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TOWANDA:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1845.

A Valuable Almanac.

The writer of the following letter has our thanks for the Almanac enclosed. It will be published according to his suggestion, for several weeks, and will be found valuable to our readers and others:

Oswego, December 10, 1845.
Messrs. Editors:—I enclose for publication, if you please, a tabular almanac, for 1846.

These things, are, to me, desirable in the publication of each calendar:
1st. Compactness, distinctness, and neatness.
2d. That they be placed where they may be cut out with the least possible mutilation of the paper. This, usually, is at the outer corner—either top or bottom—of the third page; or at the back of the same location, on the fourth page.
3d. That they be inserted more than one week—so that different members of a family, may, if they wish, secure a copy.

During the time that your paper has fallen under my observation, I have seen no intimation of the estimate in which you hold original articles, on subjects not connected with politics, or of the principles on which you insert them. But the recent appearance of two or three didactic pieces, with a signature (C. S. A.) long familiar to some of us—indicates that on some grounds such articles are furnished, and are published. Are such communications desired? Are they published usually from your own regard for their value, or to gratify the writers? With regards, W. H.

We desire original communications, are always willing to publish them, and would be glad to hear from Mr. H. at his own convenience.

TABULAR ALMANAC FOR 1846.

PARTS OF THE WEEK.											
Jan. 1st.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31					

ORDERLY BOOK OF HAND'S BRIGADE FROM WYOMING TO TIOGA.

Head Quarters, Tioga, Aug. 21, 1779.
After Orders.—As a great number of bags will be wanted in order to carry on flour for the army, and as there is no other way of procuring them than cutting up tents and making them into bags. It being absolutely necessary that the bags should be furnished immediately, the Commander-in-Chief requests that Gen. Maxwell will direct as many tents cut up and hands employed as will complete 300 bags. Col. Seeley will furnish the same number from the Garrison.

Col. Hoxley will furnish in same manner from the Garrison.

The Quarter Master is directed to furnish tents with patterns, needles, twines &c., for the purpose.

As the number of tents would otherwise have been retrenched previous to our march, the present inconvenience to the troops in reducing the tents can be very trifling, but the inconvenience were ever so great it must be submitted to from necessity.

The General requests the favor of having business completed in all conceivable expedition. The state of our magazine and other important motives urges us to put a speedy conclusion to the campaign.

Officers who are possessed of kegs which they are not in immediate want of, are requested to send them to the Commissary.

Those which are private property shall be sold. If a number of these kegs be not sold, it will be impossible to carry on a deficiency of salt provisions and liquor for the army.

Head Quarters, Tioga, Aug. 22, 1779.

Field Officer of the day, Col. Celly, Brigade Major, Ross.

Let further order the commissary is directed to issue no more fresh beef to the army.

At a General Court Martial, whereof Lieut. Col. Dehart is President, Sergeant Abbey of the 1st Jersey Regiment, tried for robbing the State stores of liquor, found guilty, and sentenced to be flogged, viz: first to be reduced to the ranks, second to be stopped one month's share of state rum, and be accountable to the State for the same, and third that the mode of his reduction be that the guard shall bring him on the parade at the head of his regiment, that the Drum Major shall strip off his coat, and make him put it on wrong side outwards, that a canteen be hung round his neck, and then turned into the ranks.

Captain Wilson of the same Regiment, charged with being an accomplice necessary to robbing the State stores when commanding the guard set over them, was found guilty and sentenced to be reduced to the ranks, to be stripped one month's share of state rum, and be accountable to the State for the same, and that the mode of his reduction be that the guard shall bring him on the parade at the head of his regiment, that the Drum Major shall strip off his coat, and make him put it on wrong side outwards, that a canteen be hung round his neck, and then turned into the ranks.

Thomas Perry, Private, in the same Reg't, was tried for, and found guilty of, robbing the State Stores of rum, while a sentry over them, and sentenced to be stopped as in the other two instances, and run the gauntlet through Gen. Maxwell's Brigade.

Wm. Weston and John Flinn of the same Regiment, tried for robbing the same stores, and found guilty of only partaking of them, at the same time knowing them to have been plundered, were sentenced to be stopped as before mentioned.

The Commander-in-Chief approves the sentences, and orders that punishment be inflicted this evening at roll call.

The Court of Inquiry, of which Major Edwards is appointed president, to set to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

BRIGADE ORDERS, Tioga, Aug. 23, '79.

The Commanding Officers of Corps are desired to pay particular attention to see that their packsaddles are examined, and those that are bad be repaired immediately, that they have a sufficiency of lash rope, and their pack horses are collared.

Head Quarters, Tioga, Aug. 24, 1779.

Field Officer, Col. Ogden, Brigade Major, Marshall.

Col. Cordland's Regiment is annexed to Gen. Clinton's Brigade, Col. Aldens to Gen. Poor's, the 4th Penna. Reg't and Rifle Corps to Gen. Hand's Brigade.

The Brigade Commissary to draw thirty days flour and salt to-morrow, exclusive of what may be used by the troops this day and to-morrow. They are to see that it be put up in bags and the Brigade Quarter Master's are to have it properly slung to be put horseback, as the army will move on Wednesday morning.

The Quarter Master and Commissary General will have the articles in their departments perfectly ready to be moved off. A proper number of axes, scythes and fashine hatchets, to be drawn this day and ground for use.

The pouches and powder horns which are not absolutely necessary for the troops who have drawn them, are to be immediately returned to the Commissary of Military stores to supply the troops who have no cartridge boxes.

The troops to draw a proper number of flints and a sufficient quantity of ammunition to fill their cartridge boxes. Also one hundred and fifty rounds each of spare cartridges are to be drawn for them. The Artillery to draw the same quantity of flour and salt as the other troops. Col. Proctor will have ammunition fixed for the six three pounders, the two howitzers and the Cohorns, the six pounders are to be left in this garrison.

Col. Bond to have all the horses collected this day which have not been already assigned, that Gen. Clinton's Brigade may be supplied.

As the troops should move as lightly as possible, the officers are requested to leave at the garrison all the baggage, they can possibly spare. All the women and children to remain at this post, and the commanding officers of the Garrison will have orders respecting them.

The officer's servants who conduct pack-horses are each to drive five horses. The field and other officers will make this arrangement among themselves.

As this is a campaign where every one must expect to encounter difficulties far surpassing those of common campaigns, the officers ought not, and the Commander-in-Chief trusts they will not think of diminishing the strength of the army by a multiplicity of servants or impeding its progress by unnecessary baggage.

The troops who want shoes or overalls are to make returns this day and draw them.

The Commissary and Quarter Master General are directed to have all their stores moved to the Garrison this day.

The troops to draw six days salted provisions to-morrow in the forenoon. Two days of which are to be cooked in the evening. Two hundred and fifty men properly officered exclusive of Boatmen, to be left as a garrison at this post. Col. Chreve to take command of those men to parade to-morrow morning at 7 o'clock, and immediately afterwards move up and take post. The hospital to be immediately removed to the garrison.

A signal will be given by one cannon from the Park, to-morrow at 9 o'clock in the afternoon, striking the encampment when all the troops will move to their respective places with their baggage loaded ready for a march. Every thing is to be in perfect readiness. Provisions to this time, that the business may be condensed with order and expedition. Second gun from the Park will notify the army to encamp in such order as to be able to move early the next morning without confusion, and agreeable to the plan or order of march and battle delivered to the officers on the 24th of May last.

The right flank of the army to be composed of 200 chosen men, commanded by Col. Dubois, the left to be composed of 200 chosen men, commanded by Col. Ogden, and to be selected from the line, and in addition to them, the German Battalion is to be divided into four equal companies, two of which to be on the right and the other two on the left of the army, annexed to the flanking division. The commanding officers of the flanks will direct those divisions to be completed to fifty men each from the flanks, two of which are to march about ten rods within the front of the flanking divisions, and two of the same distance within the rear of the flanks; the business of these divisions is to gain the rear of the enemy with out loss of time when the flank to which they are annexed are attacked.

The German Battalion to be replaced by two companies of light infantry from Gen. Clinton's, one from Gen. Maxwell's, and one from Gen. Poor's Brigade, consisting of fifty non-commissioned officers and privates, each these to be chosen troops and annexed to Col. Butler's Reg't.

The covering parties for the 1st and 2d line to be drawn out and officered as also the flanking divisions at 12 o'clock to-morrow, and upon the beating of the drum assemble, which will be in an hour after the gun. The respective corps and detachments may take their proper places, the troops that compose the covering parties and flanking divisions are to be furnished with proper proportion of tents that they may encamp in order of march or battle as circumstances may require; the proportion of tents for this expedition is to be one tent for every 8 men.

The Brigadiers will see that no more tents carried on for the officers than are absolutely necessary. The Gen'l flatters himself that the officers will from their zeal to service, cheerfully assist in retrenching the baggage of the army and removing every obstacle to its march.

Lieut. Col. Reimer is appointed sub-Inspector in this army and to be respected and obeyed accordingly.

DRAWN OF THE WICKED AND UNGODLY, for they will lead thee into temptation.

Customs and Manners of the Chinese.

[The following sketches of Chinese manners and customs, and some account of their country and government, will be found highly interesting to "our side barbarians," who of necessity, and almost totally unacquainted with the Celestials. They are from lectures lately delivered by Mr. Fletcher Webster, at New York, and are exciting much attention. Mr. Webster accompanied Mr. Cushing in his mission to China, and had an opportunity rarely offered, of observing this people, so peculiarly our antipodes in every thing.]

Mr. Webster commenced his lecture by an allusion to the difficulty he experienced in arranging his materials of information respecting a country so vast, so populous, so important and yet so little known. He thought that perhaps the best course would be to adopt the narrative form, interspersing the narration with occasional remarks on the manners and habits of the Chinese.

The legation of which Mr. Webster was a member arrived at Macao, after touching at Ceylon, the 23d of February, 1844. So soon as they were fairly established, and the required visits of ceremony had been made, a letter was despatched to Canton, to the high Commissioner Ching, on the important subject embraced in the commission entrusted to the legation. Macao Mr. Webster described as a city about a mile in width, on the South side of the bay into which the Canton river empties itself, distant about seventy miles from the city of Canton, and connected with the island of Honan. It presented a striking resemblance to the village of Nahant in the United States. It is an ancient Portuguese settlement, not belonging to the Portuguese, but held by them on a sort of ground rent, paid to the Chinese Government. It is defended on three sides by the water, and on the other side by a high wall stretching across the narrow beach. Beyond this wall Europeans must not pass. It has about 20,059 inhabitants, three forts, and an army of 4000 men. Both the Chinese and Portuguese have a custom house, and both exercise municipal authority over the people of their respective nations. The streets the principal one excepted, are narrow, dirty and dark. Macao bears to the entire empire about the same relation that a small town at the Southern extremity of Florida would to the United States.

The first impulse of a European or an American in the streets of Macao is to seize the Chinese pedestrians by their ridiculous queues and pull them. They have a very swagging gait, their long tails, made still longer by braids and ribbons intertwined, sweep along the ground and wave from side to side until the temptation becomes almost irresistible.

One day it was announced that a letter from Ching was on its way to the American minister, borne by four high officers from Canton. Every thing was prepared, said Mr. Webster, and we sat waiting for our important visitors; at length, hearing some discordant noises, we peeped through the blinds of the verandah that we might observe their approach. Two ill looking fellows, with wire caps on their heads—one of them with a whip, and the other with an axe in his hand—led the procession. These were the executioners, who always precede a high officer. Next came a score of poorly dressed and very dirty soldiers, with spears and shields, and halberds. Then two or three men on wretched ponies, whose hair stood out in all directions, and whose manes and tails were ignorant of brush or currycomb; then the band of music, and finally the sedan chairs, on which were borne four large, fine looking persons, who proved to be the high officers. They were dressed in light colored crape gowns, fastened round their waists by blue silk girdles, buckles and precious stones.

We stood up to receive them with our hats on, for it is Chinese etiquette to be covered. They entered with their caps on, displaying their red and blue buttons and peacock's feathers. The button is fastened to the top of the cap, and the feather hangs down behind. They approached, shook their hands at us, and the chief presented the letter to the Minister. On receiving it, he motioned to them to be seated, and take off their caps; which, observing carefully our own movements, and keeping exact time with us, they did. One of the interpreters now read the letter, and after a short interval of silence, such conversation as can be carried on by means of interpreters, and looks, and signs, took place.

The first civility was, on their part, asking our names [laughter]; this information being given and reciprocated, they proceeded to shake our notions of good breeding by asking our ages! This, however, is an indispensable attention, and we returned it at once. After a few minutes' conversation, a luncheon in the Chinese style, was announced, and we entered the dining room; our guests, according to Chinese etiquette, seated on the left. Chopsticks had been provided for all of us, and we made our first experiments with them, to the unrestrained amusement of our guests. They showed little inclination to eat, but a decided taste for the barbarian liquors, champagne and cherry brandy, [laughter.] We were astonished at the very loud tone of their voices; it must have been easy to hear in the street every thing said by them. As it is a point of politeness to empty one's glass whenever drinking with a friend—and they each drank with all of us—they became, gradually, as elevated as their voices.

Civilities were now exchanged with the greatest urbanity. One would have gladly dispensed with it. It is in the fashion for every one to help himself with his own chopsticks, from any dish on the table within his reach; and when he feels desirous of offering a testimonial of regard, as well as respect, he reaches out and seizes something with his own chopsticks, and motioning to the individual for whom he designs the favor to open his mouth, puts the morsel, whatever it is, between his teeth. As they are not particularly nice in their eating, and their teeth are by no means pearls, we would have pardoned the omission of this attention. It was, however, not to be

escaped; all that was left us was retaliation, which we immediately practised.

After an hour at table, of shouting conversation on their part, and of "nods and becks and wretched smiles" on ours, we rose and moved to the verandah, where a new series of delicate attentions surprised us. They now began to examine our apparel, piece by piece—cravat, coat, waistcoat, shirt-bosom, trousers, sword-belt, gloves, all in turn were inspected. Fortunately, our good genes, Dr. Parker, told us this was the very acme of politeness, and to be imitated without delay. We therefore examined their caps and buttons, and peacock feathers, their little embroidered bags, which with fan-cases and snuff-boxes, they hang from their girdles; their thumb-rings of agate, their silken girdles and jewelled buckles.

One of them, Tung Lin, a Tartar, made himself merry with a sword-belt belonging to one of us. He put it on to show how much too small it was, strutting up and down to show us his portly figure, struck his full chest, and told us in a voice of thunder that he was a Manchou—a terror spreading Tartar general. After two hours of intellectual intercourse of this sort our friends retired. The procession re-formed, gongs beat and pipes squealed, the executioners yelled, the little ponies were pulled between their rider's legs, and we were left to reflect upon Chinese men and manners.

The population of China has been variously estimated, the best-informed writers differing so much as to render any conclusion unsafe.—The difference between some of them exceeds 100,000,000. According to some there are not less than 350,000,000, while others reduce this number to 180,000,000. The Chinese compute themselves at 300,000,000. Mr. Webster thought the computation of the Chinese correct, and to show this, compared China with other countries. He said, take France for instance, which, with a surface of 200,000 of people—or 150 to each square mile. Her soil, climate, &c., are no more favorable than those of China—nor are her people more industrious, frugal or temperate. China proper is as fertile and as well cultivated as France. Its Southern portion produces two crops a year; and it was as well tilled, when Caesar conquered Gaul as now.

Her people are the most industrious and frugal in the world. For 200 years they have not heard of war; marriage is encouraged, and emigration is strictly prohibited. China proper is thus capable of maintaining a population eight times that of France. In Chinese Tartary the people are more nomadic, and are of course comparatively sparse. Suppose then that this part is peopled two thirds as densely as Russia, which has 20 to the square mile. If China proper is as dense as France, it would contain 240,000,000; and Chinese Tartary 60 millions more, making 300,000,000 in all. Or giving to all alike a density one third that of France, the population would exceed 250,000,000. The Chinese had ample means of taking the census, and he saw no reason to doubt the accuracy of their statistics.

Canton itself, Mr. Webster described as situated on a low piece of ground, hardly above the level of the river. lofty hills approach it on the East, and an eminence is close to it, on which is a Tartar military station. Its streets are seldom over eight feet in width; the houses low and dark. The city within the walls is said to be smaller than the suburbs. One cannot discover which is the city, and which the suburbs, until informed. The walls, which are high and very massive, form the backs of shops and stores, built along them. In walking next the walls one sees nothing but shops. Even the gates are not noticeable, of which there are many in the suburbs, as well as arches crossing the streets. The factories of the merchants are situated on the very bank of the river, and are much the finest and largest buildings that he saw excepting the temple.

Mr. Webster gave an amusing history of his search for a teacher. He was aided by Dr. Parker, and one was at length found. He was not a native Tartar, but was a tall well-favored man, and said Mr. Webster, I augured very favorably our success with him. I noticed that on his first arrival there was an appearance of mystery and concealment. The Chinese who introduced him seemed very anxious. There was a whispering and shutting of doors; and a great many injunctions, assurances, and exclamations, and gestures. However, we sat down to our task at last, and got through the alphabet, for the Manchou language has an alphabet.

The next day, agreeably to appointment, he came again, and there was the same closing of doors, and looking behind and around, and springing up, if any one entered, and in short such a mysterious air about the whole thing, as if we were conspirators in some plot. I observed he was nervous and much agitated, hardly able to command himself, and laboring evidently under some very great excitement. He jumped up at any noise, as though he apprehended imminent danger, or some one was about to spring upon him from behind. However, we got through our lesson.

The next day he was missing at the appointed time. The day following he appeared; and with more perturbation than ever. He could hardly speak or stand. He had grown haggard; his eyes were swollen. Never certainly was mortal fear of something, I did not know what, more plainly depicted on a man's face than on his. He was accompanied by Dr. Parker's attendant. They entered carefully and softly, closed and fastened the door, made sure that no one was in the room, and then his friend, in a low tone, told me the nature of the case. He was afraid of losing his head for coming to teach a foreigner Manchou. He begged me to receive back my money, which he brought in his hand, and let him go. He could not come again. He told me, and I believe it, that he was on the point of taking poison to rid himself of his trouble. That he had eaten no rice, and taken no sleep since he first came. He expected every moment to be beheaded by the mandarins, and carried off to be beheaded. There was no arguing with him, no comforting or assuring him; and the only thing to be done was to let him go.

Mr. Webster subsequently found two Tartars who had no fear of the mandarins, and who remained with him long after all idea of going to Peking was abandoned.

While at Canton Mr. Webster visited the country seat of a Chinese gentleman, known as Pun-tin-gua, lately created Duke Kwan.—(It may be well to say that we make as good a guess at the orthography of these names as we can.) The villa was named Poutong and was situated on the river, about three miles above Canton. It was about 100 acres in extent in the middle of paddy fields, covered with water. The approach to it was along a canal leading from the river. The were several houses, and detached out buildings. Long wooden bridges, such as are represented on dinner plates, connect the various buildings, which are all built on piles, of a sort of glazed brick. The main house was perhaps sixty feet square, two stories high, with numerous apartments. The large drawing room was handsome and handsomely furnished. In the rear of this building was a theatre, the stage fronting the windows of the back drawing room.

Between the two buildings is a fish pond, an indispensable requisite in Chinese country places. On nights of performance long poles are thrust into the mud at the bottom of the pond, with lanterns at their tops. There was an aviary made of wire, filled with gold and silver pheasants of extreme beauty. A tame deer, two beautiful adjutants and a monkey, made up the collection of animals. The general appearance was pleasing, but there was nothing like what we call comfort.

Fifty or sixty women, all of the small feet kind, assembled either to see the place or to see the American party. They fled at the approach of the latter, and huddled together in distant apartments. The American party surrounded two or three in a corner, and the ladies managed to keep them still, so that their costume and dresses were examined. The description given of them by Mr. Webster corresponded very closely with the published accounts and pictures. They manifest, said Mr. W., as much surprise at the small waists of our ladies as we did at their small feet, and inquired with equal anxiety if they were not thus compressed with great pain.

This fashion of small feet is not confined to rank—indeed there is no distinction of rank. Any parents having a daughter, who promises to be beautiful, hand her feet and compress them, or rather prevent their growth.

The children of more ordinary pretensions are not exposed to this torture. Every Chinese, so soon as he can afford it, takes a small footed wife. He seeks for some old lady, whose well known and recognized, and there considered respectable, trade is that of a "go-between," and inquires who among his neighbors has a nice daughter who would do for a wife. The lady mentions one and gives a description of her appearance. She then sees the young lady whom she thinks he would prefer—some Miss Lee Nung or Non Seen, and describes the merits of the gallant Noo Chung. The parents then, with her help arrange the settlement, and the bride is given away with as great ceremonies and rejoicings as the means of the families, will the husband first sees her face when he meets her at the door of his house, and taking her out of her sedan chair, raises her veil.

The government of China is patriarchal, and it is a pure unalloyed despotism. The Czar of Russia wields a powerless uncontrolled that of the Emperor of China. He reigns absolute and supreme, and knows no restraint upon his will. The laws are mere expressions of his pleasure. The soil of all China is his own inheritance. The lives, fortunes and honor of his subjects are in his hand. As his father and sovereign he may take either or all from them, by an arbitrary stroke of his vermilion pencil. His power knows no checks or balances or bounds. He is besides, to his people, the representative and vice-roy of the Almighty—the head of religion—the son of heaven, in immediate communication with the Supreme, and the only being authorized to hold such communication.

All religious observances and rites, as well as municipal laws, derive their sanction and obligations from him. In short, he is invested with every attribute that unlimited power can extort from the fear and ignorance of subject millions. His vast empire, for the purposes of government, is divided into great provinces. At the head of each of these is a high officer, responsible immediately to him for his order and good government. Each province is again subdivided into districts, districts into towns, villages and hundreds.

Each of these subdivisions has its proper head, who is responsible to his immediate superior for the conduct and condition of those under his rule. In case of crime, or even accident, punishment is made to fall not only on the guilty themselves, but on those whose duty it was to detect or prevent it. For a serious crime or disturbance, not only on the guilty themselves, but the heads of the towns in which it took place, and the district in which the town lies, and of the province in which the district is included, are punished in various degrees.

The blow from the Emperor is felt throughout the whole chain. Families are held responsible for the behavior of each member of them. It seems to us cruel to punish a family for the offence of one, or to ravage a district for a crime of some of its inhabitants. But the theory is that all the members of the empire are bound to preserve order and peace, and are responsible for its infraction; as in England and in this country, where towns are held liable for property destroyed by mobs. And in China this theory is never allowed to become a dead letter, and harsh as it may seem, it cannot be denied that experience has proved it of wonderful efficacy in the preservation of quiet and tranquillity.

Mr. Webster related one instance to illustrate his operation. On some occasion, when there was unusual excitement among the people at Canton, a large mob surrounded in the evening the foreign factories. An American, who had been out on the river, was obliged to make his way through the crowd to reach his home. On getting into his hong, as they call each

merchant's residence, he found that he had been robbed of his watch. When, or by whom it was taken among that crowd of Chinese—all dressed alike, all looking alike, and closely packed together in the dark, no one of whom he had ever before seen, or would probably see again—of course he could not tell.

All he could say was, it had been taken by some one among the hundreds jammed together in the square. The probability of recovering it was very remote, but he made his complaint to the proper Chinese functionary, and stated the case. The mandarin told him that within so many days he should have his watch. That very day all the police officers in that part of Canton, to the number of one or two hundred, were seized upon and imprisoned. One of them was then brought before the mandarin, and the robbery stated to him, and he was informed that he must find the watch and bring it back, and that all his comrades would remain in jail until he did.

Each one of the poor fellows thus confined had a family dependent on him for support, and friends and relations interested in his release. All three at once became most active in their exertions to discover the watch and set free the prisoners. Their friends and their friends' friends were interested; the army of police officers increased geometrically. The whole people became thief-takers, and, and at the end of three days the watch was found, in an obscure hut in the country, twenty miles from Canton, and restored to its owner. In other cases of theft, a similar, though harsher course, is sometimes pursued, but the result is generally the discovery of the thief and the restoration of the goods.

If a theft takes place in a house, on complaint to a mandarin all the servants are arrested and taken before him, and both the guilty and innocent bamboozled, till the really guilty at last confesses. The cruelty of this course not unfrequently, indeed generally, among foreigners, prevents complaints being made. The Chinese code, both civil and criminal, is immensely voluminous and detailed. There is apparently nothing which can be done or suffered that is not provided for.

The second Lecture, which we shall publish next week, will be found equally novel and interesting.

JEWISH ANECDOTES.—The following anecdotes are translated from an interesting work, published at Paris, entitled *Les Maitres du Samedi*, (The Saturday Morning's), written by G. Ben Levi, for the use of the Israelitish youth of France:

David in the wilderness—A legend.

When King David was flying across the Desert of Ziph, pursued by Saul, he grew impatient at the quantity of spiders' webs which he had to break, and one day, when he was picked by a worm, he cried out in his passion, "Great God! why hast thou created flies and spiders, which are of no use, and only serve to hurt me?" "I will make you understand," answered a prophetic voice.

Some time afterwards, he descended Mount Achid, and ventured by night into the camp of Saul, to deprive him, while asleep, of his arms and his cap. After having succeeded in this project, he was about to retire, when his foot became entangled in the legs of the faithful Abner, who slept beside Saul. Great was the embarrassment of David, how he should disengage his foot from the hold of Abner, without awakening this valiant servant, and to find himself surprised, alone, in the camp of the enemy.

David's anxiety was at its height, when a fly bit Abner on the leg, and the pain which the warrior felt, made him make a movement, of which David availed himself to withdraw his foot; he then fled quickly, thanking God for having created flies.

Saul, however, pursued him into the Desert, and to escape him, David had slipped into a cavern, when God sent a spider, which wove its web across the entrance of this rock. Saul and Abner were quickly in the footsteps of the fugitive, and Abner having said, "he is doubtless concealed in this rock; let us go and seek him there."

"It is useless," answered Saul, "do you not see that the entrance of this cavern is covered with a spider's web, and that no one could have entered without breaking this delicate tissue?"

"You are right," answered Abner, and they retired, to continue their search in another part of the Desert.

Then David cast himself on the ground, and cried, "Lord, pardon me, for having doubted thy wisdom; henceforth my feeble understanding shall not cease to humble itself before the sublime harmonies of creation. Lord, the smallest of thy creatures are of use to man: the spiders and the flies themselves have a part to perform in nature. Lord, what thou sayest is well; what thou doest is just."

KEEP GOOD COMPANY.—There is a certain magic or charm in company, for it will assimilate and make you like to them by much conversation with them. If they be good company, it is a great means to make you good, or confirm you in goodness; but if they be bad, it is twenty to one but they will corrupt or infect you. Men or women that are greedy of acquaintance or hasty in it, are often shared in ill company before they are aware, and entangled so that they cannot easily get loose from it after, when they would.

CHARCOAL AN ANTIDOTE TO POISON.—An old English paper contains a statement, that charcoal possesses the power of counteracting the effects of mineral poisons. Five grams of arene in a half glass of strong mixture of charcoal were swallowed fasting. Heat and thirst followed, but the pain was allayed by swallowing another glass of charcoal mixture. At noon no bad effects were felt. Let it be tried in cases of mineral poison.

MARRIAGES.—In all marriage notices, the name of the officiating minister should always appear. A Western paper objects to this custom, and says, by the same rule, every obituary notice should have the name of the attending physician. A proposition which would find no favor with the faculty.