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THE WHOLE ART OF GOVERNMENT CONSISTS IN THE ART OF BEING HONEST.—JEFFERSON

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The Good Old Times.

BY AN "OLD SCHOOL" BARD.

Oh! those were happy "good old times,"
Ere luxury had changed
The lives of all the fairer sex,
And reason's throne deranged,
When damsels knew the washing tub,
The milking pail and broom,
And earned their wedding padua soie
By spinning at the loom.

Oh! those were happy "good old times,"
When the table white as snow,
Growned beneath beans and pumpkin pies—
Oh! I wish I had some now.

Oh! those were happy "good old times,"
Ere Chinese corns we knew,
Ere every miss of pert sixteen
Esteemed herself a "blue,"
When lassess layed in running streams,
Nor with a fork sipped pap,
But lolled on mother earth's greed sward,
And not in velvet lap.

Oh! these were joyous olden times,
The times of which we've read,
Of good old fashioned pandowry,
Of rye and Indian bread.

Oh! those were happy olden times,
Ere opera or play,
And waltzing reels and jackdaw fops,
Consumed both night and day;
Ere easy chairs and feather beds
(Oh! how my back complains!)
Had opened to our head-strong race
Pandora's box of pains.

Yes, truly, those were glorious times,
The times to do one good,
While talking husking frolics o'er
By blazing fires of wood.

Oh! those were good Dame Nature's times!
How memories sweet swarm o'er us,
Ere wasp-like forms were girt around
With "bustles" so enormous!
When modest arms were never bared
And trinketed for show,
Nor ever left their hiding place,
Save to be hid in dough!

Yes! these were truly happy times,
Of gladness, rustic life;
Those sanded floors and wax neat homes,
The buxom, loving wife;
Bright fancy limns upon my mind
A life of love I trow;
Ah me! delicious times were those!
Oh! I wish we had them now!

Mad Dogs, &c.

A writer in the National Intelligencer says that spirit of harishorn is a certain remedy for the bite of a mad dog. The wounds, he adds, should be constantly bathed with it, and three or four doses diluted, taken inwardly during the day. The harishorn decomposes chemically the virus insinuated into the wound, and immediately alters and destroys its deleteriousness.—The writer, who resided in Brazil for some time, first tried it for the bite of a scorpion, and found that it removed pain and inflammation instantly. Subsequently he tried it for the bite of the rattlesnake, with similar success. At the suggestion of the writer, an old friend and physician in England tried it in cases of hydrophobia, and always with success.

J. Q. Adams and the Bible.

The following sentiments of this venerated man will bear to be repeated at this time. In a letter to his son, in 1811, he says: "I have for many years made it a practice to read through the bible once every year. My custom is, to read four or five chapters every morning, immediately after arising from my bed. It employs about an hour of my time, and seems to be the most suitable manner of beginning the day. In what light soever we regard the Bible, whether with reference to revelation, to history, or to morality, it is an invaluable and inexhaustible mine of knowledge and virtue.

Mexico.

BY CASSIUS M. CLAY.

It is, no doubt, expected of me to give some ideas of Mexico and the present war. Mexico extends from about latitude 16 north, to 42° from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific; and was in extent, before the loss of Texas, about as large as the United States. It embraces all the climates of the world, and rises in temperature from the tropical plains of Vera Cruz and Acapulca to the regions of perpetual snow. The Rocky Mountains, which separates us from Oregon, extend through all Mexico, and her whole surface is composed of table lands and mountains, which rise in steps from the Gulf and the Rio Grande, to the highest level, and then descends in regular gradations once more to the Pacific. She has no navigable streams, and the mountains and arid plains compose, I should imagine, seven-eighths of the whole territory. It is now three hundred years since the Spanish conquest, and her population has long since reached that barrier where nature imposes eternal obstacles to further progress, where the whole products of the earth are economically consumed by the people. No doubt, a better mode of agriculture would increase her population; but at present, to use the language of Malhus, she has reached the point of subsistence. It is true, that the remote provinces of California and New Mexico, and those bordering upon the Rio Grande, and subject to Indian invasion, contains some uncultivated lands; but the proposition, as above stated, applies to the mass of Mexico. For in the greater portion of the whole Republic, women and children may be seen picking up grains of corn in the highways, and the rinds of fruit thrown in the streets are immediately seized and consumed. So soon as you cross the Rio Grande you feel yourself in foreign land. Mexico has no forests. It is true, along the streams and on mountain tops there are trees, but you are struck with this great characteristic, that the land is bare of trees. The numerous varieties of Cactus of all sizes, intermixed with Palmetto, stunted or long grass, cover the whole land. You are among a people of a novel color, and a strange language. The very birds and beasts, and dogs, seem different. The partridge, the lark, the crow, the black-bird, differ in size and plumage, and sing differently from ours.—The buildings are of Moorish and Spanish style. The goat and sheep feed together. The bricks are of clay and straw, sundried. The women go with earthen vessels to the well, just as Rachel was sent of old in the time of the Patriarchs of Judea. The roofs of the houses are flat, and places recreation, and the people wear sandals as in the East, in olden time.—Wheat, Indian corn, and herds of cattle, sheep and goats, the banana and red-peper, and garlic and onions, are the principal sources of subsistence.—The products of the mines are the principal articles of foreign exchange, added to woods, besides tallow and cochineal.

The extreme dryness of Mexico makes irrigation necessary in most of the country, and the scarcity of water, and habits of the people, collect the inhabitants into cities or villages.—The land itself is owned by a few large proprietors, not the least of whom are the priests. The great mass of the people are serfs, with but few more rights than American slaves. It is true that the children of serfs are not of necessity also serfs, but debt brings slavery, and the wages allowed by law almost always perpetuate it. Here then is the secret of the success of our arms. I conversed freely with the country and soldiers in all Mexico, and where they are not filled with religious enthusiasm against us, they care not who rules them. American or Mexican masters. If all the Mexican soldiers were freeholders and freemen, not one of all the American army could escape from her borders. The soldiers are caught up in the Haciendas and the streets of the towns, by force confined in some prison or convent, there drilled, clothed, armed and then sent on to the regular army. Such men show their resolution to desert or run off on the first occasion. Of near one thousand soldiers set from Taluca, to the aid of Santa Anna at Mexico, not one hundred stood the battle.

Pat and the Steam Engine.

The following, which we find in the Boston Bee, is capital. If the editors have any more of the "same sort" left, we hope they will send them along: An Irishman, a day or two since, who had been often and profitably employed as a steredore, was intently gazing at a steam engine that was whizzing away at a swift rate, doing his work for him, and lifting the cotton out from the hold of a ship, quicker than you can say "Jack Robison." Pat looked till his anger was pretty well up, then shaking his fist at the "tarnal critter," he exclaimed: "Choog, choog, spet, stame u and be bothered, ye ould child o' Satan, that ye are! Ye may do the work o' twenty-five fellies—ye may take the bread out iv en honest Irishman's mounh—but by the powers, now ye can't vote, ould blazer, mind that, will ye?"

We praise Men for fighting, and punish children for doing the same.

Great Product of a little Farm.

To show how much more profit may be made by tilling well a small Farm than by the usual efforts to manage big Farms, we copy from the New York Tribune the following statement of the produce of the 'Bloomingdale Asylum,' a Farm of 40 acres, only 30 of which are under cultivation, as given by the Hon. James Tallmadge Secretary of the American Institute.

STATEMENT OF THE PRODUCTS OF THE BLOOMINGDALE ASYLUM FARM OF 30 ACRES UNDER CULTIVATION, WITH THE MARKET VALUE OF 1847.

VEGETABLES.	
900 bushels Potatoes at 75 cts	\$675 00
180 bushels Sugar Beets at 37 1-2 cts	67 50
100 bushels Blood Beets at 50 cts	50 00
460 bushels Turnips at 31 1-4 cts	143 75
28 bushels Carrots at 50 cts	14 00
120 bushels Parsnips at 50 cts	60 00
45 bushels Onions at 75 cts	67 50
150 bushels Corn at 37 1-2 cts	56 25
20 bushels Egg Plants at 50 cts	10 00
125 bushels Radishes at \$1	125 00
40 bushels Asparagus at \$3	120 00
140 bushels Tomatoes at 50 cts	70 00
100 bushels Cucumbers at 75 cts	75 00
1 bushel Nasturtions at \$2	2 00
4 bushels Peppers at 75 cts	3 00
52 bushels Rhubarb at \$2	104 00
52 bushels Citron Melons at 10 cts	7 50
2500 heads Celery at 3 cts	75 00
3000 heads Cabbages at 4 cts	120 00
1000 heads Leeks at 1-2 ct	5 00
2000 heads Salsify at 1 ct	20 00
4000 heads Lettuce at 2 cts	80 00
Total	\$2,293 62

HAY, MILK, &c.	
40 tons Hay at \$10 per ton	400 00
1296 pounds Pork at 6 cts per lb	77 76
663 pounds Butter 25 cts per lb	165 75
4488 gallons Milk at 16 cts per gallon	718 08
303 dozen eggs at 1s per dozen	37 88
150 pounds poultry at 6 cts per lb	9 00
Total	\$1,408 47

FRUITS.	
200 bushels Apples at 50 cts	100 00
20 bushels Pears at \$1	20 00
150 bu-h Cherries at \$1	150 00
25 bushels Currants at \$1	25 00
15 bushels Peaches at \$1	15 00
1200 grapes at 6 1-4 cents per lb	75 00
8 bushels Strawberries at \$2	16 00
Total	\$401 00

The aggregate of these products is \$4,103 09

Am't of expenses including labor &c. 2,029 81

Leaves as clear profit a balance of 2,073 28

The Tribune adds the following comments: Will the mass of our Farmers never learn the lesson here so plainly taught? How many of them have been skinning one to three hundred acres all their lives, their lands growing poorer and they no richer, who, when exhorted to mend their ways, make answer, 'Oh, I would farm better if I only had money enough to buy manures, hire help, &c.' Why, Sir, why won't you see that you should sell half, three-fourths, or even seven-eighths of your land, if need be, until you have money enough to cultivate what is left thoroughly, though it be but a patch of four acres? Those, well tilled, will produce more than a hundred used in the old miserable way.

The Discriminating Power of Plants.

Researches in vegetable physiology, such as the mere practical man would not know how to begin to prosecute, have left no doubt with the curious inquirer that plants possess the faculty of breathing through their leaves, these being to them what lungs are to animals. They search, too, industriously for their food where the earth is sufficiently porous and permeable; admonishing the farmer and gardener to keep the soil, by all the means in their power, free from stagnant water, which reduces its temperature and excludes the air, with all the nutriment which it contains, and to keep it in that open and accessible condition which leaves the food it contains most easily to be found and consumed by the roots sent out in pursuit of it; and here lies the philosophy of thorough tillage.

That plants possess, too, the power of discriminating between what is congenial to their nature or otherwise, some affecting one kind of food and some another, has been abundantly shown by the experiments of Bouissangault; wheat, for instance, growing on the same spot with beets and turnips, will take up eight times as much of phosphoric acid as they will. Leguminous plants, growing on the same soil with wheat, will greedily consume and thrive on plaster of Paris or sulphate of lime, while to wheat it affords no nourishment. Certain substances contribute again to the growth of one part of a plant, but not to another part.—The straw of oats and wheat contains fifty times as much silica as the grain of the same plants.—These facts prove that the farmer should study to offer to his crops the most that he can of what their ashes are found to contain.

But this is not all. Agricultural chemistry applied to agriculture, teaches further that the food which is adapted to the growth and purposes of vegetables at one stage of their existence, maybe

unsuitable and valueless at another; just as the mother's milk is at once the most natural and wholesome diet for the child, but not for the adult.—Thus a manure which at the time of germination may be without effect, if not pernicious, may be most profitably administered and greedily consumed by grain or grass as it approaches or reaches the period of forming its fruit. All these are mysteries which such men as Day, or Dumas, or Leibig, or Bouissangault, or Jackson, or Norton, or Teschemacher, by the lights of science can detect and explain, but which the mere practical observer could not in ages systematize and act upon with certainty.—Saturday Courier.

The New Law to Secure to Married Women the Rights of Property.

The provisions of the law of the late legislature to secure the rights of property to married women, are as follows:

That every species and description of property, whether consisting of real, personal, or mixed, which may be owned by or belong to any single woman, shall continue to be the property of such woman as fully after her marriage as before, and all such property, of whatever name or kind which shall accrue to any married woman during coverture by will, descent, deed of conveyance, or otherwise, shall be owned, used and enjoyed by such married woman as her own separate property, and said property, whether owned by her before marriage, or which shall accrue to her afterwards, shall not be subject to levy and execution for the debts or liabilities of her husband, nor shall such property be sold, conveyed, mortgaged, transferred, or in any manner encumbered by her husband without her written consent, first had and obtained and duly acknowledged before one of the Judges of the Courts of Common Pleas of this Commonwealth, that such consent was not the result of coercion on the part of her said husband, but that the same was voluntarily given and of her own free will: Provided, That her said husband shall not be liable for the debts of his wife contracted before marriage: Provided, That nothing in this act shall be construed to protect the property of any such married woman from liability for debts contracted by herself or in her name by any person authorized so to do, or from levy and execution or any judgment that may be recovered against a husband for the torts of a wife, and in such cases execution shall be first had against the property of the wife.

That any married woman may dispose, by her last will and testament, of her separate property, real, personal, or mixed, whether the same accrues to her before or during coverture: Provided, That said last will and testament be executed in the presence of two or more witnesses, neither of whom shall be her husband.

That in all cases where debts may be contracted for necessaries for the support and maintenance of the family of any married woman, it shall be lawful for the creditor in such case, to institute suit against husband and wife for the price of such necessaries, and after obtaining a judgment have an execution against the husband alone, and if no property of the husband be found, the officer executing the said writ shall so return, and thereupon an execution may be issued which may be levied upon and satisfied out of the separate property of the wife, secured to her under the provisions of the first section of this act: Provided, That judgment shall not be rendered against the wife in such joint action unless it shall have been proved that the debt sued for in such action was contracted by the wife, or incurred for articles necessary for the support of the family of the said husband and wife.

That when any married woman possessed of separate personal property as aforesaid, shall die intestate, her husband shall be first entitled to letters of administration on her estate, which said estate shall be distributed as follows: If such married woman shall leave no children, nor the descendants of such living, the husband shall be entitled to such personal estate absolutely. If such married woman shall leave a child or children living, her personal estate shall be divided amongst the husband and such child or children share and share alike. If any such child or children being dead shall have left issue, such issue shall be entitled to the share of the parent.

That the real estate of such married woman upon her decease, shall be distributed as provided for by the intestate laws of this Commonwealth now in force: Provided, that nothing in this act shall be deemed or taken to deprive the husband of his rights as tenant by courtesy.

That the 11th section of the act of eighth April, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three, entitled "An Act relating to last wills and testaments," shall not be construed to deprive the widow of the testator in case she elects not to take under the last will and testament of her husband under the intestate laws of this Commonwealth, but that the said widow may take her choice either of the bequest or devise made to her under any last will and testament, or of her share of the personal estate under the intestate laws aforesaid.

An editor out west grates nutmegs over his editorials to make them spicy.

Memory as affected by Disease.

It is stated in several papers that Mr. Hutchkiss, of Brooklyn, who was waylaid by robbers and almost killed some months ago, is entirely recovered in his physical health, but his mind seems much shattered. He seems to have forgotten everything he learned during his life, and is now learning his letters again, as if he were a child. The sounds of his voice it is said, constitute his principle source of amusement. This is one of the many striking instances of disordered memory. Dr. Beattie relates the case of a gentleman who in consequence of a violent blow on the head lost his knowledge of the Greek, but did not appear to have lost anything else. Dr. Abercrombie also relates an instance not less remarkable, of a lady who in consequence of a protracted illness, lost the recollection of a period of about ten or twelve years, but spoke with perfect consistency of things as they stood before that time.

A case very similar to that related by Dr. Beattie fell under our own observation some years ago. It was that of a young man residing in northern New York, who, after having made considerable progress in Latin as well as in the English branches, received a severe kick from a horse over the left eye which caused it to protrude from the socket and rendered him senseless for some days. On recovering the use of his faculties his memory was found to be so much impaired that he had forgotten all his knowledge of Latin, rendering it necessary for him to commence anew the elements of the language.

In other cases, as fever, causes a quickened mental action. Flinn in his Recollections of the Valley of the Mississippi, says that during the paroxysms of derangement occasioned by a violent fever, his memory was more than ordinarily exact and retentive, and that he repeated whole passages in the different languages which he knew with entire accuracy. "I recited," says he, without losing or misplacing a word, a passage of poetry which I could not so repeat after I had recovered my health." The power of reminiscence may indeed slumber through disease or other causes but never dies.

Each fainter trace that memory holds
So darkly of departed years,
In one broad glance the soul beholds
And all that was at once appears."
N. Y. Post.

Tampa Bay and the Culture of Sugar.

We take the following extract from the Mobile Herald. It will give our readers an idea of the rapidity with which the State of Florida is settling, and of the impetus which has been given to the cultivation of the sugar cane: "Mr. James McKay, formerly one of our citizens, but now a resident of Tampa Bay, has left with us samples of sugar made in that neighbourhood. He brought on with him sixty-eight hogsheads, the crop of one planter, the quality of which is fair. The hogsheads are small, weighing about seven hundred pounds, and are the product of five hands. The sugar is now being shipped to N. Y. Mr. McKay, also brought us a sample of another lot of strictly prime quality, which will be soon sent to this market. It is dry, of beautiful color, and although not made by the improved apparatus employed in Louisiana, is finely granulated, and will compare favorably with the same quality of New Orleans sugar.

"The sugar culture is gradually extending about Tampa. There are now about one thousand acres appropriated to that project, and from the rapid influx of emigrants, mostly from the Western and Middle State, a number of new plantations will no doubt be opened this season and put in sugar. We are glad to learn that a good deal of attention is given to the orange, lemon, banana, plantain, and other tropical fruits, all of which succeeds admirably in that section.

"The perfect adaptation of the soil and climate of that portion of Florida to these articles of culture, its position on the Gulf, its mild, healthful, and even temperature, together with the abundant supply of fish, oysters, wild game, &c., will in time attract a dense population and sufficient capital to build up a large and pleasant seaport town. In regard to Tampa, we learn that the Government has withdrawn its reservation, and cedes its right to the county, which has located the seat of justice there. A number of lots have already been sold and will speedily be improved."

It is said that at Venice a horse is a greater curiosity than an elephant is in London.—"When I was there," says a traveler, "they were paying two pence each to see a stuffed one."

Regeneration of Potatoes.—Mr. Elias Bacon, of Gaines, Orleans county, N. Y., says he has at last discovered the cause of the potato rot, and found a remedy; but he declines making it public until he secures a patent for his discovery. In writing to the Genesee Farmer, he says:—"Application will be made to some Government for a small remuneration for my services to the public, before the facts are disclosed."