

The Old Commonwealth.

Volume XI.—Number 17.

HARRISONBURG, VA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1876.

\$2.00 a Year in Advance.

TO MY WIFE.

PERMEATED BY REQUEST.

[The following exquisite stanza reveals the poetical genius of Joseph Brown, a young Irish journalist, once editor of the New Orleans Delta, and who died in that city in May, 1867, at the early age of twenty-eight. It has been frequently published, but never in a correct form.]

Come to me, darling, I'm lonely without thee:
Daytime and night-time I'm dreaming about thee;
Night-time and daytime I dream I behold thee;
Unwelcome the waking which comes to dislodge thee.

Come to me, my darling, my sorrows to lighten:
Come in thy beauty to bless and to brighten;
Come in thy womanhood, meekly and lowly;
Come in thy loveliness sweetly and holy.

Swallows shall find round the desolate ruins,
Telling of spring and its joyous renewing,
And thoughts of thy love and its manifold treasure
Are circling my heart with a promise of pleasure.

Oh! spring of my spirit, oh! May of my bosom,
Shine in my soul till it blossoms and blooms;
The waste of my life has a rose root within it,
And thy fondness alone to the sunlight can win it.

Figures which move like a song through the even,
Features lit up with a radiance of heaven,
Eyes like the skies of poor Erin our mother,
Where sunshine and shadows are chasing each other:

Smiles coming seldom, but childlike and simple,
And opening their eyes from the heart's little dimple,
Oh! thanks to the Savior that even thy seeming
Is left to the exile to brighten his dreaming.

You have been glad when you know I was gladdened;
Dear, are you sad when you hear I am saddened?
Our hearts ever answer in tune and in time, love;
As o'er to the ocean or rhyme unto rhyme, love;

I cannot smile but your cheeks will be glowing,
You cannot weep but my tears will be flowing,
You will not linger when I shall have sped love,
And I could not live without you by my side, love.

Come to me, darling, ere I die of my sorrow;
Rise on your gloom like the sun of to-morrow;
Strong, swift, and fond as the words I speak, love,
With a song at your heart and a smile on your cheek,

love.
Come, for my heart in your absence is dreary;
Haste, for my spirit is sickened and weary;
Come to the arms which alone shall embrace thee,
Come to the heart which is throbbing to press thee.

HATTIE HYDE.

I am Hattie Hyde, an old maid, or at least, not a young one, and I intend to remain so.

But I come very near getting married last spring, and I will tell you how it happened.

I am thirty-five, and not absolutely ugly—at least, when I look in the glass, I see reflected there a good fresh complexion, sparkling hazel eyes, and an abundance of brown hair.

I might have married two or three times, only I wasn't really in love.

But when Clarence Raymond came down to spend the vacation with his aunt—Mrs. Raymond—I must confess to a little womanly flutter around the heart, for he was tall and handsome, and in short, just the hero of romance that I always dreamed about.

"Hattie," said Mrs. Richmond—we were quite confidential friends, and call one another Hattie and Pamela, and borrowed each other's books, and all sorts of things—"Hattie, I think Clarence rather fancy you."

"Do you?" said I, feeling the tell-tale blushes come into my face, and my heart began to thump beneath the pretty lace tuckers of Valenciennes and pink ribbon that I had taken to wearing every day.

"I am certain of it," said Mrs. Richmond; "and how nice it will be to have you for a cousin."

That evening Clarence asked me if I would marry him, and of course I said—

"Yes."

It was very nice to be engaged.

He gave me a lovely cameo ring, choicer and more antique than any diamond could have been.

It had been his mother's ring, he said, and he repeated the most delicious poetry, and vowed that it expressed the very sentiments of his heart.

And we had wanderings in the cool, fern-scented woods, and moonlight talks on the porch, and I began to wonder whether I should be married in white satin or a dove-colored traveling dress, and pink ribbons in my hat.

One evening, just after Clarence had returned to his unavoidable engagement in the city, old Uncle Elnathan came to visit me.

Uncle Elnathan was one of those people of whom we are apt to ask, "why were they ever created?"

He was a venerable old gentleman, with long silver hair, that fell over the collar of his bottle green coat, and cloth gaiters that irresistibly reminded one of a black pussy cat, and he took snuff and talked through his nose.

"Harriet," said Uncle Elnathan, "is this true?"

"Is what true, Uncle?"

"All this fol-de-rol about you being engaged to a man ten years younger than yourself. Harriet! Harriet! I thought you had better sense."

"It's only five years, Uncle," said I, pointing, "and I suppose I have a right to get engaged without sending to you for a permit."

"Harriet, this is not a subject to be flipping about," said Uncle Elnathan. "You may depend upon it, that this young man is a mere fortune hunter."

You have property, Harriet, and he has found it out."

"Uncle!" I cried, starting up, "I will not listen tamely to such aspersions upon the character of one who—"

"Well, my dear, you needn't get excited," said the intolerable old gentleman, tapping his hand upon the lid of his silver snuff box.

"You are not a child, Harriet, nor yet a sentimental school girl. Let's talk the matter calmly over."

"I decline to discuss it, sir," was my dignified reply. "My mind is made up and no amount of meddling interference can induce me to alter it."

"But aren't you just a little pert towards your old Uncle, Hattie?"

So my Uncle went away, silver hair, snuff box, pussy-gaiters, and all, and I sat down to make a memorandum of the things I should require for my wedding outfit. For I had resolved to make an especial journey to London on that business.

Ah, the delight of reveling over counters full of choice, filmy laces, billows of bridal silk, oceans of tulle—it brought tears to my cheeks only to think of it.

And besides, was it not necessary that Clarence's wife should have all that custom required?

I didn't care for myself so much, but I was determined not to disgrace Clarence.

So one radiant September day, when the sky was blue as the bluest ribbon, and the very leaves hung motionless in the yellow atmosphere, like ships at anchor on a sea of gold, I took the early train from B— with a purse full money buttoned into an under pocket of my polonaise.

I had read all sorts of horrid stories about pickpockets, and didn't mean to part with my bank notes except for value received.

I felt a little flustered at first, and scarcely ventured to look around me, for it seemed as if everybody must know that I was going to London to buy my wedding outfit.

If I attempt to tell you anything about the adventures of that day, I know I shan't succeed.

Women could perhaps understand how I felt in the fairy land of those great circles of fashion that exist only in London—glittering balls where the poor sewing girl, or the laborer's wife, are treated with as much consideration and respect as the millionaire's lady, or the young damsel who can't get on a glove for the diamond ring on her finger.

I bought the wedding dress, white rep silk and a veil of tulle, suspended from a garland of orange blossoms, and I selected a blue silk and a peach-colored silk, and a maroon silk, and dear me! what is the use of cataloguing them all?

Other girls have been brides elect before me, and they all know just how it all was.

And as for those who haven't, just let 'em wait until their turn comes.

And then as the sun began to decline on its western way, I felt excessively and unromantically hungry.

"Is there a nice ladies' dining-room near here?" I asked.

One of the shopmen went with me to the door to point out a glittering establishment, with its windows full of hot house fruits, and morsels of paces and delicately tinted cakes.

Dear me! London is the place to feel one's insignificance.

I do not think that I, Hattie Hyde, ever felt so small in the whole course of my life as I did walking over the floor of M. Reebamer's Parisian restaurant, with a waiter running on before to point out a marble table sparkling with cut glass and silver, and another following on behind carrying my traveling bag and parasol; while an elegant Frenchman, curled and perfumed, stood in the middle of the floor bowing as if he were under eternal obligations to me for so much as coming into his establishment.

I sat down, feeling much as if I were an imposter, venturing weekly to look around a little after the waiter had smirched away.

Then, for the first time, I noticed a superbly dressed young lady, one or two tables beyond, in a lovely hat, with a long lilac willow plume, and hair like a shower of gold.

"How pretty she is," thought I. "How proud her lover must be of her."

I leaned the least bit in the world forward, to see the young man in question.

Good heaven!

It was Clarence.

As I sat staring, completely concealed from his view by the golden hair and the lilac willow plume I could hear his light, peculiar laugh.

"You wouldn't have me yourself, Kate," said he; "you have only yourself to blame for it."

"That's no reason you should throw yourself away," pouted the lady.

"She's a desperate old maid," said Clarence; "as old as the hills and twice as antiquated. But she's got the mon-

ey. A man in my position has got to look out for money, you know, Kate. Would you like to see her photograph?"

And then the two heads were close together for an instant, and the young lady's rippling laugh mingled with Clarence's mellow tones.

"The idea of carrying such a thing next to your heart!" said she.

"It does seem rather outrageous, doesn't it?" said he. "But when we are married, all that sort of thing will be over. I'll see that she finds her level."

"Yes, when?" thought I, thoroughly disenchanted.

And I got up and hurried out of the restaurant, nearly stumbling in my haste, over the waiter bearing on a tray a dish of oysters and a cup of tea.

"I—I've changed my mind," said I, flinging a sovereign towards him. "Never mind those trains to B—, and wrote a scratching note to Clarence the same evening.

Do you want to know what was in it?

Of course, like all women's letters, the part of it was in the postscript.

"Our engagement is at an end."

H. H.

"P. S.—The next time you examine ladies' photographs in a restaurant, it might be well to examine your neighbors."

Clarence had some sense after all. He never came near me with useless apologies.

I gave the wedding dress to little Dorothy Miller, who was to be married in October, and couldn't afford a *trousseau*.

I suppose I shall wear out the blue and the peach color and maroon in time.

Oh, I forgot to say that Mrs. Richmond was very angry.

It seemed that Clarence had promised to pay her a hundred pounds that he had borrowed of her, when he got hold of my money.

And I am thankful from the bottom of my heart that I still remain Hattie Hyde.

Leaf Photographs.

A very pretty amusement, especially for those who have just completed the study of botany, is the taking of leaf photographs. One very simple process is this: At a dry druggist's get a dish of bichromate of potash. Put this in a two-ounce bottle of salt water.

When the solution becomes saturated with it, the water has dissolved as much as it will—pour off some of the clear liquid into a shallow dish; on this float a piece of ordinary writing paper till it is thoroughly moistened. Let it become nearly dry, in the dark.

It should be of a bright yellow. On this put the leaf; under it place a piece of soft black cloth and several sheets of newspaper. Put these between two pieces of glass (all the pieces should be of the same size), and with the spring clothespins fasten them together.

Expose to a bright sun, placing the leaf so the rays will fall upon it as nearly perpendicular as possible. In a few minutes it will begin to turn brown, but it requires half an hour to several hours to produce a perfect print.

When it has become dark enough, take it from the frame and put in clear water, which must be changed every few minutes, till the yellow part becomes perfectly white. Sometimes the venation of the leaves will be quite distinct. By following these directions it is scarcely possible to fail and a little practice will make perfect. The photographs, if well taken, are pretty as well as interesting.

In a crowded horse car on the Sixth avenue, the other evening, says the New York Sun, a gentleman who was seated resigned his place in favor of a pale, slender woman, who carried a large child in her arms, and was being jostled this way and that with the motion of the car. To the gentleman's surprise, a burly individual took the seat before the lady could reach it. "I meant this lady to have my seat," said the gentleman, angrily. "Well," replied the other settling comfortably back in his seat, "dat lady ish my wife!"

We are born for a higher destiny than that of earth, there is a realm where the rainbow never fades, where the stars will be spread before us like islands that slumber on the ocean, and where the beautiful which begins here and passes before us like shadows, will stay in our presence forever.

A Wisconsin editor illustrates the prevailing extravagance of the present day by calling attention to the costly baby carriage in use now; while, when he was a baby, they hauled him around by the hair of his head.

THE SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

THOMAS JEFFERSON.

American history presents few names to its students more attractive and distinguished than that of Thomas Jefferson, and rarely has a single individual, in civil station, acquired such an ascendancy over the feelings and actions of a people, as was possessed by the subject of this brief memoir. To trace the lines of his character and career, is a pleasing task for every American whose mind is fixed upon the political destiny of his country, and we regret the narrow limits to which our pen is confined.

Mr. Jefferson's family were among the early British emigrants to Virginia. His ancestors came from Wales, from near the great Snowdon mountain. His grandfather settled in Chesterfield, and had three sons, Thomas, Field, and Peter. The latter married Jane, daughter of Isham Randolph, of Gloucester, of Scotch descent; and on the thirteenth of April, 1743, she became the mother of the subject of this sketch. They resided at that time at Shadwell, in Albemarle county, Virginia. Thomas was the eldest child.

His father died when he was fourteen years old, leaving a widow and eight children—two sons, and six daughters. He left a handsome estate to his family; and the lands, which he called Monticello, fell to Thomas, where the latter always resided when not engaged in public duty, and where he lived at the time of his death.

Thomas entered a grammar school at the age of five years, and when nine years old he commenced the study of the classics with a Scotch clergyman named Douglas. On the death of his father, the Reverend Mr. Manly became his preceptor; and in the spring of 1760, he entered William and Mary College, where he remained two years.

From Doctor William Small, a professor of mathematics in the college, he received his first philosophical teachings, and the bias of his mind concerning subjects of scientific investigation seemed to have received its initial impetus from that gentleman. Through his influence, in 1762, young Jefferson was admitted as a student-at-law in the office of George Wythe, the intimate friend of Governor Fauquier, at whose table our subject became a welcome guest.

In 1765, while yet a student, Jefferson heard the celebrated speech of Patrick Henry against the Stamp Act; and fired by his doctrines, he at once stood forth the avowed champion of American freedom. So manifest were his intents, that in 1760 he was elected a member of the Virginia Legislature, and became at once active and popular there. He filled that station until the period of the Revolution, when he was called to the performance of more exalted duties in the national council.

He was married in January, 1772, to Mrs. Martha Skelton, a wealthy widow of twenty-three, who was the daughter of John Wales, an eminent Virginia lawyer.

When the system of committees of correspondence was established in 1773, Mr. Jefferson was a member of the first committee in Virginia, and was very active with his pen. In 1774, his powerfully written pamphlet was published, called "A Summary View of the Rights of British America." It was addressed to the king, and was published in England, under the auspices of Edmund Burke.

He was elected a delegate to represent Virginia in the Continental Congress of 1775, and for several years he was one of the most efficient members of that body. He soon became distinguished among the men of talents there, although comparatively young; and when, in the succeeding year, a committee was appointed to draught a Declaration of Independence, he was chosen one of the members. Although the youngest member of the committee, he was appointed chairman, and was requested by the others to draw up the instrument, which he did, and his draught was adopted, with a very few verbal amendments, on the fourth of July, 1776. This instrument forms an everlasting monument to his memory, and gives, by far, a wider range to the fame of his talents and patriotism, than eloquent panegyric or sculptured epitaph.

During the summer of 1776, he was elected to a seat in the Virginia Assembly, and, desirous of serving his own State, he resigned his seat in Congress and returned to Virginia. He was soon afterward appointed a joint commissioner with Dr. Franklin and Silas Deane, for negotiating treaties with France, but circumstances caused him to decline the acceptance of the proffered honor, and he continued in Vir-

ginia during the remaining period of the Revolution, actively engaged in the service of his State. He received a third election to Congress, but declined it, and was succeeded by Benjamin Harrison, the father of the late President.

From the early part of 1777 to the middle of 1779, Mr. Jefferson was assiduously employed, conjointly with George Wythe and Edmund Pendleton, on a commission for revising the laws of Virginia. The duty was a most arduous one; and to Mr. Jefferson belongs the imperishable honor of being the first to propose, in the Legislature of Virginia, the laws forbidding the importation of slaves; converting estates tail into fee simple; annulling the rights of primogeniture; establishing schools for general education; and confirming the rights of freedom in religious opinion.

Congress having resolved not to suffer the prisoners captured at Saratoga, under Burgoyne, to leave the United States until the convention, entered into by Gates and Burgoyne, should be ratified by the British government, they were divided, and sent to the different States, to be provided for during the interval. A division of them was sent, early in 1779, into the interior of Virginia, near the residence of Mr. Jefferson, and his benevolent feelings were strongly exhibited by his sympathy for these enemies of his country.

The prisoners were in great distress, and Mr. Jefferson and his friends did all in their power to alleviate their sufferings. An apprehended scarcity of provisions, determined Governor Patrick Henry to remove them to another part of the State, or out of it entirely. At this the officers and men were greatly distressed, and Mr. Jefferson wrote a touching appeal to the governor in their behalf, and they were allowed to remain.

In June, 1779, Mr. Jefferson succeeded Mr. Henry as governor of Virginia, and the close of his administration was a period of great difficulty and danger. His State became the theatre of predatory warfare, the infamous Arnold having entered it with British and Tory troops, and commenced spreading desolation with fire and sword along the James river. Richmond, the capital, was partly destroyed, and Jefferson and his council narrowly escaped capture. He tried, but in vain, to get possession of the person of Arnold, but the wily traitor was too cautious for him.

Very soon after his retirement to private life, Tarleton, who attempted to capture the members of the legislature convened at Charlottesville, a short distance from Jefferson's residence, came very near taking him prisoner. Jefferson had sent his family away in his carriage, and remained to attend to some matters in his dwelling, when he saw the cavalry ascending a hill toward his house. He mounted a fleet horse, dashed through the woods, and reached his family in safety.

M. de Marbois, secretary of the French legation in the United States, having questioned Mr. Jefferson respecting the resources, &c., of his native State, he wrote, in 1781, his celebrated work entitled "Notes on Virginia." The great amount of information which it contains, and the simple perspicuity of its style, made its author exceedingly popular in Europe as a writer and man of science, in addition to his character as a statesman.

In 1782, he was appointed a minister plenipotentiary to assist others in negotiating a treaty of peace with Great Britain; but information of the preliminaries having been signed, reached Congress before his departure, and he did not go. He was soon after elected a delegate to Congress, and was chairman of the committee, in 1783, to whom the treaty with Great Britain was referred. On their report, the treaty was unanimously ratified.

In 1784, he wrote an essay on coinage and currency for the United States, and to him we are indebted for the convenient denominations of our federal money, the dollar as a unit, and the system of decimals.

In May of this year, he was appointed, with Adams and Franklin, a minister to negotiate treaties of commerce with foreign nations. In company with his eldest daughter, he reached Paris in August. Dr. Franklin having obtained leave to return home, Mr. Jefferson was appointed to succeed him as minister at the French court, and he remained in France, until October, 1789. While there, he became popular among the literati, and his society was courted by the leading writers of the day.

During his absence the constitution had been formed, and under it Washington had been elected and inaugurated President of the United States. His visit home was under leave of absence, but Washington offered him a

seat in his cabinet as secretary of state, and gave him his choice to remain in that capacity or return to France. He chose to remain, and he was one of the most efficient aids to the President, during the stormy period of his first administration. He differed in opinion with Washington respecting the kindling revolution in France, but he agreed with him on the question of the neutrality of the United States. His bold avowal of democratic sentiments, and his expressed sympathies with the struggling populace of France in their aspirations for republicanism, made him the leader of the democratic party here, opposed to the federal administration of Washington; and in 1793 he resigned his seat in the cabinet.

In 1796, he was the republican candidate for President, in opposition to John Adams. Mr. Adams succeeded, and Mr. Jefferson was elected Vice-President. In 1800, he was again nominated for President, and received a majority of votes over Mr. Adams. Aaron Burr was on the ticket with him, and received an equal number of votes; but on the thirty-sixth balloting, two of Burr's friends withdrew, and Mr. Jefferson was elected.

Mr. Jefferson's administration continued eight years, he having been elected for a second term. The most prominent measures of his administration, were the purchase of Louisiana from France, the embargo on the commerce and ocean-navigation of the United States; the non-intercourse and non-importation system; the gun-boat expedition down the Mississippi river; and the sending of an exploring company to the region of the Rocky mountains, and westward to the Pacific ocean. Mr. Jefferson also introduced the practice of communicating with Congress by message, instead by a personal address; a practice followed by all the Presidents since his time. The foreign relations of the United States during the whole time of his administration were in a very perplexing condition, yet he managed with so much firmness, that he kept other powers at bay, and highly exalted our Republic among the family of nations.

At the close of his second Presidential term, Mr. Jefferson retired to private life, and amid the quiet scenes of Monticello, he spent the remaining seventeen years of his being, in philosophical and agricultural pursuits. Through his instrumentality, a university was founded in 1818, in Charlottesville, near Monticello, of which he was rector until his death, and a liberal patron as far as his means would allow.

Toward the close of his life, his pecuniary affairs became embarrassed, and he was obliged to sell his library, which Congress purchased for thirty thousand dollars. A short time previous to his death, he received permission from the Legislature of Virginia, to dispose of his estate by lottery, to prevent its being sacrificed to pay his debts. He did not live to see it consummated.

In the spring of 1826, his bodily infirmities greatly increased, and in June he was confined wholly to his bed. About the first of July he seemed free from disease, and his friends had hopes of his recovery; but it was his own conviction that he should die, and he gave directions accordingly. On the third, he inquired the day of the month. On being told, he expressed an ardent desire to live until the next day, to breathe the air of the fiftieth anniversary of his country's independence. His wish was granted; and on the morning of the fourth, after having expressed his gratitude to his friends and servants for their care, he said, with a distinct voice, "I resign myself to my God, and my child to my country." These were his last words, and about noon on that glorious day he expired. It was a most remarkable coincidence that two of the committee (Mr. Adams and Mr. Jefferson) who drew up the Declaration of Independence; who signed it; who successively held the office of Chief Magistrate, should have died at nearly the same hour on the fiftieth anniversary of that solemn act.

He was a little over eighty-three years of age at the time of his death. Mr. Jefferson's manner was simple but dignified, and his conversational powers were of the rarest value. He was exceedingly kind and benevolent, an indulgent master to his servants, liberal and friendly to his neighbors. He possessed remarkable equanimity of temper, and it is said he was never seen in a passion. His friendship was lasting and ardent; and he was confident and never distrustful.

In religion he was a freethinker; in morals, pure and unspotted; in politics, patriotic, honest, ardent and benevolent. Respecting his political character, there was (and still is) a great diversity of opinion, and we are not yet

far enough removed from the theatre of his acts to judge of them dispassionately and justly. His life was devoted to his country; the result of his acts whatever it may be, is a legacy to mankind.

* Mrs. Randolph, whom he tenderly loved. Just before he died, he handed her a morocco case, with a request that she would not open it until after his decease. It contained a portrait to her virtues, and an epitaph for his tomb, if any should be placed upon it. He wished his monument to be a small grain, its obelisk with this inscription:—

"Here was buried
THOMAS JEFFERSON,
Author of the Declaration of Independence,
Of the Senate of Virginia for Religious Freedom,
And Father of the University of Virginia."

KEEP STRAIGHT AHEAD.—Pay no attention to slanders and gossip-mongers. Keep straight on in your course, and let their backbiting die the death of neglect. What is the use of lying awake nights brooding over the remark of some false friend, that runs thro' your brain like lightning? What is the use of getting into a worry and fret over gossip that has been set afloat to your disadvantage, by some meddlesome busybody who has more time than character? These things cannot possibly injure you, unless indeed you take notice of them, and in combating them give them standing and character. If what is said about you is true, set yourself right; if it is false, let it go for what it will fetch. If a bee stings you, would you go to the hive and destroy it? Would not a thousand come upon you? It is wisdom to say little respecting the injuries you have received. We are generally losers in the end, if we stop to refute all the backbitings and gossipings we may hear by the way. They are annoying, it is true, but not dangerous, so long as we do not stop to expostulate and scold. Our characters are formed and sustained by ourselves, by our own actions and purposes, and not by others. Let us always bear in mind that "calumniators may usually be trusted to time, and the slow, but steady, justice of public opinion."

Hope is the most priceless boon to mortals given. Were it not for its influence many would be plunged in the gulf of dark despair that now tread the ways of honor and glory. The past has been but a scene of bitter disappointments and bright hopes to many of us. The present is the daily witness of the wreck of all life's sweetest joys; but still hope shines like a star, and sheds its brilliant rays over the gloom, and pictures fair visions to be disclosed in the impenetrable future. Without its influence life would be a desert deprived of every oasis.

PRODUCTION OF WHISKY IN AUGUSTA.—This county produces not only the best whisky, but a greater quantity than any other county in the State. The *Vindicator* reports the following as, in round numbers, the annual production of whisky in this county: J. Bumgardner & Son, 800 barrels; Clemmer, 500; Fincher, 400; Lowman, 250; Bruce, 300; Foster, 350; L. Bumgardner & Co., 450; Ward, 150; Koiner, 300; Hanger, 250; total, 3,750 barrels. The distillery of Bruce is not in operation now.—*Spectator*.

A funny story is told by an exchange newspaper of two of our country farmers who are not grangers. They influenced their wives to join and report before they would commit themselves. Now, when they will they cannot. Two black balls greet every application. Meanwhile the wives go regularly and triumphantly to every meeting of the Grange, and the men stay at home to mind the babies.

SMALL POX IN ALBEMARLE.—Mr. Winn of Albemarle county, a representative in the Grand Lodge of Masons, which met here not long since, on his return home occupied a seat next to Mr. Carpenter, who was going home at the time sick, and soon after reaching Albemarle broke out with the small-pox, which has since been communicated to three others of his family.—*Richmond Evening Journal*.

"I'll take a glass of your divine nectar!" said a young man in an attractive lager saloon. "Vot es dot?" asked the waiter. "I would a goblet drawn of the somniferous biop!" "We tout got heem!" answered the waiter. "Numb skull! bring me a glass of lager."

They thought there was "millions in it," but when they called at the bank Colonel Sellers Ralston only smiled and said, "There's nothing in it;" and they wept, and Ralston went out and drowned himself and the funeral was "perfectly lovely."

To our Indiana correspondent, "Young Geographer," we would say that the State lying immediately south of Kentucky was not named in honor of Tennesse C. Claflin.

OLD COMMONWEALTH.

HARRISONBURG, VA.

C. N. VANDERFORD, Editor.

THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 3, 1876.

TREATMENT OF CONFEDERATE PRISONERS AT JOHNSON'S ISLAND, ON LAKE ERIE.

We deprecate the re-agitation of exciting questions, growing out of the late war between the States, as strongly as any one. We condemn, in unmeasured terms, the re-awakening of slumbering enmity and hate, by any one, for any purpose. We know that, the present generation, at least, can never harmonize conflicting opinions of the lately opposing sections, upon many of those irritating subjects. We believe that impartial history cannot now be written. We, therefore, loathe and despise the selfishness that would inject into necessary discussions of living issues, the ferment of discord and strife, belonging to what ought to be considered and treated as the dead past. And we, furthermore, denounce as *filial* the spirit that, for personal aggrandizement, or party success, can lead its possessor to deliberately proceed to lash into fury the gradually composing elements of the lately distracted and hostile sections of the American People. In these sentiments we hope and believe we have the sympathy of an overwhelming majority of the citizens of these United States. For Mr. Blaine, therefore, and his bad works, recently done, in the House of Representatives, we take occasion to express our utter detestation. That he can succeed, on any pretext, in overcoming the tendency to the establishment of peaceful and even fraternal relations, which the ameliorating influence of Time, under the direction of a benignant Providence, has been developing, we do not believe. We therefore hope, as we believe, that his wicked schemes will fail—utterly, ignominiously fail.

It is one thing however, to make unprovoked and injurious charges against a helpless and prostrate people, and another to repudiate and disprove them. And we trust that the manhood of the South will never, at least in our day, be so dead, or cowardly, as to fail, when calumny and obloquy are sought to be heaped upon it, to promptly hurl back into the teeth of its false accusers, their lying imputations. We, therefore, approve of Mr. Hill's conduct, and admire his manliness.

We take occasion to say that the South has nothing to apprehend from the disclosure of facts. The truth of history will never cause the blush of shame to mantle the cheeks of her sons and daughters; for we do know that, "what other errors, faults, failings, or shortcomings they may have had, no act of treachery, of perjury, of hypocrisy or deceit, of breach of faith or of turpitude—nothing of a low, mean, sordid or unmanly nature, can ever be justly laid to their charge, in their State or Confederate organizations."

In the infamous speech of Mr. Blaine to which we have referred, he boldly asserts that "there is not a Confederate soldier now living, who had any credit in his command, and who was a prisoner in the hands of the Union forces, who will say that he ever was cruelly treated—that he ever was deprived of the same rations, which the Union soldiers had, or the same food," and he further declared "there was no retaliation attempted, or justified by the United States government."

Thus, publicly, on the floor of the Federal House of Representatives, before the Country and the World, has this man, who has been favored by his party, and who stands to-day conspicuously before the country as an aspirant for its highest honor, thrown down the gauntlet, courted inquiry and defied comparison. Has he asserted the truth? We, unhesitatingly and unequivocally say, that he has not! And, we are in possession of facts to maintain our declaration—to the entire truthfulness of which, there are hundreds of gentlemen of unimpeachable veracity to testify. These facts have come into our possession from a most creditable source. We believe they have never been published before. Their publication has been withheld, till now, from motives which Mr. Blaine has not and, perhaps, cannot appreciate; but we feel that, we should be recreant to a sacred duty, if, under the circumstances, we longer withheld them.

One of the Federal prisons was located on Johnson's Island. There, after the battle of Gettysburg, till the close of active hostilities, captured officers of the Confederate army, were confined. It was said to have been regarded by the people and government of the United States as a "model prison." The system of management there enforced was said to have excited pride in the breasts of the Northern people; and they, frequently, both in this country and in Europe, pointed to the well-fed, comfortable condition of the prisoners at Johnson's Island, as in striking contrast with that of those who were confined in prisons in the South.

The Island is in the State of Ohio, in the bay of Sandusky, a narrow peninsula separating it from Lake Erie. It is a bleak, cold place, exposed to the frigid winds, which, coming from the Arctic regions, sweep across the lake. On the first day of January, 1864, the

mercury reached 24 degrees below zero, having fallen 80 degrees within 24 hours, and the Island was surrounded all winter by ice from fourteen to twenty inches thick.

There were thirteen buildings, for the accommodation of prisoners—one being a hospital. (In the latter part of '64, there were, besides, three sheds—for eating-rooms, put up.) More than half of them, were mere shells, without lining of any kind, hurriedly and coarsely built, being box-frames vertically weather-boarded, and afforded but slight protection from the snow and the chilling blasts of winter. Into these houses, from two three thousand prisoners were crowded—there being more than eighty in some rooms. For furnishing warmth, small stoves, wholly inadequate in size, one to a room, were supplied; and for fuel green, suppy wood, in meagre quantity. In such conditions, who will question the correctness of the assertion that the suffering was great, and that even death was their effect?

For supplying water to the prisoners, there were but three shallow wells, which had only surface drainage.—Strange it may seem, that men kept upon a small island, with "Water, water everywhere," should, notwithstanding, have "not a drop to drink."

It is, nevertheless, true. In the year '63 and the early part of '64, before the prisoners had accumulated, buckets and other utensils for holding a night's supply of water—thirst being intensified by salt food and diarrhoea—the suffering of the prisoners on Johnson's Island for the want of water, was often fearful and indescribable, leading in one case to the risking of life to procure.

Prisoners were not permitted to leave their quarters, between sunset and sunrise—Retreat and Reveille—except to go to the sinks, and, after nearly famishing all night, they would crowd around the doors of their quarters, at daylight, and unsuccessfully implore permission to slake their thirst at the pumps, which were in the middle of the yard. On one occasion a Choctaw Indian, a Confederate Captain, took his buckets, walked to a pump and filled them, saying, he "would as soon be killed as to die from thirst." This was done in broad daylight. He did not take a step in the direction of a wall. His purpose was manifest. Yet, he was shot at by the sentinels five or six times.

So insufficient was the supply of water, that more than two hours were sometimes consumed in the mornings waiting for enough to ooze into the wells to fill all the buckets; and, at last, the water became so impregnated with and contaminated by the offensive, poisonous contents of the sinks, which, percolated through the soil, that it was manifest to the senses upon near approach to the wells.

These iniquities were arrested, and their consequent evils removed, when Gen. Terry, with veteran soldiers, who could appreciate valor, even in their enemies, arrived on the Island, and assumed control. Then, the prisoners were permitted to get water from the Bay.

The hospital contained 60 beds. Requisitions for medical supplies were based upon estimates for that number of sick. Yet, we assert that, the real number of sick in the prison during the last seventeen months of the war, (our certain knowledge does not extend beyond that time,) was never less than ten and sometimes reached thirty times as many. Of course, the medical supplies were wholly insufficient in quantity, and the sufferings and deaths were largely increased in consequence.

So imperfect and indifferent was the medical attention received by the sick from the Federal surgeons, that the prisoners who were physicians in peaceful times, organized a hospital committee, and took entire charge of their sick comrades some attending to the inmates of the hospital, and others, to the sick in the "blocks." But often, for days together, there would not be medicines to administer.

In '63 and till early in '64, the supply of food furnished, was both varied in kind, and sufficient in quantity; and, besides, relatives within the Federal lines, were permitted to send delicacies, and other supplies to the prisoners. But early in '64, we think, orders from Col. Hoffman, then in Washington, limited the prisoners' ration to bread and meat—reduced the amount to 34 ounces of solid food (which is less than writers upon the subject, Gen. Sherman among them, say is sufficient for a healthy man,) and forbade the receipt of supplies from friends, except in cases of sickness, upon special request, approved by the surgeon. The amount of food allowed by the "order," would have been sufficient to prevent great distress, had it been honestly issued, but there was evident design by the authorities that, at best, prisoners should not "fare sumptuously." But, in fact each man's allowance of bread was short every day, two to three ounces; and the meat ration was deficient, daily, from a third to a half.

We presume that the Government intended the prisoners to have 34 ounces of food—bread and meat, exclusive of bone; but the bone was always included in the weight. Now, as beef was the meat chiefly issued, and it was generally poor, and always fore-quarter, we know, by actual experience, that nearly, and sometimes

quite, half the ration was bone. Thus the edible ration was reduced to 27 or 28 ounces of food, instead of 34 ounces. Besides, in place of beef or pork, dried white fish was frequently issued; a good enough article, occasionally, and with proper facilities for its preparation; but to men situated as the prisoners were, whose systems demanded fresh meat, even if the article was sound, it would distasteful; but putrid as it not unfrequently was, it was simply poisonous.

From gradual starvation thus produced and improper food, the prisoners at Johnson's Island endured untold miseries. Food was the topic of conversation, constantly; and gentlemen of the nicest sensibilities begged for it, and were constrained to consume the most loathsome articles. Bones that had been used to make soup for the sick, were taken from the garbage barrel, cracked and boiled again, for the little grease they might afford; peelings of potatoes, the outer leaves of cabbages, and layers of onions, were drawn from the same source; rats were esteemed a delicacy, and even cats and dogs were devoured by the suffering wretches. Is it a wonder that men died and, what was worse, became insane?

That disease and death were attributable, alone, in many cases, to causes easily preventable, we know. In the winter of '63-4 hardy, healthy men who entered prison a few months, or weeks, before, died, manifestly from the effect of cold. The two coldest months of that winter—the mortality having steadily increased with the increasing severity of the season—the deaths reached the appalling number of one per day, in an aggregate of less than two thousands men, of naturally strong, hardy physiques.

In the winter of 64-5, scurvy, a disease clearly attributable to the diet used, prevailed generally throughout the prison. That this horrible disease was produced by improper food, and might have been prevented, was demonstrated, repeatedly, there.

When, after frequently calling the attention of Dr. Eversman, the cold-blooded, unsympathetic, surgeon-in-chief, to the prevalence of that painful disease, he was induced to order a small supply of antiscorbutics—Irish potatoes, or onions—it was immediately abated—the sufferings would soon be ameliorated, and hope and joy would again illumine the countenances of the lately desponding wretches. But, as if he took delight in the miseries of others, with a refinement of cruelty that was simply fiendish, he would torture the unfortunate creatures, thus helpless in his hands, by withholding antiscorbutics, just when they were restoring a desire to live, to the breasts of the sufferers, and remanding them to a worse than living death.

Thus, for months, hundreds of prisoners on Johnson's Island, miserable subjects of scurvy, a loathsome and painful disease which could have been easily prevented, or arrested, by proper food, were kept oscillating between hope and despair, at the will and pleasure of an unfeeling Federal surgeon.

It may be said, that these cruelties are to be attributed to the dishonesty of a Commissary, and the inhumanity of a surgeon, officers of subordinate positions, and were perpetrated without the knowledge of Commanding officers. The answer is, that, verbal complaint was frequently made to Col. Hill the Commandant of the Post, who admitted the crime, but did not arrest it. A full and graphic account of the wrongs perpetrated upon the prisoners, and of their great suffering in consequence—was also given to Major Gen'l. HITCHCOCK, who, at the time, commanded the Department, and paid an official visit of inspection to the prison—and his answer was, "YOU ARE SUFFERING IN RETALIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF THE PRISONERS AT ANDERSONVILLE."

On one occasion, during the temporary absence of Col. Hill a communication, in writing, reciting some of the facts, and depicting the sufferings of the prisoners, and protesting against the dishonesty of the Commissary, and his disobedience of the orders of the Government, was sent to Lieut. Col. Palmer, who succeeded to the Command; but it did not elicit the slightest notice, or effect the smallest change. That communication was signed by Col. Steadman and Capt. Locke, of Alabama, and Col. Maxwell, of Florida, who attended upon their sick comrades, in the prison hospital.

A short time after that letter of complaint and protest was written, it was smuggled out upon the person of an officer who was paroled and permitted to go to New York City. Just then it was insinuated by a New York paper, that inhumanities were practiced in Northern as well as in Southern prisons. Mr. Greeley denounced the imputation in his usual strong language, as "a base lie," and, said, in substance, "if it could be shown that a Federal officer was guilty of cruelty to a prisoner, he would make the coarsest too hot for him." The next day, the letter to Col. Palmer was published in the New York News. A few days later a letter of similar import in regard to the prison at Rock Island, Ill., was also published in the News; but, good Mr. Greeley was "as silent as an oyster." The letter of the officers was published also, in some of the London papers.

Stealing packages sent to prisoners by friends, especially abstracting greenbacks from letters, was common, and seemed to have been regarded as a venial offense.

The hospital was the only building within the enclosure in which lights were permitted after "tattoo." On one occasion, a sentinel perceived the light in the hospital, through the windows of Block 5, which was directly opposite to the hospital. His order to "put out the light in Block 5," not having been obeyed, as it could not be, he fired a ball from his rifle into the Block, and wounded two prisoners who were sleeping in their bunks. For that cavalier deed, it was understood that the fiend was promoted to a Corporal!

Except for, perhaps a month, the prisoners were not permitted to buy of the prison sutler, any provisions—in 1864. They could purchase only stationery, pipes and tobacco, and then upon orders from the Commandant of the Post. This officer became interested in a lithograph picture of Johnson's Island, as part owner. He, therefore, made his approval of orders to buy such things as the prisoners were permitted to purchase, conditional upon their first buying a picture, for \$5.00—thus speculating upon the distress of his helpless victims.

We have thus given a hasty summary of some of the inhumanities experienced within the "model prison" at Johnson's Island. Of the petty meannesses practiced by the guard, officers and men, upon the prisoners, and of the innumerable irritations to which the latter were needlessly subjected we have not space to speak.

Of all the officers of the prison who came in contact with the prisoners, there were two, only, who exhibited any regard for the lessons of Christianity—these were, Surgeon Woodbridge and Major Belden, who exhibited traits of character, which marked them as gentlemen of kindly, generous natures.

BRAGADOCIA.—On account of several articles in the Richmond Evening Journal, concerning T. Spicer Curlett, that individual endeavored to have the editors and reporters of that paper excluded from the House of Representatives. Mr. Curlett denounced upon the floor of the House (where he was free from all harm) the author of the articles as a liar and coward, and gave notice that he intended to cow-hide him. The author of the offensive articles, Mr. J. C. Wright, is one that would not take a cowardly ground naturally, and no one, perhaps, is better aware of the fact than Mr. Curlett. The Richmond correspondent of the Petersburg News of Friday, says:

This morning the party who wrote the article so offensive to Mr. Curlett was in the House and not twenty paces from where Mr. Curlett was sitting. At that time, in addition to Mr. Curlett, there were not more than ten members present. The Journal man snatched around with his hands in his pockets for some time, but Mr. Curlett did not seem to be aware of his presence and let him leave the hall unmolested.

THE LEGISLATURE.—This body, after a session of two months, has done virtually nothing. To be sure, committees have been appointed and numerous bills referred to them, and several bills of purely local nature have become laws. But not a single act has been passed of State importance, and in fact the Legislature is not fully organized. On Tuesday the committee in the case of the contested election of Knight vs. Johnson reported, declaring the latter entitled to his seat. There are a number of contests yet to be decided, and if the committees are as dilatory in those as they have been in the Johnson case, the session will expire by limitation before they report. Less than thirty days of the session remain, unless they vote to sit another month, which the constitution permits, and none of the important questions have yet been discussed. Gen. Taylor's proposition on the State debt, the constitutional amendments, and the tax bill have not yet been acted upon, and the unbecoming speeches alone have characterized the proceedings so far.

As a matter of economy we suggest that the Legislature buy out the Evening Journal, and either discontinue its publication, or change it into an organ which shall at all times be found sounding the praises of the members "who fight the tiger," "throw coppers for drinks," and talk for buncombe merely. The Journal has had the Legislature in a turmoil for about two months, and that body has spent a number of days in discussing resolutions for the expulsion of the Journal corps from the House. The House has spent more of the State's money in useless discussion of the Journal than the paper could be bought for, and as that body will sit for two months more, we think it would be economy to purchase the material, good will, &c.

SHENANDOAH FARMERS' HOME MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—The bill to incorporate the Shenandoah Farmers' Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company names the following gentlemen as its officers: President, Levi Banker; Secretary and Treasurer, Robert M. Lantz; Isaac Bowman, Daniel C. Bowman, Win. A. Wightman, G. A. Brown, E. E. Rice, George C. Rhinehart, and H. H. Hahn.

(Special Correspondence of Old Commonwealth.) Letter from Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25th, 1876. I have so far delayed writing in order to give your readers something gratifying concerning a complete organization of the House in the best interests of the Democracy, and also to be enabled to say that everything was progressing in a manner to encourage hope of a successful campaign for the Presidency in this, our centennial year, but facts show that if I delayed correspondence until then, you would be without letters, unless you secured another than myself to write.

The House is not yet fully organized, and things generally are not going straight, for the reason that very many of the old employees are still in office, as the officers of the House are timid as to removals, and attempt to preserve a mistaken policy of conciliation by retaining political enemies in important positions, where only tried and trusted Democrats of the old school should be, under the circumstances and disadvantages that our party labors as to office-holders, who, in all campaigns, have the work to do that elects officials. I want to know what confidence can be placed in men who have held office under the administration of the bloody-shirt for the past ten or fifteen years?

Then to come to members—those representing Radicalism and despotism, are old and experienced, with a complete knowledge of the machinery of party tactics, well versed in legislative and parliamentary *legerdemain*, familiar with tricks that our vain and ways that are dark, while the Democratic members are young in the profession of Congressional affairs, and wholly green as adepts in the manner of legislation here, besides being in perfect ignorance as to the desigus of the enemy. They are honest at heart and pure in principles, and anxious to legislate fairly and for the public good, and this is known to the wily politicians of the Blaine stripe, and hence the present troubles.

Blaine knows that they wish to vote constitutionally upon every subject, and consequently would oppose to such ground—an appropriation out of the Federal Treasury for the Centennial, so he takes advantage of Randall's amnesty proposition to have the matter discussed in advance, inaugurate excitement and bad blood, throw our people off their guards, irritate them to such an extent as to force indiscreet retortations, by compelling them to stray from the defensive to the offensive on war questions, and then laugh in his sleeve that he had succeeded in consummating his strategy; the result of all this is to get Hill and Tucker to make speeches, which they will use as documents in this fall campaign, and defeat the Centennial by having the Constitution explained. They want to charge the failure of an appropriation for the Centennial, to the fact that Amesty was defeated, and prove, if possible, that the South is disloyal and declines to participate in the celebration of the Centennial of the Independence of the United States Government.

Then again, we have here the Railroad magnates of the Texas & Pacific, and Southern Pacific Railroad Companies, in the persons of Col. Thomas A. Scott of the first, and C. P. Hunt of the latter. The first has robbed the nation of certain land grants that have expired by legal limitation, and the other is jealous of him. Scott wishes to get his time extended and wants the Government to endorse his bonds, at the rate of from \$35 to \$40,000 per mile, in addition as a necessity to the construction of his road, while Huntington says, as Scott's time has expired, if you (Congress) will transfer to me his land grant, privileges and time, I will build a real Southern Pacific Railroad without the subsidy of a guaranteed interest on my bonds. The result of this would be to thwart Scott, secure time, meanwhile, to have something turn up by which he might, by accident, succeed, or else, after his privileges expired, as Scott's have done, he would then like him ask a subsidy. Scott and Huntington are dogs in the manger; they hate and are jealous of each other; they are both republicans; they represent soulless corporations; they care nothing for anything outside of themselves, and they only agree upon one subject, and that is to destroy the Democratic party by their outrageous demands upon its representatives, knowing that its success is their destruction, for the days of jobs, swindles and subsidies are over if the administration should change hands.

Now, under the category of subsidies, comes our own James River & Kanawha Canal, and it touches a tender place in the hearts of Virginians, and they are tender-footed about other subsidies for fear they will lose their own; yet it is a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liberality in subscriptions to works of public improvements, and your readers are eternally grumbling at taxation and reform, yet if a poor rule that don't work both ways, and would be as great an outrage for the Congress of the United States to give one cent to the James River and Kanawha Canal as it would be to either of the above mentioned lines of railroads. Canals and railroads are private enterprises and should be kept so. Virginia to day is hopelessly in debt through her liber

