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T. W. BEATY, Editor.
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An Independent Journal.

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From the Randolph Enterprise.

Grange Secrets Revealed.

HOW INITIATIONS ARE CONDUCTED.

On being brought into the ante-room of the lodge (Greengrocer temple No. 101) I was told that I had been balloted for and accepted. My informant, who was securely masked, by what I had afterwards learned, was a large burdock leaf, perforated with holes for the eyes, told me that if I valued my life it would be necessary to strip. As I did consider that of considerable worth to me, and as he italicised his wishes by carelessly playing with a seven shooter, I withdrew from my garments with eagerness. My masked friend then furnished me with a regalia of first degree—called "The Festive Ploughboy"—which consisted of merely one large cabbage leaf attached to a waistband of potato vines. In this airy costume I was conducted to the door, where my companion gave three distinct raps. (I was securely blindfolded by binding a slice of rutabaga over each eye.) A sepulchral voice from within asked: "Who comes?"

My guide answered: "A youthful agriculturist who desires to become a granger."

Sepulchral voice—"Have you looked him carefully over?"

Guide—"I have, noble gate keeper."

S. V.—"Do you find any agricultural marks about his person?"

Guide—"I do."

S. V.—"What are they?"

Guide—"The candidate has carroty hair, reddish whiskers and a turnup nose."

S. V.—"'Tis well. Why do you desire to become a granger?"

Guide (answeering for candidate)—"That I may be thereby better enabled to harrow up the feelings of the rascally politicians."

S. V.—"You will bring in the candidate. My worthy stripling, as you cannot see, I will cause you to feel that you are received at the door on the three points of a pitchfork, piercing the region of the stomach, which is to teach you the three great virtues—faith, hope and charity. Faith in yourself, hope for cheaper farm machinery, and charity for the lightning rod peddler. You will now be harpessed and in representation of the horse Pegasus will [illegible] as to [illegible] and wind."

The candidate is here attached to a small imitation plow, by means of hempen harness. A dried pumpkin vine is put in his mouth for a bit and bridle—he is made to get down upon his all-fours, the guide seizes the bridle, and urged on by a Granger armed with a Canada thistle, which he vigorously applies at the terminus of the spine, the candidate is gallopped three times around the room. While making the circuit the members arise and sing:

Get up and dust you bully boy—
Who wouldn't be a Granger?
If the thistle's prick don't cause you joy,
To feeling you must be estranged, ah!

After this violent exercise he is rubbed dry with corn-cobs, beeswaxed where thistled, and brought standing up before the great chief—the most worshipful pumpkin-head.

M. W. P. H.—"Why do you desire to be a granger?"

Candidate (answering for himself)—"That I may learn to extinguish sewmachine agents."

M. W. P. H.—"Have your hands been hardened with toil?"

Candidate—"Not extensively, but then I am not running for office."

M. W. P. H.—"'Tis well, for our lodges contain several who are supposed to be ready to sacrifice themselves for the good of their constituents. Do you feel pretty smart this evening?"

Candidate—"Yes, where the bustle goes on."

M. W. P. H.—(savagely) "Give me a chaw of tobacker!"

Candidate searches himself thoroughly, but as there is no place about him to stick a pocket, tries to explain, but the most worshipful pumpkin-head interrupts him with:

"Never mind, my dear young friend—I am well aware that in your present condition you can no more furnish your friends with weed than a man could be comfortable in a plug hat and tight boots. It is merely to teach you the great lesson of economy—doing to others as you'd like to have them do to you. You will now be conducted to the most eminent squash producer who will teach you the grand hailing sign of distress. The sign, my worthy brother, will insure you against many of the ills of the agriculturist—amongst others against droughts and being eat by the ferocious grasshopper."

The candidate is now conducted to the most eminent squash producer, who thus says: "My worthy brother, I will now invest you with the order of the festive Ploughboy, which you have won by your heroic achievement while harnessed; may you ever wear it with pleasure to yourself, and may it be a means of terror to your enemies."

The M. E. S. P. then proceeds to invest the candidate with the regalia of the Festive Ploughboy, (which consists of a long tomato necklace.) The grand hailing sign of distress is made by gently closing the left eye, laying the right fore-finger alongside the nose and violently wagging the ear. It requires practice, but the advantages are immense. It also has an important signification, which you will do well to heed. The closing of the eye signifies that in all your dealings with mankind you are bound to have an eye to business. Laying the finger alongside the nose is emblematical of wisdom, and places you as one among the 'knowing ones.' This is extremely handy in prognosticating, and saves the wear and tear of almanacs. Wagging the ears signifies sublimity of purpose, and is thought to be emblematical of childhood's happy hours. It is also supposed by some profound scholars to have a distinct reference to apple dumplings, but this fact is somewhat obscured by the dust of ages. In token that you are one of us, you will now be branded.

This ceremony is very impressive, and consists of two brands. They are both applied "while the iron is hot," and consists of one letter of the alphabet each. The first is a large letter S, on which you will please sit while the other letter is applied to the stomach. The letter S, my worthy chicken, signifies scooped, and refers to railroad monopolies. It is also supposed to indicate the seat of learning—the spot where the old time teacher hunted for brains with the ferule. The second letter is C, and is applied, as I said before, to the stomach. It has a double meaning. First the application is an agricultural one, "corn crib," and has reference to the stomach as being the great receptacle for Bourbon whiskey. But brother, do not be diligent in finding a home market for your corn. The second application of the letter C, my distracted infant, is got hold of as follows: When one granger desires to ascertain "for sure" if there is another of the order in the room, he raises himself gently by the slack of his—of his unmentionables—scratches his off thigh with his near hoof, and remarks in a voice of thunder: "Are there any grangeres about?" The answer is "Jesse wax." The inquirer then says, "let us see fletter (?) and the other party [illegible] immediately [illegible] stomache and disclose the brand.

These brands are applied in such a manner that I am enabled to assure you that they will wash.

I was here interrupted, Mr. Editor, by a volley fired into the open window, evidently intended for me. Fortunately I escaped without a scratch, and which is of more consequence, succeeded in fetching off my precious manuscript. This is about all there is in the ceremony of any importance—I must leave the country at once—armed men are at my heels—they know that I am writing to expose them. You may hear from me again by mail, if I should deem it best to expose the other degrees—until then adieu.

From your sacred fried,
B. POLE.

Notice.—This ceremony of initiation is used during the absence of the lady members. Their initiatory ceremonies are entirely different, being much simplified as they should be.

The Louisiana Question.

The question whether or not Congress will pass a law ordering an election in Louisiana is not yet disposed of; and Senator Carpenter made yesterday another of his able speeches upon it. The discussion of the subject has led to not a few rather surprising expressions of opinion from unexpected quarters. For example, we find some Democratic States rights newspapers urging the passage of such a law, and insisting that it would be in accordance with the Constitution; while on the other hand there are Republican newspapers that heretofore have never doubted that Congress could do pretty nearly everything in the reconstructed States, which now deny that it has any constitutional authority for ordering a new election in Louisiana.

These wide departures from well-beaten tracks are undoubtedly caused by the pressure of mere partisan considerations. The Democrats believe that they would gain some advantage by an election; while the Republicans think they would lose by it. These are indeed flimsy grounds whereon to base constitutional principles, and they demonstrate how far we have wandered from the old landmarks when constitutional questions were measured by constitutional provisions.

Has Congress the authority to pass any such law? That each branch of Congress can unseat members and thus render elections necessary in States, is a doctrine as old as the Constitution. But never, until the rebellion made reconstruction a necessity, did anybody contend that Congress had power to order, or to set aside, or in any way to regulate or interfere with State elections for State officers. It was a sound doctrine that the unprecedented secession of eight or nine States made unprecedented measure absolutely necessary to restore their old relations to the Union after the war was over; and doubtless posterity will not harshly judge whatever was done to secure that end.

But after an insurgent State was fully reclaimed and put in running order, neither the original Constitution nor the recent amendments conferred upon Congress any more authority to meddle in its purely State elections than in those of Maine or Ohio. The oft-cited clause of the Constitution, that "the United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a republican form of government," does not apply to a cause like that existing in Louisiana. The difficulty arises out of carrying an election by fraud on the spot, and the outside interference of the army by order of the President. The conspirators who perpetrated the fraud ought to be sent to the penitentiary like ordinary ballot-box stuffers, while the high Fedral officials who sustained them with bayonets ought to be impeached as a warning to such of their successors as may be tempted in like manner to offend.

We can well understand the dilemma of the Administration and the Republican majority in Congress. The President has for unworthy purposes rushed headlong into this Lousiana business, and has thereby disgraced the Republican party and imperilled the country; and he ought to be compelled to get all concerned out of the difficulty. But the passage of an act of Congress ordering a new State election is not the way out. There has been quite enough of this sort of intermeddling with State elections, under the shadow of Congress, by venal scoundrels like Durell and slippery upstarts like Casey; and hereafter, if they and their kind attempt to repeat their outrages upon constitutional principles and personal rights, they will stand a much better chance of getting into prison themselves than of sending their voters whom they intimidate and oppress.

In one word, the first step toward the proper way out of it is by calling off his war dogs and allowing McEnery to set in operation the [illegible] and, at the same time informing Kellogg, the usurper, and the corrupt carpet-baggers around him, that they must no longer rely upon aid from Washington. Let the Administration do this, and the real people of Louisiana will very soon resume the control of their affairs.

New York Sun, 5th inst.

Ex-President Fillmore.

Millard Fillmore was born at Locke, now Summerhill Cayuga county, N. Y., Jan. 7, 1800. His father, Nathaniel Fillmore, was of English descent, and followed the ocupation of a farmer. He removed to Erie county in 1819, and cultivated a small farm.

At an early age Millard was sent to Livingston county to learn the clothier's trade, and passed four years in dressing cloth. During this time he improved every spare hour to supplying defects of his early education.

In 1819, he made the acquaintance of the late Judge Wood of Cayuga county, and entered his office for the purpose of studying law. In order to do this he had to pay $30 for one year's time which he owed his employers. To raise this sum he devoted his spare time to teaching school.

By working from four in the morning until late at night he accomplished the desired result, paid his debt, and had $6 left for expenses for the whole year. His board cost him nothing.

In 1829 he was elected to represent the county of Erie in the State Assembly. Being a member of the old Whig party, which was at that time in the minority, he had little opportunity of distinguishing himself. His humanity and love of justice, however, led him to take an active part in the movement for abolishing imprisonment for debt in this State.

In 1832 he was elected on the anti-Jackson ticket to Congress, serving one term. In 1836 he was again chosen as a Whig, and also in 1838 and 1840. He was again nominated in 1842, but permently declined. While in Congress he declared himself opposed to the annexation of Texas so long as slaves were held therein, and in favor of Congress exercising all constitutional powers to abolish the slave trade between States and the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

In 1839, at the opening of the Twenty-sixth Congress, he took part in the celebrated "broad seal" contest on the right to the seats of five of the six members from New Jersey, and was one of the Committee on Elections making a minority report on the subject. In 1848 he was elected Vice-President of the United States and became President July 10, 1850, on the death of General Taylor, and that year signed the Fugitive Slave law and the accompanying bills known as the "Compromise Measures." In 1857 he put in force the Neutrality laws against the Lopez filibusters, removing the Collector of New Orleans, by whose connivance the Pampero escaped from that port.

In 1852, his wife formerly a Miss Abigail Powers, daughter, of the Rev. Lemuel Powers, died, leaving him two children, a son and a daughter, the latter of whom died in 1854. In 1855 and 1856 he visited Europe, where he was received with the most flattering attentions. The same year he was nominated by the Americans for the Presidency, but received only the vote of Maryland in the Electoral College.

Feb. 10, 1858, he married Mrs. Caroline McIntosh, daughter of the late Charles Carmichael of Morristown, N. J., and has ever since lived in quiet retirement at Buffalo, devoting himself to literary pursuits, and particularly to the Historical Society, of which he was first President, and in whose affairs he had taken great interest.

In 1861 when news was received of the firing on Fort Sumter, he presided at the first meeting held in the theatre to express the loyal sentiments of the community. He also helped to organized the Union Continentals, a home guard orgaization, and was long its captian.

The Siamese.

The autopsy of the Simese Twins developed the following: The connecting band between the brothers was proved to have been, contrary to general medical opinion, more than a mere fleshy attachment, a peritoneal relational or opening into the cavity of the abdomen being found to exist. Reflections or extensions of the lining membrane of the abdome were found in the interior of the band, and the hand of the operator, passed into the abdome, could be carried up to the middle of the connecting link. The liver of Chang, the larger of the twins, was found in the usual position, on the right side of the body. That of Eng was abnormally situated on the left side, his spleen being on the right. The livers were attached to each other through the band, and had evidently, at some time, been really one gland. It was also proved that but one umbilical or naval cord existed between the two, this being situated in the middle of the band, as if they were one individual. A separation during life would have been fatal to one or both of them. Upon the death of Chang, however, it is probable that Eng could have been saved if the band had been instantly dissected, by an experienced surgeon, close up to the body of the former. The thoracic organs, like the livers, are abnormally situated on his left side, while that of Chang is on the right, the apex of each being directed towards the other, thus reversing the abnormality observable in regard to the liver. In construction, formation, and independent action, their hearts were undoubtedly as distinct as those of other persons.

Vinegar or Molasses.

"If you wish to catch flies, do not use vinegar in preference to molasses."

It is not known which of the grandmothers invented this proverb, and it is thought the lesson it teaches, has done no harm. Our step mother was a capital manager of young people, and the forty years she was spared us, she would use no acid, and we were caught very early, and easily, pleasantly and completely did she control us. Her memory is fargrant still. She always insisted that molasses is important in every family where there are young people, and our old minister says more of it could be used with advantage in the Church and in society also.

Some wives, it is reported, never having seen our grandmother, prefer vinegar, and use more of it than their husbands relish, and a peculiar influence is felt. All the eyes in the house feel it, and have a somewhat sour look; the nose, lips and tongue also become acid.

Some men also dislike molasses, and will not use it. Woe to the wife, then, and all around. Uncle Joe has used vinegar for sixty years, until he looks acid; he thinks there is no meaning in the proverb.

The Rev. Dr. Vinegar, it seems, was not acquainted with our grandmother, or she would have taught him a lesson with all his Hebrew paradigms. He was a good man, and perhaps, the best of our six preachers in town, who had been very useful in building up the church. The brethren of his Presbytery highly respected him. By degrees, however, his influence in the congregation decreased, and he became quite unpopular, and even disagreeable to some. He was a good man and good humored, notwithstanding his name, and for some years we could not discover what was the matter. He could not do what he was persuaded was his duty and his privilege, and what he saw all his brother ministers do with little, if any, opposition. He was grieved and offended, and at last resigned his charge. It seems that he had never heard the proverb, and preferred using vinegar profusely. "Use molasses in preference, says our minister, I can use enough vinegar for a whole Presbytery."

There is great power in gentleness, patience, courtesy and love; and that is the lesson which our grandmother teaches.—*Christian Observer* MEMOR.

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The Moral Law.

In ten short propositions, Moses has summed up all the duties which man owes to God or to his fellow-man—a law of universal application, suited alike to all nations, all ages, and all circumstances. Until the heavens shall be no more, the decalogue will stand as the enduring monument of the superhuman wisdom of the lawgiver of Israel—another proof of the assertion that he was the greatest of mortals.

Without reciting the words of this law, look for a moment at the following analysis:

"Thou shall honor the Lord thy God."

1st. In His Being;
2d. In His Worship;
3d. In His Name;
4th. In His Day of Rest;
5th. In His Representatives.

Thou shall not injure thy neighbor by act, nor by word, nor by thought,

1st. In his life; nor
2d. In his family; nor
3d. In his character; nor
4th. In his property.

For more than three thousand years the wisdom of the world has not been able to add one iota to this law; it stands unapproached and alone in its massive grandeur, its matchless symmetry, its comprehensive proprtions. Like the Pyramid of Cheops, unmarred by the waste of centuries, it is a land mark and a marvel to all ages, and all civilizations. So wonderful is this law, that he who will perfectly obey it is a pefect man.

COL. RICHARD LATHERS.—The Augusta Constitutionalist says: "The people of South Corolina, and more particularly the people of Charleston, are under great obligations to Col. Richard Lathers. He has made, by long odds, the most powerful, practical, and, we may add, eloquent appeal for the salvation of the civilization of the Palmetto State. His public career has been since the war, one untiring effort to lift the incubus from this Commonwealth, and we have reason to know, his endeavors have made great and important conquests of enlightened Northern opinion in South Carolina. In private life he is the most useful of citizens. A man of culture, wealth and refinement—surrounded, too, by a most interesting family—his splendid hospitality to all who come to Charleston and get within his magic circle is something to be remembered. We do not wonder that the distinguished Northern visitors now journeying through the South were received at his elegant mansion in a style worthy of the ancient renown of Carolina, and that they should have been pleasantly impressed with the noble Charleston merchants and professional men gathered together, in his own inimitable and royal way. Such a man as this is a public benefactor. Would that every Southern city could boast a Lathers, who knows so well how to dispense, for the common good, the bountiful gifts bestowed by Providence and won by his superior talent and energy."

The Immigrants.

The interest that has been aroused throughout the State in the immigration cause is at once remarkable and gratifying. But if our people are in earnest in this matter, they must not be content with helping the immigrants to get here and welcoming them when they come. Steps must be taken to anchor the new comers to the soil of South Carolina. In every county of the State there is plenty of uncultivated land, the value of which might be quadrupled by offering alternate sections of it as a gift to thrifty and hardworking immigrants. At all events, it is certainly sound policy to offer small farms at a price that will enable every immigrant family to establish a permanent home in our State. A letter was received yesterday by Maj. McCabe from the Rev. Mr. Wadsworth, stating that thirty families are now in New York, ready to come to South Carolina to buy land, if it be offered at a price within their means. Shall they be disappointed?

The commission appointed to canvass the city of Charleston for subscriptions in aid of immigration will begin its labors to-day. We bespeak for their cause the earnest and universal support of our people. There are few, indeed, who do not afford to give something, no matter how modest the contribution may be, to aid in the great movement which if fostered as it ought to be will prove the salvation of the State.—*Courier.*

FOOLISH THE YOUNG [illegible] is said that the young ladies of [illegible]ville, Tenn., have a fashion of [illegible] up their taper fingers when young gentlemen are expected to call, and the latter very naturally ask the cause, they [illegible] "I burned them broiling the steak this morning." The result, chronicled in the local paper, is that several young gentlemen have burned their fingers by believing the story.