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

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Words, Words, Words.

What are words but little sprites

That flit the world about,
Stealing every thinker's thought
And fiftal fancy out;
Shaping every wild conceit,
And prejudice and doubt?

Stately, sprightly, solemn, gay,
Thousand shapes they wear;
Gracful, grim, uncouth, sedate,
From lip to lip they fare;
Joy's, Hope's, Invention's harbingers,
Or heralds of Despair.

Law imprisons many a one
In her parchments old;
Priestcraft tortures, until they
A double sense unfold;
Tyrants and traitors mingle them
And misers, too—for gold.

Rainbow-winged, in sunny light
From maiden's lips they glide;
Laden from the lover's heart
Like honey-bees they slide;
Strong and stern, they bear aloft,
Philosophy in pride!

How Pennsylvania got its Name.

We extract the following from one of a series of articles in the *Boston Transcript*, entitled "Dealings with the dead."

Whoever coveted the honor of being the creditor of royalty, found a willing customer in Charles the Second. In 1681 that monarch, in consideration of £16,000 due from him to the estate of Admiral Penn, conveyed to William the district now called Pennsylvania. He himself would have given it the name of Sylvania, but the king insisted on prefixing the name of the grantee. Full powers of legislation and government were bestowed upon the proprietor. The only limitation was a power, reserved to the Privy Council, to rescind his laws within six months after they were laid before that body. The charter bears date March 4, 1681.—He first designed to call his domain New Wales, and nothing saved the Philadelphians from being Welchmen, but an objection from the under Secretary of State, who was himself a Welchman, and was offended at the Quaker's presumption.

An Ingenious Invention for Early Risers.

A mechanic, residing at Hulme, has constructed a little machine for the purpose of awakening himself early in a morning. To a Dutch clock in the kitchen he has attached a lever, from which a wire communicates through the ceiling to the bedroom above, in which he has affixed his novel invention. Having set the lever to any hour at which he may wish to be awakened, when the time arrives, it is released by the clock, and the machinery up stairs rings a bell, and then strikes a match, which lights an oil lamp. This lamp runs upon four wheels, and is at the same instant propelled through a tin tube on a miniature railway, about five feet long, which is raised, by small iron supports, a few inches above the bedroom floor.—Near the end of the "line" is fixed an elevated iron stand, upon which a small tea kettle is placed (holding about a pint,) and immediately under it, by the aid of a spring, the lamp is stopped, and its flame boils the water in the kettle in twenty minutes, thus enabling him to take a cup of tea or coffee prior to going to work. The bell attached is so powerful that it awakes his neighbor, and the machine altogether is of a very neat appearance, the mechanism being of polished iron. The inventor has made it during his leisure hours, and has been about eighteen months in bringing it to a state of completion. He has also combined economy with utility, as the working of it does not cost more than a halfpenny a week!

Straining a Point.—Mary McGrouh was tried, week before last, at Binghamton, N. Y. for the murder of her daughter, named Ann. On the part of the prosecution the fact of the murder was fully proved. On the part of the defence it was shown that the child destroyed was illegitimate or "base born," and could have acquired a name only by common repute: it was maintained that there was no proof that common repute had given the child the name, Ann; and that, the material description of the child in the indictment being thus unsubstantiated by the evidence, the defect was fatal, and entitled the prisoner to a discharge. The court charged that the law was as contended on the part of the defence, and the jury, in accordance with the charge, rendered a verdict of "not guilty."

Living and Means.

One of the most mischievous phrases in which a rotten Morality, a radically false and vicious Public Sentiment, disguise themselves, is that which characterizes certain individuals as destitute of financial capacity. A "kind, amiable, generous, good sort of man," (so runs the varnish,) "but utterly unqualified for the management of his own finances"—"a mere child in everything relating to money," &c. &c.—meaning that with an income of \$500 a year he persisted in spending 1,000; or with an income of \$2,000, he has regularly spent five to eight thousand, according to his ability to run in debt or the credulity of others in trusting him.

The victims of this immorality—debtor as well as creditor—are entitled to more faithful dealing at the hands of those not directly affected by the misdemeanors of the former. It is the duty of the community to rebuke and redress these pernicious glosses, making the truth heard and felt that inordinate expenditure is knavery and crime. No man has a moral right thus to lavish on his own appetites money which he has not earned and does not really need. If Public Opinion were sound on this subject—if a man living beyond his means when his means were commensurate with his real needs, were subjected to the reprehension he deserves—the evil would be instantly checked and ultimately eradicated.

The world is full of people who can't imagine why they don't prosper like their neighbors, when the real obstacle is not in banks or tariffs, in bad public policy nor hard times, but in their own extravagance and heedless ostentation.—The young mechanic or clerk marries and takes a house, which he proceeds to furnish twice as expensively as he can afford, and then his wife, instead of taking hold to help him earn a livelihood by doing her own work, must have a hired servant to help her spend his limited earnings. Ten years afterward you will find him struggling on under a double load of debts and children, wondering why the luck was always against him, while his friends regret his unhappy destitution of financial ability. Had they from the first been frank and honest, he need not have been so unlucky.

Through every grade of society this vice of inordinate expenditure insinuates itself. The single man "hired out" in the country at ten to fifteen dollars per month, who contrives to dissolve his year's earnings in frolics and fine clothes; the clerk who has three to five hundred dollars a year and melts down twenty to fifty of it into liquor and cigars, are paralleled by the young merchant who fills a spacious house with costly furniture, gives dinners and drives a fast horse on the strength of the profits he expects to realize when his goods are all sold and his notes all paid. Let a man have a genius for spending, and whether his income is a dollar a day or a dollar a minute it is equally certain to prove inadequate. If dining, wining and party-giving won't help him through with it, building, gaming and speculating will be sure to. The bottomless pocket will never fill, no matter how bounteous the stream pouring into it. The man who (being single) does not save money on six dollars per week will not be apt to on sixty; and he who does not lay up something in his first year of independent exertion will be pretty likely to wear a poor man's hair into his grave.

No man who has the natural use of his faculties and his muscles has any right to tax others with the cost of his support, as this class of non-financial gentlemen habitually do. It is their common mistake to fancy that if a debt is only paid at last, the obligation of the debtor is fulfilled, but the fact is not so. A man who sells his property for another's promise to pay next week or next month, and is compelled to wear out a pair of boots in running after his due, which he finally gets after a year or two, is never really paid. Very often, he has lost half the face of his demand by not having the money when he needed it, beside the cost and vexation of running after it. There is just one way to pay an obligation in full, and that is to pay it when due. He who keeps up a running fight with bills and loans through life is continually living on other men's means, is a serious burden and a detriment to those who deal with him, although his estate should finally pay every dollar of his legal obligations.

Inordinate expenditure is the cause of a great share of the crime and consequent misery which devastate the world. The clerk who spends more than he earns is fast qualifying himself for a gambler and a thief; the trader or mechanic who overruns his income is very certain to become in time a trickster and a cheat. Wherever you see a man spending faster than he earns, there look out for villains to be developed, though it be the farthest thing possible from his present thought.

When the world shall have become wiser and its standard of morality more lofty, it will perceive and affirm that profuse expenditures, even by one who can pecuniarily afford it, is pernicious and unjustifiable—that a man, however wealthy, has no right to lavish on his own appetites, his tastes or his ostentation that which might have raised hundreds from destitution and despair to comfort and usefulness. But that is an improvement in public sentiment which must be waited for, while the other is more ready and obvious.

The meanness, the dishonesty, the iniquity, of squandering thousands unearned, and keeping others out of money that is justly theirs, have rarely been urged and enforced as they should be. They need but be considered and understood to be universally loathed and detested.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

An American vender of a universal medicine declares that if his prescription be followed literally, a cure is certain. "This medicine is to be taken in-ternally, ex-ternally, and e-ternally."

Relation of Parties for Sixty Years.

In the first Congress, in 1789 and 1790, there was but a small majority in favor of the measures recommended by Washington. The anti-Federalists elected John Langdon, of New Hampshire, president pro tem, of the Senate, Frederick A. Mulenberg Speaker of the House of Representatives.

In the second Congress there was a majority in each branch friendly to the administration.

In the third Congress the opposition elected the Speaker, and in the Senate Mr. Adams repeatedly settled important questions by his casting vote.

In the fourth Congress there was an increased majority of the Senate in favor of the administration. In the House there was evidently a majority in opposition. This state of parties is indicated by the answers returned by the two Houses to the President's speech.—That of the Senate expressed entire approbation of the conduct of the Executive. In the House the Committee reported expressions of undiminished confidence—with which the House would not concur. The report was recommitted and modified. But a friend of the administration, Mr. Dayton, of New Jersey, was elected Speaker.

In the fifth Congress, (Mr. Adams,) there was a decided majority in both branches favorable to the administration.

In the sixth Congress there was an administration majority in the House, and its Speaker elected.

In the seventh Congress, (Mr. Jefferson,) parties were nearly equally divided. Abraham Baldwin, Dem., was elected President pro tem. of the Senate. A friend of the administration was elected Speaker.

In the eighth Congress there was a large administration majority in both branches. So in the ninth Congress, and tenth.

In the eleventh Congress, (Mr. Madison,) there was an administration majority in the House. So in the twelfth Congress, when Mr. Clay was elected Speaker. In the thirteenth Congress the administration majority was large, and Mr. Clay was re-elected. So in the fourteenth.

In the fifteenth Congress—the first of Mr. Monroe's Administration—party lines were nearly obliterated, and Mr. Clay was re-elected by an almost unanimous vote. So at the first session of the sixteenth Congress. At the second session, Mr. Clay having resigned, the House proceeded to ballot for a new Speaker. The candidates were Mr. Lowndes of South Carolina, Mr. Sergeant of Pennsylvania, Mr. Samuel Smith of Maryland, and John W. Taylor of New York. After seven ballots, on the first day, the House adjourned. On the second day, after nineteen ineffectual ballots, the House again adjourned. On the third day Mr. Taylor was elected. He was of the De Witt Clinton section of the Republican party. The Speaker of the seventeenth Congress was Mr. Philip P. Barbour, of Virginia, who was elected by a few votes over Mr. Taylor. In the eighteenth Congress, Mr. Clay was again chosen Speaker by a large majority over Mr. Barbour.

In the nineteenth Congress, (J. Q. Adams,) a friend of the administration, Mr. Taylor, was chosen Speaker on the second ballot receiving 99 votes, to 94 for all others. In the twentieth Congress, the opposition Speaker, Mr. Stevenson, received 104 votes, Mr. Taylor 94, and there were 7 scattering.

In the twenty-first Congress, General Jackson had a decided majority in both branches. In the House, Mr. Stevenson received 152 votes against 39. In the twenty-second Congress, Mr. Stevenson, was re-elected by 98 votes, against 97 for all other persons. In the twenty-third, there was a very large administration majority in the House, but in the Senate the administration was in a minority. So in the twenty-fourth.

In the twenty-fifth Congress, (Mr. Van Buren,) the administration candidate for the Speakership, Mr. Polk, received 116 votes, against 103 for Mr. Bell, and 5 scattering. In the twenty-sixth Congress an opposition member was elected Speaker on the 11th ballot—Mr. Hunter of Virginia.

In the twenty-seventh Congress, a Whig Speaker, Mr. White, of Kentucky, received 121 votes against 84 for J. W. Jones, and 16 scattering. In the twenty-eighth Congress, a Democratic Speaker was elected—J. W. Jones—by 129 votes against 59 for White. In the twenty-ninth (Polk) Congress, the administration Speaker, Mr. Davis, was elected, receiving 120 votes, against 72 for Mr. Vinton and 19 for other persons. In the thirtieth Congress, the opposition Speaker, Mr. Winthrop, was elected on the third ballot, receiving 110 votes against 64 for Lynn Boyd, 41 for other Democratic candidates, and three scattering Whig votes.

In the thirty-first (Taylor) Congress, the Democratic party proper have a majority in the Senate. In the House, both the Whig and Democratic party seem to be in a minority.

Miss Dix, who has made her name so illustrious as a helper of the suffering poor, says, in a memorial which she has lately transmitted to Congress, that in the New England States the proportion of the insane to the whole population is about one to 600; in the Middle States, one in 900; and in the Western States one in 1300. The worst state is Rhode Island, where there is one to every 503, and the best, South Carolina, where there is one to every 1,158. In some of these states there is comparatively excellent provisions for the insane; but, in others, little or nothing has been done.

Pay the printer, keep your feet dry, wear your own clothes, and remember the poor.

Important Invention.

We learn from a letter in the Union, from Rufus Porter, Esq., a gentleman well versed in the arts and inventions, and formerly editor of the *Scientific American*, that Henry M. Paine, Esq., has discovered and practically tested an almost expenseless mode of decomposing water and reducing it to the gaseous state. By the simple operation of a very small machine, without galvanic batteries, or the consumption of metals or acids, and only the application of less than 1-300th part of one horse power, Mr. Paine produces 200 cubic feet of hydrogen gas, and 100 feet of oxygen gas per hour. This quantity of these gases, the actual cost of which is less than one cent, will furnish as much heat by combustion as 2,000 feet of the ordinary coal gas, and sufficient to supply light equal to three hundred common lamps for ten hours; or to warm an ordinary dwelling house twelve hours, including the requisite heat for the kitchen; or to supply the requisite heat for one horse power of steam. The invention, it is stated, has been tested by six months' operation, applied to the lighting of houses, and recently the applicability of these gases to the warming of houses has also been tested with perfectly satisfactory results. A steam engine furnace and a parlor stove, both adapted to the burning of these gases, have been invented and measures taken for securing patents therefor. The only actual expense of warming houses by this apparatus is that of winding up a weight (like the winding up of a clock) once a day; and the heat produced may be as easily graduated and regulated as the flame of a common gas-burner. No smoke whatever is produced, but a very small quantity of steam, sufficient to supply the requisite moisture to the atmosphere.

This is a very important invention, and we shall doubtless shortly hear more of it. If the anticipations which are indulged concerning it are realized, it must eventually, if not very soon, prove of the highest advantage to all classes of the community, if indeed it does not produce a complete revolution in commerce. This discovery, it is contended by Mr. Porter, removes completely the only obstacles which have hitherto existed to aerial navigation—the difficulty of procuring hydrogen gas, and carrying a supply of fuel; and he considers it a matter of tolerable certainty that men will be seen swiftly and safely soaring in various directions before the 1st of May next. In its application to steam power, it will reduce the expense to the mere wear of machinery, greatly advance the establishment of manufactures of every kind, reduce the expense of travelling, &c., while its application to the every day affairs of life and business, will produce the most remarkable results, creating a new era in the arts and in civilization. Such are the anticipations of the inventors.

The "Vox Populi" or Legislative Telegraph.

This machine for accelerating the taking of the yeas and nays, and other votes in Legislative assemblies, invented and patented by R. E. Monaghan, Esq., a citizen of West Chester, Chester county, in this State, has been recently put up in the hall of the House of Representatives, with many improvements and facilities, which have been added by the talented inventor since the adjournment of the last Legislature. By the particular invitation of Mr. Monaghan, a few days ago, we examined this machine, as it now stands in the hall of the House, and found it to work with admirable precision and accuracy, as well as with the greatest facility. By this process the yeas and nays may be accurately recorded in the space of a few seconds, whereas it would consume, in the ordinary mode of counting them by the Clerks, at least twenty minutes. The time that could thus be saved would be of immense importance, if it were not almost certain that it would be wasted in some other way. The Legislature would hardly consume less than a hundred days under any circumstances, and consequently the saving of time becomes a matter of but little interest to the people, unless Mr. Monaghan would connect with his machine, an invention to keep the members profitably employed during the time thus saved. We think the invention is highly practicable, useful and ornamental, and in itself of considerable value. Before it can be made really valuable for Legislative purposes, however, the whole spirit of Legislation must be revolutionized.

There is but one serious impediment to the general adoption of this machine in Legislative bodies, and this exists in the fact that many members rely more upon the judgment of others, than they do upon their own, and consequently like to see their file leader when they come to vote. This machine, unfortunately, does not give the cue.—Were it not for this, we are satisfied that the "Vox Populi" would be universally adopted.

Harrisburg Telegraph.

Discoveries in Abyssinia.—The Paris journals state that M. Rocher d'Hericourt, who has lately returned from a voyage in Abyssinia, has brought with him about a score of MSS. in the Ethiopian language, all of vast antiquity and great literary value. They are folio in form, bound in red leather, with the Greek cross and strange ornaments on the covers. In some of them the writing runs right across the page; in others it is in columns; in nearly all it is firm and bold in character. Some of the MSS. are on history, religion, and science; one is a complete and very curious treatise on the mysteries of eastern astrology; and one, which appears to have been written at the beginning of the 11th century, contains a copy of the Bible, which differs in some respects from the ordinary version.

SINGULAR.—The N. Y. Globe says, that a young lady, residing in the upper part of that city, has been for twelve years in the receipt of \$400 a year, yet has no knowledge of the source from which it is obtained. She has to procure vouchers for her expenditures, and it is regularly paid, quarterly, the amount stated; yet is summarily turned out of the office where the donation is paid, if she makes any inquiries upon the subject. She has been threatened with bodily injury, if she dares to urge an investigation; yet, believing that the parties having direction of the money, retain a large amount of property which should come to her, the young lady has employed counsel to examine the case.

The English government is in want of a new convict land. Australia, so long a depot for outcasts, has become so strong and aristocratic, that she refuses to receive more convicts. The same feeling exists at the Cape of Good Hope.

The New York Sun speaks of persons in that city, moving in fashionable society, who are nothing but spies supported by foreign governments, to watch the actions of private individuals and public men, especially their own countrymen, to report to their governments.

The Ravages of the Cholera at Siam, in the East Indies, according to the last European papers, are beyond measure dreadful. About 20,000 persons have fallen victims to it. So great was the number of deaths, that they found it impracticable to burn them all, and many were buried, and multitudes were thrown into the river just as they had died. They were brought and laid in piles and fuel applied, when they were consumed like heaps of logs. In three days not less than from 2000 to 3000 died daily; and at the end of twelve days it was known that more than 20,000 had fallen victims to its fearful ravages. Since that time it has very much abated, but has by no means ceased. It is thought that within a radius of 25 or 30 miles not less than 30,000 have been swept off by this fatal scourge within two or three weeks. The cholera and the small pox always make dreadful ravages in Siam.

A Monster Ox.

There is said to be an ox in Cambridge, Mass., which now weighs 3,700 pounds, and it is thought by good judges that in three months' time he will weigh nearly if not quite 5,000 lbs. His owner states that the animal has never been stall fed, and that he intended to fatten him during the winter. He was raised in Stanstead, Canada, and measures eleven feet from the nose to the rump, six feet in height, and nine feet six inches in girth, and is but seven years old.

Cotton has been applied to a new use at the south. An experiment has satisfactorily tested the practicability of employing that staple in the manufacture of coffee sacks. The new article is said to be cheaper and more durable than the old fashioned tow sacks, besides affording greater protection to the coffee.

Justice in Italy.

A case is reported in the papers which illustrates aptly the peculiar mode of administering justice now in vogue in the parts of Italy under Austrian sway. A respectable gentleman, named Ferrari, came from a neighboring town in the Roman States, on a business visit to Parma, bringing with him a beautiful young wife. The lady wore a white straw bonnet with red trimmings, which seems to be the fashionable head gear in her own town. It attracted the attention however, of the Austrian police, who arrested the lady in the open street, and conducted her before the tribunal. In ten minutes she was sentenced to receive forthwith twenty-five lashes. Her husband was driven almost to distraction, procured a respite of an hour or two, sought the governor, and after great difficulty and proof of his peaceable life and the fashion in bonnets on his side of the Nile, procured a remission of the penalty on condition of his leaving the town immediately.

Eating at the Astor House.

The *New York Commercial* says that for the eaters at the Astor House there are required only 170,000 pounds of beef per annum; of hams about 3000, weighing from 10 to 15 pounds each; and in the matter of eggs, the establishments creates a constant drain upon the exertions of about 3000 hens, diligently devoting themselves by their appropriate functions.

Precious Metals in England.

Gold is getting to be so abundant in England that much alarm exists as to the consequences of the existing law, which compels the Bank of England to buy all that is offered in the market at £3 17s. 10 1/2d. the pure ounce. In the coffers of the Bank of England there are nearly sixteen millions lying idle, amounting to nearly eighty millions of dollars in bars of gold; and there appears to be no way of employing it. It is pouring in from Russia and California, but still the price must be £3 17s. 10 1/2d. per ounce, for that is the law of the land. And more than this the Directors of the Bank of England are obliged to buy it at this price whether they require it or not. This fact accounts for the large shipment of California gold to Liverpool by American merchants on the Pacific coast instead of sending it to the United States mint. It is a little singular that while we are getting such an abundance of gold from California, the Russian mines in the Ural mountains are likewise increasing at a rapid rate, having nearly quadrupled in value within a few years past.

Wire Work Fire Proof Ceilings.

Fire proof ceilings of wire work have been successfully applied, in place of lath, with plaster and stucco, as usual, at the Chester Lunatic Asylum. The wires are about 1-4 in. apart, and the plaster forms an adhesive and serviceable mass, even on both sides. The wire is galvanized or japanned, to prevent corrosion. Not only ceilings, one would think, but thin partitions and walls in general, might be wired in place of lath, and risk of fire thus greatly diminished by a process neither patented nor costly.

PURGATORY.—An Italian noble being at church one day, and finding a priest who begged for the souls in purgatory, gave him a piece of gold.

"Ah! my lord," said the good father, "you have now delivered a soul."

The count threw upon the plate another piece.

"Here is another soul delivered," said the priest.

"Are you positive of it?" inquired the count.

"Yes, my lord," replied the priest; "I am certain they are now in heaven."

"Then," said the count, "I'll take back my money, it signifies nothing to you now; seeing that the souls have already got to heaven, there can be no danger of their returning to purgatory."