

The Republican Compiler

By HENRY J. STAILE

"TRUTH IS MIGHTY, AND WILL PREVAIL"

TWO DOLLARS A-YEAR.

A Family Newspaper—Devoted to Politics, Agriculture, Literature, Arts and Sciences, The Markets, General Domestic and Foreign Intelligence, Advertising, Amusement, &c.

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TERMS OF THE COMPILER.

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Choice Poetry.

I Year for the Spring.

I year for the Spring, when the birds shall sing, And each morning awake fresh flowers; We have waited long for the lark's little song, And the lighthouse beam, as if in a dream,

Select Miscellany.

THE LOST SISTER OF WYOMING; OR, THE CAPTIVITY OF FRANCIS SLOCUM.

Among the inhabitants of the beautiful valley of Wyoming, at the period of its invasion by that blood-thirsty band of Tories and savages who, with a barbarity seldom equalled, laid waste and destroyed every vestige of that lovely settlement, murdering the inhabitants and driving off their cattle, was a Quaker by the name of Jonathan Slocum, whose peaceful disposition and many acts of kindness to the Indians, saved his dwelling from the torch, and his family from annihilation, while his neighbors were butchered, their houses burned, and their children taken captive. This immunity, however, was of short duration. Mr. Slocum had a son, Giles, who was in the battles, and it is supposed that the Indians became aware of the fact, determined on a bloody revenge. In the family of Mr. S. was the wife of a neighbor, who had been taken captive by the Indians, and her two sons, one fifteen and the other twelve years of age. One morning in November, some four months after the bloody massacre which made the valley a desolation, a party of redskin warriors was seen prowling around the vicinity of Wilkes-Barre.

Fields of Battle in the Crimea.—Inkermann, or the City of Caverns, stands on the great Bay of Akbar, and was built by the Russians about the year 1790. The bay was called Sebastopol by the Russians during the reign of Catherine II, whence the name of the strong fort besieged by the allies. The great harbor of Inkermann, said to resemble that of Malta, is one of the finest in the world. It has a depth of water varying from twenty-one to seventy feet, in which the largest vessels can ride at a cable's length from the shore. The old town of Inkermann stood on the north of the harbor, but there are scarcely any vestiges of it remaining. The country surrounding Inkermann is the wonder of travellers. Here is truly a City of Caverns, for the white rocks that overlook the Bay of Akbar, (white rocks) are full of excavations of the most extraordinary character. They consist of chambers, with Gothic windows, cut out of the solid stone. Near the harbor the rocks are hewn into chapels, monasteries and sepulchres. They are considered by some authorities to have been the retreats of Christians in the early ages. There are several Grecian antiquities in the neighborhood of the ruined town, which travellers have endeavored to perpetuate, and antiquaries to restore, but the Russians have made sad havoc of these splendid remains.

True nobility is exempt from fear.

How John Chipman makes his Donkey cease Brayng.

In 1840 we were once making a journey in a wagon in the province of Pekin. Our equipage was under the guidance of one of our catechists, an old schoolmaster, mounted on an insignificant ass, so full of ardor and agility, that the two mules which completed our team had all the difficulty in the world to keep up with him. This ass, however, was so filled with the sense of his own superiority, and so proud of it, that whenever he became aware of the presence of any of his brethren, let them be as ever so great a distance, he never failed to engage in a noisy and unprofitable contest. When we got to an inn, instead of trying to rest himself, this indefatigable beast passed the whole night in practicing his music; and there appeared to be something so peculiarly provoking in the tones of his voice, that all the asses within hearing, influenced, it would seem, by the power of some magnetic fluid, were quite sure to respond in a magnificent bravura, as the Italians say, so that all together it became impossible to close our eyes. One evening when our catechist was venturing the qualities of his ass, we could not help interrupting him. "Your ass," said we, "is an abominable brute. During the whole journey he has prevented us getting a wink of sleep." "Why did you not tell me so before?" said the catechist; "I would soon have stopped his singing." As the ancient schoolmaster was something of a wag, and indulged occasionally in a small joke, we took little notice of his reply, but that night we slept quite soundly. "Well, did the ass make a noise last night?" said he, when we met in the morning. "Perhaps not, at all events we certainly did not hear him." "No, no, I think not; I saw that before I went to bed. You must have noticed," he continued, "that when an ass is going to bray he always begins by raising his tail, and he keeps it extended horizontally as long as his song lasts. To ensure his silence therefore you have only to tie a large stone to the end of his tail, so that he cannot raise it." We smiled without reply, thinking this was another piece of pleasantry; but he cried, "Come now and see; you can easily convince yourselves." And accordingly we followed him to the court-yard, where we beheld, sure enough, the poor ass with a large stone attached to his tail, and with the air of having entirely lost his accustomed spirits. His eyes were fixed on the ground, his ears hung down, his whole appearance denoted humility and dejection. We felt quite compassionate towards him, and begged his master to untie the stone directly; and as soon as ever he felt his musical appendage at liberty, the creature raised first his head, then his ears, then his tail, and at last began to bray with all his wonted enthusiasm.—Hue's Chinese Empire.

Queer Time Pieces in China.—Cat Clocks.

Monsieur Hue, in his new work, "The Chinese Empire," has the following: "One day, when we went to pay a visit to some families of Chinese Christian peasants, we met near a farm a young lad who was taking a buffalo to graze along our path. We asked him carelessly, as we passed, whether it was yet noon. The boy raised his head to look at the sun, but he could read no answer there. 'The sky is so cloudy,' said he, 'but wait a moment,' and came back a few minutes afterwards with a cat in his arms. 'Look here,' said he, 'it is not noon yet,' and he showed us the cat's eyes by pushing up the lids with his hands. We looked at the child with surprise, but he was evidently in earnest; and the cat, though astonished, and not much pleased at the experiment made on her eyes, behaved with most exemplary complaisance. 'Very well,' said we, 'thank you,' and he then let go the cat, who made her escape pretty quickly, and we continued our route. To say the truth, we had not at all understood the proceeding; but we did not wish to question the little pagon, lest he should find out that we were Europeans by our ignorance. As soon as we reached the farm, however, we made haste to ask our Christians whether they could tell the clock by looking into a cat's eyes. They seemed surprised at the question; but as there was no danger in confessing to them our ignorance of the properties of cat's eyes, we related what had just taken place. That was all that was necessary; our complaisant neophytes immediately gave chase to all the cats in the neighborhood. They brought us three or four, and explained in what manner they might be made use of for watches. They pointed out that when at 12 o'clock, when they became like a fine line, as thin as a hair, drawn perpendicularly across the eye, and that after 12 the dilation recommenced. When we had the dilation examined the eyes of all the cats at our disposal, we concluded that it was past noon, as all the eyes perfectly agreed upon the point."

An Interesting Case.—John Windsor was convicted in Delaware, in 1851, of murder, and sentenced to be hung, but on three several occasions was granted a respite; until the March 17th, 1853. It appears, however, that he has not yet been executed, and a few days ago he was brought out on a habeas corpus, and his discharge demanded, on the ground that the day appointed for his execution was passed; and there being no power to fix the day, the prisoner was entitled to be set at liberty. The court, however, remanded him to the custody of the sheriff.

For Instead of Child-reprover.—The editor of the London Lancet says that by experiment he has found that the same effects can be produced by the benumbing influence of ice as with chloroform. He says: "I have tried the ice in several cases, in both hospital and private practice, and in almost every instance the success was evident, the patient, when blinded, being ignorant of the use of the knife."

The Foolish Hope of Ladies.—Expecting an old sweetheart to marry you on the death of his third wife.

A Gallant Feat.

Corporal Tierney, of the 49th, writing home to his wife, after describing the battle of Inkermann and the wound he got, says:—"I sat down and tied my handkerchief round my wound. I loaded my rifle and picked up a patent revolver, dropped by a wounded officer, when just about ten yards from me, there were four Russian soldiers and an officer creeping through the brushwood and massing around the wounded they came across; fortunately only one of them was loaded, as I found out by his placing his thumb on the lock of his firelock. Crack! went my rifle, and down he fell; one of the others noticing this came running with his bayonet fixed, followed by the other two, so I threw my firelock at the foremost one like a lance, and struck the bayonet through his heart. I had still three to contend with—one was loading; that I had no time to do. I took this revolving pistol, and taking advantage of the bushes, I succeeded in wounding the other two; the cowardly officer threw down his sword. I took him prisoner, and marched him off to the right, among the bushes and got up near the lines, when I was getting weak from loss of blood; I was seeing one of our men lying dead, and stopping for his water bottle, this cowardly dog took his advantage, snatched his sword out of my left hand and inflicted a wound in the fleshy part of my arm. He never dreamt of another shot being in the pistol, which was in him in less than a second."

A Dumbfounded Pig.

The Knickerbocker tells the following good yarn in its editor's table: "One of our western farmers, being very much annoyed last summer by his best sow breaking into the corn field, search was instituted in vain for a hole in the rail fence. Failing to find any, an attempt was next made, to drive out the animal by the same way of her entrance; but of course without success. The owner then resolved to watch her proceedings; and posting himself at night in a fence corner, he saw her enter at one end of a hollow log, outside the field, and emerge at the other end within the enclosure. 'Eureka!' cried he, 'I have you now, old lady.' Accordingly, he proceeded, after turning her out once more, to arrange the log (it being very crooked) that both ends opened out on the outside of the field. The next day the animal was observed to enter at her accustomed place, and shortly egress again."

Her astonishment, says our informant, at finding herself in the same field whence she had started is too ludicrous to be described. She looked this way and then that, grunting dissatisfaction, and finally returning to her original starting place; and after a deliberate survey of matters, to satisfy herself that it was all right she again entered the log. On emerging yet once more on the wrong side, she evinced even more surprise than before, and turning about, retraced the log in an opposite direction. Finding this effort likewise in vain, after looking long and attentively at the position of things, with a short, angry grunt of disappointment, and perhaps fear, she turned round and started off on a brisk run, nor could either coaxing or driving ever induce her to visit that part of the field! She seemed to have a superstition concerning the spot."

One of the Sale Bills.

A written handbill, found "stuck up" a few years ago, not a thousand miles from here, has been handed us by a friend, with a request to publish, just to show that "some things may be done as well as others"—of which the following is as nearly a copy as the type will allow. It occurs to us that the "spelling" is not "adactly" according to Webster—but we won't decide:

Public Sale

About 2 Miles from — The subscriber will sell at Public Sale on the 27th day of March the following Property to wit 1 horse avoone horse Waggan and the wood work of avoone horse Waggan I have waggan 1 foalan ton forty 2 seats of harness 1 fresh Milk Cow lny & Corn futer also house hold & kitchen Cook stov about 40 feet of Stove pipe a Corn Cab bart Charas tables ant sink wood Chest one 8 tray Mantle Clock 1 burrow bots ant Betting Spinning wheels 1 wood wheel met vesles ant Tubbs 1 kettle ant pats 1 Churn Aroeking Crattle 1 Grain Crattle 2 maying Sths ant smet 1 tek smouth bott rille Two shurnaker lentesh shurnaker tools With 1st rate stuch as lasts bolt Trees Crimpyng boarts also alot of Carpen Ter tools such as I have saw trawing nives Augers & Chisles 1 Brase ant bits ant avari Aty of other thing stoo too noamers to mench En alot of baken ant lart 1 grint Stone Sale to Comense at alvean a'clock Wene atent ans will be given ant Ant termes Mate nowing by me

The latest instance of "Spiritual Manifestations" that we have seen, is that recorded of an incredulous young man "Down East," whose father had promised, before his death, to hold invisible communion with him. The spirit of the gentleman (who, by the way, had been somewhat severe in matters of discipline) was called up, and held some conversation with the boy. But the messages were not at all convincing, and the youth would not believe that his father had anything to do with them.

"Well," said the medium, "what can your father do to remove your doubts?" "If he will perform some act which is characteristic of him, and without any directions as to what it shall be, I shall believe in it." "Very well," said the medium; "we wait some manifestations from the spirit land." This was no sooner said than (as the story goes) the table walked up to the youth, and, without ceremony, kicked him out of the room! "Hold on! stop him!" cried the terrified young convert: "that's the old man! I believe in the rappings!" The hero has never since had a desire to "stir up the old gentleman."

The Know-Nothing who would not use the word patriot because it began with pat, has concluded to emigrate somewhere, because he has at last found out that "America was discovered by a foreigner."

The Know-Nothing of Rochester, N. Y., undertook a few nights since to break up a meeting of citizens called together to remonstrate against their principles. Quite a row ensued, and men who prate so much about respectability, exhibited anything but that which should characterize decent men.

Immense Steamship.

A recent number of the Edinburgh Journal gives a detailed account of the immense iron steamship now building upon the Clyde, the completion of which will signalize an era in naval architecture. The hull of this ship will be finished early the coming summer, and her machinery is in process of rapid construction. She is 680 feet long, 85 feet wide at her greatest breadth of beam, and 60 feet deep in the hold, and she will measure from 22,000 to 25,000 tons. She will be furnished with both paddle wheels and screw propeller, the former of a nominal power of 1000 horses, the latter of 1600 horses. The four cylinders in which the pistons are to work are the largest in the world; each of them weighs 28 tons. The engines, when erected and put together, will be upwards of 50 feet high, and the weight of the machinery is estimated at 3000 tons.—The structure of this vessel is novel, being cellular. Two tight iron partitions run the entire length, while there will be ten partitions entirely across her, and four docks; the hull will thus consist of 120 large rooms with water tight sides. "Then three feet outside the hull is an outer hull extending above the water line. The strength of this form of structure is estimated as if entirely solid iron. The cost of this ship is set down as likely to exceed two millions of dollars. She will carry several thousand tons of coal and merchandise, and will easily accommodate 1600 passengers. Her draft of water will be small, not exceeding 20 feet when in ballast, and 30 feet when fully loaded. She is to have five or six masts and five funnels, and her ordinary speed is expected to be 18 or 20 miles an hour. She is intended for the Australian trade, and her owners expect she will make the voyage from England to Australia in 30 days, and retain by way of Cape Horn in 30 days more, thus making the circuit of the globe in two months. There will be, it is said, 10,000 tons of iron used in the construction of the hull."

Volcanic Repeating Pistol.

We have seen and fired a pistol, recently invented and patented, which bids fair to excel everything in that line that has yet been offered to the public attention. It seems to combine all that could be desired in such a weapon. Coll's pistol compared with it seems like a disquisition, or a clumsy, uncouth, and ridiculous affair for a fire-arm. The volcanic pistol carries a Minie or conical ball, in a rifle barrel, and will put it through a three inch plank at a distance of ninety rods. The receiving tube will hold ten ball cartridges, which may be deposited in two seconds of time. The pistol may be discharged thirty times in fifty seconds. It is so contrived that it is not liable to accidental discharge. There is no priming, no caps, and therefore, no danger to the eyes from any ignition near the breach. Neither is there any recoil, so as to jar the arm or disturb a sure aim. The whole construction is so simple as not to get out of order even from long use. The powder and ball are enclosed in the same metallic cover, so that a person could swim a river with one of these in his belt without, in the slightest degree, injuring the powder. In short, the weapon is in all respects one of the most perfect things in the shooting line that we ever took into our hands.—New Haven Palladium.

Marry a Woman.

Some young men marry dumplings, some ears; the moult, too, is occasionally married; the chin not so often. Only the other day, a young fellow fell head over heels and ears in love with a bird—brill! I believe, young ladies style that mass of hair that descending from the forehead, forms a sort of mouse's nest over the ear. He was so far gone in his infatuation, that he became engaged to this braid, but the Eugenic mode of hair dressing coming in just then, the chern was dissolved, and the match was happily broken off, and there is no present appearance of its being renewed. What do young men marry? Why, they marry these and many other bits of scraps of a wife, instead of the true thing. And then after the wedding, are surprised to find that, though married, they have no wives.

WEALTH OF RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.—The richest denomination, we see by the census tables, is the Methodist, which is set down at \$14,636,671. The next is the Presbyterian, which is rated at \$14,369,889. The Episcopal, which in number of churches stands fifth, ranks third for its church property, being estimated at \$11,261,970. The fourth is the Baptist, \$10,931,381; the fifth, the Roman Catholics, \$8,973,838; and the 6th, the Congregational, \$7,973,962.

A CUNNING OLD BOON.—At one of our late agricultural meetings, a gentleman related that he possessed a Spanish hen, which was a great favorite with her mistress, and was accustomed to be fed with a dainty meal every time she laid an egg. Dame Partlett soon found this out, and would go to her nest and sit there a few minutes, and then come forth cackling as loud as if she had performed a great feat, and for a day or two got her usual reward; but on no egg being found on several occasions, it was suspected that the feathered old lady was playing false; and her usual feed being withheld, it was found that for two or three times together on the same day, she would repeat the dodge of going and sitting for a short time upon her nest, and then come forth cackling as loud as she could for her expected reward.

Liquor Laws sharpen the invention of those who traffic in intoxicating drinks, and various plans are adopted for evading the penalties of a violation of the law. A keeper of a large beer establishment in New York evades the Sunday law by holding pretended religious services therein, officiating himself as the leader of ceremonies. He takes the Bible, reads a chapter or two, serves each of his hearers with a glass of beer, and takes up a collection!

They tell a good story of a Know-Nothing member of the Massachusetts Legislature, who arriving late on the first day of the session, rushed into the Representatives' Hall, hurried to the Speaker and astonished him with this salutation:—"Mr. Speaker, good morning; how do ye do? Rather late; missed the cars. I wish you would show me up to my room right off!"

The Irishman who wrote to his friend informing him of the devoted attentions of his young wife during his sickness, couldn't hide a national tendency to waggery, as he added—"Ah Dennis! I'm more than ever convinced of the truth of the Poet's remarks, that the whole world is nothing to a man if his wife be a whole characterize decent men."

Productive Fowls—Gapes.

On New Year's day, 1854, we had thirty hens, which were about one-fourth Shanghai, and two crows, one of which was about one-half Shanghai, which mixed with our common or mongrel breed. In the spring we sold eight of our hens, which laid twenty-two, from which we sold 2760 eggs, and raised 145 chickens. The eggs used in our family, or set under the hens and not hatched, and lost when young, are not taken into account. Our hens run at large, and were fed on corn, oats, and the screenings of wheat, and made their nests where they could find a place. You may see that I have not got this Shanghai, Cochon China, Black Spanish, or any other imported chicken fever very badly; nor do I think I'll take it very soon. I will just add that a little pot skimming, or salty fat, rubbed on the chicken's head, and a small portion put in their feed has effectually cured the gapes with us.—Farm Journal.

Small Potatoes for Seed.

Mr. C. T. Alford, of Wilmington, Vermont, says:—"Some eight years since, at the time of planting my potatoes, I came short of seed to plant. Previous to this time I had used large whole potatoes, or the seed-ends cut-off, for seed, and supposed that no other would answer. I resolved to try the experiment of planting small potatoes; the largest being about the size of common plums, the largest of them being smaller. I carried several bushels of these little things to the field, and commenced planting them, putting from two to four in a hill."

"The potatoes in the different parts of the field came up at the same time, but the vines from the small potatoes were not as large and as thick as those from the large ones." At the first hoeing, there was some difference in the tops, but after that the tops from the small potatoes looked as well as any of the field, and continued through the season. When I came to dig them, I found the potatoes, where the small seed was planted, to be as good, in every respect, as those where the large potatoes were planted. There were as many in a hill, and the potatoes were as large, and with as few small ones, as those from the large seed. "Many of the farmers in this vicinity, after seeing the experiment fairly tried, are using small potatoes for seed. This winter, I have had several applications from dealers in potatoes for seed, who inform me that the farmers whom they purchase from are generally adopting the way of using small potatoes for seed."

How to Apply Guano to Corn.

Dr. Reynolds, in an article on this subject, in the New England Farmer, says:—"One of the best fields of corn which I saw in this town the past season, was raised with guano in the following manner: After the ground had been properly prepared, a furrow was made for the row of the common depth. The guano was sprinkled into the furrow, through its entire length. It was then covered with the hoe to the depth of two or three inches and the corn dropped upon this covering, the kernels being placed eight or ten inches apart. The yield was estimated, notwithstanding the drought, at a hundred bushels per acre. Where it is preferred to plant in hills, rather than in drills, the guano should if used unmixed, be sprinkled over a square foot of surface at the bottom of the furrow, and be covered with about two inches of soil, and the corn be dropped upon this."

FARMERS.—Socrates was a farmer, and wedded to his calling the glory of his immortal philosophy.

St. Luke was a farmer and yet divides with Prometheus the honor of subjecting the ox to the use of man.

Cincinnatus was a farmer, and one of the noblest Romans.

Burns was a farmer, and the muse found him at the plow, and filled his soul with poetry.

Washington was a farmer, and retired from the highest earthly station to enjoy the quiet of rural life, and presented to the world a specimen of human grandeur.

A FACT FOR FARMERS.—Johnson Noyes, of Haverhill, not having manure enough to thoroughly manure a spare acre of land, manured one-half and ploughed it in. He planted it with black Chenango potatoes, and the yield was one hundred bushels. The other half of the acre he prepared in the same manner, with the exception of the manure, and planted it with the same kind of potatoes, and the yield was only eighteen bushels.

A NEW VEGETABLE.—It is said that the Tunny, or Sandwich Island Potato, has been introduced into cultivation in several of the Southern States. It is described as a "delicious vegetable," and the San Antonio Texan says that a gentleman in that vicinity, raised six bushels of the article upon a piece of ground fifteen feet square.

SCRIPTURE FOR TOBACCO.—Messrs. Joseph O. Goshen and Samuel M. Eddy, of Shirlleysburg, Pa., have obtained a patent for the preparation of maize leaf, as a substitute for tobacco. According to the account of a third party, the patentees claim for the manufactured weed antivenereal qualities, and that it is a pleasant tonic, and therefore promotive of good health. It has a sweet and pungent flavor, and would, perhaps, answer the purposes of juveniles just beginning to chew, but veterans would exercise not a little sedition in repudiating the Indian plant and substituting the prepared maize leaf for the gratification of their palates.—Washington Sentinel.

CRANBERRIES AND ERYTHRISAS.—The Niles (Michigan) Republican says: A lady visited our family a few days since, and stated that her daughter had the erysipelas very bad. We called to mind the remedy recommended by a New Haven editor. On returning home in the evening she found the disease spreading rapidly, and had assumed a frightful appearance. She immediately applied a poultice made of cranberries, which seemed to arrest it at once, and the second poultice effected a complete cure.

TO CURE EARACHE.—Earache may be relieved by dropping a little sweet oil and laudanum, warm, into the ear, and applying hot salt in flannel bags, so as to keep the part constantly warm.

AS certainly as Spring will return after the lapse of winter, so certainly will friends, lovers, and kindred meet again; they will meet again in the presence of the all-loving Father; and then first will they form a whole with each other and with everything good, after which they sought and strove in vain to be reunited.