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The Kent News.

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The Kent News:
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Jas. H. Plummer & Wm. B. Usilton,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS per annum, *payable in advance.* If not paid within six months from the time of subscribing Two DOLLARS will be *invariably charged.* No subscriptions received for less than six months.

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Job Printing.—Having added to our Office an extensive assortment of New and Beautiful Job Type, we are prepared to execute every description of Job Printing, at short notice, and on very reasonable terms.

Poetical.

Words Written to Music.

"LOVE, the traitor, found me gay,
Left me sad and mourning;
When I pressed him most to stay,
Left me without warning;
Though I weep he will not heed me;
Though I call he'll come no more;
Ah, bereaved,
Ah, deceived,
Love's a cheat, so sigh no more.

"Should I, wand'ring, ever meet him,
Shall I bid him go or stay;
Kindly greet, or justly beat him,
And then drive the rogue away?
But hope whispers, time's a healer,
Gates of brass he doth o'erthrow;
Then believe,
He can relieve
One poor human heart from woe."

As I thus complained the wand'rer
Singing came him homeward,
And my foolish heart grew tender,
When he cried, "'Twas only play;"
But with heartstrings now I'll bind him,
Trust him no more from my view;
Good betide him,
For I'll hide him
Safe from all the world but you.

PASSAGES FROM THE LIFE OF WASHINGTON.

We make the following extracts from the life of George Washington, by J. T. Headly, now publishing in Graham's Magazine:—

HIS COURTSHIP.—It was about this time [the spring of 1758,] while on his way to Williamsburg, that Washington was first made acquainted with the young widow who was destined to become his wife.—The young colonel, in military undress, mounted on a splendid charger, and attended by a single tall body-servant, both the gift of the dying Braddock, as he fled from the fatal field of Monogahela, had just crossed William's Ferry, over the Pamunkey, a branch of York river, when he was met by Mr. Chamberlayne, a Virginia gentleman of the old school, who invited him to his house. Washington excused himself, on the ground of urgent business with the governor. But the hospitable planter would take no denial, and at last succeeded in turning the scale by promising to introduce him to a young and beautiful widow. The colonel finally consented to stop and dine—nothing more. A short delay could be made up by hard riding and pressing further into the night. In dismounting he gave his horse into the charge of his servant Bishop, with explicit instructions to have him at the door at a certain hour. Giving his arm to his guest, the hospitable planter entered the house and introduced him to his family. The young Virginia colonel immediately drew every eye upon him, for a fine commanding appearance heightened rather than lessened the romance that gathered around his chivalrous and adventurous life. The young widow was handsome, fascinating, and possessed of a large fortune, and was withal the widow of a colonel. Colonel Washington was also rich, of high family connections, and, above all, possessed that which ever attracts woman, a valiant, heroic heart, that would beat as calmly amid whistling bullets and death and carnage as in its peaceful slumbers. The lady was only three months younger than he, and from the first could not disguise her admiration of the youthful hero. On the other hand, her society was so agreeable to Washington that for the first time in his life he forgot his own appointment. His servant Bishop, punctual to his orders, had the two horses saddled and bridled, standing at the gate at the time appointed. Contrary to all military rules, and all former experience, his master did not make his appearance. Lingering under the sweet influence of the beautiful young widow, the time slipped unconsciously away. At length, as the sun stooped behind the western wilderness, the planter stepped forward and declared that it was contrary to the rules of his estate to allow a guest to leave the house after sundown. Washington laughingly acknowledged that he felt bound to submit to such wholesome regulations, and was soon forgetful of everything but the fascinating woman beside him. Other dreams than those of military glory visited his pillow that night, and other hopes impelled him forward, as next morning he continued his journey to Williamsburg.

On his return he stopped again at the "White House" of his friend, and surrendered at discretion to the blooming widow.

Washington now threw his whole energy into the campaign, which resulted in the capture of Fort Du Quesne from the French, and the planting of the royal flag upon its ruins. When peace was secured, he resigned his command and retired to Mount Vernon, being then twenty-six years of age. While absent on duty he had been elected a member of the House of Burgess from Frederic county.

HIS MARRIAGE.—Having now returned to private life, he consummated his engagement with Mrs. Custis, and a wedding was given [January 6th, 1759,] on a scale commensurate with the wealth and standing of the parties, and in keeping with the good old customs of the time. The rafters of the huge mansion rang that night with mirth and gaiety. The bride brought as a dowry thirty thousand pounds sterling besides one-third of large landed estates. She had two children; a son, six years old, and a daughter, four. To the former belonged one-third of the estates left by his father, while the latter had the remaining third, together with ten thousand pounds sterling. This swelled Washington's fortune to an enormous amount for those days.

HIS HOME AND SPORTS.—In the spring Washington retired to Mount Vernon and devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. Covered with honor from five years faithful and arduous service, united to a noble and beautiful woman, surrounded with affluence, and beloved by all, life at this time spread out attractively before him, and its waters promised to bear him smoothly on to the end of his course.

Duck-shooting was another favorite sport and he spent hours in his boat, stealing stealthily on the coveys of birds, or watching their flight from his place of concealment. His love of this sport once brought him in collision with a bold, reckless fellow, who lived on the opposite side of the Potomac, but would often cross and shoot near Mount Vernon. Washington had frequently forbade him doing so, but without effect. In some secluded creek the poacher would hide away, and shoot at leisure. One day, the former hearing a shot, sprang on his horse and galloped toward the spot whence the sound came.—The marauder seeing him approach, ran for his skiff, and had just time to push off from shore and leap in as Washington galloped up. The latter instantly rode in and seized the boat. The reckless fellow within immediately leveled his gun at Washington's breast, swearing that he would shoot him dead if he did not let him go. But the southern blood of the excited young planter was up, and paying no attention to his threats, he drew the desperado fiercely ashore. He then disarmed and dragged him out upon the bank, and gave him a thorough cowhiding, as merely a foretaste of what awaited him if he continued his depredations. The cure was effectual, and the poacher sought other fields in which to prosecute his calling.—There was something about Washington's demeanor and look, when excited, that would make a bold man hesitate to assail him.

"THIRTY-SIX THIRTY."—The reader who is curious to know exactly where runs this oft-mentioned line, will get a clear idea of it by taking the map and tracing it as follows: It commences at the point on the Atlantic coast where the dividing line between Virginia and North Carolina commences; passes along the line dividing those States; along the line between Tennessee and Kentucky; along the line between the States of Missouri and Arkansas; thence through the Territory of the Cherokee Nation, through New Mexico, striking the Eastern boundary of the State of California a short distance South of the middle, striking the Pacific a short distance south of Monterey bay. On the south of that line there are about 300,000 square miles of territory, including Indian reservations, while on the north there are about 1,300,000 square miles. Of the 300,000 square miles south of 36 30 there is not the slightest probability that there could be carved out more than one slave State. All New Mexico, comprising about 210,000 square miles, would never become slave territory, from the fact that it is not adapted to slave labor. It produces neither cotton nor cane. North of that line, though slavery were to be legalized, it could never exist.—*N. Y. News.*

☞ "I wonder this child don't go to sleep," said an anxious mother to a friend. "Well, I don't," replied the lady, "it's face is so dirty that it can't shut its eyes."

Only One Brick upon Another.

Edwin was one day looking at a large building which they were putting up just opposite his father's house. He watched the workmen from day to day, as they carried up the brick and mortar, and then placed them in their proper order. His father said to him:

"Edwin, you seem to be very much taken up with the bricklayers; pray what might you be thinking about? Have you any notion of learning the trade?"

"No," said Edward, smiling, "but I was just thinking what a little thing a brick is, and yet that great house is built by laying one brick upon another."

"Very true, my boy, never forget it.—Just so it is with all great works. All your learning is one little lesson added to another. If a man could walk all around the world, it would be by putting one foot before the other. Your whole life will be made up of one little moment after another. Drop added to drop makes the ocean."

Learn from this not to despise little things. Learn, also, not to be discouraged by great labor. The greatest labor becomes easy if divided into parts. You could not jump over a mountain, but step by step takes you to the other side. Do not fear therefore to attempt great things. Always remember that the whole of the great building is only one brick upon another.

Plans for the Year.

It is a matter of great importance to the farmer that he should lay out the work of the season beforehand, and now is the time to do it. We need much more of thorough system of in our farming operations. Determine upon the fields you will cultivate, and what shall be allotted to oats, corn, rye, wheat, buckwheat, potatoes and other root crops; what fences shall be reset, and what ditches shall be dug; and how much labor will be needed to accomplish the work. Leave nothing to be decided upon in haste. A great deal of time and mental labor will be saved by making your plans deliberately at the beginning of the year. If there are doubtful matters, consult the best farmer in your neighborhood, and give his opinions due weight in your decision. A neighbor's experience will often save a useless expenditure of money and labor.

When your plans are laid, carry them out, month after month, and week by week, until the year is completed. If you need capital in your legitimate business, hire it. You can as well afford to pay interest for this purpose as any other business man. Turn not aside to speculation in anything that you do not understand. Glory in the farm and live by it.—*Ames. Agriculturist.*

THE LAW ON LIBEL.—A case of considerable importance on the law of libel has been tried at the Dutchess Circuit of Poughkeepsie. The plaintiff is Mitchell Sanford, a lawyer, now or late of Hudson, the defendant is E. B. Osborn, the editor of the Poughkeepsie Telegraph. The plaintiff was invited by the citizens of Red Hook, Dutchess county, to deliver an oration at the Fourth of July celebration in that place. Mr. Sanford accepted, and on that occasion, after the usual topics had been discussed, delivered, as the editor claimed and stated, "a mean and contemptible abolition harangue." The editor, in addition to his comments on the oration, said something not very flattering to the orator. Mr. Sanford brought an action for libel.

The defendant answered, admitted the publication, and setting up as a defence that the article was only a fair criticism upon the public performance of the plaintiff. The cause was tried once, and the Judge excluded all evidence in justification or mitigation, and the jury gave a verdict of $450 for the plaintiff.

This was reversed by the General Term, on argument, and a new trial granted. The case came on for trial before Judge Brown, of the Supreme Court. The whole evidence showing what was said by the plaintiff in his oration, according to the memory of the audience was admitted. The plaintiff himself was a witness, and tried his own cause. Mr. Dean defended the publication as a right of the press to criticise a public speaker, who, he insisted, occupied the same position as an author, and that the publication was privileged.

Judge Brown, in a very able and elaborate charge, instructed the jury that the right of editors of public journals to criticise either printed publications or extemporaneous speeches was clear, and must be sustained by the court; that it was necessary in order to correct public sentiment; that in doing this, an editor had no right to attack the personal or private character of the author or speaker, and that so far as the article in question was an attack upon the plaintiff personally, and not a criticism upon his speech, it was libelous. The Judge at the same time told the jury that they were the exclusive judges of whether or no the article, taken as a whole, was a libel; and, if so, what damages the plaintiff sustained by its publication.

The case excited great interest in the locality where the trial was held, and the jury, after a trial of three days, and an absence of about three hours, found a verdict for the plaintiff for *three cents.*

☞ THERE is no exception to the rule of three. As your income is to your expenditure, so will the amount of your debts be to your cash in pocket.

Surviving Heroes of the Revolution.

To the Disunionists.

A company of Disunionists in one of the Southern States, being on their way to a convention overtook a Revolutionary soldier, with whom they entered into conversation. On his enquiring their destination, they said, "We are going to a Convention which is to devise means for dissolving the Union." The old man shook his head sorrowfully, and replied: "WAIT A LITTLE WHILE, TILL I AM DEAD!"

Not while our eyes behold,
The goodly land for which in youth we bled,
Be its fair fields with ruin overspread;
We are but few and old,
And soon to slumber with the nameless dead.

Then, oh! a while delay
To strike the fatal and the traitorous blow,
Which lays for aye our gallant eagle low,
Till we have passed away,
Nor seen, with dimming eyes our country's woe.

If then ye tire of peace,
And the rare gifts that glorious eagle brings
To all our land, beneath his outspread wings,
Bid the blest Union cease,
While the knell for murdered freedom rings.

But ere beneath the rage
Of parricides our native country bleeds,
Blot out the record of our early deeds,
Lest haply that fair page,
With brutal scorn, some future tyrant reads.

Though it to heaven aspires,
Break down each pile of Monumental stones,
Each towering form of marble and of bronze,
Lest statues of the sires,
Blush for the deeds of their degenerate sons.

Give to the devouring flame,
The painter's canvass, and the poet's verse,
Which proudly did our gallant deeds rehearse;
Let not our blood-bought fame
Become a jest, a by-word and a curse.

When madly ye've destroyed
The noble work won by our youthful glaves,
Leave us to sleep in unremembered graves;
Be not our dust annoyed
By the vile honors of ungrateful slaves!

From the Annapolis Gazette.

The Appropriation for Arms.

Certain slanderers have been busily circulating reports about the Governor in reference to the expenditure of the appropriation made by the last General Assembly for the purchase of arms. We have it in our power to prove that those slanders are without even the slightest foundation. But we should deem it unnecessary to do so, were it not for the fact that the sole object of the slanderers is to weaken the confidence of the people in Gov. HICKS, who now occupies a position which materially interferes with the treasonable projects of the Secessionists.

The charges are, briefly: First, that H. C. Hicks, Esq., a brother of the Governor, has been entrusted with the making of contracts for furnishing the Arms and Accoutrements, and that he has been in such swindling collusion with the contractors as to enable him to make a large sum of money.

Secondly: that the Arms already furnished are of a very inferior quality, and that the State has been swindled in the purchase of them.

The subjoined card from the Adjutant General will show, first, that it was utterly impossible for Mr. H. C. Hicks to have been guilty of the charge alleged against him, because he had nothing whatever to do with making the contract; and secondly that the arms were bought upon the approval, and by the advice of competent military gentlemen; and that the complaints made in reference to the quality of the arms are of the most trivial character.

A glance at the duties imposed by law upon the Adjutant General will show how little the Governor had to do with this matter; and will make it quite apparent that the sole object of the infamous charge was to induce the people to believe that Gov. Hicks is not worthy of the confidence reposed in him. In this aspect the affair is contemptible; and it could have originated only with the people who, if they had the opportunity, would do the very things they charge upon others in this case.

TO THE PUBLIC.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Annapolis, Jan. 22, 1861.

I have understood that certain persons, for motives best known to themselves, have made complaints in regard to the quality of the arms purchased in pursuance of the Act passed by the late General Assembly, appropriating $70,000 for that purpose. I also understand that the same persons charge that there was collusion between the contractors and H. C. Hicks, Esq. the Agent of the State, appointed to inspect, receive, and deliver the Arms and Accoutrements. In consequence whereof I deem it my duty to make the following statement:

After the passage of the Act referred to I had a consultation with the Governor, and we determined to purchase the Arms, &c., of the General Government; because we concluded that by so doing we could obtain better Arms and at more reasonable prices than if we should purchase from individuals or companies. Accordingly I addressed a letter on the subject to Col. H. K. Craig, of the Ordnance Departm't. He replied, under date of April 14, 1860, that he had no authority to sell us arms: that a bill was then pending in Congress to give such authority; that when such a law should be passed he would afford us every facility. That Bill, much to our regret, did not pass, and we were compelled to look elsewhere.

Accordingly, we invited proposals for furnishing the Arms and Accoutrements from the most prominent Manufacturers in the United States. The proposals were received, with samples of the articles to be furnished. Not trusting to our own knowledge, we invited the assistance of Lieut. Wm. T. Magruder, a distinguished officer of the U. S. Army, and other prominent and competent military men. The samples were opened in the Executive Department, and fully and thoroughly examined. We thereupon awarded the contract for furnishing the Muskets and Revolvers to Eli Whitney, of New Haven, Connecticut, and the contract for Sabres to the Ames Manufacturing Company, Chicopec, Massachusetts. The contract was given to those parties because they offered as good and efficient arms as were offered by any other parties, and on terms which we considered more advantageous to the State.

In these contracts it was expressly stipulated that all defective or unserviceable arms should be replaced by good ones at the expense of the contractors, so soon as they should be notified thereof. So that if any companies have received such arms, it is only necessary to return them to me, and good ones will be sent instead, unless they have been injured by the carelessness or ignorance of the persons who have used them; which I believe is the case in many instances where complaints have been made. And I may add that the complaints made to me have so far been of the most trivial character, and such as are incident to the purchase of a large quantity of any species of merchandise.

In reference to the charge of collusion between H. C. Hicks, Esq., and the Contractors, I have to say that such a thing was impossible, for the reason that Mr. Hicks had nothing to do with making the Contracts, further than procuring samples of Arms, &c. The contracts were made by the Governor and myself; we are alone responsible therefor; and we hold ourselves in readiness to exhibit the proper vouchers for every dollar of expenditure. For his arduous services, Mr. Hicks is to receive but $500,—a sum, in my opinion, totally inadequate to compensate him for his labors.

In conclusion, I have to say that if any gentlemen desire to know anything further in reference to the matter, by calling on me they can be fully satisfied that everything has been done by the Governor and myself, to the very best of our ability, to subserve the interests of the State.

N. BREWER of Jno.,
Adjutant General.

SHE NEVER LEAVES HIM.—Look at the career of a man as he passes through the world; at a man visited by misfortunes!—How often is he left by his fellow men to sink under the weight of his afflictions, unheeded and alone. One friend of his own sex forgets him, another abandons him, a third, perhaps abandons him; but woman, follows him in his afflictions with unshaken affection; braves the changes of feeling, of his temper embittered by the disappointments of the world, with the highest of all virtue; in resigned patience ministers to his wants, even when her own are hard and pressing; she weeps with him, tear for tear, in his distresses, and is the first to catch and reflect a ray of joy, should but one light up his countenance in the midst of his sufferings; and she never leaves him in the midst of his misery while there remains one act of love, duty, or compassion to be performed. And at last, when life and sorrow end together, she follows him to the tomb with an ardor of affection which death itself cannot destroy.

HOME.—The pain which is felt when we are first translated from our native soil, when the living branch is cut from the parent tree is one of the most poignant which we have to endure through this life. There are after griefs which wound more deeply, which leave behind them scars never to be erased, which bruise the spirit and sometimes break the heart; but never do we feel so keenly the want of love, the necessity of being loved, and the utter sense of desertion, as when we first leave the haven of home, and are, as it were, pushed off upon the stream of life.

FROZEN TREES.—Packages of trees sent long distances in autumn, and arriving frozen in winter, are often needlessly sacrificed by the want of a little knowledge and attention. If the roots are frozen tiff, and are not allowed to thaw, until they thaw compactly in the soil, they will be uninjured. Trees which stand in open ground, have, as a matter of course, the roots frozen every winter, with the soil in which they stand. But they thaw out while still embedded in the earth, and are unharmed.

☞ A candidate for office calls at the residence of a gentleman to solicit his vote:

Candidate—Madam, is your husband at home?

Lady—No sir; he has gone to haul away a dead dog, and will be back directly.

Candidate—Sheep-killing dog I reckon Madam?

Fierce spoken urchin—No, sir just barked himself to death at candidates so pap said.

WASHINGTON'S PRAYER.—In McQuire's Religious Opinions and Character of Washington, we find the following:

"In the summer of 1779, Washington exploring alone one day the position of the British forces on the banks of the Hudson, ventured too far from his own camp, and was compelled by a sudden storm and the fatigue of his horse to seek shelter in the cottage of a pious American peasant, who, greatly struck with the manner and language of his guest, listened at the door of chamber and overheard the following prayer from the Father of his Country:

"And now, Almighty Father, if it is Thy holy will that we shall obtain a name and place among the nations of the earth, grant that we may be enabled to show our gratitude for Thy goodness by our endeavors to fear and obey Thee. Bless us with wisdom in our councils, success in battle, and let our victories be tempered with humanity. Endow, also, our enemies with enlightened minds, that they may become sensible of their injustice, and willing to restore our liberty and peace. Grant the petition of Thy servant, for the sake of Him whom Thou hast called Thy Beloved Son; nevertheless, not my will but Thine be done."

A RUSTIC MAIDEN ON MATRIMONY.—A country girl, whose sisters had married badly, was about to take the noose herself.

"How dare you get married," asked a cousin of hers, "after having before you the unfortunate example of your sisters?"

The young girl replied with spirit:

"I choose to make the trial myself. Did you ever see a parcel of pigs running to a trough of hot swill? The first one sticks in his nose gets it scalded, and then draws it back and squeals. The second burns his nose and stands squealing in the same manner. The third follows suit and he squeals too. But still it makes no difference with those behind. They never take warning of those before, but all in turn thrust in their noses, just as if they hadn't got burnt or squealed at all. So it is with girls in regard to matrimony;—and now cousin, I hope you are satisfied."

ONE EFFECT OF LONG-RANGE WEAPONS.—Cham, the clever Parisian caricaturist, is making himself very merry with the long-range weapons now so generally in vogue. According to him the word of command on drill will be, "Attention! Spy-glasses! Fire!" The new weapons enabling the hostile armies to fight at great distances, the vanquished army will be summoned by telegraph to surrender; and a victorious hero returned from the battlefield, and recounting the events of the campaign, when interrogated respecting the personal appearance of the people against whom he has been fighting, will be obliged to confess his inability to satisfy the curiosity of his hearers upon this point, as, though he saw the fire, he was quite out of sight of the enemy!

THE FOX AND THE GOAT.—A fox was one day drinking at a well, when his feet slipped and he fell into the water. It was not deep enough to drown him, yet, with all his efforts, poor Reynard could not get out. Presently, a thirsty Goat looked in and seeing the Fox at the bottom, asked him if the water was good. "Oh, yes," said the Fox, "it is beautiful, and there is plenty of it." In jumped the Goat, and in a moment the Fox leaped on his back, and thence out of the well. "Aha, my friend," said he, as he stood in safety on the brink, "if your brains had been equal to your beard, you'd have looked before you leaped;" and the cunning fellow ran away and left the poor Goat in the water.

COOL.—A gentleman residing in a village, finding that the diminution of his wood piles continued after his fires were out, lay awake one night in order to obtain if possible, some clue to the mystery. At an hour when all honest folks should be in bed, hearing an operator at work in the yard, he cautiously raised the chamber window, and saw a lazy neighbor endeavoring to get a large log into his wheelbarrow. "You're a pretty fellow," said the owner, "to come here and steal my wood while I sleep." "Yes," replied the thief, "and I suppose you would stay up there and see me break my back with lifting, before you'd offer to come help me."

☞ A witness called to give testimony in a town, about a shirt, came to the point very abruptly, as follows:

"Mother said that Sal said that Polly said that Bob told her that he had seen a man that seen a boy that seen a feller that run through the street with a red striped flannel shirt of a white color all checker, all over—and our gals won't lie, for the old woman has often licked 'em a hundred times for lying!"

☞ John Adams, being called upon for a contribution for foreign missions, remarked: "I have nothing to give for that cause, but there are here, in this vicinity, six ministers; not one of them will preach in the others' pulpit; now I will give as much and more than any one else to civilize these clergymen."

☞ Lawyers are very critical. Once a young lawyer, upon being informed of an attachment between a young lady and gentleman, inquired whether the young gentleman was the "lover or lovee?" So an attorney in Dublin wrote a challenge to a gentleman to meet him "in the Four Acres, be the same more or less."