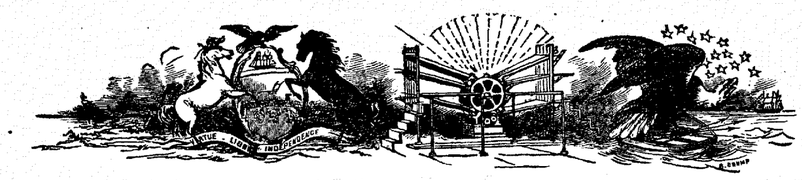
THE PRESS,
PUBLISHED DAILY (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED,)
BY JOHN W. FORNEY,
OFFICE, No. 111 SOUTH FOURTH STREET.

THE DAILY PRESS,
EIGHTEEN CENTS PER WEEK, payable to the Carrier. Mailed to Subscribers out of the City at EIGHT DOLLARS PER ANNUM, FOUR DOLLARS FOR SIX MONTHS, TWO DOLLARS FOR THREE MONTHS—invariably in advance for the time ordered.
☞ Advertisements inserted at the usual rates. Six lines constitute a square.

THE TRI-WEEKLY PRESS,
Mailed to Subscribers out of the City at FOUR DOLLARS PER ANNUM, in advance.



VOL. 6.—NO. 123. PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1862. THREE CENTS.

THE WAR PRESS,
(PUBLISHED WEEKLY.)
THE WAR PRESS will be sent to subscribers by mail (per annum in advance) at..... $2.00
Five " " " 9.00
Ten " " " 17.00
Twenty Copies " " 32.00
Larger Clubs than Twenty will be charged at the same rate, $1.60 per copy.
The money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can these terms be deviated from, as they afford very little more than the cost of the paper.
☞ Postmasters are requested to act as Agents for THE WAR PRESS.
☞ To the getter-up of a Club of ten or twenty, an extra copy of the Paper will be given.

RETAIL DRY GOODS.

USEFUL AND ACCEPTABLE
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR
PRESENTS.
E. M. NEEDLES,
No. 1044 CHESTNUT STREET,
Asks the special attention of Purchasers of PRESENTS FOR THE
COMING HOLIDAYS,
to his extensive stock of articles suitable for that purpose.
FOR PRESENTS:
Ladies' and Gents' Colored Bordered Handkerchiefs.
Do do do Hemstitched do
Do do In 2, 2½ and 3 inch wide hems.
Do do Printed Borders,
Do do French and clear Lawn,
Do do In all kinds of Lace.
Ladies' Hand kerchiefs, of all kinds.
Gents' Handkerchiefs, of all kinds.
Children's Handkerchiefs, of all kinds.
The Best assortment of Handkerchiefs in the city.
FOR PRESENTS:
Thread Lace Veils, $2 and upwards.
Cambric Lace Veils, 75c. and upwards.
Pointe Lace Collar Sets, $1.50, and upwards.
French Work do. all prices.
PRESENTS
In all OTHER kinds of LACE GOODS:
Lace Coiffures and Barbes.
Babies' Robes and Waists.
Laces by the yard.
All kinds Lace Sleeves.
Do Bands and Flouncings.
Do Embroideries.
ALSO,
20 dozen Cambric Handkerchiefs, Embroidered with initials, just received.
20 dozen Cambric Ruffled Handkerchiefs, Embroidered in Colors.
10 dozen Valenciennes Lace Handkerchiefs;
60 dozen Gents' and Children's Printed-bordered Handkerchiefs.
10 dozen Ladies' Ivory Initial Cuff Buttons.
20 pieces 5-4 French Muslin, 2 yards wide, for Party dresses, at old prices.
A Complete Stock of WHITE GOODS at LOW PRICES.
Linen Napkins at Old Prices.
Any of the above will make a useful and beautiful CHRISTMAS PRESENT, and Buyers will find it to their advantage to inspect my stock before making their purchases, as with few exceptions, it is priced at OLD PRICES, and cheaper than present wholesale rates.
de2-tf

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
JOHN W. THOMAS,
No. 405 AND 407 NORTH SECOND STREET,
Would call attention to his
LARGE AND WELL-ASSORTED STOCK,
COMPRISING
EVERY VARIETY OF
DRESS GOODS,
SHAWLS AND CLOAKS.
ALSO,
LACE HDKFS., COLLARS, AND EMBROIDERIES,
Of every description, suited for
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR
PRESENTS.
de16-12t

EYRE & LANDELL,
FOURTH AND ARCH,
HAVE MARKED SOME FINE GOODS AT LOW PRICES.
FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS.
EXPENSIVE SHAWLS.
RICH BROCADE SILKS.
FASHIONABLE POPLINS.
FROSTED BEAVER CLOAKS.
RICHEST PRINTED REPS.
FINE BLUE MERINOES.
SCARLET BROCHE SCARFS.
POINT LACE COLLARS AND SETS.
NEW FANCY POCKET HDKFS,
GLOVES OF FIRST QUALITY ONLY.
de9-tf

JAMES R. CAMPBELL & CO.,
IMPORTERS AND CASH DEALERS IN
DRY GOODS,
AT WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,
727 CHESTNUT STREET,
Have just received, and are now offering, magnificent lines of
SILKS, SHAWLS, AND DRESS GOODS,
ESPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THIS SEASON.
no1-2m

FINE CLOTH CLOAKS.
FINE FROSTED BEAVER CLOAKS.
FINE BLACK TRICOT CLOAKS.
MEDIUM-PRICED CLOAKS.
FINE BLANKET SHAWLS.
EXTRA CHEAP BALMORALS.
FINE LARGE BLANKETS.
SUPERFINE FROSTED BEAVERS.
CASTOR BEAVERS—TRICOTS.
BOYS' FINE CLOTHING.
SUITS MADE TO ORDER.
COOPER & CONARD,
no29-tf S. E. COR. NINTH & MARKET Sts.

GREAT REDUCTION
IN PRICES OF
SILKS, SHAWLS,
AND
DRESS GOODS,
FOR THE
HOLIDAYS.
JAS. R. CAMPBELL & CO.,
727
CHESTNUT STREET.
de12-12t

FINE FRENCH MERINOES, OF VERY CHOICE SHADES.
Plain Reps and Poplins, all colors.
Rich Printed Dress Goods.
Plain Solid Colored Silks.
Black and Colored Corded Silks.
Brown and Fancy Figured Silks.
Plain Black Silks, rich lustre.
Chaine Laine Long Broche Shawls.
Open Centre Cashmere Shawls.
Gay and Plain Style Blanket Shawls.
EDWIN HALL & BRO.,
36 South SECOND Street.
N. B.—Just received and will be opened this morning, another invoice of BALMORAL SKIRTS, at $2.25, full size, a lot that we closed out from a New York Importing House. These Skirts are now and have been retailing at $3.
Misses' Balmoral Skirts. de9

EYRE & LANDELL, FOURTH AND ARCH, have just received, for the CHRISTMAS PRESENTS,
Splendid Moire Antiques.
Gouty Silks, reduced.
4-4 Lyons Cloak Velvets.
Expensive Long Shawls.
11 pieces Plaid Silks, 75 cents.
Fine quality Reps and Poplins.
Fine Blue and Purple Merinoes.
Richest Printed Wool de Laines.
Fine Broche Scarfs, all sizes.
Point Lace Collars and Sets.
Ladies' new style Linen Cambric Hdkf's.
Gloves, only of the first quality.
Fine stock of Blankets, Quilts, Napkins.
Sheetings, Piano Covers, Towelings, &c.
3,000 Balmoral Skirts.
P. S.—
1,000 yards all new styles De Laines, 25 cents.
3,000 do Merrimac and other fast-colored Chintzes.
1,000 do 44 French Chintzes, 31¼ cents. de16

H. STEEL & SON HAVE A LARGE assortment of DRESS GOODS, suitable for HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
Rich Fancy Silks; Plain Silks, choice colors.
Plain and Figured Black Silks.
Plain and Figured Rep Poplins.
Plain and Figured Merinoes.
Plain Solferino Cashmeres, at 37½c. worth 62.
BEST AMERICAN DELAINES, at 25c.
CHOICE SAXONY PLAIDS, at 25c.
PLAIN OPERA FLANNELS, all colors, at 65c.
NEW EMBROIDERIES, in great variety.
A Job Lot Real Point Lace Collars, at $1.50.
BALMORAL SKIRTS, at $2.25, $3.00, $3.75.
BEST $3 BALMORALS IN THE CITY.
ENGLISH and MERRIMAC CHINTZES, 20c.
Yard-wide French Chintzes, 31c—the old price.
WILLIAMSVILLE MUSLIN, 25c.
WINTER SHAWLS, in great variety.
MERINO SCARFS, BROCHE BORDERS.
CLOAKS—Of New and Fashionable Styles, made of Black Beaver, Frosted Beaver, and Black Cloth.
Call and examine our stock. We guaranty to give satisfaction, as we sell nothing but good articles, and at lower prices than you can be bought elsewhere.
de13 Nos. 713 and 715 North TENTH street.

CLOAKING CLOTHS.
SUBLIME QUALITY.
Johnny's Frosted Beavers.
Medium-priced Frosted Beavers.
Thick and fine French Beavers.
Tricot, Castor, and Union Beavers.
Mohair and Seal skin Cloakings.
Superfine Cassimeres, viz.:
Silk Mixes—Black, neat fancies—
Boys' Extra heavy—Satinets—Meltons, &c., &c.
4-4 Coatings and Overcoatings.
Novelties in fancy Vestings.
BALMORALS.
One hundred pieces 25-cent Delaines.
Auction 87½c and Black Alpacas.
Fine Merinoes and Poplins.
Black Poplins, 87c., $1, $1.25.
Fine Blankets and Flannels.
BOYS' CLOTHING.
Experienced Cutters, good Cloths, and Good work—Garments made to order.
COOPER & CONARD,
no29-tf S. E. corner NINTH and MARKET Streets.

RETAIL DRY GOODS.

USEFUL PRESENTS.
To persons who would make a useful and acceptable gift the subscribers respectfully invite attention to the following named articles, of which they have a large assortment
AT LOW PRICES:
EMBROIDERED HDKFS., SETS, AND COLLARS.
EMBROIDERED LACE AND MUSLIN CURTAINS.
EMBROIDERED PIANO AND TABLE COVERS.
FINE WHITE AND PINK MARSEILLES QUILTS.
PREMIUM BED BLANKETS.
AFGHAN SOFA AND CARRIAGE BLANKETS.
RICH DBL. DAMASK TABLE CLOTHS.
NAPKINS, DOWLIES, AND TOWELS, to match, etc.
SHEPPARD, VAN HARLINGEN,
AND ARRISON,
Staple and House Furnishing Dry Goods,
de19-8t 1008 CHESTNUT Street.

BALMORALS.
Just received, per last Steamer,
ELEGANT NEW STYLES
KID GLOVES.
JOUVIN'S KID GLOVES, $1.15.
INDIA SCARFS.
A FULL ASSORTMENT.
HANDKERCHIEFS
FOR LADIES, NEW STYLES, SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS.
CLOAKS,
IN CLOTH, SILK, AND VELVET,
REDUCED IN PRICES.
VEILS.
LACE VEILS, IN GREAT VARIETY.
DRESS GOODS,
AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES,
FOR
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS,
J. M. HAFLEIGH,
(Successor to L. J. LEVY & CO.,)
de15-frmwtf 723 CHESTNUT STREET.

WINTER CLOAKS
AT REDUCED PRICES.
SUPERB LYONS VELVET CLOAKS.
INDIA SILK CLOAKS,
VELVET BEAVER CLOAKS,
MOHAIR PLUSH CLOAKS,
WOOLEN PLUSH CLOAKS,
CASTOR BEAVER CLOAKS,
DIAGONAL PLUSH CLOAKS.
FRENCH DOESKIN CLOAKS,
FRENCH BEAVER CLOAKS,
MAGNIFICENT GROS DE PARIS CLOAKS.
All at a considerable REDUCTION IN PRICES to close the season.
J. W. PROCTOR & CO.,
NO. 920 CHESTNUT STREET,
de20-fmwtjn7 PHILADELPHIA.

BLANKET DEPARTMENT.
THE LARGEST STOCK OF BLANKETS
IN PHILADELPHIA,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
COWPERTHWAIT & CO.,
N. E. CORNER EIGHTH AND MARKET STREETS.
de1-mwf-tf

DRY GOODS FOR WINTER.
Rep, Poplins,
French Merinos,
Colored Mousselines,
Poult De Soies,
Foulard Silks,
Blanket Shawls,
Balmoral Skirts,
Black Silks,
Fancy Silks,
Black Bombazines,
Worsted Plaids,
Cheap Delaines,
French Chintzes,
Shirting Flannels,
Broche Shawls,
Fine Blankets,
Crib Blankets.
SHARPLESS BROTHERS,
no11-tf CHESTNUT and EIGHTH Streets.

MILITARY GOODS.
MILITARY GOODS.
EVANS & HASSALL,
MILITARY FURNISHERS,
418 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
A complete assortment of General, Field, and Line Officers' Swords, Sashes, Belts, Passants, Epaulettes, Canteens, Haversacks, Field Glasses, Spurs, Candlesticks, Chapeaus, Hats, Caps, Drums, Silk and Bunting Flags, Camp Knives and Forks, Baldrics, Gum-cloth Overcoats, &c.
Also, a full line of
PRESENTATION SWORDS,
Sashes, Belts, etc., and everything requisite for the Complete Outfit of Army and Navy Officers,
WHOLESALE & RETAIL.
de13-1al

COMMISSION HOUSES.
WELLING, COFFIN, & CO.,
220 CHESTNUT STREET,
Offer for sale, by the Package—
PRINTS, BROWN AND BLEACHED SHEETINGS AND SHIRTINGS.
DRILLS, CANTON FLANNELS.
COTTONADES, CORSET JEANS.
SILESIAS, NANKEENS.
COLORED CAMBRICS, SEAMLESS BAGS.
BLACK DOESKINS AND CASSIMERES.
UNION CASSINETS, SATINETS.
PLAID LINSEYS, NEGRO KERSEYS.
KENTUCKY JEANS.
ALSO,
SKY-BLUE KERSEYS, INFANTRY CLOTHS.
ARMY FLANNELS, 10 and 12-ounce DUCK, &c., &c.
de6-mwf-tf

PHILADELPHIA BAG MANUFACTORY.
BURLAP BAGS OF ALL SIZES,
For Corn, Oats, Coffee, Bone Dust, &c.
ALSO,
SEAMLESS BAGS
OF ALL STANDARD BRANDS,
For sale at low figures for net cash on delivery, by
GEO. GRIGG,
No. 219 CHURCH ALLEY,
de15 PHILADELPHIA.

COTTON YARN.
STPERIOR COTTON YARN, NO. 10,
FOR SALE BY
FROTHINGHAM & WELLS.
oc2-tf

SHIPLEY, HAZARD, & HUTCHINSON,
No. 112 CHESTNUT STREET,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
FOR THE SALE OF
PHILADELPHIA-MADE GOODS.
se26-6m

SEWING MACHINES.
THE WILCOX & GIBBS
FAMILY
SEWING MACHINES
have been greatly improved, making it
ENTIRELY NOISELESS,
and with Self-adjusting Hemmers, are now ready for sale by
FAIRBANKS & EWING,
se27-tf 715 CHESTNUT Street.

CABINET FURNITURE.
CABINET FURNITURE AND BILLIARD TABLES.
MOORE & CAMPION,
No. 261 SOUTH SECOND Street,
In connection with their extensive Cabinet Business, are now manufacturing a superior article of
BILLIARD TABLES,
And have now on hand a full supply, finished with the MOORE & CAMPION'S IMPROVED CUSHIONS, which are pronounced by all who have used them to be superior to all others.
For the quality and finish of these Tables the manufacturers refer to their numerous patrons throughout the Union, who are familiar with the character of their work.
ap26-6m

"LUCIFER" OIL WORKS.
100 bbls. "Lucifer" Burning Oil on hand.
We guarantee the Oil to be non-explosive, to burn all the oil in the lamp with a steady, brilliant flame, without creasting the wick, and but slowly. Barrels lined with glass enamel. WRIGHT, SMITH, & PEARSALL,
fe22-tf Office, 515 MARKET Street.

A Polite Request.
Look here, my friend, a word with you:
If you would be discreet,
Don't bother me about my clothes
Where'er we chance to meet.
I can't attend a party but
Some maid will praise my vest,
And say she never saw before
A man so "nicely dressed."
Bob Johnson says, "My Poet friend,
Aw, guess you feel your oats!"
He thinks I'm proud because I wear
The very best of coats.
I find a neighbor in a car,
And presently he grunts
That since the days of George the Third
He *never* saw such pants.
Confound the thing! must I be loved
Some forty times per mile?
Is there no law to shield a man
Because he goes in style?
I tell you now, if you would be
Considered something tall,
Pursue the course that I have done,
And buy at great OAK HALL.
OAK HALL,
S. E. cor. SIXTH and MARKET Streets.

FANCY ARTICLES.
CLARK'S
ONE-DOLLAR STORE,
602 CHESTNUT STREET.
Silver-plated Ware, Jewelry, Photograph Albums, Travelling Bags, Pocket Books, Port Monnaies, Cabas, &c., for 50 to 100 per cent less than the regular prices.
The following is a partial list of articles which we sell at ONE DOLLAR EACH. The same goods are sold at other places from $2 to $3 each:
YOUR CHOICE FOR ONE DOLLAR!
Ladies' Sets, new and beautiful styles.
Do. Pins,
Do. Ear Rings,
Do. Sleeve Buttons,
Do. Guard Chain,
Do. Neck do.,
Do. Gold Thimbles,
Do. Finger Rings,
Do. Pencils,
Do. Pens with case,
Do. Bracelets,
Do. Medallions,
Do. Charms,
Do. Pearl Port Monnaies,
Do. Morocco do.
Do. Wire do.
Do. Purses,
Do. Card Cases,
Infants' Armlets,
Do. Neck Chains,
Gents' Vest Chains, different styles,
Do. Sleeve Buttons, do.
Do. Studs, do.
Do. Pins, do.
Do. Scarf Pins, do.
Do. Scarf Rings, do.
Do. Finger Rings, do.
Do. Pen and Case,
Do. Pencil, revolving,
Do. Tooth Pick, revolving,
Do. Watch Keys,
Do. Chain Hooks,
Do. Chain Chasers,
Do. Pocket Books,
Do. Bill Books,
Do. Port Monnaies, &c.
SILVER-PLATED WARE.
YOUR CHOICE FOR ONE DOLLAR!
Sets of Table Spoons,
Do. Dessert Spoons,
Do. Tea do.
Do. Forks,
Pair Butter Knives,
Do. Napkin Rings,
Knife and Fork,
Goblets,
Cups,
Sugar Bowls,
Cream Cups,
Syrup Cups,
Butter Dishes,
Castors with Bottles,
Salt Stands, &c.
YOUR CHOICE OF ANY OF THE ABOVE ARTICLES FOR ONE DOLLAR.
NOTICE.—In order to meet the wants of our numerous customers, we shall keep a store of the finest Plated and All-Gold Jewelry, together with an assortment of *heavy-plated* Silver Ware, and a variety of Photograph Albums and Fancy Goods, which we will sell at prices which will defy competition. Ladies and Gentlemen are invited to call and examine our stock. Every attention paid to visitors whether they wish to purchase or not.
Remember CLARK'S
ONE-DOLLAR STORE,
602 CHESTNUT Street.
no11-2mif

GIFT BOOKS.
BUY NOW,
AND
AVOID THE RUSH.
IMMENSE ATTRACTIONS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!
AT THE GREAT ORIGINAL GIFT-BOOK EMPORIUM,
439 CHESTNUT Street, Philadelphia.
THE ONLY "GIFT-BOOK ENTERPRISE" IN EXISTENCE!
IT HAS OUTLIVED ALL COMPETITORS!
NEW BOOKS! NEW GIFTS! NEW FEATURES!
ELEGANT ANNUALS! BEAUTIFUL GIFT BOOKS!
SUPERB ALBUMS! FINE BIBLES, PRAYER AND HYMN BOOKS! All the Popular NOVELS and MAGAZINES! STANDARD and MISCELLANEOUS WORKS, in endless variety. The whole forming a fund of CHOICE READING FOR THE MILLION! A full line of PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS, of every variety of size, style, quality, and price! CARTES DE VISITE in great profusion. A MAGNIFICENT ARRAY OF NEW AND COSTLY PRIZES!
☞ The business of the establishment is conducted upon the same principle, with some improvements, introduced and pursued by Mr. GEORGE G. EVANS, which has given such universal satisfaction. Notwithstanding the great advance in the price of paper and other material, we continue to sell at the OLD PRICES, and also to bestow upon each patron
"TWO GIFTS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!"
Please remember that our *Visitors are treated politely whether they wish to purchase or not*—a very commendable and satisfactory rule of action. Call and be convinced. de20-tjal

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS.
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
Nos. 1 AND 3 NORTH SIXTH STREET.
JOHN C. ARRISON,
(FORMERLY J. BURR MOORE.)
Has now in store an elegant assortment of
GENTLEMEN'S WRAPPERS,
ALSO
SCARFS, NECK TIES, GLOVES, &c.,
de13-tf In Great Variety.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
R. C. WALBORN & CO.,
Nos. 5 and 7 North SIXTH Street,
Have now in store a SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF
GENTLEMEN'S WRAPPERS,
In every style of material, and
AT ALL PRICES.
Their stock of FURNISHING GOODS, also, comprises many neat and suitable articles for
PRESENTS FOR GENTLEMEN. de11-12t

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—OPENING
a splendid assortment of
GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS,
suitable Presents for Gentlemen.
J. W. SCOTT,
No. 814 CHESTNUT Street,
dell-tf Four doors below the Continental.

CARPETS AND OIL CLOTHS.
FOURTH STREET CARPET STORE,
No. 47 SOUTH FOURTH STREET.
J. T. DELACROIX
Invites an examination of his stock of Carpetings in which will be found
250 PIECES BRUSSELS CARPETINGS,
At less than present cost of importation.
Also, 200 pieces extra Imperial, three-ply, superfine, medium, and low-grade Ingrain, Venitian, Hall, and Stair Carpetings at retail, very low for cash. no8-2m

CLOTHES-WRINGER.
THE GREAT CLOTHES WRINGER.
"PUTNAM"
"SELF-ADJUSTING CLOTHES WRINGER"
Is warranted to be superior to any other in use.
EVERY FAMILY SHOULD POSSESS A CLOTHES WRINGER.
BECAUSE,
1st. It is a relief to the hardest part of washing-day.
2d. It enables the washing to be done in one-third less time.
3d. It saves clothes from the injury always given by twisting.
4th. It helps to *wash* the clothes as well as *dry* them.
WE BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE TO PROCURE ONE OF THIS KIND,
BECAUSE,
FIRST. The rolls being of vulcanized rubber, will bear hot and cold water, and will neither break nor tear off buttons.
SECOND. The frame being of iron, thoroughly galvanized, all danger from rust is removed, and the liability to shrink, swell, split, &c., so unavoidable in wooden machines, is prevented.
THIRD. The spiral springs over the rolls render this machine self-adjusting, so that small and large articles, as well as articles uneven in thickness, are certain to receive uniform pressure.
FOURTH. The patent fastening by which the machine is tightened to the tub, we believe to be superior in simplicity and efficiency to any yet offered.
FIFTH. It will fit any tub, round or square, from one-half to one-and-a-quarter inches in thickness, without the least alteration.
RETAIL PRICE:
No. 1, $6.00; No. 2, $5.00.
☞ Agents wanted in every county.
☞ Reliable and energetic men will be liberally dealt with.
For Sale at the
"WOODENWARE ESTABLISHMENT"
OF
A. H. FRANCISCUS,
No. 433 MARKET St. and No. 5 North FIFTH St.,
de8 Wholesale agent for Pennsylvania.

The Press.
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1862.

James Sheridan Knowles—Personal Recollections.

Knowles, the dramatist, is dead, and it is presumed that, as he was personally and professionally a favorite in this country, some reminiscences of him, as a man and an actor-author, may not be out of place in this journal. Our acquaintance with him commenced about twenty-nine years ago, and has not been intermitted, for we have occasionally exchanged letters during the last ten years. As the narrative which follows will necessarily be personal, the editorial "we" shall be laid aside:

In the autumn of 1833 I was introduced to James Sheridan Knowles, who had visited Liverpool upon a starring excursion, upon the usual terms of the time—to perform for a fortnight without any salary, receiving for his remuneration a clear half of one benefit. In *his* case the receipts were $1,500, owing to a curiosity to see the author-actor, whose "Virginius" and "William Tell" were well known, and whose "Hunchback," produced the year before, and "The Wife" still more recently, was yet more popular—the elder Vandenhoff playing *Master Walter* much better than any person I have seen, except James W. Wallack, Jr., some weeks ago, at Arch-street Theatre, when he towered over the pigmies like Gulliver among the Lilliputians. At this time, I was editor of the *Liverpool Journal*, a paper which paid particular attention to theatrical matters—the more so, it may be, because I was a youngster who knew very little about them, and for whom the gloss of novelty was an attraction. The fact that I was an editor, fond of the theatre, that my mother had learned writing from Knowles' father, and that, like myself, Knowles was a Corkman, drew us closely together in Liverpool, and not a day passed without spending an hour or two together. I found him, for an Irishman, wonderfully reserved. He was very absent, at times, and to my surprise, the contrary having been reported, very abstemious in eating and drinking.

At that time, Knowles was in his fiftieth year. He was born at Anne street, "in the beautiful city of Cork," in 1784, and to an autograph of his, now before me, dated Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, 12th May, 1832, he had added "my birth-day." In personal appearance he by no means realized the beau-ideal of a poet. He was then in deep mourning for one of his sons, who had recently died in India, but, as I afterwards had many occasions for observing, his favorite attire was the short jacket and wide trowsers of a seaman. Indeed, with his peculiar walk, as if he were not accustomed to *terra firma*, which gave him a rolling gait, with his brusque manner, and his weather-beaten, ruddy face, the poet might easily have been taken for the captain of a merchant vessel. He was scarcely five feet eight inches high, but looked lower, from his stoutness. What particularly pleased strangers was the frankness, tempered with a little roughness, of his manner. This made him *appear*, to strangers, as a remarkably genial man. He walked down Lord street one day, and a gentleman stopped to say, "Mr. Knowles, I am happy to see you in Liverpool." Knowles' face brightened up, he seized the stranger's hand with a crushing squeeze, expressed *his* delight at seeing him looking so well, and the *rencontre* terminated in this warm manner. "Who may your friend be?" I asked. Knowles turned round, looked me full in the face, with a half smile, and answered, "My dear boy, I do not recollect that I ever saw him before, but he appears to have met me." All the warmth of greeting, the heartiness, the pressure of the hand, was but the trick of custom and of manner. Nevertheless, it pleased those upon whom it was bestowed.

In 1834, previous to Knowles going to America as a "star," a large party of his friends gave him a splendid dinner at the Mersey Hotel, then a famous house for turtle and madeira, situated close to St. Nicholas' Church-yard, Liverpool, but converted into offices many years ago. Mr. Horne, the landlord, literally "spread himself" (as well as his table) on that occasion. There was a good deal of post-prandial oratory, and then, for the first time, I heard Knowles make a speech. His manner and matter were admirable, and I then first became aware that all I heard of his elocution, off the stage, was not an exaggeration. He was earnest in tone, distinct in utterance, and simple in language. His decided Irish accent—that tone, Moore said, in which the gems of Irish wit can alone be set, and which Madame de Stael liked because it "makes you know how much in earnest the speaker is"—his accent was broad enough, but, in his speech, this was taken as part of the man. The dinner was over by eleven o'clock that evening, and Knowles put on his hat to walk part of the way home with me. He spoke more of himself in that long walk than on any other occasion. He had just returned from a professional tour in Ireland, and I asked whether it was true, as reported, that when he arrived in Cork, he instantly went to visit his old nurse? The answer was—"To be sure! I have none other there to see. Since I left Cork, a boy, all my old friends, all the old familiar faces, had gone off, or could not be recognized, and in my utter loneliness of spirit I went to see the old woman. Aye, my dear boy, (his favorite expression to young men,) I came to Cork after a lapse of forty years, and, except Mitchell, my writing-master, who must now be nearly ninety, all were departed." The fact was so. His first visit was to his nurse, and every night that he played he had the old dame in the boxes. "I played with all my heart," he said, "to please that poor old soul." Please her he did, for the tears came down her aged cheeks—though, I dare say, she had a very dim idea of what her foster-child was saying or doing. I asked him what success he had in Ireland?—a large benefit in Cork, of course? "What success?—that which an Irishman usually meets upon his own ungrateful soil, upon which the curse of Swift hangs heavily. In Cork, where I was born—where my father had a great school for many years—in a city which the people proudly call the Athens of Ireland, my benefit amounted to ninety pounds—being two pounds less than they had given, a fortnight before, to a negro actor, the African Roscius." He appeared much annoyed at this, and his voice faltered as he spoke the words. I thought it best not to say any word of consolation, and he soon recovered himself and went on, adding, very emphatically, "My dear M——, the fact is *my plays are too liberal for the aristocratic liberals of Ireland.* At my benefit in Cork the only man of influence who attended was one who had been my school-fellow, and, in him, friendship and a warm heart overcame political prejudice, his personal kindness was stronger than his party bias. My plays, into which I have thrown my heart, breathe the sentiments of liberty, and such are not the sentiments of the influential classes in Ireland." I said that their influence had been so large and wholesome that he could not regret them. "Regret them! No. But I am going to a country where liberty exists in its best form, and not in form alone, but the embodied spirit. If I do not clear one shilling by my visit to America, still I shall rejoice at visiting it."

After parting with Knowles, and promising to see him off, next day, (it was before steam had almost bridged the Atlantic,) I returned home, and an idea which had been all the evening in my mind became so strong that, sitting down at my desk at that midnight hour, I commenced writing a biographical sketch of Knowles, which I thought might be of use to him if published in America, where his plays had been very successful, and where, at the time, very little was known about the author. From time to time I had picked up the less known particulars from Knowles himself, in conversation, and was familiar with most points patent to the world. I completed the sketch about six o'clock in the morning, addressed it to George P. Morris, then editor of the *New York Mirror*, a famous literary weekly of that day, for which I used sometimes write poetry, and gave it to him to publish. At ten o'clock that morning, I placed the packet in Knowles' hands, without any intimation of its contents. It duly reached its destination, and was published a few days after Knowles arrived in New York. He told me, several years after, that it had been of essential service to him. Published in the New York *Mirror* in 1834, this little memoir was adopted as introductory to a small volume of "Select Dramatic Works of James Sheridan Knowles," published by Edward G. Coale & Co., Baltimore, in 1835. It was thence republished, in the *New York Citizen*, in 1857, but I never saw the volume, whose title-page credited me, by name, as the biographer, until a few months ago, when Mr. Hunter Stedman, of this city, picked up the volume at a book stand in Market street, and kindly presented it to me. As the only biography of Knowles yet written, (with the exception of his obituary in a Glasgow paper, which has been republished in New York, on Friday last,) and as its facts were supplied by Knowles himself, I shall not hesitate to draw upon it here, with a parent's right.

Knowles derived his second surname from the famous Richard Brinsley Sheridan, who was his father's first cousin. The grandfather of both was Dr. Sheridan, renowned for his wit and learning, to whom Dean Swift was so much attached. The Doctor's son, Thomas Sheridan, manager and actor, who published a Pronouncing Dictionary of the English Language in 1780, was himself a man of talent. *His* son was—

"The dramatist, orator, minstrel, who ran
Through each mode of the lyre, and was master of all."

—Then came Tom Sheridan, who may be chronicled as having died too soon for his own renown and the advantage of literature, and the list closes with Mrs. Norton, the most eminent of all poor Tom Sheridan's daughters. This is the line in which the hereditary genius of the race of Sheridan has been transmitted. Knowles, collaterally, added to the family honors a grace of a very rare and un-Sheridan-like description, that of a genius for the serious drama, full of faith in the good and beautiful, and good upon that account.

James Knowles, the father, was master of a profitable and popular school in Cork for many years before he emigrated to London, in 1792. He was a learned man, fond of teaching (which was one secret of his success), and bent upon making elocutionists of all his pupils. I have heard from my mother, who attended his school soon after she got into her teens, that James Knowles held political opinions far too liberal for the time and place, and that his exodus from Cork was caused by an intimation that it was intended to arrest him on suspicion of being mixed up, in extreme anti-Government politics, with several persons, some of whom eventually perished on the scaffold in the subsequent rebellion of 1798—an insurrection connived at by the British Government, it was said, and is extensively believed, in order to make a pretext for destroying the nationality of Ireland, by the Union which, to the eternal disgrace of her Parliament, was effected on parchment in 1800.

James Knowles went to London, in 1792, with his son, then a lad in his ninth year. He opened a school there, with his usual success, and gave his son, the future dramatist, an useful rather than a showy education. Eventually, the elder Knowles became English and elocutionary teacher in the Belfast Academical Institution. For many years, he was wholly maintained by his son, and died, at a very advanced age, in London. So lately as 1835, the old man published "A Pronouncing and Explanatory Dictionary of the English Language," which he dedicated as "a Fac-simile Pronouncing Dictionary, in which every letter, in ninety-eight thousand words, represents a sound actually heard in the Pronunciation," and claimed to have performed more in this respect, than Walker or Sheridan had accomplished. It is reasonably a good dictionary, in octavo, as a book could be, the author of which was prevented by illness, while it was passing through the Press, from properly correcting the proofs. Following the Preface is a page of gratitude, rather out of place, to one Baron Heurteloup, a surgeon, who had successfully operated as a lithotriptist upon Mr. James Knowles, ending with a strong request that William IV. would propose a Parliamentary grant to enable the Baron to form a Lithotriptic Institution, *pro bono publico.* He declared that it was necessary to add a description of his own case, as supplementary to what he had already said under the term Lithotriptist in the Dictionary; but the curious point is that this word (signifying one who breaks a stone in the bladder) actually is not to be found in the book! I possess a copy, presented to me by my friend Mr. M. C. Hart, and literally speak from the book. The portrait of the elder Knowles, which forms its frontispiece, is very like the son. The publication of this work was extremely costly (800 octavo pages of small type), and, as the sale was not very large, the chief burden of payment fell upon Sheridan Knowles, and heavily oppressed him for many years.

It might be said of Sheridan Knowles, as of Pope, that

"He lisped in numbers, for the numbers came."

At the age of twelve, while associated with a juvenile company of amateur actors, the idea of writing a play occurred to him. It was written, was acted, and is lost. Next he wrote the libretto of an opera, the subject being the adventures of the Chevalier de Crillon. It was placed by his father in the hands of Richardson, the eccentric friend of *the* Sheridan, and was also lost. This is a pity, for people like to see the buds and blossoms as well as the fruit and flowers of genius, and

"—— Love to trace the unfolding of that power
Which hath grown ampler, grander every hour."

Nor did Knowles confine himself to the drama. At the age of fourteen he wrote a pleasing ballad, entitled "The Welsh Harper," commencing

"Over the sunny hills I stray,"

which was set to music, and is to be found in the collections of antique spinsters. I have a copy of it. The air as well as the words by Knowles.

He was intended for the medical profession, and studied for it during two years. He even attained the dignity of being chosen to act as cupper in one of the great London hospitals—where, for some cause now unknown, he was called "Jeremiah." His inclination to literature and the stage was too strong to be repressed. William Hazlitt, the great critic of that period, took a fancy to the boy, corrected his rude productions, and introduced him to Charles Lamb and others of that especial and highly-cultured *coterie*. At [illegible] time he was actually gazetted [illegible] in an infantry regiment [illegible] mimic to the act[illegible] the ripe age [illegible] tragedy, "The [illegible] extant. Eight [illegible]" which Tom [illegible] Drury Lane [illegible] had removed [illegible] his relatives, [illegible] wealthy. He [illegible] there, charming his friends by his sweet singing and especially delighting in declamatory exhibitions. The earlier passion for the stage was irrepressible in such a place as Dublin, where even the shoeblack, who sits among his associate "gods" in the gallery, is a natural critic, and he resolved to become an actor. He made a debut at Crow-street Theatre, but failed. He abandoned the idea for a time, and occupied himself by writing "Leo, the Gipsy," a play destined to greater honor than fame. At last, quitting his friends, he joins what a French critic has called "the nomadic company" of Mr. Cherry, at Waterford in the south of Ireland, and here met Edmund Kean, who had come over from Swansea to star. Knowles was twenty-five years old at this time, and Kean only twenty-two. Here Knowles' "Leo, the Gipsy," was produced, with Kean as the hero. It was a very successful piece, but was never printed. Three years later, when Kean made his debut at Drury-Lane Theatre, the fortunes of which he then retrieved, he endeavored to appear in this play, but the management, which had small faith in the new actor, (then untried,) had none whatever in the new play.

A Dublin actor, named Mara, had written a piece called "Brian Boroighme (pronounced Brian Boru), founded on the history of the Irish warrior-king who defeated the Danes and lost his own life at Clontarf. Knowles took it in hand to alter, but almost entirely recast it. This was some time after "Leo, The Gipsy," had been played at Waterford, Clonmel, and Swansea. About 1810, by which time Mr. Knowles had added a wife to his "properties" (she was an actress, named Miss Charteris), "Brian Boroighme" was produced with great success, at Waterford, Kean as the hero, Mrs. Knowles as the heroine, and Knowles, who was first singer, as the high priest. This melo-drama was reproduced, I recollect, at a little theatre called Holloway's Sansperiel, in Liverpool, in 1832, and had a fair run there. It had some good situations, but was only a fourth-rate piece.

In 1811, by which time the elder Knowles had become teacher in the Belfast Academical Institution, Sheridan Knowles obtained a situation, in the line of "general utility," in the company of Mr. Talbot, then one of the best actors in Ireland, at Belfast. To defray the expenses of removal from the south to the north of Ireland, Knowles published a small