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A. C. PENDLETON, JR.,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
MARION, SMYTH COUNTY, VA.
WILL practice in the Courts of Smyth, Wythe, Washington, Grayson and Tazewell Counties. Office in Courthouse yard. Sept. 7, 1858—

D.R.S. E. J. & S. B. GOODWIN,
CHATHAM HILL,
SMYTH COUNTY, VA.
OFFER their professional services to the citizens of Chatham Hill and the surrounding country. We can be found, at all hours, in our office, except when professionally engaged. mar 13, 1860—17

J. W. & J. P. SHEFFEY,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
MARION, SMYTH COUNTY, VA.
PRACTICE in all the Courts of Wythe, Smyth, Washington and Tazewell; in the Federal Court at Washington, the District Court of Appeals at Alexandria, and the Supreme Court of Appeals at Lewisburg. Business entrusted to them will receive prompt attention. [Nov 30, 1859—17

DR. I. P. HOYT,
HAVING located in MARION, offers his professional services to the citizens of the town and surrounding country. Residence—South side of Main street, first house west of the bridge. [Je 8—17

A. P. COLE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
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Strict attention given to all business entrusted to his care. de 28—17

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The Marion Visitor.

VOLUME III. NEUTRAL IN POLITICS—DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, MARKETS, AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE. NUMBER 24.
MARION, SMYTH COUNTY, VA., FEBRUARY 15, 1861.

POETRY.

Socrates to his Friends Before Drinking the Hemlock.

BY ERNEST W. KILWORTH.

Look not on me my gentle friends,
As if you thought that I must die;
Believe, when mortal being ends,
The spirit's immortality;
Or if you doubt, despond and fear,
And dread in death a dismal sleep,
Dread not the soul encumbered here,
Whose silence you, perhaps, may keep.
This body, wrought with anxious skill,
Is but the temple of the mind,
The friend and servant of a will,
As subtle as the slightest wind.

My body is not Socrates;
It is so dull and useless now,
As when its throbbing veins shall cease,
And death-damps settle on its brow.
This I do Athens now resign,
By her unjustly stern decree;
On earth, as in the starry sphere,
She has no right to injure me.
Though Tyranny in robes of power
And pomp of cruel state be found,
Soon comes the guilt-avenging hour,
And hurls him headlong to the ground.

But goodness, in her sackcloth vest,
Knows that the soon-retrieving years
Shall see her wretched soul redressed,
And whether death or prison spheres
Or be, of life, the second night,
The soul can choose the left or right,
Secure in her untarnished worth,
If in a thoughtless sleep to die,
What evil power can't she above,
Or crush her lofty destiny?

None—none; the calm sees the wave
Of Lethe o'er her being roll,
Or finds her here beyond the grave,
A living and immortal soul.
My lot has been, through all my years,
To know, and then to do the right;
And death brings none, no restless fears,
No more than welcome sleep.
Why should I fear, if Nature's
I have each day with thoughts
That death which she will
May bring me any

Nay, nay, my friends,
Our joy
And
There, there,
Once we
The great
When, in the
How deep the
Their virtues are
In each review

Nay, then who
Turn not thy
As I do freely
As on a mere
Serve thou, that
Thy friends,
Then will the
Not good at all, it GREAT.

The Drunkard's Dream.
A PICTURE OF EVERY DAY LIFE.

BY W. C. W.

Though Horace Morgan, the only child of his parents, had been left, by their death, without a dollar in the world, he had just left study with a good common school education, was intelligent, active, handsome and prepossessing in address, so that he easily earned a livelihood—entering a wholesale warehouse; and, as years flew by, he gained the affection as well as respect of his employers, and might in time become a member of the firm, or obtained, through his assistance, capital enough to commence business for himself soon after he attained the age of twenty-one.

But Horace was of a convivial nature, had hosts of thoughtless acquaintances, who, like himself, despised money and the warnings of those who counseled uniform sobriety; and, two or three years before he had attained his majority, the confidence of his employers in him became gradually lessened, as the signs of midnight carousal showed more and more in his face and manner. They often warned him, and hoped that prudence would eventually control him; but they hoped in vain.

At twenty-one he seemed for a time to reform, and his character and prospects appearing bright and stainless, he obtained first, the love of Eleanor Barrett, a beautiful being, full of confidence and affection, and then the consent of her parents, who were wealthy, to his marriage with her.
It was to take place when he was twenty-two. But the intoxicating cup mastered him before that time, and he was first discharged, as hopeless and useless, by his employers, and mortification causing him to continue his suicidal habit, it resulted in placing a barrier to all intercourse with Eleanor; so that at twenty-two, when he might have started as fair in life as he could have desired, he found himself cursed with the reputation of a drunkard, out of money, credit and employment.

His old acquaintances, who had shared his happier hours and his purse, dropped off, one by one, (fearing to lose caste if holding communion with a fallen man); and despair and destitution now forced him, grown indolent, shabby, and penniless as he was—often to sleep in sheds, under carts, or in bar rooms, when pity afforded him no better lodging place. He was branded as a vagabond—his fall being sudden, deep, complete.

One wintry night, the snow falling fast, he was thrust into the street, from some drinking place, and unconscious whether he wandered, blinded by snow and intoxication, he staggered on, from cheerless street to street, and at last fell senseless on a door-step of a princely mansion.
It was midnight; and had there not been a

God in heaven, who watches over the forlorn in their darkest emergencies, he would have perished amid surrounding wealth and "civilization," as many others perish, who, in companionship reputed "savage," would be humbly saved.

A carriage rolled up to the door soon after, and a lady and gentleman alighted, and gazed with surprise at the slumberer in the snow. He had half covered him—him and his shame.
"What's this, John?" said the lady. "Is this poor man dead?"
"Perhaps the coachman had better take him to the station-house," said the husband.

"He has been drinking too much, and will certainly die here!"
"I'll take him if you'll pay me double for it," said the driver. "I can't dirty the coach with him, without extra pay!"
"Then drive away!" said the lady; for she was a lady—her woman's pitying heart now doubly wounded. "We will have this poor fellow brought in, John, and take care of him till morning, and then send him home."

"It's little home such a fellow has!" said the driver, mounting his box. "If you take in every chap that you find that way in the street, you will find plenty to feed upon your bounty, say, and impose upon it, too!" and he drove off.
The bell was rung, a servant came, and the husband—at first reluctant, but feeling a deeper compassion for Horace, as he gazed at the refined features, from which the soul that had lit them was not all withdrawn—gave his assistance to the benumbed wanderer; and the unconscious body was borne into the warm abode, and joy.

Horace, the genial warmth, and comforts which were soon put upon the wretched man partially to his he was bewildered, and unable to do that he was placed in a domestic charge to the night. He had fallen the hands of Good Samaritans—the first that had ever done so much for him since the first day of his disgrace. And they were strangers!

Oh! how sure it is that Our Father's eye is never shut upon us, for such benefactions are often bestowed and received by strangers, when friends and relatives are cold or afar off; but the mercy of God, in such cases, is a pulse into the helper's heart, and, whosoever he may be, he is blessed in being so chosen to do the act of kindness. The deed he does will be surely done unto him if ever his hour of desolation shall come; for God will not forget, though man may be ungrateful.

The influence of the kind treatment operated speedily and happily upon the sleeper. His slumber was calm, his breathings regular, and there, in that secure and hospitable mansion, protected by the generous arm of wealthy charity, Horace Morgan, "the drunkard," dreamed.
He saw himself, in the vision of sleeping mind.

He was as gay and bright looking as formerly. His employers stood by his side, and congratulated him upon his approach to manhood, yet still they warned him not to drink. He drank, but concealed it.
Again, the day of his majority came. He saw himself with Eleanor Barrett, the cherished idol of his ambitious heart. Her parents were there, too. Their consent was given. The scene was but for a moment.

Again, a brilliant picture passed before his eye. The twenty-second anniversary had come. He stood before the altar with his bride. Drink had not dissuaded her parents. How sweetly her fair face beamed upon him, and what a host of friends thronged the church!

Alas! that happy scene was the last that made the drunkard's elysium!
Again he saw himself in his new home. His face was flushed and bloated; but her beloved visage was thin and white.

"O, dear Horace, how can you persist in pouring down that poison?" he heard her say; and he felt that his breath was corrupt, as he saw himself kiss her tears away.

"Father and mother say," she said, "they wish they had not given their consent, and they will come here no more, now. You have lost your employment, at last; and now what shall we do?"
"Get other," he said, and filled and drank as he spoke.

Other scenes now followed, in rapid succession. He saw the infant daughter that was born to him; but home was a poorer one than the last. The mother's dress was poor, and her face full of anguish, and she kissed the helpless little cherub—pledge of love and heir of misery!

Many times he saw himself, at seemingly long intervals, come and go—each time the scene more distressing, each time his appearance more degraded. The child could talk. He saw her seize the fatal cup, and throw it down. He went away for more drink, in anger.

He strayed, staggering and ragged, through the street; he staggered intoxicated into the house; he heard her imploring, "Oh! how they touch his heart! And he cursed the imbricated image of himself.

"What fiend has maddened me to tear that affectionate heart?"
He saw the beautiful boy that was born to him. The two children played happily, but in tattered garments, on the floor. He lay drunk, beside them. Eleanor, weeping, was sewing for her daily bread, pale and uncomplaining.
He looked again—but saw himself no more!
"I am dead!" he thought, appalled; "and who is their protector? Protector! Better for me to die, and curse them no longer; but oh! how I loved them, though I caused them all their sorrow and shame!"

There was a pause for a while. Sleep held the forlorn no more for the slumbering vision of his mind; yet, awake, and the horrid light returned.
Was that Eleanor, sleeping with his daughter, in an attic, in the straw? Alas!
"How like her mother my first-born looks!" thought Horace, as he gazed upon the bell that drink had made. "She is a woman grown. But oh, my Eleanor, is that you? O God! my wife, pride of my soul! My love! have I deceived you to a plight like this! Who is this coming up the creaking stairs? A lad of some fourteen years. That—that drunken lad is my son! He is my very image. He staggers. That is my blood! Oh! the curse of sin, that falls upon our children."

"Is that you, Albert?" he heard Eleanor say, in a broken-hearted tone.
"Yes, mother," replied the lad, pulling out a bottle, and getting on hands and knees, crawling with it to his own straw bed.
"And did you bring the medicine for me, dear?"

"No mother," answered the boy, putting the bottle to his lips, as he lay in the straw; "I can't say that I did!"
"And why not, child? You know I am very sick, and I shan't be spared to you long. Didn't you have money enough? It was all I had. God help us!"

The boy, overcome by his mother's words, crawled over the attic floor to her, and, putting his arms around her neck, burst into loud sobs:
"Forgive me—oh! forgive me, mother; but I spent it all for rum! I was so fond of it, that I couldn't help it; I couldn't really. I tried, afterward, to get trusted at the apothecary's; but he told me to get out, for I was a drunkard!" On, mother—mother! to forgive me; for you know I love you."

His words awoke his sister, and the three wept long and bitterly.
"It is his blood that is in you, and I know, my dear boy, that you cannot help it. Of course, my son, I do forgive you, but try hard—try to conquer it. Oh, Albert! Albert! my poor, unfortunate boy! what will become of you when I am gone?"

"Am I dead, then?" thought Horace, in his dream, as he heard and looked on all that he had caused, "that I see myself no more! If alive, I should be there; but only to make their sufferings the greater, if indeed that can be. But I must be in a drunkard's grave long ere this, or, perhaps, in some asylum or almshouse—a hopeless thing!"

Once more the scene changed. Eleanor and her womanly daughter—beautiful even in her rags—were in a collar—their new home. The boy was not there. The dreamer saw the landlord enter. He took the mother aside and whispered to her; but Horace heard every word. His son had been arrested for stealing to get money for drink. The landlord would save him from the infamy of conviction, and also give them their rent free—the cellar—but the price must be, an assent to his dishonest proposal about the daughter.

"You are poor, and will have to come to it."
"O God!" cried the weak, sick mother, shrinking from the brute, in horror, "my son, my daughter, my honor! Would it were here!"

At this moment, Horace saw the vestige of a creature, in whose lineaments he detected the wrecked semblance of himself totter down the cellar stairs, too weak to speak; and, falling at her feet, he died.

The dreamer's inward eyes were closed for a time, once more; but his heart was to be appalled once more, for the mysterious picture was not yet finished. The dream went on again.
The tenants of the cellar, where he fell and died, had been ejected. He saw them shivering in the snowy midnight streets; wandering in vain for shelter in their rags—his wife and daughter, the heirs of drunkenness, the idols of his love!

"Thank God! they have saved their honor! But where is my boy?" thought Horace.
"Great God! they have lain down together in the snow! They clasp their hands about each other's necks. Come down, O God! now, now, for that is the drowsiness of death!"

The shout of the dreamer destroyed the horrid spell, and he awoke.
The watcher sprang to the bedside, and told him where he was, how found, and how protected. And his overcharged heart now poured itself forth in gratitude to God.

He thanked him for the dream which had awakened him from the sleep of years; and there, by the charitable bedside of a stranger,

he registered a solemn vow, that the dream which had thus plainly come—a direct messenger from God—should be his warning guide forevermore.

"All has been for the best," he said to his benefactors, in the morning, when he told them his whole story. "That dream would have been a reality, had I wedded as I was. The hand of Heaven is in it."
The new-found friends were lasting ones. By them assisted, the reformed man walked forth with a new life. At once, he engaged in the pursuits of business. God, who had chastened, cheered him. Fortune gave him her constant smiles; with, in a few years, the hand of Eleanor—not dying in the snow, not murdered by a drunkard's coarseness, but bright and beautiful as ever—was pressed affectionately in his before the altar—the union blessed by the approval of her parents, and crowned by the special guardianship of God.

Why Diggest Thou?
The following amusing caricature was written for an Eastern paper, by a physician who wandered away to the Pike's Peak country, and turned miner. It is pretty good:
"Why Will Ye Dig?" Son of man! for the light of whose presence my spirit yearneth and my bowels grumbleth, dost thou ask me "why?" Is it not written that fortune smiles upon fools? And for the sake of all these smiles hath not thy servant been making a fool, yes, an ass of himself, in vain? For five years and ten days he has sojourned in this place—he has dived into the water—he has torn ancient rocks from their resting places, and removed them afar off—he has likewise torn his breeches in parts not to be spoken of—he has rooted into the mud like unto a swine. His beard has grown long—the skin upon his hands and his face bath changed its color until he is now likened unto a wild beast, and his garments are red and soiled, so that "sackcloth and ashes" would be as fine linen and purple to him. He who in time past was wont to fare sumptuously, and to grumble over great delicacies which were then piled upon the table of Dives, now snuffs with gladness the fragments of pork and beans, and gnashes his teeth impatiently over a flying slip-jack. He beltheth a raw onion with unappealable avidity. Potato skins fear his presence, beef vanishes from before him, and dogs look in vain for the bones. In his sleep, nevertheless, the good angel of the past designs to visit him, and delightful visions are opened to his recollections, for a delicious bill of fare floats before the mind of the dreamer, and he orders oysters and terrapin for six, only to wake up to get his usual slip-jacks and morsels.

All this hath thy servant endured. Is he not then a fool, an abomination in the very sight of wisdom? I must secrete myself in fortune's path, and seize her unawares. But she glideth off, as though I had caught a hog by his greased tail. Sic transit, I exclaim, as with a sick heart I revile poverty and curse fortune.

Surely he hath not sinned as other men, sineth. He had not coveted his neighbor's ox, nor his ass, nor his man servant, nor his maid servant—for he it known unto thee, that there are no made servants here. He hath abided by the Law and the Prophets, but the profits had not abided him.

Now, therefore, I renounce these diggings—I abscinduate the premises—I vamoose the ranob—I depart without scrip or provender, taking no care for the morrow, for the morrow takes no care for me. Ere five days shall have passed, the shirt-tail of thy servant shall be waiving in the breezes of the Nevada.

A remnant of it will be nailed upon the highest mountain that he crosses, as an emblem of the extremity to which a man may be reduced in the land of Ophir. Yet think not, oh, Elisba! that I would rend my garment for this alone. Verily I say unto thee, an evil genius hath long pursued me. She has followed so close upon my footsteps that every thread and fibre of my old shirt are familiar to her eye.—And if, in her pursuit of me, she should gaze upon all this relic in the solitary fastness of the high mountain, she will at once recognize it, and believing me to have been torn and destroyed by wild beasts, she will retrace her steps, and thus will I escape her.

As Moses reared the serpent in the wilderness, for the children of Israel to look upon and be cured of their infirmities, so will I elevate my tin among the Gentiles, that they may look upon and be made as whole. The offerings of gold and silver will be acceptable unto me, and if they live not afterwards peradventure they may find a treasure in Heaven.

VERY GOOD—A good anecdote is told of Mrs. Patterson, of Baltimore, the lady connected with the Bonaparte family by marriage. Being in Italy, at an evening party, it fell to her lot to be handed in to the supper table by a young British nobleman, who had a good share of the puppy in his composition. Thinking to quiz the old lady, he said:
"You are acquainted with the Americans, I believe?"
"Very well."

"A monstrously vulgar people, aren't they?"
"Yes, but what could you expect when you consider that they are descended from the English? Had their progenitors, now, been Italians or Spaniards, we might look for some good breeding among them."

The nobleman did not venture to address Mrs. Patterson again that evening.

A negro being caught stealing from a hen roost, excused himself by saying, "dat he only cum dar to see if de oblique sleep wid dar cums open."

"Dighy, will you take some of this butter?"
"Thank you very much, ma'am, I belong to the temperance society—can't take anything strong," said Dighy.

Perhaps to higher spirits our globe is but a ball for children, which their tutor turns about and explains.

When is a clock in a passion? When it is ready to strike one.

Advertising Rates:
1 square (10 lines or less) first insertion, 60 cts
For each continuance, 50 "
A liberal discount made to yearly advertisers.
Announcements of Candidates for office, not exceeding 10 lines, will be inserted until day of election for \$3, payable invariably in advance. When over 10 lines, they will be charged accordingly.
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All kinds of Job Work executed at this Office.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, Jan 31.

SENATE.—Mr. Seward presented a petition of 38,000 names, from New York, asking cancellation. Mr Seward said he had been requested to support the petition, but had seen no disposition on the part of the seceding States to allow a practical effort at compromise by the adhering States. He, however, held himself open to such propositions. He did not fear for the Union. All platforms, men that stood in the way of the preservation of the Union, would be swept. He intimated that the question of slavery in the Territories was an abstraction. That the number of slaves that would ever be introduced there would be too trifling to risk embroiling the country in civil war.

Mr. Mason, of Va., understood the petitions to be the adoption of the Crittenden resolutions. His speech had been shown by his votes that he was not in favor of this mode of adjustment, but has signified that the Constitution should be amended. Mr. Seward had today spoken of contributing money to the cause of the Union. What did he mean?

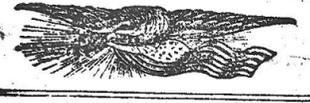
Mr. Seward explained that he meant, after all Congressional means had failed, to assemble a Convention of the people of the whole Union, if they failed, then to advise Senators to stand in the breach of the Union.
Mr. Mason said all this meant force, and bloodshed, and tyranny. "The Union was already dissolved, and he hoped his people could not be deceived by this species of reasoning."
The discussion continued at great length between Mason, Seward, Cameron, and Douglas. Mr. Hale subsequently made a long Union speech. He was followed by Mr. Douglas. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The Senate bill authorizing a branch of the Alexandria, Loudon and Hampshire Railroad to Georgetown, was passed.
Night sessions for debate only were agreed upon.
The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Pension bill.
The Cherokee purchase was debated. Mr. Adams, of Mass., predicted that the Southern Confederacy would be an ignominious failure.

Women Keeping Secret.
A new doctrine is being promulgated by "All Day Long." Hear it:
"We laugh at a woman's tongue; and wonder when a woman keeps a secret; but every true woman keeps a box of choice preserves for her own private indulgence. The man's mysteries are not hers; if he can not keep them to himself, let him expect them to be blown abroad. Her own secrets of love, of loss, of sorrows, of grief, even to her nearest friend, she will never disclose. A husband happy in the true love of his wife who fairly know all the depths of her mind about him. Every man profits stupidly by the wise little preceptions, except in deeds, of which we vaguely ascribe the fitness to a special faculty called woman's tact."
Women, in short, keep to themselves four-fifths of the secrets of society, and do it with a winning air of frankness all their own. A man with a secret will be stony or portentious, or provokingly suggestive; he will keep his mouth shut ostentatiously. A woman is to absolutely secret to set up a public sign over whatever may lie buried in her mind. She gossips, prattles, pours out what she does not care to hold, with an air of unreserved simplicity that all mankind is mystified, and says, in friendly jest, "a woman only hides what she does not know." Among the uneducated poor this difference between the woman and the man is most conspicuous. The innate powers of her sex place her at once upon an eminence which man can only reach by education. She must often not be tied to one in whom there is often not the grain of understanding requisite to the formation of true sympathy. By far the majority of the wives of unskilled laborers and mechanics live more or less happily, and more or less conscious of the hidden life within them, having such a seal upon their minds and hearts.

Man's Duty to Woman.
Let him learn to be grateful to woman for this undoubted achievement of her sex, that it is she—she, far more than he, and he too often, in spite of him—who has kept Christendom from lapsing back into barbarism—kept mercy and truth from being utterly overborne by those two greedy monsters—money and war. Let him be grateful for this, that almost every great soul that has led forward or lifted up the race has been furnished for each noble need, and inspired with each patriotic and holy aspiration by the retiring fortitude of some Spartan, or more than Spartan—some Christian mother.—Moses, the deliverer of his people, drawn out of the Nile by the King's daughter, some one has hinted, is only a symbol of the way that woman's better instincts always outwit the tyrannical diplomacy of man. Let him cheerfully remember that though the sinewy sea achievements, enterprises on public theatres, it is the nerve and sensibility of the other that arm the mind and inflame the soul in secret. "A man discovered America, but a woman equipped the voyage." So everywhere; man executes the performance, but woman trains the man. Every successful person, leaving his mark on the world, is but another Columbus, for whose furnishing some Isabella, in the form of his mother, lays down her jewelry, her vanities, her comfort.

Above all, let not man practice on woman the perpetual and shameless falsehood of pretending admiration and acting contempt. Let them not exhaust their kindness in adoring her person, and ask in return the humiliation of her scorn. Let them not assent to her every high opinion, as if she were more among enough to maintain it



JAMES W. KENNEDY, Editor.

MARION, VA.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1861.

Mr. A. WADDELL, of the "Virginia" Office, is our only authorized Agent for the city of Lynchburg. The "Visitor," on account of its locality, and the extent of its circulation, is an excellent advertising medium.

THOMAS J. BAGBY, of Richmond, is our authorized advertising agent for that city.

JAN. H. VAN PELT, of Alexandria, is our authorized agent for that city.

J. A. RUTHERFORD, of Baltimore, is our authorized agent for that city.

S. M. PATTENSON & Co., 119 Nassau Street, New York, are our authorized agents for that city.

Virginia Convention.

The delegates recently elected to deliberate and determine what shall be done in view of the momentous and alarming crisis now hanging over us, assembled in the metropolis of the State on Wednesday last. The eyes of all are anxiously turned toward this body. No body ever met in this State under like circumstances and of such importance. An important trust has been committed to their keeping in which the fate of millions is involved.

Cotton.

The "Cotton States" remarks: The census of 1850 gives Florida 45,181 bales of cotton. The census of 1860 gives her 185,723 bales, an increase of over four hundred per cent, and nearly fifty per cent a year for the last ten years. Most of this cotton is long staple. We have no doubt but that in ten years more we will raise over 1,000,000 bales. We have 57,000 acres of land here suitable to cotton to keep over 500,000 negroes employed in its culture.

Anti-Corruption.

In the Illinois Legislature on Friday, in the debate on the Military Bill, Mr. Green said: "Should this State (Illinois) be invaded by the South, his constituents residing on the border would repel the foe and defend the honor and majesty of the State," but said he would not support the attempt to pass over the borders of our State to subjugate a Southern State, you would be met this side of the Ohio river, and you should not shed the fraternal blood of our Southern brethren until you had first passed over the dead bodies of the gallant sons of Egypt.

The following seven States now comprise the Southern Confederacy, viz: South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Louisiana and Texas. The Provisional Convention, has elected Hon. Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, President, and Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Georgia, Vice-President, and selected the City of Montgomery as the seat of the Government.

In the late war with Mexico the Slaveholding States furnished forty-five thousand six hundred and thirty volunteers, while the non-slaveholding States furnished only twenty-three thousand and fifty-four. The North now insists upon preventing the South from enjoying the territory which was conquered by the blood of her sons.

There are now eighty-two of the patriots of the Revolution left to witness the dismemberment of the confederacy which they, in the glorious seven years' struggle, assisted to free from the oppression of the mother country.

SARSAPARILLA.—This tropical root has a reputation as wide as the world, for curing one class of the disorders that afflict mankind—a reputation too which it deserves as the best antidote we possess for scrofulous complaints. But to be brought into use, its virtues must be concentrated and combined with other medicines that increase its power. Some reliable compound of this character is much needed in the community. Read the advertisement of Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla in our columns, and we know it needs no encomium from us to give our citizens confidence in what he offers.—Organ, Syracuse, New York.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Capt. Morrison of the U. S. Cutter "Albatross," has sent on his resignation to the Treasury department. He acknowledges that he surrendered his vessel to the State of Alabama. An order has been issued that no more resignations under such circumstances be accepted, but that the names be stricken from the rolls of service.

Capt. Brushwood's resignation will probably be disposed of in the same way. Some postmasters recently appointed in the seceded States decline to take the oath of allegiance to the Union. Such officers will be discontinued if no persons can be found to take the oath.

SPRINGFIELD, Feb. 11.—Mr. Lincoln left here at 8 o'clock this morning. He made a few farewell remarks but no allusion to political matters.

DEAR EDITOR: I exceedingly regret to ask your indulgence in submitting to the next column of your paper what may appear to some of your readers an imperfect and rough exposition of my views, relating to the frequent newspaper pop-guns, which are going off so profusely since the late dreadful indications of our political affairs. I feel satisfied, unless the American people will speedily do something to quiet their troubles and anxieties, that all human ambition will soon become completely exhausted, and thus our country will be left entirely hopeless of any human agency to gather together its broken fragments with which to reconstruct another and more lasting and cemented system of free polity.

It is now impossible to take up any newspaper without seeing, at the very first glance, some great prize plan got up to wonder-stricken the body politic, and bearing the features of a wisdom and statesmanship, almost superhuman, to touch our unraveling national chords with new and more vital properties of contractility, and thus bring, at once to a calm repose, all direful anxieties of a divided and agonized nation of people.

Mr. Editor, it is frequently my pleasure to enjoy opportunities of reading your cheerful and good-tempered columns, afforded by my being allowed to visit affairs, with much edification and no little satisfaction, your numerous subscribers throughout this portion of the county of Smyth.

A few days ago I was sitting alone, musing upon the misdeeds of our national troubles, and, to seek some relief from such anxious and painful reflections, I began to search for something to read; and stepping to where I saw some newspapers carelessly folded on a table, my view was first welcomed to a late issue of your paper. Stating myself again, I began to look through its teeming columns with much good relish and renewed pleasure. It was not long ere my attention was invited to quite a lengthy something, by which I readily expected some body or new genius was glorified, over the initials, A. P. C. I was constrained at first to conclude, from the tenor of what I soon discovered to be a ridiculous article of A. P. C., that he felt satisfied that he alone enjoyed the special advantage of being chosen, by the immortal gods, as the most fit finite creature of all the thirty odd millions of American souls, to proclaim, in exultant and peace-giving voice, the revelation of the great, mysterious and effective adjustment policy, for which our country has so long been suffering and bleeding.

At such a time as this, it affords me infinite pleasure to congratulate any one upon whom so honorable and immortalizing a favor might be lavished. Upon some reflection, I felt disposed to think I had been too rash in my first inference; at least, I feel a great hope for the author's credit that I had. Should I fail, however, to make this article appear, as it doubtless seems to me in its character, the most absurd and ridiculous, then it must follow that my first conclusion was correct. I trust that whatever conclusions I may be disposed to use, will be regarded by A. P. C. in a friendly spirit. I would also ask him not to take it for granted that I feel, in myself, capable of criticizing such a peculiar specimen of English composition. My object is to give the author a full benefit of my appreciation of it, no matter how far, in his judgment, that estimate may fall short in its consideration of his article. After asking the favors of the Visitor's columns, he confidently avers, in the majesty of his own self-unnerving convictions, that this is a most trying and fearful crisis, impending our national destiny as a government of free people. This affords, in his opinion, a most satisfactory apology for the editor not to consign so important an article to that ignominious doom, by taking it to clean the mud from his ill-fated boots, which the inclement season has challenged and made almost fruitless the utilities of foot-mats and blacking-brushes. It is, in my opinion, one of the most remarkable demonstrations of kindness and courtesy ever evinced by any editor before, that this article of A. P. C. was not dedicated for such a purpose.

I think, Mr. Editor, that you feel every inclination to confer and contribute all your best favors in restoring harmony to our disaffected and sectioned people. I admire your warm and genuine patriotism, and shall ever cherish your hospitable disposition as a faithful editor. The author of the article under consideration seemed to have swallowed, with a tremendous alligator deglutition, all past history, with all the modern political data, and quite an indigestible action of his internal powers, he makes one most powerful effort of disgorgement, after which he readily concludes that democratic governments have ever proved an idiosyncrasy, so far as the "fixed destiny of the human race" is concerned. I suppose, after reaction had fairly taken place, (because he must have felt great and alarming disturbances going on while revolving so much at once in the limited confines of a finite mind,) he innovably rivets himself to one of two conclusions, by saying that "God has decreed that mortals here below are unworthy of this form of government, or else the fact that man is incapable of self-government is almost made out; a few more additions and subtractions and his fate is fixed." I must heartily concur with the author that a "few additions" like himself, together with his like inferences, will constitute it a true and beyond human doubt.

Yes, when God adds a little more force to that decree, and a little more time is allowed for the human race to deteriorate in mental and moral fitness, for which A. P. C. must take himself to be quite an apt illustration, than it will inevitably follow that democratic governments should prove unsuited to the "fixed destiny of the human race." We say in the next sentence, "For while this government of ours falls, when and where will the standard of republican governments again be roared?" I must say, if his rule in "addition and subtraction" will work; that this part of our globe, on which we Americans stand, will be speedily detached and carried across the furious Atlantic, and blotted out to some despotie portion of the Eastern continent. This will be truly one of the greatest wonders in human or terrestrial or conceived by mortal eye. A. P. C. you pitch into a revolution set on foot in a popular government, with a perfect vengeance! I differ with you, widely, when you say such a revolution cannot be given "prescribed boundaries." To give you a most satisfactory illustration that you are certainly mistaken, I would simply suggest, when such a revolution begins with us, that you must be sure to be present, to tell us to stop—see here, follows, just think, think! Are you not now satisfied that "prescribed boundaries" can be given such a revolution?

Are you now still doubtful whether it would stop there "there" or not? I am sure that all good and rational men would promptly meet your authentic and imperative mandate. And should the "baser sort, which war so plentifully begets," prefer to amuse themselves with the burning of powder and the free use of swords and bayonets, I would kindly say to you, just

step aside and let the boys have their fun. It must be allowed that the loss of the baser class would do no material harm to the wiser and better class. What "echo answers never" A. P. C.? There was surely not an echo from the noise of your pen while writing such a sentence? If there was, what sort of material were you writing on? What sort of a room did your desk occupy? Your pen must have moved unwieldily to have been striking against the ceiling and side-walks of what I must suppose to be an unusually large room which you occupied.

I am not certain that you, A. P. C., like Cæsar, have crossed the Rubicon yet or not. I feel exceedingly fearful that you are standing on the banks of the Rubicon, either of metaphysics, politics, diplomacies, mythology, or theology, and whether you, like Cæsar, will take time to weep ere you shall make the dreadful "plunge," is for you yet to tell us.

Mr. Editor, as my business engagements prevent my further consideration, at this time, of A. P. C.'s article, I shall beg your permission to resume, when more time is allowed me to get over rapidly the author's article, which I must say that I believe he intended as a burlesque on something or other. FREE AGENCY.

Lucas Family. "Ran Lucas" located (or "squatted") on the Western base of the Salt Pond Mountain, about the head springs of Doe creek, a fluctuating stream, coming down from the heights into New River. At what time he made choice of this lonely and now haunted spot no facts have come into my possession to determine. I should guess before the date of the present century. A paper published as early as 1842, in the Richmond Compiler, states that he was then about 93 years old. His grave was made some years ago.

Jerry Lucas was his first son. He was hung in a stone's cast of this spot during the autumn of 1814. He shed the blood, and hung for the murder of a man for whose wife criminal attachments were formed while her husband was in service at Norfolk. The deed was done at the instance of the monster woman, Lucas, under friendly pretence, inviting the man home with him from muster. He finally beat the man over the head till he thought him dead, and then spent the night with his wife.

To be certain that a dead man might tell no tales, he visited the scene of blood the following morning, and found the man all bloody, sitting against a tree. He, in his distress, begged for his life—agreed to leave the country as soon as a slave—promised to tell nothing of the treatment he had received, and told Lucas to take his wife. The fiend, devoid of human sympathy, murdered the helpless man, and concealed the body by covering it with a pile of stones. These awful deeds he confessed before he swung off. It is published, in the same paper alluded to above, that "Old Ran" attended the hanging, and made out the time by eating gingerbread beneath the gallows of his first born! For lack of any witness the woman went untried. The end of such a being has not been told me; it would seem that life ended beneath such blackness of infamy that none could chronicle the event.

"Dave Lucas" was the second son. At 19 he stole a horse, and for the deed received five years' confinement in the penitentiary. He escaped, and after getting home was recaptured, then serving out his time. Soon after, he robbed a pedler, and was again sent to work, and fed at State cost in Richmond. His cousin, a lad, was sent for crime at the same time. They were discharged together. The publication states that he has never been heard of since; and, also, that Dave confessed to have killed him on their way home, throwing his body into the river. When drinking, Dave would boast to the boy's father, that he bawled like a calf when he ran his knife into him. To get the boy's expense money was the object. The first night, on getting home, he destroyed considerable property of witnesses against him in his conviction.

He next killed his own sister's son, at a single blow, in an affray at a militia muster, Sept. 1841. He afterwards confessed that a pound of lead was concealed in his hand at the time he gave the blow. He afterward rested under the suspicion of killing a stranger returning through the country from stock driving. The facts were never made out in such form as to bring him to trial. Having made himself a man of note, in his native county, for the present if not for the next century, this ruffian monster committed his final deed of blood. It was the daring murder of a man bearing the name John Peck, supposed to have been an honest poor man, returning from Kanawha Salt Works, carrying in his wallet the proceeds of a few months' labor, to him home in Floyd county. Dave fell in with the man, and persuaded him to turn off the road toward the Lucas den, to spend the night. His life was taken not more than two hundred yards from Dave's home. Little or no concealment of the bloody deed was made—the body lying above ground nearly a week. The jury, on his case, decided in fifteen minutes that he should hang. He had no witnesses and desired no counsel—the counsel appointed by the court made no defense in his case.

Friday, June 24th, 1842, he swung off in the public square. Before an immense concourse his funeral was preached by Rev. A. E. Harris, then a young man; now an eloquent minister, residing near Jonesboro', Tenn., from Samuel xx. 3. He listened to it with no interest—begged the preacher for whiskey—beset the Sheriff for one dram—received it while the rope was being adjusted—bit at the Sheriff's ear, (Joseph Peck, Esq.) He lived a wretch, and died like a beast! It is yet said his face exhibited such a devil-like grin, that the vast multitude gave not one emotion of sympathy. J. W. DICKET.

Uncle Sam. Oh! vanity, vanity! when wilt thou cease to corrupt and debase the human race of man with such delusions as will inevitably sink him into misery and pain forever? When wilt thou cease to make the Pulpit the habitations of wicked and designing men, and cause the shoulder occupants thereof to lay groveling in the bottom of the ditch, and to feel upwards for the ground upon which they struggle? When wilt thou cease to pull down the most flourishing Republics, and cause the republican institutions to groan beneath the bonds of tyranny, and good society to cry aloud for mercy? And, in short, when wilt thou cease to crowd, to the utmost capacity, the vaults of the infernal regions with human souls that might, with proper exertions, and without your aid, have been enjoying life and society in this wild, with the hope of enjoying eternal life, and the society of angels and redeemed spirits in a world to come? Methinks I hear the echo resounding from a thousand different directions—NEVER! NEVER! ALL IS VANITY, and the end of TIME will not have learned the beginning thereof.

Perilous times have come, when men choose to themselves rulers having itching ears, and seeking the applause of men rather than the approbation of a clear conscience—when the world, with almost universal consent, has become fanatical, and are plunging into civil war and bloodshed. While looking broadcast over the world, and observing eye will, doubtless, notice the excited and perilous condition of the once United States of America.

Uncle Sam, in his boyhood, when limited means made it a necessity, was humble enough not to be vain, but ambitious enough to maintain his integrity. But when he had grown to manhood how different! When his adopted flag was established throughout the land, from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean, from the great Lakes in the North to the gulf in the South, and from Maine to the Rio Grande; when the presence of his flag secured to him the victory, and caused the red man of the forest to recede from before it as the defenceless sheep from before the presence of the butcher; then it was that he became deluded and puffed up; then it was that he insulted, and denied equal rights to his children of the sunny South. He has, and is now, denying to them the right to move with their property into the common territory obtained by a portion of their bravest and best blood. But, thank Heaven, there is enough such blood, running in the veins of Southern people, to resist such unjust doctrine as war's bitter end. Six bright States have already declared their independence of Uncle Sam, and others will shortly follow suit, and among them is one of the first born of the Union—Virginia. She has a right to free, and much is to be depended upon—upon her decision hangs the fate of several States for weal or for woe, she should be applauded for the course she pursues, which is to exhaust honorable means for adjusting the differences between the North and the South, such means have been utterly failed, then she will, in the name of the Union, and prepare to resist any measures that may be set on foot by the Federal Government. Then there will come a test of the severest and most searching nature, and when the land has been drenched by the blood of the bravest men, North and South, the North may then learn from a practical exhibition of our power whether she can conquer a free people or not.

The South will have "Uncle Sam" to un-uncle her, and she will not submit to have her rights trampled upon, merely that he may gain the applause of John Bull, or any other enemy to the domestic institutions of the South; or merely because the South is growing in wealth and popularity. And, furthermore, the South will defend her rights as guaranteed to her, by the Constitution, as long as there is a drop of warm blood in the bosom of a handful of her brave and liberty-loving sons. The North has given sufficient cause for all the slaveholding States to secede, but Virginia is a mild, forgotten State, and although it would be right for her to sever all political relations with the North; yet it is not wrong for her to exhaust all honorable means for the adjustment of this difficulty before so doing. And, after prosecuting her plans in this manner, she will be justifiable in the eyes of all honorable men, and will receive the aid of an overruling power, which does not give the victory to the brave, nor to the strong, but those who are in defence of their liberties and just rights. The South should be firm, and act with deliberation and judgment, for he that waveth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. Let us be humble and not wisely, for as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Let us be patient, and watch with prayer the workings of the Almighty in the turning of the wrath of man to the honor and glory of God. No objections, therefore, out to be made by any one to anything that God does, but the spontaneous expression of all should be, "Bless the Lord in all places of his dominion; bless the Lord O my soul." A VIRGINIA LAD.

Southern Congress.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 12.—In Congress to-day the standing committees were announced. The President received and read a dispatch from the Louisiana Convention, cordially approving the election of Jefferson Davis to be President, and Alexander H. Stephens Vice-President of the Confederacy. Resolutions for a seal and flag for the Confederacy were referred. A resolution was offered, that until otherwise provided, the several officers of the customs be continued in office. Referred. A resolution was offered that the Committee on Foreign Affairs be requested to enquire into the propriety and necessity, as soon as the newly elected President shall be inaugurated, of sending Commissioners to the Government of the United States. Referred. The Congress then went into secret session during which the following resolution was adopted and the injunction of secrecy read. Referred. That this government takes under its charge all questions and difficulties now existing between the sovereign States of the Confederacy and the government of the United States, relating to the occupation of forts, arsenals, navy yards and other public establishments, and that the President of this Congress be directed to communicate this resolution to the said government.

Majority for Union here 400. In West Tennessee a majority for the Union. Union majority in Nashville. All the Union candidates are elected as far as heard from. On the question of "Convention" or "no Convention" a large majority in the State is on the latter side. In Nashville the Union majority is 2,500 and 1,000 majority against a Convention.

Southern Confederacy Convention.

MONTGOMERY, Feb. 6.—An unusual interest was manifested by outsiders to-day and the hall and gallery of the Convention were crowded. Mr. Memminger presented a beautiful flag model made by South Carolina ladies with a blue cross on a red field, and seven stars on the cross. It is highly admired. Mr. Memminger also presented another model by gentlemen of Charleston, with a cross containing fifteen stars on a field of stripes. A committee was appointed to report on a flag, seal, arms and motto for the Confederacy. The President was directed to appoint committees on foreign, finance, military, and naval affairs, judiciary, postal, commerce and patents. Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, was unanimously elected President of the Confederate States of North America, and A. H. Stephens, of Georgia, Vice-President.

A resolution was adopted appointing a committee of three Alabama delegates, to enquire and report upon what terms suitable buildings in Montgomery can be secured for the use of the several executive departments of the Confederacy under the Provisional Government. A bill was passed continuing in force until repealed or altered by Congress, all laws of the United States in force and use on the 1st November last, that are not inconsistent with the constitution of the Provisional government. It is understood that under this bill a tariff will be laid on all goods brought from the United States. A resolution was adopted instructing the Finance committee to report promptly a tariff for raising revenue to support the government. A resolution was adopted authorizing the appointment of a committee to report a constitution of permanent government for the Confederacy. The convention spent about two hours in secret session and the rest of the day in open doors.

The Constitution of the Provisional government has been printed and is now public. The preamble reads as follows: We, the delegates of the sovereign and independent States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, invoking the favor of Almighty God, do hereby, in behalf of their States, ordain and establish this Constitution for the Provisional government of the same, to continue one year from the inauguration of the President, or until a permanent Constitution or confederacy between said States shall be put in operation, whichever shall first occur.

Article 1. Section 1. The power of the State shall be vested in three branches, to-wit: in a legislative, executive and judicial branch. Section 2. The legislative power shall be vested in a Congress, to-wit: in a Senate and a House of Representatives. Section 3. The executive power shall be vested in a President. Section 4. The judicial power shall be vested in a Supreme Court and in such inferior Courts as may be from time to time. Section 5. The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, to borrow money, to regulate commerce, to define and punish offenses against the law, to declare war, to grant letters of marque and reprisal, to make and regulate rules of the navy, to coin money, to regulate the value of money, to fix the standard of weights and measures, to define and punish counterfeiting, to define and punish piracy and felonies on the high seas, to define and punish offenses against the law of nations, to grant letters of marque and reprisal, to make and regulate rules of the navy, to coin money, to regulate the value of money, to fix the standard of weights and measures, to define and punish counterfeiting, to define and punish piracy and felonies on the high seas, to define and punish offenses against the law of nations, to grant letters of marque and reprisal, to make and regulate rules of the navy, to coin money, to regulate the value of money, to fix the standard of weights and measures, to define and 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