

The Columbia Democrat.

"I have sworn upon the Altar of God, eternal hostility to every form of Tyranny over the Mind of Man."—Thomas Jefferson

H. WEBB, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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TERMS:

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POETRY.



Religion—What Is It? BY BISHOP HEBER.

Is it to go to church to day,
To look devout and seem to pray,
And ere to-morrow's sun goes down,
Be dealing slander through the town?

Does every sanctimonious face
Denote the certain reign of grace?
Does not the phiz that scowls at sin,
Oft veil hypocrisy within?

Is it to make our daily walk,
And of our own good deeds to talk,
Yet often practise secret crime,
And thus mis-spend our precious time?

Is it to sect and creed to fight,
To call our neighbor's rote or right,
When what we wish is at the best
To see our church excel the rest.

Is it to wear the Christian dress,
And love to all mankind profess,
To treat with scorn the humble poor,
And bar against them every door?

Oh no! religion means not this;
Its fruit more sweet and fairer is—
Its precept this:—to others do
As you would have them do to you.

And does religion this impart?
Then may its influence fill my heart;
Oh! haste the blissful joyful day,
When all the earth may own its way.

My Early Days.

My early days, my early days,
Ye morning stars that linger yet;
And beams as dear departed rays,
When every other star is set.

Spray of the ocean of my life,
Blossom of fruit all faded now;
Ye golden sands in old time's glass,
Ye green leaves on a withered bough.

Oh! where are ye, and where am I?
Where is that happy sinless child
That chased the gaudy butterfly,
As gay as that, and far more wild.

Am I that bold and fearless boy
That stemm'd the flood and clim'd the
height?
All health and truth, and life and joy,
First in the frolic or the fight.

Ah!—where once the sunlight shone,
I wander now amid the shade,
The hopes that led my boyhood on,
Are withered all, or all betrayed.

I cannot bear to gaze again
On visions that could fade so fast,
Nor 'midst a present scene of pain,
Cast back a thought on blisses past.

A Touch of the Sublime.

"I'll climb the frosty mountain,
And there I'll cower the weather;
I'll wrench the rainbow from the skies,
And tie both ends together!

I'll mount the clear cerulean,
To shun the tempting gypsies;
I'll play at bowls with the sun and moon,
And fright ye with eclipses!"

HUMORIST.

THE USE OF MARRYING.

Galignani's Paris Messenger relates the following amusing anecdote:

A jolly young fellow, named Soubille, made his appearance at the bar of the Correctional Tribunal, with such a stereotyped smile on his lips, expressive of self contentment and good nature, that every one present was astonished when it was found that he was charged with beating his wife. The following colloquy ensued between the President and the prisoner:

'You are accused of beating and kicking your wife.'
'Aye, aye—it's a habit I've got.'
'You would do well to get rid of it.'
'Of my wife? I should like nothing better.'

'No; no, not that you know perfectly well what I mean. Have you any reason to complain of your wife?'

'I don't know that I have, but you must see when I am in a rage it must fall upon something, and as my wife is always at home, why she catches it.'

'You show a most deplorable want of feeling.'

'If it did not fall on her, I should be for breaking the furniture; but there is no such risk, you know, in striking my wife.'

Here the President exclaimed, "Hold your tongue man! you only aggravate your offence."

The Tribunal sentenced him to two months imprisonment. On hearing which his everlasting smile left him, as he remarked, "Well, I certainly did not expect that. Two months for slapping one's wife!—What's the use of marrying?"

PSALMONDY vs. LABOR.

Snooks had occasion to call on the Reverend Dominie Thomas Scratchard while he was at Glasgow.

"Is the Dominie in?" he enquired of a portly dame who opened the door.

"He's at home, but he's no in," replied the lady. "He's in the yard superintending Saunders the carpenter. Ye can see him too, gif your business is vera precise."

Snooks assented, and walked through the door pointed to him into the yard, where he beheld a carpenter briskly planing a joist to the air of Maggie Lauder, and the worthy Dominie standing by. Unwilling to intrude on their conversation, Snooks stepped unseen behind a water cask, and heard the minister say—

'Saunders?'

No answer from the carpenter.

'Saunders, I say, can ye no hear me?'

'Yes, minister; I hear! What's your wull?'

'Can ye no whistle some mair solemn and godly tune while ye're at work?'

'Aweel, minister, if it be your wull, I'll e'en dee it.'

Upon which he changed the air to the dead march of Saul, greedily to the hindrance of what was now painful planing. The Dominie looked on some minutes in silence and then began—

'Saunders, I had anither word to say to ye. Did the guid wife hire ye by the day's darge or by the job?'

'The day's darge was our 'greeing, minister.'

'Then, on the whole, Saunders, I think ye maun just as weel gae back to whistling bonnie Maggie Lauder.'

A SCHOOL BOY'S LOVE EPISTLE

It is said that a touching and effecting epistle, something similar to the following, was actually written by a school boy to a young lady at an adjoining seminary, and intercepted by his master:—

'My dear Miss, I can wait no longer,
'To refuse me is a sin;
Every day my love grows stronger:
Mercy, what a state I'm in!

'Boy, why don't you go to school?'

'Cause, sir, daddy is afeard that if I learns every thing now, I shant have any thing to learn ven I comes to go to 'cademy.'

The nightmare is now politely termed 'the nocturnal horse of the feminine gender.'

POLITICAL.

The next Governor—Interesting letter from Hon. James Buchanan.

The York "Democratic Press" of Friday puts us in possession of a highly interesting letter from the Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN, touching the gubernatorial issue, elicited by the inquiries of an influential Democrat residing in the county of York. The views of Senator Buchanan on this subject are entitled to the most respectful consideration, for no man in the Union has enjoyed more abundant means of forming a correct estimate of the merits of Mr. MUEHLENBERG than he. Contemporaries in the National Councils, during an eventful period of our political history, and acting in concert upon all the important questions of National policy contended for by the illustrious JACKSON, the most friendly relations necessarily grew up between them, which have existed without diminution or interruption to the present time. The numerous personal and political acquaintances of Mr. MUEHLENBERG will readily discover, that the panegyric here pronounced upon their distinguished favorite is true to the life. Not a feature of the portrait will bear the imputation of flattery, but is a true and faithful representation of the original. The people of Pennsylvania, of all parties may congratulate themselves, that a man so entirely pure and unexceptionable is destined to be their next Governor.

LEWISBERY, York co. April 22, 1844.

Dear Sir:—I have taken the liberty of forming, in which my neighbors and myself feel some interest. The nomination of Henry A. Muhlenberg as the Democratic candidate for Governor, is well received here, and will be shown next October at the election. But at the same time many enquiries are made of me, as to his public life and principles, which I am not as familiar with as I am with Mr. Shunk's, who was my first choice, and which therefore I cannot very fully answer. It is for this reason I write to you, knowing that you are well acquainted with Mr. Muhlenberg, and have seen much of his course in public business, and I hope, if convenient, you will gratify many of your friends here, by expressing your opinions of the Democratic candidate, and of the services he has rendered to democratic principles.

I know no one to whom I can better apply than to yourself for this information, nor do I know any one whose opinion would be more satisfactorily received by the people. I hope you will excuse me for troubling you at this time, when you are so busily engaged at Washington. I remain your friend and obedient servant.

W. NICHOLS.

To Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN.

WASHINGTON CITY, May, 9, 1844.

DEAR SIR:—I did not receive your favor of 24th ult., until yesterday, and as it has been so long delayed upon the way; I hasten to give it an answer. You ask me for information relative to the public life and principles of Henry A. Muhlenberg, the democratic candidate for Governor, for the use both of yourself and your neighbors and you justly state that I "have seen much of his course in public business."

I cheerfully recognize your right, as a respected democrat of the good old county of York, to make this call upon me, and I have only to regret that my public engagements here are so various and pressing, that I cannot spare the time to give you such an answer as I could desire and as you deserve.

Previous to Mr. Muhlenberg's nomination, by the 4th of March Convention, my position was one of strict neutrality between him and Mr. Shunk. I knew that both were pre-eminently qualified to conduct the affairs of the State with wisdom and success, at the present critical crisis, and should have been equally satisfied with the selection of either.

Warmly and gratefully attached to both I neither felt nor expressed a personal preference for the one over the other.

But the Convention have decided the question in favor of Mr. Muhlenberg; and I consider it extremely fortunate that, amid our existing embarrassments, the nomination has fallen upon such a man. Formerly, in Pennsylvania, the wheels of the State Government moved along so smoothly over the beaten track, that any man of integrity, with the most common qualifications, was competent successfully to discharge the duties of Governor. Unfortunately those good old times have passed away, and we now require an experienced and skillful pilot at the helm to weather the storm. With a debt of more than forty millions impending over us which must be paid:—with our vast Internal Improvements which must be wisely and economically managed, so as to yield the largest profit at the least expense:—and with other serious obstacles in our way to prosperity, which I need not enumerate; the crisis demands a Governor, not only of unspotted integrity, but of extensive practical knowledge, sound judgment and unwavering firmness.

Mr. Muhlenberg is the very man for the times. He possesses these qualifications in an eminent degree and above all, he is truly an honest man whom temptation can never seduce from the path of duty. During a long life, no shadow of suspicion has ever rested upon his personal integrity. It is impossible to be in his company for an hour without forming the most decided opinion that he is an honest man. Frank and fearless in his nature, as becomes a democratic Statesman, he does not conceal his thoughts, but speaks right out like one who is neither ashamed nor afraid to avow his sentiments before the world. Under the administration of such a man, the people will cheerfully submit to taxation to redeem their plighted faith and wean; because they will see an entire confidence that their contributions will not be squandered by trading politicians, but will be faithfully applied to the payment of the public creditor.

Mr. Muhlenberg is a native of Lancaster—the place of my own residence. He is the son of the late Reverend Dr. Muhlenberg, who for many years previous to his death had been the Pastor of the German Lutheran church in that city, and was a man universally beloved by his own congregation and universally respected by all who knew him. Although he never took any active part in politics, yet his principles were known to have been strongly democratic. His son Henry early imbibed these principles and has ever since been a democrat not merely in profession, as so many are, but in principle; not merely in word, but in deed.

I have been intimately acquainted with Mr. Muhlenberg ever since December, 1829, when he first took his seat in Congress. I well recollect that in common with his colleagues, I soon learned to estimate highly the soundness and steadiness of his principles and that strong practical common sense for which he is distinguished. From the very first, he was considered by us as a great acquisition to the Pennsylvania Delegation. It is true that he spoke seldom, but when he did address the House, he was always listened to with profound attention, and he soon acquired a much greater influence with his fellow members than most of those whose names were daily in the newspapers.

On my return to Congress in December, 1834, having been absent between three and four years, I still found Mr. Muhlenberg in the House; but with reputation greatly increased and an influence greatly extended. In the way which had been waged, in the mean time, by the Bank of the United States against General Jackson, he was a pillar of strength in support of the administration. In the hour of deepest darkness, when that corrupt and corrupting institution was bringing all its forces into battle against the hero and the sage, who then administered the Government, and when many weak disciples quailed and many even deserted the cause of Democracy, Mr. Muhlenberg stood the more firm amidst the fearful conflict. To him belongs the distinguished honor of having moved and carried the previous question in February, 1834, thus terminating the Bank panic war, which had raged for more than two months in the

House of Representatives. I have more than once heard General Jackson himself speak in the strongest terms of the support which he had received throughout this conflict from General Muhlenberg, as he always called him, and when on one occasion, I told him that Mr. Muhlenberg was no General, his reply was—"no matter, he ought to have been a General."

Respected by all, Mr. Muhlenberg continued, ably and faithfully to represent his district in Congress until February, 1838, when he was appointed our first Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Austria. A Statesman of German descent, and a thorough German scholar was thus most appropriately selected to open our diplomatic relations with the Austrian Empire.

It was to have been expected that the friends of Mr. Shunk, who are justly and devotedly attached to him, would experience temporary mortification and regret at their disappointment. Indeed this was inevitable. I am happy, however, to observe that these feelings have gradually yielded to the prevailing affection of every true democrat for "the good old cause," in the success of which the liberty and happiness of the people of this country are deeply involved. Men are but the beings of a summer's day, whilst principles pass from generation to generation, and are eternal.

Nor have the friends of Mr. Shunk any reason to regard Mr. Muhlenberg with a jealous eye. From my intimate knowledge of the man, I shall hazard the assertion, that he will bury in oblivion all that has occurred adverse to himself before and at the 4th of March Convention; and should he be elected, in his selections for office will only enquire—"Is he honest—is he capable?" Nay more, I shall venture strongly to express my firm conviction, that if Mr. Muhlenberg be elected, he will stand upon the broad platform of Democracy without being influenced by any cliques or sections of the party.

Believing in the pre-eminence qualifications of Mr. Muhlenberg, to meet the present crisis in our State affairs, in his known and acknowledged integrity, and in his genuine Democracy, I shall give him my most cheerful and cordial support. I am happy to learn that his nomination has been well received in your county, and as might have been expected from your known character, that he will receive your hearty support, notwithstanding you were originally a friend of Mr. Shunk.

With sentiments of respect,
I remain your friend,
JAMES BUCHANAN.

WILLIAM NICHOLS, Esq.

The following admirable letter, written by Dr. DANIEL STURGEON, one of our distinguished United States Senators, to ROBERT M. BARR, Esq., of Reading, will be read with interest.

WASHINGTON CITY, April 22, 1844.

MY DEAR SIR:—I have observed with great regret, that in a paper published at Harrisburg, some ideas are held out of an opposition emanating from the party itself, to the gubernatorial candidate of the 4th of March Convention.

A paper promulgating such doctrines should be looked upon by the party as an enemy in disguise, and perhaps it is making that paper of too much importance, even to give it a passing notice.

Coming, however, as I do, from the western portion of the State, where this pretended dissatisfaction is supposed to exist, I feel it incumbent on me to utterly deny it, and to state to you my views on the subject, and shall make no apology for so doing.

Whatever then may have been individual preferences previously to the nomination, they all, as far as every sound Democrat is concerned, yielded cheerfully to the will of the majority as expressed by the vote of the Convention and it will be equally the pride, as well as the duty of the West, to prove at the coming election, that in this declaration, I have done it no more than justice.

Among many sound and worthy fellow citizens, whom it would have given me pleasure to see advanced to the first office in the State, I freely own that there is no one better calculated to com-

bine the whole strength of the party than Henry A. Muhlenberg.

An undoubted Democrat from his youth upwards, confided in for years, by one of the most Democratic counties in the State, and found never to have betrayed his trust; the companion, and through all the difficulties of his administration, the friend of the illustrious Jackson, what more proof, sir, let me ask, should be demanded of his devotion to the feelings and the rights of the great body of the people?

Neither can his well earned public reputation suffer any draw-back, if viewed through the medium of his private life and domestic virtues; affable, yet dignified, the people of Pennsylvania have in him a sure guarantee that no suspicion, even of corruption, will attach itself to his administration. The whole course of his life, public and private, places him in this respect, as well as I firmly believe, in every other, beyond the reach of slander.

With much respect, yours,
DANIEL STURGEON.
ROBERT M. BARR, Esq. Reading.

DON'T FORGET,

That Henry Clay, in the first debate in the Missouri Bill, February 15 1819 (see files of National [whig] Intelligencer, used the following language:—*If gentlemen will not allow us to have BLACK SLAVES, they must let us have WHITE ONES; WE CANNOT CUT OUR FIREWOOD, AND BLACK OUR SHOES AND HAVE OUR WIVES AND DAUGHTERS WORK IN THE KITCHEN!*

Don't FORGET, that Henry Clay was the advising and controlling friend of the men who originated the Duel between Gaives and Ciley, and pushed it to its MURDEROUS TERMINATION one intended by Mr. Graves, and making it of such a character that a fatal result to one of the parties was inevitable; that HE PENNED THE CHALLENGE which Mr. Graves sent to the doomed and unfortunate Ciley!

Don't FORGET, that Henry Clay CHALLENGED AND SHOT AT John Randolph of Roanoke, for words spoken in debate, although the Constitution, WHICH HE HAD SWORN TO SUPPORT, expressly prohibited it!

Don't FORGET, that Henry Clay, while a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives, CHALLENGED AND SHOT AT another member (Humphrey Marshall) for words spoken in debate!

Don't FORGET, that in 1841, Henry Clay, then holding a seat in the U. S. Senate, was put under bonds of Five Thousand dollars NOT TO FIGHT A DUEL with Col. King of Alabama, whom he had grossly insulted in debate. *He was then about sixty five years of age.*

Don't FORGET, that Henry Clay DECEASED Gen. Jackson out of the Presidency in 1824.

Don't FORGET, that Henry Clay, in the Senate of the United States, denounced the *Liberator of Ireland* as "THE PLUNDERER OF HIS COUNTRYMEN!"—*Mohawk Courier.*

The well known fact that a large majority of the people were in 1840 opposed to a National Bank; and the equally well known fact that Mr. Clay was then as now its uncompromising advocate, were the chief causes of his defeat at Harrisburg in 1840. But the Whig Congress that came into power with General Harrison, passed a bill chartering a Bank, flushed with victory they had no longer any motive in concealing their real principles. This single fact is sufficient to account for the nomination of Henry Clay in 1844. A true issue is forced upon the Whigs—a National Bank is openly advocated by Mr. Clay in all his speeches made during his recent electioneering tour.—*Cincinnati Inquirer.*

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, that Gen. Harrison declared he had received from the hands of Henry Clay "only ungenerous treatment in request for years of devoted service!"

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, that Gen. Harrison said: "I have done him [Mr. Clay] many favors, but he has returned them all with the blackest ingratitude."