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Death.

Death is here, and death is there,
Death is busy everywhere,
All around, within, beneath,
Above is death—and we are death.

Death has set his mark and seal
On all we are and all we feel,
On all we know and all we fear,
* * * * * *

First our pleasures die—and then
Our hopes, and then our fears—and when
These are dead, the debt is due,
Dust claims dust—and we die too.

All things that we love and cherish,
Like ourselves, must fade and perish;
Such is our rude mortal lot—
Love itself would, did they not.

[*Shelley.*

Domestic.

An editor out West, in speaking of his domestic increase, gives the following:

Sound the stage horn—blast the trumpet
That the waiting world may know!
Publish it through all our borders,
Even unto Mexico.

Seize your pen, oh dreaming poet!
And in numbers smooth as may-be,
Spread afar the joyful tidings!
Betsy's got another baby!

Poisonous Visiting Cards.

Few ladies remember that they carry around poison in their card cases. But it is so, and sometimes to the danger of children or thoughtless people of larger growth. The elegant and highly polished enamel on visiting cards is composed in part, of poisonous mineral substances, and if eaten would produce serious sickness. The manufacture of this card paper is said to be exceedingly unhealhty, and we may well believe it. It would be, therefore, a kind thing to the workmen engaged in the manufacture of cards, and a safe thing to themselves and their children, if the ladies, who set the fashion in these things, would give up the use of enamelled cards, and confine themselves to those of plain surface. Those, we understand, are the most fashionable, from what cause we know not, but the plain brownish cards are the most stylish. It is gratifying to see fashions turned in the channels of common sense, of health and humanity even though in a small matter. We hope that the knowledge of the dangerous character of these cards will not lead to their restoration to femenine favor and to fashion, which is a very fickle thing—we mean of course, the fashion is, not the fair.—*Providence Journal.*

A Good One.—Why is a pretty young widow like corn in a scarce time? Because she ought to be *husbanded.*

Another new paper has been started at Atalanta, Georgia, entitled the *Bed Bug.* and edited by Jack Chinch & Co. They evidentally are getting into the habit of calling things there by the right names.

A servant girl once received the following written character from a person who meant to compliment her very highly:

"This is to certify, that Isabel Weir served with us during the last half year, and found her in every respect *creditble* and *free of nothing* that was any way *rong.*"

An old maid was heard to exclaim while sitting at her toilet the other day—"I can bear adversity; I can encounter hardships; I can withstand the changes of fickle fortune—but oh! to live, and droop, and die, like a single pink, I can't endure it, *and what's more I won't.*

"Aunt," inquired a medical prodigy of fifteen, fresh from a lecture on surgery, "What do you think the most difficult operation in surgery?"

"Don't know, Charley—what?"

"Taking the jaw off a woman," answered the hopeful youth.

Read This, Boys!

"This is the effect of shoemaking," said a young mechanic to us the other day, shaking a well filled purse in our face.—It was not said boastingly, but with an honest pride. We wish to refer our readers to a few particulars in the history of this young man. He is the fourth son of an industrious mechanic, who had known the heights of influence and the depths of poverty. His eldest is rered for the ministry, and is, we believe, a talented and useful member of society. A second was a mechanic, a hard-working fellow. The third has acquired an excellent education after much labor and hard work, through his own means. The youngest son, him to whom we introduce the reader, was brought up in the conviction that labor was derogatory to respectability—that wealth was the highest good that could be enjoyed by mortals. He was early sent to school, then to the academy, preparatory to a course of professional studies. Meanwhile, his old father was toiling and starving to attain the distinctions attendant on wealth, merely for the sake of his children: but willing to forego all the pleasures and emoluments of the world, if his sons could be useful and lauded in the community.

The young man entered upon his studies, convinced that he was the son of a rich man comparatively, and consequently he was entitled to a "full swing," in all the frolics and sprees that came off.—Books, and duty itself, were mere subservients to fun. So when his six months were completed he came home to his disappointed parents, a wild, reckless, indolent boy, instead of the sedate, fixed and and ambitious young man. He loitered about home some time, but his father's constitution was broken, his sales low, and his returns nothing. Starvation was broken before the family. Fruitless and equally many were the applications which the young man made at the trading establishments in the city for occupation.—There were more clerks than there were merchants, and more traders than buyers. Worn out with fatigue and the stings of conscience for his former misspent time, with his spirit humbled, and nerved to undergo any privation rather than return without employment to his father's house, the shop of every mechanic from the blacksmith's to the jeweller's was besieged but it was a time of general depression in business—every man looked out for his own good. So without blame, conscious that he had done his best to obtain an occupation, the young man went home.—The well spread table, the carpeted floor, and the refinement which was visible in the household but seemed to aggravate the misery of its tenants.

One day the young man was in the shop of a shoemaker, who had amassed by his industry a respectable fortune, while he had built up a reptation which can never die from the memory of the community in which he lived. "Why don't you go to work?" asked the old man. "I can't get anything to do," was the response. "Come and learn my trade," said the old man.—It was a bargain. The pampered son of fortune became the apprentice of honest father——.His good habits endeared him sensibly to the generous shoemaker, and the progress which he had made in his new avocation surprised every one who had been formerly acquainted with his idle habits. The old man died; during his illness he carried on the business of the shop, and received for his service some old tools which had been the property of his employer. He commenced business for himself, but soon went into a flourishing village and entered a large establishment as a journeyman. His love for study and refinement increased. The best society was thrown open before him. The confidence of his employer was unbounded in his integrity, his shop mates were pleased with his native talent and his address—he became the sun of their little circle; and when he left his employer with the hope of obtaining a more lucrative situation, his loss was severely lamented. We were recently conversing with this young gentleman upon the false pride which had ruined so many boys.—Said he: "If I had obtained a clerkship when I sought it, I should have been an outcast in society, and a beggar. This is the effect of shoemaking, of industry, and enterprise—a good reputation, a clear conscience, and a happy life."

☞ A subscriber writes to the editor of a Western paper, "I don't want your little paper any longer"—to which the editor replies, "I wouldn't make it any longer, if you did; its present length suits me very well."

A Mammoth Farmer.

Jacob Strawn's homestead in Illinois, consists of ten thousand acres. The number of acres of corn he has this year, is twenty-three hundred. This, at forty bushels per acre, a low average yield for the last-season, gives ninety-two thousand bushels. The corn fed to cattle is not husked, but is cut up and fed to them on the stalks. Another farm is owned by the same man, which is six miles long and four broad. Last year he paid out ten thousand dollars for fencing materials. He has also large tracts of unimproved lands. Strawn is an immense dealer in cattle.

The above we clip from one of our exchanges. Jacob Strawn is descended from the same ancestry as the numerous and much respected family of Strawns now residing in Haycock and Richland townships, in this county. His father removed from Bucks county, and settled in the Territory (now the State) of Ohio.—He was a drover and farmer; and managing his affairs with industry and economy, acquired a handsome unincumbered landed estate. His son Jacob removed to and settled in the State of Illinois, at his present residence, near Jacksonville, and about one hundred miles from St. Louis. He engaged in droving on a large scale; and by his unbounded enterprise, united with industry and skillful management, he became one of the largest and most prosperous dealers in stock in the United States; and laid the foundation, life and health being spared, for being one of the wealthiest citizens of the country. With all his good fortune, he now, at the age of about fifty-four years, continues his personal attention to his extended business; and his house is well known, with "the latch string out," and plain but comfortable entertainment, free of charge, to all who call, with the single condition that they shall wait upon themselves and not interfere with his daily routine of business.

Among his recent visiters were our sporting friend Thornton of this borough, and Samuel Fenton of Buckingham, from whom we have gathered some interesting facts concerning his operations.—His landed estate in Illinois amounts to about 40,000 acres, all susceptible of cultivation, and with a deep, rich soil. His homestead Farm contains about 20,000 acres, with a large mansion house, and about forty tenant houses, with other extended improvements. It is mostly enclosed with worm fencing, ten or eleven rails in hight. During the last year, however, upwards of five miles of post and rail fencing was put up, at a cost of $2.-50 per rod. On this tract he has about 1500 acres of what he calls "walnut brush," which our informants describe as the most beautiful timber they have even seen.

His last season's corn crop of 4380 acres he estimated to yield from seventy to seventy-five bushels per acre. This was cut and shocked on the ground, and fed to his stock during the winter without husking. He raised $700 worth of timothy seed, and used the whole of it on his own lands, together with $750 worth more which he purchased.

His stock consists of about 7,000 head of cattle, 10,000 hogs, 50 brood mares, and the necessary number of working animals.

The whole concern is managed under the superintendence of Mr. Strawn, who is mainly occupied in riding on horseback over his immense plantation, giving directions to those in his employ, which he requires to be implicity obeyed; and he is down most decidedly upon that class of loafers who live well and dress genteelly at the expense of their creditors.—He says he dislikes them more than the swarms of wild geese, brant, and prairie hens, which annually destroy from two to three thousand bushels of his corn.

We might relate much more of interest concerning Mr. Strawn and his farming operations, with some rich anecdotes, did time and space permit; but we have said enough to show the bountiful reward attending his enterprise, economy, and integrity in his business relations—a crowning success open to all who will pursue a like course, if not in the same degree, at least in an ample measure.—*Bucks county Intelligencer.*

A couple of the most efficient members of the 'Shakers' Society,' at Enfield, suddenly left "the hive," a few days since, and it is ascertained, have been *married!* They had been regarded as "fire-proof" specimens of the order, until this event—which proves that there is a great deal of "human natur," even among Quakers.

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

Opening of the Japanese Ports.

At the present time the opening of channels of commerce with such a vast empire is specially important, inasmuch as the continued disturbances in China threaten to thwart enterprise in that direction. The supply of teas thence is already falling off, and a further deficiency is expected, for the civil war is weakening the resources as well as benumbing the energeries of the Chinese; so that the opening of Japan to American commerce is exceedingly opportune. It is worthy of note, too, that this concession is made to the United States only; which fact is expressive of the wisdom with which Commodore Perry has executed his delicate but important mission, which is very apparent, also, from the copious narratives of his second visit supplied by the China papers.

The barrier to intercourse with Japan is broken down, without the lifting of a sword or the firing of a gun. Nor is the formal treaty the only advantage gained by this expedition. The two nations have already learned much of each other's characteristics, and there is every evidence that the Japanese are disposed to place confidence in their new acquaintances, and to learn all they can from them. In this respect they differ considerably from the Chinese, whose first intercourse with European nations was marked by contempt for European inventions and productions. The accounts furnished from the expedition show that the Japanese rank higher in intellect and enterprise than the Chinese. We find them appreciating the railway, and marvelling at the telegraph, and even making diligent inquiry respecting Ericsson's caloric engine, of which they had heard. The list of presents and the mode of their reception is worth quoting:

Four days after the interview the presents were interchanged, time having been required to erect places for their reception. Those for the Emperor consisted of, among other things; a railway with steam engine; an electric telegraph; a life boat; a printing press; a fine lorgnette; a set of Audubon's American Ornithology, spendidly bound; plates of American Indians; maps of different States of America; agricultural implements, with all the modern improvements; a piece of cloth; a bale of cotton; a stove; rifles, pistols, and swords; champagne, cordials, and American whiskey. And for the Empress, (presuming there is one,) a telescope; a lorguette in a gilded case; a lady's toilet box, gilded; a scarlet velvet dress; a changeable silk dress, flowered; a splendid robe; Audubon's illustrated works, a handsome set of china; a mantlepiece clock; a parlor stove; a box of fine wines; a box of perfumecy; a box of fancy soaps. Among the other presents, perhaps the one most valued was a copy of Webster's Complete Dictionary to the imperial interpreter. To the high officers were given books, rifles, pistols, swords, wines, cloths, maps, stoves, clocks, and cordials, the last of which they fully appreciated; and, as regards clocks, when it was proposed to bring an engineer from ship-board to set them agoing, the Japanese said there was no occasion for that, for they had clock-makers in Yeddo who understood them perfectly.

Whatever may be thought of some of the other presents, the railway and telegraph, at which the world at the time was disposed to laugh, were happy hits. The rail is oly about three hundred yards in all; but, being formed in a circle, the carriage can be driven at the rate of forty miles or more. Just at first the Japanese were chary of venturing into the car, but after a single trial there was much good humored competition for places. The telegraph much more astonished them; but they will speedily understand it, and may possibly by this time be laying down wires for themselves.

The chaplain of the expedition, the Rev. Mr. Bittinger, made several excursions among the villages and corn-fields, the latter of which he found in high cultivation. The houses were generally thatched, the better ones tiled, and had enclosed yards and gardens. The narrator adds:

The same gentleman, finding the people neither unfriendly nor indisposed to receive him, and having obtained leave to go on shore, determined to visit two large cities some miles off, called Kanagawa and Kasacca, and with that view crossed an arm of the bay, which shortened the distance by several miles. He then proceeded through Kanawaga, supposed to contain from one to two hundred thousand inhabitants, and, from the immense crowds that poured out everywhere to see the stranger, there can be no doubt of the population being very great. The crowds, however, caused no inconvenience or impediment, for, on a wave of the hand from the Japanese officials who accompanied Mr. Bittinger, the people cleared a passage; and afterwards, a messenger having been sent forward for the purpose, the people packed themselves at the sides of the houses, and left the centre of the streets clear for the stranger. He entered some of the houses, which he found primitive in their furniture and arrangements, but, compared with other Oriental dwellings of the same class, neat, clean, and comfortable. In some of them he observed clocks of Janpanese manufacture.

He also visited several temples, which, though smaller than in China, have more gilding on their walls and ornaments on the idols, and generally are in better order. The priests as well as the people were distinugished for their courtesy.—The cities visited were not only very extensive, (estimated to be six-miles long,) but with wide well formed streets. Kasacca is some fifteen to twenty miles distant, by land, from the ships; and Mr. Bittinger being thus necessarily long absent, some anxiety was felt about him.—As he was returning a Japanese officer put into his hands an order from the commodore for all officers to return on board, and shortly afterwards a courier, mounted on a splendid black horse, delivered a similar despatch, and, finding it was understood and acted on, turned round and gallopped back aigan to report the approach of the American officer, who concluded his journey by torch-light, and found on his arrival that every thing that had occurred had been noted, even the number of buttons on his coat being recorded.

One officer contrived to get up to Jeddo, or sufficiently near it to inform himself that there is five fathoms depth of water close up to the city. It was expected that when the treaty was signed permission would be given to strangers to visit the capital. Of the two ports, Matsmai and Osaka, the opening of which the treaty provides for, the Hong Kong Register gives a brief account. Matsmai is the chief city of the island Yeso, and is situated at the south end of the island; near the Straits of Sanger, between Yeso and Niphon. Osaka is a capital in Niphon, or Japan proper, and is situated on the western side, about half way between Jeddo, the capital, and Nagasaki, the Dutch port of trade. A correspodent of the China Mail gives the following acount of the burial of one of the sailors of the American Squadron:

One of the standing opinions about the Japanese destined to be thrown down by Com. Perry has been that they were invincibly intolerant of christianity. Indeed, this has been assigned as a main reason for their exclusiveness. To the emblem of the cross they still object, but the story of the expelled Portuguese, that every Christian landing at Japan was required to trample on it, or on a representation of the Virgin and Saviour, must if, true, have been almost entirely confined to themselves and their co-religionists.—More recent writers, who have been able to deny that such is now the custom; tell us the "practice of religious rites is prohibited by irrevocable Japanese laws;" but the following narrative of the furneral of a marine of the United States squadron shows that there is as little foundation for the one statement as for the other.

On the 9th of March, the day following the first meeting between Commodore Perry and the Imperial Commissioner from Jeddo to negotiate the terms of a commercial treaty, a soldier's and a christian burial was given to a marine, Robert Williams, who had died a few days before on board the steamer Mississippi. The party detailed for this purpose consisted of several officers, one of them the chaplain in his gown, an escort of eight marines in charge of a corporal, and four marines as bearers of the corpse. Two boats left the ship, one containing the officers and the other the body and escort. Upon reaching the shore the party was met by several Jappanese officials, ready to conduct them to the grave. The escort landed first, and received the body with the usual honors. The little procession was then formed; first the escort, followed by the music, (drum and fife;) next the body, borne on the shoulders of four messmates; and then the chaplain with the other officers, and a few sailors from the boats bringing up the rear. In this order, with the music playing a dead march, the party moved to the grave, winding through the streets of a village a distance of nearly half a mile. On either side of the road, and on the surrounding hills, at the foot of one of which the grave had been made, thousands of people, men, women, and children, could be seen, all manifesting eager curiosity.

I could but think, as we passed along, how strange not only the procession, but each of us individually must appear to that eager throng, not one of whom probably had ever before looked upon the face of a stranger from a foreign country; and yet there was no undue noise or apparent alarm on the part of any of them—only intense interest in observing what was passing before them. As we neared the grave, which occupied a very pretty spot, the voice of the chaplain could be heard: "I am the resurrection and the life; saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

As we gathered around the grave, and the reading of the burial service proceeded, the scene was one of unusual interest; for the time and place and circumstances conspired to make it, as an incident, honorable to our short sojourn in a land where for centuries, it is said the symbol of our religion has been trodden under foot. The church burial service ended, the escort fired three volleys over the grave.—I had expected that on this there would be some commotion among the crowd, but I noticed only at the first discharge that for a moment there was a slight movement as of surprise, and then all were again quiet and attentive observers.

Having now committed to the earth, with all due honor, the remains of our deceased shipmate, the procession was reformed, and, with music to the front, again passed through the village and the thousands of spectators to our boats on the beach. Here we took leave of the officials, who throughout the entire ceremony had conducted themselves with great propriety and extended to us every civility, and returned to the ship; pleased with the consciousness of not only having seen, but assisted in giving such honors, in such a place, to a deceased brother.

The writers in the Clifna papers take exception to one feature of this negotiation, viz: that the Japanese refused to admit into the proposied treaty a clause granting to all others countries the same privileges as those granted to the United States. It is to the honor of the Administration that sent out the expedition, and to the Ambassador himself, that the liberal proposition was made by the United States. The refusal, however, is not to be wondered at. The Japanese may not deem it expedient to admit *at one time* all the nations of the earth to such intercourse. The treaty with the United States is but an experiment, and may possibly be regarded by the Japanese as a hazardous experiment, considering the long years of seclusion in which that people have dwelt; but that ultimately other nations will be admitted to the same privileges cannot reasonably be doubted.—The superincumbent pressure once removed, the germ of popular interprise will spring up and grow until it will connect itself with every commercial Power.

And how vastly superior, how much nobler, are such conquests and triumphs than those of the bayonet and the cannon! How much more worthy of the Government of the United States is such an expedition, with such results, than the contemplated quarrel with Spain as a pretext for the acquisition of Cuba!

It will stand immemorially to the credit of Mr. Fillmore's Administration that at no sacrifice of human life, and by no violation of the laws of national comity, an immense Empire has been unsupultured, and the light of commerce, of civilization, and of christianity admitted into its long-sealed chambers. And what a future is opened to Japan and to the world!—How mighty events now crowd upon us! China undergoing a revolution, preparatory to an entire change of institutions and policy, and her people already emigrating by thousands! Japan abandoning non-intercourse and opening her ports with good will to the youngest among nations! France and England in alliance, and war about to desolate the whole of Europe! Other events of scarcely less importance are already looming up in the distance. Verly the world, and not this nation or that only, is being revolutionized.

There must have been some suppressed 'snickering' in the 'meetin-house' where the following laughable incident occured.

Let me tell (says a correspondent of the Knickerbocker Magazine) an anecdote of an old settler in my neighborhood, whom I will name Peter G.——, who had resided on his farm near our village for the last forty years, and by his industry and the increased price of lands, was called rich, and lived 'full, fat & plenteously.' He was one of those hale, hearty, hard-working, bluff, blunt, openhearted farmers, who thought more of looking after his stock and farm than of visiting a house of worship on the Sabbath-day. A near neighbor, who was his very opposite, and thought it sacrilege to miss a regular church meeting, called on Peter one day and asked him to attend on the next Sabbath to hear Parson——preach; who, by the way, had built up a large church in the village. So Peter promised that he would be there on the next Sunday.—Punctual to the time, as Peter thought, but a little late, he arrived at the door, which was closed, and the minister had commenced. Peter knocked at the door.—Some one sitting near opened it. In walked Peter, with his ever blunt 'How'd do?' and looking up at the minister, he said 'Sir, howd'do?' and, in walking up in the aisle, he spoke to every one, all of whom he knew. When his friend, who had invited him, rose up to seat him in his pew, he grasped him by his hand, and with his loudest voice, said, "How are you? and how are yours?" which made such an unusual commotion that the congregation was in one titter during the whole sermon. This was his first and last visit to Parson D——'s church. He said they were the most dry and unsociable set of people he had ever seen, when they got on their Sunday-go-to-meeting faces.

Setting a River on Fire.

A river has been set on fire in Paris.—Two gentlemen have compounded a liquid of certain chemical elements, which takes fire spontaneously by contact with water. A glass globe containing some of this liquid was set a floating on the basin in the garden of the Paillais Royal. A person standing on the edge of the basin then broke the globe by means of a long stick. Its contents, spreading out into a flame, sending up thick smoke, and continued burning about one minute. The experiment was tried before a crowd of spectators. A similar and equally successful one has been tried on the Seine. The liquid compound is said to be inexpressive. It may have great destructive merits as a munition of war.