

AMERICAN CITIZEN.

"Let us have Faith that Right makes Might; and in that Faith let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it"—A. LINCOLN.

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Let us Clearly Understand Each Other.

All over our country, those who seek to preserve and perpetuate as much as possible of the essence of Slavery, after its outward semblance shall have been legally buried, are invoking the name and authority of President Johnson as an apostle of their school, without so far as we can learn, one particle of authority for so doing. The Copperhead remnant in Vermont indorse and eulogize President Johnson; so does *The World*; so do the five-dollar-per-month fossils of the Silurian era in Virginia; so does acting Gov. J. M. Wells of Louisiana, who, in a speech at New Orleans on the 17th inst., said:

"It must be perceptible to every one who is at all conversant with the political history of the country, that the radical abolition party is broken up, disorganized and demoralized, despite their apparent success during the present war."

"The official corruption, unequalled by any party which has ever preceded or may ever succeed it, has rendered them obnoxious to the American people."

"The heavy taxation which must necessarily follow to pay the enormous debt of this war, and which must continue for the next half-century, faces an odium upon the party which will outlive the party itself."

"Then to whom are we to look for the healing of the national wounds? Is it not to those who have taken national conservative grounds, and who have ever, during this war, advocated conservative principles—those principles advocated in past years by the old Whig Party, and more recently by the conservatives of the Republican party and of the Democracy, and under whose benign teachings we have grown and prospered as a nation?"

"Our President, Andrew Johnson, has ever been a conservative Democrat. In his hands is placed the destiny of this nation, and from him we have nothing to fear, but everything to hope. I bespeak for his Administration one of the brightest pages in our history; and under this Administration, follow citizens, looking to him for protection and taking his policy as our guide, must effort our State Government. Every effort will be made by the radical abolition party to prevent the return of power to the conservatives of the South, and all the elements of opposition will combine to prevent their success; and one of their formidable auxiliaries, as they suppose, is to extend the right of suffrage to that class of persons recently put in possession of their freedom."

"This has been too clearly foreshadowed by the political adventurers who have come among us to have escaped attention."

"This, then, will be a question for your future action; and if, after having taken this country from the Red man, and holding it for more than a century, you have become so charitable as to give it to the Black man, I can only submit, and bow to the will of the people. The power granted to the several States by the Constitution of the United States to regulate this question of suffrage is plain to all."

"It clearly belongs to the People, and I shall abide their decision."

"The hopeful slave of the 'National Conservative' party of Louisiana will doubtless succeed in persuading his patrons that the blame and the cost of the war should all be saddled upon their 'Radical Abolition' antagonists, who were never in power at Washington, nor yet in the 'restored' State of Louisiana. Of course, if the Radical Abolitionists are to blame for provoking the War, the Rebels cannot be—and if the former have been in power for the last four or five years, it seems odd—nay, it is odd—that no 'restored' State has conceded the Right of Suffrage to one single negro or mulatto, and that Governors of the Wells pattern rule over every one of those States. They do say that the constitutional convention which 'restored' Louisiana was an expensive body; but it never wasted a cent on granting Suffrage to negroes, nor yet on putting Radical Abolitionists into power."

The *Cincinnati Gazette* has a letter of the 21st inst. from Decatur, north Alabama, which says:

"The contraband is the most interesting feature of this country. He is numerously represented here, and at the contraband camp, two miles north, there are over six hundred, of all ages and shades of color. Here, about the military post, they are crowded into ten or twelve shanties, two or three families in each, and, although they have almost nothing to eat or wear, they are universally fat and generally contented."

"Their former masters seem to hate and despise the poor creatures as soon as they learn of their freedom. A few days since, an old colored woman made complaint at the Provost Marshal's office that her master had turned her off without a cent of money or any means of support, simply because he had finished working his corn, and didn't need her any longer. An old man of sixty years, who had served his master since he was old enough to use a hoe, told me a similar story—'Said I, Uncle, how long since you learned you were free?' 'Only a week ago. I thought I might be free a good while

ago, but I wasn't right sure till last week; and when I knew I was free, I told my old master I would still stay and work for him if he would give me my meal and meat, and fifty dollars a year. He told me no, he wouldn't do it; he was only going to keep his hands till he got his wheat harvested, and then the niggers might go to the d—l."

"The old man packed up and left that night, taking with him all the hands but one. The planter had to harvest his grain with his own white hands this year—his black ones are getting \$3 per day for cutting wood on the railroad."

"Two or three weeks ago, a colored man living 15 miles from here, learning of his freedom, became a little 'too saucy,' as it is termed, and refused to perform some unusual and unreasonable task. He was decoyed into the woods on some pretext and shot by a paroled Rebel soldier. His body was thrown into the river, and his absence was accounted for in some plausible manner; but his body was found not long after by some men who were fishing; three bullets had passed through his head."

"—We suppose that President Johnson with all his devotion to 'State Rights,' will find that these kindred cases demand of him interference and regulation—that very many of the late masters are too much exasperated by their defeat, too savage toward the negroes for favoring the Union cause, and too indurated in the ethics and the habits of the slaveholder, to treat their ex-slaves with justice, humanity or even wisdom. Those who are driving off their negroes to steel or starve are the very parties who fear that 'free niggers will never work—they think freedom means idleness supported at the cost of their masters' or of the Government."

We venture the assertion that not one negro in all the South has preferred idleness and theft or pauperism to work for fair wages when assured of his freedom and his pay. But of work for nothing save the scantiest food and covering, with occasional cuts from a horse-whip, they probably think they have had enough—and no wonder."

What President Johnson believes and urges is that it is greatly desirable and preferable that each State should wisely and justly settle the Suffrage and all kindred questions for itself—should so settle them as to hush all intestine feuds, remove all discontents, and leave Congress free to attend her delegation instantly on its appearance at the Capitol next December. We ardently hope that this may be, and that each State will present herself under such auspices that all laws which stand in the way of the admission of her members, even though some of them have been active Rebels, shall be promptly repealed, and the delegations at once admitted without dissent. Yet we are bound to warn the South—because it is the truth, and she needs to know it—that if her delegations come to Washington breathing the spirit of this Union Governor of Louisiana, and bearing Constitutions instinct with the virus of these Alabama slaveholders and of their five-dollar-per-month confederates in Virginia, who proffer no hope of even future enfranchisement to their Black people, they will find Jordan a hard road to travel. And we do most earnestly entreat them not to force upon those who feel grateful to the Blacks for their aid in restoring the Union, and who believe something more is their due than 'the same rights that free negroes have always had,' an issue which, whatever its result cannot fail to reopen the wounds and postpone the pacification of our common country. We speak what we deeply feel, because we know that it must be heard and heeded. "Between us be truth."

But why should there be further collision? Have we not had contention enough? Why, above all, should the Capital and the Labor of the South, be again pitted against each other in an antagonism that cannot fail to prove calamitous? Why should not the planters, the landholders, the gentry of the South, at once resolve that the future relation between them and their laborers shall be one of mutual kindness and trust?—What substantial, beneficent interest in all the South can be advanced by their antagonism? What acre of her soil will not be reduced in value by it? What merchant, manufacturer or artisan must not suffer from it? Men of the South! we entreat you to settle the Suffrage and all kindred questions for yourselves, and settle them on a basis of eternal justice. Inspire the negro to work, and plan, and save, by proffering the Right of Suffrage to all who shall prove worthy of it—and capable of exercising it intelligently, safely and usefully. Put away spite, and false pride, and malice, and vengeance, and recognizing the great fact that Slavery is forever dead, modify your Constitutions in accordance with that truth.—Silence Northern agitators and intermeddlers by removing all pretext for their interferences and convincing your humble neighbors that you are better friends

than they can find a thousand miles off among those whom they never saw. Call the ablest, most intelligent Blacks around you, discuss with them the whole matter, and agree with them on such action in the premises as shall be mutually deemed best. You will not find them exacting nor unreasonable; and your accord with them will go very far toward securing a prompt repeal of all acts of Congress imposing penalties or disabilities which stand in the way of your recognition as citizens of a fully restored Union. Once more we entreat you to heed this appeal! —N. Y. Tribune.

THE TWO PRESIDENTS.

Hon. John W. Forney delivered the Oration before the Literary Societies of Dickinson College on the 28th ult. His subject was "The Two Presidents," Lincoln and Johnson. Like all Mr. Forney's productions it is eloquent in diction and his tribute to the Presidents is as eloquent as it is just, while his vindication of President Johnson's policy is replete with wisdom and patriotism. We give the concluding portion of the address:

It would seem as if it was intended that these two men should be brought closely together, in the last few weeks which made the one a glorious martyr and the other the chief of a great people. When the day of the second inauguration of Mr. Lincoln approached, Governor Johnson was at Nashville, engaged in his efforts to reorganize Tennessee and bring her back into the Union. He telegraphed me, asking if his presence was absolutely necessary, adding that his heart was in his work, and that he would rather aid in sending his adopted Commonwealth back to the hearth-stone of the old Union than to be Vice President of the United States. "On consulting with mutual friends, and especially with Mr. Lincoln, it was decided to insist upon his presence. How warmly the departed sage regarded 'Andy Johnson' a hundred instances might be cited to illustrate. His knowledge of the citizen, the Senator, and the military governor was sufficient to inspire confidence; and the terrible sufferings of the hunted and outlawed refugee made Andrew Johnson the object of his keenest sympathy. They were at Richmond almost on the same occasion, and reached Washington a few hours apart from each other—in time to hear the great intelligence that closed the rebellion. I am not of those who think that when two men, whom God seemed to have made almost copies or counterparts—whose lives were so alike, and whose patriotism so equal and so genial—are suddenly severed by the bolt of death, it is a dispensation to be received if not with something like satisfaction, at least with a very ready resignation. I accept the decree. It would be most impious to quarrel with the inscrutable fate that permitted it, and I thank Heaven that we have, in Andrew Johnson, a patriot so tried and so true, and so ready for the fierce emergencies of the future. But the loss of Abraham Lincoln cannot be replaced. It was as if some great orb had fallen from eternal space into everlasting chaos, jarring the whole earth, and making the very pillars of the skies to tremble. Our country is not destroyed, but he who saved it died in the effort of saving it, and can no more be replaced than the mother who gives her own life for that of her offspring. And how beyond all price is the example of Abraham Lincoln. It has almost revolutionized parties. Not one strong word that Mr. Lincoln said when he entered office, and maintained when he was most violently assailed, has ever been mollified and explained, but rather iterated and strengthened; yet it is true that long before the assassin stole away his life, he had almost conquered antagonism and dumbfounded envious faction itself. I may be answered, "Success wins sometimes more than virtue"; and this is true of vulgar men. But Lincoln's victory was in this: he never let go the helm. Dark, thick, and tempestuous were many of the heavy hours of the past four years; but the star of hope shone steadily on the altar of his heart. The darkest month of the year 1861 was the month of April, the darkest part of the year 1865 was the middle of April. The rebellion broke upon us in the first and ended in the last. The earliest martyrs to the cause of liberty gave up their lives in April, four years ago; and the most illustrious martyr gave up his life in April of 1865. We were unprepared for war in April of 1861; we were prepared for peace in April of 1865; and when the faithful recorder shall come to compile the materials, for the illustration of the close of this mighty struggle, he will be overwrought to note that a month which commenced with such fair prospects should have so gloomily ended. Early in the month, the first fruits of

Grant's military strategy were gathered. On the 2d of April he announced the triumphant success of our armies, after three days' hard fighting. On the 3d of April he sent word to the President that he had taken Petersburg and Richmond, and was in full pursuit of Lee's retreating army. On the 6th of April Sheridan, and Humphreys and Meade and Wright reported the continuous triumph of their conquering columns. On the 9th of April Gen. Grant telegraphed the Secretary of War that Lee had surrendered the army of Northern Virginia upon the terms proposed by himself.

On the 11th of April, full of gratitude to Gods, forgiveness to his foes, and love for all, Mr. Lincoln spoke from the windows of the Presidential mansion those words which, precious as his last on earth, sound like the syllables of inspiration as we read them now. The rejoicing thousands had called upon him the evening before, but that he might weigh and condense his opinions he asked for time to deliberate. On the 12th we had another day of jubilee, and on the 13th the night was set apart for special illumination.—Never did the political capital of the nation shine more resplendently in the robes of light. It was as if Peace and Reconciliation had joined hands over the graves of the illustrious dead—as if war and we had fled to the extremest shades.—The next was Friday, the 14th of April—another morning of happiness. But what a night! As I go back to that dreadful recollection, I go back to the frightful agony that made millions mourn. I was in Richmond when it was announced that Mr. Lincoln had been murdered. It seemed to me as if Nature had taken a pause—as if, between the falling night of war and the dawning blushes of peace stood our farweld sacrifice—as if having just learned to love, to revere, to depend upon him, to place our cares and hopes in his keeping, as in a sacred repository—he should be called away. As Elijah was swept from earth to Heaven, so was our deliverer taken from us. If there is a solace for such a calamity, it is that he died without shame, in the midst of his glory, and at the very threshold of the temple of a reseeded and purified Republic.

Nothing is more wonderful than to see how the President gave, and the President here agree on the questions of the day—the very issues, in fact, which Mr. Lincoln may be said to have died in the very act of solving. Long years ago Andrew Johnson denied the right of any State to secede from the Union. He insisted that rebellion could not destroy a State government. This doctrine, universally accepted by loyal men from the first day of the war, is now cheapened by some who would hold it in abeyance to secure an imaginary party advantage. As it is the very kernel of the nut—the very gold of the mine—in fact, the vital spirit of the Government—for which our soldiers fought and our statesmen deliberated—it is worth something to know exactly where these two representative characters stood in regard to it. Mr. Lincoln, on Tuesday evening, the 11th of April, 1865, in the last speech he ever made, thus met the question, in terms substantially identical with the words of Johnson, in the Senate in 1860 and 1861, and in the Presidential cruvas of 1864:

"We all agree that the seceded States, so called, are out of their practical relation with the Union; and the sole object of the Government, civil and military, in regard to those States, is to again get them into that proper practical relation. I believe it is not only possible, but in fact easier to do this, without deciding or even considering whether these States have ever been out of the Union, than with it."

"Finding themselves safely at home, it would be utterly immaterial whether they had ever been abroad. Let us all join in doing the acts necessary to restoring the proper practical relations between these States and the Union; and each forever after innocently indulge his own opinion whether, in doing the acts, he brought the States from without into the Union, or only gave them proper assistance, they never having been out of it. The amount of constituency, so to speak, on which the new Louisiana Government rests, would be more satisfactory to all, if it contained fifty, thirty or even twenty thousand, instead of only about twelve thousand as it really does."

"It is also unsatisfactory to some that the elective franchise is not given to the colored man. I would myself prefer that it were now conferred on the very intelligent and on those who serve our cause as soldiers. Still the question is not whether the Louisiana government, as it stands, is quite all that is desirable. The question is 'Will it be wiser to take it as it is, and help to improve it; or to reject and disperse it?' Can Louisiana be brought into proper practical relation with the Union sooner by sustaining or by discarding her new State government?"

Referring to his former views the new President who succeeded Mr. Lincoln, said, in his speech to the Indiana delegation, on the 22d of April 1865:

"Upon this idea of destroying States my position has been heretofore well known, and I see no cause to change it now, and I am glad to hear its reiteration on the present occasion. Some are satisfied with the idea that States are to be lost in territorial and other divisions; are to lose their character as States. But their life breath has been only suspended, and it is a high constitutional obligation we have to secure each of these States in the possession and enjoyment of a republican form of Government. A state may be in the Government with a peculiar institution, and by the operation of the rebellion lose that feature; but it was a State when it went into rebellion, and when it comes out without the institution it is still a State."

"The question of colored suffrage, which Mr. Lincoln would give to 'the very intelligent,' and 'to those who serve our cause as soldiers,' is thus met by President Johnson, in his address to the South Carolina delegation, on Saturday last:

"I will again say to you that slavery is gone. Its status is changed. There is no hope you can entertain of being admitted to representation, either in the Senate or House of Representatives, till you give evidence that that institution is going. That done, the policy adopted is not to restore the supremacy of the Government at the point of the bayonet, but by the action of the people. While this rebellion has emancipated a great many negroes, it has emancipated still more white men. The negro in South Carolina that belonged to a man who owned from one to five hundred slaves, thought himself better than the white man who owned none. He felt the white man's superior. I know the position of the poor white man of the South, compelled to till the barren, sandy, and poor soil for a subsistence. You can deny how he was, in your eyes, of less value than the negro. Some here in the North think they can control and exercise a greater influence over the negro than you can, though his future must materially depend on you. Let us speak plainly on this subject. I am a Southern man; have owned slaves, bought slaves; but never sold one. You and I understand this better; we know our friends are mistaken; and I tell you that I don't want you to have control of these negro votes against the vote of this poor white man. I repeat, our friends here are mistaken, as you and I know, as to where the control of that negro vote would fall. When they come to talk about the elective franchise, I say let each State judge for itself. I am for free Government; for emancipation; and I am for emancipating the white man as well as the black man."

It will be seen, therefore, that President Lincoln, while recommending that 'the very intelligent' negroes, and those who have fought for the flag, should vote does not once propose that Congress shall take charge of the subject. All is left to the States. President Johnson takes the same ground in stronger language. He believes if Congress could confer the right of suffrage upon the South Carolina negroes, their former masters would control them; and he emphatically declares that he does not desire this to be so, used as these votes would be against the poor whites of the State, and for the benefit of the aristocracy of the soil. I might add many other sustaining thoughts. The danger of giving to Congress the right to regulate suffrage now is that it may be used hereafter to enable a mere party majority to oppress a State or section. In all the so-called seceding States, save two, the white population exceeds colored; and in most of them largely so. The white people of those States, with almost entire unanimity, are intensely hostile to the principle of negro suffrage. However unreasonable or unjust this hostility may be, it is a fact which stares us in the face, and with which the Government is compelled to deal. If in reorganizing these States preparatory to their full reinstatement in the Union, the right of the negroes to vote should be guaranteed to them by the interposition of the General Government, would it not have the effect of so uniting the white voters in all elections, upon candidates of their own exclusive selection that the colored voters, being in the minority, would be rendered utterly powerless? Even in the States of South Carolina and Mississippi, where the blacks are in the majority, it is by no means probable that at a first election they would be able to rally to the polls in sufficient numbers to out-vote the more intelligent though less numerous race. It would take time for them so learn that they had the right to vote; and even if aware of the right, they would scarcely have the intelligence necessary to its exercise in any effective manner. If the effect would be to unite all white voters on the same candidates as utterly to nullify the political power of the negroes, would the men elected under such circumstances, probably be of the class most favorable to the amelioration of the condition of the colored population? These are practical considerations which will not do to wholly ignore in our eagerness to establish abstract principles of right and justice.

But let us leave the question to time—to the care of a loyal Congress—to the vigilant fidelity of a devoted Union President, who proclaimed himself the friend of the masses of the colored race of Tennessee, and will never allow them to be oppressed by their recent masters. It will not be many days before these latter realize, by the best evidences, that the only way to secure the admission of their Senators and members to Congress is to adopt the amendment of the Constitution abolishing slavery, to provide for the education of the colored population, and for the payment of colored labor by a wide and generous plan, and to repeal the odious penal codes made necessary by the accursed system of slavery. Till these things are secured, they will be kept out of the halls of the nation's legislature. When they are secured, the American Citizen of African descent will have a chance to fit himself for that sacred citizenship which ought never to have been bestowed upon ignorant or lazy men, white or black. Both Lincoln and Johnson agree, therefore, that there can be no destruction of State sovereignty by secession—that the question of suffrage belongs to the States, and not to Congress—and that slavery is dead by military success, by Executive proclamation, by Congressional statute, and by the acts soon to be completed by the three-fourths of the States, ratifying the amendment of the National Constitution forever abolishing it.

When the impulsive Romeo, eager to propitiate his love, would have hurried the philosophical and tranquil Friar Laurence, who promised to aid him in his suit, the priest exclaims: "Wholly god-like, they stumble that run fast." Let us take the axiom and the moral to our own hearts. The swift and dazzling panorama of war, which flashed its meteor changes before our astounded eyes, and achieved reforms that could not have been wrought by centuries of peace, should not tempt us into a spirit of fatal imitation. The fabric of free Government saved in the shock of battle will soon resettle into the regular grooves of law and order. Institutions necessarily set aside, that treason might be punished, and Government be able to put forth all its energies in the struggle for its existence, will soon resume their wholesome influence. Time, reflection, system, are the essential auxiliaries. Nor, indeed, need we be in haste. Least of all should we apprehend failure, because of present doubts and contingent difficulties. Behold the catalogue of wonders on the page of the four last years' history—wrought in the progress of this triumphant war for human freedom. In an age that, compared with the last generations, seems like an age of miracles, the overthrow of the rebellion was the grandest and most sublime of miracles. The malignant prophecies of our enemies everywhere, which they are now so anxious to forget, glare upon them from the page of history, like so many reproaches of their ignorance and their hatred. In war, on land and sea, in finance, in statesmanship, in diplomacy, in the inexhaustibility of our resources, in our inventions, in the wondrous prosperity and comfort of the loyal people, in the deliverance of four millions of human beings from slavery, in the disbanding of a multitudinous army, and the dismantling of a navy larger than that of any of the nations of the earth, we may find not only the material for felicitation but for a superior and a solid consolation. There is no lion in the path of our future so fierce as those which have been subdued and slain in the paths of the past. Let us, therefore, confide our destiny to the constituted and constitutional agencies of the Government, and to that benign Providence which has watched over us from the perilous beginning to the victorious close.

A pew in a Congressional meeting-house is thus advertised for sale in the *Amherst, Massachusetts, Express*: "A pew in the meeting-house of the first parish in Amherst is for sale. The man that owns the pew owns the right or space just as long and wide as the pew is from the bottom of the meeting-house to the roof, and he can go as much higher as he can get. If a man will buy my pew and sit in it on Sundays, and repent and be a good man, he will go to heaven, and my pew is as good a place to start from as any pew in the meeting-house."

"One more question, Mr. Parks, said a counsel to a witness, who happened to be a tailor. 'You have known the defendant a long time; what are his habits—loose or otherwise?' 'The one he's got now I think is rather tight under the arms, and to short waisted for the fashion,' replied Parks. 'Stand down,' said the counsel.

"Say, Sam, what you sell dem shoes for?" "Can't sell dem, Pomp." "Why not?" "Kago dey's half sold, ready. Yab, yah!"

The first thing a man takes to in his life is his milk—the last is his beer.

NATIONAL WIT.—Italian wit is highly dramatic, spontaneous, genial. Among its proverbs are—"The dog earns his living by wagging his tail." "Make yourself all honey, and the flies will devour it." "The smiles of a pretty woman are the tears of the purse." "He who takes an eel by the tail, or a woman by the tongue, is sure to come off empty handed."

The character of Spanish wit is excessive staidness. Of their proverbs—"He who has nothing to do, let him buy a ship or marry a wife." "From many children and little bread, good Lord deliver us." "A fool is never a fool unless he knows Latin."

French wit is characterized by finesse, brilliancy, dexterity, point, brevity. In repartee the French are unrivaled. Their conversation is not only an art, but a fine art. In punning they are unequalled. In no literature are there so many proverbs which speak disparagingly of the fair sex. "Man is fire, woman is low—the devil comes and blows." "A woman conceals only what she doesn't know." "To get chickens one must coax the hen." "Scratch people where they itch."

An odd genius entered the saloon adjoining Ford's theatre, where Booth took his last drink of brandy just before he murdered Mr. Lincoln, and inquired of the barkeeper: "Have you the same bottle on hand out of which Booth drank on the night of the assassination?"

"Yes, Sir." "And the same brandy in it?" "Yes, Sir." "Can I have a drink of that same brandy out of that same bottle?" "Yes, Sir." "Let's have it." The visitor tastes the brandy, makes a wry face, and contemplates it. "And that's the same brandy that Booth drank?" "Yes, Sir." "Well I don't wonder that he killed the President. A drink of that brandy would make a man kill his grandmother!"

DO YOU GIVE IT UP? Why are washer-women the most unreasonable people? Because they expect soft water when it rains hard.

My first is always bitter to my second; My third is both bitter and sweet? Wo-man (woman).

Which sea would a man most like to be in on a wet day? Adriatic (a dry attic).

What disorder excites the greatest compassion? The small-pox, for the patient is generally pitied.

An Irishman got out of the cars at a railway station for refreshments, but unfortunately the bell rang, and the train left before he had finished his repast. "Hold on!" cried Pat, as he ran like a madman after the car; "hold on, ye men! them ould stame ingin—ye've got a passenger aboard that's lift behind!"

A Portuguese shoemaker used to give his wife a severe flogging every month, just before he went to confession. On being asked the reason of this proceeding, he replied that, having a poor memory, he took this method of refreshing it, as his wife, while under the castigation, was sure to remind him of all his sins.

Man doubles all the evils of his fate by pondering over them. A scratch becomes a wound, a slight becomes an injury, a jest an insult, a small peril a great danger, and a slight sickness offend ends in death by the brooding apprehensions of the sick. We should always look on the bright side of life's picture.

A thick headed squire, being worsted by Sidney Smith in an argument, took his revenge by exclaiming: "If I had a son who was an idiot, by Jove, I'd make him a parson." "Very properly," replied Sydney, "but I see that your father was of a different mind."

There is but a step from the sublime to the ridiculous. A local journal thus describes the effects of a hurricane: "It shattered mountains, tore up oaks by the roots, dismantled churches, laid villages waste, and overturned a hay stack."

A PRIVATE INQUIRY.—Why is a soldier who attends to the command, 'prepare to receive cavalry,' like his own weapon?—Because he's abeyin' it.

"Say, Sam, what you sell dem shoes for?" "Can't sell dem, Pomp." "Why not?" "Kago dey's half sold, ready. Yab, yah!"