

Lancaster Intelligencer.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 7, 1880.

Distributive Justice.

The opinion of the court in the distributive matter has a good deal to say about "distributive justice," and no doubt it is a very excellent thing to talk about when you don't want people to know very clearly what you are driving at or when you don't know yourself. The difference between justice generally and distributive justice in particular, probably could be pointed out; but, it is safe to say, that until it is nobody is likely to see it. It is possibly a particular quality of justice, though it would seem to be rather a particular quantity; still, quantity and quality may be mixed up in the construction of distributive justice by the possible fact that only a certain quality will "distribute;" to distribute, meaning in this case to spread, to flow all around, to scatter. We do not know that we are a success as a definition manufacturer, but, knowing the profound learning of our court, we are sure that it would not use a term which it did not understand and which is not pregnant with meaning, whether it manufactured or borrowed it. So, clearly, distributive justice is a particular and very fine kind of the article in the opinion of our court; and we are anxious to know why it has recommended itself to it so highly; and we are solicitous to gather its meaning and detect its merit.

The court maintains that "it is absolutely necessary to the advancement of due administration of distributive justice" that the law be construed to deny "to an officer of this court the right to publish articles impeaching its official character and thereby destroying confidence in it and learning the community to disregard its official decrees." We are fond of quoting from this opinion. There is so much food for thought in it. It is wonderfully interesting to us to get at its thought; and to find that it hasn't any that anybody else ever had. The idea that it is the publication of the wrongful acts of omission and commission on the part of the court that loses it the confidence of the community, and not the acts themselves, is one of these novelties.

The thought of the court here is that the publication of its wrongful acts interferes with the advancement or administration of distributive justice; that is just what it says. And this gives us the court's idea of distributive justice; it seems to be some such sort of justice as that practised by the forty thieves, or the brigands of olden times, who took from the rich and distributed to the poor, what they didn't want to keep themselves. But it can't be quite so peculiar a kind of justice as this that our court refers to. It may only mean by distributive justice a sort that must be applied with discrimination. For instance, the judges must be at liberty to overlook their own delinquencies and those of their friends, and be expected to distribute the penalties of the law only to outsiders. Thus it comes that the editors of the INTELLIGENCER have fallen under the ban of Patterson's distributive justice, while the lawyers who lied their clients out of the hands of the law get none of the shower. It didn't distribute in their direction this time. The nozzle was held the other way.

If people who have been amazed that we have been disbarred for inviting the court's attention to the delinquency of its officers, and suggesting that the law be turned against them, will just try to comprehend this theory of distributive justice, they will plainly see that it only strikes where the court wants it to; and that under this practice nobody will ever get hurt who has a friend at court. It reminds one somewhat of the practice in the national House of Representatives in securing the eye of the speaker. Theoretically the first man up secures the floor, but practically he may get up every hour of every day and never be recognized. The speaker recognizes whom he pleases. So does the court that practises distributive justice. You may rotten egg it and it won't mind it if it don't want it; or you may simply smile a childlike smile in its face and it will promptly disbar you for contempt, if it feels like it. Distributive justice would be synonymous with injustice but that there is this distinction maintained: those who suffer from it are supposed to deserve what they get; while those who deserve to suffer and don't, are simply lucky. There is plenty of distributive justice in the world. In truth most of it is of that character; and in despotic governments all of it. We feel prompted to say to our good Judge Patterson, as the fond father said in "Our Boys" last night to his son, whom he wanted to call a hero, "What a Nero you are!" Our great judge is a hero when he gets on his old white horse—but what a Nero on the bench!

PRESIDENT-MAKING goes bravely on all over the country and we hear of delegates being elected daily in this interest or that interest, or in no interest. The blessed diversity of sentiment which reigns is a healthy sign. Unit rules and instructions, and the other devices of huckstering politicians are getting less and less power to bind, and everybody seems to prefer honest and intelligent representatives without instructions to stupid and tricky ones, locked and labeled for the use of trading politicians and self-nominated leaders.

JUDGE PATTERSON is quietly polling the people as to whether his opinion "or McClure's" is the stronger. We anxiously wait to hear the result of the canvass. Submit it to the next Republican primary and let Meitzer put up the patty.

INSTALLMENT No. 2 of the press opinions on Judge Patterson's patent law comprises about one-tenth of the matter of that kind that we have clipped from our exchanges for future publication. There is more than "one more opinion" to be yet delivered.

WHAT Harper's Weekly says about unit rules is as applicable to one party as the other.

PERSONAL.

GAMBITTA has had to leave off smoking and BISMARCK to abandon beer.

Patt's libel suit against the St. Louis Post Dispatch was dismissed yesterday at plaintiff's cost.

A meeting of colored citizens of Mobile yesterday telegraphed General Grant, inviting him to visit that city, and he at once forwarded his acceptance.

Mrs. JOHN C. FREMONT, who is in Washington, has white hair and a complexion like a girl's, with sparkling eyes and a merry laugh. An eminent artist says that she has the prettiest hand he ever saw.

Mr. JAMES T. FIELDS' Boston house, which he has occupied for a quarter of a century, contains 10,000 volumes. He has many literary curiosities, including original manuscripts by Thackeray, Dickens, and Hawthorne.

Yesterday morning Robert A. Saunders, stone mason, of Liberty Grove, Cecil county, Md., while removing the wall of a well at Rising Sun, slipped from the curb and fell headlong to the bottom. He lived two hours after being taken out. He was a man of family.

The Unitarians of Washington, D. C., have arranged to celebrate the centennial birth of Dr. CHANNING, one of their most eminent divines, by holding services to-day, at which Senators Hoar and Hamlin, Representatives Loring, Robinson and Davis, of California, will deliver addresses. Mr. Justice Miller, of the supreme court, is to preside.

Miss ADELAIDE NEILSON has gone to the White Sulphur springs, Virginia, for a week's rest. She had played one hundred and three nights consecutively. She says that the season with her is by no means ended. After a week in Philadelphia she will go to New York for a month at Booth's theatre, and thence to San Francisco. She will sail for England next August.

Lord BEACONSFIELD'S humor is very keenly appreciated in England both by friends and foes. Going into his breakfast room one morning, he found one of his guests looking for a newspaper. "What are you looking for?" he asked. "Well, I was looking for a paper." "A paper? Oh, I don't take any papers." Mrs. Disraeli, I believe, takes the Court Journal. But do you want to see anything in particular?" "Yes; I rather wished to—" "Well, there's my butler takes in the Daily Telegraph; he's a tremendous Radical, and I dare say he likes to see his master thoroughly well abused."

MINOR TOPICS.

It is "officially" given out that the fare from this city to Cincinnati, for persons attending the Democratic national convention, going and return, will be \$21.46.

A JERSEY engineer has been discharged for saying that a red-nosed man looked blue. The superintendent remarked it was the worst case of color blindness that he had ever known on the road.

THE only Democratic convention this week is that of Iowa. Edward Campbell, jr., chairman of the state committee is a strong Tilden man, but holds that, in view of the fact that the Democratic party can have no hope of carrying the state, it would be improper for them to instruct their delegates to Cincinnati for any candidate.

THE New York Star, John Kelly's paper, prints a special from its Washington correspondent, who says he has most positive and trustworthy assurances that Samuel J. Tilden has virtually retired from the presidential race, although announcement of the fact is deferred for the present. It appears the reason given for Tilden's retirement is ill-health. He is reported to have concluded to ask his friends to quietly consolidate their strength in favor of Henry B. Payne, of Ohio.

SENATOR BLAINE is in receipt of a telegram advising him that the delegates elected to the Ohio state Republican convention from the county of Jefferson on Saturday last were instructed to vote for a Blaine delegation to the Chicago convention. This is the first county convention held in Ohio. Dr. Updegraff, in whose congressional district Jefferson county is located, says that while it may be true that the Jefferson county delegates are instructed for Blaine, that they will first vote for a Sherman delegation.

A REMARKABLE coincidence in the deaths almost at the same hour, at about the same advanced age, of Mr. Robert M. McCurdy and Mr. Herman D. Aldrich, who were fellow clerks and partners together during many years, and who retired together on business with ample fortunes, occurred yesterday in New York. In their lives they were pleasantly united throughout many public enterprises and private plans of beneficence, and while each was ignorant of the other's approaching dissolution they were not in their deaths divided. It is announced that there will be a joint funeral.

THE Unit Rule.

The system of binding delegations to a nominating convention by what is called the "unit rule" is fast becoming a matter of a deliberative council. Representatives of party sentiment and personal preference in every part of the country, and in every district of every state, are to meet and compare views and to consent upon the wisest course of action. The majority will of course finally decide what that action shall be, but the decision of the majority can be acceptable and satisfactory only after the fullest and fairest consideration of differing opinions. Such consideration is impossible if every delegation comes bound by instructions, and forced to vote as a unit. If this condition is not universal, and there are also unrestricted and unbound delegations—that is, if there are delegations which are, as all such delegations should be, perfectly free and independent to act as seems to be wisest under the actual circumstances—still the padlocked delegations give a few intriguing managers an unfair and disproportionate power. The unit rule and the system of instructions are devised in the interest of merely personal politics, and not in that of the welfare of the party. If the party prosper and success be the true object to be sought by all honorable means in the nominating convention, then obviously a bare majority in the convention of any state ought not to seek to smother the view of a minority in the state, which, uniting with the majority of another state, might change the result. The trust committed to the convention is that of the Republican party at large. The delegates sit in the convention

as individuals. If a majority of them, "voting their own sentiments," nominate A, B, or C, he must be considered to be the representative of the majority sentiment of the whole party.

STATE ITEMS.

The delegates from Venango county to the Democratic state convention were chosen yesterday. The senatorial delegate and two out of the three representative delegates are claimed as Tilden men.

The Democratic senatorial conference of the Thirty-first district, has elected Wm. McConnell, of Juniata county, senatorial delegate, with instructions to support Hancock for president.

About two hundred persons left the Cumberland valley yesterday for Kansas and Nebraska, in which states they propose to settle. The bulk of the emigrants were furnished by Chambersburg and Carlisle.

A violent storm at Huntingdon, on Sunday evening, lasting twenty minutes, did much damage to property. The tin roofs of the St. James' hotel and the Miller house were torn off, one of the turrets of the Lutheran church was blown down, and the car works in West Huntingdon were partially destroyed.

Yesterday morning, about 9 o'clock, one of the scholars of the Sanders public school, Dillwyn and Callowhill streets, Philadelphia, on entering the directors' room, on the second floor, found the janitor, George Duncan, lying upon his back and apparently intoxicated. But he had killed himself with laudanum in grief over his wife's death.

Michael Rambo, a Hatboro carpenter, died on Sunday from the effects of a fall from the new house of S. J. Garner, of that borough. George S. Smith, another Hatboro carpenter, fell dead from heart disease on Monday, while working on a new building of R. J. Dobbins, at Jenkintown. Thoughts on the death of Mr. Rambo probably had something to do with the death of Mr. Leban.

The Democratic city convention met in Harrisburg last night and selected O. J. Hilligas, as representative delegate from Harrisburg to the state convention. The president of the convention was authorized to select the name of William McClure as the county representative choice for senatorial delegate. The vote for representative delegate was 19 for Hilligas, anti-Tilden, and 4 for James McClure, Tilden.

In the Democratic county committee of Bradford county, Robert A. Backer was elected senatorial delegate to the state convention and Joseph Powell, John Parsons and John Baldwin representative delegates. Resolutions were unanimously adopted recommending Edward Herrick, of Bradford, present senatorial delegate, as auditor general, as "a sterling Democrat, of unquestioned integrity and ability," and presenting his name as a candidate for auditor general. The delegation is evenly divided between the two branches of the Democracy.

A VERY SAD CASE.

A Young Lady Who Loses Her Beauty and Grace by an Act of Self-Destruction.

In Karns City, Miss Sarah Campbell, a young and beautiful lady, attempted self-destruction last winter. While sick in bed from the sleigh and sustained injuries from which she never fully recovered, and which left her in a condition of comparative helplessness. From a bright, sunny and radiant girl she was reduced to state bordering on imbecility, but yet so sensitive that a kind administration only made her feel more keenly her dependence. In this frame of mind she loitered in the parlor a few evenings ago, when her mother, who had come to visit, followed as soon as she had slackened the fire. When her mother rose on the following morning and had prepared breakfast, she called Sarah, and getting no response she entered her room, but the girl was not there, nor was her couch disturbed. Search was at once instituted, and at a late hour in the evening her almost lifeless body was found in a coal bank lying in a pool of blood, about a mile from the house. With a jack-knife she had made a rent in the floor and had poured a quantity of gas, from which the blood flowed copiously. She was carried to her home, where she now lies in a critical condition, with the chances of life very much against her.

A MEDICAL CURIOSITY.

An Indian Boy With Transposed Liver and Heart.

Dr. John H. Lemon, of New Albany, was recently called to see a thirteen-year-old boy, the son of a farmer named Booth, residing two miles west of the city, who was represented by the messenger as being afflicted with a "falling sickness" which came upon him when he was in the habit of application either at work or study. The doctor made an examination of his patient, and found to his surprise that the lad's heart was upon the right side, and his liver upon the left. He reviewed the ordinary anatomy of man, and occasionally similar cases are mentioned in the medical books, but the instances are very rare. Some of the peculiarities resulting from this malformation may be of interest. The boy is not at all corpulent, and becomes very nervous and restive, and often falls in a faint. On this account he cannot be sent to school. Application to books at home produces the same results, and any sudden excitement, either from fright or from any other cause, induces spells. The boy spends most of his time out of doors hunting in the woods and fields for squirrels and birds, and has become very expert in the use of the gun. He is very cautious in his movements, never suffering close to bed, and when least sitting down and resting. The boy's general health is very good, but he has not the vitality usually found in boys of his age.

A WEST POINT OUTRAGE.

Colored Cadet Whittaker Bound by Masked Men and His Ears Mutilated. At 6 o'clock yesterday morning Johnson C. Whittaker, a colored cadet at West Point, class of 1876, was found bound hand and foot in his room at the barracks, with a piece of one ear cut off and the other ear slit and his head bruised. Whittaker made a statement to a reporter, in which he said that he had been awakened in his room some time after midnight and jumped on him as he lay in bed. He struggled, but was choked and pounded, and told if he made a noise he would be a dead man. They then cut his hands and feet, and placed them on the bedstead. One said: "Let's mark him like they do dogs down South." They then cut the lower part of his left ear off and slit the lobe of the other ear two or three times, and again cautioning him not to "hallo," they left the room.

An Indian club was found near him smeared with blood. Two of the men wore dark clothes and a third light gray, and wore black masks. Whittaker had received a warning to be on his guard. There is as yet no clue to the perpetrators, though the commandant has been investigating all day. Whittaker was found in a half-unconscious condition, but he is now able to walk around and converse. Each member of the club has been arrested and confined about the occurrence. General Schofield and Commandant Luzzelle are investigating the affair. It is believed that the outrage was committed by cadets.

The starter election in Schenectady, N. Y., yesterday, resulted in the choice of all the Democratic candidates except assessor.

PATTERSON'S COLUMN.

THE NEWSPAPERS SPEAKING OUT.

The Second Installment of Their Opinions.

His English and His Logic.

Messrs A. J. Steinman and W. U. Hensel of Lancaster, in the state of Pennsylvania, are attorneys at law, and also the editors of a local newspaper, in which they published an article that displeased a local judge, Patterson by name. This judge thereupon ordered them to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt, and why their names should not be stricken from the roll of attorneys. The judge, in substance, that they had committed no contempt, and that they could not be called to account and punished as attorneys for what they had written and published as editors in good faith and for the public good; that if Judge Patterson felt aggrieved and the courts were open to him as to any other citizen in like case.

After taking a long time to think over it, Judge Patterson on Saturday filed his opinion. The judge's English is on a par with his logic. With such grace as he can he backs out of his absurd position in the matter of the alleged contempt, but argues at great length and with tiresome reiteration that in publishing what they did not know to be untrue, they had not violated their official duty. He said that they had notified the coroner, who immediately notified the coroner, who proceeded to hold an inquest. Had the girl a voice in the proceedings, a tale might be told that would shake the quietude of the community. The mother of the girl is a widow.

ATTEST NEWS BY MAIL.

Chauncey Newton, of the Cincinnati Enquirer staff, died at Mount Auburn yesterday.

The New York state fair will be held September 13 on the grounds between Albany and Troy.

Dr. Sears has decided to move the Peabody Normal school from Nashville to Atlanta, Ga.

An oscillatory earthquake, having a direction from northeast to southeast occurred at the City of Mexico on the 19th ultimo, and was also felt at other places.

Samuel Hill, convicted at Atlanta, Ga., and sentenced to the penitentiary for life for killing his wife's father, has been adjudged a lunatic and will be sent to the insane asylum.

Kenall's saw mills, in Orange county, Virginia, were burned on Monday night by an incendiary fire, including two engines, saws and machinery and several thousand feet of lumber.

The New York court of appeals has refused new trials in the cases of Pietro Balbo, the wife murderer, and Christine Cox, the mulatto; they will probably be hanged upon the same scaffold.

Township elections were held throughout Michigan on Monday, and some thirty city elections. The returns generally indicate Republican gains and a decided falling off in the Greenback vote.

The Chicago city election yesterday was entirely without political significance. Of fourteen councilmen elected seven are Democrats, six Republicans and one Socialist from the Fourteenth ward.

Two young colored men, David Moore and George Jenkins, quarreled at London, Ont., on Monday night about a girl. Moore drew a jack-knife and plunged it into Jenkins' breast, inflicting a dangerous wound.

The Indians who were driven into a ravine by three companies of Philadelphia cavalry, thirty-five miles south of Ferry Point, Montana, escaped after two of them had been captured. General Miles is now on the ground.

The hourly train from Providence, R. I., for Lancaster was going out yesterday morning two hours. John T. Dool, Jr., aged 8 years, and Michael Murray, 6 years old, were struck by the locomotive and dangerously injured.

The New Treasury Management.

Mon. Samuel Butler, the state treasurer, has completed the selection of his subordinates in the treasury department and has made them public. They are as follows: Chief clerk and cashier, William Livesey, of Pittsburgh; clerk, G. H. Greenwald, of Franklin county; C. H. Beideman, of Wyoming; and Captain Thomas A. Reiley, of Cumberland; messenger, John A. Scott, of Coatesville, Chester county; watchman, Oliver Reynolds, of West Chester. The last named is a colored man, strongly supported by Messrs. Forten and Wears, of Philadelphia. Mr. Nesbit, of Pittsburgh, and other leading colored Republicans, Mr. Livesey is now of the tax office, in Pittsburgh; Mr. Greenwald is a member of the Legislature from Franklin county, and was one of Mr. Butler's personal friends in the House.

Reading Eagle, Ind.

It is amusing to read the arguments of Judge Patterson of Lancaster, for his judgment in striking Messrs. Steinman and Hensel are of the attorneys of his court. It will be remembered that Messrs. Steinman and Hensel are the editors of the Lancaster Intelligencer, and as editors they criticised the action of Judge Patterson's court, which, under the law, they had a right to do. This criticism enraged Judge Patterson, and he entered rules on them to show cause why they should not be adjudged in contempt and disbarred from practicing law.

His decision dismissing the rule for contempt and disbarring them from practicing law is remarkable for many things, among which is its general ready character, its want of reason, its want of logic, its want of a lack of law and reason to support its conclusions. The people like a manly judge, hate tyranny and small things. However, Judge Patterson has distinguished himself by this action, and he is yet to come, if he had not delivered it, he would have been utterly unknown. This opinion, however, will preserve his fame, but what kind of fame?

De Juedibus Nil Nisi Bonum.

Philadelphia Ledger, Ind.

If the supreme court shall affirm Judge Patterson's (Lancaster) decision disbarring two attorneys of his court, who are editors of the Lancaster INTELLIGENCER, because, as editors, they harshly criticised his judicial acts, it will be notice to all practicing lawyers to keep out of newspaper alliances. They must keep out, or print nothing but what is agreeable to the judges, or be in readiness to be thrown over the bar.

Healthy for Bolters.

Lancaster is now the most prolific field for bolters. There is a sort of a hunt, and bolt against Mr. Boring, the machine candidate for mayor at the February election, and Boring paid the debt on Monday by bolting against the bolters and electing Democrats and irregulars to the city offices. Pretty much the whole Republican party of the county has bolted from the Grant machine that fliteth the delegates to Chicago, and they will make a merry score about the 23d of May. Indeed, so infectious has the bolting atmosphere become that it has reached and impressed the Lancaster bench, where Judge Patterson has bolted against law, justice, dignity, fidelity and common sense by disbarring a pair of editors. We believe that thus far the persons who escaped, but they are only men and there's no selling horse soon they may be dragged into the bolting whirlwind.

THE SECRET DEAD WITH HER.

Tragic End of an Unhappy Young Woman. A Shelbyville, Indiana, correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette says that at noon on Saturday, Miss Ella Angleton, aged 20 years, committed suicide by blowing her brains out with a revolver. The scene of the sad occurrence was in a piece of woods adjoining the place of Mrs. Betsy McCarty, in the neighborhood known as the Slough, some six miles southwest of here, and one mile in the same direction from John Switch. The cause which led the young lady to commit so rash an act is surrounded by mystery and will likely remain so. The rumors that are afloat are to the effect that she killed herself in a fit of jealousy, caused by the young man who had been keeping her company acting as the escort of another young lady to a party that was held in the neighborhood. A gentleman who resides near the place where the tragedy was enacted said that Miss Angleton went to the party mentioned in company with Mr. Robert McCarty, the young man who has been paying her his attentions for more than two years, thus disposing of the thought that her act was caused by jealousy. The young woman had been at the house of Mrs. McCarty most of the time for several days. Starting home she went through the woods pasture, no doubt for the seclusion which it afforded her of carrying out the deed. When found she was dead with a revolver by her side. The cause which led to the tragedy was in the opinion of one chamber empty, the missing ball being in the top of her head. In order to make her work sure she placed the weapon in her mouth, sending the leaden missile through her brain. The body was discovered by Charlie Seiffert, who immediately notified the coroner, who proceeded to hold an inquest. Had the girl a voice in the proceedings, a tale might be told that would shake the quietude of the community. The mother of the girl is a widow.

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"OUR BOYS."

By the Chestnut Street Company. Last evening Mr. H. J. Byron's comedy entitled "Our Boys" was played in the opera house by Gemmill & Bunn's, Chestnut street theatre company of Philadelphia. The audience was of good size but was not as large as it should have been. The performance, was excellent and there has not been a company here for some time, which gave the satisfaction that the Chestnut did last night. The comedy has been given here before. It contains plenty of pleasant humor and wit, and is said to be one of the best of Byron's pieces. The honors of the evening were carried off by Mr. George H. Griffiths and Mr. Charles Stanley. Mr. Griffiths as *Perky Middlewick*, the retired butler-man, gave a most admirable performance. Mr. Stanley personated *Talbot Champneys*, a young man of the "so clever, you know" style, with great success. He acted the part in a very easy manner, apparently without any effort, and assumed the Dandry style to the end, notwithstanding the fact that he becomes very poor before the close of the play. J. H. Anderson appeared as *Charles Middlewick*, the son of the butler-man, and friend and companion to *Talbot*. His acting was very fair, as was that of Ernest Bartram as *Sir Geoffrey Champneys*. Misses Lillie Glover and Annie Fox, personated *Mary Melrose* and *Violet Melrose* in charming style, while the remaining members of the company sustained their characters in a highly satisfactory manner. The costumes of the company were rich and handsome and the stage setting was very pretty.

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THE PHYSICIANS.

An Interesting Meeting in Columbia. The regular stated meeting of the Lancaster city and county medical society is being held in the opera house, Columbia, to-day. All the trains running into Columbia bring delegates, and at this writing, 12:45 p. m., there are upwards of one hundred physicians, representing all sections of the county and state, and also a large representation from Maryland. Other points yet to hear from will swell the number largely. The morning session convened at 10:30 o'clock, and in the absence of the regular president, Dr. J. A. Thompson, who is lying dangerously ill at home in Wrightsville, Dr. A. M. Miller, first vice president, of Bird-in-Hand, occupied the presidential chair, and Dr. P. J. Roebuck, of Lititz, was elected vice president pro tem. After the election of temporary officers, Dr. D. I. Bruner, senior physician of Columbia, was introduced and delivered the following address of welcome:

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN: This stated meeting of the Lancaster city and county medical society has been convened in this hall for the especial purpose of receiving and commencing with our friends of other medical societies. The physicians of Columbia and neighborhood have honored me with the pleasant duty of extending to you, gentlemen of the home and visiting societies, a cordial greeting. Those whom I represent would naturally desire that the meeting should be expressed worthily, warmly and eloquently. In selecting me as their spokesman, however, they put aside all thought of rhetorical display. My title to this foremost place is seniority; not that I am so gray as our venerable president, whose absence on account of sickness I deeply regret, nor do I wear so many years as the honored father of our society; I am simply the senior physician of this place. But this seniority qualifies me, knowing so well by long association the feelings and sentiments of my townsmen of half a century of practice, nearly thirty years having been spent in Columbia—this qualifies me to express in their behalf, as I now most earnestly do, a sincere and hearty welcome on the part of our medical brethren, especially, I welcome you, not only to our town, but to the highest places in our meetings.

This assembling together of the physicians of neighboring counties is a recent custom. I may almost say, a happy one, I think, meets the hearty approval of every one of us having at heart the interest and progress of our profession. With medical literature multiplied as it is beyond a busy man's capacity to read, say nothing of digest—some short road to knowledge becomes indispensable. The personal interchange of thought, of opinion and of experience, is a condensation, a combination, of our separate study and research and experiment. We meet to compare notes, to expose critical cases, discuss the thousand questions arising in our ever-expanding and improving profession.

New diseases, old diseases under new forms, new remedies, new combinations, new chemical—all these demand our consideration and many our combined efforts. Our aim is to contribute each his quota to mutual improvement, to the elucidation of abstruse problems, the unraveling of seeming mysteries of disease. We meet to compare notes, to expose critical cases, discuss the thousand questions arising in our ever-expanding and improving profession.

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