



LINES.
And used by Lord Byron to his Lady a few months before their separation:

There is a mystic thread of life
So finely wrought with mine alone,
That Deity's relentless knife
At once must sever both or none.

A Splendid Folly.

When the Will of Stephen Girard was published and it was known he had appropriated two millions of dollars to the establishment of Orphan College, the public attention was much excited.

The result has come in a good measure, much sooner than might have been supposed. Mr. Girard drew a description of the College, so that the building might have the utmost durability with the utmost plainness.

What do the trustees do? They set to work to contrive how they can avoid the intention of the Will. They commence building an immense marble palace, with all the ornament and cost of gorgeous eastern architecture.

Such will be found to be the History of most persons who endeavor to execute their wills after their death. He who wishes to do good, must do it in his life-time.

Fight with a Slaver!

We have just received the particulars of a fight which took place off Havana, between a slaver and a British brig of war in the latter part of last month.

The slaver was full of slaves and heavily armed. She beat off the brig of war after a short fight. The Solway, one of the West India mail steamers, of the size of the Clyde, fired up on perceiving the engagement, with the intention of going to the assistance of the brig, but relinquished her object on seeing the brig decline coming to close quarters with the bold slaver.

We believe we are acquainted with this formidable slaver. We believe her to have been at one time the barque Isaac Ellis, of this port. We know she was sold for a slaver; mounted with six twelve pounders, and a long Tom.

GIRARD FUND.—Mr. Olmstead, the city Solicitor, yesterday exhibited to the committee a statement of the fund. It consists of 5381 shares of U. S. Bank stock; \$636,050 48, Pennsylvania 5 per cent. loans; \$55,000 city five per cent loan; \$9,441.50 in cash; land in Schuylkill county 32,813 acres; in Erie county 5181 acres; in the state of Kentucky 4775 acres, and in the state of Louisiana 138,000 arpens, an arpen being about 14 acres.

The system of opening letters in France by agents of the government still continues, being one of the praiseworthy characteristics of a despotism. The board, called the CABINET NOIR, no longer exists by name, but the Prefect of Police sends occasional lists to the Director-General of the Post Office containing the names of persons whose letters are to be transmitted to the Minister of the Interior before they are delivered.

The religious feeling which prevades this city exists also in other places. The Wilmington Journal of yesterday contains the following paragraph:—[Phil. Gazette.

AN ALARMING DECISION.—An English paper says that a decision has just been given in the Court of Queen's Bench, Ireland, which will carry alarm into many a family. All marriages in Ireland, celebrated by Presbyterian ministers, where both parties are not Presbyterians, are declared invalid.

It has been ascertained that the whole number of books in the public libraries in the United States, is 750,000 volumes. The aggregate of all the volumes in all the public libraries of Europe, is 14,527,000.

The London correspondent of the New York Tribune contains the following notice of the great German Poet "Goethe."

As illustrating, however, the result of persevering industry, well directed energy and untiring application in every branch of knowledge, Goethe deservedly stands an example and encouragement to all. Behold him a student of the Fine Arts and at the same time mastering all the Sciences, and thus thoroughly acquainted with Anatomy, Geology, Chemistry, Astronomy, Botany and the like.

To illustrate how particular Goethe was in these selections I give you the following anecdote which lately appeared in the "Times."

He once visited a celebrated tin mine and accompanied by the head of the establishment went through the whole, examining it with his usual diligence and enthusiasm. An order was left for all that he wished sent to him to be procured from the mine. It was seven years later that a packet reached the Poet containing specimens of all the imaginary possible varieties and nuances of ore in the mine, which it had taken this considerable period to render perfect and perhaps unique in its kind.

I cannot better close this long and I fear tedious epistolary notice than by adding a few lines full of warning and advice to the indolent; and which alone would have made Goethe famous had he never penned another syllable. Read them.

A WORD TO THE SLUGGISH.

"Lose this day to-morrow—it will be the same story to-morrow, and the next more dilatory; The indolence brings its own delays. And days are lost lamenting our days. Are you in earnest? Seize this very minute—What can you do, or dream you can do to-morrow? Boldness has genius power and magic in it. O, ye engage, and then the mind grows heated—Begin, and then the work will be completed."

Distressing Case of Hydrophobia.

We have to record the death of a worthy citizen of Lafayette, Mr. G. S. Johnson, from this most distressing malady. Mr. Johnson was a native of Norfolk, Va., and had resided here about twenty years.

The Chinese have quite a keen sense of the ridiculous. In the Exchange Reading Rooms may be seen two large Chinese paintings, sketching in caricature some of the British ships of war besieging Canton. The seamen are grotesque figures, hanging to the rigging like monkeys on the limbs of a lambton. Cannon are slung in the rigging, and in one instance, as the match is applied, the cannoner retreats and applies his fingers to his ears. The soldiers paraded on deck, resemble a Yankee military muster, and the Commodore, dressed like a Chesnut street dandy, sits with his hat on, drinking toasts, surrounded with ladies.

STARVATION WAGES.—It is stated in a recent London paper, that the competition in what is technically called SLOP WORK, is carried to such a tremendous extent at the east end of that vast metropolis, as to be ruinous to the numerous and industrious class of women who maintain themselves by the needle.

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Leather and its manufactures have a probable annual value greater than that of the whole

crop of cotton of the United States, and employ many more of the tax-paying, musket-bearing people.



THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, March 26, 1842.

We are indebted to the Hon. James Buchanan of the United States Senate, for valuable documents.

V. B. Palmer Esq., No. 104 south 3d St Philadelphia, is authorized to receive advertisements and subscriptions for this paper.

The Sham kin Dam is a famous place for the cultivation of ice. Our ice houses are all well filled, and the balance of the stock, consisting of about 500,000 tons, we sent or rather left to go down the river free gratis.

The canal is now in navigable order. The Packet left Northumberland for Harrisburg on Wednesday last.

We see by some of the papers that we are posted to the account of Johnson, and by others, to Buchanan. Our announcement, at least, we consider rather premature to say nothing of the Presidency. In this weeks paper we have paid a passing tribute to Gen. Cass. And to no man would we more cheerfully accord our support.

Waldie's Library is now publishing the life and times of Frederick the Great, a most interesting work. The New World has commenced the publication of Zanoni, a new novel by Bulwer.

The Eastern Bank has resumed specie payments. The Baltimore Banks continue to pay specie.

The Delaware Banks have resumed, and so have the West Jersey Banks.

Hosea J. Lewis of the Schuylkill Bank was arrested on the 16th inst., and brought to Louisville Ky., by an officer of the Kentucky Bank.

H. H. McClure, Esq. has been appointed Prothonotary &c. for Locomotion county in the place of Herman C. Platt, decd. Gov. Porter could not have made a better selection.

In the U. S. Senate, Mr. Simmons of R. I. charged Mr. Calhoun with having voted for the most important provision of the Compromise Bill—"Never, Never," said Mr. Calhoun—Mr. Simmons replied that he had seen the record. "Never, never" returned Mr. Calhoun, "I believed the provision unconstitutional." The secretary was sent to bring the record, which Mr. Calhoun eagerly grasped and commenced reading, when, lo! and behold, he himself read aloud his own unconstitutional vote. Mr. Calhoun "sloped" out, and did not appear during the debate.

Messrs. Hickock and Cantine of Harrisburg have published all the Temperance songs, in to appropriate music, in a very handsome style, entitled the Temperance Song Book. Price \$10 per 100.

The U. S. Gazette of Wednesday morning says, in relation to the resumption of the banks of that city, that all goes on as "well as could be expected," and better than many had ventured to hope.

Mr. Graves, who shot Mr. Cilley in a duel a few years since, has come out in a long letter in relation to that matter. Mr. Clay is implicated in a manner which his friends must sincerely regret, and which nothing but a strict adherence to the notions of a false code of honor could have induced him to act. Mr. Graves' conscience has evidently become troublesome upon the subject.

Santa Ana still holds in bondage a number of American citizens who accompanied the Santa Fe expedition, although he released a British subject accompanying it, immediately. The next demand should be made by a squadron in the port of Vera Cruz.

In Congress there is but little of interest going on at present. On Monday last, Mr. Giddings, an ultra abolitionist from Ohio, threw the House into great commotion by offering a series of resolutions upon the subject of slavery, and the case of the brig Creole, the slaves of which vessel, on her passage from Virginia to New Orleans, mutinied, and murdered the captain and some of the crew, and run into a British port. The following are among the resolutions alluded to:

Resolved, That when the brig Creole, on her passage from New Orleans, left the territorial jurisdiction of Virginia, the slave laws of that State ceased to have jurisdiction over the persons on board said brig, and such persons became amenable only to the laws of the United States. Resolved, that the persons on board said ship, in resuming their natural rights of personal liberty, violated no law of the United States, incurred no legal penalty, and are justly liable to no punishment.

Resolved, That all attempts to regain possession of or to re-enslave said persons are unauthorized by the Constitution or laws of the United States, and are incompatible with our national honor.

The Right of Search.

On our first page will be found several extracts from a pamphlet published by Gen. Cass, at Paris, upon the subject of the "Right of Search," as claimed by Great Britain. The right of searching American vessels, for the purpose of discovering British seamen, was one of the principal causes of the last war. England has entered into an alliance with some of the European powers, for the purpose, they say, of suppressing the slave trade, and in this view claim the right of searching all vessels carrying the American flag, which they may suspect. The Americans deny this right, and in defence will repel any attempt made to enforce it, by recourse to arms.

Our country never was more ably represented, then she now is, in the person of Gen. Cass. As a scholar, statesman and soldier, of enlarged and liberal views, he has few, if any superiors living. The Americans may well feel proud of him as one of their sons, and few, if any, stand higher in their estimation.

The following table, which exhibits the rate per head, serves to show the gross negligence and inequality of the assessment of the State Tax in the different counties:

Table with 3 columns: County, Rate per head, and another column. Lists counties like Philadelphia, Adams, Armstrong, Berks, Bradford, Bucks, Butler, Cambria, Centre, Clinton, Chester, Columbia, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mercer, M'Kean, Montgomery, Northumberland, Perry, Pike, York.

The resolution to censure Mr. Giddings of Ohio, passed congress by a vote of 119 to 65. He immediately left the House and will resign, and will no doubt be again returned by his constituents.

It is often asserted that money can purchase almost any thing. From the following advertisement, which we cut out of the New York Tribune, this appears to be literally true, so far as that city is concerned. A man has only to send his order accompanied with the cash, and he can be supplied on the shortest notice, with Boned Turkeys, soup and puddings, Ice cream, cooks and Jellies. In short almost any thing, save contentment, which is a love money and above price, a commodity much less seldom enjoyed by the rich than the poor.

"A LADY'S DECLARATION."

For viands rare, I do declare— For taste and skill exquisite, That Mr. Reid Beats all indeed I ever yet did visit. Such Jellies fine! Such Russes divine! Such dainties rich you meet! O go in haste— Do try his taste— REID—80 HUDSON STREET. REDUCTION FIFTY PER CENT. Boned Turkeys \$5 00 Do do on an Ornamental Sock 7 50 Soups of every description. Calves feet Jelly, Blanc Mange, per quart 75 Ice Cream in forms, Orange and Grape Pyramids, from 4 to Charlotte de Russe 10 00 Ladies, we send these goods any reasonable distance in the country, likewise supply you with cooks, music—indeed every thing appertaining to the business.

WILLIAM REID, Cash Confectioner, 80 Hudson St.

The able Washington Correspondent of the U. S. Gazette, holds the following language, touching Mr. Buchanan's views in relation to the tariff resolutions now before Congress. The idea, however, of Mr. Buchanan supporting Mr. Clay for the Presidency, is, we think, rather far fetched:

Mr. Buchanan has been taking notes, but whether he intends to speak or not, is not known, nor if he does speak, what course he will take in debate, he cannot oppose the resolutions—at least that part of them which asserts the necessity of augmenting the duties upon foreign articles beyond twenty per cent—for he would then be opposing the policy to which Pennsylvania must look for her future prosperity; and, on the other hand, if he supports the resolutions, he will be supporting Mr. Clay. But I do not think he will do this very reluctantly. The fact is, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Kentucky, are natural allies—their interest is identical, and Mr. Clay has ever been the consistent advocate of the measures which would if carried into effect, make those states what God and nature designed they should be, great powerful and rich. While speaking of these two statesmen, Mr. Clay and Mr. Buchanan, let me remark that stranger things have happened and will happen again, than to see the latter supporting the election of the former as President of the United States—you smile incredulously;—well, this may not happen—and then again, it may.

Mr. Evans—return to him again—controverted yesterday, the position that Mr. Calhoun had laid down and attempted to establish, one which was that trade and commerce had increased as the duties on foreign articles imported had diminished.—Mr. E. stated, and proved that the exports of all domestic produce and manufactures had diminished since 1833, except the articles of cotton, iron, tobacco and snuff. That the article of soap and candles, boots and shoes, hats, household furniture and &c., had diminished to a very great extent; some of them to the amount of 60 per cent. under the operation of decreasing duties. He also stated that the manufacturers were now making an article of East India cotton, which was intended to take the place of our course cotton piece goods, and which they were now selling in the Rio Janeiro market at about six or seven cents a yard, whereas our cotton would not be afforded there for less than eight or nine cents a yard. He further stated under the operation of the law which shall reduce the duty on all articles down to 20 per cent. the British goods manufactured of this East India cotton, could be imported into this country and sold at the doors of our cotton factories cheaper, by a cent, or two a yard, than our coarse cottons can be afforded, and that thus, under the operation of the law, the British manufacturers could effectually shut up every cotton factory in this country, and stop the demand for the cotton of southern States. I myself saw a specimen of these goods to-day; a specimen which has been sent to the Committee on Manufactures of the House.

You will recollect that it was the consumption of the East India cottons in this country, that induced the South to ask for a protective duty on cotton in 1816. It is the East India cotton, manufactured by British labor and British machinery, that is to revolutionize the South, and bring them back again to their senses in regard to the protective policy!—Show them that they are to be deprived of a market for their cotton, and at once, that which was clearly unconstitutional, and a gross violation of the Federal compact, becomes clearly constitutional, and a measure of sound policy.

Editorial Miscellany.

The Post Master General recommends a change of postage, making the rates 5 10 and 20 cts. instead of 6 12 and 18 cts., and also that after September next, papers be charged postage according to the size.

The North Carolina Banks will resume in November next.

There was not the least riot or disturbance at Philadelphia on account of the recent bank explosions. The city of brotherly love is redeeming her good character.

Commodore Moore of the Texian Navy is sweeping the sea, capturing every thing that he can find belonging to the Mexicans. Santa Ana has commenced hostilities with a large army.

At Burlington N. J., the town council determines to grant no more tavern licenses. The tavern keepers resolved not to open their houses without profit, and fenced them around. Not a bad plan to keep out loafers.

The Pope is said to be a tee-totaler and wears the medal of the Irish Total Abstinence Society.

Mr. Morgan of N. Y. presented a petition, asking Congress to assume the responsible debt of Mississippi, and eject her from the Union!

A horrible murder was committed in Genesee County, N. Y. by a young man named Benjamin T. White, who shot his father because he had not put him in possession of some of his property.

The court Martial in Baltimore is now trying Capt. Clark. Two charges against him are: that he made a sailor eat a quantity of potatoes at one time, and some cod-fish at another.

The directors of the Bank of Lewistown, have guaranteed the payment of every dollar of their notes in circulation.

The New York canal will not be in order before the 15th of April next.

There have been more applications for Bankruptcy in Massachusetts than any other State in the Union.

The Florida war is likely to be brought to another of its hundred ends.

Rumors are afloat, that the various tribes of Indians are about to form a grand confederacy in the West, for hostile purposes.

The buildings of Jefferson College, Mo. were burnt to the ground. Damages \$152,000. Insurance \$62,000.

The Baptists in Boston are endeavoring to raise money to purchase the Tremont Theatre—Price \$60,000.

The Philadelphia Gazette says, that there is a perfect stagnation of trade in that city.

The importation of slaves into Havana is now prohibited by law.

White houses are becoming fashionable in Philadelphia says the Gazette. Tylenized we presume.

A bill is now before the legislature to punish brokers for shaving relief notes.

At a fire in Cincinnati, 10,000 kegs of lard, and a quantity of pork was consumed. The surface of Deer Creek was covered with a white seam of lard. It generally runs red with the blood of the porkers. Dickens and his lady dined with Ex-President Adams recently.

Mr. Norris of Philadelphia has received from the Emperor of Russia, a splendid ring, valued at \$6000 as a compliment to his skill and ingenuity in manufacturing locomotives.

Four of Mr. Norris's locomotive engines were shipped at Philadelphia a few days since for Russia, intended for the Berlin and Frankfurt Rail Road.

The mail between Philadelphia and Pottsville is now carried on the Rail Road and the Sunday mail restored. We hope it will be restored throughout.