

Mountain Sentinel.

"WE GO WHERE DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES POINT THE WAY;—WHEN THEY CEASE TO LEAD, WE CEASE TO FOLLOW."

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TERMS.

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Pompeii.

The ancient City of Pompeii is plainly indicated by a ridge or mound extending from the base of Vesuvius to its excavated Amphitheatre, which is situated at its eastern extremity. Not much, if any, more than one-third of the city has been excavated; and most of this was done by the French, though the work has been progressing moderately under the Neapolitan Government. The task is Herculean, for the city lies buried under volcanic earth, from ten to twenty feet deep, and as the roofs of the buildings were all crushed, the apartments were of course filled with solid earth.

Volcanic soil is very fertile. The unexcavated portions of Pompeii are highly cultivated. Whatever is planted or sown here produce abundantly. Extensive and beautiful vineyards give us the Lagrime Christy and Falernian Wines, which, though most delicious, are heating and fiery, as may well be inferred from the nature of the soil which produces the grape.

There are about fifty laborers engaged now in excavations. We were allowed to use the Pick but not to take away any of the spoils, though like other visitors, we did obtain a few specimens, among which were fragments of stucco and Etruscan ware. Whenever a Sovereign visits Naples, the event is signalized by developing, in his presence, the contents of a house, and these are given by the King to his Royal Guest. Everything valuable found at Pompeii has been carefully preserved here in the Museum, to which, as well as to Pompeii, strangers have free admission.

The excavations display Streets, Institutions, Dwellings, Shops, &c., &c., in a much more perfect condition than I had supposed. These are all satisfactorily identified. There is neither doubt nor obscurity as to the Pantheon, the Tribunal, the Temples of Isis, Bacchus, Jupiter, Hercules; the Theatres, the Baths, the Houses of Diomedes, Panza, &c., &c. Not only the walls of these buildings, but their different compartments, with, in some instances, elaborate Fresco Paintings, are seen. Entire streets have been excavated and renumbered. Wine and oil stores were identified by the Jars and other vessels in which these liquids were kept, and which are still in use here. In a large bake-house, the ovens of which are perfect, bread with the name of the Baker stamped on each loaf was found. In Diomedes's Wine Vault, the Wine Jars are still standing against the wall, close to which several skeletons were found, one of which was supposed to be either the wife or daughter, from the rich necklace, bracelet and earrings that adorn the person of the sufferer.

Near the gate of the city leading to Herculaneum the skeleton of a soldier who perished on duty, with his armor on and his arms by his side, was found. The Sentry Box in which this soldier was found is perfect.

The Amphitheatre was a noble structure.—The seats were of marble. Near the Arena are dens or cells in which the Wild Beasts with which the Gladiators contended, were caged.—In one of these the skeleton of a lion was found. In this Amphitheatre it is said that 20,000 spectators could be seated.

The streets were paved with large stones of irregular size and shape, but with a flat surface in which were cavities evidently caused by the wheels of vehicles. The side-walks are raised like ours, and handsomely paved with pebbles, and around Temples, &c., with Mosaic. In front of the Home of the Vestals there is a fine Mosaic pavement, with the word "Salve" (welcome) on the sill at the entrance. In one of the largest and most elegant houses were marble Dining Tables.—T. Wood's Letters from Europe.

A ROUND BILL.—Tom presented his bill to his neighbor Joe, for service rendered. The latter looked it over and expressed much surprise at that amount.

"Why, Tom, it strikes me you have made out a pretty round bill here, eh?"

"I'm sensible it's a round one," quoth Tom "and I have come for the purpose of getting it squared!"

On the Death of Thomas Moore.

BY MRS. ANNA MARIA FERGUSON.

"We've fallen upon gloomy days;
Star after star decays;
Every bright name, that shed
Light o'er our land, is fled."—MOORE.

Harp of my country, in mourning thou'rt shrouded,
No more shall thy music tones float o'er the tide;
The face of poor Erin with sadness is clouded,
With the wild song her last hope of freedom has died;
Cold is the hand that awak'd thee from slumbers;
Pulseless the heart that but throbb'd for thy fame;
Voiceless the spirit whose soul-thrilling numbers
Of't flash'd the pale cheek of the Saxon with shame.

Sons of the Celts, on your brows strew the ashes,
The beam, from your emerald zone pass'd away
Was no meteor that but for a moment out flash'd
And leaves not behind one trace of its ray;
But a star that arose o'er the night of your sorrow,
When the shamrock and cross in the dust were
Low traid,
Which from heaven its light did Prometheus-like borrow,
To shine while the sun of your glory was veiled.

Like the sign in the East to the wise men appearing,
Guiding their wanderings to Chaldea o'er,
So bright o'er the cliffs of proud Albion career'd
Sending its light to the uttermost shore;
That orb shew'd all nations, were fettered and
bleeding,
Her homes desecrated, her altars profaned,
On her bosom the vultures of Tyranny feeding,
Lay the Queen of the West in her ocean-bed
chained.

The death keek is heard in thy halls, oh Tamara,
As on that sad eve when on Ossory's plain,
The chieftain that went forth in strength from
Kinkora,
Lay dead, and Mononia wept o'er her slain,
Now she weeps for her bard while her warriors
are sleeping,
In the valley of shadows his loved form lies low,
And the wind's muffled voice would thy battle-
ments sweep,
Is blent with the Banshee's dread wailings of
woe.

How oft through these mouldering hills has he
wandered,
Through these arches with mosses and ivy o'er-
grown,
While the late in his bosom grew strong as he
pondered
O'er the fragments of Liberty's temple here
strewn—
Hate for the tyrants, whose despotic power
Was breaking the hearts they could never sub-
due—
Contempt for the minions before them that cover'd,
Who proved to their country and freedom un-
true.

How oft from those eloquent memories turning,
That quicken his pulses and madden his brain,
He quenched the fierce curse on his lips that
was burning,
And seizing his harp, gave to vengeance its
strain;
That harp, to its master's thought ever reply-
ing,
Told in music that but to its wild chords be-
longs,
His love for his Green Isle, deep, fervent, undy-
ing,
His scorn for her foes and his grief for her
wounds.

It told of the days ere the foreign invader
Had dared to pollute with his footsteps our soil
When Erin in genius and learning array'd her,
When she was earth's diamond and Britain its
foil.
Then it told her thrones fallen, in notes of deep
sadness,
Her name blotted out from the nations of earth;
Her sons drinking deep of the red cup of mad-
ness,
Living ALLENS and SLAVES in the LAND of THEIR
BIRTH!

The old world, entranced, to its melody listened,
While Columbia's brave freemen each anthem
encor'd;
And the exile, while tears on his long lashes
glisten'd,
At its sound seem'd to home and to loved ones
restored,
But now its wild breathings are silent forever;
Must the flames they enkindled within our
breasts die?
Must Erin, loved Erin, in bondage live o'er?
Forbid it Truth, Justice; forbid it Most High!

Lonely and lone, oh my heart, was thy beating,
When the mournful tale was revealed to thine ear;
Seem'd from its channels the life-blood retreat-
ing,
Shuddering as if a lost spirit was near.
Yet no idle fear made me tremble that hour;
'Twas thy country's war spectre that rose to
the view;
She has nought left her now but the past for
her dower;
But oh! to that past, sons of Erin, be true.

Tamara, Tamar or Tara, the seat of the ancient
Lords of Ireland.
LOUISVILLE, March 24th, 1852.

The Empire of Japan—Its Cities, &c.

In the National Intelligencer of a recent date we find a communication from W. D. Porter, Esq., relative to Japan and its principal cities and towns. From this communication we have condensed the annexed account of a nation whose habits and condition are at all times matters of interest in this quarter of the globe, but are at this time more than usually attractive:

Jeddo, or Yeddo, the capital, is situated in the midst of a fine plain, in the province of Muscaca. It is built in the form of a crescent, and intersected in almost every street by canals, their banks being planted with rows of beautiful trees. The city is not surrounded, as most eastern cities are, by a wall, but has a strong castle to defend it. The river Tonga, waters it, and supplies the castle ditch; and, being divided into five streams, has a bridge over each.

The public buildings are on a magnificent scale. The imperial palace is formed by three circuires, or circular piles of buildings, and enclosing many streets, courts, apartments, pavilions, gates, guard-houses, &c. In it resides the emperor and his family, the royal domestic, tributary princes and their retinues, the ministers of state, many other officers of government, and a strong garrison. The walls of this magnificent palace are built of freestone, without cement, and the stones are prodigiously large. The whole pile was originally covered with gulf tiles, which gave it a very grand and beautiful appearance. Many of the stately apartments are formed and altered at pleasure, by moveable screens. The principal apartments are the Hall of Attendance, the Council Chamber, Hall of a thousand Mats, &c. The city is under the rule of two govern-ors, who rule a year each.

The next largest city is Meaco. It is also a royal city, and is situated on a lake near the middle of the island of Nippon, and surrounded by mountains, which give a remarkable and delightful prospect to the whole. The circum-ferent country between the city and the moun-tains is covered with temples, sepulchres, &c., and is embellished with a variety of orchards, groves, cascades, and purling streams. Three rivers water this fertile plain, and unite their streams in the centre of the city, where a magnificent stone bridge facilitates the communi-cation between the different parts of the city. A strong castle defends the town. It is 600 yards in length, has a tower in the centre, and is surrounded by two ditches, the one dry, the other full of water. This splendid city is twenty miles long and nine wide within the suburbs, which are as well populated as the city. The number of the inhabitants of the city proper is supposed to be 520,000. The universities, col-leges, temples, &c., are almost incredible in number and magnificence. It contains twelve capital or principal streets, in the centre of which are the royal palaces, superbly built of marble, covered with gardens, orchards, pavilions, terrapines grapes, &c.

The next principal town is Ozeaco. It is deemed the chief seaport, is very populous, and has an army, of 80,000 men always ready at the disposal and command of the emperor. It is near fifteen miles in circumference. Almost the first accomplishment learned by the Japanese is the art and grace of suicide.—The child in the nursery stabs itself with its finger or a stick, and falls back in imitative death; the lover cuts out his intestines before his obdurate, and the latter pours out her hearts blood in the face of her faithless lover; the criminal executes himself; and, in fact the whole nation from early youth, revels in the luxury of suicide.

The mechanics and manufactures in Japan excel in their different branches and are even far superior to the Chinese. Their silks and cot-tons are excellent, and their Japan ware and porcelain unequalled. Their exports are raw and manufactured silks, iron, steel, artificial metals, furs, teas, finer than the Chinese, Japan ware, gold, silver, copper, gums, medicinal herbs, roots, diamonds, pearls, coral, shells, amber-gris, &c. Whatever goods the Japanese want they pay for in gold and silver.

The Japanese worship principally two gods, Xaca and Amida. At Meaco there is a stately temple built to one these gods. It is of free-stone, as large as St. Paul's with an arched roof, supported by heavy pillars, in which stands an idol of copper, which reaches as high as the roof; and, according to a description given by Sir Thomas Herbert, his chair is seventy feet long; the head is big enough to hold fifteen men, and the thumb forty inches in circumfer-ence. There is another statue, called after the god Dabio, made of copper, twenty-two feet high in a sitting posture. This shows that the Ja-panese understand the art of working in bronze, and they are far ahead of Christian nations in this particular. They allow polygamy, and they often strangle their female children, but never the males. The nobility extract the two front teeth, and supply them with two in gold.

A Compliment to the Craft.—The following is from a letter written by John C. Rives, of the firm of Blair and Rives:

"I have seen the manuscript writings of most of the great men in this country during the last twenty years, and I think I may say, that no twenty of them could stand the test of one-half the journeymen printers employed in my office.

General Pierce.

We clip the following from an exchange paper relative to the Democratic nominee for the Presidency:

He was born in Hillsborough, New Hamp-shire, and is now about forty-six years of age. Hillsborough county is the birth-place of several eminent men—Hon. Daniel Webster, Gen. Cass, Hon. John A. Dix, &c.

Frank Pierce was brought up to the profession of the law, and he distinguished himself in it, being a man of a clear head and a sound under-standing. He now follows the legal profession and it is estimated that he realizes by it about \$8,000 a year. He resides at Concord, the capital of the Granite State. In his personal appearance, he is of middle height and size, and of good address. He is modest, and a perfect gentleman in his manners.

He was elected a member of Congress on the Democratic ticket in 1833 and was re-elected in 1835—thus serving four years in the House of Representatives while quite a young man—namely, from 1833 to 1837. He had previously been a member of the Legislature of the State, and Speaker of the lower House. While a mem-ber of the House of Representatives in Congress, he was elected a member of the United States Senate for the term of six years, commencing in 1837—but resigned in 1842, the fifth year of his term, and returned to the practice of the law. His colleague in the United States Senate from 1837 to 1841, was Henry Hubbard, who was succeeded by the late Levi Woodbury.

While in the Senate, though the youngest member of it, he acquitted himself in a manner to secure himself the personal favor and esteem of all with whom he was associated, the admira-tion and approbation of his constituency, and high position among the statesmen and orators of the nation. Mr. Pierce has always been dis-tinguished at home for a fervid and impressive eloquence, and has attained a personal popu-larity, for that reason, hardly less extensive and universal than that which everywhere attaches to him by reason of his popular manners, and the universal propriety and amenity which at-tend his intercourse with all classes of society.

Wonderful Cave in California.

A correspondent of the Calaveras Chronicle furnishes the following account of a wonderful cave in that county:

Calaveras county seems to abound in natural curiosities, as there are many caves well worth visiting in this part of the country. The great prevalence of lime-stone in our ranges of hills will naturally account for these interesting in-formation. Lately I availed myself of the offer of a kind friend to conduct me to one of them, and was much pleased with my visit, al-though, I am sorry to say, that visitors seem to emulate each other in their zeal to deform and deface what should be most carefully guarded and protected. The cave to which I allude is situated about a mile from the town, on the south bank of the South Branch of Sutter Creek. The entrance is through a small opening in the hill, just sufficient to admit a man's body. The descent is easy, the many projections of the rock affording ample means for safe footing.

Neither is it of very great depth, the top of the platform not being more than ten feet from the entrance, whence it slopes gently down till the centre is reached, forming a chamber of about 20 feet high, and about 60 long. The floor is composed of octagons of calcareous formation, along which, in a narrow bed, silently glides a crystal stream, rising from a spring in one of the lateral chambers. The roof is divided into compartments, the centre being a large circle, from which suspend clusters of stalactites of every variety, some crystalline, others opaque, while some again partake of a variegated hue, as if tinged by coloring matter in the rock through which they have percolated. The groin-ing of the roof is as perfect as if moulded by the hand of art, terminating in massive pilasters, with richly adorned capitals, strongly remind-ing one of an ancient Gothic cathedral. From the main chamber branch two galleries, leading into small apartments, rich in groups of the most fanciful petrification, varying from the massive rock to the most delicate and finely pointed crystalline needle.

Trial of a New Rifle.

A new rifle, the invention of Mr. J. Marston, of New York, was satisfactorily tested by a number of gentlemen of Newark, on Friday afternoon, near the Plank Road Landing. The peculiarity of the rifle consists in its being loaded at the breech instead of the muzzle. The charge is made in the form of a cartridge, with a conical ball at the top, and a leather wad at the bottom of the powder. This is laid in a box, in the continuation of the barrel, whence at a slide moved by a lever, transfers it to its place, and a slight touch of the trigger discharges the load, leaving the wad at the bottom, to be forced out by the succeeding charge, thus keeping the bore clean. The rifle may be discharged with aston-ishing rapidity, and seems to have a furthering power than the best rifles of other descriptions. Phila. Sun.

The Whig State Convention re-assembles at Philadelphia on the 14th June next.

Gorgey.

Gorgey, who bears the odium of having bet-rayed his country, and whose name, in conse-quence, has been execrated throughout Europe and America, is engaged in preparing a book for the purpose of setting forth his acts during the Hungarian revolution. It is but common justice that he should be heard in his own defence. The following extract from Brace's Hungary, shows the estimation in which he is held among his countrymen. The incident of his contributing so promptly to the relief of the poor soldiers shows either remorse, or a better heart than he is supposed to possess. Men are not all bad:—"To say that he is hated in Hungary, is to express feebly the feelings of the nation toward him. The consecrated bitterness of the people trodden into the very ground by the oppressor, is poured fourth on the man to whom they in-trusted all, and who betrayed them."

"I give one instance, in an occurrence which happened this Spring, in Klagenfurt. Two Hun-garians—common soldiers—were returning from the regiment, in Italy, in which they had been drafted, to their homes, on furlough. They had just pay enough to be able to reach Klagenfurt; and there, were utterly at a loss what to do—in a strange town, stripped of everything, and with-out any means of raising money. Though it sorely offended their Hungarian pride, they at last resolved to beg. One said that he could not begin; and the other offered to commence, by trying in a coffee house, near by.

"The very first gentleman whom he asked gave him several silver swanzigers. Surprised at such overflowing generosity, he went out and showed his gains to his comrade, and told him to go in and try, for if he had as good luck, their begging would be at an end. The other went in, and came out soon, joyfully, with his swanzigers. They were counting their gains, when a Kellner, (waiter) happening to step out asked them if they knew who had been so gen-erous to them? 'No,' they said, 'we do not.'—'That is Gorgey, the Hungarian General.'"

"Both the soldiers rose up without saying a word, strode into the coffee-house, dashed the money on the table before Gorgey, 'Secunder! rather die of hunger than take a kreutzer from you!' and then left the coffee-house. The affair however, was soon noised about in the hotel, and a handsome purse was made up for the two be-gared soldiers, with which they safely reached Hungary, where they told the occurrence. It shows well what even the poorest Hungarian feels."

The Two Dromios in the Rhode Island Legislature.

The coincidence of two twin brothers, of the name of Potter, of opposite politics, as fellow-members of the Rhode Island Legislature from the city of Providence, has been noted before. They resemble each other so closely that one cannot be told from the other, except by a near inspection. The coincidence has been carried further, and with a singular result. Last year the democrats appointed one Charles H. Mason, of Providence, a democrat, as notary public.—He desired to "keep in," and spoke to American Vespucias Potter to help him along. Providence also boasts of another Charles H. Mason, a whig; and he, being out, wanted to be in, and for that purpose applied to Christopher Columbus Pot-ter to get him appointed as notary.

When the Legislature was in grand committee making the State appointments, American arose and nominated Charles H. Mason. The whigs had determined not to allow the democrats any notaries, but they made no objection, supposing that it was Christopher who made the nomination. The democrats, having no power, did not care much who was appointed; and Christopher thought it was all right, because the nominee was Charles H. Mason—the very man he wanted to get in. So the appointment was unani-mously made. Both Masons claim the office; but the democrat, being the one American in-tended, is surely entitled to it. The Providence Journal proposes to give a commission to each, but that would be as bad as Solomon's decision between the two mothers.

A Compromise Monument.

We learn from the New Orleans Crescent that Wm. P. Ferrett, an esteemed citizen of that city, projects the construction of a handsome uni-on monument, at some point in Canal street, New Orleans. The monument is designed to perpetuate the memory of the Compromise series of measures, to typify the solid and noble national harmony they restored, and to foster, by its visible teachings, the love of unbroken and enduring Union. This is a noble and pa-triotic idea. The Crescent states that as "a whole the monument will be an excellent speci-men of the composite style of architecture.—From a base of about 46 feet in breadth and 18 feet in height, rises a graceful Corinthian shaft, 42 feet high, upon the beautiful capital of which rests a block of masonry on which will be inscribed the names of Webster, Cass, Cooper, Downs, Phelps, Mangum, Bright, King, Dick-inson, &c.; above this again there is a place for a town clock, and above all, standing on a pe-destal, will tower a statue of Henry Clay; the large-hearted old statesman, of whom to-day in all human probability, there is left only his memory and his imperishable fame.

Oregon.

A late number of the Oregonian says that from numerous letters received there from the States, there is ground to expect that the im-migration into Oregon this summer, across the plains, will be larger than that of any previous year. This territory is one of the most valu-able belonging to the United States, and posses-ses facilities for settlement and industrial enter-prise not enjoyed by any other country. The operation of the land donations—the Govern-ment giving tracts of one mile square to each family of settlers, before 1850, and half that amount between 1850 and 1853—has had a re-markable effect upon the country, securing its rapid settlement by a race of hardy and enterpris-ing men. The demands of California for lum-ber, grain and stock give a great impulse to production. The country is rapidly filling up; labor is high, and this has repressed manufactures, but there is a steady demand, and high prices are paid for the products; so that there is an improvement even here. Machinery, it is said by those residing in that country, can be oper-ated at greater comparative profit than at the East, in most of the leading manufactures.—The enormous prices paid for iron in all its forms of machinery on that coast will justify the highest price ever paid for labor. The price of flour, a mill in Oregon ought to reimburse its entire cost of construction in two years. The agriculturists of the Western States seem to be the only class at home who have a just appreciation of this country. They must, in good time be followed by manufacturers, ship builders and capitalist. Oregon can supply the Pacific coast, the islands and much of the Chinese and Indian coasts with lumber, breadstuffs, and manufactures to an in-definite. The mines of metal, more valuable economically than gold, of which there are every where indications, will be developed and the skill of the world will be here concentrated, to supply the increasing wants of the people of all coming time.

The Ohio.

The name, Ohio, is derived according Rev. John Heckewelder, a well known missionary among the Indians before the settlement of the Ohio valley from the Indian words: Ohiopeck, very white (caused by froth or white caps on the water.) Ohio planne, very white stream; Ohiopeckhanne, very deep and white stream, (from its being covered all over with white caps.) All of these phrases were used accord-ing to circumstances required. The early trad-ers, with more eye to business, than ear for the descriptive, abbreviated them into the "Ohio" and "Ho" for short. Since then, the name has become naturalized, and now designates the third state in the American Union, and as noble a river as graces the world.

The same author gives us the derivation of the name Wheeling. It comes from Withink, the place of the head. This derives its signifi-cance from the fact that a prisoner taken by them in some of their wars had been there put to death, and his head stuck up on a sharpened pole. The Indians in giving names, always took into view characterizing natural features, and thus made them to serve as descriptives as well as simple appellatives. The whites, following after them, either adopted the Indian names without attempting to save their spirit by trans-lating, but so mutilated that not even the In-dians could recognize them; or with a lamentable poverty of invention gave purely arbitrary names adopted those of the old country with the prefix of new, or else those of ancient or modern celeb-rities—sometimes whimsically and unappropri-ately enough. A catalogue of American names, would embrace words from every language known since Babel, and the appellation of every celebrity from Jupiter Ammon to Jim Crow.—Wellsburg Herald.

The Chances of Life.

Among the interesting facts developed by the recent census, are some in relation to the laws that govern life and death. They are based upon returns from the State of Maryland, and a comparison with previous ones. The calculation it is unnecessary to explain, but the result is a table from which we gather the following illus-tration:

10,265 infants are born on the same day and enter upon life simultaneously. Of these 1,248 never reach the anniversary of their birth; 9,025 commence the second year, but the propo-rtion of deaths still continues so great that at the end of the third only 8,183, or about four-fifths of the original number, survive. But during the fourth year the system seems to acquire more strength, and the number of deaths rapidly decreases. It goes on decreasing until twenty-one, the commencement of maturity and the period of highest health; 7,124 enter upon the activities and responsibilities of life—more than two-thirds of the original number. Thirty-five comes, the meridian of manhood; 6,302 have reached it. Twenty years more, and the ranks are thinned. Only 4,727, or less than one half of those who entered life fifty-five years ago, are left. And now death comes more frequent. Every year the ratio of mortality steadily in-creases, and at seventy there are not a thousand survivors. A scattered few live on to the close of the century, and at the age of one hundred and six the drama is ended. The last man is dead.