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HER PICTURE.

By the curve of a rond fringed and skirted,
Half embowered in the greenetes of leaves
Stands the manor house, old and deserted,
With moss creeping over the eaves.
The glow of the sunlight illumes it
At the dawning and death of the day;
The lilies sweet breathing perfumes it
As they nod 'neath the blue sky of May.

Through the doorway, half hid'n by grasses,
I walk down the dim hall alone,
And a wind of the south softly passes
Where the steps of the dancers are flown;
And gaze on the strange pictured faces
That smile out from old tarnish'd frames,
While the breeze seems to ruffle their laces
And whisper their quaint English names.

There is one face that looks out serenely
From a background all sombre with shade,
With a small head as graceful and queenly,
As if for a coronet made.
The pearls on her low bodice glisten
And a rose lies asleep in her hair.
And she leans out, half smiling to listen
The songs of the lark lingering there.

I stand thus before her and wonder
What her rank and her hist'ry may be,
For surely some secret hides under
The smile she bestoweth on me;
What name had this beautiful lady,
Was it Dorothy, Ellice or Jane?
Did she walk through the garden so shady,
Down the path which she strays not again.

Methinks I can see her advancing
Through the maze of a grand minuet,
While the viols made music entrancing,
Whose echoes seem lingering yet;
Like the breath of the past's faded roses
She brings back the glad days of yore,
Like a rose, too, her beauty discloses
Till I sigh that her blooming is o'er.

No longer she flits through the gloaming
Where the stars and the red sunset meet,
And the white of the lilies lies foaming
Like spray neath her small slippered feet,
The rich silken robes that enshrined her
As the petals fold over a rose,
She has left them, all empty behind her,
Likea nest at the year's stilly close.

Though I stand here forever before her,
She gives not the answer I seek,
Still my fancy bows down to adore her
Where her soft golden locks kiss her cheek,
I may gaze on this beautiful mystery,
As a poet looks out on the sea,
But the laughter and tears of her history
She will never disclose unto me.

—*Elvira Sydney Miller.*

APPORTIONMENT.

SPEECH OF HON. A. J. COLBORN, OF SOMERSET.

Delivered in the House of Representatives, on the Subject of Apportionment—Able Presentation of the Merits of the Controversy &c., &c.

Mr. Colborn said: Mr. Speaker, I am persuaded that the majority of this House will pass this bill, and nothing that I can say will, in the least, influence a single vote, and were it not for the purpose of correcting some false positions assumed by our friends on the other side of the House, I should not say a word upon this bill.

Early in the regular session it was assumed by our Democratic friends that they were here for the purpose of making an honest and fair apportionment of the State of Pennsylvania into Congressional, Senatorial, Representative and Judicial districts, and that we were here—the remnant of the Republican party—as obstructionists; that we were here for the purpose of preventing a fair and honest apportionment of the State.

I propose, Mr. Speaker, for a few moments to review the action of this House in reference to the apportionment of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Early in the regular session a committee of Republicans prepared—very carefully prepared—a Congressional apportionment; one which they thought did justice to all parties and all classes of people in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Democratic side of the House prepared their bill which was known as the "Nicholson Bill," and they passed their bill through the House, although we offered them our bill as a substitute. The Senate passed a bill known as the "McCracken Bill." Just whether the Senate passed that before the House passed the Nicholson Bill, I am not able to say; but at all events, the two bills differed very materially.

That difference was referred to a committee of conference, who, after a careful examination and consideration of the points of difference between the two Houses, reported that they were unable to agree. The report of the committee was adopted by both Houses, and the Legislature adjourned without making an apportionment. The Governor, as was his right—whether he was justified in doing so, is a question I am not now going to discuss—but in the exercise of the right vested in him under the Constitution, he called the Legislature together in extraordinary session for the purpose of districting the State of Pennsylvania.

From the first time we first met in this extraordinary session until now, it has been assumed that the Democrats were anxious to make an apportionment—that they were here in the spirit of fairness, of concession and of compromise; and that we, in disregard of our oaths and of the Constitution, were here as obstructionists, laboring to prevent the making of a fair apportionment.

The first bill offered by our Democratic friends was far more objectionable than that offered during the regular session. Most unnatural districts were made, and natural districts were broken up.

The bill was most objectionable, not in the proportion in which it gave representation to the two great political parties, but in the structure and formation of the bill—the Republicans, believing that they had done all that they were required to do—and they had studied the question carefully, honestly and conscientiously for months. The McCracken Bill, and the bill which was submitted here as a substitute for the Democratic bill, were compared. The bill that was prepared by the Republicans of the House was slightly amended, and that was taken as the result of our deliberations.

It is not a matter of compromise and concession. We have no authority to barter away the rights of the people we represent. When we have determined the question carefully, honestly and conscientiously, under the Constitution and our oaths, and have come to a conclusion as to what is due to the people, we should stand by it. We have no right to barter away their rights. It is not a matter of bargain and sale, like a Dutch Jew selling clothing, "I takes twelve dollars, and not a d——n cent less. Now, what you gives?" [Laughter.] We are here to perform our duty under our oaths, and the Constitution, and we want no man upon that side of the House to say that we are disregarding our oaths, and that we, as Republicans, do not understand our duty under the Constitution. I refer to the gentleman from Franklin, (Sharpe,) and I wish he was in his seat. I would like to know who has appointed him the keeper of our conscience, and the judge of our duties under the Constitution and the oaths we have taken. He may speak for himself, but I wish him to understand that he is not my keeper; it is not for him to dictate to me what I shall do in the discharge of my duty here as a representative of the people.

But to return to the subject. Our Democratic friends tendered us a bill, and they would listen to no remonstrances from us against it. They would accept no amendment; they would accept no alteration or modification. They passed their bill, as it was their right to do. I am not complaining because they cannot see their duty as we see ours.

I fully accord to them that which I claim for myself—the right of thinking and acting as a free man—the right of forming a judgment and arriving at conclusions for myself, free from the dictation of anybody.

The Senate introduced the bill which we had so carefully prepared and matured during the regular session. We did not go up high in order that we might come down; we had not studied the matter here for five months to no purpose, but we had made up our minds to what was right. The Republican side of the Senate had come to a conclusion, and, for the benefit of my friend over there, let me say, he will find that we have no longer any Independent Republicans; we have no longer any Stalwart Republicans; we believe in the policy and the principles of the great Republican party, and we are simply united and earnest Republicans. [Applause.]

Without a dissenting voice that bill passed the Senate. It came over to the House. Amendments were made to it here, and it was referred to a committee of conference. That committee in due time reported that they were unable to agree.

Now, the gentleman from Lackawana—Mr. Amerman—has harped long and loud about their offers of compromise and concession. The Senate is denounced in unmeasured terms for having closed the door against further compromise, further concession and further negotiation. They say: "We have appointed another conference committee and we are knocking at the door of the co-ordinate branch of the Legislature, asking them to counsel with us in reference to a solution of this difficulty." Mr. Speaker, what have they offered?—what compromise has been offered? What concessions have been made since the day we first met here and talked about an apportionment of the State? In the conference committee at the regular session it was 11 to 17. Seventeen were offered by our Democratic friends to the Republicans, and 11 claimed for themselves. The Republicans offered them 10, and claimed 18.

That is where they stood at the regular session. Have the Democrats ever conceded anything other than that up to this day? Have they made a single concession to the extent of dotting an "i" or crossing a "t" from that day to this? They are knocking at the door of the Senate to accept that which they have already twice offered in conference committee. They say, "this is our ultimatum." Our friends say, "we have no ultimatum." Call it by whatever name you please—you stand there as immovable as the everlasting hills, "we will take eleven, or if we do not get it we will stay here until the crack of doom." Mr. Speaker, this is the history of this matter, and I want this House to understand and the public to understand that all this talk about compromise and concession—all this talk about conference committees knocking at the door of the Senate, and being rejected, amounts to nothing, there is no compromise in it; it is eleven to seventeen; it was that in the beginning, it is that to-day, and it will be that for evermore unless they manifest some real disposition for concession and compromise.

Now, Mr. Speaker, is it necessary that we should remain here in session until next December to ascertain what we should do? Is it necessary that we should remain here at great public expense until next December in order to ascertain that we cannot agree? If we have determined that this is the best that we can do—if we, as Republicans, have determined, and we have done so, that ten to eighteen is an honest apportionment of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and our Democratic friends have as honestly come to the conclusion that it must be eleven to seventeen, is it not useless to remain here longer? Had we not better adjourn at once and refer the matter to the people? Let us refer it to the people, to the judgment of the tribunal that stands behind us all, and let them determine. It is all idle, Mr. Speaker, to suppose that any party can succeed by mere trickery.

The people are not to be deceived. The party that expects to retain the confidence of the people, the support and suffrages of the people, must prove itself worthy of that confidence and support. I say for the Republicans that we have been as honest in our efforts to arrive at a proper settlement of this question as our friends upon the other side of the House. I am willing to accord to them honesty of purpose, but I do protest against our Democratic friends assuming that they possess all the honesty and fairness in reference to this question.

Now, let us consider the basis upon which efforts have been made to effect an apportionment. I think it is all fallacy to think of basing an apportionment upon the vote of 1880, or any other vote. There are great districts in Pennsylvania which ought not to be interfered with. Take, for instance, Westmoreland, Fayette and Greene. It is a natural district. The people think alike, they speak alike, and when they elect a Democratic representative he represents their notions of government—he represents their ideas—he best represents their interests, and they could not well be represented by a Republican. Take the district of York, Cumberland and Adams—any arrangement that would interfere with that district, would be unnatural and unjust to that people. They are one; they are homogenious. When they elect a man, he represents their ideas of the proper administration of government. So it is with various other districts in the Commonwealth. In making an apportionment, majorities ought to be observed—so far as they can be they ought to be maintained and preserved. Take, if you please, the counties of the Commonwealth, as represented by the two great parties in 1880. There were about 31 counties represented by the Democrats, and there were 36 counties represented by the Republicans. The 31 Democratic counties represented about one-third of the population and the 26 Republican counties two-thirds. The proportion of Congressmen, according to that arrangement, would be nine and a-half Democrats to eighteen and a-half Republicans. We concede the fractions to the Democrats. Do they represent the great industries of the Commonwealth in that same proportion? I say they do and to a great extent. The Republican counties of the Commonwealth represent more than two-thirds of the great interests of this Commonwealth.

Take another basis; here is Allegheny county on the west. That county is most intensely Republican. Here is Philadelphia on the east also strongly Republican. Those two districts are entitled to eight Congressmen, according to the bill under consideration, and they are most undoubtedly Republican.

Outside of those two counties we have nearly 4,000 Republican majority in the balance of the State. Surely it would not be unfair to divide the balance of the State equally, which would give eighteen to ten. I say the idea of minority representation is fallacious. This Government is founded upon no such principle, this Government was founded upon the broad principle that a majority rules. The first resolution that was ever adopted by the Pilgrim Fathers, centuries ago, was that in all things pertaining to the Government, the majority should rule. The first resolution in the shape of an ordinance or law adopted by the Penns in the settlement of their colony of Pennsylvania, was that in all things pertaining to the government of the colony, a majority should rule. Any other principle leads to rebellion and treason. Why, Mr. Speaker, were not the 407,000 votes cast for Hancock in 1880 represented in the electoral college of Pennsylvania? How did it come that the 407,000 votes cast for Hancock at that election were entirely ignored and the 444,000 cast for Garfield, represented the entire Commonwealth? Just because the principle has ever been maintained in Pennsylvania, as well as everywhere else in this country, that the majority shall rule.

Take the districts in Pennsylvania that have Democratic majorities, and preserve them, and give them their representation, and you will get about eight districts.

Now, I am not going into illustration by means of maps and charts, because they have been figured at and talked over until every member of the House and of the Senate is familiar with them; and enough outline maps have been furnished by the Legislature to supply all the common schools of Pennsylvania for forty years. I am not going to flourish any painted maps in your faces.

But it is wonderful how the figures of gentlemen differ. They talk about the proportion being 52,000 Democratic, to 24,000 Republican under one proposition. No such result can be reached by any man who honestly undertakes to arrive at a just conclusion. Take the proportion of ten to eighteen, and what are the majorities? The Democratic majority would be 4,470, while the Republican majority in eighteen districts would be 4,536, almost equal. Take it at eleven to seventeen, and the Democratic majority would be 4,060 and the Republicans majority, 4,805. At twelve to sixteen how would it stand? The Democratic majority would be 3,725 and the Republican majority 5,106. So it will be seen that there is no other division that equalizes majorities so nearly and fairly as the division of eighteen to ten.

Take up the population of the various districts, and you will find that the average population of the Republican and Democratic districts is about equal according to that division—any other division destroys that equality of population and majorities.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to this bill, not only because the proportion—that of eleven to seventeen—is unfair, but also because of its improper structure. In the first place it gives six districts to Philadelphia, which is unjust. In fact, that is not seriously claimed by any representative from Philadelphia. Then the formation of the districts is unfair and unjust. It is a much worse bill than the one we had here. It is not properly constructed. It is unfair in its proportion and in its division of counties. On that account, and for other reasons that I have named, I am opposed to the bill, and shall voteagainst it.

Mr. Nicholson: I would like to ask how much the gentleman would claim for the Republicans provided the vote of the two political parties in this State were equal.

Mr. Colborn: When that condition of things arrives I will be prepared to answer the gentleman's question. We are dealing with stubborn facts—not hypothetical cases. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

Mr. Nicholson: That condition is about here, and I would like an answer to my question.

Mr. Colborn: Mr. Speaker, the gentleman had best not "lay the flattering unction to his soul" that the day of Democratic ascendancy in this State is near at hand. It was asserted on the floor of this House, early in the regular session, that this was a Democratic House. We have had sufficient evidence that such is the case; but I say to the gentleman that it will be a long day before it will be a Democratic House again. And it has no right to be a Democratic House to-day. Men are here to-day on the Democratic side representing strong Republican districts. They are here in consequence of a little quarrel that took place in the Republican family. They have undertaken to cajole a Stewart and a Landis into giving them aid and comfort, but we are united and propose to whip you to death next fall and next fall a year. [Applause on the Republican side.]

Put a Brand on Him.

"Women are a necessary evil," he said, bringing down his fist hard upon the counter to emphasize the heartless remark. It was in the village store at West Milton, Saratoga county, and the speaker was the central figure of a group of bucholic philosophers. He was homely, slovenly, and sixty.

"There's where I differ from you altogther," said Mr. George T. Graham, of the same place. "Women are mostly what men make 'em. When husbands are brutes, wives will fall into submission or make home hot for the men, and they're unnatural in either character. Love them, and especially be good to them when they're sick, and you'll have no trouble. There's my own wife, now. She's suffered a good deal with dyspepsia, nervous prostration and other ailments that took the bloom off her cheeks and the spring out of her steps. Well, she saw an advertisement of Parker's Tonic, and thought it would be just the thing for her case. Gentlemen, I sent five miles after a bottle. She took it. I sent again after more. So several times. Trouble? Why, if you could see how much good it had done her, you would say that women are the greatests of God's blessings, and Parker's Tonic is the next."

This preparation which has been known as Parker's Ginger Tonic, will hereafter be called simply Parker's Tonic. This change has been rendered necessary by substitutes imposed upon their customers by unprincipled dealers under the name of Ginger; and as ginger is really an unimportant flavoring ingredient, we drop the misleading word.

There is no change, however, in the preparation itself, and all bottles remaing in the hands of dealers, wrapped under the name of Parker's Ginger Tonic contain the genuine medicine if the facsimile signature of Hiscox & Co., is at the bottom of the outside wrapper.

Her Hans Yager's Proverbs.

Peen goot; your bryers say efery dimes you dem forgot. Peen hardtvorkins like der rich oldt mans mit der grafe one feed in. Git up from pet on dop der sun, und den you petter sees vhat you done der day all drough. Gone der mead schdore yourself to. Dot vas der most importentest ding fron all. Makes your frou der dockter fon dem schillern vhat vas der homes—feunf cent gastor ile ur seena tae been safe many tollars. Nefer oudsthay lader as vhen you home gome—on dot pisness der frau schange her whole nadure und got so madt like un she diefel. Don'd debt run into—it vas petter ouf you valk in und oud run. Lif in vone rooms ondil you so much schillern got you must dwo rooms hef—it vas petter to grawl oop as schump oop und falls down. Peen dempe rade—trink noddings sthronger es peer. Looks on anoder vimmens nod; fur ouf pon do dot, dey looks mit you, und dem vis pizen looks somedimes. Don'd peen fraidt you shillern got, like dem Yanky vimmens—ouf your fader und mutter peen frait fon dot, you don'd vas here to mit bleasure lif und trink lager peer. Makes friendt mit eferypohies—vone enemies vas wurster es four hundert friendts. Don'd in der church box pud lesser es feunf cend—dose vone-cend mans makes der book geeper in heafen madter es ter teifel, und him eferydimes scharge un hundert dimes mucher mit der owe site und noddings mit der pay site.

The Frost that Killed the Peaches.

'There will be no peaches this year, by the way. Frost killed them all. Every last solitary peach,' the man on the woodbox remarked, with a pathetic inflection in his voice.

'Which frost?' savagely demanded the fat passenger.

'Same-old-frost,' replied the man on the woodbox sadly.

'Same frost that killed 'em last year, I suppose?' said the cross passenger.

'The same!' the man on the woodbox asserted.

'And the one before that again?' the brakeman echoed.

And the man on the woodbox bowed his head in assent.

'The same old frost,' he said, 'that kills all the apples in Michigan every year, and destroys the ice crop on the Hudson. I've been a farmer myself, before I reformed, and I've known a snow storm in Colorado to blight all the sugar maples in Vermont!'

One hundred and seventy-two new buildings have been erected in Reading this year.

Profitableness of Farming.

There are different ways of looking at profitableness of farming, and the prospect is rosy or gloomy according to the standpoints from which is viewed. If you want about the most lugubrious opinion of this business that can be expressed, come this way and we will show you where you can find it. We will go to some place where the fences are lying in tumble-down ruin, the gates hanging, by one hinge, the barn a lop-sided, leaning pile; the barnyard a reeking swamp; the house a leaking, dismal wreck; its windows stuffed with old coats and hats—everything devoid of paint or finish, and nothing in its proper place or in decent condition. If you can fight your way through the door to the proprietor, ask him, while he eyes you with strong suspition, whether farming pays. If he is not afraid that his answer will give you some opportunity of cheating him, he will tell you that farming is the worst business in the world. Then, when you have warily backed out from among his dogs, we'll make another visit. Let us try a farm where fences, buildings and improvements are all substantial, neat and first-class; where paint, window-glass, etc., are abundant; where everything gives evidence of thrift and industry. As the proprietor turns from some employment to greet you frankly and heartily, ask him whether farming pays. His answer is in his surroundings. Such contrasts are by no means fanciful, and we have seen them quite sharply defined on farms in the same neighborhood possessing naturally equal advantages. It is a pleasure to know that squalor is being rapidly and steadily driven from progressive modern agriculture, and that pictures of the kind first viewed are becoming more rare from year to year. The farm is, as a rule, an index to the character of the farmer as an exponent of his industry and his methods. Other things being equal much of the success or failure of agriculture lies in the directing mind. If this be vigorous, thoughtful, studious, earnest, results may be depended on to take care of themselves. The bulk of the American people are living by farming, and the growth of the country's wealth is sufficient proof that it pays.

Household Hints.

A pretty heading for the top of a muslin curtain is made by hemming each edge of muslin and gathering it in two places so that there shall be a puff in the center and a ruffle on each edge.

When buying tin covers for kettles be sure that they have rings of wire on top instead of flat handles soldered on, as these will not last any perceptible length of time, and the cover must then be thrown away.

A good present for an old lady is a light woolen wrapper, made double, with a thin thickness of woolen between and quilted in rather large diamonds. Take a simple sack pattern, and cut it large and amlpe, so that she can slip it on over her night dresses.

For washing hands that have become cracked or blackened, there is nothing better than Indian meal rubber on with the soap. It not only removes the dirt, but softens and whitens the hands as well. For men and boys doing farm or shop work it is excellent, and should be kept always at hand.

Ammonia water or a damp cloth dipped in whiting, cleans paint nicely. Sappolio is also good. Cold tea is the best thing to clean varnished wood with, the tea and tea leaves saved from the table for several days and steeped will usually be sufficient. It removes spots, and gives a much fresher, newer appearance than when soap and water are used.

If the carpet needs freshing up after tacking down, sweep and wipe with flanel cloth, wrung out in warm water with ox gall in it in the proportion of one quart of gall to three quarts of water. The improved appearance of the carpet will amply repay the trouble if this is done once in six weeks, as the rubbing raises the pile and freshens th colors.

One objection to ingrain carpet is the high heels which servants delight in wearing on thick shoes seem to catch at the threads and drag them out of place, producing a rough surface; then another is that the legs