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THE KENT NEWS.

Frustra,laborat, qui omnibus, placere, studet---"He labours vainly, who endeavors to please every one.

BY E. MANSFIELD. CHESTER TOWN, Md. $1 50 PER ANNUM, in advance.

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EDWARD MANSFIELD,
PROPRIETOR.

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POETRY.

THE POOR MAN'S GRAVE.

BY ELIZA COOK.

No sable pall, no waving plume—
No thousand torch-lights to illume;
No parting glance, no heavy tear,
Is seen to fall upon the bier.
There is not one of kindred clay,
To watch the coffin on its way:
No mortal form, no human breast,
Cares where the pauper's bones may rest.

But one deep mourner follows there,
Whose grief outlives the funeral prayer;
He does not sigh—he does not weep—
But will not leave the sodless heap.
'Tis he who was the poor man's mate,
And made him more content with fate—
The mongrel dog that shared his crust,
Is all that stands beside his dust.

He bends his listning head as though
He thought to hear a voice below;
He pines to miss that voice so kind,
And wonders why he's left behind.
The sun goes down—the night is come—
He needs no food—he seeks no home;
But, stretched upon the dreamless bed,
With doleful howl calls back the dead.

The passing gaze may coldly dwell
On all that polished marble tell;
For temples built on church-yard earth
Are claimed by riches more than worth.
But who would mark, with undimmed eyes,
The mourning dog that starves and dies?
Who would not ask—who would not crave
Such love and faith to guard his grave?

MISCELLANEOUS.

The last days at Mount Vernon

Our readers will peruse with pleasure the following article from the National Intelligencer. It was published on the anniversary of Washington's birth day, and is an extract from the private memoirs of George Washington Curtis, Gen. Washington's adopted son:

"The year 1799 was in its last month; Washington had nearly completed his sixty-eighth year; the century was fast drawing to a close, and with it this great man's life. Yet the "winter" of his age had shed its snows "so kindly" upon him as to mellow without impairing his faluties, both physical and mental and to give fair promise of additional length of days.

Nor was Washington unmindful of the sure progress of time, and of his liability to be called at any moment to "that bourne from which no traveller returns." He had for years kept a will by him, and after mature reflection had so disposed of his large property as to be satisfactory to himself and to the many who were so fortunate as to share in his testamentary remembrance.

The last days, like those that proceeded them in the course of a long and a well spent life, were devoted to constant and useful employment. After the active exercise of the morning in attention to agriculture and rural affairs, in the evening came the post bag, loaded with letters, papers and pamphlets.—His correspondence both at home and abroad was immense; yet was it promptly replied to. No letter was unanswered. One of the best bred men of his time, Washington deemed it a grave offence against the rules of good manners and propriety to leave letters unanswered. He wrote with great facility, and it would be a difficult matter to find another, who has written so much, who has written so well. His epistolary writings will descend to posterity as models of good taste, as well as developing superior power of mind. General Henry Lee once observed to the chief, "We are amazed, sir, at the vast amount of work that you accomplish." Washington replied, "Sir, I rise at four o'clock, and a great deal of my work is done while other are asleep."

So punctual a man delighted in always having about him a good time-keeper. In Philadelphia the first President regularly walked up to the watch-maker's (Clarke in Second street) to compare his watch with the regulator. At Mount Vernon the active yet always punctual farmer invariably consulted the dial when returning from his morning ride and before entering his house.

The affair of the household took order from the master's accurate and methodical arrangement of time. Even the fishermen on the river watched for the cook's signal when to pull in shore, so as to deliver his scaly products in time for dinner.

The establishment of Mount Vernon employed a perfect army of servants; yet to each was assigned certain special duties, and these were required to be strictly performed. Upon the extensive estate there was rigid discipline, without severity. There could be no confusion where all was order, and the affairs of this vast concern, embracing thousands of acres and hundreds of dependants, were conducted with as much ease, method, and regularity as the affairs of an ordinary homestead.

Mrs. Washington, an accomplished Virginia housewife of the olden time, gave her constant attention to all matters of her domestic household, and by her skill and superior management, greatly contributed to the comfortable reception and entertainment of the crowds of guests always to be found in the hospitable mansion of Mount Vernon.

Invariably neat and clean in his person, with clothes of the old fashioned cut, but made of the best materials, Washington required less waiting on than any man of his age and condition in the world. A single body servant attended in his room to brush his clothes, comb and tie his hair, (which had become very thin in his last days, worn in the old fashioned queue, and rately with powder,) and to arrange the materials of his toilet. This toilet he made himself, in the simplest and most expeditious manner, giving the least possible amount of his precious time to anything relative to his person When rising at four o'clock, he lighted his own candles, made up his fire and went diligently to work, without disturbing the slumbers of his numerous household.

In the last days of Mount Vernon, desirous of riding pleasantly, the General procured from the North two horses of the Naragansett breed, celebrated as saddle horses. They were well to look upon and were pleasant gaited under the saddle, but were scary, and therefore unfit for the service of one who wished to ride quietly on his farm; occasionally dismounting and walking in his fields to inspect his improvements. From one of these horses the General sustained a heavy fall, probably the only fall he ever had from a horse in his life. It was in November, late in the evening. The General, accompained by Major Lewis, Mr. Peake, (a gentleman residing in the neighborhood,) the Author of the Recollections, and a groom, were returning from Alexandria to Mount Vernon. Having halted for a few moments the General dismounted, and upon rising in his stirrup again, the Narragansett, alarmed at the glare of a fire near the road side sprang from under his rider, who came heavily to the ground.

Our saddles were empty in an instant, and we rushed up to give our assistance, fearing he was hurt; it was unnecessary. The vigorous old man was upon his feet again, brushing the dust from his clothes: and, after thanking us for our prompt assistance, observed that he was not hurt, that he had had a very complete tumble, and that it was owing to a cause that no horseman could well avoid or control; that he was only poised in his stirrup, and had not yet gained his saddle when the scary animal sprang from under him. Meantime all of our horses had gone of at full speed. It was night, and over four miles were to be won ere we could reach our destination The Chief observed that, as our horses had disappeared, it only remained for us to take it on foot, and with manly strides led the way. We had proceeded but a short distance on our march, as dismounted cavaliers, when our horses hove in sight. Happily for us, some of the servants of Mr. Peake, whose plantation was hard by, in returning home from their labor encountered our flying steeds, captured them, and brought them to us. We were speedily remounted, and soon the lights at Mount Vernon were seen glimmering in the distance.

Upon Washington's first retirement in 1783, he became convinced of the defective nature of the working animals employed in the agriculture of the Southern States, and set about remedying the evil by the introduction of mules instead of horses, the mule being found to live longer, be less liable to diseases, require less food, and in every respect to be more valuable and economical than the horse in the agricultural labor of the Southern states; up to 1783 scarcely any mules were to be found in the American Confederation; a few had been imported from the West Indias, but they were of diminutive size and of little value. So soon as the views on this subject of the illustrious farmer of Mount Vernon were known abroad, he received a present from the King of Spain of a jack and two jennies, selected from the royal stud at Madrid. The jack, called the Royal Gitt, was sixteen hands high, of a grey color, heavily made, and of sluggish disposition. At the same time the Marquisde Lafayette sent out a jack and jennies from the Island of Malta; this jack, called the Knight of Malta, was a superb animal, black color, with the form of a stag and ferocity of a tiger. Washington availed himself of the best qualities of the two jacks by crossing the breeds, hence obtained a favorite jack, called Compound, which animal unit'd the size & strength of the Gift with the high courage and activity of the Knight. The jacks arrived at Mount Vernon, if we mistake not, early in 1788. The General bred some very superior mules from his coach mates, sending them from Philadelphia for the purpose. In a few years the estate of Mount Vernon became stocked with mules of a superior order, rising to the height of 16 hands, and of great power and usefulness, one wagon team of four mules, selling at the sale of the General's effects for $800.

In no portion of Washington's various labors and improvements in agriculture was he so particularly entitled to be hailed as a public benefactor as in the introduction of mules in farming labor, those animals being at this time almost exclusively used for farming purposes in the Southern States.

The General of the armies of the U. States was much aided in the discharge of the duties of commander-in-chief by Col Lear, his military Secretary. After the organization of his last army in 1789, the general-in-chief entrusted the details of the service more especially to the known ability and long tried experience of Major Generals Hamilton and Pinckney; still reports were made to and orders issued from headquarters, Mount Vernon. The last army of the Chief was composed of military materials of the very first order. All of the generals officers and nearly all the field were composed of revolutionary, including the illustrious names of Hamilton Pinckney and Wiliam Washington while in the provisional or army of reserve, were Howard, Harry Lee, and others, the history of whose martial renown was to be found on the brightest pages of our revolutionary annals so that, had the threatened invasion occured, we may venture to say that the elite of Europe would have encountered in America an army every way worthy of their swords, and prepared to uphold and perpetuate the heroic fame of America's old battle day.

It pleased Providence to permit the beloved Washington to live to witness the fruition of his mighty labors in the cause of his country and mankind, while his success in the calm and honored-pursuits of agriculture and rural affairs was grateful to his heart, and shed the most benigh and happy influences upon the last days at Mount Vernon.

[*From the Baltimore Sun.*]

BURNS AND SCALDS.—*Messrs. Editors:* Permit an observer, through your widely circulated paper, to direct attention at this time of frequency of *burns* and *scalds*, from accident or negligence, to the employment of *wheat flour* as an external application. Having witnessed, in my neighborhood, the distressing accident of burn in a child of six years of age, who had been suffering excruciating agony for two hours, until the visit of Dr. Monkur, who immediately had the little sufferer undressed and completely enveloped in *wheat flour*. The soothing influence of the application was immediate and evident; the little patient, whose body and extremities were a crust of burn, lived six hours without apparently any suffering; would probably, as remarked by the doctor, have recovered, had not the burn been so extensive and the shock of irritation so deep on the nervous system. In this instance, however, the *comforting* effects of the flour was manifested in relieving the *intense suffering* consequent on the burn, and which should make its adoption known among the people as universal as possible, for there is great increase of accident from the frequent explosion of camphen lamps, steamboat and railroad boilers. And as these occurences are sudden and with extreme torture of the sufferer, makes it necessary that some remedy should be at hand that can be speadily and readily applied and for this purpose everywhere there is a plenty of *wheat flour*

AN OBSERVER.

A negro undergoing an examination at Northampton, Mass., when asked if his master was a Christian, replied—"No, sir; he's a member of Congress.

Caloric Ships for the U. S. Navy.

Hon. John P. Kennedy, Secretary of the Navy, has addressed a letter to the Hon F. P. Staunton, chairman of the committee on naval affairs, of the House of Representatives, suggesting the propriety and importance of their commending to Congress the immediate adoption of Ericsson's great invention for the use of the Navy, and the passage of a resolution to direct the Secretary of the Navy forthwith to make a contract with Captain Ericsson for the contruction, under the superintendence of the Department, of one Ericsson frigate of not less than two thousand tons, to be equipped with caloric engines of sufficient power, as a ship-of-war; and for this purpose to appropriate the sum of five hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Kenedy says:

"I am convinced that the experiment indicated in this measure would resul in a future determination to introduce the caloric engines generally to the naval service under circumstances and conditions which will prove it to be the most effective, useful and economical power that has ever yet been applied to navigation. The probability—indeed the certainty of future improvment in this engine would commend the restriction of the contract at the present moment, to one frigate, whilst the approbation which is due to this most significant invention from the Government could not be more becomingly expressed than in the prompt recognition of its value by an act of Congress."

Reports of the last test trial of the Ericsson, from New York to Alexandria, made by Captain Ericsson and Commander Sands, U. S. Navy, accompany the letter of Mr. Kennedy. The report of Com. Sands is as follows:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23, 1853.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d instant, and in obedience with your instructions beg leave to submit the following brief statement.

My object in requesting permission to make a passage in the caloric ship, on her recent trip, was to witness the practical operation of the new motive power; and it fortunately happened that the weather which we encountered was such as enabled me to satisfy myself on the points with regard to which I had entertained doubts. I was apprehensive that with the new engine it would be impossible to obtain that continuity of action in a seaway which the steam engine has. To my astonishment, however, I found that, during a run of seventy-odd hours consecutively, there was not a single stop in the engine, nor was there the slightest check to the steady movement of the paddle-wheels, although the ship often rolled her weather-wheel out of the water, and pitched considerably. I was also apprehensive that the immense size of the piston, and the elevated position of the upper cylender, would be likely to produce derangement when the ship rolled and pitched heavily. I noticed very carefully that there was not the slightest giving way in any part, everything remaining as firm as if the ship were laying at her dock.

The piston moved perfectly steady and smoothly while the ship was rolling and pitching.

I had heard a good deal said of the great heat applied to the engine, and I therefore frequently visited the firerooms, and found, to my surprise, they were as cool as a cellar. I was much struck with the fact that only one fireman was required on duty at a time, and that he had only to supply a small quantity of coal occasionally. I learned that the regulation was to put in 65 pound every eighty minutes in each of the eight furnaces.

The ship encountered gales or head-winds alternately much of the time from leaving Sandy Hook last Wednesday morning, between nine and ten o'clock, until the anchor was let go near the mouth of the Potomac on Saturday morning, in a snow-storn, it being impossible for the pilot to proceed.

The weather was such during the voyage that the canvass could be used to little advantage at any time. My attention was particularly called to the pressure kept upon the engines, which Captain Ericksson strictly limited to eight pounds. The speed during the gale averaged six and a half turns of the wheel a minute; when the wind was moderate the log indicated six to seven knots at sea.

It would be useless to notice particularly the speed, as the working pressure was limited, as I have already stated; at the same time, I must say that the result was altogether satisfactory.

On the whole, I deem the test trip of the Ericsson as conclusively establishing the success of the new principle; and trust the day is not remote when its introduction into our naval service may free our ships from the danger of being blown up by a chance shot through a boiler, perhaps in the very moment of victory.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedt servant,

JOSHUA SANDS,
Commander United States Navy.

Hon. J. P. Kennedy, Sect. of the Navy.

The proposal of Captain Ericsson, made to Mr. Kenedy, is to build two ships of war, to be equipped with his caloric engine and propellings machinery; said vessels not to be less than 2,000 tons burthen, and to be propelled at the rate of ten miles an hour, on a consumption of not more than eight tons of coal a day. They will be built of the best materials, and finished in 18 months time.

Temperature of the Earth.

The Artesian well, in Paris, says Professor Silliman, had been worked upon for seven years, without reaching water, when Arago came forward and gave the government the assurance that if they would continue their work, and go through the bed of chalk, they would in all probability, find water. They continued their work till they got down through the chalk, when the water rose up in a great volumn of twenty feet.—This water still flows there, and doubtless will continue to flow to the end of time, This water was found to be very hot. Many other Artesian wells have been made all over Europe, for various purposes, and the uniform result has been that we find the earth increasing in heat the lower we go down. The most striking example we have of this is that of Luxembourg, in France, where they bored nearly eight hundred feet.—Add to the testimony of those who work in very deep mines, and we ascertain the fact the rate of heat increases about one degree for every fifty feet of descent; so that, if we were to go down two miles, we should find boiling water; and at ten miles we might reasonably expect to arrive at ignited rocks. Is all, then, beneath us on fire? I am not prepared to say, with some, that this is the case, although their is strong evidence to justify such a theory.—Witness the geysers of Iceland—where hot waters are gushed up from the earth age after age, and century after century. The result of all the observations on springs, goes to show that they are *thermal*—that is, of a higher temperature The Azoras present a very important fact in example. The hot Springs of Lucca in the Appenine Mountains, are large spouting springs, of a very high temperature, so copious, that they may be relied upon for hot baths all the year round. Another case is the Hot Springs of Bath, in England. These are the more remarkable as there are no volcanoes in the British Islands.—We know that from the time of the Romans these waters have never ceased to gush up vast abundance.

The poet Moore writes, August 4th 1800:—"I was yesterday introduced to his Royal Highness, George, Prince of Wales. He is beyond doubt a man of very fascinating manners. When I was presented to him, he said he was very happy to know a *man of my abilities*: and when I thanked him for the honour he did me in permitting the dedication of Anacreon, he stopped me, and said the honour was *entirely* his, in being *allowed* to put his name to a work of such merit. He then said that he hoped, when he returned to town in the winter we should have many opportunities of *enjoying each other's society;* that he was passionately fond of music, and had long heard of my talents in that way. Is not all this very fine? But, my dearest mother, it has cost me a *new coat;* for the introduction was unfortunately deferred till my former one was grown confoundedly shabby, and I got a coat made up in six hours: however, it cannot be helped; I got it on an economical plan, by giving two guineas, and an *old coat*, whereas, the usual price of a coat here is near four pounds. By the by, I am still in my other tailor's debt."

THE LEARNED ELEPHANT.—"That's a very knowing hanimal of yours," said a cockney gentleman, to the keeper of an elephant.

"Very," was the cool rejoinder.

"He performs strange tricks and hanitics, does he?" inquired the cockney, eyeing the animal through his glass.

"Surprisin'!" retorted the keeper, we have learnt him to put money in that box you see way up there. Try him with a dollar." [The cockney handed the elephant a dollar, and sure enough he took it in his trunk and placed it in a box high up out of reach.]

"Well, that is wery hextraordinary—hastonishin', truly?" said the green one, opening his eyes. "Now let's see him take it out and 'and it back.

"*We never learns him that trick*," retorted the keeper, wit a roguish leer, and then turned away to stir up the monkeys and punch the hyenas.

☞Why are country girls' cheeks like French calico?

Ans—Because the are 'warranted to wash and retain their color."

Genuine Poetry.

There is so little genuine poetry now-a-days, that it is quite refreshing to meet with so beautiful a gem as the following. None but those who have felt the "tender passion" can fully appreciate the intensity of the poet's 'phelinx.' It of course must be surmised that Miss Elizabeth—endearingly called Betsey—was a charming girl, and well worth the poet's adoration. Notice the beauty and sublimity of the following lines:

"My love she is my heart's delight,
Her name it is Miss Betsey;
I'll go and see her this very night,
If Heaven and mother 'll let me."

But, alas! for the mortification and disappointment that poets are doomed to suffer. On the head-board of the young man's bed the chamber-maid found written in chalk the next morning:

"I loved Miss Betsey, well I did,
And I went there for to tell her;
But like to goose-grease quick I slid,
For she had another fellow."

☞A Dutchman related a misfortune which befel his son in the following manner:—

"Poor Hans! he bit himself mit a rattlesnake, and vash speechless sick into his ped for six week in te month of August—and all his cry vas vater! vater! and he couldn't eat nothin till he complained of being a leetle betther, so as he could stand up on his elbow and eat a little tea."

The annexed are the ages at which many celebrated men were married:—Shakespeare, 18; Ben Johnson, 21; Walker, 22; Franklin, 24, Mozart, 25; Dante, Kelper, Fuller, Johnson, Burke, Scott, 26; Tycho, Brahe, Byron, Washington, Wellington, Bonaparte, 27; Penn, Sterne, 28; Linnæus, Nelson, 29; Burns, 30; Chaucer, Hogarth, Peel, 32; Wordsworth, Davy, 33; Aristotle, 36; Sir Wm. Jones, 37; Willberforce 38; Luther, 42; Addison, 44; Wesley, Young, 47; Swift, 49; Buffon, 55; Old Parr, (last time,) 120.

GRATITUDE.—At the battle of Trafalgar, a generous British sailor, seeing a brother tar bleeding profusely from a severe wound, ran to his assistance.—He had no sooner raised him the deck on which he fell, than the wounded man said, "Thank you, Jack, and, please God, I'll do the same for you before the fight is over"

"Well, George," asked a friend of a young lawyer, who had been 'admitted' about a year, "how do you like your profession?"

The reply was accompanied by a brief sigh, to suit the occasion: "My profession is much better than my practice."

A GOOD TOAST.—At the Banquet in Alexandria on the 22d, the health of Mr. Curtis being drank, the veteran orator rose, and, in returning thanks, begged leave to offer the following sentiment:

"Honor to whom honor is due."
Let others hail the rising sun,
We bow to him, whose race is run.

Fill more, Fill more, aye, fill to the brim,
A health to the man of the Nation;
Fill more, Fill more, we fill unto him,
Who nobly hath filled his high station.

This sentiment was received with loud cheering.

Natural Magic—A pretty girl.

Shakspere on Bigamy—Loving not wisely, but TWO well.

Disinterested.—For a newspaper to reccommend every person to advertise.

A dandy is generally supposed to be about one-fourth walking-stick, and the rest—kid gloves and hair.

THE VIRTUES OF WATER.—An old paper contains the following recommendation:

"Every morning when washing yourself, dip your face into the water, open your eyes and keep them under the water as long as you can hold your breath. This strengthens the eye and cleanses it from the rheum which deadens the sight and considerably affects the ball. A gentleman in Maryland, by the name of James Calder, after using spectacles for 25 years, followed this plan, and at the age of 70 recovered his sight so as to see without them. Dipping the crown of the head in cold water, every morning, both winter and summer, is a preservative against the head and ear-ache, and will materially assist the other operation in its effects upon the eyes."

A PATIENT LAD—'Ben," said a father the other day to a delinquent son, 'I am busy now, but as soon as I get time I mean to give you a flogging"

"Don't hurry yourself, pa," replied the patient lad, "I can wait."