

VILLAGE RECORD

BY W. BLAKE

WILMINGTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 30, 1863.

VOLUME VILL

POLITICAL

THE DING SOLDIER.

You raise me on your arm, Dick Dale,
My complete old and true, him I have lost
And from of the glad earth take
One last and lingering view—
When a few brief moments more
Of this fitting home have fled,
You'll shed an old friend's tears, Dick Dale,
Above your comrade dead.
We've fought together, side by side,
In many a bloody fray, and won our right,
From McLean Hill's dark hour of strife,
To form Antietam's day.
And when again the "dough" calls,
For battle to prepare,
You will not fail the flag, Dick Dale,
But I shall not be there.

You will not forget me, Dick,

I know it is that sight which chime

In your half closed eye,

But my old companion heart will swell

With honest pride,

With thoughts of the grand old flag

And your old companion died.

Cut off this light brown lock, Dick Dale,

For the girl who waits at home,

Yet hoping, wait her soldier home.

Who never e'er can come.

Till some one perhaps her bleeding tears,

To know that wait e'er by you.

The boy he loved at least he did

With one who loved him too.

You'll wish all the quaint old rocks

We sought, when we were boys,

With the joys of childhood's joys

And when you reach the old play-ground,

Where once we used to play,

You'll not forget your friend, Dick Dale,

In his lone grave far away.

THE BRAVE.

If in thy cold and silent bed,

Oh prove it the sides of the dead

No sweetest rest can be,

How pining sweet the rest must be,

Which waits the soul from flesh free,

A strong the blast—Farewell.

MISCELLANY.

SATURDAY NIGHT.

Sunday, under the Christian dispensation, is the day of rest. The man of daily toil or of business occupation, who has any sense of the dignity of distinction or of the worth of life, rises in the morning with the grateful and glad consciousness that his weary muscles may be relaxed, and that he has a respite from engrossing care, and that he has a long day to himself to enjoy the sweet society of wife and children, to strengthen the ties of home, to give free play to his affection, to refresh his jaded spirits, to reanimate his wasted energies, to cultivate his mind, and to develop his moral and religious nature. And so to the professional man, the mental laborer, how grateful its repose to the weary, aching brain—the relaxation of the strain upon the intellectual faculties, which is, even more, exhausting than any physical toil; how full of satisfaction the feeling that his mind may respond for a time to its confinement and compelled meditation, and as the clock winds up at its own sweet will, so it may follow any law of causal induction, or of actual impulse. Yes, the Sabbath is consecrated, not only in the creed of theology, but in the necessity of our nature, to repose of body and mind, and, apart from any religious consideration, he is no friend to humanity who would disturb its serenity, or weaken its association, or seclude its occupations and enjoyments. So far as it is consistent with the ever recurring exigencies of life, the requirements of mercy and the services of religion, let the stillness and solemn repose of nature reign in the usually crowded thoroughfare and during the hours which mark the passage of one day of time to the eternity of the past. The bountiful Father, in accommodation to the weakness and wants of humanity, rested on the Seventh day, and hallowed its observance to His children.

If, then, the Sabbath has such consecration in all thoughtful and pious minds, the evening previous to its preparation, as the preparation of food, the preparation for the toils and cares of the week, is most keen and exhibited on Saturday night, than on Sunday morning. The great majority of the working classes receive the compensation of their week's work at the end of the day, and this is no small item in the same fashion of life. A man has a right to congratulate himself in the pecuniary reward of a week spent in honest labor, and to make a satisfactory complete end to the day, and joyment of the next day's rest, the sum, be it small or great, should wisely be distributed or expended. The little debt which, when allowed to accumulate, will grow around the neck, should be completely paid off once a week, and the balance, after suitable provision for the need of family comfort and convenience, should be entirely disbursed at home, or in some institution which social agency or philanthropy has provided for this purpose. Too many persons who are indigent, all the week through, have a right to a little recreation and amusement at the close, and so their hard earnings, built up in some low place of debauchery, are lost in sorrow and discontent, and their families, such as less honest and pleasant associations of Saturday night, should be dispensed with. The example of stern economy and self-denial, which should be the rule of every man, should be well observed.

An evening can be spent through very small sums of little things, will illustrate a person's character. Indeed, character consists in little acts, habitual and impulsive, performed daily in the course of the day, from which we build up and, rouse new, the habits that follow.

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