

COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.



"That Government is the best which governs least."

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SINGLES POETRY.

The Beautiful.

How much there is that's beautiful
In this fair world of ours,
The verdure of the early spring,
The sweetly blooming flowers,
The brook that dances in the light,
The birds that carol free,
Are objects beautiful and bright,
That every where we see.

The beauty in the early morn
When all is hushed and still,
And at the lovely sunset hour,
'Tis spread o'er vale and hill;
It lives within the gorgeous clouds
That float along the sky,
And oh! how purely beautiful
Our evening canopy.

It dwells in quiet stillness where
The glassy waters glide,
And wake to awful grandeur 'neath
The cataract's foaming tide;
'Tis throned in dark stern majesty,
Where the tall mountain towers—
Oh! there is beauty everywhere
In this bright world of ours.

The fairy spell that childhood wears,
Its artlessness and truth,
The light that lives within the eye,
And in the smile of youth,
The impress on the manly brow,
Wrought with the shade of care,
That tells of high and noble thought,
How beautiful they are!

And life—how much is shed around,
To bless and cheer us here,
When strength and energy are found,
Its lesser ills to bear,
Although a cloud may sometimes rise,
A shadow sometimes rest
Upon our earthly pathway, still
'Tis beautiful and blessed.

ORIGINAL.

Random Shots—No. 5.

BY NONDESCRIPT.

Novelists.

This is an age of steam presses and "yellow rivers." Not those which figured so largely in the campaign of 1844 doing service in the cause of Clay and Fremlinghousen; but an equally disgusting, nonsensical and rapid sort of thing, yeelp novels. Before proceeding any farther in this article, it may be as well to tell what kind of an animal, or perhaps I had better say vegetable; (because they are either very green or of a sickly yellow, a novel is. Time was when our grand pa's were boys, the books were worth reading, and those old works loose nothing by age, but like good wine increase their sparkle and flavor. But the true receipt as found among the "secret papers" of a confirmed novelist, for a modern tale of fiction, is this.

"Let a gentleman and lady meet accidentally on the bank of a stream in the evening, the moon should be full—they will easily fall in love and you can then, in order to push matters to a crisis, make an heiress of the daughter, and an aristocrat of the father. He, of course should be opposed to the match." The course of true love never runs smooth. You can then spice it to suit the taste. Two or three thunder storms and a runaway, may be interspersed as seems most convenient. The unknown lover turns out to be the youngest son of the Baron Von Schlossen, or Lord Tremont. Side Scenes, Episodes, seduction and assassination to suit public appetite."

Of course this intellectual feast might be varied, but this is the composition, and these are the ingredients. And seriously what can be gathered from the pages of the great flood of novels which are piled upon the shelves of our booksellers and encumber the tables of our fashionable belles, to the exclusion of sound matter.

This race of small fry romances have no more notion of what should constitute a book of this kind, than they have of check and satin. Not a speck of heart or feeling—no knowledge of human nature, and no acquaintance with the principles of human action—no high, splendid, towering intellect—no honorable minded man are held up for example and imitation. Love, murder and crime are the alpha and the omega of this shower of trash, whose influence is more baleful and pernicious than the

rankest infidelity; and whose stiferous breath is more deadly than the desert. Of this however I will have something to say in a subsequent.

What then is the end and of our writers of shilling novels? They are not surely seeking a firm and enduring popularity and fame! They may use for the moment, the corrupted and the Liberator, or keep up the excitement in the breast of the abandoned prostitute. But do they awaken and arouse those hitherto unknown, and feelings unimagined, in the breasts of no other than the? Would that they did not! It is my belief that two-thirds of the crime which populates our prison houses has its origin in these pernicious works of fiction. A man who has the courage to unite romance as it should be without pampering the passions, or feeding the appetites of a public, deserves credit, and is an honor to his race.

No man but an anatom could tell certainly whether these mendacious brains or not, and then only unpossessing them, a man had better be the author of one good work, one that will bear the read twice and thrice, than God fathos half a hundred that are used for wraping paper.

The popularity of an author is not to be judged by the number of books upon the shelves of which his name appears. The well written work will render a man immortal, while his name may be buried forever under the rubbish of fifty carelessly written and half drawn out. The mushroom popularity of a day should not be sought by any sensible man. It ought to be the study and aim of every man who takes up the quill to benefit his race, he should so write that men will be better and happier because he has read—and the proud epitaph that could be inscribed on his tomb would be—he has done that dying he could wish to blot.

Farewell Address Vice President Bliss.

In the United States Senate Friday, 23rd inst., Vice President Dallas took his farewell of that body in the following language:

GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE.—The close of my official term being near hand, I conform to an established and ancient practice, by withdrawing from the deliberations of this body, thus creating the occasion the choice of a temporary President.

It is impossible for me however to do this without begging you, each and all, to accept my thanks for the courtesy and respect by which you have lightened the burden of my service in your chamber.

The elevated principle and dignified tone which mark the proceedings of the Senate; the frank and yet forbearing spirit of its discussions; the mutual manifestation of conciliatory deference, so just and appropriate among the delegates of independent States; and the consequent calmness and precision of its legislative action, have attracted to it a very large share of veneration and confidence. Four years experience convince me, that this confidence is misplaced. It is true, that such an assembly, constantly handling topics of the widest bearing, of the highest and deepest concern to diversified communities, cannot avoid being occasionally disturbed by conflicting sentiments of patriotic duty by sudden impulses of feeling. But these transient disturbances are too intimately and obviously associated with representative fidelity, with unquestionable freedom of debate, and with a quick sense of public honor, to be subject to enter representation by the strictest rule of order. They are, indeed, rare, passing over the scene like flushes which do but startle, and then cease, which serve only to exhibit in stronger relief the grave decorum of its general conduct. Let, forever, may this character be maintained in the Senate, strengthening, as it cannot fail to strengthen, the attachment of the American people to their admirable constitution of government.

You will, I trust, pardon me if I protract for an instant these parting words, in order to utter one or two sentiments, derived solely from my position as an agent of the nation.

A right to vote upon any question pending before this body whereto members are equally divided, is given to the Vice President by the constitution; and the duty to exercise that right is imposed upon him by an express rule of the Senate.

Although it so happened that equal divisions have occurred, during my official term, with unusual frequency—not less than thirty times—and although no one can be responsible to the signal responsibility of giving to this or the other side, on such contingencies, the final preponderance, I am not aware of having faltered in casting my suffrage as, in my conscience, I believe, the people of the United States, and especially that vast majority of them whose judgments and affections

cling with ever renewing conviction and devotion to the harmony and duration of the Union, would have prescribed. Of the cardinal duties of American functionaries I have deemed that to be the foremost which consists in practically upholding and exemplifying the beneficence, independent social organization, equality, and fraternity, so distinctly and directly inculcated in the Constitution. Nor, Senators, is any man fit to participate in the government of great societies, with elements combined as ours are, who hesitates about disobliging the few who have access to or surrounding him for the sake of the many whom he can never see. In these reflections lies the simple and safe rule of truly patriotic action. I am far from the self flattery of supposing that the deciding vote, so often and sometimes so suddenly required at my hands, conformed unerringly to this rule; but I cannot repress the hope that time and trial will prove them to have been as positively right as I am absolutely certain they were, rightly intended.

My draft, gentlemen, on your generous indulgence is a heavy one, when I ask you to forget or overlook the many imperfections with which the duties of the chair have been discharged. Its labors occasionally more arduous and anxious, are always more absorbing than is generally supposed; and I undertook them with an oppressive consciousness of inexperience. Now, that I am finally relieved from the burden, let me say that I shall take back to the private pursuits whence I was unexpectedly called, the most grateful recollections of your kindness, and an ardent wish that your efforts to advance the prosperity of a country beloved by us all, may be rewarded by the purest public favor, and by prolonged lives of happiness and honor.

G. M. DALLAS.

Washington, March 2, 1849.

From the Washington Daily Globe.

The Inauguration.

We transfer from the National Intelligencer into the Globe of to-day a pretty copious, and we believe an accurate account, of what occurred at the inauguration of President Taylor, on the 4th instant.

The Intelligencer assumes the number of persons present at the Capitol to have been "at least twenty thousand." Some are of opinion that there were a great many more. The day was not a very good one; but it might have been much worse, and it would be unthankful therefore to complain of it. The "vestiges of aristocracy" which cannot be "excluded or extirpated," as the Intelligencer supposes, will disappear in time, it is to be hoped. There were many "fair and graceful ladies" at the Capitol besides "the fair and graceful lady of M. Bodisco." The phrase "Jacksonian reign" had as well been left out of the account. The use of it is a slight departure from the otherwise impartial and good-natured character of the narrative.

At night there were three Balls—one at the City Hall, one at Jackson Hall, and the other at Caron's Saloon. They were all got up in elegant style—the first two were unusually splendid and recherche. They were well attended, and never perhaps in this city was so much beauty, grace, and fashion out at night to honor, to adorn, and to enliven the dancing saloons.

We are informed, that for the ball at the pavilion erected for the occasion at the City Hall, from ten hundred and fifty to eleven hundred tickets were sold at ten dollars each, making about eleven thousand dollars; that the whole of the expense of the ball will be about eight thousand; and that the remaining three thousand will be distributed to the two Orphan Asylums of the city—a most noble and benevolent use to make of the surplus funds!

The Inauguration.

At the appointed time yesterday, the Inauguration of General ZACHARY TAYLOR, as President of the United States, took place in front of the great Portico of the Capitol. The multitude of people assembled on the occasion, from every part of the Union, for the purpose of witnessing the interesting ceremony, is supposed to have been much larger than was ever before collected in Washington. The weather was, upon the whole, though the sky was clouded for in this particular season of the year.— At the break of day the strains of martial music resounded along the principal avenues of the city, and hundreds of star-spangled banners of every fabric and dimension were unfurled to the breeze. The bells of the city then rang out a stirring peal, and long before the usual breakfast hour the people were wending their way in immense masses to the Capitol.

The Salutation.

At nine o'clock one hundred gentlemen, who officiated as marshals, mounted their horses in front of the City Hall and proceeded in a body to Willard's Hotel, for the purpose of paying their respects to General Taylor. Having been escorted to the long upper hall of the hotel, the President Elect made his appearance, leaning upon the arm of the Mayor of the city, and proceeded to shake the hands of the gentlemen present, as a return for their polite salutation. The General was dressed in a plain suit of black, and he appeared to be in the enjoyment of his usual good health. After the above

ceremony was ended, the marshals retired to attend to their official duties, and General Taylor returned to his own apartment for the purpose of preparing himself for

The Procession.

At half-past eleven o'clock the Procession took up its line of march. All the arrangements were carried out according to the programme already published. The several military companies, of which we counted a dozen, presented an imposing and beautiful appearance; and as the procession moved along Pennsylvania avenue towards the Capitol, many bands of music poured forth a variety of martial airs. The carriage in which the President Elect was escorted was drawn by four handsome grey horses, and protected from the pressure of the multitude by the cavalcade of the hundred marshals already mentioned. The gentlemen who accompanied Gen. TAYLOR in his carriage were the Speaker of the late House of Representatives and the Mayor of Washington. According to previous arrangement, however, when the General's carriage arrived in front of the Irving Hotel, where Ex-President Polk is sojourning, the procession halted, and Mr. Polk was handed into the carriage, and a seat awarded to him on the right of the President Elect, who shook his predecessor cordially by the hand. The appropriateness and delicacy of this movement was duly appreciated by the multitude of people who witnessed it; and thereupon rang out spontaneously nine long and loud huzzas.

The procession resumed its march. Both sides of Pennsylvania avenue were thronged with human beings, all the way from Willard's Hotel to the Capitol grounds.— Many of the roofs of the houses were also covered, and every window was completely blocked up with heads. Old men and women, young men and maidens, and children too, by the thousands, were seen in every direction, and the cheers by which the excited multitude expressed their sensations on the occasion were both hearty and frequent. The time occupied by the procession in reaching the east front of the Capitol was about one hour; and, after the conclusion of the Inaugural ceremonies, the booming of artillery resounded from one extremity of the city to the other.

The Scene Within the Capitol.

The scene presented by the interior of the Senate Chamber was highly impressive. It would be difficult in this or any other country to find a spot which included within the same place more of distinction, whether we attach to that term the mere elevation of place and of position in human society, or that term elevation which is the prerogative of men born great by the gifts of God. Look which way one would, there was food for the eye and for the mind.

To give to the fairer sex the precedence which belongs to them, we say, in the first place, that the semi-circular gallery, reserved for the exclusive use of the ladies, was filled to overflowing long before the gathering of gentlemen privileged to occupy seats on the floor of the Chamber. One cause of this was the pre-admission, by grace and favor, of the families of Judges and Senators, who (on the promise of four hours' patient waiting) were admitted by side-doors to the best places for seeing and hearing, long before the less favored females could crowd their weary way up staircases crammed to suffocation. It seems impossible, even in the most republican government, wholly to exclude or extirpate, in regard to the fair at least, those vestiges of aristocracy which seem to be engraven in the nature of man. In every government, among every people, place will claim its prerogative. Three ladies fainting under the pressure and the heat; and it is only astonishing that so many managed to achieve an escalade of the narrow, crooked, confined, ill-contrived stair, and made their way through the yet narrower door provided for the admission of ladies to the gallery of the Senate Chamber. The *comp d'air*, as the eye gazed along the bank of female faces, ranged as in an amphitheatre, amid the rustling of silks and the endless flutter of a thousand fans, was calculated to elate the pride of an American jealous of the fame of his countrywomen.— A few, a very few, were admitted to Senatorial seats upon the floor, among whom we noticed the fair and graceful lady of M. Bodisco.

The chambers were filled fast with Senators, Ex-Senators, and members of the other House, when, the hour of eleven having arrived, a loud rap was heard, and the ceremonies of the day commenced by a very earnest and appropriate prayer delivered by the Rev. Mr. STEUB, Chaplain to the Senate. [All the proceedings of the Senate will be found under the Senatorial head in another column.]

On motion of Mr. DAVIS, of Massachusetts, the Hon. DAVID R. AITCHISON, Senator from Missouri, was chosen President pro temp. of the Senate.

The Diplomatic Corps were next announced, and presented, on their entrance

the usual imposing spectacle, created by so numerous a body of fine looking men, arrayed in that most gorgeous costume which European usage has assigned to these representatives of National Sovereignties. We see, in this country, so little of this sort of display, that when, on great State occasions, it does appear, it is sure to draw all eyes. At the head of the corps was M. BODISCO, whose well-known figure, erect, military, and covered with glittering orders, attracted the notice of all observers. There was the representative of the Germanic States, a composed and sage-looking man, with large epaulets and a rather plain uniform. Next him was seen the round, gentlemanly, benevolent countenance of MOOS, CALDERON, the worthy minister of the ancient monarchy of Spain, a striped ribbon crossing his breast, and well becoming his portly person. A striking contrast to the embroidered splendor of some of his neighbors, Belgian and Mexican, (as we believe) was the comparatively undecorated figure of our old friend M. POTISSIN, whose glossy hair, piercing eagle eye, and ardent manner could not be mistaken. The corps is now quite numerous, and filled a double row of seats on the left of the chair. Their brilliancy appeared in fine contrast with the dark robes and grave face of the Judicial body, seated opposite to them.

Vice President DALLAS had for some time been seen in the Chamber, easily designated by his snowy hair and upright gentlemanly figure. He occupied a seat in front of the Secretary's table, and facing the seats of the Senators. By his side sat a preceding Ex-Vice President, Colonel RICHARD M. JOHNSON, whose reminiscences were possibly running back to the good old days of the Jacksonian reign, but who seemed to look very good-naturedly upon all before him.

Mr. DALLAS was observed to retire; and, after a brief interval, was seen reentering the Chamber in company with the Vice President elect, the Hon. MILLARD FILLMORE, who looked in as fine health as we ever saw him, but not in better health of body or mind than all who know his worth wish him long to be. The future Presiding Officer of the Senate took the vacant seat of his predecessor, where the oath of office was administered to him by Mr. AITCHISON.

The Chamber sinking at once into profound stillness, Mr. FILLMORE delivered with calmness and dignity the following brief address:

SENATORS: Never having been honored with a seat on this floor, and never having acted as the presiding officer of any legislative body, you will not doubt my sincerity when I assure you that I assume the responsible duties of this chair with a conscious want of experience, and a just appreciation that I shall often need your friendly suggestions, and more often your indulgent forbearance.

I should indeed feel oppressed and disheartened did I not recollect that the Senate is composed of eminent statesmen, equally distinguished for their high intellectual endowments and their amenity of manners—whose persuasive eloquence is so happily tempered with habitual courtesy as to relieve your presiding officer from all that would be painful in the discharge of his duty, and render his position as agreeable as it must be restrictive.

This encouraged and sustained, I enter upon the duties assigned me firmly resolved to discharge them with impartiality and to the best of my ability; but I should do injustice to the grateful emotions of my own heart, if I did not, on this occasion, express my warmest thanks for the distinguished honor that has been conferred upon me, being called by the voice of the nation to preside over your deliberations.

It will not, I trust, be deemed inappropriate to congratulate you upon the scene now passing before us. I allude to it in no partisan aspect, but as an ever recurring event contemplated by the Constitution. Contemplate the peaceful changes of Chief Magistrates of this Republic with the recent sanguinary revolutions in Europe. There, the voice of the people has only been heard amid the din of arms and the horrors of domestic conflict; but here, in our own favored land, under the guidance of our Constitution, the restless will of the Nation has, from time to time, been peacefully expressed by the free suffrages of the People, and all have bowed in obedient submission to their decree. The Administration which but yesterday wielded the destinies of this great nation, to-day quietly yields up its power, and, without a murmur, retires from the Capitol.

To congratulate you, Senators, and I congratulate my country, upon these oft-recurring and cheering evidences of our capacity for self government, let us hope that the sublime spectacle which we now witness may be repeated as often as the people shall desire a change of rulers, and that this venerated Constitution and this glorious Union may endure forever.

At 12 o'clock the members of the late Executive Cabinet appeared, Mr. BUCHANAN leading the way, and occupied places on the left of the Ex-Vice President.

All things were now in readiness for the appearance of the PRESIDENT ELECT; but a rather long interval succeeded, during which the procession by which he was escorted

was slowly wending its way towards the Capitol. This space, however, did not seem to hang heavily, on the hands of any save perhaps a few, who, for the sake of seeing and hearing, had perched themselves in constrained positions, and whose patience, nevertheless, exhibited a marvellous constancy. The rest seemed very busily occupied in conversation.— Bird-like voices were heard chirping and twittering in the upper regions of the Chamber, while below grave speculations on the present and the future seemed to occupy many sagacious-looking heads, and to find an occasional outlet confidential ears.— Messengers passed backward and forward; eyes turned from time to time toward the great door, and to the clock above it.

At length, however, the sound of martial music began to be heard, and the vicinity of the procession became more and more evident. Expectation was now at its height; the great area was cleared, the hum which had filled the Chamber subsided; the great door opened, and the PRESIDENT ELECT, in company with Ex-President POLK, entered and took a seat which had been prepared for him; Mr. POLK, occupying another upon his left hand.

The appearance of General TAYLOR is so perfectly unassuming, that in my persons had repeatedly to inquire, before they could assure themselves, that that was the man whose name and deeds had filled the trumpet of fame, and won the love and the highest honors of his countrymen. The General saluted those near him with an air of frankness and good will, and conversed for some time (in whispers) with Chief Justice TANEY, (probably as to the ceremony about to take place.)

After a brief pause, the order of procession was announced, and the company retired from the Chamber of the Senate in the order prescribed in the programme, passing through the Rotunda to the Eastern Portico of the Capitol, where extensive staging had been erected preparatory to the solemnity of the inauguration.

The Act of Inauguration.

On reaching the staging erected over the flight of stairs of the portico of the Capitol, and standing in full view of the upturned eyes of at least twenty thousand people, representing every State and Territory of the Union, the President elect pronounced the admirable Inaugural address which was delivered in a remarkably distinct voice, and many parts of it were enunciated with a full and clear emphasis and enthusiastically responded to by the cheers of the surrounding spectators. As soon as the address had subsided, the oath to execute the office of President of the United States, and to the best of his ability to preserve, protect, and defend the constitution, was, with due solemnity administered to the President of the United States by Chief Justice TANEY. The President was then overwhelmed with congratulations, Chief Justice TANEY and Ex-President POLK taking the lead.

The ceremonies at the Capitol were terminated by salutes of artillery amid the roar of which the President, and all assembled round him, retraced their steps, re-embarked in the carriages, and escorted, as before, by the marshals and the military, returned down the broad avenue leading from the Capitol to the White House, appropriated to the residence of the successive Presidents of the United States.

The Arrival at the White House.

Followed by a vast concourse of people the President entered the mansion which he is henceforth to inhabit, and there received, with his accustomed courtesy, the salutes of some thousand of persons, passing in a long array in front of him, taking the ladies each by the hand; a ceremony which, from their great number, it was not possible for him to go through with the multitude of the other sex.

It is a circumstance as pleasing to relate as it is surprising, that, in so multitudinous a throng, on foot, on horseback, and in carriages, no accident of any kind is known to have occurred to mar the general enjoyment of the occasion.

The Military Display.

The Military Escort, which formed an imposing part of the Inaugural Procession, consisted of the following companies:

- Junior Artillery of Baltimore, Capt. Marshall
- Independent Blues of Baltimore, Capt. Hunt
- Washington Guards, Baltimore, Capt. Kalkman
- Washington Light Infantry, Capt. Tate
- National Greys, Capt. Bacon
- Walker Sharpshooters, Capt. Bryant
- Independent Greys, Georgetown, Capt. Wilson
- First Baltimore Sharpshooters, Capt. Lilly
- German Sharpshooters of Baltimore, Capt. Elterman
- Junior Artillery, Capt. McNamee
- The Level Troop, Capt. Capron

The Volunteers from Baltimore brought with them four splendid bands of music, and the whole legion made a very handsome and soldier-like appearance. Immediately in its rear marched a body of the "Baltimore Defenders," being a portion of the survivors of those patriotic citizen-soldiers who took part in the defence of that city in 1814.