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OFFICE, MARKET STREET, OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE.

A Family Newspaper—Devoted to Politics, Literature, Generality, Foreign and Domestic News, Science and the Arts, Agriculture, Markets, Amusements, &c.

NEW SERIES VOL. 3, NO. 52.

SUNBURY, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA., SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1854.

OLD SERIES VOL. 11, NO. 26.

TERMS OF THE AMERICAN. THE AMERICAN is published every Saturday...

SELECT POETRY.

OUR UNION.

The blood that flowed at Lexington, and crimsoned bright Champlain, Streams still along the Southern Gulf...

black eye. That eye none could describe. A venerable citizen, who knew him well, has often told me that while Dr. Bascom was preaching...

"My child! my child!" screamed the mother; and quick as thought, all rushed to the door. Father of mercies! what a sight was here presented to the gaze of a doting mother!

True to his nature, when the excitement arose against Dr. Bascom, Dawson, although he was, personally, a total stranger to him, assumed a bold stand in his defence...

After this Dr. Bascom delivered addresses at a number of villages in Louisiana. He was accompanied to these places by the gallant knight, Mr. Dawson...

The following humorous advertisement, which frequently takes the rounds of the papers, was originally published in this place, about 30 years ago...

H. B. MASSER, ATTORNEY AT LAW. SUNBURY, PA. Business attended to in the Counties of Northumberland, Union, Lycoming and Columbia.

THE VERY LATEST ARRIVAL of NEW GOODS, AT THE STORE OF IRA T. CLEMENT, WHO takes this method of informing his friends and customers...

Mens' Apparel. SUCH AS CLOVES, CASIMERE, SATINETT, VESTINGS, &c. ALSO: a large assortment of Calicoes, Muscadine, De Laines, Alpacaes, Merinos, Shirts, Handkerchiefs, Gloves, Hosiery, &c.

READY MADE CLOTHING. A general assortment of Groceries, Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Cheese, Macaroni, Spices, &c. An assortment of Hardware, Nails, Sheet and Iron.

NEW GOODS! Market Street, Sunbury, Pa. JOHN W. PHILANG respectfully informs his friends and customers that he has just received a large and handsome assortment of Dry Goods.

GROCERIES of every description, DRUGS and MEDICINES. QUEENSWARE AND HARDWARE. Fish, Salt, Flour, and a general assortment of 1 and 2 cent goods...

THE LADIES. All find a great variety of all such articles as they will need for the present season. Country produce of all kinds taken in exchange for the highest market price.

MORE NEW GOODS At the New Store of JOHN BUYERS & CO., Market Street, Sunbury. WHO has just received and opened a large assortment of new and fashionable goods...

Hardware, Queensware. Groceries, Fish, Salt and Flour, and all articles that may be wanted by the community. The Ladies. All find, by calling at his store, that he has not an unprovided of their wants...

NEW STAGE LINE FROM POTTSVILLE TO SHAMOKIN. A new line of stages is now running daily between the above places. A comfortable two horse stage will leave Mt. Carmel for Shamokin...

From Shamokin to Trevorton. ere will be established a DAILY LINE by next morning to connect with this line at Shamokin. The main time private conveyance will be in attendance at Shamokin on the arrival of passengers.

GREEN dress his sword at Entaw; and blending Southern feet. Tend the march across the Delaware amid the snow and sleet; And lo! upon the parchment where the natal record shines...

Can ye divide that record bright and tear the names apart? That vest woven loquaciously there with plaid of heart and heart? Could ye erase a Hancock's name, or even with a soldier's edge...

Say, can the South sell out her share in Buncombe's glory? Or can the North give up her boast of Yorktown's shining glory? Can ye divide with equal hand a heritage of graves...

Can ye cast waves for Yermou's soil, or chaffer and the ground, That hangs in solemn folds about our common fathers' tomb? Or could ye meet around his grave as fraternal dead...

Biographical Sketch.

THE LATE BISHOP BASCOM.

The following sketch of this eminent Methodist divine will be perused with interest by our readers. It is taken from a recent number of the Ladies' Repository: No man who ever filled the pulpit of the United States has exercised a deeper, more extended, and more lasting influence upon the American mind than the late Henry B. Bascom.

The country through which Dr. Bascom's duty led him was wild and very thinly settled. The forests were filled with wild beasts. He was once followed several miles by a large panther, which threatened at every step, to bound upon him, and from which he was rescued by reaching, just at midnight, the cabin of a settler. At another time he had gone some distance from the house of a friend, where he was stopping, into the forest, and was laying quietly, perusing a book, and unconscious of all danger, under the broad spreading branches of a tree, when he heard the voice of a man crying to him, and telling him to lie still till he fired on the peril of his life.

While on the circuit of western Virginia, I think it was, Bascom stopped, at noon, at a log cabin, recently erected by the road side. He sat down, by invitation, to dine with the family. A lovely little child, about three years old, which had attracted his attention by its sweet smiles and rare beauty, was playing in front of the door, while the family were engaged around the homely repast, when suddenly a heart piercing cry was heard from without.

No one could administer a rebuke more happily than Dr. Bascom. He always did it in a manner that worked effectively, without giving offence. While proceeding to a large audience at a Kentucky "meeting house," in Garrard county, Kentucky, during his early career in the pulpit, he observed that an elderly but worthy citizen was taking a quiet stroll in front of him, while, at the same time, he was much annoyed by the loud talking of a few men out of noose. So, turning to the worthy behind him, he exclaimed, in a somewhat elevated tone, "Gentlemen, do not talk so loud, but you awake him that sleepeth within?" These without were instantly silenced, and the old man within awoke.

For several years Dr. Bascom's labors were assigned to the wild and unsettled frontiers of Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio. The hardships and privations to which he was subjected on these circuits, would have crushed the spirits of any ordinary man. He frequently had to travel forty miles a day, through solitary forests, and, after the fatigue of such a journey, delivered a sermon at night. The roads, at that time, were scarcely broken, and there were no bridges over the streams, which, in the winter, were often swollen by rains, beyond their banks. But this was a slight obstacle to the noble pioneer of the cross. He would force his horse daringly forward, and swing the teaming halloos. To a soul like his, a wet seat and a few hours of children were trifles not to be avoided. On one occasion, while swimming a small stream in Kentucky, which had been swollen to an unusual height by recent rains, the current was so rapid that he was forced some hundred yards below the ford. The drift was whirling furiously around him, and on either side the banks were ten feet to ascend. He saw his danger, but, with cool self-possession, he clung firmly to his faithful horse, and the noble animal, taking a downward course, finally emerged safely from his peril. What a contrast does this present to the smooth and luxurious life of most clergymen of the present day!

His instructions were, to proceed to New Orleans, and after conferring privately with a few persons who were known to be favorable to the movement, act as he thought most prudent. On arriving there, and consulting with his friends, he found that it would be a most hazardous undertaking to attempt to hold a public meeting; and, acting under the advice of those with whom he consulted, he determined to leave the city without publicly announcing the object of his visit. He had, however, spoken in several places in Kentucky before going to New Orleans, and his position being known, his arrival had, therefore, created considerable excitement. This so rapidly increased that a meeting was held by a number of citizens, at which several inflammatory speeches were delivered, and a resolution passed requiring him to leave the city. A committee of furious and excited individuals was appointed to wait on him, and notify him to leave within twenty-four hours, or take the consequences. At this time the Hon. Mr. Dawson, of St. Francisville, afterward a member of Congress from Louisiana, a bold, gallant, and impulsive man, was on a visit to New Orleans. He was a man of real mettle, and no excitement ever arose, where he was, that he did not join one side or the other, and generally, he was inclined to the weaker side.

The committee called on Dr. Bascom, informed him of the excited state of public feeling, and ordered him to leave the city in 24 hours, or take the consequences, which, they asserted, would be most serious. "Gentlemen," said he, in reply, "I had intended to leave to-morrow morning; but now, since you have ordered me to leave, I shall remain three days longer. I am an American citizen, and claim the right guaranteed to me by the Constitution of my country." The committee were thunder-struck by the boldness of this reply, and hastily left the room.

The committee had severely disapproved before loud voices and the tramp of men were heard approaching the room. Anticipating something serious, Dr. Bascom arose, approached the door, and, looking into the hall, saw advancing toward him a large crowd of rough men, led by one who had the air and dress of a gentleman. He fearlessly confronted them, and demanded the object of their errand. Mr. Dawson, who it was he who led this ungodly band, stepped forward, and explained the nature of his visit. "These," said he, "are all boatmen from Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, Indiana, Missouri and Tennessee. Most of them have heard you preach in times past; and those who have not heard you themselves, have heard of you from their mothers or friends. When I heard of your danger, Mr. Bascom, I determined to go to the levee, and appeal to them for your protection; and you see the result. We've just met the committee, and I told them if they dared to touch a hair of your head—if they dared to put you in prison, we wouldn't leave a stone of their callous standing. There's a thousand more such brave boys as these at the levee, and they all swear they'll die for you." Overpowered by the chivalry of Dawson, and the manliness and affection of the brave boatmen, Dr. Bascom wept, as he returned his hearty thanks. That night the streets in the vicinity of the hotel at which Dr. Bascom was stopping were alive with one ready to peril his life in defence of the "serpent preacher." But no violence was attempted; and before he left the city, Dr. Bascom had the pleasure of organizing a promising colonization society, many of the most influential citizens becoming life members.

Leaving New Orleans, Dr. Bascom proceeded up the river to Natchez. He had previously written to a friend to procure a church, in which he wished to deliver a public discourse in favor of colonization. The church of Dr. Potts, who afterward had the controversy with Dr. Weinwright of New York, had been secured for that purpose; and when he arrived, which was about the appointed hour, Dr. Bascom proceeded directly to the place of meeting. He was met at the door by the leading members of the Methodist Church of that city, and also by Dr. Potts, all of whom implored him not to speak. They declared that the public mind was highly incensed against him, and that there were at that time a number of mad men in the church determined to do violence if he attempted to speak. This did not in the least intimidate him; but, resisting all their importunities, Dr. Bascom marched directly through the church, and ascended the pulpit. Knowing that delay was dangerous, he did not take his seat, but turning to the audience, he told them that he was aware of the excited state of public feeling; aware of unprovoked violence; but he asked as a right, to be heard before being condemned—to be heard one hour; and then he would submit to any punishment of which he might be deemed deserving. The words were uttered rapidly, and were promptly answered by a man who arose in the midst of the audience, and cried, with an oath, that he should be heard. This was the same Mr. Dawson who had played so conspicuous a part in his behalf at New Orleans. He had learned Dr. Bascom's destination, and with the same chivalrous spirit which led him at first to espouse his cause, had, unknown to him, gone to Natchez to aid in his protection. And here his voice triumphantly prevailed. He was answered by an almost unanimous agreement to hear what Bascom had to say, at least for one hour. Accordingly, the address was commenced; and never before did the eloquent speaker labor more powerfully and effectively. The exciting circumstances under which he was placed seemed to act as a kind of inspiration, and nerve his soul to one of the noblest efforts of eloquence.

And when his hour expired, such wonders had he wrought in the minds of his hearers, that the cry of "Go on! go on!" was heard throughout the immense assembly. The orator proceeded for more than an hour longer; and at the conclusion of his address took up a collection for the Colonization Society. Those who so recently were ready to tear him to pieces, now rushed eagerly forward to contribute in aid of the great cause. The collection of that day was the largest received by Dr. Bascom in any city of the south, with the single exception of the city of Nashville.

From Texas. EXTENSION AGAINST THE CAMACHES.—General Brooke has at length been fully convinced that all efforts to conciliate the Camaches are unavailing, and that their treaties are only intended to dupe the military authorities, so that they may renew their depredations under more favorable auspices. He has therefore determined to punish them as effectually that they will in future either remain open enemies, or be deprived of the power to commit depredation. We understand that as soon as the spring opens, a campaign will be made directly into the Indian country, and the savages will be visited in their own hunting grounds. The Seminole chief Wild Cat is now waging war with the Camaches in the neighborhood of El Paso, and he will probably force the Western bands to fall back towards our settlements on the Colorado.—Houston Telegraph, 21st instant.

WILD WOMAN CAPTURED.—The famous Wild Woman of the Navidad has been caught. A party of hunters who were out hunting deer, came upon the camp of this singular creature and captured her. She is an African negroess who fell to those wilds when the settlements were deserted just after Fannin's defeat, and she has been wandering like an Ouzang Ouzang for a period of about fifteen years. Her food during that period consisted of acorns, nuts and other wild fruits, with such other food as she could occasionally steal from the neighboring settlements. She cannot speak English, but converses freely with the Africans on the neighboring plantations. This is solved the mystery that has hitherto given a romantic interest to the story of the Wild Woman of the Navidad.—Houston Telegraph, 21st instant.

THE PEDIGREE OF WASHINGTON.—The pedigree of General Washington, as traced and illuminated by Mr. Mapleson, carries back his descent to William de Herburn, Lord of the Manor of Washington, in the county of Durham, England. From his descended John Washington of Whitehall, in the time of Richard III, and ninth in descent from John, was George, first President of the United States. The mother of John Washington, who emigrated to Virginia in 1627, and who was great-grandfather to the General, was Eleanor Hastings, daughter and heiress of John Hastings, grandson to Francis, second Earl of Huntingdon. She was the descendant through Lady Huntington of George, Duke of Clarence, brother of King Edward IV, and King Richard the III, by Isabel Nevill, daughter and heiress of Richard, Earl of Warwick, the King-maker.—Washington, therefore, as well as the descendant of that marriage, are entitled to quarter the arms of Hastings, Pole, Earl of Salisbury, Plantagenet, Scotland, Mortimer, the Earl of March, Nevill, Montague, Beauchamp, and Devereaux.

THE COW TREE.—On the parched side of a rock in Venezuela grows a tree with a dry and leathery foliage, in large woody roots scarcely penetrating into the ground. For several months in the year the leaves are moistened by a shower; its branches look as if they were dead and withered; but when the trunk is bored, a bland and nourishing milk flows from it. It is at sunrise that the vegetable fountain flows freely. At that time the blacks and natives are seen coming from all parts, provided with bowls to receive the milk, which grows yellow and thickens at its surface. Some empty their vessels on the spot, while others carry them to their children.

PLOUGH, or not plough, you must pay your rent.

EGGS WHICH ARE EGGS.—An English paper contains the following notice of a recent extraordinary discovery in Madagascar: Some time since the discovery of gigantic eggs in Madagascar was spoken of. Three of these eggs have arrived at Paris, one broken on the route, the others whole and M. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire had laid them before the Academy of Sciences. They are of very different shapes, one being elliptical, the other having its two ends unlike each other. They are about thirteen inches in diameter the long way and nine the short; in circumference about thirty inches one way and twenty-five the other. The shell is one eighth of an inch thick, and contains about 72 gallons, or as much as 135 hen's eggs, 154 condor's eggs and 54 ostrich's egg. Mr. St-Hilaire has decided, from the examination of some bones found with one of the eggs, that they were produced by a bird. It now remains to discover the biggest of the feathered race.

FASHIONABLE DANCING. OH CRACK! WHAT AN IDEA! An Alabama paper's correspondent, recently on a visit to Washington, delivers himself of the following: "To see a stonished old libertine close up a young lady by the waist, draw her close up to him with his right arm, take her right hand in his left and stretch her arm out its full length, opening her dress from her neck; so that one might throw a kitten or a baby down, press her swelling chest tight up to him, and then, with knees and feet dovetailed in together, go whirling and jumping through a room filled with ladies and gentlemen, was to us a scene of vulgarity unequalled by any exhibition that we have ever seen, and we could not help congratulating ourselves, when hearing that such exhibitions were fashionable, that our daughters were too young, and our sisters too old to go into fashionable society."

EXTRACTS FROM THE IRISH. Tony Gowau is advertised as having lost "A pig with a very long tail, and a black spot on the top of its snout that curls up behind." A cow is described as "very difficult to milk, and of no use to any one but the owner, who had one horn much longer than the other." John Hawkins is alluded to as having "a pair of grey eyes, with little or no whiskers, and a Roman nose, that has a great difficulty in looking any one in the face." Jemmy Waterton is accused of having "absconded with a chest of drawers and a cock and hen, has red hair and a broken tooth none of which are her own."

REMARKABLE MEMORY.—Perhaps the most remarkable instance on record of the power of memory is one related of William Lion, a strolling player of England, who wagered a crown bowl of punch that he could repeat the contents of one number of the Daily Advertiser, a paper then crammed with advertisements, from beginning to end. The next morning notwithstanding the want of connection between the paragraphs, the variety of advertisements, and the general chaos which is prevalent in any newspaper, he repeated it from beginning to end without the least hesitation or mistake.

TO REVIVE A FADING FLOWER.—Cut the stalk, and hold it a few minutes in the flame of the candle, and then set the flower again in the cold water, when it will recover its strength almost visibly after this violent assistance, and blossom immediately.