't have one. Sensible girl, that.

☞Landlord, said an exquisite, can you enable me from your culinary stores to realize the pleasure of a few dulcet morphies, rendered innoxious by ingenious martyrdom.' He wanted a sweet potato.