

# 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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### OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRAT.

SOUTH SIDE OF MAIN, A FEW DOORS BELOW MARKET-STREET.

#### TERMS:

The COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT will be published every Saturday morning, at TWO DOLLARS per annum payable half yearly in advance, or Two Dollars Fifty Cents if not paid within the year. No subscription will be taken for a shorter period than six months; nor any discontinuance permitted, until all arrearages are discharged. ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding a square will be conspicuously inserted at One Dollar for the first three insertions, and Twenty-five cents for every subsequent insertion. A liberal discount made to those who advertise by the year. LETTERS addressed on business, must be post paid.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

From the Frederick Examiner.

#### THE YANKEE PEDLAR.

BY FRED MAYLAND.

In the fall of 18—, on my way from New York to Washington, I stopped for a couple of days in the pleasant city of New Brunswick. On the afternoon of my arrival, six or eight of the townsmen were congregated in the White Hall Hotel, discussing the character and animadverting upon the habits of one of the citizens, Mr. D—, who was notorious for his cunning at a bargain and close fistiness in money matters. As the conversation was carried on in a pretty loud key, I may as well let the actors speak for themselves:

'Close, did you say,' marked one, 'why you might as well try to fish a dollar out of the ocean, as get fairness out of him in a bargain.'

'A perfect skin-flint!' uttered a little, dissatisfied looking fellow. 'I knew him when he was not worth a dollar, and now he counts thousands where I do hundreds; and all made by note shaving and taking advantage of the necessities of others. Oh! he's a sharper!'

'True,' said another, 'he's the keenest fellow I ever knew. Look how he did Smith in the House and Lot business—and Smith's not slow at a bargain either. A man should rise early to trade with Smith, I can tell you!'

'There's no mistake about D—, being a sharper!' added a third.

'He would out-yankee yankeedom, & not half try,' put in a plethoric individual, who seemed determined to add his testimony.

'I would give ten dollars to have him handsomely taken in,' said one of the party.

'So would I,' replied two or three.

During this conversation, I had observed an individual with a strongly marked yankee face, who was playing strict attention to the speakers. He was a tin pedlar, and had three wagons load with tin lanterns then in the tavern yard. When they began to talk of giving money to have their neighbor out witted, he arose, and putting on the yankee pretty strongly said:

'Gentlemen, I don't now that ere individual whom you are speaking of—Issy I don't know him—but if you've a mind to subscribe a little grain or something just to pay the renter? like why I would not mind it. I calculate it might be done. I've heard on such people afore, and I don't know but what I might be to fetch him. I'm mostly in the tradin' line, and it's all in the way of trade with me—I say it's all in the way of trade.'

'Just the dandy; gentlemen,' exclaimed one of the party, 'this is the ticket for soup.'

'You're in the trading line, are you?' enquired another.

'Yes; gentlemen—trading's my occu-

—pation. I'm clean from Bangor, way down in to the State of Maine. I can do a little of most anything; in the summer I stay in town and help the folks; in the fall and winter I peddle tin ware—mostly lanterns—'

'You don't sell lanterns?' said the plethoric citizens, inquiring.

'I'd like to know if I haint got three hundred of them in my wagon in the year?'

'Oh! you have, eh? Well you're the very man we want.'

'Ye es,' said the yankee.

'We will make up a purse of twenty dollars for you, if you will bombard our friend D—.'

'I should not wonder if I could strike a trade with him.'

'When will you do it?'

'I calculate it can be done tomorrow.'

'Very well—if you succeed, the money is yours.'

'Sartin sure?' said the yankee.

The twenty dollars were immediately collected and given to the landlord as an earnest of their seriousness, and they partly broke up to meet the next evening. On the following morning, our Yankee acquaintance, who was a shrewd, intelligent fellow, put on a genteel suit, and after having made a good many inquiries respecting the habits, manners, appearance and residence of Mr. D—, mounted a horse and took a roundabout course for his house, with the intention of stopping there on his return, as if just Philadelphia. As good luck would have it, old D— was standing in his front door as the Yankee approached.

'Sir,' said the latter, 'will you be good enough to inform me how far I am from New Brunswick?'

'Two miles, sir,' replied D—.

'And how far is to New York?'

'About forty miles, I suppose by stage.'

'Are there any tin smiths in New Brunswick?' continued the Yankee.

'Why, yes, there are two or three small affairs.'

'I am sorry they are small— I was in hope of being able to fill an order which our house has received for lanterns.'

'Lanterns?' said the old fellow quickly, eagerly taking the bait, for he had seen the three wagons loaded with them only the day before.

'Yes,' added the other, careless, 'we have a heavy order, and I was told that the article could be had in New Brunswick.'

'You are from Philadelphia, then?'

'Yes do business there. You have probably heard of our firm—Hops, Cook, Sage Dannelly, & Co?'

'I can't say that I've heard of that firm but there appears to be good money of you?'

'Oh, yes it's a large house.'

'How many lanterns do you want?'

'Three hundred will do.'

'What do you pay a hundred?'

The Yankee stated the sum considerably above the marketable value of the article.

'Do you wish them delivered in Philadelphia?'

'No, I will attend to that.'

'Add another dollar a hundred, and I will furnish them for you,' said the greedy sharper.

'Agreed,' replied the Yankee, 'now when can you procure them?'

'In two days.'

'All right. I must go on some ten miles further; and I will pay you for them on my return.'

After some other conversation about the size, make, and quality of the article, of which served to impress old D— with the legitimacy of the transaction, the Yankee returned to town, put on his old clothes and otherwise altered

his appearance, so that he was fully prepared to superintend the sale of his own lanterns when old skin flint arrived. In due time D— reached the tavern, and after much screwing and jowling the bargain was struck—money paid down, and the tin ware delivered.

A broad grin of satisfaction might have been observed all this time in the faces of some six or eight bystanders, but nothing was said.—The Yankee got a full price for his lanterns, pocketed his twenty dollars, and that night started homeward.

Old D— waited all the next day, and the following one, and two more, but the Philadelphia Merchant came not. At length the lanterns began to grow hateful in the old man's sight, and with a dozen round oaths, reflected severely on the Mercantile community in general the tin ware was ordered to be put in the garret. The joke got wind, and soon every body in the town knew of it, and from that day forth the miser was known by the cognomen of 'Old Lantern.' Many years afterward he old man died, and the handbill then announced the sale of his effects contained the following *nota bene*:—'Also, at the same time and place three hundred lanterns, almost as good as new at a bargain.'

#### WHOM DO YOU LOVE BEST.

One afternoon a young child was playing in the garden with its parents. After gambolling in innocent sports a long time, they all sat down upon the grass; the mother gave the boy a beautiful peach, and a piece of bread; the father told him a beautiful story; and the child was happy. In the midst of this interesting family scene, a friend passing by asked of him:

'My little boy, which do you love best, pops or mama?'

The question seemed to puzzle the child; he stopped eating, and dropped the hand which was conveying the food to his mouth, but did not reply.

'Answer me, my dear child,' said the friend, 'whom do you prefer, your father or your mother?'

The child, as much perplexed as ever, turned his eyes towards his father, and then towards his mother, as if to ask them to help him out of his difficulty. The thing was hard for them to decide, for tho' each wished to be well loved each was too just to be willing to receive the preference. A generous struggle arose between them—the father enumerating to his son all the motives he had for loving his tender mother; and she reminding him of all the kindness his father had bestowed upon him.

'Come, answer the gentleman,' said the smiling father, 'do you not best love your mama, who every morning wakes you with a kiss and prays to God to bless her little son, and teaches you to pray too?'

The child cast a look of gratitude towards her mother, who replied:

'Yes, answer the gentleman, but first remember who teaches you how to read, and tells you pretty stories.'

The child stretched his hand to the other side; the father took it and said:

'Now, my child, do you not prefer your mother, who nurses you when you are sick, feeds you when you are well, and is at this very moment kindly preparing for your fourth meal?'

The child glanced at his fresh bread and ripe peach, and his mouth watered. He was going to answer, when his mother interrupted:

'Mama often scolds you, and that you know you do not like.'

The father added: 'Papa whips you when you are naughty, and more than once has made you cry.'

The child hung his head, and did not seem in such a hurry to answer.

'My boy,' said the stranger again, 'I am waiting for your answer; who do you love best, father or mother?'

'O, it must be your dear father,' said the mother, 'who earns the bread I give you; his labor.'

'No, rather your kind mother,' said the father, 'for she deprives herself of many things to please you. It was she that made the red ball for you.'

'It was father that made your bat.'

'Yes but your mother plays every day with you.'

'Your father takes you out walking.'

'Mother kisses you.'

'Father caresses you.'

'But answer!' said the stranger.

The child started, raised his head, opened his arms—

'Well, child which do you love best father or mother?'

The child's face brightened up with joy, an answer sprung from his heart; and scarcely the interrogator finished the question when the little fellow cried out at the top of his voice, clapping his hands, 'Both alike!'

From the American Agriculturist.

#### HOW TO SUSTAIN AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE SOIL.

It has become an important inquiry among many of our farmers, how they shall fertilize such of our lands as are yielding large burdens of produce, which are taken off the premises for sale.—Where remote from a large city, or places for supplying manures, this is a most important query and one which they are highly interested in having answered correctly. It is absolutely certain that farmers cannot annually rob their farms of large crops of grain, grass, & roots, without either supplying manure to the soil, or losing rapidly in its fertility. We shall briefly indicate some of the most obvious resources for sustaining and improving the productiveness of the soil.

In the first place, not an ounce of animal manure should be suffered to be wasted, either liquid or solid. If not dropped on the feeding grounds, but around the stables and yards, it should be carefully saved and treasured up where it cannot be wasted. This should be carefully and judiciously compounded with turf or peat or vegetable matter, so as to retain all its gases; not be permitted to drain away and as soon as a proper time offers, it should be carried on to the fields and at once incorporated with the soil. Another resource for many of our Eastern farmers, is the immense stores of peat and muck that are within their reach, and which tends greatly to benefiting a light sandy or loamy soil. All the animal matter ashes leached or un-leached should be carefully collected and applied to their land & any other fertilizing substance which is to be found around the premises or can be collected at not too great an expense in the neighborhood.

But in many cases where the stock of cattle is not large and the produce sold from the land is considerable some more difficult and certain means for sustaining a farm must be resorted to. With the most intelligent and systematic agriculturist, a proper rotation is adopted which has been found by experience to be adapted to the locality and products. By this is meant a regular succession of crops on the same field through a series of years which at their expiration are again repeated. They are so arranged that two grain crops never follow each other, but are separated by root crops, grass, &c. This system prevents the necessity of the soil yielding similar ingredients through two or more successive seasons, which it will seldom do to an extent sufficient to produce a good second crop. Time is required for it to decompose such of the ingredients which it contains, as are necessary to form what are called the inorganic portions of the plant, in such conditions to be taken up and appropriated by the plant. It also enables the cultivator to apply his green or putrescent manures to such crops as are most properly adapted to receive them. Such are corn and roots, and nearly all the subjects of cultivation excepting the smaller grains.

The great object of rotation, however, is to give the land rest as it is termed, when allowed to remain in grass or meadow; or refreshment when clover or other fertilizing crops are plowed into the soil for manure. Such crops carry back to the soil so much of its materials as they have taken from it

and in addition; important elements which they have abstracted from the atmosphere, and they are found by long practice, to be of great benefit in sustaining the fertility of the soil. Before passing on to a consideration connected with this particular point in the subject, of the highest importance, we would say, that a large share of the benefits to the land derivable from this practice, may be secured by feeding the clover to such animals as will consume it on the ground. We say a part only, for all the food which goes to supply the respiration of the animal which is to be considered a share, passes off again into the air, and is lost. Another part is stowed up in the augmented size of the animal, for it is certain that whatever weight it acquires while feeding is at the expense of the soil. If such cows are pastured, the abstraction of valuable ingredients is still greater, as it has been found that pastures fed off for a long time by cows, have been robbed of large amounts of phosphate of lime, and other important matter. If horses are thus fed and taken on to the roads or elsewhere to work, it is evident that large quantities of this manure will thus be lost to the fields supplying the food.

Sheep are undoubtedly the best adapted to the object we have in view. They remain stationary in the same fields when they feed, and return to them all they have taken, save what escapes by respiration, evaporation, or is stowed up by the wool or carcass. They also drop their manure on the highest and driest parts of the ground where it is more beneficial than elsewhere, and we would most earnestly recommend the introduction of sheep husbandry on a more or less extended scale, to any farmer who professes the system of turning in crops for manure. The necessity of carrying them through the winter, will still further provide the materials for fertilizing, by accumulating a store of manure from this source, which without the sheep or a full equivalent in other stock, would not be secured.

But to recur to the subject of turning in green crops. It is evident at a single glance that this system does not accomplish what is necessary in sustaining the full measure of fertility of land subject to clover cropping. In a rotation consisting of clover and wheat simply, we find that the wheat abstracts large amounts of phosphate of lime, potash, gypsum, salt, &c. &c. which if nothing be added to the soil, except the clover crop, will in a few years reduce any ordinary soil to so low a point, that it cannot yield profitable returns.—The land may continue to yield for a long time, but it is evident that it is losing properties at every successive harvest, which must be supplied to it, or it will eventually be exhausted.

The true and only remedy for this, is to ascertain by analysis, either of your own or the well established researches of others, precisely what of the inorganic material, such as are inherent in the soil, and not found to any appreciable extent in the atmosphere, are taken from the land by cropping or feeding, and not returned to it by straw manure or off of any kind, and return those materials to the land in such a calculable shape as will enable future crops to supply themselves with all they require. This is indispensable to a succession of food crops and fertility, and no farmer is wise who neglects this practice for a single year however seemingly well his adopted system may answer which does not embrace the foregoing practice.

**Noble Example.**—Gov. Briggs, of Massachusetts in dedicating a Normal School, said he could remember the case of a poor boy who sat upon the hard plank seat in one of these schools while his father was toiling at the anvil for bread who by the smiles of fortune and the confidence of the people was elected Chief Magistrate of that State and was now addressing the meeting. This is a practical demonstration which is worth a world of theories.

**Coming and going.**—The ship Fairfield from Liverpool, with 233 steerage passengers, had four births and five deaths on board during the voyage.

#### SAN JUAN D'ULLOA.

The London Daily News gives the subjoined minute description of this famous castle: 'On the termination of the war with Spain; after the miserable remains of their garrison had been sent off to Havana, I went with two companions over the castle of San Juan D'Ulloa. It is a tremendous place if at all well manned. No wonder it held out so long. Had it not been for the raging of the yellow fever within its walls and the want of provisions, the Mexicans would never have taken it without a naval force very superior to the one they then possessed, though they never since had any force comparable to that one.

The outer walls of the fortress are of immense thickness—upwards of twelve feet; and in the positions most exposed, the walls are seventeen or eighteen in depth of solid white stone.— It is very porous and rather soft stone, so that balls do not split or crack it so much as they quietly embed themselves. The outer walls have batteries all round the guns are well planted, with here and there a neat corner for a mortar. The inner walls are so constructed, that the outer walls are gained, it would be at a slaughterous expense to besiegers, if the garrison were at all competent to avail themselves of their position.

We entered the fortress from below at the principal gate, which was of great strength, and very skilfully contrived: and then went along a stone passage, which had several gateways, and cunningly devised narrow passes, with high stone walls on each side. This was by a canal, or moat, with a draw bridge over it. We next arrived at flights of stairs, and passing over several vault like passages, we gained the top of the grand batteries. The general characteristic is that of great strength, and plenty of room to work in.—They mounted 120 long 24 pounders, all of brass. They were, for the most part, in excellent condition. The mortars were of large calibre, though not in such good order as the guns. The powder magazines were each literally a dry stone well, plugged at the top with blankets, and having a round metal lid over the mouth that opened upon the batteries.

We next descended to the inner works, and gained the secondary walls by a circuitous route. Besides the necessity to the besiegers of having guides who well knew every turn of the works the excitement and smoke are almost certain to produce confusion, in which the voice or presence of the guides would be lost, and the party dashing onward might only arrive at a dead wall a gap looking out upon the sea, or the mouth of a 24 pounder. The next circuitous route of our descent from the upper to the lower walls was entirely to their batteries, the guns aiming at us all the way, like so many black tusks as we traversed stone causeways and narrow passages. Whole regiments might here be led down, after they had conquered the outer walls; and the chances of war are numerous; but one imperfection in the greatest power (if otherwise perfect) may render it inapplicable, and perhaps ridiculous. On arriving at their inner batteries, we found the guns in a wretched condition. They were no better than a Chinese effect, calculated to strike terror into the mind. But one may imagine how very angry the subtle architect of this formidable castle would have been could he have seen his excellent arrangements the safe and nearly certain destruction of the assailants thus rendered abortive.

We now descended a very wide and steep flight of stone stairs which led down into the grand castle square, or a