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The Press.

The Press.

VOL. 4.—NO. 267. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1861. TWO CENTS.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1861.

Prize Poetry Extraordinary.

From time immemorial, Prize Poems have been remarkable failures, with exceedingly few exceptions. Immediately after the return of the Prince of Wales from the United States a prize of one hundred pounds sterling was offered by Prince Albert, who fills the honorary office of Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, to the undergraduate who should produce the best English poem on the very suggestive subject, "The Prince of Wales at the Tomb of Washington." There were many competitors, and the prize was awarded to a Mr. Myers.

On the 21st of May, what is called "an extraordinary Congregation" was held in the Senate-house, Cambridge, for granting honorary degrees, and for the public recitation of the University prizes. Mr. J. L. Motley, the historian of the Dutch Republic, received the degree of Doctor of Laws upon that occasion, and, it must be confessed, in excellent company, including Mr. George Grote, the historian of Greece; Sir William Rowan Hamilton, Astronomer-Royal of Ireland; Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, the geologist; Dr. Thomas Romney Robinson, of Trinity College, Dublin, famed for his Biblical Researches; Major-General Sabine, known by his experiments on the Pendulum; Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, the veteran diplomatist; and Lord Elgin, recently Ambassador to China.

The only report of the proceedings which we have seen, informs us that the recitation of the prize-poems followed the conferring of *causâ honoris* degrees, and that "the most interesting, of course," was the poem relating to the Prince of Wales at the Tomb of Washington. It is added that "Mr. Myers read his composition in a very creditable manner, for it is not always that the best poet is the best reader. Several passages were loudly applauded, particularly the following:

"Hail! flower of Europe, heir of half the earth,
Descendant noble of a noble line!
Blest none from Heaven with so bright a birth,
So fair a fate as thine"

If this be the best stanza, the remainder must have been poor indeed. We are not sufficiently botanical to pronounce whether the Prince of Wales be the "flower of Europe," or to decide to what genus and order of vegetable produce he belongs, but we take leave to say that his being "heir of half the earth" is a geographical untruth. "Noble of a noble line" is poor iteration, and we defy any one to ascertain what is meant by the sentence, "Blest none from Heaven with so bright a birth, so fair a fate as thine." The young gentleman's numerous brothers and sisters surely had just as "bright a birth" as himself? It is clear that, judging by the single stanza, which was particularly applauded—the bepraised Prince being present!—the Academical Laureate is not much of a poet. We would back the Bard of Tower Hall against him, or even our own baleful ex-General Morris.

New Publications.

The second and concluding portion of "The Partisan Leader," written by the late Beverly Tucker, and secretly printed by Duff Green, at Washington, twenty-five years ago, has been republished by Rudd & Carleton, New York, and really may be accepted as a key to the disunion conspiracy of the present day. Several weeks ago we noticed the earlier moiety of this work in full, and need only repeat that, independent of its being a remarkable political foreshadowing of events which even now are startling us, it is written with great ability. We beg to add that Messrs. T. B. Peterson & Brothers, from whom we have received this book, would not have let several weeks elapse between the publication of the first and second parts, nor, we are sure, would they have sent a paper covered copy to any editor. New York publishers have something to learn, in this respect, from their Philadelphia brethren.

From Messrs. Peterson we also have a bird's-eye view of part of Maryland and Virginia, with the district of Columbia, drawn from nature, and lithographed by John Bachmann, New York. It is well executed, and low-priced.

The twelfth volume of Appleton's New American Cyclopædia will be published, Mr. John McFarlan tells us, in a few days, and volume thirteen is more than half printed. The whole work will be completed, in sixteen volumes, in 1862.

The two new volumes of Putnam's National Edition of Washington Irving's Complete Works, on sale by S. Hazard, Jr., Chestnut street, are, The Crayon Miscellany (containing A Tour on the Prairies, Abbotsford, and Newstead Abbey), and the fifth and concluding volume of The Life of Washington. These books are printed upon tinted paper, are beautifully bound in cloth, and are superbly illustrated.

An Original Preventive of Sun-Stroke.

We cheerfully give place to the following suggestion of Dr. MORRIS, of this city, and hope that our enterprising artisans in the hat department will make a practical application of it for the public good, as well as for their own profit:

PHILADELPHIA, June 6, 1861.

MR. EDITOR: Permit me the freedom to remark that the most effectual defence against *ictus solis*, or sun-stroke, is a convex disk (or, rather, a brain-cap) of very thin metal, say brass, as thin as paper, for the sake of lightness, and well plated with *silver*, by the electrotype process. This sun-shield can be made in any form best adapted to the case of those by whom it is to be worn. It may have a number of minute perforations, properly placed, for the escape of perspiration, and may be adapted to the inside or the outside of the hat, cap, or turban. Taste or convenience will determine the style and the addition of any *white* fabric as a curtain, &c.

A word or two on the philosophy of this kind of defence will suffice. It is known that the solar rays consist of three distinguishable constituents—viz: 1, *Actinic*, or *Actinism*, described as the chemical principle, and indicated in the solar spectrum by the blue ray; 2, *Luminosity*, or the luminous principle, indicated by the yellow ray; and 3, *Caloric*, or heat, indicated by the red ray. The most active of these in the production of chemical changes in animated Nature, are the actinism and the caloric. But if the solar rays be entirely intercepted, then, of course, no change can take place which the agency of these active principles would otherwise produce. Now, otherwise than the surface of the brain-cap (which I recommend) being *opaque*, *convex*, *white*, and *polished*, the reflection of the solar rays, wholly and unresolved, is thus secured. The actinism and caloric are as effectually excluded as is the luminosity, and, therefore, no chemical change can be produced in the secretions, or the tissue of the brain and its membranes, beneath the glowing canopy of a cloudless sky, but a comparatively cool chamber is secured for the defence of the head.

Yours respectfully,
WILLIAM MORRIS, M. D.

Uncle Sam off Mobile.

[From the Mobile Mercury, 28th.]

Another United States steamship was off the entrance to Mobile harbor yesterday. Persons who were at Fort Morgan represent that her appearance created quite a lively sensation at that post. The company were immediately lined with soldiers to look at the craft. The "stars and stripes" were run up, with Union down, and took its place beneath the Confederate flag, which was, no doubt, observed by the ship's crew. It was a defiance, as much as to say, "We have turned the Union upside down, put it right side up, if you can, and help yourself." The ship amused herself by chasing and firing at two fishing smacks; one of them knocked under to her, the other let her fire away and be ——, and made tracks to get protection under the guns of Fort Morgan. As she cut and ran she ran up the Confederate flag.

A MODEL STABLE.—A firm in Boston has just opened a new stable, which is said to surpass anything of the kind in America. It is a sort of an equine hospital and boarding-house. The basement is used for hack horses and baiting. On the second story, which is easily accessible, are accommodations for the boarders, got up in a style that might cause an omnibus horse to weep at the *sight* of them. To each stall is affixed an ingenious affair, styled a revolving feeder, by which the advantages of manger and crib are combined, and it can be operated in such a manner that it can at any time, when deemed advisable, be moved outward from the stall, leaving no obstruction in the way of the animal. The manure is deposited in the rear of the building, and removed from the outside, thus avoiding the effluvia always arising, and which is so injurious to varnish on carriages and polish upon harness. This story is lighted on four sides, and is ventilated in the most thorough manner at the sides and top. Connected with the stable is an excellent bowling alley, for the accommodation of the patrons of the stable and their families.

THE French vineyards are nearly ruined for this year. The clarets and sauternes will scarcely be a fraction of the usual yield.

ROUND ABOUT WASHINGTON.

The Wanderings, Ponderings, and Out-of-the-Way Loiterings of a Roving Yankee.

NO. IV.—TREATS OF SEVERAL TRIFLES.

[Correspondence of THE PRESS.]

WASHINGTON, June 7, 1861.

Thirty years ago, when the present commander of the Virginia forces, the late Colonel Lee, of the United States army, was just issued from West Point with high honors and an honorable commission, he fell desperately in love with one of three sisters, to the whole trio of whom he, according to military usage, began paying marked attention forthwith. He escorted them to balls; took equestrian excursions with them; and presented them bouquets. The latter he always procured of a flower garden near the city, always purchasing three at a certain price. Very naturally, after long-continued visitation to this flower-garden, he picked up quite an intimacy with the gardener, to whom he told the story of his love, usually remarking that "it was a d—d shame a poor devil had to court three girls, for the sake of getting one." At last, after three years of this sort of thing, Lee came tripping into the hot-house one afternoon: "Make me three elegant bouquets," he cried, "and its the last money you'll ever get out of me. Going to be married Thursday night, and after that, by G—, they may gather wild-flowers for themselves!"

After a similar attendance upon his country, the valiant cadet has at last resigned it, as he did the young ladies, to gather the flowers of patriotism in the wild woods, if it choose.

It is surprising how rank fluctuates in war time. There was a time when you might easily dub almost anybody "judge," or "governor," or at least "colonel." But that time has passed. The strictest usage now prevails, and it is not least among the many intricacies and delicacies of society, what you shall call your neighbor on meeting him in the morning. But yesterday he was a plain, unobtrusive "mister," to-day he may be a "general." Grade, from crotchet to quaver, and from quaver to demi-semi-quaver, goes from left to right and right to left, always changing with the changing hour. Thus, I meet my friend, John Smith, the other day. John has been a most respected and respectable baker. "Good morning, Mr. Smith," quoth I. "Captain Smith, if you please," replied John, with a high glee. "Very well, said I to myself, I'll remember that—Captain Smith. Accordingly, upon falling in with John a few days after, I was on the *qui vive* to exclaim, "Well Captain, how goes it?" John blushed up to his eyes—"Oh, *Major* now, please." I—a these military titles, inwardly muttered I, the devil couldn't keep up with them, and I therefore prudently resolved thereafter to accost John as "Colonel," and to use the civilized "mister" in all cases where I was not positively sure of the proper soubriquet.

Alluding to national songs, of which the present state of affairs is producing such an abundant crop, and apropos of the endeavors of a certain patriotic committee in Gotham—I want to quote, and endorse, a paragraph, which catches my eye, in a late American letter to the London *Morning Chronicle*, which strikes me as being in the main correct. Says the evidently posted writer:

"Committees cannot make a great national song. All the money in Christendom cannot buy a universal anthem. Song, inspirence, must come spontaneously from the pure, unselfish human heart. Cash has nothing to do with the matter. The Americans, without doubt, need such a song, and they will have it; but not through a committee of auctioneers. Sometimes I hear Dodworths' band play Janvier's song of the Union. It is the only national song, purely domestic and original which the States have. 'Hail Columbia,' 'Yankee Doodle,' &c., are all borrowed; the sober truth is that, outside of this comparatively modern piece of Mr. Janvier, the Yankee boys have no really *national* air. 'Yankee Doodle' is an unmeaning melody of foreign origin. It was played in derision of the Americans by the British fifers during the Revolutionary war. Its true origin is from an unsuccessful oratorio, entitled 'Ulysses,' composed by William Smith. 'Hail Columbia,' originally the old 'President's March,' was composed by the German leader of the band at Trenton, after the battle. The 'star spangled banner' is the old Irish tune of *Bide*. The more modern song, so popular with the Americans by Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean,' claims its origin from John Bull. Its transatlantic title was 'Britannia, thou Gem of the Ocean.' 'One Flag is There,' another song tending towards nationality, is said to have been composed in South America."

I quote this paragraph for the reason that it pays to British readers a just tribute to the patriotic feeling, drawn from nature, and lithographed by John Bachmann, New York. It is well executed, and low-priced.

The twelfth volume of Appleton's New American Cyclopædia will be published, Mr. John McFarlan tells us, in a few days, and volume thirteen is more than half printed. The whole work will be completed, in sixteen volumes, in 1862.

The two new volumes of Putnam's National Edition of Washington Irving's Complete Works, on sale by S. Hazard, Jr., Chestnut street, are, The Crayon Miscellany (containing A Tour on the Prairies, Abbotsford, and Newstead Abbey), and the fifth and concluding volume of The Life of Washington. These books are printed upon tinted paper, are beautifully bound in cloth, and are superbly illustrated.

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PHILADELPHIA, June 6, 1861.

MR. EDITOR: Permit me the freedom to remark that the most effectual defence against *ictus solis*, or sun-stroke, is a convex disk (or, rather, a brain-cap) of very thin metal, say brass, as thin as paper, for the sake of lightness, and well plated with *silver*, by the electrotype process. This sun-shield can be made in any form best adapted to the case of those by whom it is to be worn. It may have a a number of minute perforations, properly placed, for the escape of perspiration, and may be adapted to the inside or the outside of the hat, cap, or turban. Taste or convenience will determine the style and the addition of any *white* fabric as a curtain, &c.

A word or two on the philosophy of this kind of defence will suffice. It is known that the solar rays consist of three distinguishable constituents—viz: 1, *Actinic*, or *Actinism*, described as the chemical principle, and indicated in the solar spectrum by the blue ray; 2, *Luminosity*, or the luminous principle, indicated by the yellow ray; and 3, *Caloric*, or heat, indicated by the red ray. The most active of these in the production of chemical changes in animated Nature, are the actinism and the caloric. But if the solar rays be entirely intercepted, then, of course, no change can take place which the agency of these active principles would otherwise produce. Now, otherwise than the surface of the brain-cap (which I recommend) being *opaque*, *convex*, *white*, and *polished*, the reflection of the solar rays, wholly and unresolved, is thus secured. The actinism and caloric are as effectually excluded as is the luminosity, and, therefore, no chemical change can be produced in the secretions, or the tissue of the brain and its membranes, beneath the glowing canopy of a cloudless sky, but a comparatively cool chamber is secured for the defence of the head.

Yours respectfully,
WILLIAM MORRIS, M. D.

Uncle Sam off Mobile.

[From the Mobile Mercury, 28th.]

Another United States steamship was off the entrance to Mobile harbor yesterday. Persons who were at Fort Morgan represent that her appearance created quite a lively sensation at that post. The company were immediately lined with soldiers to look at the craft. The "stars and stripes" were run up, with Union down, and took its place beneath the Confederate flag, which was, no doubt, observed by the ship's crew. It was a defiance, as much as to say, "We have turned the Union upside down, put it right side up, if you can, and help yourself." The ship amused herself by chasing and firing at two fishing smacks; one of them knocked under to her, the other let her fire away and be ——, and made tracks to get protection under the guns of Fort Morgan. As she cut and ran she ran up the Confederate flag.

A MODEL STABLE.—A firm in Boston has just opened a new stable, which is said to surpass anything of the kind in America. It is a sort of an equine hospital and boarding-house. The basement is used for hack horses and baiting. On the second story, which is easily accessible, are accommodations for the boarders, got up in a style that might cause an omnibus horse to weep at the *sight* of them. To each stall is affixed an ingenious affair, styled a revolving feeder, by which the advantages of manger and crib are combined, and it can be operated in such a manner that it can at any time, when deemed advisable, be moved outward from the stall, leaving no obstruction in the way of the animal. The manure is deposited in the rear of the building, and removed from the outside, thus avoiding the effluvia always arising, and which is so injurious to varnish on carriages and polish upon harness. This story is lighted on four sides, and is ventilated in the most thorough manner at the sides and top. Connected with the stable is an excellent bowling alley, for the accommodation of the patrons of the stable and their families.

THE French vineyards are nearly ruined for this year. The clarets and sauternes will scarcely be a fraction of the usual yield.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE

Moravians—Their Late Synod at Litiz, Pennsylvania.

Of the various religious bodies in this country, one of the most consistent and unobtrusive, both in individual practice and ecclesiastical action, is that of the Moravians or United Brethren. Some of the principles most cherished by denominations of modern origin were staunchly held by these Brethren long before the Reformation. In an article published in *The Press* upon this society, some two years ago, we traced its history back to the ninth century. At a later period its adherents became thoroughly organized, and toward the close of the fifteenth century they had more than two hundred churches in Moravia and Bohemia. In the sixteenth century they sent deputations to Luther, who, in taking leave of them, expressed his approval of their course in these words: "Do you be the apostles of the Bohemians, as I and my brethren will be apostles of the Germans." The great revival of this denomination, after languishing nearly a hundred years, occurred in the early part of the eighteenth century, in the days of Zinzendorf, a pious young nobleman. The latter relinquished all worldly honors, became a bishop of the Brethren, and devoted himself entirely to their service; he may be said to have planted the Moravian Church in the United States, and his experiences among the Indians of this State furnish some of the most singular and interesting incidents in our primitive history. Originally, in all Moravian settlements founded by the Church, none but members were permitted to own real estate; but within the last decade this exclusive system has been abandoned.

The Moravian is an *Episcopal* Church, and was so acknowledged by the British Parliament in 1749. At the present time the Church consists of three provinces, the American, Continental, and British, which govern themselves in all provincial matters, but are confederated as one church in respect to general principles, and the prosecution of the work of foreign missions, in which they have, for their numbers, displayed unparalleled activity. Each of these provinces has a provincial synod, whose executive is an elective board of bishops and elders, styled the "Provincial Elders' Conference," to which the entire management of the Church in provincial things, including the appointment of pastors, is entrusted during the interval between the synods, which are held once in three years. In the American province there are two districts, the Northern and Southern. The Synod of the former of these convened in the beautiful church edifice at Litiz, Lancaster county, last month, and closed its deliberation on the 1st instant.

The name of this beautifully-situated, quaint old town is an abrevition of *Lititz*, and is still so pronounced by the inhabitants. Lititz was a wealthy baron, on whose estate their Synod of 1467 was held, at which was completed their organization, and their entire separation from the national establishment. The name of Lititz, or Litiz, has hence, among Moravians, a peculiar *synodical* importance attached to it, although the Synod of which we are about to speak was the first held in that place since 1765; a period of ninety-three years, the town of Bethlehem, Northampton county, having been honored with these triennial convocations during this entire interval. The present Synod was attended by fifty-seven ministers and lay members, representing all the congregations of the Northern District of the American province of their Church—including those at Bethlehem, Nazareth, Litiz, Schoneck, Emmaus, New York, Brooklyn, Staten Island, Camden, Lancaster, Lebanon, York, Gracham, Gnadenhuetten, Hopedale, Sharon, Canal Lover, Hope, West Salem, and Philadelphia, the latter having been represented by Rev. Amadeus A. Reinke, pastor of the only Moravian Church here, and Mr. Philip A. Gregar, as a delegate. The Rev. Mr. Wedlikind, of Lebanon, Pa., attended as delegate of the General Synod of the Lutheran Church, and was admitted as an advisory member. Although they have no written creed, we may mention that the Moravian Church probably fraternizes more completely with the Lutheran, which holds the Augsburg Confession, than with any other. Like the latter, she regards the Word of God, the canonical Scriptures, as the absolute and only law of faith and life, and both, we believe, subscribe to the motto: "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

The sessions of the Synod were opened with these words of benediction, pronounced by Rev. John C. Jacobson, president of the Provisional Elders' Conference: "The peace of God, which passeth all understandings, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, unto life everlasting." One of the important duties of the Synod was the election of a new "P. E. C.;" the one so superseded having been composed of the Bishops, Peter Wolle and J. C. Jacobson, and Rev. P. H. Goepp, who had served in that capacity since 1849. The new third rule was adopted. Twenty-eight ballots were taken before a choice was effected. The following persons were elected: "Rev. Sylvester Wolle, now inspector of the Female Seminary, at Bethlehem; Rev. Francis F. Hagen, minister at York, and Bishop J. C. Jacobson. The vacancies thus created at Bethlehem Seminary and at York will be filled by appointment.

In emulation of the usual course of the various religious bodies that have assembled this year, it was deemed advisable at an early stage of the proceedings to pay their respects to the political state of the country, which they did by adopting, unanimously, the resolutions appended, which the latter express in clear and respectful terms the duty of all good citizens to uphold the Government and the Constitution, and to maintain the integrity of these United States, there is an appreciative regard evinced by the Synod for their legitimate functions as an ecclesiastical body that is highly commendable. Their deliberations, as a whole, we are informed by an attentive correspondent, were conducted throughout with a marked fraternal spirit. On Thursday evening of last week the members were invited by the ladies of Litiz to a supper, prepared on long tables, under the trees of one of the avenues of the celebrated Litiz Spring. The Litiz String Band enlivened the occasion with excellent music, and during the evening addresses were delivered by Jedediah Weiss and Charles A. Luckenbach, Esqs., of Bethlehem; Rev. Mr. Senseman, of Staten Island, and Rev. Theophilus Stork, D. D., of the Lutheran Church, formerly of this city. The following are the resolutions:

Whereas, The Provincial Synod of the Northern District of the Moravian Church in the United States, now assembled at Litiz, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, feel it just and proper, in our religious denomination, we should express our deep interest in the present unhappy and gloomy condition of our once happy and prosperous country; inasmuch as it is a duty enjoined upon us by the Head of our Church, in the commandment "to render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, and to God the things that are God's!" do hereby

Resolve 1. That we, as citizens of the United States, and as members of the Moravian Church, deeply deplore the calamity of civil war in our land, we acknowledge the chastening hand of God, and humbly bow to the decree of Him who holds the destinies of nations in His hands

2. That while we acknowledge and submit to *that Power, we also acknowledge "the powers that are ordained of God"* and therefore declare our continued and unabated allegiance to the Government and the Constitution of the United States, and of the several States of which we are citizens.

3. That in acknowledging our Constitutional Government, and the liberty and blessings which we have been permitted to enjoy under it we, as members of the Moravian Church, deem it our duty to extend to it our hearty support in its efforts and measures adopted to uphold the Constitution, and maintain the integrity of these United States, and to perpetuate to ourselves and to our children the liberties and blessings of our republican institutions; that we, as a Church, may continue to lead under them a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."

4. That we will continue to unite in ardent prayer, that the Lord may grant unto the Government of the United States, in these times of danger, his gracious counsel, and continue to be the gracious Protector of these United States, and of our National Constitution; that he may defeat every evil design against us, and continue to show his tender mercy unto these United States as in days past; that He may, in his tender mercy, stop the effusion of human blood, and make discord and war to cease; and that, to this end, He may put into the hearts of all citizens of these United States thoughts of peace, that we may soon see it established to the glory of his name.

5. That we will in our prayers also remember those who, in obedience to the call of their country, have left their families and homes and gone forth to protect our insulted flag, and in support of our Constitution and laws, that the Lord of Hosts may strengthen and uphold them in the hour of distress, especially when in the arms of death; prove to them their only trust and consolation; and, that He may comfort and dry the tears of parents, brothers, sisters, and friends; and protect the widows and fatherless children of those who, under His Divine dispensation, sacrifice their lives in the cause of our beloved country.

J. B.