

The Old Commonwealth.

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A Remarkable Narrative.

A most beautiful, eventful and instructive personal history has come to our knowledge, mainly from the statements of a lady, now far advanced in years, and still living in this State, who was formerly a resident of Lockport, and the wife of a practicing physician of that place. She is personally known to the editors of this paper, and reliance may be placed in all her statements. The occurrences referred to began about the year 1823 or '24 when the great excavation for the Erie Canal through the solid rock for miles at Lockport was in progress, under the supervision of David Thompson as chief engineer, and of which Darius Comstock, a widely known citizen, was one of the largest contractors.

The physician to whom we have referred returned one day from his visiting rounds under a good deal of excitement, and exclaimed to his wife: "I have visited to-day in a poor Irishman's hut, the most beautiful woman I ever saw in my life. She is very sick—her case must be an extraordinary one—and you must go and see what you can do for her." The wife consented to go, and on entering one of the most poverty-stricken hovels she had ever seen—the floor of bare earth, the door cut partly down through the log ends, so that it was necessary to step over the logs that were left—she found the sick woman lying on a bed of straw, supported on rough poles, which constituted the bedstead. She was young in years, and trouble had not obliterated the surpassing beauty nor the refined expression of her countenance. The language she used indicated a high and excellent education, and she had evidently been brought up in genteel society, notwithstanding the utter destitution of her present surroundings. Her husband, a young man recently from Ireland, was a day laborer, employed by Darius Comstock and Otis Hathaway, his assistant, in excavating the bed of the canal. The sick woman was of course averse to giving any account of their history to a stranger, but after several visits the physician's wife secured her confidence, and she related their remarkable history in substance as follows:

She was the daughter of a gentleman in Ireland, in rank but little below the nobility. Her father employed as clerk and steward a young man named John—, of rare attainments and ability. The gentleman's daughter and the young steward formed a mutual attachment; but as he was below her in rank, notwithstanding his high character, the father would not listen a moment to anything of the kind, and seeing what was going on, dismissed him from his service. But the attachment was too strong to be quenched by a mandate. When the young lady and her lover found there was no other resource, they concluded to get married, and "run away." With his scanty means and what little property of her own she could secure, they sailed for Quebec in Canada. The ship was wrecked in the St. Lawrence, and they barely escaped with their lives. All their effects and money went to the bottom of the wide river. Their condition was desolate enough—without means, without experience, unaccustomed to hardship, and in an unknown country among strangers, he was compelled to labor by the day to keep them from starving. He became utterly discouraged, and through the enticement of bad companions, he resorted to drinking. In this state they found their way to Lockport, a place where many laborers were wanted at that time for excavating the canal, and where he could obtain employment. It was here that his young wife, unaccustomed to such accumulated hardships and privations, was prostrated on a sick bed, and in this condition was found by the physician and his wife, as already related.

It was about the same time, or before, that Comstock and Hathaway, the contractors who employed him, observed that the young man had not been accustomed to the severe labor which he had undertaken, and that in handling the crowbar, and in wheeling the loaded barrow, the blood oozed from his fingers. A few days afterwards, when pay day arrived, he signed the receipt for his wages by the usual cross, or "his mark," used by the Irish laborers generally. In the course of a few weeks his employers (who were members of the Society of Friends) observing that he possessed superior intelligence, said to him in the peculiar language in common use by the Friends in that day, "John, this is not thy right place—a man like thee ought to know how to write—and know better than to make a cross mark!" John was stung by this reproach, his latent ambition was aroused; and stopping forward, he took the pen and signed his name in a rapid, practiced and elegant hand. His employers were astonished—and said to him, "John, this is not the place for thee—stop drinking, and we will take thee into our employ as clerk, and at once double thy wages." These were the first kind and helping words which he had heard in America—his life-giving energy went through him like electricity, and from that moment he never drank a drop. He proved himself fully worthy of their confidence, and became distinguished for his efficiency. The morning of prosperity began to dawn upon him. His wife recovered her health. His progress towards great success began. He subsequently went into the forwarding business on the canal, as a partner to a prominent citizen of Western New York, who was also a leading member of Congress. The writer will remember in years before railroads were generally in use, and traveling on the canal was

the common mode of passenger transit, that he could not pass a day anywhere between Schenectady and Buffalo without meeting one or more neatly and well loaded boats, with the golden letters on the side, "John—'s Clinton Line." In short, the young Irish clerk and steward—the canal day laborer—the husband of the beautiful and accomplished young lady prostrated by sickness in the log hut—had become the owner of a successful fleet of canal boats. Before twenty years had elapsed, he became mayor of one of the largest cities of Western New York; was eminent for his enterprise and public spirit, and took a prominent position in public affairs.

After a lapse of years, and when he had become eminently prosperous in business, the father of the lady was stricken with a lingering disease which finally proved fatal. In the midst of this sickness he relented, and divided a portion of his property for his daughter. After his death, John went to Ireland to secure it, and took his little boy with him. While there, he visited his own father and mother, who were still living. They had not heard from him for a time, but knew that he had lived in a certain city in Western New York. He resolved not to announce himself to see if they would recognize him. The stage in which he and his little boy traveled passed within a mile of their home. They reached the house by walking this distance, partly across the fields, about sunset. On entering, his parents did not know him. He said that they were travelers, and begged a night's lodging. The old people were averse to keeping them, and made many excuses. He continued to urge until they finally yielded. By agreement conversation on his part they became interested in their stranger guest. They found he came from America. "What part of America?" they inquired. He told them. "What did you indeed come from?" "Why, I do not know. I have a son living there. And you have come from the same place?" "What is his name?" inquired the traveler. "John—," "Oh yes, I know him." The interview now became deeply interesting; a throng of questions were asked and answered, and their guest became more than welcome. But still they had no guess who he was; the changes of years had obliterated the recollection of his features. He waited till after breakfast. The scene cannot be described and we shall not attempt it. It was one of intense emotion. Our lady informant, who was well acquainted with him, met him on the canal packet (the chief mode of traveling in those days), on his return from Ireland on this journey, and he gave a life-like description of the scene in his own eloquent words, and in speaking of his relation of the occurrence she said to us, "I do not believe any one could have listened to his recital without tears."

She has since made to us the remark, which accords with what those who remember him in his day know of him, that if the ladies of R— wished at any time to get up a subscription paper or start any benevolent enterprise, they always went first to John, and were never denied his generosity always going quite as far as his means would warrant.

What an instructive history was his, and what an encouragement for young men in habits of industry, temperance, integrity and virtue.—*The Country Gentleman.*

There is no necessity of death resulting from either diphtheria or croup, especially with the young, if the proper preventive is applied in time, and it is at the service of every mother and nurse in the whole country. It is simply to spread common tar on a muslin strip, as you would prepare a plaster, and wrap it around the neck and glands of the patient. Renew and supply fresh tar on the neck of the child once or twice a day, and its life is assured. This is a very simple cure, and as diphtheria is in almost every case fatal, we would advise those having it to try this remedy. There is nothing injurious in the tar, and therefore it can have no bad effect.—*Altoona, Pa., Tribune.*

WHAT'S THE USE?—What's the use of bending every faculty to money-getting—think of nothing else—when you can't carry a single dollar with you, and have already more than enough to supply every reasonable want, though you should live to be a hundred years old? There is no note shaving, or mortgages, or stock-bonds, or interest-bearing coupons whither you are going. The current coin of that realm is supposed to consist of many attributes of character, nobility of soul, the thoughts and inclinations which make the world better for the possessor having lived in it.

A new reason has been given why sailors call a ship "she." First, because she always looks best when freshly painted; second, because she always puts the best foot foremost when she has on new sails; third, because she always looks well in stays; and fourth, because she always brings news home from abroad.

"Where's the molasses, Bill?" said a red-headed woman sharply to her son, who had returned with an empty jug. "None in the city, mother. Every grocery has a big black board outside, with the letters chalked on it, N. O. Molasses."

"Why is it," asks an exchange, "that nearly every Senator's wife in Washington is a handsome woman?" It is simply because nearly every Senator's wife who is not a handsome woman is left at home.

DANIEL O'CONNELL.

I saw him on the morning he received his sentence. He came alone in the little robing room where I used to keep my wig and gown, and donned his professional habiliments, his silken robes of Queen's counsel, and his bar wig. As he exchanged for the curly, nut-brown "jassie" he usually wore, I observed his head was entirely devoid of hair. He was as bald as the first Caesar.

When the Chief Justice, Pennefather, pronounced sentence—he had been the agitator's personal enemy and professional rival through his whole career—I noticed a bitter smile flit over the old man's face. O'Connell then retired through a side door where Col. Browne, the Chief Commissioner of Police, was waiting to receive him. Browne, who is still alive, told me that he had his own carriage drawn up close to the outer door, into which he handed the State prisoner, taking a seat by his side and drawing up the blinds. Crowds of friezeled peasants lined the quays; an angry scowl was upon every face, and an infuriated multitude surged the streets of the metropolis. The morning was gloomy; thick flakes of snow were beginning to fall; deep exhalations filled the air as the popular favorite was born slowly away, for the coachman was unable to move his horses faster than at a snail's pace.

Observing this state of affairs, and that the angry mob was pressing close upon the carriage, Colonel Browne, who in his time had led more than one forlorn hope, told me that he felt the emergency of the situation. He took out a case of loaded pistols, cocked and laid them upon his knees. "When O'Connell saw this he smiled. 'A wise precaution,' he said, 'but useless.' 'If I were only to raise my hand you would be in eternity,' and these words which he uttered were full of significant meaning. When his passions are roused a Dublin mob is very terrible. It took a Chief Justice out of his carriage once and tore him to pieces on the spot."

One word from O'Connell on that morning would have caused a revolution. Formidable military precautions had been taken—the troops were under arms, cannon were so placed as to command thoroughfares—but I do believe that if the signal had been given the whole country would have risen, and to annihilate an entire nation by grape-shot would not have been an easy matter. The prisoner was conveyed in safety to Kilmainham, but for many days afterward the prisoner was surrounded by an infuriated throng. There never, I believe, lived in the history of any country a man who had the same extraordinary hold over the affections of an entire nation as O'Connell had over the Irish. He was the greatest popular leader ever known. No one who reads these papers can, I apprehend, form any adequate idea of what those grand meetings were which this man called together and inflamed with his fiery, vigorous eloquence.

From the summit of some hill, where the tribune took up a commanding position you could have seen—thousands deep—the serried and compact ranks of vigorous men (the stature of the Irish peasants usually average six feet) whose eager upturned faces vibrated with every emotion called forth by the impassioned orator. These are the men of men this tribune led. They believed every word which fell from his lips, and they would have followed him to the cannon's mouth, or to the gates of a place which is unmentionable. And when I think of his unbounded influence, the formidable organization he had erected, with the priesthood at his back, and through them the entire populace, and remember how he failed in obtaining the object of his ambition, and contrast with that organization the puny movement in favor of Home Rule, which is but the repeal of the Union in another form, led by an unstable Queen's counsel, then all I can say upon the subject of my countrymen—is don't they wish they may get it!

Notwithstanding Grattan's assertion to the contrary, I believe O'Connell's patriotism was a genuine sentiment. He incurred much obloquy by collecting rent in pence from the people, which amounted often to many thousands a year; but then it must be remembered that he gave up a large professional income in order to be enabled to devote his entire energies to the redress of what he thought their grievances. He was admitted on all hands to be the ablest lawyer of his day. He could drive, as he boasted, a coach and four through any act of Parliament. No jury could withstand his influence; he played upon their passions, their sympathies and their prejudices as if they were the chords of some musical instrument. He was the greatest verdict-getter at the Irish bar, and his subtlety in an argument would baffle the ingenuity of the subtlest judicial intellect. This man had within his grasp the very highest distinctions open to honorable professional ambition (he might have been Lord Chancellor, with a peerage,) but he threw them all away to follow a chimera, and the lesson his career teaches should be laid to heart by any professional agitator who tries to follow his footsteps.

The end of all was that he died at last broken-hearted and worn out, in a foreign country. But who shall say he was not sincere? Notwithstanding the enormous sums which passed through his hands in the entire patronage of Ireland, which the government placed at his disposal, he died not worth one shilling, and was in circumstances of pecuniary embarrassment during the latter part of his life. I know upon yet good authority that having occasion once for the sum of £500, he was obliged to borrow it on a mortgage of his law library. The lender afterward

called in the money. O'Connell could not command it; he was obliged to apply to another lender; and this mortgage was transferred time after time, and it was in existence up to the very last day of his life.—*Belgravia.*

Interesting Facts in Physiology.

Why do some substances taste sweet, others sour, others salt, &c.? It is believed that the impressions of taste arise from the various forms of the atoms of matter presented to the nerves of the tongue.

Why if we should put a nub of sugar to the tip of the tongue has it no taste? Because the gustatory nerves are not distributed to that part of the tongue.

Why do we feel? Because there are distributed to various parts of the body fine filaments, which have for their special duty the transmission to the brain of impressions made upon them by contact with substances.

In what part of the body does the sense of touch more especially reside? In the points of the fingers and in the tongue.

Why do persons whose legs and arms have been amputated, fancy they feel the toes or fingers of the amputated limbs. Because the nervous trunk which formerly conveyed impressions from those extremities remains in the part of the limb attached to the body. The mind has been accustomed to refer the impulses received through that nervous trunk to the extremity where the sensations arose; and now that the nerve has been cut, the painful sensation caused thereby is referred to the extremity which the nerve supplied, and the sufferers for a time appear to continue to feel the part which they have lost.

Why do we perspire? Because the skin is filled with very minute pores which act as outlets for a portion of the blood that serves to moisten and cool the surface of the body, and to carry away some of the matter no longer needed in the system.

How is the perspiration formed? By very small glands which lie embedded in the skin. It is estimated that there are about 2,700,000 perspiratory glands over the surface of the body, and that these glands find outlets for their secretion through no less than seven millions of pores.

What is insensible perspiration? Insensible perspiration is that transmission of watery particles through the skin which is constantly going on, but which takes place so gently that it cannot be perceived. It is, however, very important in its results, as no less than from twenty to thirty-three ounces of water may pass imperceptibly through the skin in twenty-four hours.

What is sensible perspiration? Sensible perspiration is that moisture which exudes upon the skin in drops large enough to be perceptible, when the body is heated by exercise or other means.

Table Manners.

The table is the place at which the family meet, and where there should be the freest and most unrestrained social intercourse. We eat to live; but the mere animal necessity is lifted up and glorified when the charms of pleasant conversation and of mutual courtesy surround the custom. So far as the sustaining of life is concerned, that object might be reached, if each took his bread and meat and retired to a closet to eat it alone. But there is a spiritual life that is to be fed and sustained, and it is starved where there is no grace, not only before, but during a meal.

The great trouble with our American life is that it is too gloomy. We take no time to entertain and amuse each other. Not seldom does it happen in some houses that a meal progresses in dead silence, except when it is necessary to speak about the dishes, or to help some one to potatoes or pie. This is almost as bad as rudeness or quarrelling. There ought to be bright, genial, sparkling talk, in which the children should be allowed to join. There is no sense whatever in compelling an intelligent child to sit like a deaf mute at the table; though, on the other hand, children should not monopolize the conversation, nor be allowed to ask strings of irrelevant questions. Every one should prepare for the table by some simple process of dressing. The hair should be smooth, the hands washed, and the general appearance of each individual inviting, and each should try to be as agreeable as possible to every other. It is quite wonderful how a little freshening of the toilet freshens up the soul as well as the face. So far, we ought all to be luxurious. If the mother sees to it that her school-boys always come to dinner with clean hands and nails, and that her daughters never dawdle into the room in fawdery finery or soiled wrappers, she will do more than she dreams of in the work of making them grow into real gentlemen and ladies.

The table itself ought to have a festive look. Flowers have a special grace on the breakfast board. A dish of fruit nicely arranged, pleases the eye as well as the palate at dinner. Clean linen, even though coarse, and whole plates and cups, with bright glass and silver, help appetite along. A few well-cooked dishes, however plain, nicely served, will promote health and happiness better than a great variety ruined in the preparation.

"A young poet sends in a contribution entitled 'Let us Love.' We will do our best, but we have been married over four years now, and are a little out of practice."

To cure dull times—Apply an advertisement: it is the afflicted part.

Rival Royalty in Spain.

"Alphonists" and "Carlists" have become familiar words to newspaper readers, while the grounds upon which each party bases its claims to the Spanish throne, have almost been forgotten. The troubles which have attended the Spanish succession are to be traced to remote causes. While the Roman power still controlled Europe, a tribe of war-like barbarians, known as the Sallii, dwelt between the Meuse and the Moselle. After the decline of Rome, the Sallii became leaders among the barbarians who overran Gaul or France, and from them came the Merovingian kings. One of the customs of the Sallii, which in time became recognized as a law, was that the crown should descend to the male heirs, to the exclusion of the females. This was the origin of what is known as the Sallii law, which has always been observed in France from the time of Clodion, early in the fifth century, down to Charles X., who died in 1836.

Several times in French history, the reigning dynasties were overthrown by usurpers, who in turn founded new dynasties, but each of these in turn observed the Sallii law of succession, and under that, no female could lawfully inherit the throne of France.

In Spain, however, which had been conquered by another set of barbarians, the Visigoths, the Sallii law was unknown. Before the conquest of Spain by the Saracens, the kings had been elected, but after the expulsion of the Saracens, and the restoration of the Spanish monarchy, the crown became hereditary. The Sallii law, however, was not recognized. Isabella, Queen of Castile, consolidated, by her marriage with Ferdinand of Aragon, the Spanish Monarchy.

A later king, Charles V. of Austria, inherited the Spanish crown in right of his mother, and still later, when a daughter of Philip IV. of Spain, married Louis XIV. of France, it was specially stipulated that she should renounce all her prospective rights to her father's crown. Philip IV. was succeeded by his son Charles II., and the latter died in 1689, leaving no issue, but his will, bequeathing the crown to his grand nephew, Philip of Anjou, the grandson of his sister and Louis XIV. of France.

After much trouble, and nearly 12 years' fighting, Philip was enabled to occupy the throne in comparative peace, under the title of Philip V. He was a Frenchman and not unreasonably was attached to the laws and customs of his native country. He accordingly, with the consent of the Cortes or Spanish Parliament, changed the old law of succession, and introduced the Sallii law. It was this act of the first Bourbon King of Spain, about one hundred and seventy years ago, that gave rise to the Carlistism of our own day. Philip V. had two sons, Philip VI., who succeeded him, but who died without issue in 1763, and Carlos III., who succeeded to the throne on the death of his brother. Carlos III. died in 1788, and was succeeded to the throne on the death of his brother. Carlos III. died in 1788, and was succeeded by his son, Carlos IV. This king had three children, two sons, Ferdinand and Carlos, and a daughter, Carlotta, who married the King of Portugal. The two boys were very delicate children, and Carlos IV., fearing that neither of his sons would live to succeed him, and therefore, according to the Sallii law, that the throne would pass out of his family, established with the consent of the Cortes, a new law, known as the "Pragmatic Sanction," which provided that, in default of male heirs, his daughter Carlotta should succeed him.

Contrary to expectation, however, the two sons did not die, and when Carlos IV. died, his eldest son succeeded him, under the title of Ferdinand VIII. King Ferdinand the Eighth, and his brother Carlos, known as Don Carlos, hated each other very heartily. Don Carlos was a favorite of the old Spanish Conservatives, to whom the liberal tendencies of King Ferdinand gave great offense. Ferdinand had three wives, who all died, leaving him childless, and it appeared as if Don Carlos would succeed to the throne if he survived his brother. To prevent such a catastrophe, the King married for the fourth time, and then caused the "Pragmatic" of his father, Carlos the Fourth, to be reestablished, in order that, whatever sex his expected child might be, its title to the throne should be undisputed. In October, 1830, a little princess was born, who in time became Isabella Second, and it was she who was forced by the revolution of 1868 to fly from Spain.

Finding his hope of succeeding to the throne destroyed by the birth of his brother's child, Don Carlos refused to admit the right of a woman to succeed to the Spanish throne, and proclaimed that the Sallii law still existed in Spain, and that neither his father, Carlos IV. nor his brother, Ferdinand VII., had any right to repeal it. It is to be remembered, however, that the Sallii law had been introduced into Spain by the first Bourbon king, with the consent of the Cortes, and if the right to do this is recognized, it must follow that the law could be repealed by the same authority that created it. Don Carlos headed an insurrection having for its object the setting aside of the "Pragmatic," and the recognition of the Sallii law, by which he himself would succeed to the throne.

This was the first of that series of Carlist outbreaks which, during the last forty years, have been such a fruitful source of disturbance and bloodshed in Spain. In 1832 another daughter was born to Ferdinand, Maria Louisa Fernanda, who married the Duc de Montpensier, youngest son of Philippe, King of the French. The Carlist insurrections had been quelled,

Don Carlos having been banished to Portugal, when, in 1833, Ferdinand VII. died, and his young daughter, Isabella II., was proclaimed Queen under the regency of her mother. Another Carlist insurrection immediately broke out, Don Carlos styling himself Carlos V., as if he were actually King of Spain. This and subsequent Carlist insurrections were with difficulty suppressed, and Isabella II. reigned as Queen until 1868, when she fled from the kingdom, and subsequently (1870) abdicated in favor of her son, Don Alphonso, who, by another turn of events has just been proclaimed King. After the death of the first Don Carlos, his son, who, to distinguish him, may be called Don Carlos II., perpetuated his father's claim. Don Carlos II. died in 1861, without children, and his claims descended by inheritance to his brother, Don Juan de Borbon. Don Juan, however, abdicated his rights in favor of his son Don Carlos, who is now at the head of the present Carlist insurrection. The new King, Alfonso XII., and the present Don Carlos are, therefore, second cousins—the former being a grandson, and the latter a grand nephew of King Ferdinand VII.

A teacher in one of our county public schools, who is not a master of French pronunciation, but is a poet, has delivered himself of a few verses in imitation of Tilton's jaunty little poem on "Teaching French." They run thus:

Stonck Jack Walton, Robert Lee,
Stand up now and look at me;
What city stands near Jean's river?
"Almer, almer, c'est a dire."
Rachel, Reuben, Dick, and Ellen,
Rise in your seats and say your spellin';
Con-stant-i-nople? Gus-dal-quivir?
"Almer, almer, c'est a dire."
Victoria Willwood, take the bunch,
And read this dainty bit of French;
Pronounce like me, without a shiver,
"Almer, almer, c'est a dire."
Roll out your hand, Bill Jolles, I'll see
Whether you'll laugh again at me;
Translate this Latin, blast your liver,
"Almer, almer, c'est a dire."
Take your seats here, in a row,
All shall be thrashed before you go;
No power can from the rod deliver,
"Almer, almer, c'est a dire."
(*Charlottesville Chronicle.*)

Boys, Wake Up.

Boys, wake up! Don't sit dreaming as though the world was just made to sleep in. Don't imagine somebody is going to clothe and feed you while you do nothing but read love stories. Have more ambition than to part your hair in the middle, carry a cane and flourish a cigar. Don't any of you belittle yourselves by using to bedeck in any form. It will make you filthy, create an appetite for liquor, and make you old and nervous.

Wake up. Try to be somebody. Try to do something. Try to be noble, honest and industrious. By being somebody we do not mean simply being rich, or just like all the rest of the boys. Step out boldly, into new paths that other boys are too indolent and timid to try.

To do something is to shovel dirt, take hold of the plow handle, run errands; indeed, anything that is right, rather than lounge on the street corners, dry goods boxes, or hang around hotel steps. If you would rather tell a falsehood, or smoke, or drink, than to be seen in plain clothes, coarse boots and at work—you are just nobody.

Truth, temperance and good deeds make men; clothes have nothing to do with it. If the lady you associate with talk sneeringly of their mothers and sisters, avoid them as you would a deadly poison. The influence of low, vulgar language may lead you to infamy. Be pure. Oh, how pleasant it is to look into the face of an innocent lad who is chaste and virtuous.

Somewhat Mixed.

The following conversation took place between two friends:
What's the matter, Bob?
Sam, who am I?
Why, you are yourself—Bob Harrison; ain't you?
No; far from it.
Why, what's the matter?
Well, sir, I am so mixed up, I don't know who I am.

Don't take it so hard to heart. I can't help it.
Well, sir, what's the matter?
Why, I'm married.
Married! Why, sir, you should be happy.
Yes, but I ain't.
Why, all married men are supposed to be happy.
Yes, but how many are so?
Well, sir, as I said before, don't take it so hard; tell me all about it.
Well, Sam, I'll tell you how it is. You see I married a widow, and this widow had a daughter.
Oh, yes! I see how it is; you've been making love to the daughter?
No, worse than that! You see my papa was a widower, and married the daughter; so that makes my father my son-in-law, don't it?
Well, is that all?
No, I wish it was. Don't you see, my step daughter is my step mother, ain't she? Well, then, her mother is my grandmother, ain't she? I am married to her, ain't I? So that makes me my own grandfather, don't it?
Well, upon my word, Bob, you are certainly somewhat mixed.

Charles Dickens said that "the first external revelation of the dry rot in men is a tendency to lurk and lounge; to be at street corners without intelligible reason; to be going anywhere when met; to be about many places rather than any; to do nothing tangible, but to have an intention of performing a number of tangible duties to-morrow or the day after."

SMART MEN.—Washington never made a speech. In the zenith of his fame he once attempted it, failed, and gave it up confused and ashamed. In framing the Constitution of the United States the labor was almost wholly performed in committees of the whole, of which George Washington was the chairman; but he made two speeches during the convention of a very few words each, something like one of Grant's speeches. The Convention, however, acknowledged the master spirit, and historians affirm that had it not been for his personal popularity, and the thirty words of his first speech, pronouncing it the best that could be uttered upon the constitution would have been rejected by the people.—Thomas Jefferson never made a speech. He couldn't do it. Napoleon, whose executive ability is almost without a parallel, said that his greatest difficulty was in finding men of deeds rather than words. When asked how he maintained his influence over his superiors in age and experience when commander-in-chief of an army in Italy, he said, by reserve. The greatness of a man is not measured by the length and the number of his speeches.

A TRUE MAN.—Show us the young man who can quit the society of the young and take pleasure in listening to the kindly voice of the aged; show us a man who is ever ready to pity and help the deformed; show us the man who covers the faults of others with a mantle of charity; show us the man who bows as politely to the poor sewing girl and gives her the street as freely to her as to the millionaire; who values, not clothes; who shuns the company of such as gather at public places to gaze at the fair sex, or make unkind remarks of the passing girl; show us the man who abhors a libertine, who scorns the ridicule of his mother's sex, and the exposure of womanly reputation; show us a man who never forgets for an instant the delicacy due woman, in any condition or class—and you show us a true gentleman.

The Atlanta Constitutionalist recalls the following incident of the Zachary Taylor campaign: Governor Wise and a friend were canvassing Virginia, the friend for and the Governor against Taylor. The Governor contemptuously alluded to old Zach, and frequently called him "old ignorance," whose speeches were written by his son-in-law, Bliss. But when the Governor's opponent came to his turn, he simply retorted, "When Ignorance is Bliss, 'tis folly to be Wise."

"What is your name?" asked a census-taker. "John Corcoran." "Your age?" "Twenty-one." "What nativity?" "Well, that's what bothers me. I'll tell you, and maybe you can make it out. My father was Irish, but is now a naturalized American citizen, my mother, English, and I was born on a Dutch frigate, under the French flag in Turkish waters. Now, how is it?"

A rural paper observed, with great facility of expression: "These moon-light nights! Ah! by how many a vine embowered gate soft eyes look love to eyes that speak again, and the pressure of a tiny hand in a huge masculine paw wakes to ecstasy the living liar."

A man went into a drug store, and says he "I wish you would give me some Nancy Soda." "Don't you mean Sal Soda?" says the clerk. "Wall, now, I don't know but you're right; I knew 'twas a girl's name," said the searcher for Sal.

"Thomas," said a father to his son, "don't let that girl make a fool of you. Look sharp. Remember the adage that love is blind." "O, that adage won't wash," said Tom; "talk about love being blind! Why I see ten times as much in that girl as you do."

The Boston Post says the civil rights bill won't do the darlings down South any good. Since they were swindled out of all their money by the Freedmen's Savings Bank they can't afford to patronize the hotels, theaters, public conveyances and "sich."

A Danabque boy was rather troubled for fear that he would not know his father when they both reached heaven, but his mother eased him by remarking: "All you have to do is to look for an angel with a red nose on him."

Three sisters of the West End are so set in their temperance principles that they make the hired girl smell the breath of every gentleman caller and report the result before admittance to the parlor can be obtained.

A photographer taking down one of Dr. Mary Walker's lectures, made the well known legend, "Eni soit qui mal y pense," read "Only see how Molly pants!"

A SYRACUSE man, who has thirteen daughters, says he has paid for enough wire in the form of hair-pins to equip a respectable telegraph line.

The hardest thing to deal with—An old pack of cards.

What kind of robbery is not dangerous? A safe robbery, of course.

What is that which, though black, enlighteneth the world?—Iuk.

A revolutionary character—The man in the moon.

A grave mistake—Accidentally burying a man alive.

OLD COMMONWEALTH.

HARRISONBURG, VA.
C. H. VANDERPOFF, Editor.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAR. 18, 1875.

On account of a press of other matter upon our columns this week, editorial articles prepared have to be omitted. We have an article on "A short and cheap route from the West to tide-water," which will appear next week.

In our local department will be found a very interesting article headed "Old Papers," which gives an account of former times in Rockingham and the names of some of the actors upon the stage of life in the olden time, nearly all of whom have been laid beneath the sod.

To our brothers of the press, we suggest that it will be appropriate for them to state that this issue of the COMMONWEALTH is the best number ever sent out, on account of the absence of editorials.

Baltimore Conference.

The assembling of the Baltimore M. E. Conference South at Washington was mentioned last week. We copy some extracts from the proceedings which will be interesting to our readers, and also give the full list of appointments.

ROCKINGHAM DISTRICT.

Rev. J. S. Martin, presiding elder of Rockingham district, gave an interesting and glowing account of affairs in his district, saying that Methodism had a strong hold on the people there, and was greatly on the increase.

A letter was read from the Wesleyan Female Institute, Staunton, Va., giving a statement of the condition of the school, which was referred to the committee.

Rev. J. S. Martin, presiding elder of the Rockingham district, asked for a superannuated relation for Rev. A. A. Eskridge.

Mr. Eskridge spoke briefly and feelingly, saying that he had been in the active ministry for forty-five years. His circuit contained twenty-four appointments, requiring three hundred miles of travel. In his first year of service he had received four hundred converts in the Church. He felt when it was said that old men were not wanted, although he could preach as long and as well as ever, but was not able to give a circuit, that he could get out of the way and make room for the younger.

The conference granted Mr. Eskridge a superannuated relation.

Under the call for the special order of the day, the action of the General Conference held at Louisville in May last, charging the general rules by striking out the words on page 27 of the Discipline "drunkenness or drinking spirituous liquors," and inserting "rankling, bawling, selling, or using as a beverage intoxicating liquors," was considered. The question was voted upon, and the following was the result: Clerical delegates—yes 65, noes 47; lay delegates—yes 13, noes 4. Total, 78 yes and 51 noes.

The different places nominated were strongly urged by their advocates, and various reasons were assigned why one city should be selected over that of another. A vote was taken, which stood: Fredericksburg, 35; Winchester, 43; Harrisonburg, 88; Lewisburg, 1; Washington city, 4. Winchester was selected as the place of meeting.

When the name of Rev. S. R. Swapp, of Franklin, was called, the Presiding Elder stated that Brother Swapp met with the misfortune of having his horse stolen, and it was sold. The brother received from the party who had purchased the horse another with the understanding that he was to keep it if his own was not returned.

The Bishop: It was not such a bad swap after all.

The Presiding Elder: he had, however, incurred an expense of about \$100.

The Bishop delivered a short lecture on the importance of tempering justice with mercy in the dispensation of discipline in regard to the prevention of sinning and profanity. He said they could preach till they lost their voice, but they could not stop the young people from sinning unless they are strict in regard to discipline.

A paper was read showing that the ministers generally sustain a loss of ten to fourteen per cent. on their salaries, and it was referred to the Finance Committee to devise some plan by which the salaries may be kept up.

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE APPOINTMENTS.

Winchester District—Samuel B. Gist, presiding elder; Winchester circuit, S. Rodgers; Winchester circuit, W. S. Eggleston and J. H. March; Frederick mission, G. Stevenson; Strasburg, M. G. Balthus; Front Royal and Riverton, J. H. Delany; Warren circuit, J. Asbury Register; Berryville circuit, A. N. Dolly; Martinsburg, L. C. Miller; Bruceton, S. Townsend and J. F. Boggs; Berkeley circuit, J. W. Wolf; Charlottesville, C. S. Ferguson; Shepherdstown, A. P. Neal; Gainesboro, S. L. Martin; Morgan, W. M. Hines; Wardsville, L. Grabel, W. A. Taylor, sup.; Shenandoah, A. A. Rube; Roanoke Female College, J. P. Hyde.

Rockingham District—D. Thomas, presiding elder; Staunton, J. S. Martin, A. R. Martin, sup.; Harrisonburg, S. B. Roze; Shenandoah Iron Works, W. C. Murray; Mt. Sidney, J. H. Tene; Mt. Chulaville, J. T. Tiggert; Sandy, J. S. Jefferson, sup.; Bridgewater, G. Manzy; Sangerville mission, F. Farr; Rockingham, A. C. Caldwell.

Montpelier District—P. H. Wisner, presiding elder; Montpelier, W. H. Wilk; Petersburg, J. B. C. Hanna; Franklin, S. F. E. Trapp; Keyser, J. S. Hamilton; South Branch, J. S. Hamilton; and S. K. Gilbert; Sandy, J. H. Wolf and T. G. Mann; North River, J. W. Shreve; Hardy mission, W. Varner; Piedmont, James L. Shipley; Frostburg, C. E. Simons; Sissonville, L. R. Markwood; Cumberland, G. H. Zimmerman; Flintstone, J.

MARRIED.

Beatty, Reinsburg, J. R. Andrew; South Fork, A. C. McNeer, J. W. Compton, transfer to Columbia conference; J. R. Smith to South Baltimore; L. H. Davis and J. D. Reese to Illinois; L. H. Clark to Virginia conference; B. B. Duncan to Florida conference; W. Harris to Denver conference; H. W. Linslin to Halston conference.

DIED.

On Wednesday, March 11th, 1875, in Edom, Rockingham county, Va., Mrs. Fannie Barb, wife of Rev. John H. Barb, of this county, daughter of John P. Barb, of Salem, Va., aged 30 years.

Mrs. Barb became a resident of this county in August, 1874. Since that time, her sweet disposition and beautiful character have been a blessing to her family. She was a devoted wife and mother, and her death is a great loss to her family.

Her funeral services were held on Saturday, March 14th, at 10 o'clock, at her late residence. The services were conducted by Rev. John H. Barb.

The following named convicts were registered at the penitentiary Saturday from Albemarle county: Benjamin Franklin for five years for burglary, and William Swann, three years for house-breaking.

Mr. A. V. B. Gaw, engineer, acting under direction of the Quartermaster's Department, has been engaged for several days in locating the site of the Federal Cemetery at Ball's Bluff.

The Governor has appointed Messrs. J. P. O'Farrell and Ambrose Robinson notaries public, the former at Thompson's Cross-Roads, Louisa county, and the latter at Central depot, Montgomery county.

The Presbytery of the Chesapeake will meet in Warrenton on the 31st of this month. This is the regular spring meeting of that body. In addition to other matters, the Presbytery will ordain and install Mr. J. A. Scott, who has been supplying the Warrenton Church for the past ten months.

At the late term of the Federal Court, at Charleston, W. Va., an order was made in the suit of the creditors of the White Sulphur Springs Company against that company, directing the commissioner to rent this property, within a month, for a sum not less than the rental of last year, and if this cannot be accomplished, then to rent publicly to the highest bidder.

General Albert Pike, Sovereign Grand Commander, and Colonel John Robin McDaniel, Grand Inspector-General of the Scottish Rite of Masons, at the Opera House in Norfolk, Tuesday night, publicly installed the officers-elect of McDaniel Lodge of Perfection, A. A. R. Thirty-third Masons. An interesting address was delivered by General Pike.

Occident Coming East.—California's favorite trotter, Occident, will leave for the East about the first of April, in charge of Bud Doble. Doble, since he has had charge of Occident, has succeeded in educating him up to a higher standard of excellence in the way of curbing his disposition to be untidy at times, treating him kindly but firmly, and in a manner that is highly satisfactory to his owner and the numerous friends of this wonderful horse.

Last week about a hundred of the striking miners at Ashton, Pa., belonging to that organization known as the Molly Maguires, paraded with masks, pistols, knives and clubs, in search of so-called "black legs" who were at work and opposed to the strike. Luke Sweeney, the chief object of their wrath, and several others, were notified to quit work or take the consequences, and they promised to do so in order to save their lives.

The Harper's Ferry Property.—There is a report current in Washington that Mr. Tom. Scott has bought out all the rights and privileges of the Harper's Ferry Water Power and Manufacturing Company. If this should turn out to be true, it will give Mr. Scott complete power over the main-stem of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at that point.

Queens Out of Business.—At the present moment there are four so-called Queens of Spain out of the business—Christine, widow of Ferdinand VII., who resides near Havre; Isabella II., mother of the new King, the Duchess of Aosta, wife of Prince Amadeus; and the wife of Don Carlos, who styles himself Charles VII.

Cut This Out. IT MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE. There is no person living but what suffers more or less from Lung Disease, Coughs, Colds or Consumption, yet some would rather die than pay 75 cents for a bottle of medicine, which is a sure cure. Dr. A. Roese's German Syrup has cured many in this country from Germany, and its wonderful cures astonish everyone who tries it. If you doubt what we say in print, cut this out and take it to your Druggist, Dr. A. Roese, or a sample bottle for a cent, or a regular size for 75 cents, and try it.

G. G. GREEN, Woodbury, N. J.

"Hard Times, Come Again No More." All persons desirous of securing useful, honorable and highly profitable employment, without expense of any age, sex, or social position, entirely free from competition, and without limit, should read "Fortune Won: A Working Man's Narrative," the story of a poor mechanic who, while in bad health, without means, and with a family on his hands, discovered a business in which he made a fortune in a few years, and tells so plainly how it was done, that any one who reads his narrative can be equally successful.

Commenced in the January number of the POPULAR MONTHLY, a large, four-column literary paper, filled with the choice productions of American and foreign authors. Magnificent list of costly premiums. Sent three months on trial for 25 cents. Address: LIT. MONTHLY COMPANY, Lawrenceburg, Indiana.

Gold closed dull in New York, Monday, at 117 1/2.

HARRISONBURG MARKET.

Corrected weekly by L. O. STEINBERGER.

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 18, 1875.

Flour, Family, \$4.00 to \$4.50.

Do Super, \$3.50 to \$4.00.

Do Extra, \$3.00 to \$3.50.

Do Family, \$2.50 to \$3.00.

Do Super, \$2.00 to \$2.50.

Do Extra, \$1.50 to \$2.00.

Do Family, \$1.00 to \$1.50.

Do Super, \$0.50 to \$1.00.

Do Extra, \$0.25 to \$0.50.

Do Family, \$0.10 to \$0.25.

Do Super, \$0.05 to \$0.10.

Do Extra, \$0.02 to \$0.05.

Do Family, \$0.01 to \$0.02.

Do Super, \$0.00 to \$0.01.

Do Extra, \$0.00 to \$0.01.

Do Family, \$0.00 to \$0.01.

Do Super, \$0.00 to \$0.01.

Do Extra, \$0.00 to \$0.01.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

REPORT of the Condition of the First National Bank of Harrisonburg, at HARRISONBURG, in the State of VIRGINIA, at the close of business on MARCH 1, 1875.

ASSETS.	LIABILITIES.
Loans and Discounts, \$20,000.00	Capital Stock paid in, \$10,000.00
Overdrafts, 100.00	Surplus Fund, 10,000.00
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation, 100,000.00	Other, 10,000.00
Other State Bonds and Mortgages, 1,250.00	
Due from other National Banks, 4,375.00	
Due from State Banks and Bankers, 5,750.00	
Real Estate, Furniture and Fixtures, 20,000.00	
Current Expenses and Taxes paid, 310.00	
Interest on U. S. Bonds, 20,000.00	
Due to other National Banks, 2,500.00	
Due to State Banks and Bankers, 500.00	
Fractional Currency (including nickel), 450.00	
Legal Tenders, 500.00	
Redemption Fund with U. S. Treasurer, 5,000.00	
	(9 per cent. of circulation)
Total, \$207,985.00	Total, \$207,985.00

State of Virginia, County of Rockingham, ss: I, J. A. GRATTAN, Clerk of said County, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3rd day of March, 1875.

Correct. Attest: J. A. GRATTAN, Clerk.

(Signed) J. A. GRATTAN, Clerk.

ABRAHAM WHITMORE, in CHANCERY IN CIRCUIT COURT OF ROCKINGHAM COUNTY.

ELIJAH ARMENTROUT, Adm'r of JAMES WHITMORE, &c.

vs. JAMES WHITMORE, &c. OP ROCKINGHAM COUNTY.

At a meeting of representatives of the different creditors under the charge of the Rev. John H. Barb, of this county, held at the residence of the said John H. Barb, on the 14th day of March, 1875, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That in the death of our sister, the late Mrs. Fannie Barb, who was a resident of this county, the following creditors be paid in full:

Resolved, That the proceeds of the sale of the real estate of the said Fannie Barb, be divided among the following creditors in full:

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be communicated to the creditors of the said Fannie Barb, and that they be published in the Rockingham papers, the Roanoke Times and the Washington Post.

Witness my hand and the seal of said County, this 14th day of March, 1875.

WILLIAM D. ROGERS, Clerk of said County.

JOHN W. NEFF, Adm'r of JAMES WHITMORE, &c.

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