

# THE SUSQUEHANNA REGISTER.

"THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE IS THE LEGITIMATE SOURCE, AND THE HAPPINESS OF THE PEOPLE THE TRUE END OF GOVERNMENT."

VOLUME 27--NUMBER 44

MONTROSE, PA., THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 11, 1852.

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**THE SUSQUEHANNA REGISTER.**  
(A Weekly Newspaper.)  
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING, AT MONTROSE, SUSQ. CO. PA., BY H. H. FRAZIER.

**TERMS.**  
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Two Dollars and Fifty cents if not paid until after the expiration of the year.  
No subscription will be permitted to remain unsettled longer than two years.  
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each subsequent week, \$0.50  
Business Cards per annum with paper, \$2.00  
A liberal discount made to yearly advertisers.

**"Poet's Corner."**

**Tribute to Washington.**  
BY ELIZA COOK.

There's a star in the West which shall never go down,  
Till the records of valor decay,  
We must worship its light, 'till it is not our own,  
For liberty burst in its ray.  
Can the name of a Washington ever be heard,  
By a Freeman, and not thrill his breast!  
Is there one out of bondage who halt not the word,  
As the Bethel star of the West!

Was it to the South, be enthralld or veiled,  
Was the echo that waft'd through the land,  
But it was not his voice that promoted the cry,  
Nor his madness that kindled the brand,  
He need not an arm, be defied nor his foe,  
While a leaf of the olive sprang,  
Till God with insult his spirit arouse,  
Like a long bated lion unchain'd.

He struck with firm courage the blow of the brave,  
Yet sigh'd o'er the carnage that spread,  
He indignantly trampled the yoke of the slave,  
Yet wept o'er the thousands that bled.  
He threw back the fetters, and headed the strife,  
Till man's charter was fairly restored,  
He played for the moment when freedom had lit,  
Should no longer be press'd by the sword.

No end to his laurels were pure, and his patriot name,  
In the ranks of the future shall dwell,  
And be seen in the annals, the foremost in fame,  
By the side of a Holzer or Tell.  
Rejoice not thy song, for the wise and the good,  
Among the Britons have nobly confessed,  
That his was the glory, while ours was the blood,  
Of the deeply stain'd fields of the West.

**November.**

No sun--no moon!  
No morn--no noon!  
No dawn--no dusk--no proper time of day--  
No sky--no earthly view--  
No distance loom blue--  
No road--no street--no "other side the way"--  
No end to any row--  
No indication where the Creosots go--  
No top to any steep--  
No recognitions of familiar objects--  
No courtesies in showing "em--  
No knowing "em!  
No travelling at all--no locomotion--  
No talking of the way--no motion--  
No "go"--by land or ocean--  
No mail--no post--  
No news from any foreign coast--  
No Park--no ring--no afternoon gait--  
No company--no solitude--  
No warmth, no cheerfulness, no beautiful ease,  
No comfortable feel in any member--  
No shade, no alms, no butterflied, no bees,  
No fruits, no flow'rs, no leaves, no birds.  
--November!

**Selected Miscellany.**

**THE SERIOUS OFFICER.**  
-OR-  
The Heroic Death of a Revenue Captain.  
A TALK OF THE SLAVE SQUADRON.

When I again reported myself on board the Curlew, the aloop was at Sierra Leone; and the respective posts of Captain and first lieutenant vacant by the retirement from the service of Commander Pemberton, and the death of Lieutenant Armstrong, had been filled up by two officers, who, for sundry peremptory reasons, I shall name--Horton and King. They were, I thought, the very antipodes of each other in almost all respects, save that both were excellent sailors, well-intentioned, honorable men, and about the same age--three or four-and-thirty--Captain Robert Horton a little the oldest.

of contemptuous dislike amongst genuine blue jackets as a sea-lavender. Captain Horton was of a different stamp, and carried, or endeavored to carry, the strong religious feelings--the enthusiastic spiritualism by which his mind was swayed--into the every-day business of ways and means. Profane swearing was strictly forbidden, which was well enough if the order could have been enforced; profane playing at cards or dominoes, even though the stake were trifling or nominal, was also rigorously interdicted, and scripture reading on the Sabbath strongly inculcated, both by precept and example. Other proceedings of the same kind, excellent in themselves, but, in my opinion, quite out of place on board a war-ship, were, as far as might be, enforced; and the natural consequence followed, that a lot of the vilest vagabonds in the ship affected to be religiously impressed in order to carry favor with the captain, and avoid the penalties incurred by their skulking neglect of duty.

This state of things was viewed with intense disgust by Lieutenant King, and as far as the discipline of the service permitted, he very freely expressed his opinion thereon. The first luff, in fact, was a rolicking, fun-loving, danger-seeking, dashing officer, whom even marriage--he had a wife and family at Dawlish, in Devonshire, of which pleasant village he was, I believe, a native--had failed to, in the slightest degree, tame or subdue. On the contrary, that could put a bottle of wine comfortably out of sight; two, upon an emergency, and if duty did not stand in the way, he was to be found at the billiard table, next perch'd into a battle. This gentleman had got it into his head that Captain Horton was better suited to preaching than fighting, and often predicted amongst his own set, that the first serious quarrel we happened to be engaged in, would bring out the Captain's white feather, in unmistakable prominence. Nothing can be more absurd, as experience has abundantly shown, than to infer that because a man is pious, he is likely to be a patriot; but such persons as Lieutenant King are not to be reasoned with; and, unfortunately, it was not long before a lamentable occurrence gave a color to the accusation.

There was a French corvette, *Le Renard*, in the harbor at the same time as ourselves, commanded by Le Capitaine D'Ermonville, a very gentlemanly person, and his officers generally were of the same standard of character and conduct. This was fortunate, several quarrels having taken place between the crews of the two vessels, when ashore on leave, arising, I fear, from the inherent contempt with which the true English sea-dog ever regards foreign sailors--the American and Scandinavian rates, of course, excepted. This feeling, grounded, in my opinion, upon a real superiority, is very frequently carried to a ridiculous excess, especially when the grig's on board, and the *Républicain* nation, all being floating in Jack's saddle, has been heightened and inflamed by copious libations to the sea-urchin goddess, under whose auspices, as he was at all times ready to sing or swear--seven just after receiving a round dinner at the caprice of his commanding officer--that Britons never shall be slaves. It was so in these instances; and but for the good sense of the French officers in overlooking or accepting our apologies for such unmanly behaviour, the consequences might have been exceedingly unpleasant, particularly as both the *Curlew* and *Le Renard* were undergoing repairs; and could not leave the harbor for some time, however desirous of doing so. Even as it was, a cool-headed, sensible man, like the captain, who could not help feeling in some degree as a partizan of his respective crews, although Captain Horton, I must say, did warmly and unflinchingly admonish the English sailors of the duty of being all making--Frenchmen included, of the sin and folly of drinking to excess, even when on leave; and the wickedness of false pride and vain glory at all times.

At length, however, the repairs of both vessels approached completion, and it was suggested, I believe by Captain Horton, that a farewell dinner, to which the officers of the two nations should be invited, might be the means of dispelling any feeling of scorbidity which these affairs apparently excited in the breasts of Captain D'Ermonville and his companions.

The then governor of Sierra Leone, a very warm-hearted gentleman, instantly acceded to the proposition; the invitations were forwarded, courteously accepted, and everybody anticipated a convivial and pleasant meeting. And so it proved till about eight o'clock, when the evening--the weather being sultry, the guests hilariously disposed, and the olives excellent. The Ladies of France (this was in the reign of Charles X.) the Rose of England, the Gallic Cuck, the British Lion, had all been duly honored and hiccoughed till about the hour I have named, when, under the influence of the various fumes they had imbibed, the varnish began to peel off the tongues and aspects of the complimenters, and the conversation to take an unpleasant and boisterous turn. Captain Horton and D'Ermonville, who had drunk very sparingly, were evidently more and more disorderly party; but their suggestions were of no avail, and the exertion of authority at such a time would, no doubt, they considered, appear harsh and unbecoming. Two of the guests, especially, seemed to be bent upon their efforts; these were Lieutenant King and Esnagne de Corrette, De Page. They sat opposite each other, and had got amongst the breakers of politics; and those, too, of the most dangerous kind--the character of Napoleon, the justice of his wars against his country by England, and so on. Captain D'Ermonville, who had seated himself by the side of King, watched the pair of disputants very anxiously, and secretly seized the opportunity of Le Page's leaving the room for a few moments, to leave his own and take his chair. Le Page, who was absent hardly a minute, finding his seat occupied, took that vacant by D'Ermonville, which was, as I have just stated, opposite to Captain Horton's. Both captains had been, it afterwards appeared, conversing on pretty nearly the same topics as King and Le Page, but in quite a different tone and spirit. D'Ermonville was a Bourdon Royalist, par excellence, and agreed generally with the English estimate of the French emperor. Captain Horton was, I must also mention, somewhat near-sighted, and the air of the room, moreover, by this time, was thick with cigar smoke. Captain Horton, who had sunk into a reverie, for a few minutes, did not notice for a moment or two, that D'Ermonville had left his place, much less that it was occupied by another, and, leaning sideways over the table, so as to be heard, only by the person addressed, he quietly said,--"Yes, yes, Monsieur; as you say, no sensible man can deny that Napoleon was a most unprincipled usurper, an usurper."

He got no further. Le Page, believing himself to be purposely insulted, sprung up with a fierce oath, and dashed his goblet of *eau-de-vie*, which D'Ermonville had been drinking at the speaker's head, thereby inflicting a severe and stunning blow on the gentleman's forehead. The terrific roar that ensued could hardly be described in words; bottles flew across the room; and through the windows, swords were drawn, whilst high above the din thundered the defiant voice of Lieutenant King, as he forced his way through the *meute* to the almost insensible captain, seized him in his arms, and bore him from the apartment. This action, the lieutenant afterwards admitted, was not purely the result of a generous feeling--the honor of the English name was, he believed, at stake, and it had instantly occurred to him that Captain Horton, if left in the hands of the French, would be the only man in which he, Lieutenant King, held that it could be mediated.

The exertions of D'Ermonville, and the governor gradually stifled the tumult; and as soon as calm was comparative restored, the French officers, left the house, with the understanding, as *Le Renard* sailed in the morning, that they should wait at a retired place, agreed upon, for any communication the English party might have to make. The affair had in some degree sobered us all, and it was soon plain that strange misgivings were creeping over the minds of Burbage and others. At the time they flew by, and no message came from the *Curlew*, and lieutenant, nor the governor, who had gone to join them. At last voices in loud and angry dispute were heard approaching, and presently the door flew open, and in burst Lieutenant King, white with excitement, and closely followed by his now perfectly recovered commanding officer.

"Do you hear, gentlemen!" shouted the lieutenant, who was really frenzied with rage, "this captain of ours refuses to chastise the insolent Frenchman, or permit either of us to do so. He has a *conscience* gone, gentlemen, he has gone to join them. At last voices in loud and angry dispute were heard approaching, and presently the door flew open, and in burst Lieutenant King, white with excitement, and closely followed by his now perfectly recovered commanding officer.

"I will not return to the ship till this insult, which affects us all, has been avenged," rejoined the lieutenant with unabated wrath; "no, not if dismissal from the service be the consequence."

"If that be your determination, sir, I must have recourse to other means to enforce obedience, and fortunately they are not far from hand."

He then left the room, we supposed, to summon a guard of marines.

"Now, gentlemen," exclaimed Lieutenant King, "to now meet these Frenchmen, before this accused captain of ours can prevent us. Yet, stay," he added, "it would be better, perhaps, that I should be spared; in truth we were all pretty nearly crazed with wine and passion, and if we set to the appointed rendezvous, one only idea whirling in our brains, namely, that if some Frenchman or other was not shot, or otherwise slain, the honor and glory of Old England were gone forever!"

King seized and belted his pistols, jumped into the pinnace, and we were off--about a hundred men in all--in a fifty. The oars were muffled, and the profound silence was enforced, in the hope of at least nearing the enemy unobserved. For something more than a league this appeared likely to be the case, but when about that far, on our way, a confused murmur of voices began to spring up along the left bank of the river, followed by a dropping fire of musketry; obliging us to keep the centre of the channel, until we had been fully to have wasted time in turning it. The tumult of discordant noise--shouting, striking, musket and pistol firing, roars of brutal merriment and deadly defiance--grew louder and louder, as we neared the goal. Presently, at first flickering and uncertain, threw a lurid glare over the scene, and as we swept round a bend of the river, burst into a volume of fire, rendering every object within the circuit of a mile, I should say, distinctly visible. But we had no time to note these objects minutely; a white smoke, which, being very dense, tried up, opened fire upon us, though without much effect. She was hoisted and carried with our pealing hurrah! and leaving Burbage and a sufficient number of men in charge, Lieutenant King jumped into the boats again with the others, and made for the left shore, which was lined with a crowd of variously-accommodated houses. The flames I have mentioned proceeded from a huge canvas-covered building, which was blazing furiously, and although appearing to be in the kindest sort, I discerned the figure of a man, erect and motionless upon its summit--how or why there I could not imagine. The next moment, the thick-whirled flame and smoke hid him from my view, and I heard Lieutenant King's stentorian voice exclaiming, "Give way, men! give way, for God's sake! the devils have entrapped the captain; and are burning him alive! With a will, now, hurrah!" The boats quickly grounded, and we sprang on shore, headed by the first lieutenant. The resistance, desperate as it was, was broken through, and dispersed with a leap and a rush; and then a sight which I witnessed clearly presented itself. Captain Horton, pale as death, and calm as stone, was standing bound, erect, and bare-headed, upon the flaming stage-house, with a book in his hand, when one I could easily guess. Frantic were the efforts made to save his life--gratefully acknowledged by repeated warnings of his hand--and with a frantic, the devouring flames could not be arrested. The building collapsed, fell in, and Captain Robert Horton was buried beneath the fiery ruin!

It is needless to say how amply he was avenged, or dwell further upon the savage scenes--a long and cool, properly so called, although the rings of steel for the night, enough to say, in the words of the official report, "that the attack was entirely successful, the number of negroes released from bondage eight hundred and seventy-six; and the breaking up of the slave settlement complete." This was quite true; but like another paragraph of the same report, not at all true--"that Captain Horton died of his brave man during the attack upon the armed slave-gang on shore." Why the exact cause and manner of his heroic death were not officially set forth, I never rightly understood.

He was quite dead when dragged, as speedily as it could be done, from under the burning embers of the monster slave tent, and much scorched, yet his countenance had a remarkably composed expression. His bible was also found, and he was not injured, and, I believe, now in the possession of the family of Lieutenant King, who, with swimming eyes, pointed out to us, a few days afterwards, in the cabin of the *Curlew*, the following passage, written with a pencil on the inside of one of the leaves. "Tuesday, half past 1 P. M. The *Curlew's* boats are approaching, thank God I shall die in my duty, and not in vain. Should this meet the eye of any of her officers, they will by that time know that a man who is afraid of offending God, may not fear Death."

A CREDITOR'S STRATAGEM--A week or two ago, four creditors started from Boston, in the same train of cars, for the purpose of attaching the property of a certain debtor of Farrington, in the State of Maine. He owes each one separately, and each of the other, more or less. The "fourth man," quickly and wisely, took the reins and backed the cab up to a bank--clipped it from the harness, and tipped it up so that the door could not be opened, and jumped upon the horse's back, and rode off "lick-a-ty-switch," while the "insiders" were looking out of the window, feeling like singed cats. He rode to a lawyer, and got a writ made and served, and his debt secure, and got back to the hotel just as the insiders came upon putting and blowing. The cabman soon found back his horse for \$50. The "gold man" offered to pay that sum, if the fourth man, who found property sufficient to pay his own debt, would not fill of it in Boston.

Rothschild is forced to content himself with the same sky as the poor newspaper-writer, and the great banker may order a private sunset, or add glory to the magnificence of night. The same air swells all lungs. Each one possesses, really, only his own thoughts and his own senses, soul and body--these are the property which a man owns. All that is valuable is to be had for nothing in the world. Genius, beauty, and love are not bought, and sold. You may buy a rich bracelet, but not a well turned arm to wear it; a pearl necklace, but not a pretty brook, which it shall give. The richest banker on earth would vainly offer a fortune to be able to write, as verses like Byron's. One comes into the world naked, and goes out naked; the difference in the figures of a man is a handful of dust, which turns quickly back again into dust.

And it is, of course, for the reasons you have stated," replied M. D'Ermonville, with a slight accent of sarcasm, "that Captain Horton is bringing up your bayonets to your assistance?" We glanced round, and sure enough there was a score of bayonets fixed to the Carlew. The governor stood his friend, and not a moment was to be lost. This was also Lieutenant King's impression, and with the quickness of thought he exclaimed:--

"You intimate that I lie, do you?" then take that, for the compliance," striking D'Ermonville with his open hand on the face as he spoke. In an instant the swords of both flashed in the brilliant moonlight, and quick and deadly passes were fiercely, yet silently interchanged; the spectators, both English and French, gathered in a circle round the eager combatants, as if for the purpose of hiding the furious struggle from the near and widely approaching soldiers. D'Ermonville was a first-rate swordsman, and his foot slipping, after but a faintly successful lunge, by which a flesh wound, only slightly grazing his opponent's ribs, had been inflicted, the issue might have been different. As it was, King's unparried coup, which struck his opponent's right shoulder, thrust him to the ground, at the very moment when the guard came up.

The dangerously-wounded gentleman--dangerously in that climate, I mean--was gently raised, and his own faintly spoken request, left to the care of his own people. All of us English were then obliged to march off to the harbor, where a boat was waiting to convey us to the *Curlew*; Captain Horton merely opening his lips, the while, to give such orders as were necessary. "Nobody was placed under actual arrest, but it was thoroughly understood, the next day, that Captain Horton would report the whole to the admiral, at the first opportunity; and that Lieutenant King--perhaps one or two others, would have to answer before a court martial for their conduct. Just a week after the duel, Captain D'Ermonville was pronounced; to everybody's great joy, not of danger, and the very next day the *Curlew* sailed from Sierra Leone on a cruise southward.

Not precisely a cruise either, for after touching at Cape Coast Castle, we made a direct stretch, the wind favoring, right across the Gulf of Guinea, to a part of the coast not far northward of *San Felipe de Beguelin*, and at about 11 degrees of south latitude, and at the same time of the month, we were off, and on for more than a fortnight, and like *St. Peter*, for a time, the same sea looked the less likelihood there seemed of anything coming--except, indeed, an extra allowance of fever and ophthalmia, from directly hugging the shore. A great whale had taken place in the vicinity, by the side of the ship, and the blubber had the ludicrous impudences, "King" (the title and title of "King," and that a well known Portuguese trader in black live stock, of the name of José Pasco, had a temporary baracoon thereabout, cramming with the wretched victims of the said hunt, in readiness for embarkation; and for the purpose of entrapping his ventures, we should have to watch, and back, and fill about the mouth of two rivers, between which we were generally to be found, for an indefinite period. Meanwhile the kind of moral quarantining that had existed between Captain Horton and his chief officers since the evening of the duel--words only of business and necessity passing between them--continued, with unabated passive virulence, on the part of the latter, notwithstanding that the commander showed many indications that he would be glad to let bygones be bygones, from no mean or unworthy motive. I was even then of opinion of purchasing forbearance towards a defect of character, which, in a naval officer, must have well known, no other virtues under the sun, however numerous or angelic, could excuse or cause for, or moment to be tolerated, but simply on the principle of forgiveness of injuries. One chance of avoiding the scandal of official injury still remained. The services we were upon would probably terminate in a desperate battle, probably glorious, of course, but affording plenty of opportunity for the vindication of Captain Horton's damaged reputation for personal bravery in the eyes of his officers and crew; and very heartily did I hope he might successfully avail himself of it when it came. It was not long before all doubt on the matter was set at rest. A king's troop ship, bound for the Cape, which had touched for some purpose at Cape Coast Castle, spoke and communicated with us one afternoon, and a packet "on service" was delivered to Captain Horton. Orders were immediately afterwards issued to sail in the direction of the most southerly of the two rivers, to hug the shore still closer, and that everything should, in the mean time, be prepared for a boat attack. This was done with a will. Sharp cutlasses were re-sharpened to a keener edge, clean blades re-cleaned, and doubtful fists, were replaced by more reliable ones, and finally, Lieutenant King reported that everything was in readiness. Night was by this time drawing on; and not a very clear one; we had shoaled our water quite as much as prudence permitted, and were close by the mouth of the most southerly of the rivers. Captain Horton ordered that the ship should lie up, and that his gig, manned and armed, should be ready to start at a moment's notice, and not a very clear one; we had shoaled our water quite as much as prudence permitted, and were close by the mouth of the most southerly of the rivers. 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