

# THE STAR OF THE NORTH.

B. W. Weaver, Proprietor.

Truth and Right—God and our Country.

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**HEROIC CONDUCT OF A WOMAN.**  
 Account of Mrs. Martha Ann Patten, a Young Lady Twenty Years of Age, who Commanded a Vessel, Fifty-six Days, During Her Husband's Illness.  
 The readers of the Herald will remember an account taken from one of the California papers, relative to the heroic conduct of Mrs. Martha Ann Patten, wife of Capt. Patten, of the ship Neptune's Car, who, during her husband's illness, took charge of the vessel and navigated it safely into San Francisco. The lady, together with her husband, who is now so sick that he is not expected to live, arrived in this city in the George Law, and are now stopping at the Battery Hotel. Her story is an interesting and painful one, and shows how much a weak, delicate woman can do when a great emergency calls for her powers.

Mrs. Patten was born in East Boston of wealthy parents, and received an excellent education, and was in every respect tenderly nurtured and cared for. She is now but twenty years of age, of a delicate complexion, soft blue eyes, and altogether gives one an idea of feminine softness and womanliness that it is impossible to associate with the daring nerve and decisive qualities she exhibited in a remarkable degree. At eighteen years she married Capt. Patten, then but twenty-five years of age, he having been master of a vessel—the bark St. Andrew, which plied between New York and South American ports—and was then off duty waiting till the Cornelia Lawrence, a new ship, was ready for sea. Shortly after he was married the master of the ship Neptune's Car sickened as she was about to get to sea for a voyage around the world, and the owners, Messrs. Foster and Nickerson, offered the post to Capt. Patten, but he hesitated as he did not wish to leave his young bride. The owners, however, gave him permission to take her with him, and in two hours after the first notification the young couple were on board, and the vessel getting ready to leave the dock. The Neptune's Car first sailed for San Francisco, thence to China, from China to London, and finally arrived in New York, after an absence of seventeen months. During this time Mrs. Patten amused herself by helping her husband in his nautical observations, worked up the time from the chronometers, and occasionally kept the reckoning of the ship. Last August the Neptune's Car again put to sea, and it was on this voyage that Mrs. Patten's misfortunes commenced. As the vessel neared the straits of Magellan, her husband was taken with a disease in the head which finally developed into a brain fever. He attended to his ship as long as he was able, and when it was impossible to give any personal orders, he found to his dismay that his first mate was wholly incompetent to take charge of the ship, and that there was no officer on board qualified to take the vessel into port. He found that the first mate was anxious to run the vessel into Valparaiso, but this he earnestly forbade, as the crew might all leave and the cargo be destroyed before the consignees could send for the vessel. In this emergency Mrs. Patten's rare qualities developed themselves. She assumed command of the vessel herself, and the nautical observations she once made in sport for a pastime she now undertook as a duty. Her time was spent between her delicious husband and the writing desk, working up the intricate calculations incident to nautical observations making entries in the log-book in her own delicate penmanship, and tending out with accuracy the position of the ship from the charts in the cabin. The rough sailors all obeyed the "little woman," as they called her, with will, and eyed her curiously and affectionately through the cabin windows while deep in her calculations in which her life and theirs depended. There was one person on board, however, who viewed her course with jealousy and mistrust. He wrote her a letter warning her of the responsibility she was assuming and proffering advice, but she spiritedly replied that "her husband would not trust him while he was well, and she could not do so now that he was sick." For fifty days Mrs. Patten did not undress herself and took very little sleep, working day and night, and never leaving her sick husband's room. Her labors are the more surprising in view of the fact, that she was all this time in a delicate condition, and soon expected to give birth to her first child.

The Neptune's Car arrived safely at San Francisco on the 15th of November last, it having been for fifty-six days under the command of a delicate female not twenty years of age. When a splendid text for the woman's rights people.

Mrs. Patten is now at the Battery Hotel with her husband, who it is supposed is in a dying condition. The fever has never left him, and for some time past he has been blind and deaf. They did expect to leave in the bark for Boston yesterday for her own home, but he was too sick to be moved.

Mrs. Patten's case is one of the most remarkable on record, and adds one to the many instances that history records of female devotion and heroism.—New York Herald.

**DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION AT HARRISBURG.**  
 Harrisburg, March 2.—The Democratic State Convention, to nominate candidates for Governor, Canal Commissioner, and Judge of the Supreme Court, met in the Hall of the House of Representatives at 10 o'clock this morning, and was called to order by Col. John W. Forney, Chairman of the State Central Committee.

Col. Forney, in performing this duty, made a brief address. He referred to the great triumph of the Democratic party of the country, last fall, in the election of James Buchanan, and the proud position the party in Pennsylvania had occupied in that great struggle. He made a delicate allusion to the recent defeat of the Democracy in the election of a United States Senator from Pennsylvania, and remarked that the success of the party had been abused, and the fruits of the great victory had been permitted to rot away under their feet. He ransacked back to the representatives of the party the trust confided to him a year ago, and concluded by requesting some delegate to nominate a temporary Chairman.

Gen. Morray Wharton, of Erie, was thereupon nominated and chosen as Chairman, pro tem., and Gideon G. Westcott, of Philadelphia, and Alex. McKinney, of Westmoreland appointed Secretaries.

The list of delegates was then called. The Convention is nearly full. Several delegates are yet absent who will be here this afternoon.

On motion, a Committee of one delegate from each Senatorial District, was appointed by the delegations from the several districts, to report officers for a permanent organization.

The contested seats from the Tenth and Seventeenth Senatorial Districts were considered and settled in favor of Charles M. Smyser from the Tenth District, and L. K. Blood, from the Seventeenth district.

The Committee to select officers in the organization of the Convention, returned and reported as follows:

**PRESIDENT,**  
 PHILIP JOHNSON, of Northampton.

**VICE PRESIDENTS,**  
 Geo. W. Nebinger, H. L. Dieffenbach, Charles Worell, J. M. Grimmell, W. A. Edwards, Wallace Geybert, Peter Rambo, John Blanding, John G. Brenner, F. W. Knox, A. H. Tiffin, H. P. Garvin, Samuel Ringwalt, Jonathan Ayres, Edward Thomas, Wm. H. McKee, W. B. Patton, S. H. Blackburn, Wm. M. Breslin, Finley Patterson, A. H. Tickner, J. H. Crawford, John A. Slater, John Cummings, Charles Burnett, J. B. Danner, John Ahl, Isaac Ward, John Hartzell, Edward Flannery.

**SECRETARIES,**  
 J. H. Huey, Jos. Lindsay, Jno. Campbell, L. H. Shaw, E. L. Acker, H. H. Boggs, A. H. Knicker, Dr. Brown, &c.

The report of the Committee was adopted, and the President, on taking his seat, made a brief address, returning thanks for the honor conferred, and enjoining harmony of action, predicting another great triumph, next fall.

Mr. Shannon, of Allegheny, moved the appointment of a Committee on resolutions, consisting of one from each Senatorial District.

On motion of Mr. Cessna, the resolution was amended reducing the number of the Committee to seven.

Adjourned till half-past two o'clock.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**  
 The Convention re-assembled at half-past two o'clock, when the Committee on resolutions was announced, consisting of Messrs. Shannon, Bookleew, Workman, Westcott, Shiner, Carrigan, and Bousall.

The Convention then proceeded to make nominations for candidates for Governor. A number of names were placed in nomination, and among them Hon. John L. Dawson and Gen. Seth Clover, which were subsequently withdrawn.

The first ballot for a candidate was then taken and resulted as follows:—

Messrs. Alicks, Ahl, Blending, Bros, Bookleew, Bowman, Dieffenbach, Evans, Finch, Flannery, Gilliland, Hanter, Katz, Knox, Lauman, Carl, McCormick, McCurdy, Orr, Piolet, Smyser, Smith, Shaw, Scarborough, Schenkel, Sussel, Seybert, Sherwood, Thomas, Wauder, Ward (Susquehanna), 31—voted for Wm. F. Packer.

Messrs. Acker, Allen, Bucher, Bonall, Brenner, Campbell, Carrigan, Deal, Danen-hower, Edwards, Eker, Killian, Lippencott, Morrison, Miller, McGhee, Morris, McMullin, Murray, McClancy, Nebinger, Worrell, Rambo, Sager, Stuegess, School, Tiffin, Westcott and Yeager, 29—voted for Wm. H. White.

Messrs. Ayres, Blood, Blackburn, Boggs, Cessna, Crawford, Clarke, Dunn, Gibson, Hay, Herdman, Irwin, Jamison, Johnson, Maulan, McKinney, McCormick, (Northumberland), Magee, Shannon, Shiner, Sansom, Slater, Taylor, (Beaver), and Weyand, 25—voted for Samuel W. Black.

Messrs. Boyer, Bush, Fris, Hull, Kutz, Lindsay, McKinstry, Paton, Patterson, Ring-walt, Rutledge, Saright, Stouffer, Swan and Workman, 15—voted for Wm. Hopkins.

Messrs. Brooks, Danner, Forney, Grier, Garvin, James, Fries, Fluther, Reilly, Sharpe, Sloan, Taylor, (Erie), and Whallon, 13—voted for J. Porter Brawley.

Messrs. Brown, Bower, Cummings, Dilling-er, Gemmill, Hartzel, McDowell and Wood-ruff, 4—voted for Ephraim Banks.

Messrs. Barnes, Craig, Claver, Moore, Wolf and Wood, 5—voted for G. R. Barrett.

Messrs. Breslin, Hipple, Horn and Ward, (Schuylkill), 4—voted for F. W. Hughes.

Mr. Baum voted for Isaac Steiner.  
 Mr. Young voted for Thomas S. Bell.  
 Whole number of votes cast 131—neces-sary to a choice 66.

There being no choice the names of Messrs. Hughes, Brawley and Steiner were withdrawn.

**SECOND VOTE.**  
 Packer, 36  
 Black, 26  
 White, 33  
 Hopkins, 18  
 Banks, 6

Whole number of votes cast, 132—neces-sary to a choice, 67.

The 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th votes were nearly the same, Hopkins falling off to 6, and the other candidates severally gaining slightly.

**SEVENTH VOTE.**  
 Packer, 49  
 White, 38  
 Hopkins, 1

8th vote. 9th vote. 10th vote.  
 Packer, 50 49 49 49  
 Black, 44 44 44 44  
 White, 38 39 39 40  
 Hopkins, 1 1 1 1

A motion to adjourn till seven o'clock was disagreed to, after which four other ballots were had resulting as follows:

11th. 12th. 13th. 14th.  
 Packer, 47 47 42 44  
 Black, 40 38 36 39  
 White, 37 39 39 40  
 Hopkins, 9 11 16 10

After the 12th ballot, a motion was made to adjourn till 7½ o'clock, but disagreed to. Yes 54, nays 72.

After the 13th ballot, a motion was made to adjourn till 8 o'clock, and voted—Yes 65, nays 67.

The Convention finally, after the 14th bal-lot, adjourned till half past eight o'clock.

**EVENING SESSION.**  
 The Convention met again at 8½ o'clock, when the fifteenth ballot was taken, and re-sulted as follows:—

**FIFTEENTH VOTE.**  
 Packer, 47  
 Black, 37  
 White, 40  
 Hopkins, 14

Mr. Cessna moved that on each successive ballot after the next, the lowest candidate shall be dropped.

Mr. Carrigan moved to lay the motion on the table.

The Chair decided the motion out of the order. The motion must be postponed.

Mr. Cessna advocated his motion. If adopted one or the other of the candidates must be nominated in a few ballots. If the balloting continued as now, much longer delegates would become embittered, and would say harsh things, to the injury of the prospects of the party.

Mr. Whallon opposed the motion.

Mr. McDowell hoped the proposition would prevail after another vote.

The whole subject was then postponed for the present, and the Convention resumed the balloting with the following result:—

16th. 17th. 18th. 19th. 20th. 21st. 22d.  
 Packer, 48 49 54 57 59 60 61  
 Black, 24 22 22 22 22 22 25  
 White, 43 46 47 50 52 54 47  
 Hopkins, 18 16 — 4 2 — —

**TWENTY-THIRD VOTE.**  
 Packer, 61  
 Black, 21

**TWENTY-FOURTH VOTE.**  
 Packer, 69  
 Black, 51

Gen. William F. Packer having, on the twenty-fourth ballot, received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly nominated as the candidate for Governor.

The announcement was received with much applause, and a resolution was then offered and adopted to make the nomination unanimous.

**NOMINATION OF SUPREME JUDGE AND CANAL COMMISSIONER.**  
 Harrisburg, March 2d.—The Convention remained in session till half past 12 o'clock this morning.

The following is the vote for Governor on the 24th ballot:

For Wm. F. Packer—Messrs. Alicks, Ahl, Baum, Brown, Blanding, Blood, Boyer, Bookleew, Bowman, Bower, Carl, Cessna, Cum-mings, Claver, Danner, Dieffenbach, Evans, Finch, Flannery, Frost, Forney, Gemmill, Gilliland, Grier, Garvin, Hartzel, Hull, Horn, Horn, Irwin, James, Jamison, Kutz, Kutz, Kutz, Lauman, McCormick, (Mon-tour) McKinstry, McCormick, (Northumber-land) Moore, McCurdy, Orr, Pison, Patton, Piolet, Plumer, Patterson, Ringwalt, Neger, Smyser, Shiner, Smith, (Beak) Shaw, Scar-borough, Sharp, Schenkel, Sloan, Stauffer, Sussel, Seybert, Sherwood, Taylor, (Erie), Thomas, Wauder, Woodruff, Ward, (Schuyl-kill) Ward, (Susquehanna), and Young—66.

For Wm. H. White—Messrs. Ayres, Acker, Allen, Boggs, Brooks, Bookler, Brush, Burnett, Bousall, Brenner, Campbell, Craig, Crawford, Carrigan, Deal, Danahower, Dilling-er, Edwards, Fehrer, Hipple, Johnson, Killian, Lippencott, Lindsay, Morrison, Miller, Marlin, M'Kee, M'Dowell, M'Kinney, Morris, M'Callin, Murray, Magee, M'Glincy, Nebinger, Reilly, Rutledge, Rambo, Slater, Sturgeon, School, Swan, Tiffin, Westcott, Whallon, Workman, Wolf, Worell, Wood, and Yeager—51.

For Samuel Black—Messrs. Blackburn, Bruns, Breslin, Clarke, Dunn, Gibson, Hay, Herdman, McKee, Shannon, Seybert, Samson, Taylor, (Beaver), and Weyand—14.

After affecting the nomination of Governor, the Convention proceeded to the nomination of a candidate for Supreme Judge. The bal-lots were taken which stood as follows:

1st Ballot. 2d Ballot.  
 Ellis Lewis, 48 76  
 Wm. Strong, 36 47  
 Samuel Hepburn, 23 10  
 Scattering, 33

The nomination was made unanimous.  
 The Convention proceeded to ballot for Canal Commissioners with the following re-sult, two ballots having been taken:

1st Ballot. 2d Ballot.  
 Samuel Strickland, 69 69  
 David Lowry, 33 33  
 Joseph Clark, 12 8  
 Scattering, 20

All the opposing candidates withdrew their names before the vote was announced, and the nomination was made unanimous.

On motion of Mr. Cessna the communication relative to Judge Lewis was ordered to be read and printed in the proceedings of the Convention as follows:

PHILADELPHIA, February 29, 1857.  
 To Gideon J. Westcott, and others, Delegates from Philadelphia to State Convention.

GENTLEMEN:—The undersigned, members of the bar of Philadelphia, address you as delegates to the Convention which meets at Harrisburg on the second of March, to nomi-nate a candidate for the Supreme Bench, on the expiration of Judge Lewis' term. We wish to be understood as writing this letter with no reference, direct or indirect, to party politics, but from a sense of duty to the public and the cause of the administration of the law in which, as professional men, we are deeply interested. We are desirous that Judge Lewis should be renominated by his political friends. Since he has been known to us as a Judge, he has commanded respect by his learning and ability, and conciliated the regard of us all by his uniform courtesy and kindness of deportment. This is, we believe, the unanimous sentiment of this bar. His nomination and election will give general satisfaction from these personal considera-tions alone.

But there are others of still greater import which we take the liberty of suggesting to you. The instability of an elective judiciary can only be corrected by the proof that a reelection can always be commended by good conduct; and that the people will not change their Judges merely for the sake of change. In the case of the first vacancy which occurred by rotation on the bench, the incumbent was without dissent renominated, and with-out difficulty re-elected. This was the case of Judge Black, whose original term was the shortest, being but for three years. Judge Lewis' term of six years is now expiring, and we shall be much gratified, if by his po-litical friends at least the same rule can apply to him.

In thus addressing you, we earnestly dis-claim any intention to intrude our counsel on you, or the Convention of which you are a member. With the party you represent, some of us have no connection. But as citizens and lawyers, we feel we are doing an act of simple justice to a most meritorious public officer, by bringing this matter to your view.

We are with sincere respect,  
 B. Gerhard, G. M. Wharton,  
 Benj. H. Brewster, A. J. Fisher,  
 Theo. Carver, C. Ingersoll,  
 Constant Guilford, James C. Vandycke,  
 Samuel H. Perkins, St. Geo. T. Campbell,  
 S. P. Kane, J. F. Johnson,  
 S. C. Perkins, H. M. Phillips,  
 J. H. Williams, Henry Johnson,  
 W. L. Parsons, Francis Wharton,  
 Ed. Wain, J. A. Phillips,  
 F. C. Brightly, Geo. Jorkin, Jr.,  
 H. C. Townsend,  
 F. Carroll Brewster, Wm. W. Juvenal,  
 John Fallon, S. Serrill,  
 W. L. Hirst, Thomas J. Diehl,  
 John Hamilton, Jr., Geo. Barton,  
 P. P. Morris, Chas. E. Lex,  
 Fred. C. Kreider, W. J. M'Elroy,  
 Jno. T. Montgomery, Wm. Seagrave,  
 Geo. L. Ashmead, Henry M. Deebert,  
 E. Ingersoll, Andrew Miller,  
 James R. Ladd, Jas. Hayard,  
 Wm. E. Lehman, W. Hayward Dayton,  
 Eli K. Price, Geo. W. Biddle,  
 Thos. Carver, Ed. E. Law,  
 Wm. S. Price, Wm. Henry Sawls,  
 Joseph A. Clay, J. A. Spencer,  
 Geo. Northrop, Horatio G. Jones,  
 N. B. Browne, M. Russell Tlyser.

A motion was made and carried, that when the Convention adjourn to adjourn to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Bookleew, the President was authorized to appoint a State Commit-tee of at least one from each Senatorial Dis-trict.

A committee was appointed to inform the candidates of their nomination. Adjourned.

**SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.**  
 The Convention re-assembled at 9 o'clock this morning, when Mr. Shannon from the Committee appointed to draft resolutions, submitted the following:

Resolved, That, as representatives of the great party founded by Mr. Jefferson, we salute our political brethren of the other States with congratulations upon the auspicious and just result of the recent Presidential election, achieved by our united efforts and sacrifices, (with the aid of patriotic men heretofore at-tached to other political bodies), and neces-sary, as we believe, to the honor and pros-perity of our common country, and the con-tinuance amongst us of the blessings of good government.

Resolved, That the course of recent po-litical action in the American Union has clearly shown the usefulness and necessity of our party, as a great conservative organization, able to resist and put down extreme and im-practicable theories of government and social order; to preserve the constitutional con-tract between the States from loss and dan-gerous constructions; as well as open viola-tion; to hold in check the passions of the country when directed by local excitement or other cause, against fundamental points of our political system, and to preserve to our-selves, and to those that come after us, the rich and invaluable legacy of free and well-ordered institutions established by our fathers.

Resolved, That the existence and effi-cacy of our party, adherence to its rules and usages is essential, and that right reason and experience prove that without such ad-herence, division, disaster and defeat are in-evitable; all departures, therefore, from our party laws, in State or local action, are to be deprecated and resisted as evidently fraught with elements of danger, injury and eventual destruction.

Resolved, That on behalf of the Pennsylv-ania Democracy, in addition to the re-affir-mance of our past principles and policy, we announce as rules for our future action, the limitation of public expenditures to mod-erate and necessary outlays; the sparing and careful grants of corporate power; the enact-ment of laws in obedience to public opinion, rather than in advance or in contempt of it; occasional and prudent amendments of the Constitution as experience may demonstrate them to be necessary to the welfare and protection of the people; the encouragement of virtue and intelligence as the main sup-ports of our political system; the rigid ac-countability of public servants; and the cul-tivation of just and amicable relations with our sister States, without subserviency to the passions and policy of any of them, but with a frank concession of the constitutional and equal rights of each. These are grounds upon which, as heretofore, we propose to maintain the character of our Common-wealth, as a free, powerful and illustrious member of the American Union.

Resolved, That we recommend to the sup-port of the people the candidates nominated by this Convention as men of character and experience, well qualified for the posts to which they have been respectively named, in the full assurance that if elected, they will discharge their official duties with in-telligence, fidelity and success.

Resolved, That we congratulate the Demo-cratic party and the country upon the trium-phant election of James Buchanan and John C. Breckinridge, to the Presidency and Vice Presidency of the United States; and that in view of the whole political history of Mr. Buchanan, rendered memorable by his steady and patriotic adherence to the Constitution and to the maxims of his fathers, we, the representatives of the Democratic party of the State, in full Convention assembled, do most confidently pledge to our brethren of the Union, a wise, conservative and constitu-tional administration of the government, un-der the guidance of the first Pennsylvania President.

Resolved, That in the late proceedings which resulted in the election of Simon Cam-eron to the United States Senate, the opposi-tion to our party openly and shamelessly ex-hibited their lack of high principles of honor, their contempt for the known sentiments of the people, and their utter disregard of the character of the State; and, together with the three apostates from our own party, by whose aid the result was accomplished, should be everywhere denounced by all men of virtue and honor.

Mr. Cessna then moved to add the follow-ing which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Democra-tic party of Pennsylvania are due and are hereby tendered to Col. John W. Forney, for the ability, energy and consummate tact ex-hibited by him in the discharge of the duties which devolved upon him in the late Presi-dential campaign as Chairman of our State Central Committee, and although defeated by the basest treachery, he still occupies an emi-nent position in the great heart of the Key-stone Democracy.

The resolutions were adopted by acclama-tion.

General Packer was introduced to the Con-vention, and expressed his gratefulness for the honor extended to him by the nomina-tion, but he believed that the party in making it had looked not so much to the standard bearer as to the good old Democratic flag it-self. He referred to the leading principle of the party, and pledged himself to maintain them in fact, and to exert the best of his abilities in the conduct of the campaign to effect success in such a manner as would re-ject no dishonor on himself or the Democra-tic party. His speech elicited the warmest applause.

On motion the Convention adjourned sine die.

**DEATH PAINLESS.**—It is nearly certain-ly indeed as certain as anything chiefly specu-lative can be—that in all deaths the physi-cal suffering is small. Even where invalids experience the most excruciating agony during the progress of the disease, nature comes to their relief at the last hour, and life goes out gently, like a candle in its socket. Those who have witnessed death-bed scenes most frequently—especially if they have been intelligent persons, and there-fore capable of judging—agree generally in considering the physical pain of death as insupportable. They say that the con-clusive motions, which frequently attend the pangs of breath, are not evidences of suf-fering, for that the invalid is insensible.—They say also, that when the senses are retained, there is usually no such spas-m—A leading medical authority states that scarcely one person in fifty is sensible at the point of death; and some physicians assert that they have never seen a death-bed in which the patient was sensible. As life fails, nature, it would seem, beneficent-ly interposes, deadening the sensibility of the nerves, and otherwise preparing the in-dividual for the great and inevitable change.

**DEATH PAINLESS.**—Light is daily com-ing in upon the world of mind, and by the help of clearly established facts, arguments may be adduced, which will have a stronger tendency to compel men to take care of their health, than any which have arisen from conscience, money or duty; that is, the argument of Shame. Let men fully un-derstand that certain bodily affections tend to crime, and that crime thus committed confines to the Penitentiary, then may the community wake up more fully to the sen-timent, Health is a Duty, and therefore, the neglect of its preservation, a sin, which in the natural progress of things, leads to loss of health, and life, and honor.

In a recent trial of a forger, who handled millions of dollars in a year's business, the defence was that he was insane. Among the evidence offered was that he could sleep only three or four hours out of the twenty-four. In a previous number we stated, that a growing inability to sleep was a clear indication of approaching insanity, and on the return of sleepfulness, the intellect became clear. There were other symp-toms, lasting so long, had at length so affected the brain, as to destroy all percep-tion, or comprehension of the effects of crime; and when the organ of a man's perception is destroyed, he will plunge headlong, and with utter recklessness, into any kind of wrong-doing which circum-stances throw in his way—arson, robbery, murder, anything; and if not detected or prevented, the crime, whatever it may be, will grow into a habit, and habit is second nature; consequently, he will revel in it, it becomes his meat and drink, and he would rather do it than not. Hence the prisoner declared without hesitation, that if he were released he would do it again; that he rather liked it, and nothing could prevent him but cutting off his hand, if it came in the way, to forge paper.

It was shown on the trial, that there was insanity on the father's and mother's side; but no indication of it on the part of either father or mother. It is well known how-ever, that insanity, as well as personal fea-tures, overlaps a generation or two. Often a child bears a striking resemblance to a grand-parent, without a lineament of paren-tal feature.

The acts of the prisoner were admitted by his counsel, and the question of guilt or innocence, rested on this—was he insane?

The use which we wish to make of these developments is practical, and is of high importance. A wise and stern medical treatment would have deferred, if not pre-vented, the combination of events. And how?

The prisoner was under the habitual in-fluence of constipation, and an anodyne, which intensified this constipation every hour, while the principle of the medical practice in this case, was to let the bowels take care of themselves—which they did not do. This individual was never seen by his business associates without a cigar in his mouth; he smoked fifteen or twenty a day. The immediate effect of smoking tobacco falls on the brain, excites it during that excitement he could not sleep, and the reaction went so low that he could not sleep; only a troubled repose was possible during the brief truce from one to the other.

During the excitement, the brain ran riot in the direction of the opportunity, and ex-pended its energies in that direction, but during the reaction, power was not left to carry on the bodily functions.

The effect of constipation is to thicken the blood, to make it more impure; hence more unfit for healthful purposes. The more impure the blood is, the thicker does it become, the slower is its progress, and if nothing is done to alter this state of things, stagnation and death take place. Stagnation means accumulation, for the moment the blood stops in any part of the body, the coming current flowing in, causes an accu-mulation, precisely as in the closing of a canal gate, or the damming up of a stream. This accumulation in the blood vessel dis-tends them, causes them to occupy more room than nature designed, consequently they must encroach on their neighbors.—The neighbors of the blood vessels are the nerves; hence the nerves are pressed against; that pressure gives what we call "pain."

As there are nerves everywhere, a point of a needle cannot be placed against the sur-face of the body without some pain, which shows the universality of nerve presence; hence, we may have pain anywhere, and will have pain if there is pressure. This accounts for the steady pain in the head.—The excitement of the day sent the blood to the brain too fast, the repose of the night was too short to allow of its removal; be-sides the energies of the system had been overtaxed, and there was not power enough left to remove a natural accumulation, let alone the extraordinary.

But there is a law of our body, whereby pressure from any cause not only gives pain, but may destroy the part pressed against, and consume it, by dissolving it into a gas-eous and fluid substance, which in this con-dition is conveyed out of the body. A band put around an arm of a foot in circumfer-ence, will, if tightened every day, in a time not long, reduce the circumference to six inches. Constant pressure cannot be ex-erted against any portion of the human body without impairing its structure, or causing its diminution and final destruction. These are principles of universal admission.

**STUDYING MEDICINE.**—Years are entertain-ed that the medical profession is becoming over-stocked. Correspondents and conversa-tional intercourse indicate that sentiment to be on the increase. Hundreds or more young gentlemen are annually graduated doctors of medicine—a third of whom, at least, cannot find employment. With the best educational preparations, there may be a deficiency of that essential element in any department of industry, tact, which will account for the poor success of some persons as medical practitioners.

Examples are abundant, of the thriving business of individuals who have a peculiar power of adapting themselves to society, but whose professional attainments are not of the highest order. A consciousness of their own limited knowledge prompts them to redouble energy, and they generally succeed admirably; while the very accom-plished medical scholar, relying upon his stock of scientific attainments, equal to any emergency, is over-looking a man, from whom a support was expected, be-cause they have no passion for patronizing a man who appears from his general bear-ing, to consider them as very inferior be-ings.

A physician who cannot adapt himself to the society where he locates, cannot be-come established. In doing this, no de-partures from the elevated standard of a gentleman are required. A kindness of manner, without servility, and a proper attention to those who may have good hearts, honest aspirations, with rough exteriors, win the way far more successfully than haughty indifference, and marked deference to a few leading families. Here lies the concealed rock on which the ship of hope is foundered.

There are young physicians who meet disappointment at every turn. They change places without bettering themselves, be-cause the barrier to their success lies not in an unfortunate personal organization.—Like Dr. Watts' description of the agonies of sinners—"Their change place, but keep the pain."

With erudite qualifications to meet all the responsibilities of an arduous and com-plex life, there are no moral powers of adap-tion, combined with an innate sympathy, or, in other words, a pleasant show of every-day humanity, it is useless to attempt practice. This is not a country in which physicians are permitted to drag down patients into having a medical adviser against their will.—There are infinite shades of physicians, the representatives of all imaginable theories—and the sick and their friends excuse an exclusive right of calling on whom they please, and they cannot be persuaded or driven by argument from the exercise of this prerogative.

For a reasonable, gentlemanly candidate for medical enterprise, there is room—and there population has been increased ten-fold be-yond the present census. But those who cannot bear with the weakness, the frail-ties, the misfortunes, or the general gram-mars of the masses, and without hesitation show their contempt for those of the fraternity less fortunate than themselves in not having been early in life schooled in the mysteries of the toilet and the drawing room, cannot succeed. Those that forbid temperance, they ought not to have studied medicine. They leave it, ultimately, in disgust, and engage in other pursuits, in which they are less exposed to just criticism. The other classes are not so numerous as to stand in the way of each other's prosperity.—Medical World.

They are first truths in medicine. From some unknown cause, this accumulation and pressure was determined to a particular portion of the brain, where fearlessness of consequences are situated; and we believe, this day, the portion could be examined, if the prisoner's brain could be examined, small in the beginning, would be found almost wholly wanting, having been