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TOWANDA:

Saturday Morning, August 18, 1855.

Selected Poetry.

THE CLOSING SCENE.

BY T. BUCHANAN READ.

Within the sober realm of leafless trees
The russet year inhaled the dreamy air;
Like some tanned reaper in his hour of ease,
When all the fields are lying brown and bare.

The gray barns, looking from their hazy hills
O'er the dim waters, widening in the vales,
Sent down the air a greeting to the mills,
On the dull thunder of alternate flails.

All sights were mellowed, and all sounds subdued,
The hills seemed farther, and the streams sang low;
As in a dream, the distant woodman hewed
His winter log with many a muffled blow.

The embattled forests, erewhile, armed in gold,
Their banners bright with every martial hue,
Now stood, like some sad beaten host of old
Withdrawn afar in Time's remotest blue.

On slumberous wings the vulture tried his flight;
The dove scarce heard his sighing mate's complaint;
And like a star, slow drowning in the light,
The village church vane seemed to pale and faint.

The sentinel cock upon the hill-side crew—
Crew thrice, and all was stiller than before—
Silent till some replying warder blew
His alien horn, and then was heard no more.

Where, erst, the jay within the elm's tall crest
Made garrulous trouble round her unfledged young;
And where the oriole hung her swaying nest,
By every light wind like a censer swung;

Where sang the noisy masons of the eaves,
The busy swallows circling ever near,
Foreboding, as the rustic mind believes,
An early harvest and a plenteous year:—

Where every bird which charmed the vernal feast,
Shook the sweet slumber from its wings at morn,
To warn the reapers of the rosy east:—
All now was songless, empty, and forlorn.

Alone, from out the stubble, piped the quail,
And croaked the crow, through all the dreamy gloom;
Alone the pheasant, drumming in the vale,
Made echo to the distant cottage loom.

There was no bud, no bloom upon the bowers:
The spider wove their thin shrouds night by night;
The thistle-down, the only ghost of flowers,
Sailed slowly by—passed noiseless out of sight.

Amid all this—in this most cheerless air,
And where the woodbine shed upon the porch
Its crimson leaves, as if the year stood there,
Firing the door with his inverted torch;

Amid all this, the centre of the scene,
The white haired matron, with monotonous tread,
Plied the swift wheel, and with her joyless mien,
Sat like a Fate, and watched the flying thread.

She had known sorrow. He had walked with her,
Oft supped, and broke with her the ashen crust;
And, in the dead leaves, still she heard the stir
Of his black mantle trailing in the dust.

While yet her cheek was bright with summer bloom,
Her country summoned, and she gave her all,
And twice, war bowed to her his sable plume—
Re-gave the swords, to rust upon the wall.

Re-gave the swords—but not the hand that drew,
And struck for liberty the dying blow;
Nor him, who to his sire and country true,
Fell 'mid the ranks of the invading foe.

Long, but not loud, the droning wheel went on,
Like the low murmurs of a hive at noon;
Long, but not loud, the memory of the gone,
Breathed through her lips, a sad and tremulous tune.

At last the thread was snapped—her head was bowed—
Life dropped the distaff through his hands serene;
And loving neighbors smoothed her careful shroud,
While Death and Winter closed the Autumn scene.

School Directors' Convention.

Pursuant to a call of the State Superintendent of Common Schools, a convention of school directors of Bradford County met at Towanda, on Saturday, July 24th, and organized by electing Dr. WM. CORYELL, President, and O. J. CHUBBUCK and H. HOWELL Secretaries.

On motion of H. Booth, Esq., the Directors were called, and the names of the Directors present enrolled.

A committee was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the convention, consisting of J. Hendricks, C. Nichols and O. U. Emery.

The committee retired, and in a short time returned, prepared to report. In the absence of the committee, B. Cogswell, Esq., offered the following:—

Resolved, That the salary of the County Superintendent is inadequate, and should be increased to such a sum as will be a reasonable compensation for his services.

And supported the same in an address of some length. The resolution was, on motion, referred to the committee.

A series of resolutions were offered by Mr. Jones, which were also referred to the committee.

The committee again retired, and after a short absence reported a series of resolutions, which were accepted. A motion prevailed to consider the resolutions separately, and in order.

They were accordingly considered, and the first to the seventh, inclusive, passed without much discussion. In considering the 8th resolution, which requests the County Superintendent to hold Teachers' Institutes in each township in the county—H. L. Scott, Esq., moved to postpone. Carried. H. Booth moved to reconsider the vote to postpone. After some discussion, the vote was taken and carried in the affirmative. Mr. Scott then offered, as a substitute to the one under consideration, a series of resolutions opposing the county superintendency, and recommending township superintendents, &c. Matters pertaining to the office of superintendent, salary, division of State appropriation, &c., were discussed. A motion prevailed requesting the County Superintendent to address the convention. Several calls were made by persons in the room, requesting him to give an account of what he had done, &c. He complied by giving an account of the manner in which the State appropriation was divided; showing that the salary of the superintendent did not lessen the appropriation to the schools of the county; that our taxes were not increased by the same, and then detailed briefly what he had done.

After some further discussion the question was called and substitute lost by a vote of yeas, 23—nays, 30. The resolution was adopted. H. L. Scott moved to adjourn, *sine die*. Lost, 23—nays, 30.

The ninth resolution was adopted.

The tenth resolution was read, and a motion made to amend, by inserting $1000 as the salary of the county superintendent. H. Booth moved to amend the amendment, by adding $500—making $1,500, which was carried by a vote of yeas, 29—nays, 24, and the resolution adopted as amended.

Resolved, That general intelligence among the people is the only guaranty of our institutions.

Resolved, That we recognize in the common school system, a scheme well calculated to subserve the educational interests of our state, if properly modified and carefully carried out.

Resolved, That by throwing the burden of education on each separate district, the *general* character of our common school system is destroyed; as well as its general utility. That we believe the leading and chief principle in our common school system to be—*that the property of the State shall educate her children*; and that *all* shall be taxed alike for this purpose.

Resolved, That the views expressed in our county superintendent's report on the inequality and therefore unfairness of our present mode of taxation for school purposes, meets our approbation; and that in our view this defect in our school law, more than *all else* defeats its general usefulness.

Resolved, That as a convention, representing the common interests of Bradford county, we respectfully but earnestly call the attention of the head of the school department at Harrisburg, to this question for a decision; trusting to his deep sympathy for the success of our common school system; his perfect knowledge of the original design, and thorough acquaintance with the present working of this public enterprise.

Resolved, That we request our representatives to take such steps in this matter as our interests and their duty to the whole county requires; and if they do not heed this admonition we will see that their places are filled by more faithful men.

Resolved, That we believe that our common school system cannot be entirely successful, so long as the Secretary of the Commonwealth is at its head; and that we recommend a speedy separation and a distinct organization of the school department.

Resolved, That the present deficiency of our schools is mainly attributable to the absence of good teachers; and as a temporary expedient to improve them, we request our county superintendent to hold or cause to be held in the townships of the county a TEACHERS' INSTITUTE of five days duration. This to be an additional duty to be imposed upon that office.

Resolved, That we believe if the whole design of our school law, the intention of the county superintendency, and the pay of that officer was fully understood, our school system would meet with little opposition. This would induce its officer to work better, and make the whole more useful. Confident as we are therefore of the great benefit resulting therefrom, we request our superintendent to lecture on, and explain this subject in every school house in the county where the people will come to hear him.

Resolved, That we believe the duties of the county superintendent of this county to be more severe, requiring as much mental and more physical labor than any other county superintendent in the State; and seeing also that through the munificence of our Legislature the salary of this officer does not increase our tax, does not diminish in any degree our share of the state appropriation to the schools of this county, and is in no wise any additional cost to the county or its tax-payers, we increase the salary of our county superintendent to fifteen hundred dollars per annum.

On motion adjourned.

I hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a correct copy of the resolutions passed in convention of directors of Bradford county, held July 28th, 1855. O. J. CHUBBUCK.

HOW TO TREAT A COLD.—Many a useful life may be spared to be increasingly useful, by cutting a cold short off, in the following safe and simple manner. On the first day of taking a cold, there is a very unpleasant sensation of chillness. The moment you observe this, go to your room and stay there; keep it at such a temperature as will entirely prevent this chilly feeling, even if it requires a hundred degrees of Fahrenheit. In addition, put your feet in water, half leg deep, as hot as you can bear it, adding hotter water from time to time for a quarter of an hour, so that the water shall be hotter when you take your feet out than when you put them in it; then dry them thoroughly, and put on warm, thick woolen stockings, even if it be summer, for summer colds are the most dangerous; and for twenty-four hours eat not an atom of food; but drink as largely as you desire of any kind of warm teas, and at the end of that time, if not sooner, the cold will be effectually broken, without any medicine whatever.

LIGHTING THE LAMPS OF HEAVEN.—We find the following unique explanation of electrical phenomena in the New York Knickerbocker. A little girl, the idol of a friend of ours, was sitting by the window one evening during a violent thunder storm, apparently striving to grapple some proposition too strong for her childish mind. Presently a smile of triumph lit up her features as she exclaimed, "Oh, I know what makes the lightning; it's God lighting his lamps and throwing the matches down here."

[For the Bradford Reporter.]

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT.

MR. EDITOR: In the report of the proceedings of the late School Directors' Convention, published in your paper of the 4th inst., I find myself classed among those who voted *for* the increase of Mr. GUYER's salary. A little explanation may not be improper. I *opposed* the increase of his salary from first to last, and at all times when opposition could avail anything. After a resolution to increase his salary had been *passed*, which resolution I *voted against*, the *alternative* was presented us of making that salary $1000, or $1500. I voted for the latter sum, stating in connection with my vote (as your reporter has correctly stated) that I believed it would *hasten the repeal* of the law creating the office of county superintendent. I believe so still. Either sum would be an outrage. But had it been fixed at $1000, the people might have *borne* with it and *submitted* to it for a year or two, when it would have been a precedent and pretext for another grab at the school funds of the county. Now, I think, they will see the outrage so plainly, and feel it so keenly, that they will *arouse* themselves to such *action* in the matter as will at an early day relieve them of the whole thing; and thus in the end it will be a less burden than would have been the $1000 salaey. Could the other counties of the State be made to see and feel as sensibly as we must and do the odiousness of this law, not a man would be sent to the next legislature UNPLEDGED TO ITS REPEAL.

Already the friends of the measure are endeavoring to quiet the minds of the people and hush up their indignant mutterings by announcing the editorials of the *Argus*, that it costs Bradford County nothing. But will they be lulled into submission by such a bribe? Permit me to put in juxta-position two very important paragraphs:—

Bradford Argus.

It was clearly demonstrated to the Convention that the salary of this officer, (county superintendent,) is *not taken out of the county's share of the State appropriation*, and *that it does not add one farthing to the taxes of the County.*

Act of the Legislature Sec. 39

Which said compensation (to county superintendents) shall be paid by the Superintendent of common schools by his warrant drawn, &c., and *shall be DEDUCTED from the amount of the State appropriation to be paid to the several school districts for said County.*

Which is the better authority? It was urged in convention that $30,000 were added to the usual State appropriation, *infereatially*, for the purpose of paying the several county superintendents, but in consequence of fixing their salaries "so outrageously low," a large amount of this sum remained unexpended, and would fall back into the general funds of the State, to be fished out by the Harrisburg hawks, if not voted to the county superintendents. Let us look into this a little. Of this $30,000, the several county superintendents have received $27,837 50; leaving unexpended the enormous sum of $2,162 50. Of this Mr. GUYER has got the lion's share, ($1000,) leaving about the same amount to be divided among sixty-two other county superintendents. Mr. GUYER wanted $2000. He should have asked just $2,162 50, and his friends should have voted it to him, inasmuch as it cost the county nothing. This would have "swept the board, and kept it *all* away from those *hawks* at Harrisburg.

But for the facts. Two hundred and thirty thousand dollars were appropriated by the State for school purposes, and if it has not all been expended, it is the State Superintendent's fault, for the salaries of all the county superintendents were known to him before any distribution of the school fund was made. It was not necessary, therefore, for him to withhold any of that appropriation for emergencies, for there were none to meet. Again: if it is not all expended, we shall have more for another year, unless it be voted to the county superintendents; for that appropriation cannot fall back into the general fund—cannot be *unappropriated* except by act of the Legislature.—The school system is a continuing system, and what belongs to it and is unexpended one year is on hand for another. So much for all this "blow" about the $30,000.

I have seen fit to say thus much with reference to the reasons given for increasing Mr. GUYER's salary. I will hereafter redeem my promise to examine the practical workings of this branch of the late school law, and give some further reasons for *opposing* the increase of his salary. Yours, &c. K.

SHESHEQUIN, August 7, 1855.

HINT TO BARRISTERS.—The following is a useful hint to barristers who offer *viva voce* reports to the bench:—There is a wide step between the advocate and witness. An acute but severe judge once remarked to a jury—"The counsel has said, "I think this, and I believe that." A counsel has no right to say what he thinks, or what he believes; but since he has told you, gentlemen, his belief, I will tell you mine; that, were you to believe him, and acquit his client, he would be the very first man in the world to laugh at you."

NOT A BAD GUESS.—During anniversary time in New York, a boy asked his companion what was the reason for so many Ministers meeting together every year?—The other confidently answered. "To exchange sermons to be sure."

The Wheeler Slave Case---Decision of Judge Kane.

The U. S. A. ex. rel. Wheeler vs. Passmore Williamson—Sur. *Habeas Corpus*, 27th July, 1855.—Colonel John H. Wheeler, of North Carolina, the United States Minister to Nicaragua, was on board a steamer at one of the Delaware wharves, on his way from Washington to embark at New York for his post of duty. Three slaves belonging to him were sitting at his side on the upper deck.

Just as the last signal-bell was ringing, Passmore Williamson came up to the party—declared to the slaves that they were free—and forcibly pressing Mr. Wheeler aside, urged them to go ashore. He was followed by some dozen or twenty negroes, who by muscular strength carried the slaves to the adjoining pier; two of the slaves at least, if not all three, struggling to release themselves, and protesting their wish to remain with their master; two of the negro mob in the meantime grasping Col. Wheeler by the collar and threatening to cut his throat if he made any resistance.

The slaves were borne along to a hackney coach that was in waiting, and were conveyed to some place of concealment; Mr. Williamson following and urging forward the mob; and giving his name and address to Col. Wheeler, with the declaration that he held himself responsible towards him for whatever might be his legal rights; but taking no personally active part in the abduction after he had left the deck.

I allowed a writ of *habeas corpus* at the instance of Col. Wheeler, and subsequently an *alias*; and to this last Mr. Williamson made return, that the persons named in the writ, "nor either of them, are not now nor was at the time of issuing of the writ, or the original writ, or at any other time, in the custody, power, or possession of the respondent, nor by him confined or restrained: wherefore he cannot have the bodies," etc.

At the hearing I allowed the relator to traverse this return; and several witnesses, who were asked by him, testified to the facts as I have recited them. The District Attorney, upon this state of facts, moved for Williamson's commitment, 1. for contempt in making a false return: 2. to take his trial for perjury.

Mr. Williamson then took the stand to purge himself of contempt. He admitted the facts substantially as in proof before; made it plain that he had been an adviser of the project, and had given it his confederate sanction throughout. He renewed his denial that he had control at at any time over the movements of the slaves, or knew their present whereabouts.—Such is the case, as it was before me on the hearing.

I cannot look upon this return otherwise than as illusory—in legal phrase, as evasive if not false. It sets out that the alleged prisoners are not now, and have not been since the issue of the *habeas corpus*, in the custody, power or possession of the respondent; and in so far, it uses legally appropriate language for such a return. But it goes further, and by added words, gives an interpretation to that language essentially variant from its legal import.

It denies that the prisoners were within his power, custody or possession at any time whatever. Now, the evidence of respectable, uncontradicted witnesses, and the admission of the respondent himself, establish the fact beyond controversy, that the prisoners were at one time within his power and control. He was the person by whose counsel the so-called rescue was devised. He gave the direction, and hastened to the pier to stimulate and supervise their execution. He was the spokesman and first actor after arriving there. Of all the parties to the act of violence, he was the only white man, the only citizen, the only individual having recognized political rights, the only person whose social training could certainly interpret either his own duties or the rights of others under the constitution of the land.

It would be futile, and worse, to argue that he who has organized and guided, and headed a mob, to effect the abduction and imprisonment of others—he in whose presence and by whose active influence the abduction and imprisonment have been brought about—might excuse himself from responsibility by the assertion that it was not his hand that made the unlawful assault, or that he never acted as the gaoler. He who unites with others to commit a crime shares with them all the legal liabilities that attend on its commission. He chooses his company and adopts their acts.

This is the retributive law of all concerted crimes; and its argument applies with peculiar force to those cases in which redress and prevention of wrong are sought through the writ of *habeas corpus*. This, the great remedial process by which liberty is vindicated and restored, tolerates no language in the response which it calls for that can mask a subterfuge. The dearest interests of—life, personal safety, domestic peace, social repose, all that man can value, or that is worth living for—are involved in this principle. The institutions of society would lose more than half their value, and courts of justice become impotent for protection, if the writ of *habeas corpus* could not compel the truth—full, direct, and unequivocal—in answer to its mandate.

It will not do to say to the man, whose wife or whose daughter has been abducted, "I did not abduct her; she is not in my possession; I do not detain her; inasmuch as the assault was made by the hand of my subordinates, and I have forborne to ask where they propose consummating the wrong."

It is clear, then, as it seems to me, that in legal acceptance the parties whom this writ called on Mr. Williamson to produce, were at one time within his power and control; and his answer, so far as it relates to his power over them, makes no distinction between that time and the present. I cannot give a different interpretation to his language from that which he has practically given himself, and cannot regard him as denying his power over the prisoners now, when he does not aver that he has lost the power which he formerly had.

He has thus refused, or at least he has failed, to answer to the command of the law. He has chosen to decide for himself upon the lawfulness as well as the moral propriety of his act, and to withhold the ascertainment and vindication of the rights of others from that same forum of arbitrament on which all his own rights repose. In a word, he has put himself in contempt of the process of this court and challenges its action.

That action can have no alternative form.—It is one too clearly defined by ancient and honored precedent, too indispensable to the administration of social justice and the protection of human right, and too potentially invoked by the special exigency of the case now before the court, to excuse even a doubt of my duty or an apology for its immediate performance.

The cause was submitted to me by the learned counsel for the respondent without argument, and I have therefore found myself at some loss to understand the grounds on which, if there be any such, they would claim the discharge of their client. One only has occurred to me as, perhaps, within his view; and on this I think it right to express my opinion. I will frankly reconsider it, however, if any future aspect of the case shall invite the review.

It is this: That the persons named in this writ as detained by the respondent, were not legally slaves, inasmuch as they were within the territory of Pennsylvania when they were abducted.

Waiving the inquiry whether, for the purposes of this question, they were within the territorial jurisdiction of Pennsylvania while passing from one state to another upon the navigable waters of the United States—a point on which my first impressions are adverse to the argument—I have to say:—

1. That I know of no statute, either of the United States, or of Pennsylvania, or of New Jersey, the only other state that has a qualified jurisdiction over this part of the Delaware, that authorizes the forcible abduction of any person or any thing whatsoever, without claim of property, unless in aid of legal process:—

2. That I know of no statute of Pennsylvania, which affects to divest the rights of property of a citizen of North Carolina, acquired and asserted under the laws of that state, because he has found it needful or convenient to pass through the territory of Pennsylvania:

3. That I am not aware that any such statute, if such a one were shown, could be recognized as valid in a Court of the United States.

4. That it seems to me altogether unimportant whether they were slaves or not. It would be the mockery of philanthropy to assert that, because men had become free, they might therefore be forcibly abducted.

I have said nothing of the motives by which the respondent has been governed: I have nothing to do with them; they may give him support and comfort before an infinitely higher tribunal; I do not impugn them here.

Nor do I allude, on the other hand, to those special claims upon our hospitable courtesy which the diplomatic character of Mr. Wheeler might seem to assert for him. I am doubtful whether the acts of Congress do not give to him and his retinue and his property that protection as a representative of the sovereignty of the United States which they concede to all sovereignties besides. Whether, under the general law of nations, he could not ask a broader privilege than some judicial precedents might seem to admit, is not necessarily involved in the cause before me.

It is enough that I find, as the case stands now, the plain and simple grounds of adjudication, that Mr. Williamson has not returned truthfully and fully to the writ of *habeas corpus*. He must, therefore, stand committed for a contempt of the legal process of the court.

As to the second motion of the District Attorny—that which looks to a committal for perjury—I withhold an expression of opinion in regard to it. It is unnecessary, because Mr. Williamson being under arrest, he may be charged at any time by the Grand Jury; and I apprehend that there may be doubts whether the affidavit should not be regarded as extra-judicial and voluntary.

Let Mr. Williamson, the respondent, be committed to the custody of the marshal without bail or mainprize, as for a contempt of the court in refusing to answer to the writ of *habeas corpus*, heretofore awarded against him at the relation of Mr. Wheeler.

THE REMOVAL OF GOV. REEDER.—The West Chester *Republican*, the organ of the Democracy of Chester county, holds the following language:—

The removal of Gov. Reeder has at length taken place, being officially announced in the Washington Union. We have been examining our Democratic exchanges from all parts of Pennsylvania, and have not, as yet, found a single one that justifies the act of the Administration; while some of the leading and most influential journals denounce it in the severest terms. Those papers that have seen everything to approve and nothing to condemn in the course of President Pierce preserve a most ominous silence. There is evidently a feeling in the heart of the stern Democracy of this State, that burns with indignation at this act of the National Executive. For the sake of the glorious party that was three years ago looked upon as invincible, it may smother its struggling and fiery wrath, but this deliberate insult to Pennsylvania, and the craven subserviency to the behests of a Missouri mob, will not soon be forgotten. We dare not trust ourselves to speak of this case as our feelings dictate, and we therefore leave it for the present.

A VOICE FROM HENRY CLAY.—HENRY CLAY, in his last speech in the United States Senate, said: "I repeat it, sir, I never can, and never will, and no earthly power can make me vote directly to spread slavery over territory where it does not exist. Never, while reason holds her seat in my brain—never, while my heart sends the vital fluid through my veins—never!"

How to be Healthy.

There is but one way to preserve the health, and that is to live moderately, take proper exercise and be in the fresh air as much as possible. The man who is always shut up in a close room, whether the apartment be a minister's study, a lawyer's office, a professor's labatory or a merchant's gaslight store, is defying nature, and must, sooner or later pay the penalty. If his avocation renders such confinement necessary during a portion of the year he can avoid a premature break down of the constitution only by taking exercise during the long vacations of the summer and winter months. The waste of stamina must be restored by frequent and full draughts of mountain and sea air, by the pursuit of the sportsman, by travel, or other similar means. Every man has felt the recuperative effects of a month or two of relaxation knows from his experience how general its influence on the spirits; how it almost recreates him, so to speak. Between the lad brought up to physicial exercise in the invigorating open air, and one kept continually at school or at the factory, there is an abyss of difference which becomes more more perceptible every year, as manhood approaches, the one expanding into stalwart, full chested health, while the other is never more than a half completed man.

The advantages of exercise are as great to females also. All that we have said about preserving in the man is as true to the opposite sex. But this is not the whole. The foundation of beauty in woman is exercise and fresh air. No cosmetics are equal to these. The famous Diana of Poictiers who mantained her loveliness until she was nearly sixty, owed this extraordinary result, in her own opinion, to her daily bath, early rising, and her exercise in the saddle. English ladies of rank are celebrated, the world over, for their splendid persons and brilliant complexions, and they are proverbail for sheir attention in walking, riding, and the hours spent daily out of doors. The sallow cheeks, stooping figures, susceptibility to cold, and almost constant ill health, which prevails among American wives and daughters generally, are to be attributed almost entirely to their sedentary life, and to the infirminity caused by the same life on the part of their parents. A woman can no more become beautiful in the true sense of that term, or ever remain so, without plentiful exertion in the open air, than a plant can thrive without light. If we put the latter into a cellar, it either dies outright, or refuses to bloom. Shall we wilt our sisters, wives or daughters, by similar deprivation of what is necessary to their harmonious development.

SMELLING SALTS.—It is singular that this substance, which is considered so delicate and refreshing a perfume, should be prepared by chemical art from matters of the most obnoxious character to the nasal organ; yet such is the fact. The proper chemical term for smelling salt, is ammonia; it originally derived its name from the temple of Jupiter Ammonia, in Libya, a district of Egypt, in the neighborhood of which it was first manufactured. In Egypt the chief fuel is the dung of the camel; and as all animal substances yield a large portion of ammonia, there is much of it in this substance; hence the soot arising from its combustion is impregnated with ammonia, from which it is afterwards abstracted. In Europe, ammonia used to be made by distilling bones, horns, parings of hides, and other waste animal matter from the tanner's and slaughter-house; but latterly a cheaper source has been discovered, namely, from the refuse of the manufacture of coal gas. It is found that all plants and coal (which is of vegetable origin) yield, by distillation, from one to three per cent. of ammonia. Many other substances come over with the ammonia in the distilling apparatus, which are horrible to smell, but which the chemist and perfumer rectify, so as at least to produce that exquisite perfume which is carried by the ladies, encased in crystal, gold and silver.

CALHOUN AND THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE.—A chapter in the second volume of Col. Benton's "Thirty Years' View" contains a passage from a speech of Mr. Calhoun in 1838, showing that he had been in favor of the Missouri Compromise at the time it was adopted—blamed Mr. Randolph for his "uncompromising" opposition to it—and had since "changed" his opinions because it encouraged the abolitionists. The veracity of that chapter having been rudely assailed, and application having been made to Col. Benton to confirm the assertion that the answers of Mr. Calhoun and the other cabinet officers of Mr. Monroe were found in the State Department while Mr. John M. Clayton was Secretary of the State, Col. Benton addressed a note of inquiry to Mr. Clayton, who answered that, though the questions and answers cannot be found, the archives of the department show that they were indexed and filed. Mr. Clayton was told they had been abstracted from the records and could not be found, but he did not make a search for them himself. He has never doubted that Mr. Calhoun at least acquiesced in the decision of that day. Since he left the Department of State, he has heard it rumored that Mr. Calhoun's answer to Mr. Monroe's queries had been found, but knows not upon what authority the statement was made.

A WISE ANSWER.—"You must not play with that little girl, my dear," said an injudicious parent.

"But, ma, I like her; she is a good little girl; and I'm sure she dresses as prettily as ever I do; and she has lots of toys."

"I cannot help that, my dear," responded the foolish mother; "her father is a shoemaker."

"But I don't play with her father; I play with her; she ain't a shoemaker."

☞ "There is a woman at the bottom of every mischief," said Joe.

"Yes," replied Charley, "when I use to get into mischief, my mother was at the bottom of me."