

Jeffersonian Republican.

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

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The Soul's Defiance.
I said to Sorrow's awful storm,
That beat against my breast,
Rage on—thou may'st destroy this form,
And lay it low at rest;
But still the spirit, that now brooks
Thy tempest, raging high,
Undaunted, on its fury looks
With steadfast eye.
I said to Penury's meagre train,
Come on—your threats I brave;
My last poor life-drop you may drain,
And crush me to the grave;
Yet still the spirit that endures
Shall mock your force the while,
And meet each cold, cold grasp of yours
With bitter smile.
I said to cold Neglect and Scorn
Pass on—I heed you not;
Ye may pursue me till my form
And being are forgot;
Yet still the spirit, which you see
Undaunted by your wiles,
Draws from its own nobility
Its highborn smiles.
I said to Friendship's menaced blow,
Strike deep—my heart shall bear;
Thou can'st but add one bitter wo
To those already there.
Yet still the spirit that sustains
This last severe distress,
Shall smile upon its keenest pains,
And scorn redress.
I said to Death's uplifted dart,
Aim sure—oh! why delay!
Thou wilt not find a fearful heart—
A weak, reluctant prey;
For still the spirit, firm and free,
Unruffled by this last dismay,
Wrapt in its own eternity,
Shall smiling pass away.

The meanest Case yet.
The City Item contains the following excellent thing, in its way:—
Some years since, when money was scarce, and almost every thing was done in the way of trade, a man named Jones called into the grocery and dry goods store of Mr. Brown, and asked for aarning needle offering in exchange an egg. After receiving the needle, Jones said,—
"Come, sir, ain't you going to treat?"
"What, on that trade?" inquired Brown.
"Certainly—a trade's a trade, let it be big or little."
"Well, what will you take?"
"A glass of wine," said Jones.
The wine was poured out, when the sponge said, "would it be asking too much to request you to put an egg into this wine? I am very fond of wine and egg."

Appalled by the man's meanness, the storekeeper took the identical egg which he had received for the darned needle, and handed it his customer, who on breaking it into the wine-glass, discovered that it contained a double yolk.
"Look here," said the sponge, "don't you think you ought to give me another darned needle?—this you see is a double egg!"

A CHALLENGE—A little fop conceiving himself insulted by a gentleman who had ventured to give him a little wholesome advice, strutted up to him with an air of importance saying:—
"Sir you are no gentleman—here is my card; consider yourself challenged. Should I be at home when you honor me with a call, I shall leave word with a friend to settle the preliminaries to your satisfaction."
To which the other replied—"Sir you are a fool—here is my card, consider your nose pulled, and should I not be at home when you call on me, you will find that I have left orders with my servant to kick you into the street."

From the New London Aurora.
Something about Printing.

We live in an age and in a country wherein it would be almost considered a proof of lunacy, or great temerity at least, to say that printing is not the most useful of arts. That the art of printing is like salt—'tis the preservative of all arts—seems to be a position conceded by all civilized communities where its benefits have been diffused with either an unsparring or stinted hand. That it has facilitated the march of improvement, spread abroad and propagated correct principles, heralded forth the principles of Christianity, carried civilization, the arts and knowledge to heathen lands, and that it has elevated man, shown him what he is and what he ought to be, besides conferring numerous other invaluable advantages, no one who is cognizant to its operations will for a moment doubt. But the intention in commencing this article was not to eulogize the art for the benefactions it has conferred upon man, but for entirely another purpose.

Common or letter press printing, such as books, newspapers, &c., is carried on by a large number of fonts of types, every one of which costs money, labor and ingenuity to fit for use. A type of long primer size, although it is but eleven twelfths of an inch long, one seventh broad, and one fourteenth thick on an average, still costs something. It is said that there are but two or three men in the United States who can make the matrices in which types are cast; so peculiar, complete, proportioned and uniform must the work be done. The letters are principally made of lead, mixed with other metals in order to harden it sufficiently when cool, while at the same time those other ingredients caused the fused composition to fill the most tenuous crevice of the matrix completely. For every sized type, and differently shaped types—and there are more than three hundred shapes and sizes of each letter in our alphabet in use—new matrices have to be made, and each with the same exactness, or the font is defective. In Roman, each letter has to be made three times—large and small capitals, lower case, saying nothing of points and other indispensable characters. To give some idea of the number of characters and letters which go for a font of types, it may answer to state that there are two cases in the printer terms them. The lower case, containing all the common or smaller letters, with the figures and points for punctuation, double letters, quadrants—this case has commonly 54 boxes, and every one is occupied. The upper case, containing the large and small capitals, and numerous marks and characters which are in common use; and but two or three of them are unoccupied. Thus it seems the type founder, in order to supply a common font of Roman letters, has to have constructed 150 matrices—and the italics are not included here, which will make over a hundred more—just to manufacture letters, &c., of one size and corresponding faces. Here, then, there must be about two hundred and fifty characters made, and some of them a good many thousand times over, just to print the plain matter of a common newspaper. To give the uninitiated an idea of the numbers and proportion of types used—our printers have no secrets that I know of—it may answer to state that we use, say for a common average font:

| | | | |
|---|--------|---|-------|
| a | 8,500 | n | 8,000 |
| b | 1,600 | o | 8,000 |
| c | 3,000 | p | 1,700 |
| d | 4,400 | q | 500 |
| e | 12,000 | r | 6,000 |
| f | 2,000 | s | 8,000 |
| g | 1,700 | t | 9,000 |
| h | 6,400 | u | 9,000 |
| i | 8,900 | v | 1,200 |
| j | 400 | w | 2,000 |
| k | 800 | x | 400 |
| l | 2,000 | y | 3,000 |
| m | 4,000 | z | 200 |

Nothing here is said of points, figures, double letters, and other characters, which would swell the list amazingly. And all this makes but one item in a newspaper office.

Nor is anything said of the numerous pictures, flowers, ornamented, shaded, condensed, &c. &c., types used in job and newspaper printing, all of which are necessary to make up the stock of an ordinary newspaper establishment. These types, that is the plain ones, cost from 30 cents up to \$2 a pound. A common newspaper requires, or ought to be supplied with from 800 to 1,000 lbs. of type.

These, with some \$200 worth of wood works, \$250 for press, a good many dollars worth of brass rule, and still more for iron matrices, also, paper, ink, &c. &c., will make a very large subtraction from \$1,000.

When all these items are paid for by the printer, he is just about ready to go to work—if he has a roller made—and set his type. The usual width of newspaper columns is 17 ems of long primer type; but ours are 21 ems wide. An em is the thickness of a line. On an average, nearly three types will go into an em, counting spaces. For every 1,000 ems a printer sets, he handles near 3,000 types; and if he sets 5,000, which is a day's work, with correcting the same, and distributing enough

for next day, he handles not far from 30,000 types.

The remark is often made that there are many errors in the papers, and it is too true; but let 99 out of the 100 who make the observation, try the experiment, and make fewer errors—if they can. All the printer's ought to be good spellers; but a few of them are deficient in the qualification, while others are careless, just like some other folks.

These are but a few things, and but very few, concerning the important and useful business of printing; and if printers read them and find errors, as very possible they will, let them go to work and correct, if they think worth while; for, if printer's do not correct each other, who will?

Will any conscientious man, after knowing these facts, refuse to pay the printers? If so, I will advertise his conscience to let, for nothing. It is in view of these things that printers write so freely of those delinquents who will not pay the printer.

From the New York Express.
Sound Advice to Young Men:

The difficulty of obtaining employment, so often stated and so often, no doubt, existing, arise, we apprehend, not unfrequently from causes within ourselves, and over which we have control. Man is too often unwilling to do what his hands find to do. Pride interposes its objection against certain kinds of work.—The youngster comes from the country to the town to be a clerk; he can obtain work only as a porter. The farmer's boy aspires to be a counter-jumper; he can only be a stevedore. A lawyer's leathers are fledging; he might make, with industry, a tolerable mechanic, whereas he will make only an intolerable lawyer. The nominal doctor was cut out for a wood-sawyer. The great, the first, almost only lesson, to learn, when seeking employment, is: "What am I best fitted for? and if that employment cannot just then be got, what can I find to do?" And do it, whatever it is, with the hope of advancing.

The demand for skill and capacity in this country, is such, in all the varied departments of life, that he who will stoop to begin at the beginning, and there bide his time, is quite sure, in the progress of events, of coming out at the end. But to take the first place at the first step—or to rise without showing the necessity or wisdom of rising on and by your industry and devotion—is almost an impossibility. The main thing, then, for a young man of talent to seek for, is not so much wages at first, or position at first, but opportunity; and when opportunity is given it is altogether the aspirant's fault if he does not make himself indispensable to his employer, or show him that he is far better fitted for a place above that which he fills than the place he is filling. Opportunity, indeed, is all the man of true talent seeks for in this world, in any sphere. Give him opportunity, and he will create the necessity for himself that no man can disregard. Opportunity, in short, is the tide that rolls all men to prosperity or fame. The mechanical genius that slumbers in the farmer's chimney corner needs but the opportunity in some large workshop, to strike out in him the latent sparks that may inspire matter with new facilities of motion, and so crown himself with glory, as well as with gold. But if that genius comes from the chimney corner and aspires to be foreman in the workshop, where hundreds were employed before him, there will probably be no work for him. True genius, however, is always humble in its aspirations. It is so sure of the strong impulse within, that it will descend to the humblest position to obtain the opportunity to show its power. In the workshop, it will condescend to begin with duties that are servile. It will build the fires, or sweep the rooms, if necessary, for it feels and knows that within itself which no occupation can smother, and that waits only for the opportunity to shine. Humility is the characteristic of rising greatness. What means to rise, and is willing to make the sacrifices necessary for rising, prefers often to have first a firm foothold on the ground, amid the dust and dirt, before it expands its wings. No fall is so great it knows, as that of him who begins with creating large expectations, which he cannot fulfil, and inflames others with ideas of his importance that experience soon shows are ridiculous. To create a rising impression, true genius feels that it must often even undervalue itself. Of him from whom but little is expected and much comes, to him great praise is awarded. Such a man is likely to be undervalued, whereas he is always certain to be overvalued, whereas he is always certain to be overvalued, whereas he is always certain to be overvalued, whereas he is always certain to be overvalued.

The young man in search of employment can almost always find it, if he will submit to the necessary self-sacrifice, and then await for his opportunity. But self-sacrifice is indispensably necessary, for the high places of life are seldom or never obtained but through long and painful vigils, or stern apprenticeships, or the most profound devotion to whatever one's business is. Our own eyes will show us that the men of the most eminence in their various pursuits about us have risen to that eminence

by slow, laborious and tedious steps. Eminence is not, in this country, to be reached by a flight, but upon steps of a long and constant ascent, and on foot, too, with burdens on the back, that stagger and often almost weigh down the traveller. To learn and to understand all this, is the most afflicting and generally the most difficult lesson of aspiring youth. The buoyancy of youthful aspiration will recognize, not that man walks by his feet, but it fancies that he soars with wings. Ask the graduate of a college if, in his wish to be the conductor of some leading journal, he would be willing to learn the trade of the Printer's devil, and go through all the various transformations of that important personage, from being the blackfaced errand office boy up to being the inditer of the leading article. A hundred to one of such graduates would shrink from such vassalage, and yet the trade cannot be well learnt without so doing. The statesman, first among the foremost, maintains his position with apparent ease, and the whole nation bows down before his genius with admiration; but ask a youth to submit to the nightly watches, the long sittings, the suffering and general affliction by which the power is won to obtain that ease and position, and a hundred to one he will cower under the demand that is made upon his time and peace. The orator has been created only by understanding and studying life in all its varieties, and then by hard study, and thus fitting himself to express his ideas in the most vigorous way.

The mechanist has by his fame and name spoken in the powerful machinery of the locomotive, or in the engine of the steamboat, or in the common spinning jenny; but that mechanist won his way from the poverty of boyhood, in the humble task of cleaning the machine shop, or putting coal on the fire that started all the machinery of the workshop. It is at the beginning things are learnt well. When we begin to build, we begin under ground even, and the fabric stands only as we lay the foundation firmly. But in these beginnings it is that every youth can find something to do. If there is not employment in building above ground, go in and dig out the cellar. Rely upon it that whatever true genius or real industry and honor exist, the master workman will in due time discover and promote it, if for no other reason than this: it is his interest so to do.

A difficulty of finding employment, we apprehend, if combated with such principles as we here lay down, will not often exist, certainly not with those who have no families dependent upon them, and who can, therefore, submit to temporary sacrifices of wages and time without injury to others. Our country is so clamorous in its demand for labor, above all for intelligent, faithful, devoted labor, that wherever it exists it must find employ, if it only make itself known, or show itself, so that it can be known. There is scarcely an employer in one of our cities who has not a place for such a laborer as we describe, even though every place is seemingly full. It is true, he will not take the word of a man that he is every thing he says he is; but if he can obtain the opportunity to show what he is, and then his acts come up to his words, employment is sure, and his way to fortune is started.

Visit to a City of Prairie Dogs—Singular habits of these Animals.

A recent traveller in the interior of Texas, gives a particular account of his visit to a Canine Republic in the prairies of that beautiful region.—The curious habits of the prairie dogs are very little known, and this account will be found extremely interesting:—

"We had proceeded but a short distance after reaching the beautiful prairie, before we came upon the outskirts of a commonwealth of the canine race. A few scattered dogs were seen scampering in, and, by their short and sharp yelps, giving a general alarm to the whole community.

The first cry of danger from the outskirts was soon taken up in the centre of the city, and now nothing was to be seen in any direction but a dashing and scampering of the mercurial and excitable citizens of the place, each to his lodge or burrow. Far as the eye could reach was spread the city, and in every direction the scene was the same.—We rode leisurely along until we had reached the more thickly settled portion of the city, when we halted, and after taking the bridles from our horses to allow them to graze, we prepared for a regular attack upon its inhabitants.

The burrows were not more than fifteen yards apart, with well-trodden paths leading in different directions, and I even thought I could discover something like regularity in the laying out of the streets. We sat down upon a bank under the shade of a tree, and leisurely surveyed the scene before us. Our approach had driven every one in our immediate vicinity to his home, but some hundred yards off, the small mound of earth in front of a burrow was each occupied by a dog sitting straight up on his hinder legs, and coolly looking about him to ascertain the cause of the recent commotion. Every now and then some citizen, more venturesome than his neighbor, would leave his

lodge on a flying visit to a companion, apparently to exchange a few words, and then scamper back as fast as his legs would carry him.

By-and-by, as we kept perfectly still, some of our nearer neighbors were seen cautiously poking their heads from out their holes and looking cunningly, and at the same time inquisitively, about them. After some time, a dog would emerge from the entrance of his domicile, squat upon his looking-out place, shake his head, and commence yelping.

For three hours we remained watching the movements of these animals, and occasionally picking one of them off with our rifles. No less than nine were obtained by the party. One circumstance I will mention as singular in the extreme, and which shows the social relationship which exists among these animals, as well as the regard they have one for another.

One of them had perched himself directly upon the pile of earth in front of his hole, sitting up, and offering a fair mark, while a companion's head, too timid, perhaps, to expose himself farther, was seen poking out of the entrance. A well-directed shot carried away the entire top of the head of the first dog, and knocked him some two or three feet from his post, perfectly dead. While reloading, the other daringly came out, seizing his companion by one of his legs, and before we could arrive at the hole, had drawn him completely out of reach, although we tried to twist him out with a ramrod.

There was a feeling in this act—a something human, which raised the animals in my estimation; and never after did I attempt to kill one of them, except when driven by extreme hunger.

The prairie dog is about the size of a rabbit, heavier perhaps, more compact, and with much shorter legs. In appearance, it resembles the shorter hog of the north, although a trifle smaller than that animal. In their habits, the prairie dogs are social, never live alone like other animals, but are always found in villages or large settlements. They are a wild, frolicsome set of fellows when undisturbed, restless, and ever on the move. They seem to take especial delight in chattering away the time, and visiting about, from hole to hole, to gossip and talk over one another's affairs; at least, so their actions would indicate. Old hunters say that when they find a good location for a village, and no water is handy, they dig a well to supply the wants of the community.

On several occasions, I have crept up close to one of their villages, without being observed, that I might watch their movements. Directly in the centre of one of them, I partially noticed a very large dog, sitting in front of his door, or entrance to his burrow, and by his own actions and those of his neighbors, it really looked as though he was the president, mayor, or chief; at all events, he was the "big dog" of the place.

For at least an hour, I watched the movements of this little community; during that time, the large dog I have mentioned received at least a dozen visits from his fellow-dogs, who would stop and chat with him a few moments, and then run on to their domiciles. All this while he never left his post for a single minute, and I thought I could discover a gravity in his deportment, not discernible in those by whom he was addressed. Not being learned in the canine vernacular, of course I cannot say that the visits he received were upon business, or having any thing to do with the local government of the village; but it certainly appeared as if such was the case. If any animal is endowed with reasoning powers, of has any system of laws regulating the body politic, it is the prairie dog.

In different parts of the village the members of it were seen gambolling, frisking, and visiting about, occasionally turning heels over head into their holes, and appearing to have all sorts of fun among themselves. Owls of a singular species were also seen among them; they did not appear to join in their sports in any way, but still seemed to be on good terms, and as they were constantly entering and coming out of the same holes, they might be considered as members of the same family, or, at least, guests. Rattlesnakes, too, dwell among them; but the idea generally received among the Mexicans, that they live upon terms of companionship with the dogs, is quite ridiculous, and without any foundation.

The snakes I look upon as loafers, not easily shaken off by the regular inhabitants, and they make use of the dwellings of the dogs as more comfortable quarters than they could find elsewhere. We killed one a short distance from a burrow which had made a meal of a little pup; although I do not think they can master full-grown dogs.

This city of the dogs, which we visited, was several miles in length and at least a mile in width. Around and in the vicinity, were smaller villages, suburbs to the town. We kindled a fire, and cooked three of the animals we had shot; the meat was exceedingly sweet, tender and juicy, resembling that of the squirrel, only that there was more fat upon it.