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Mrs. Osgood's Last Poem.

The charming poetess, Mrs. FRANCES S. OSGOOD, who died of Consumption on the 12th of May, was as admirable for loveliness of character as for the sweetness of her poetical productions. The following is her last composition, and breathes most soul-stirring and prophetic meaning.

"You've worn roses 'round my way,
And gladness all my being;
How much I love you, name can say,
Sate only the All-Seeing.
May He who gave this lovely gift,
This love of lovely things,
Be with you whoso'er you go,
In every hope's pursuing!
I'm going through the eternal gates
Ere June's sweet season flows!
Death's lovely angel leads me there—
And it is sweet to go."
New York, May 7, 1850.

A TALE FURNISHED BY FACT, adapted from the Lewisburg [Va.] Chronicle.
THE REWARD OF MERIT.

Some years since, there appeared in the "New York American," a notice, which was copied into other journals, that JOHN WINSLOW, of Staffordshire, England, had been dead four years, leaving by his last will and testament, his whole estate to his nephew, of the same name, who resided in the United States of North America—that evidence of identity, and application for the estate, must be made in twelve months to the Commissioner of Estates for Staffordshire, otherwise the law of adoption would bar any further proceedings to its recovery. Reference for further information was made to the British Consul in New York.

In all parts of the United States where there was a John Winslow, the news was communicated; and at length the veritable personage was found in the town of Warren, in the State of ——. He lost no time in hunting up many letters written by his uncle, his paternity, and other evidence of consanguinity, which were transmitted by the first packet to Liverpool, and thence to Staffordshire. The evidence was deemed sufficient to entitle the claimant to a real estate producing annually, clear of excises and drawbacks, ten thousand pounds, which amount had been accumulating four years. The Commissioner lost no time in conveying his decision to the British Consul, by whom it was sent to John Winslow with a letter from the managers of the estate requesting to be continued as such.

Few persons have known the sequel of this unexpected good fortune. The writer believes the public may desire to know it, together with a notice of John Winslow's history since his arrival in America, embracing a period of some twenty years. Having, previous to his departure, received a classical education and a thorough course of theological studies, he was well qualified to take charge of a congregation; and on arriving at New York, he obtained an appointment to assist the pastor of the 1st Presbyterian Church in that City, where he gave the best evidence of piety and devotion to the cause of religion. A divine of such eminent qualifications soon became extensively known. He received a call from a church in Warren, which he accepted, and was soon installed as pastor. The duties of his station, he discharged with universal applause; members were added to the fold of Christ in connection with his church, each becoming the happy recipients of his pious ministrations.

Mr. Winslow's residence being deemed permanent, he was advised to take unto himself a wife. As he was prone to indulge in matrimonial reveries, it needed but the promptings of friendship to enable him to determine its accomplishment. Many ladies of the first families were named, of whom he could have his choice, even where intellectual accomplishments and wealth were associated; but our divine thought for himself, and preferred making his own choice. He found in the daughter of one of his poorest parishioners, all that was to him desirable: she had been well educated, could read the Scriptures in the tongues in which they had been written, and was a devout Christian. Her father had been extensively engaged in the East India trade, when, by a storm at sea, he lost

every vessel, and in a day was sunk from affluence to abject poverty.

Mr. Winslow paid his addresses to this young lady, and was readily accepted. The preliminaries were arranged, and the marriage was solemnized. He found in his spouse those solid accomplishments that far outweigh the artificial value of wealth. She now joined her services to his in the spread of Gospel influence. Happiness smiled serenely, and their days were a never ending scene of the exercise of virtue, piety, and charity.

They were blessed with a daughter, an only child, the very personification of loveliness. She was early sent to schools, to be trained for usefulness and for Heaven; and was deemed an accomplished scholar. On her return to the domicile of her parents, she read, under the direction of her father, a compendium of church history, a valuable collection of classical works, and indeed every work of standard value. Notwithstanding the superior mental endowments of the wife and daughter, they appeared in comparative obscurity. It was known to the people, that their pastor was in humble circumstances; and often was his small salary paid in articles that did not enable him to live in a style commensurate with the true dignity of his family. The self-conceited, the haughty, and the arrogant, possessing a larger portion of this world's gain, treated them with perfect neglect; while the refined, the accomplished scholar sought the residence of the learned divine, to hold sweet communion with him and his interesting family.

Miss Winslow had now attained her eighteenth year, and was, deservedly, the first young lady of Warren. Many young men had seen and admired her; but the recollection of her father's poverty prevented any serious advances. Of this cause, she was fully sensible. A lawyer, one Mr. Harvey, paid her some attention; she was pleased with him, but it was evident her father's poverty prevented a declaration of his wishes, which would have been made under more favorable circumstances.

About this time, news reached Warren of Mr. Winslow's heirship to the estate. Lawyer Harvey now solicited in marriage the heiress' hand, but her correct appreciation of his motive induced her to decline. The news spread with telegraphic despatch, and the humble domicile of the minister of God was soon filled with friends! Many who had not deigned to visit him for years, and others who had never seen the inside of their dwelling, now crowded that abode, and presents, and offers of all that was desirable, were now at their command. Ten thousand pounds a year magnified all their good qualities, and covered all their failings if any they had.

Mr. Winslow, at an appointed time, delivered a farewell sermon to his charge. He spoke of the separation of friends, and a departure for another state of existence, and assimilated it to his own case. He was henceforward to be considered as dead to them. He urged them to persevere in the path of holiness; that the prize of eternal happiness awaited such. All the wealth of this world was nothing when compared with the glories of heaven. He concluded by a declaration of his unalterable regard for the people of Warren who had sheltered him when penniless, and put bread into his mouth when a stranger. Many were moved, and melted down in sorrow.

The letter from the Commissioner had authorized Mr. Winslow to draw on a New York bank for any amount of cash he might need; and in four or five weeks the preparations for removal were completed. During the interval, their house was constantly crowded: some came to assist—others just called to see how they were—others expected to reap some benefit—and others, to see the daughter: she could now have her choice, from the rich miser's son to the wights of the law; her beauty, her mental accomplishments, were universally admired; and many regretted that they had not sooner cultivated her acquaintance. All readily accorded to Mrs. Winslow, that she was a most accomplished lady; and as for the Rev. Dr. Winslow, he was acknowledged to be a divine of the very first order of talents, an accomplished scholar, and a gentleman. All those compliments and attentions received appropriate acknowledgments, but the motives were attributed to their proper causes—either to share a part of their wealth, or to gratify other equally vain desires. Many offered to accompany and serve them at their new homes, but their offers were declined.

When Mr. Winslow's family were alone, these posthumous attentions were a subject of conversation, and gave strength to the reflection that the majority of people are too prone to pay homage to wealth—to bow to the influence which money exerts, regardless of humble merit. Yet they were willing to believe they should leave many, behind, whose memory they should long cherish—who had stood by them in adversity and helped them in need, and for whose temporal and spiritual welfare their prayers should be offered up.

The Journal of Warren had announced the day of their departure, when hundreds waited on them to take a long farewell; a few continued with them all the first day, and some were solicitous to accompany them to New York, but all these attentions were respectfully declined. On arriving at their Hotel in the great City, the elite were in immediate attendance, to pay their respects to the distinguished family. Every attention was shown to them. Mr. Winslow was solicited to make New York his permanent home—they would be the first in the City, and the daughter could command the most advantageous alliance. But Mr. Winslow's purpose to return to his native land was not to be diverted.

Preliminaries being satisfactorily arranged, the family took the first steam-boat for Liverpool. They had a pleasant passage, and were soon induced into the late domicile of the lamented John Winslow. Here they were waited on by a banker, with an exhibit of forty thousand pounds, subject to their order; and by the steward of the estate, with a plan of its distribution, agents, tenants, and laborers.

Few estates in England have greater natural and artificial advantages—the fishponds abound with the best trout in the kingdom; the deer-parks consist of the largest and finest; the pastures, the best bullocks in Staffordshire; the sheep fold, the best of fine-wooled stock; the stable, crosses of the Arabian sheep with the best breeds of England—indeed, Sir John had spent a large portion of his revenues in the improvement of his estate, and the various breeds of stock. His house was a structure combining taste and durability—richly furnished, but in a plain style, corresponding with the character of the late incumbent, and wanted but arrangement under the direction of female taste to render it a desirable residence for a prince. It received this service from Mrs. Winslow and daughter, and has been deservedly acknowledged to be the most desirable residence in all Staffordshire, where Mr. Winslow and his family now reside, enjoying the reward of genuine merit.

For the Lewisburg Chronicle.
PARODY ON "THE LAST ROSE OF SUMMER."

"Tis the last Trout at Ralston
Left its speckled companions
As I sought out and gone;
Not one of his kindred,
No troutlet is left,
To flip up his tail
And jump at the fly.
I'll not leave thee, thou lone one;
To swim in the stream,
Since the rest are all taken,
I'll place thee with them;
Thou'lt be my teacher, I scatter
The salt of thy bread,
To preserve thee and thine,
Since all are now dead.
So, soon may I follow
When friendships decay,
And from love's shining circle
The "pals" drop away—
When true hearts are withered,
And false are gone,
Oh! it would inhibit
This black world alone!"
PISCATOR.

Something of a Romance.

An incident occurred on board the steamboat Mayflower, last Saturday night, which strikes us as worth telling. Among the passengers down was Mr. Benjamin Glazier, a man between 60 and 70 years of age, who resides at Whitehead, Nantasket. It was late when the boat reached the wharf, and the storm being very severe, Mr. Glazier thought it would hardly be safe to attempt to get home, and so he concluded to pass the night on board the boat. Among the persons employed on board, is one whom most of our readers know as the cook or stewardess of the boat, but whose name, until the occurrence we are about to relate, has never been known to any on board, none having the curiosity to enquire, and hands agreeing in calling her invariably by the familiar appellation of "Mother." While at the supper table, some one having accosted Mr. Glazier by name, "Mother" began to gaze at him very earnestly, and then proceeded to question him as to his origin, his family connections, and so forth. Having satisfied herself fully on these and other points of his history, she exclaimed, "You are my brother!" The old gentleman looked up in astonishment. "Don't you know your sister Martha?" she inquired; he replied, "I don't know you—I know I had a sister Martha, but I have not seen her for many a long year, and am ignorant what has become of her." He then questioned her, and so on became convinced, as the tears streamed from her eyes, that she was indeed the sister from whom he had been so long separated. They had not seen each other for forty-four years!

It appears that their parents moved from this state to Vermont, when they were quite young children. Soon after this removal, he returned to Massachusetts, and lived with his grandfather at Princeton, till he became of age, making only an occasional visit to his parents. He then went out into the world in quest of his for-

ness of the people, and the prosperity and glory of the nation. I would rather be disposed, with the gentleman from Beaver, (Mr. Allison,) to regard his refusal to take part in our political struggles, as an objection to his elevation to any post of honor or profit.
Why, sir, we all come here fresh from the political arena, with the smoke and dust of the contest still upon our garments, and yet, as the gentleman from Adams (Mr. Smyser) has well observed, this House has yet to witness a single act upon the part of any of its members, tending to show that men are contaminated or corrupted by coming in contact with the people. True, the gentleman from Huntington (Mr. Corry) has told us that he permit political considerations to control our actions; but he should also remember that our constituents send us here with a knowledge of our political views, and under the expectation that we will honorably carry them out. And, the very fact that we are true to our principles, and honestly and consistently advocate and sustain them, is of itself the strongest argument that can be advanced in support of the doctrine, that politicians are not necessarily rogues.
But, sir, how different from the purposes for which they sent us here, would be the object the people would have in view in the election of Judges. Then, political considerations would be lost sight of in the great and governing desire to select a man who would do justice to all parties, under any circumstances, and in every situation in which he might be placed, no matter how trying.
If a case could unfortunately arise, in which a man, called to fill the exalted station of a Judge of one of our courts, could so far forget himself, could become so callous to the better feelings of our nature, as to carry with him upon the bench his private piques and jealousies—as to permit his feelings to overcome his judgment, and his passions and prejudices to run riot with his reason; then, indeed, might the law well be scorned, derided and despised; then might justice well permit the scales to fall unbidden from her palsied grasp, and shrinking from the indignant gaze of honest men, cover the ermine with the habiliments of woe, and hide herself in the inmost recesses of her desecrated temple.
But I anticipate no such results from the proposed change. Why should there be any such? Or rather, sir—for that is the proper question—why should these consequences be more likely to follow the proposed system of electing Judges, than the present mode of appointments?
Let us look at the two systems. The people are all vitally interested in having a man of ability, of high legal attainments, and of unquestionable integrity, upon the bench, and they will select no man for that high office who will not be both pure and unsuspected. This, their intimate acquaintance with all their lawyers, will enable them to do; for they are not merely conversant with the legal abilities of the attorneys of the district, but they read their characters, and know full well "who practice the law, so as not to forget the gospel." Upon the other hand, why should the whole judicial power of the Commonwealth be brought to the feet of a Governor? What has invested him with the exclusive ability to decide upon the respective merits of the different applicants? He is not elected with reference to his qualifications to make proper judicial appointments, for no one in the heat and excitement of a gubernatorial election ever pauses to ask himself the question, what kind of judges will this or that candidate appoint in the event of his election? Who then has endowed the Executive with omniscience? How has he acquired the power to look into the hearts of men, and see the rank corruption that often festers there? In most instances, he is personally unacquainted with the applicants. If, then, he undertakes to decide for himself, regardless of petitions and the popular voice, the appointment would be, emphatically a lottery—a farce!
But if he prefers consulting the wishes of the people of the district, and is governed in his choice by their petitions and recommendations, then all the objections urged by the gentlemen against an elective judiciary, come home directly and forcibly upon themselves. It would be, but carrying out the popular will through a different channel, with this exception, that it might be carrying out the will of a minority instead of that of the majority; for of course the Governor is expected to appoint a man belonging to the same political party with himself, whether that party is in the majority or minority in the district.
Sir, is not the present mode of appointment calculated to raise up "friends to reward and enemies to punish?" A vacancy occurs in a Judgeship; at once several gentlemen are found in the district, patriotic enough to serve their country upon the bench; their respective friends immediately array themselves upon one side or the other; petitions are circulated, signatures

sought and obtained; every nerve is strained, and quite as much excitement prevails as if there was actually an election. One side must of course be triumphant. The successful Judge comes upon the bench, and there, for the purpose of convenient reference, he has the names signed to the opposing petitions; he can't help knowing who were his friends, and who his opponents.
A case was put by yourself, I believe, sir, (in the able and eloquent speech you delivered, when this bill was in committee of the whole, a few days since,) in which, for the purpose of showing the dangers to be apprehended from the elective system, you supposed a wealthy man possessing influence in the community, to be opposed in a suit to a poor man, and asked whether it was not likely the Judge might be influenced in the trial, by a desire to secure the influence and support of the wealthy suitor, turning a deaf ear to the merits of the cause?
Sir, I do not believe such would be the case. The Judge would see—even if he could be base enough to put self in the scale with honor and duty, that he could not escape the Argus eye of the community, always sharp enough, but doubly so in cases calculated to excite suspicion. He would see that his only safety would be in firmly and honestly administering justice, "without fear, favor or affection." Even if he felt disposed to count the chances, and to turn the trial of a cause into a scramble for votes, he could not be so blind as not to see that the poor must be largely in the majority in every district, and that they would make common cause against him. This reflection would of itself be sufficient to restrain any improper course, and keep the fountains of justice pure. The Judge would know, too, that he was responsible alone to those who expected him to do his duty, regardless of consequences, and that he could only secure their approbation by adopting such a course of conduct; and this, sir, would naturally invest him with independence of thought and action, and he would dare to decide according to his own convictions of right, whether that decision would be favorable to the rich and powerful, or to the poor and humble. The people, true to the immutable standard of immortal truth, which the Creator has implanted in the breasts of all, seek "every form of tyranny over the mind of man," and, looking only to the principle of right and justice involved, neither see nor regard the wealth or poverty of the parties concerned.
"Pledged but to truth, to liberty, and law,
No favor sways them, and no fears can awe."
But how, sir, would the matter stand if, under the present system of appointments, a case should come on to be tried between an influential friend of the Judge, to whose influence with the Governor he alone, perhaps, owed his appointment, and an opponent who had been active and zealous in urging the claims of a rival? Would there not, sir, be misgivings? Would there not be reasonable cause to suspect that gratitude, the noblest impulse of the heart, would excite the sympathies, bias the judgment, and control the action of the Judge? If he were honest, as he should be, there would be no danger; but should he lead him into temptation? you make him, under the present system, responsible only to the Executive, and dependent only upon the Governor's political supporters.
Take another case. Suppose a vacancy to have occurred upon the bench, which, as the Constitution now stands, is to be filled by the Governor. An important cause is pending in the district between a confidential friend and adviser of the Executive—"one of the powers behind the throne, that is oftentimes greater than the throne itself"—and a personal and political opponent.
An applicant for a Judgeship discovers, or is informed that the appointment is at the disposal of the influential party to this suit; that his influence with the Governor can procure for him a commission, and that he can not be appointed without it. Place an applicant in such a situation, I say, with the fact apparent to him that he will only be responsible to the Governor, or rather to the Governor's friend, for a correct discharge of his duties, and, sir, do you not surround him with fearful inducements to regard that man's case with a favorable eye?
The objections urged against the principle of rotation in the office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, have already been sufficiently answered. I can see no difficulties; I can have no doubts upon the subject, sir. If you but give the people a right to elect their own Judges, you will have no "weak men" upon the bench. They will select no man who will not be fit to be the Chief Justice.
It is contended by the opponents of this measure, that the amendment should contain a clause to prevent the re-election of Judges after the expiration of their first term. I can not think so, sir; and so far am I from considering the re-eligibility of Judges an objection, I believe it to be the

vital principle that will infuse life and energy into the whole system. Let a man reside that the people have the power to re-elect him, as a reward for his labors, and you at once stimulate him to a conscientious, faithful and honorable performance of his duties. You at once present to him every inducement to do right; for upon his conduct will necessarily depend his re-election.
It is said, too, that if we require the Judges of the Courts of Common Pleas to reside in the District for which they are respectively elected, we will have them deciding very frequently in cases between their friends and associates; that they will come upon the bench with their minds filled with out-door statements, and a neighborhood decision of the cause.
Experience has shown that there is nothing, sir, in those objections. The amendment does not require the Judges to live in the district previous to the election, but merely to reside there during their continuance in office. This is the case now, sir, in perhaps a large majority of the districts in the State.
No one in a district, sir, thinks it would be advantageous to have the President Judge removed from amongst those upon whose rights he is to decide; but, on the contrary, they frequently have occasion to witness the many advantages derived from having him among them and of them.
Cases may often arise, particularly under the Habeas Corpus Act, during vacation, between the regular terms of the Court, requiring the decision of a Law Judge; and, sir, it is but little short of mockery to say that our courts shall be open, and justice shall be bro't to every man's door, if you locate the minister of justice at so great a distance from the sphere of action that he can afford no relief. The delay of justice may be as prejudicial to the victim of oppression, as its denial.
The principle Mr. Speaker, of an elective judiciary, is not with us an untried experiment. At least twenty of the States of this Union already elect their Judges, either by their Legislatures, or directly by the people; and in all of them, the system has more than realized the highest expectations of its friends. Why should Pennsylvania lag behind? She has already taken one step, in the election of her Justices of the Peace, who are literally Judges, and by the very terms of the Constitution form a part of the judicial power; and altho' we had many good Justices before 1820, yet, taking them as a class, no one doubts that the change has been a decided improvement.
We have been asked, where have we the evidence that the people desire this change? I would point, sir, to the proceedings of the State Conventions; the resolutions adopted at almost all the township and county meetings, of both parties, that have been held since the last session of the Legislature; I would ask them to look into that truthful mirror of the public mind—the Press; I would request them to read the instructions given to, and pledges exacted previous to the election, from members occupying seats upon this floor; and if these evidences would not suffice, I would beg gentlemen to turn to the people themselves, and ask them what they desire. There will be no difficulty in discovering their sentiments—they demand this change, and they will have it.

Our people have caught the spirit of the age—their course is onward and upward. Progress is indubitably stamped upon the national character, and the political absurdities of the past, find none so far behind its resistless march as to "do them reverence."
The people no longer bow at the shrine of antiquity, and you might as well advise one of our Pennsylvania boys—one of the future sovereigns of the country—as he throws a bag of wheat across the back of his horse, that he ought to put all the grain upon one side, and balance it by placing a large stone on the other, simply because that may have been done years ago, as to attempt to convince the intelligent and reflecting freemen of our State, that anything is right merely because it is old. They investigate, think and act for themselves, and they have deliberated and already decided, in their own minds. Let us interpose no obstacles in the way designated by the Constitution for the expression and execution of that decision. Let us show our confidence in the people, by agreeing to the amendment to the Constitution as originally proposed. Let us carry out their will, and let us show by our votes upon this question, that we are willing to assist in carrying out in practice the great principle of popular sovereignty.

The attention of a little girl being called to a rose bush, on whose topmost stem the oldest rose was fading, but below and around which three beautiful crimson buds were just unfolding their charms, she artlessly exclaimed to her brother: "See, Willie, these little buds have just awaked to kiss their mother before she dies."

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