

The Waynesburg Messenger.

A Weekly Family Journal---Devoted to Politics, Agriculture, Literature, Foreign, Domestic and General Intelligence, &c.

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WAYNESBURG, GREENE COUNTY, PA., WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1864.

NEW SERIES---VOL. 5, NO. 46.

THE WAYNESBURG MESSENGER

PUBLISHED BY

R. W. JONES AND JAS. S. JENNINGS.

AT

Waynesburg, Greene County, Pa.

OFFICE NEARLY OPPOSITE THE PUBLIC SQUARE.

TERMS: \$2.00 in advance; \$2.25 at the expiration of six months; \$2.50 after the expiration of the year.

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Select Poetry.

When I am Old.

When I am old--and O, how soon
Will life's sweet morning yield to noon,
And noon's broad, fervid, earnest light
Be shaded in the solemn night!
Till like a story well nigh told
Will seem my life--when I am old.

When I am old, this busy earth
Will lose for me its voice of mirth--
The streams will have an undertone
Of sadness not by right their own;
And spring's sweet power in vain unfulfill'd
In foxy charms--when I am old.

When I am old, I shall not care
To deck with flowers my faded hair;
Twill be no vain desire of mine
In rich and costly dress to shine;
Bright jewels and the brightest gold
Will charm me not--when I am old.

When I am old, my friends will be
Old, and infirm, and bowed, like me;
Or else, their bodies'neath the sod,
Their spirits dwelling safe with God.
The old church bell will long have toll'd,
Above the rest--when I am old.

When I am old, I'd rather bend
Thus sadly o'er each buried friend,
Than see them lose the earnest truth
That marks the friendship of our youth;
Twill be so sad to have them sold
Or strange to me--when I am old!

When I am old--O how it seems
Like the wild lullaby of dreams
To picture in prophetic rhyme
That dim, far distant, shadowy time;
So distant that it seems o'er bold
Event to say--"When I am old!"

When I am old--perhaps ere then
I shall be missed from haunt of men;
Perhaps my dwelling will be found
Beneath the green and quiet mound,
My name by stranger hands enrolled
Among the dead--ere I am old.

Ere I am old--that time is now,
For youth sits lightly on my brow;
My limbs are firm and strong and free;
Life has a thousand charms for me--
Charms that will long their influence hold
Within my heart--ere I am old.

Ere I am old--O let me give
My life to learning how to live!
Then shall I meet with willing heart
An early summons to depart,
Or find my lengthened days consoled
By God's sweet peace--when I am old.

Emancipation in Poland.
A ukase of the Czar of Russia has recently been promulgated, ordering a complete emancipation of the serfs of Poland. In its general provisions it resembles the measure which was adopted for the release of the Russian serfs, but is more immediate in its operation. On the 15th of April of this year, it is declared that every peasant in Poland shall become the possessor of all the land and the buildings upon which he holds from his feudal superior, or the lord of the manor, and cultivates. On the same day he is exempted from the personal services which he has hitherto owed to the owner of the land. For these privileges he is to pay to the Government a small sum, which the Government pledges itself to hand over to the former proprietors as a compensation for any losses they may incur by the change.

Whether this important edict is issued in pursuance of the general policy of the present Emperor in the matter of the abolition of serfdom, or whether it assumes to be issued, like the similar edict of President Lincoln, as a "military measure" designed to aid in the suppression of the rebellion, we are unable to say. But in any event, the identity of the measures adopted by the two Governments under this head, illustrates the degree in which the executive policy of each has been assimilated during the last three years. So true is it, as Thucydides says, that "war is a hard master and assimilates man's tempers to the condition in which it places them."

A WINDFALL.--A Miss Hester Conner Loughey, of Indiana county, was, a few days ago, very unexpectedly made the recipient of the snug little sum of \$50,000. A distant relative, a very eccentric old gentleman, bequeathed her nearly the whole of his fortune. His alleged reason for so doing was that she, by her kind, gentle and affectionate manner towards him, had won his heart. He lived in almost perfect seclusion in the northern part of the county, and it was during a recent visit of the lady in that section that he first saw her.

Marius, a blacksmith, was Emperor three days, or, as was said, they had an iron rule for three days. The first day he was made emperor; the second he resigned; and the third he was killed. The wags likened his case to that of the man who was ponsul six hours in the afternoon, and of whom Cicero said: "We had a consul so severe, and so stern as a censor, that during his administration not a single man in all Rome died, supped or slept."

The President and Faculty of Yale College have sanctioned the organization of a rifle company among the students, who are to be instructed under Col. Rowland's plans.

On Monday and Tuesday of last week, 2,842 emigrants arrived at New York.

Queen Victoria has given \$15,000 to aid the cause of Christianity among the poor in London.

Miscellaneous.

Curiosities of the Ocean Bottom.

Mr. Green, the famous diver, tells singular stories of his adventures, when making search in the deep waters of the ocean. He gives some new sketches of what he saw at the "Silver Banks" near Hayti: The banks of the coral on which my divers were made, are about forty miles in length, and about ten to twenty in breadth. On this band of coral is presented to the diver one of the most beautiful and sublime scenes the eye ever beheld. The water varies from ten to one hundred feet in depth, and is so clear that the diver can see from two to three hundred feet when he is submerged, with but little obstruction to the sight.

The bottom of the ocean, in many places, is as smooth as a marble floor; in others it is studded with coral columns, from ten to one hundred feet in height, and from one to eighty feet in diameter. The tops of these more lofty support a pyramidal pendant, each forming a myriad more; giving the reality to the imaginary abode of some water nymph. In other places the pendants form arch after arch; and as the diver stands on the bottom of the ocean, and gazes through these in the deep winding avenue, he finds that they fill him with as sacred an awe as if he were in some old cathedral, which had long been buried beneath "old ocean's waves." Here and there, the coral extends over to the surface of the water, as if those loftier columns were towers belonging to those stately temples that are now in ruins.

There were countless varieties of diminutive trees, shrubs and plants in every crevice of the corals, where the waters had deposited the least earth. They were all of a faint hue, owing to the pale light they received, although of every shade, and entirely different from plants I am familiar with, that vegetate upon dry land. One in particular attracted my attention; it resembled a sea fan of immense size, of variegated colors, and the most brilliant hue. The fish which inhabited these "Silver Banks" I found as different in kind as the scenery was varied. They were of all forms, colors and sizes--from the symmetrical goby to the globe like sun-fish; from those of the dullest hue to the changeable dolphin; from the spots of the leopard to the hues of the sunbeam; from the harmless minnow to the voracious shark.

Some had heads like squirrels, others like cats and dogs; one of small size resembled the bull terrier. Some darted through the water like meteors, while others could be scarcely seen to move. To enumerate and explain all the various kinds of fish beheld, while diving on those banks would, were I enough naturalist so to do, require more than my limits will allow, for I am convinced that most of the kinds of fish which inhabit the tropical seas can be found there. The sunfish, starfish, white shark, blue or shovel-nose shark, were often seen. There were often fish which resembled plants, and remained as fixed in their position as a shrub; the only power they possessed was to open and shut when in danger.

Some of them resembled the rose in full bloom, and were in all hues. There were the ribbon fish, from four to five inches to three feet in length; their eyes are very large, and protrude like those of the frog. Another fish was spotted like the leopard, from three to ten feet in length. They build their houses like beavers, in which they spawn, and the male or female watches the egg until it hatches. I saw many specimens of the green turtle, some five feet long, which I should think would weigh from 400 to 500 pounds.

A startling event took place recently, in Albany, N. Y., in one of the Legislative Committee rooms. The apartment was very much crowded, and the subject under discussion--the tax levy--was debated with warmth. Mr. W. Drinker was speaking with much earnestness and at length the muscles of his face became contorted as is sometimes the case with speakers suffering from over-excitement, and his hearers, attributing it to this cause, were much amused. Suddenly, when in the act of gesticulating, Mr. Drinker fell forward, and to the consternation of all present, when he was taken up, it was found that he was dead.

FANCY FOR ANKLES.--A Massachusetts judge on circuit, as he rode to the door of an inn, saw the landlady's daughter jump over the fence. "Do that again, Sallie, and I'll marry you." The girl again leapt the fence. The judge was as good as his word, and a year from that day married the light-headed Sallie.

The President and Faculty of Yale College have sanctioned the organization of a rifle company among the students, who are to be instructed under Col. Rowland's plans.

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The Cultivation of Sorgho.

There are two varieties of the Northern sugar-cane--the Chinese and the African--"Sorgho" and "Imphee." The former excels for syrup, and the latter is the only variety from which sugar has been (so far) extracted. The cultivation of both is the same. Only two quarts of seed to the acre are required. The seed is soaked in warm water for 24 hours or longer, then rolled in plaster and planted in hills, in the same manner and about the same time as corn, with the exception that an excess of fertility must be avoided in the soil, as this gives the plants a tendency to sucker, and gains nothing. The after cultivation, until harvesting, is identical with that of corn. The growth is at first quite feeble and slow, and is very discouraging to a beginner; but as the warm weather comes on, it gains vigor and grows rapidly, attaining an average height of from ten to fifteen feet, and on some land growing as tall as eighteen or twenty. It needs to be cut and stripped as soon as the seed begins to turn, and then, if protected from sudden changes of the atmosphere, will keep for months until an opportunity to work it up, although nothing is gained by this, and probably the sooner it is worked up the better. The juice is pressed out by very heavy iron rollers; three of which weigh nearly half a ton apiece, for unless rollers of sufficient weight and power are used, much of the juice is wasted. The juice is then treated the same as maple sap, being usually boiled at the same mill where pressed; although some take the juice home and boil away in kettles. But the large flat copper evaporators used by manufacturers, are undoubtedly the best, quickest, and cheapest. This is the whole process; now for the result. One acre of fair cane will yield on an average from 150 to 300 gallons of syrup, (depending somewhat upon the land, season, &c.) worth 60 cents per gallon. The cost, giving extreme figures, and including interest on cost of land, will not exceed fifty dollars an acre.

If by any mischance the cane is overtaken by severe frosts, it is not lost; for it has recently been discovered that juice extracted from frozen cane, if distilled, yields a superior article of alcohol, which now commands a high price, and the profits would be nearly the same if treated in this manner. Let not our farmers pass this matter by without a trial. If any of them doubt these statements, let them experiment on a small scale; but let all give it a fair test.

A new variety of seed named Otahaitian will be found advertised by Messrs. Corey & Sons, Lenia, Indiana, the well-known manufacturers of Cook's evaporators for sugar cane. In a private note they say: "Our hopes of success in the sugar enterprise from these Northern canes, centre almost wholly around this one species; and such, indeed, are its known sugar-making properties, that we are disposed to commend its seed as a valuable substitute, in the present emergency, for the regular sugar-cane cuttings in the damaged and destitute sections of the South."

Horrible Death from Wearing Hoops.

Among a party who had gone on a visit of inspection to a biscuit factory, was Miss Mary Nelson, accompanied by Mr. Burrows, to whom she was to have been married within a few weeks. The party had not been more than two minutes in the mill, and were still examining the basement story, when a piercing shriek from Miss Nelson, who had tarried slightly in their rear, made them pause in terror. Her attention had been attracted by an Archimedean screw which was fenced by a brass rod breast high--but when she stopped to look at it, her expanded skirts were caught by the machinery, and when her friends turned to look at her it was rapidly drawing her within its grasp. Mr. Burrows clasped his betrothed around the waist, and strove to draw her back--but the steel of her hoops had been clutched by the wheels, and all his efforts were powerless. The engine dragged her out of her love's arms, and whirled her around and around before his eyes; all her limbs were shredded into fragments, and her body was lacerated and mangled almost out of human semblance.--London Star.

How to stop Blood.

Take the fine dust of tea, or the scrapings of the inside of tanned leather, and bind it close upon the wound, and blood will soon cease to flow. The articles are at all times accessible, and easy to be obtained. After the blood has ceased to flow, laudanum may be advantageously applied to the wound. Due regard to these instructions will save agitation of mind and running for surgeon, who would probably make no better prescription if present.

During the examination of a witness as to the locality of stairs in a house, the counsel asked him-- "Which way does the stairs run?" The witness very innocently replied: "One way they run up stairs but the other way they run down stairs."

The learned counsel winked both eyes and then took a look at the ceiling.

Statistics of the War.

From the commencement of the war January 1, 1863, the loyal States furnished the following number of troops respectively, to wit: Maine, 23,105, of which 7,493 were nine months' men, 776 three months', and 262 enlisted for defence of the State. New Hampshire 17,788, of whom 2,023 were nine months' men, and 869 three months' volunteers. Massachusetts 71,038, of which 16,896 were nine months' and 3,736 three months' men. Rhode Island 14,626, of which 2,060 were nine months' and 3,147 three months' men. Connecticut 28,219, of which 5,697 were nine months' and 2,310 were three months' men. New York 222,836, of which 30,131 were two years' and 15,922 three months' volunteers. New Jersey 30,211, of which 10,741 were nine months' and 3,105 three months' men. Pennsylvania 200,336, of which 15,100 were nine months' and 20,979 were three months' men. Ohio 170,121, of which 26,893 were three months' men. Indiana 104,315, of which 3,191 were enlisted for State defence, 2,587 were twelve months' and 4,698 were three months' men. Illinois 135,440, of which 4,901 were three months' men. Michigan 45,670, of which 780 were three months' men. Wisconsin 40,646, of which 491 were nine months' and 810 three months' men. Minnesota 12,266, of which 1,200 were nine months' and 930 were three months' men. Iowa 48,842, of which 959 were three months' men. Missouri 37,917, of which 10,540 were for State defence.

The above is prepared from official reports, and is as complete as it can be from the records in the War Department. There may be some mistake as to the class of service to which the troops belong, for some of the reports are very imperfect, and the returns from Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Tennessee and California are so incomplete that even the number of troops furnished by those States cannot be ascertained. Excluding the last mentioned States, we have an aggregate number of soldiers furnished by the loyal States up to January 1st, 1863, of 1,276,246, of which 15,863 were enlisted for State defences, 91,561 for three months, 67,385 for nine months, 2,587 for one year, 30,131 for two years, and 1,060,769 for three years. There have been added to the army since January 1st, 1864, by voluntary enlistment and conscripts, about 200,000 men.--Army and Navy Ledger.

Circumstantial Evidence.

As a judge, Bushe was merciful, and owing to an incident in his early career as a lawyer, he was somewhat slow to convict on circumstantial evidence. A short time after he was called to the bar he was retained at the Wexford Assizes to defend a prisoner accused of murder. The victim's name was Walter Meyler, and it was supposed that he had been killed by a party of rebels, of whom one became an approver, and was the chief witness for the crown. Like most approvers, the witness was correct and careful in all his details. He stated that the body of Meyler had been buried close to the shore, wrapped in a coat of the same texture and color as that stated to have been worn by the deceased. Bushe neither cross-examined a witness nor called evidence upon the part of his client; and before the judge commenced his charge, the jury stated that they were prepared with their verdict. Bushe said, "Wait a moment, gentlemen--did any of you know Walter Meyler, the deceased?" The reply was that the jury knew him well--and immediately Bushe shouted, to the dismay of the auditors, "Walter Meyler, come into court." The supposed deceased rushed upon the table, and pointing to him, Bushe exclaimed: "There, gentlemen, is my defence!"--Irish Quarterly Review.

The Palm Tree of Scriptures.

Palm tree, a tree remarkable for loftiness, straightness and productiveness, and hence, made an emblem in Scripture of uprightiness, fruitfulness and victory. Its fruit is the date, very sweet and nourishing, and a large portion of the inhabitants of Egypt, Arabia and Persia subsist almost entirely upon it. Camels are fond of the stone. This fruit is the size of an olive. Palm branches were signals of joy and triumph. The leaves are six or eight feet long, and proportionally broad when spread out, and are used to cover houses, and make couches, baskets, bags, fences, hats, etc. From the fibers of the branches are made thread ropes, rigging, etc. Indeed the natives (says Gibson) celebrate, either in prose or verse, three hundred and sixty uses to which the trunk, branches, leaves, juice, and fruit are applied. The palm tree attains maturity in thirty years from planting the seed, and continues in full strength for seventy or eighty years, bearing annually three or four hundred years old. From its sap, palm wine is made, called by the natives *choky*. It is a beverage which easily intoxicates, and is thought by Bishop Louth to be the "strong drink" mentioned by Isaiah.--Jewish Chronicle.

A little boy disputing with his sister on some subject, I do not now remember what, exclaimed, "It's true, for me said so, and if ma says it's so, it is so, or it isn't so."

Unseemly Extravagance.

The Post calls attention to the mal extravagance of the day. A man builds a noble stable on the rear of his private lot, at a cost of eighty thousand dollars, and fits up a private theater over it. Another pays eight thousand dollars for a pair of horses to drive on the road for his pleasure; and many give from fifteen hundred to three thousand dollars for the same object. Another provides a dinner for a dozen friends, rejecting the old superstition of the unlucky thirteenth--and this simple dinner costs one thousand dollars. A children's party is given, in an uptown house, where every child is clad entirely in dresses imported from Paris. These are signs of the times--are they not evidences of a state of things unhealthful, feverish, threatening, and threatening not less evil to the ideas and the principles of which that life has hitherto been a fair exponent? Is their nothing worthier than personal adornment? One man spends two hundred thousand dollars upon a dwelling house; but he might build with this sum a long row of decent cottages, to rent to people in moderate circumstances; he might enable fifty or a hundred families of working men to live cleanly and respectably in New York, and thus make himself a public benefactor--and that without sinking his money where he can never recover it.