

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.

VOLUME 4.

BUTLER, BUTLER COUNTY, PENN'A. WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1867.

NUMBER 35

BIOGRAPHY OF Judge Henry W. Williams.

The following biographical sketch of our candidate for Supreme Judge has been carefully prepared, and was delivered at a public meeting held in Pittsburgh a few days since, by C. B. M. Smith, Esq. It will be a gratification for every Union Voter to have the pleasure of supporting such an able and pure minded gentleman. Read the biography.

Mr. Smith was received with rapturous applause, and proceeded to deliver the following biographical sketch of our worthy candidate. He said:

I come here to-night, my fellow citizens, to perform what is to me a pleasant duty—to join with you in giving our adherence to the platform of principles adopted by the great Union Republican party of this State, at the Convention lately held in Williamsport, and in manifesting our satisfaction and pleasure in the nomination by that Convention, of our fellow citizen, Hon. Henry W. Williams, as a candidate for election to the highest judicial position of this Commonwealth.

While I shall express my cordial approval of the principles enunciated in that wise, moderate and patriotic creed of political faith, which breathes, in every line, a love for freedom and human rights, and mixed with no demand for vengeance, by saying that I would hardly add to, or detract, one word therefrom, I shall leave its discussion to those able gentlemen who may follow, and devote the brief time allotted me upon this occasion in speaking of the personal, moral, political and judicial character of our candidate; and it is, perhaps, fitting that I should do this, as I have known Judge Williams longer, and more intimately, than any person in this house.

My acquaintance with him commenced in college in 1836, as class mate, and since that time I have studied with him, taught with him, and practiced in his profession with, and under him. I have known him as a student, as teacher, as lawyer and as Judge; and what is more, during all that time, I have known him as an intimate, personal friend. I have known him more thoroughly than I have ever known any other living man, not excepting my own brother, and I say here to night, in presence of this large audience, that, even were I so disposed, I could truthfully speak no ill of him.

Judge Williams is of the good old revolutionary Whig stock, which achieved our national independence in 1776, and from his ancestors he has inherited a steady love of liberty, independence, freedom and national union, which has been strengthened by the great events of these latter times. He was born in the beautiful valley of the Connecticut—a State that has given birth to such men as Henry Baldwin, Walter Forward, Garrison Mallory, and William Strong—and is now in the full prime and vigor of manhood. From the people and of them, he has been mainly the architect of his own fortune. His father, a well-to-do farmer, held with most New England fathers of that day, that it was better for the boys to help themselves than to be dependent upon paternal savings, and after having furnished his son with the means of acquiring an education, he sent him forth from the paternal home at an early age, to make his way in the world, and fight the battle of life unaided, save by his own energy and talents.

In college Judge Williams gave promise of his future success. He became at once one of the most popular men of his class, loved and respected by all for his correct deportment, his kind and social disposition, his high sense of honor, his great regard for truth, his strict integrity, and for his entire freedom from envy and jealousy. He immediately took high rank as a scholar, especially as a speaker, a writer, a debater, a logician, and a metaphysician, which rank he maintained and increased during his collegiate course. He graduated at Amherst College, Massachusetts, in the summer of 1837, and so proud has his alma mater been of this one of her favorite sons that she sometimes since honored herself by bestowing upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. After spending the intervening time in teaching, he commenced reading law in the office of the Hon. Chief Justice Lowrie, of this city, in the spring 1839, and was admitted to the bar of this county in May, 1841.—He practiced his profession with increasing success from the time of his admission to the bar, as a partner with his preceptor, until the latter was appointed Judge of the District Court of this county, and then with the late Wm. M. Shin, until elevated for the first time to his present position in the fall of 1851.

As a lawyer, Judge Williams was a cautious, safe, honest and reliable counselor, and an earnest, eloquent and generally successful advocate. He endeavored to keep his clients out of the law instead of getting them in, with a good cause, all his energies and abilities were bent to bringing matters to a favorable issue. His dealings with his clients were ever characterized by justice and faithfulness. While he would never knowingly take a bad case for the sake of fee, he never gave up a good one because his client was unable to pay him. His intercourse with his professional brethren was always kind, courteous and honorable, never resorting to what is called "sharp practice" to gain an advantage over his opponent. Had he remained at the bar, few would have met with greater success in that most difficult, laborious and honorable profession.

At a large and respectable Convention of the old Whig party of this county, held on the 4th of June, 1851, Judge

Williams, then young in years and in his profession, and without judicial experience, without solicitation on his part was nominated by acclamation, for the responsible position which he now holds, and was placed upon the judicial ticket of that party with the Hon. Walter Forward, as the candidate for President Judge of the District Court and Hon. William B. McClure as the candidate for President Judge of the Courts of Common Pleas, &c. His opponent at the election in the fall was Judge Shaler, a lawyer of eminent ability and learning, who added to his other qualifications for the position an experience of several years upon the bench, to which the democratic party sought again to elevate him. The result of the election showed that the action of the Convention in nominating Judge Williams, without a dissenting voice, was peculiarly acceptable to the people. He ran ahead of his ticket in the ward in which he lived, in "the old Democratic Third Ward," and in the county, beating his able opponent 2,245, while Judge Forward's majority over Judge Heppner was only 1,228, and Judge McClure's over James S. Craft only 1,117.

So well, faithfully, impartially and satisfactorily did Judge Williams discharge the duties of his office, and so learned, upright and useful a Judge did he prove himself to be, in the estimation of all men, that at the end of his first judicial term of ten years, in 1861, he was nominated by acclamation by the then two great parties of the country, and was re-elected without opposition from any quarter. Such renewed evidence of popularity and appreciation in one's own neighborhood, and among men of all parties, are very rare, and most clearly forebode the very flattering vote which the judge will receive from the people of this county on the second Tuesday of October next.

Judge Williams' manners and bearing are always pleasing. In social intercourse he is the life of the circle in which he mingles. Cheerful, lively and witty, never by look or word, intentionally, wounding the feelings or speaking ill of any one, he makes friends of all. His extensive reading and large information upon all subjects, make his society sought for by the learned and scientific. In his history, in the classics and in the natural and metaphysical sciences, there are few more thorough and extensive students than Judge Williams.

Judge Williams' moral and religious character is beyond reproach. Temperate and chaste in all things, truthful in his words and honest and upright in all his dealings, neither by word nor by act does he ever offend public decency, or bring the cause of sound morals and true religion into reproach. Religious without Pharisaism or bigotry, while he respects and cherishes his own church connections, in which he has ever been a consistent active and leading professor, he cheerfully, and as a matter of principle, concedes the right of judging and determining for themselves to other men. No one ever heard him denounce any man, or any sect, for differing with him upon theological dogmas.

In politics, Judge Williams was at the first a Whig of the Clay and Webster school, holding with the former that protection to some extent was necessary to encourage and foster the industrial interests of Pennsylvania, and with the latter that there was no object in our politics so much to be constantly kept in mind and maintained, in every event, as the perpetual union of these States. When the exigencies of the times gave birth to the Republican party his far-seeing patriotism, and his long cherished love of the Union, led him to cast his votes and give his influence, so far as it was consistent with his official station, in favor of the principles and candidates of that party. During the rebellion he supported the Government and the armies of the Union by every means in his power, upholding the credit and authority of the former, and encouraging by constant faith the glorious success of the latter. Those intimate with him will not readily forget his energetic utterance against treason and traitors and the strong and emphatic manner with which he was wont to declare that the Union must and should, at all hazards, be preserved. While no partisan or ultraist in politics, he is in favor of improvement and reform, when the changes of the times and wants of the people demand them.

The judicial position which Judge Williams has held for over fifteen years is as important and responsible as any in the State. It has been adorned by some of the best legal minds, and it is not saying too much for him to say that he has proved himself in every respect the equal of any of them. During that time he has probably tried as many and as important commercial and constitutional cases, as any other judge of his years in the State, and as a commercial and constitutional lawyer and Judge, he has no superior on the bench. Quick to see the real point in the case presented before him, and prompt to decide according to the well established rules of law and evidence, he has shown himself a sound, clear and practical Judge, whose opinions and decisions have been as seldom reversed by the Supreme Court as those of any other Judge of any other inferior Court in the State. These opinions, many of which have found place in our legal reports are sound and lucid expositions of the law of the case before him. They always possess the merit of adhesion to the question at issue, of clearness and brevity. He never wanders from the point involved, and never seeks to inject his own notions of law or ethics into the decisions of the

Courts which ought ever to be faithful interpretation of Constitution and laws as they are. He is not a judicial law maker, many of whom, to the grief of the profession, we have, but a judicial law expounder, leaving the making of the laws to those whose business it is. In his charges to the jury, he lays down the law of the case with great clearness and leaves all questions of fact fairly to their determination.

Judge Williams is emphatically an honest, impartial and just Judge. He cannot be turned a hair's breadth by prejudice, by favor, or by interest, from what he believes to be the justice of the cause before him. So well is his stern integrity as a Judge understood in this community, that no counsel or suitor ever undertook to influence him in the decision of a case pending before him, save by legal testimony and sound legal argument.

Judge Williams is a Christian gentleman, a ripe scholar, a sound and well read lawyer, and a just judge, to whom the celebrated lines of the opening of the third ode of Horace will apply with as much force and truth as to any other man:

Justum ac tenacem propositi virum.
Non civis ante prava torquentur,
Non inflexile ius tyranni.
Mente quatit silvis.

With such a candidate and in a cause so worthy, our own and the counties of the Western part of the State will vie with Philadelphia and her sister counties of the East in raising the banner of freedom and the Union still higher, and in inaugurating a campaign for free principles and a united, peaceful and happy country, which shall culminate in the glorious victories of 1863, under the leadership of a Thomas, a Sheridan, a Sherman, or a Grant.

Louisiana.

If Sheridan is not removed he will soon finish the preparations for a Constitutional Convention in Louisiana.

The Boards of Registers have nearly finished the enrollment of voters and are ready to execute Sheridan's order to prepare poll-books and voting places. It is expected that in a short time an order directing an election to be held for delegates to the Convention will be issued.—The latest returns make the total of registered voters in the State 119,396, of whom 41,166 are whites and 78,239 blacks. The Conservative papers concede, upon these figures, a Radical majority of over 30,000; and as during the past month less than 2,000 names have been added to the lists in the whole State, there can be no hope of reducing it.—The colored men have a decisive majority in all the parishes but six, and those are the smallest in the State. The New Orleans Times is unquestionably right in its conclusion that "the political complexion of this Convention seems to be already decided beyond question. That it will be overwhelmingly Radical there can scarcely exist a doubt. The preponderance of blacks registered is very large, and as a mass they will vote the Radical ticket. The colored persons who express a determination to cooperate with the Conservative party are so few and noticeable as to prove that they are only exceptions to the general rule. Of course, even at this late day, enough colored people might possibly be influenced to elect delegates to the Convention in some of the parishes; but we believe it would be impossible to materially reduce the large majority which the Radicals seem destined to have, and therefore it is better to look this matter boldly in the face, and determine to make the best of it. All this shows with how little delay Sheridan has done his work and how little remains to organize a loyal civil government. His removal, we are afraid, will be largely due to his success. We do not believe that the President desires a Radical Convention to be held in Louisiana for it is not forgotten that he defended the massacre of that which assembled in July, 1866.—N. Y. Tribune.

THE DUTCHMAN'S "BONY."—"Chon, you reckonme dat liddle black bony I pved mit the biddle neck week?"

"Yah, vot of him?"

"Nothings, only I gits sheated burdy bad."

"So?"

"Yah. You see in the vast place he ish plint mit bote legs, and fery lam: mit vone eye. Den ven you gits on him to vite he rars up behint unt kicks up before so vorse as a chackman. I dinks I dake him a liddle rite yesterday, unt no sooner I gets straddle his pack he gonsmeant dat vay, so like a vaktin pnam on a postream; unt ven he gits tone, I vas mixed up mide eferydinks, I vints mine-self zitten around packwarks, mit his dail in my hants vor de bridle."

"Vell, vot you going to do mit him?"

"Oh I vixid him pter as shap up.—I hitch in te cart mit his dail vor his head ought to be; den I gife him about a dozen cuts mit a hidecow; he starts to go, put soon he sees te cart pfer him, unt he makes packwarks. Den I takes him out, hitch him de rite vay, unt he goes rite off shut so good as anybody's bony."

FREE RAILROAD LAW.—The Gettysburg Star and Sentinel says: "The friends of a free railroad law are bestirring themselves. We observe that the Republican nominations for the Legislature in the Northern as well as in the Western part of the State, reference is had to the opinions and votes of candidates on this question. The secret enemies of this great measure—on which, by the way, the Democratic State Convention preserved a suspicious silence—must prepare next winter to reverse their record of last session, or make a square issue with the people."

WHAT IS MY NAME?
God made Adam out of dust,
But thought it best to make me first,
So I was made before the world began,
According to God's holy plan.

My body he did make complete,
But without arms, or legs, or feet,
My ways and time he did control,
And I was made without a pole.

A living creature I became,
And Adam gave me my name,
Then from his presence I withdrew,
No more of Adam even knew.

I did my Maker's law obey;
Nor him I ever went astray,
Thousands of miles I move in fear,
But seldom upon earth appear.

But God in me did something see,
And put a living soul in me,
It said in me the Lord did come,
And took from me a soul again.

And when from me that soul was fled,
I was the same as when first made,
And without hands, or feet, or soul,
I travel now from pole to pole.

I labor hard both day and night,
To lighten man I give great light,
Thousands of people, young and old,
Do by my death great light behold.

No fear of death does trouble me,
Nor haply I cannot see,
To heaven above I cannot go,
Nor to the grave or hell below.

The Scriptures I cannot believe,
I read wrong I am sure,
Although my name therein is found,
They are to me an empty sound.

And when my friends, these lines you read,
Go, search the Bible with all speed,
And if my name you can't find there,
It will be strange, I must declare.

WIT AND WISDOM.
When was beef-tea first made in England? When Henry VIII dissolved the Pope's bull.

A forte that is too much stormed now-a-days. The piano-forte.

A pretty female artist can draw the men equally with a brush and a blush.

What do the sailors do with the knot the ship makes in a day?

Nearly every evil has its compensation. If a man has but one foot he never treads on his own toes.

A woman's tears are generally more effective than the mow. In such cases wind is a less powerful element than water.

Who is the greatest painter? Shakespeare? Claudius, King of Denmark, because he "murdered most foul."

"Patrick, how long has it been since you left Ireland?" "Eighteen months, my lord; but I've been there twice since."

Foot expressed the belief that a certain miser would take the beam out of his own eye, if he knew where he could sell the timber.

The more a woman's waist is shaped like an hour glass, the more it shows us that her sands of life are running out.

A countryman perceiving one of his friends take much upon him because he was born in London, said, "Have not all the mice in London the same honor?"

A true tale is told of Charles Matthews, that, personating an eccentric old gentleman, a family friend, he drank tea with his mother without her finding out the cheat.

Practice does not always make perfect. Curran, when told by his physician that he seemed to cough with more difficulty, replied, "That is odd enough, for I have been practicing all night."

Artemus Ward in speaking of the newspapers of his village, says, "that the advertisements are full of lies, and the marriages and deaths are conducted with signal ability."

Doctor—"Well, madam, how's your husband to-day?"

Wife—"Why, doctor, he is no better."

Doctor—"Did you get the measles?"

Wife—"Yes; but he only took three of them raw I had to fry the rest."

A poor man in Providence was fined and sent to jail for ten days for falling asleep in church. The Providence Journal says: "If a laboring man is to be sent to jail for sleeping during a sermon, how much more should a preacher suffer for a failure to keep his hearers awake?"

An Old Lady was telling her grandchildren about some trouble in Scotland, in the course of which the chief of her clan was beheaded. "It was not great a deal, to be sure," said the good lady, "but it was a sad loss to him."

Two friends meeting, one remarked, "I have just met a man who told me I looked like you."

"Tell me who it was," said the other, "but he only took three of them raw I had to fry the rest."

The Crops of the World.

Commencing at home, and on the Rio Grande, we find that Texas has a large crop, a good wheat, and a medium cotton crop. The same is to be said of Louisiana and parts of Mississippi, with some considerable deduction arising from the ravages of the cotton worm and the devastations of late spring floods. Around the Gulf States, all supplies of food will be abundant, but cotton is not likely to yield more than two-thirds of an average of former good years. Of rice, and cane sugar, there are no good reports. These staples require large capital, and a certain kind of labor which disappeared during the war. In the rest of the Southern States, with the exception of some portions of North Carolina, and on badly worn soils elsewhere, the yield of grain exceeds any former year, and it is stated that in a great measure they will make no demands on the North for bread.—Tobacco, generally, will be deficient.—Owing to the great amount of labor bestowed on the growing of grain, cotton could not receive the usual undivided attention, and it is generally conceded that it will not excel the unfavorable yield of last year by more than a quarter. Generally, the freedmen are performing their contracts with fidelity, and outrages upon them are less frequent.

By latest advices from the heart of the great grain-growing regions of the West, we must conclude that the yield of wheat, corn, and oats will be unprecedentedly large. Dealers who never carry less than hundreds of barrels of flour have worked their stocks down as low as ten barrels. At the present time no large quantity of breadstuffs can be sold at current rates, so prevalent is the opinion that prices must recede; and yet, through the whole West, there is an absolute scarcity. In estimating prices for the future this last fact should not be overlooked, and the amount absolutely necessary to feed the people, whose bread hitherto has been as cheap as fuel, will be taken into account. The various fruits are in excess of former years. Grapes, however, are doing badly through interior sections. On the islands along the southern shore of Lake Erie, as well as in other water climates, little or no mildew has yet appeared. Apples are abundant, and thence the east can be supplied.

In the Eastern States considerable damage has been done by grain and the frequent showers. Still, in various localities these crops have been secured in good order, and corn will yield heavily. Much more wheat is now growing than formerly, and with such gratifying results that its culture is likely still more to be extended. From all parts of Canada the harvests now commencing are more than usually promising, but danger is apprehended from the weevil. However, its ravages are not likely to be more than local. North-westward, toward the British Possessions, westward to our new Territories, we have the same general cheering accounts of large yields of grain. Though the damage done by the grasshopper was considerable, the effect will be slight even in the States where for a time it threatened to destroy everything, and whence it has departed, no one knowing whither. We have the general statement in the Territories of New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado that they will raise their own bread, and perhaps Arizona should be included. In the valleys of Nevada some fine farms have been opened, and they are growing excellent wheat. This year promises to equal the last in California in all the fruits and grains produced in this remarkably and now highly prosperous State; nor do we have any discouraging report from Oregon or Washington Territory. The Territory adjoining this has been so recently acquired, and the means of communication are so infrequent, that we must pass it by in our review.

Last year that country which long was the granary of the world, owing to the fertilizing waters of the Nile, had a short crop of grain, though the yield of cotton was large, and the prices of breadstuffs were high. This year the harvests have been abundant, and prices have fallen two-thirds. Southern and Central Russia, which for many years have contributed so much to the grain markets of Western Europe, will furnish an unusual quantity of breadstuffs. In Poland there will be some diminution, owing to an overflow of the waters of the Vistula, for even houses were carried away. Through Austria, Prussia, and in Norway and Sweden, there is a prospect of average yields of grain, and the same is to be said of Turkey in Europe, and of North Italy. In Portugal the weather has been so unfavorable as seriously to injure the grapes. What may have been the yield of grain in Spain and France, the dry weather was doing considerable damage. England more immediately concerns us. In the southern part the oat harvest commenced about the 20th ult., and was large. This includes the Counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Berks, and Bucks. In Yorkshire the weather had been highly favorable for three weeks, during which time a large hay crop was secured. This being followed by showers, helped the barley, which was short, kept up the growth of clover and grass pastures, and rapidly brought forward early some turnips.

Our last account is up to the 24th ult.—The showers had continued, and in places the standing grain was beaten about considerably; still, there was no reason for believing that any permanent damage had been done. On the contrary, the rain had been of great advantage to barley, oats, peas, and beans, which had suffered during the long dry weather in hay harvest. At the date mentioned

the wheat was only beginning to change color. To the hop-grower, these rains, accompanied by high winds, were not so acceptable, for in exposed situations the young shoots were terribly battered. In Kent, owing to the attack of insects, the hop prospect is very gloomy. Generally the season is from ten days to two weeks late. The latest account states that a storm was prevailing through Great Britain.—N. Y. Tribune.

The First of August.

So long as "persons of African descent" remain as a distinguishable class in America the First of August will be their great day. It will be their Pass-over, their Fourth of July, their Saint Patrick's Day. On the First of August, 1834, slavery became extinct in the British West India Islands. By a strange coincidence, on the First of August in this Year of Grace, 1867—a generation, to a day, as we now reckon human generations—persons of that race, heretofore held as slaves in the United States, for the first time exercised the rights not merely of "freedmen," but of citizens, by voting for Governor and members of Congress. This is the State of Tennessee.

Verily the world does move. One can scarcely believe that it is exactly ten years since Justice Taney pronounced his famous "Dred Scott" decision, wherein backed up by the whole body of Associate Justices, he laid down as established law that no person of African descent was or could ever become a citizen of the United States. Let us, however, do justice to Judge Taney. He never gave the atrocious decision so often attributed to him, that the black race was "so far inferior that they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect." These words, indeed, occurred in his decision. He says that they had been so regarded for a century before the framing of the Declaration of Independence; and that then "no one seems to have doubted the correctness of the prevailing opinion of the time." But the whole context shows that Justice Taney, so far from formally giving his official sanction to this sentiment, had serious doubts as to its rightfulness. He indeed denied to the colored race, through all generations, any political or civil rights. But he would doubtless have conceded to them some rights which "the white man was bound to respect"—such rights, for example, as the amiable Mr. De Bergh so strenuously maintains for turtles and donkeys, omnibus horses and ragpickers' dogs—the right at least not to be starved or brutally beaten.

Many men had the gravest doubts as to the safety of extending the franchise to the freedmen. We shared in those doubts. But concurrent testimony from a thousand sources convinces us, as it has convinced every thoughtful man, North and South, that our fears were groundless. The freedmen have borne themselves with a dignity, a moderation, a decorum which their best friends dared not to hope. We have just received a letter from a Georgia planter, the most intimate friend and associate of Alexander H. Stephens, Vice-President of the late Confederacy. The writer, who fought during the whole war on the Southern side, says, in effect, that the right of suffrage. How the freedmen came to be found, all at once, in possession of so much real political knowledge has puzzled us all. Perhaps "Porte Crapin," in a picture in *Harper's Magazine* of last January, solves the mystery. There we have a person of unmistakable "African descent" waiting at table, whereas are seated several most undoubtedly F. F. V.'s, who are clearly discussing politics. Colored Persons, tray in hand, is ready to change plates; or replenish the wine or punch glasses; but his ear is turned so as catch every word which falls from the lips of the F. F. V.'s. In an hour after the F. F. V.'s have retired from the festive board every word which they said will have been told to a score of eager listeners in the negro quarters. That attentive "boy" was for the future freedmen not a bad substitute for a daily newspaper.

Well, the election in Tennessee came off on the First of August. As we write, on the second, telegraphic reports thereof come in. Nashville, which would most likely have been the Confederate capital, had the Confederacy lived, has never been famous for quiet elections. But now we read that the polls closed upon a very peaceable scene. There was no fighting, no drunkenness, no disorder. Early in the morning long lines of dark faces were formed at the polls. One by one, in due order, the dusky new-made freedmen deposited their ballots and departed. In the afternoon the whites mainly voted. That the election would go in favor of the "Radicals" was a foregone conclusion. President Johnson himself could hardly have hoped to find any support in his own State.

This First of August 1867, will stand as the culminating point of a great revolution. On that day colored men for the first time fairly voted for Governor and members of Congress. They did not, so far as we know at this time, vote for candidates of their own color. But it will be for all men to understand that this will not be a perpetual precedent. The right of voting for an officer implies the right of being voted for. Ten years ago Justice Taney decided that a colored man could not be a citizen. To-day he is "irrespective of race or color" a citizen. Within ten years, and prob-

bly within half that time, we shall find more than one American citizen of African descent presenting himself with all due credentials, sealed with the broadest of all broad State seals, as member-elect of Congress. More than likely the first of these ebony-images will present themselves from the Palmetto State. What shall then be done? In our view, if the Fortieth Congress of the United States is not scandalized by having among its members Mr. John Morrissey, the Forty-second can not be greatly harmed by the presence of Mr. Frederick Douglass.—*Harper's Weekly*.

THE PRINTER.—The following beautiful tribute to the followers of the "effick and rule" is from the pen of B. F. Taylor, of the *Chicago Evening Journal*. The printer is the adjunct of thought and this explains the mystery of the mystery of the wonderful word that can kindle a hope as no song can; that can warm a heart as no hope can; that word "we" with hand-in-hand warmth in it—for the author and the printer are engineers together. Engineers, indeed! When the little Cosei n bombardier Cadiz, at the distance of five miles, it was deemed the very triumph of engineering. But what is that range to this, whereby they bombard the ages yet to be?

There is the "ease" he stands and marches into line the forces armed for truth, clothed in immortality and English. And what can be nobler than that equipment of a thought in sterling Saxon—with a spear or shield therein, and that commissioning it when we are dead, to move grandly on to "the latest syllable of recorded time." This is to win a victory from death, for this has no dying in it.

The printer is called a laborer, and the office he performs is toil. Oh, it is not work but a sublime life he is performing, when he thus sights the engine that is to fling a worded truth in grander curve than missile e'er before described: fling it into the bosom of an age unborn. He throws off his coat indeed; we but wonder the rather, that he does not put his shoes from off his feet, for the place where he stands is holy ground.

A little song was uttered somewhere long ago. It wandered through the twilight feebler than a star; it died upon the ear. But the printer takes it up where it was lying there in the silence like a wounded bird, and he sends it forth from the ark that had preserved it, and it flies on into the future with the olive branch of peace, and around the world with melody, like the dawning of a spring morning.

A GOOD JOKE.—When I used to keep store in Syracuse, the old man came around one day, and says he:

"Boys, the one that sells most 'twixt now and Christmas, gets a vest pattern for a present."

Maybe we didn't work for that vest pattern? I tell you there were some tall stories told in grain of goods about that time. But the tallest talker, and the one that had more cheek than any of us, was a certain Jonah Squires, who roomed with me. He could take a dollar out of a man's pocket, when the man only intended to spend a sixpence. And woman—Lord bless you!—they just handed over their pocket books to him, and let him lay out what he pleased for them.

One night Jonah woke me up with—"By Joe, old fellow, if you think that are's got any cotton in it, I'll bring down the sheep that it was cut from and make him swear to his own wool! T'wont wear out, either; I wore a pair of pants of that stuff for five years, and they're as good as when I first put 'em on! Take it at thirty cents, and I'll say you owe me nothing. Eh! too dear? well call it twenty eight cents. What d'ye say? Shall I tear it? All right, it's a bargain."

I could feel Jonah's hand playing about the bed clothes for an instant, then rip, tear, went something, and I had my head under the blankets, perfectly covered with laughter, and was that Jonah had torn the sheet from top to bottom. When I woke up in the morning I found—alas! unbeknownst cut of all—that the back of my night shirt was split from tail collar band.

—The strong vote in the Michigan Constitutional Convention in favor of prohibition, and refusal of the Convention to submit the question separately, are significant signs of the times. The wisdom of such an extreme measure may be questioned. Nevertheless, it shows the popular tendency. This comes necessarily from the universal and still growing evil of intemperance—not the intemperance of former days; but a consuming epidemic that gathers its victims by scores, and from all ranks and classes. If by a clause in her Constitution Michigan shall be fortunate enough to exterminate this plague, it will be a happy day for her citizens. The attempt will be watched with an absorbing interest by the other States, not less afflicted than she.

TO DRIVE OFF RATS.—Take a bunch of matches and soak them over night in a tea cup full of water; then take out the matches thicker the water with Indian meal to a stiff dough, adding a teaspoonful of sugar and a little lard; lay it about the premises where the rats and nothing else will eat it.