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TERMS.

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A Selected Tale.

The Poor Lawyer.

The Knickerbocker Magazine some years ago contained Washington Irving's "Early Experience of Ralph Ringwood."

"I had taken my breakfast and was waiting for my horse, when, in passing up and down the piazza, I saw a young girl seated near the window, evidently a visitor."

"I gave no time for thought to cool; but entered the house and stepped lightly into the room. She was seated with her back to the door, looking out of the window, and did not hear my approach."

"I lengthed I plucked up courage on seeing her equally confused with myself, and walking desperately up to her I exclaimed: 'I have been trying to muster up something to say, but I cannot. I feel that I am in a horrible scrape. Do have pity on me and help me out of it!'"

"A smile dimpled about her mouth and played among the blushes of her cheek. She looked with a shy but arch glance of the eye, that expressed a volume of comic recollections;—we broke into a laugh, and from that moment all went on well."

"Passing the delightful description which succeeded, we proceeded to the denouement of Ringwood's love affair—the marriage and the settlement."

"That very autumn I was admitted to the bar, and a month afterwards was married. We were a young couple, she not much more than sixteen and I not quite twenty, and both almost without a dollar in the world."

"We had not been married many days when a court was held in a county town, about twenty-five miles distant. It was necessary for me to go there and put myself in the way of business—but how was I to go? I had expended all my means in our establishment, and then it was hard parting with my wife so soon after marriage. However, go I must. Money must be made, or we would soon have the wolf at our door."

sweet and becoming, went to my heart. I felt as if I could go through fire and water for her. I arrived and the county town on a cool October evening. The inn was crowded, for the court was to commence on the following day. I knew no one, and wondered how I, a stranger, a mere youngster, was to make my way in such a crowd, and to get business. The public room was thronged with all the idlers in the country who gather on such occasions. There was some drinking going forward, with a great noise and a little altercation. Just as I entered the room, I saw a rough bully of a fellow, who was partly intoxicated, strike an old man. He came swaggering by me, and elbowed me as he passed. I immediately knocked him down and kicked him into the street. I needed no better introduction. In a moment I had a half dozen rough shakes of the hand and invitations to drink, and found myself quite a personage in this rough assemblage."

The next morning the Court opened—I took my seat among the lawyers, but felt as a mere spectator, not having any idea where business was to come from. In the course of the morning a man was put to the bar, charged with passing counterfeit money, and was asked if he was ready for trial. He answered in the negative. He had been confined in a place where there were no lawyers, and had not had an opportunity of consulting any. He was told to choose from the lawyers present, and he readily for trial on the following day. He looked around the Court and selected me: I could not tell why he should make such a choice. I, a headless youngster, unpractised at the bar, perfectly unknown. I felt diffident, yet delighted, and could have hugged the rascal."

Before leaving the Court he gave me one hundred dollars in a bag, as a retaining fee. I could scarcely believe my senses, it seemed like a dream. The heaviness of the fee spoke lightly in favor of his innocence—but that was no affair of mine. I was to be advocate, not judge or jury. I followed him to the jail, and learned from him all the particulars of the case; from thence I went to the clerk's office and took minutes of the indictment. I then examined the law on the subject, and prepared my brief in my room. All this occupied me until midnight, when I went to bed and tried to sleep. It was all in vain. Never in my life was I more wide awake. A host of thoughts and fancies kept rushing through my mind; a shower of gold that had so unexpectedly fallen into my lap, the idea of my poor little wife at home, that I was to astonish her with my good fortune! But the awful responsibility I had undertaken, to speak for the first time in a strange court, the expectations the culprit had formed of my talents, all these, and a crowd of similar notions, kept whirling through my mind. I tossed about all night, fearing the morning would find me exhausted and incompetent—in a word, the day dawned on me a miserable fellow."

I got up feverish and nervous. I walked out before breakfast, striving to collect my thoughts, and to tranquillize my feelings. It was a bright morning—I bathed my forehead and my hands in a beautiful running stream, but I could not allay the fever heat which raged within. I returned to breakfast, but could not eat. A single cup of coffee formed my repast. It was time to go to court. I went there with a throbbing heart. I believe if it had not been for my little wife in her lonely house, I should have given back to the man his hundred dollars, and relinquished the cause. I took my seat, looking in I am convinced, more like an exultant than the regent I was to defend. When the time came for me to speak my heart died within me. I rose, embarrassed and dismayed, and stammered in opening my cause. I went on from bad to worse, and felt as if I was going down hill. Just then, the public prosecutor, a man of talents, but somewhat rough in his practice, made a sarcastic remark on something I had said. "It was like an electric spark and ran tingling through every vein in my body. In an instant my diffidence was gone. My whole spirit was in arms. I answered with promptness and bitterness, for I felt the cruelty of such an attack upon a novice in my situation. The public prosecutor made a kind of apology. This, for a man of his redoubtable powers, was a vast concession. I renewed my argument with a fearful glow, carried the cause triumphantly, and the man was acquitted. This was the making of me. Every body was curious to know who this new lawyer was, that had suddenly arisen among them, and heeded the Attorney General at the very onset. The story of my debut at the Inn on the preceding evening, when I had knocked down a bully and kicked him out of doors, for striking an old man, was circulated with favorable exaggeration. Even my headless chin and juvenile countenance was in my favor, for the people gave far more credit than I deserved.—The chance business which occurs in our Courts came thronging upon me. I was repeatedly employed in other causes, and by Saturday night, when the Court closed, and I had paid my bill at the Inn, I found myself with an hundred and fifty dollars in silver, three hundred dollars in notes, and a horse that I afterwards sold for two hundred more."

Never did a miser glant more on his pelf and with more delight. I locked the door of my room, piled the money in a heap upon the table, and walked around it, sat with my elbows on the table, and my chin upon my hands, and gazed upon it. Was I thinking of the money? No—I was thinking of my little wife and home. Another sleepless night ensued, and what a night of golden fancies and splendid air castles. As soon as morning dawned, I was up, mounted the borrowed horse with which I had come to court on, and led the other which I had received as a fee. All the way I was delighting myself with the thoughts of surprise I had in store for my little wife; for both of us had expected nothing but that I should spend all the money I had borrowed, and should return in debt."

Our meeting was joyous, as you may suppose; but I played the part of an Indian hunter, who, when he returns from the chase, never for a time speaks of his success. She had prepared a snug little rustic meal for me, and while it was getting ready, I seated myself at an old fashioned desk in one corner, and began to count over my money and put it away. She

came to me before I had finished, and asked me who I had collected money for. For myself, to be sure, replied I, with affected coolness; I made it at Court. She looked me for a moment in the face, incredulously. I tried to keep my countenance and play the Indian, but it would not do. My muscles began to twitch; my feelings all at once gave way. I caught her in my arms, laughed, cried, and danced about the room like a crazy man. From that time we never wanted for money."

Miscellaneous.

Costoms of Friends.

MARRIAGE.—The members of this Society differ from others in many of their regulations concerning this custom. They differ also in these respects, so they experience generally a different result. As a married, they may be said to be, a happy people. Hence the details of scandal have rarely had in their power to scoundrelate a case of adultery. Nor have the lawyers had an opportunity, in our public courts, to proclaim a Friend's divorce."

George Fox suggested many regulations on this subject. He advised, among other things when persons had in contemplation to marry, that they should lay their intention before the monthly meetings both of the men and the women. He advised also, that the consent of their parents should be previously obtained and certified to these. Thus he laid the foundation for greater harmony in the approaching union. He advised, again, that inquiry should be made whether the parties were clear of engagements or promises of marriage to others; and if they were not, they should be hindered from proceeding. Thus he cut off the causes of the interruption of conjugal happiness, by preventing unwise reflections, or suits at law, after the union had taken place. He advised also in the case of second marriages, that any offspring resulting from the former should have their due rights and a proper provision secured to them before they were allowed to be solemnized.—Thus he gave a greater chance for happiness, by preventing mercenary motives for becoming the cause of husband and wife."

But, George Fox, as he introduced these and other salutary regulations on the subject of marriage, so he introduced a new manner of the world; that is, against the formal prayers and exhortations as they were repeated, and against the formal ceremonies as they were practiced, by the parish priest. He considered that it was God who joined man and woman before the fall, and that in Christian times, or where the man was truly renovated in heart, there could be no other right or honorable way of union. Consistently with this view of the subject, he observed, that in ancient scriptural times, persons took each other in marriage in the assemblies of the elders, and that there was no record, from the book of Genesis to that of Revelations, of any marriage by a priest. Hence it became his new Society, as a religious or renovated people, to abandon apostate usages, and to adopt a manner that was more agreeable to their new state."

George Fox gave in his own marriage, an example of all he had thus recommended to the Society. Having agreed with Margaret Fell, the widow Judge Fell, upon the propriety of their union as husband and wife, he desired her to send for her children. As soon as they came he asked them and representative husbands if they had anything against it or if they desired them to speak. And they all severally expressed their satisfaction therein. Then he asked Margaret if she had fulfilled and performed her husband's will. She replied, the children knew that. Whereupon he asked them whether, if their mother married, they should not lose by it. And he asked Margaret whether she had done anything in lieu of it, which might answer it to the children."

The children said, she had answered it to them, and desired him to speak no more about that. He told them that he was plain, and that he would have all things about him plain, and that he would have all things plainly, for he sought not any outward advantage to himself. So, after he had acquainted the children with it, their intention of marriage was laid before Friends, both privately and publicly." (G. Fox's Journal, vol. ii. p. 135.) and afterwards, a meeting appointed for the accomplishment of the marriage, in the public meeting-house at Broad Mead in Bristol, they took each other in marriage, in this plain and simple manner as then practised and which he himself had originally recommended to his followers."

The regulations concerning marriage, and the manner of the solemnization of it which obtained in the time of George Fox, nearly obtain among Friends at present day. When marriage is agreed upon between two persons, the man and the woman, at one of the monthly meetings publicly declare their intention concerning it. At this time their parents must either appear to send certificates, to signify their consent. This being done two men are appointed by the men's meeting, and two women by that of the women to wait upon the man and woman respectively, and to learn from themselves, as well as by other inquiry, if they stand perfectly clear from any marriage promises and engagements to others. At the next monthly meeting, the deputation make their report."

If either of the parties is reported to have given expectation of marriage to any other individual, the proceeding are stopped till the matter be satisfactorily explained. But if they are both of them reported to be clear in this respect, they are at liberty to proceed, and one or more persons of respectability, of each sex, are deputed to see that the marriage be orderly conducted."

In the case of second Marriages, additional instructions are sometimes given; for if any of the parties, thus intimating their intention of marrying, should have children alive, the person who were deputed to inquire into their clearness from all other engagements, are to see that the rights of such children be legally secured. When the parties are considered to be free, by the reports of the deputation, to proceed upon their union, they appoint a suitable day for the solemnization of it which is generally

one of the week-day meetings for worship.—On this day, they repair to their meeting house with their friends. The congregation, when seated, sit in silence. Perhaps some minister is induced to speak. After a suitable time has elapsed the man and woman rise up together, and taking each other by the hand, declare publicly that they thus take each other as husband and wife. This constitutes their marriage. A writing is then generally produced and read through this be not necessary, stating concisely the proceedings of the parties in their respective meetings, and the declaration just made by them as having taken each other as husband and wife. This is signed by the parties, their relatives, and frequently by many of their friends and others present. By way, however, of necessary evidence of their union, another paper is signed in the presence of three witnesses, who sign it also, in which it is stated that they have so taken each other in marriage. All marriages of other Dissenters are celebrated in the established churches, according to the ceremonies of the same. But the marriages of the members of this Society are valid by the law in their own meeting houses, when solemnized in this simple manner.—Friends' Review.

THE DREAM OF HAPPINESS.—Often had I heard of happiness, but was ignorant of it myself. My heart yearned if it was all a phantom—a thing of fiction merely, and not a fact I determined to travel through the earth and see if it was in the possession of any mortal. I beheld a king on his stately throne. Subjects obeyed his laws. A multitude of servants came and went at his bidding. Palaces of the most costly materials were at his service, and his tables groaned with the richness of their burdens. He seemed furnished with all he could desire, but his countenance betrayed that he was unhappy."

I saw a man of wealth. He resided in an elegant mansion, and was surrounded by every luxury; but he lived in constant fear of losing his possessions. He was constantly imagining that all his property would be consumed or taken from him. Thus picturing to his own mind the miserable condition of himself and family, he was not satisfied with his present wealth. The more he had, the more he desired. Surely, here was not happiness."

I looked upon a lovely valley surrounded by hills. In the midst of it stood a neat little village. Gurgling streams came murmuring down the hillsides. The lambs frolicked merrily about. Cattle grazed in the verdant pastures, and now and then went to quench their thirst at the nearest spring or the purpling brook. Everything seemed pleasant. I thought certainly here is happiness. But I visited the inhabitants of this beautiful spot, and saw that they were not happy. They lived not peacefully among themselves, and murmured because great wealth was not their portion, or that they were not born to high station."

I beheld a fair young creature, blessed with health and beauty. She was the life of the ball-room, and received the most constant attentions. But I perceived that she was not truly happy. These things could not satisfy the longings of her heart."

I saw a true and heartfelt Christian. He was constantly exercising love to his fellow-men, and doing all in his power to extend the knowledge of Jesus Christ and Him crucified. He trusted not in the vanities of this life for happiness. He sought not this world's riches, but laid up for himself a treasure in Heaven. His soul was at rest, and at peace with God, and with mankind. Although he experienced many trials, both in public and private, still he was cheerful, and content with his lot. He only of all these was possessed of true happiness.—Pettenill's Reporter.

The Comet of 1856.

The following interesting details respecting the comet which is expected to make its appearance about the year 1856, are given by M. Rabinet, an eminent French astronomer, and Member of the Academy of Sciences, in an article recently published. The Boston Traveler translates from the Courier des Etats Unis: "This comet is one of the grandest of which historians make mention. Its period of revolution is about three hundred years. It was seen in the years 104, 392, 683, 975, 1264, and the latest time in 1556. Astronomers agreed in predicting its return in 1848, but it failed to appear.—namque aut rendez vous, according to the expression of M. Rabinet—and continues to shine, still, unseen by us. Already the observatories begin to be alarmed for the fate of their beautiful wandering star. Sir John Herschel had put a rape upon his telescope, when a learned calculator of Middleburg, M. Bomme, reassured the astronomical world of the continued existence of the venerable and magnificent comet."

"Disquieted, as all other astronomers were, by the non arrival of the comet at the expected time, M. Bomme, aided by the preparatory labors of Mr. Hind, with patience truly Dutch, has revised all the calculations and estimated all the actions of all the planets upon the comet for three hundred years of revolution. The result of this patient labor, gives the arrival of the comet in August, 1858; with an uncertainty of two years, more or less, so that from 1856 to 1860, we may expect the great comet which was the cause of the abdication of the Emperor Charles V., in 1556."

It is known that, partaking of the general superstition, which interpreted the appearance of a comet as the forerunner of some fatal event, Charles V., believed that this comet addressed itself particularly to him as holding the first rank among sovereigns. The great and once wise but now wearied and shattered monarch, had been for some time the victim of cruel reverses. There were threatening indications in the political, if not in the physical horizon, as a still greater tempest to come. He was left to cry in despair. "Fortune abandons old men." The appearance of the blazing star seemed to him an admonition from Heaven that he must cease to be sovereign, if he would avoid fatality from which one without authority might be spared. It is known that the Emperor survived his abdication but a little more than two years."

Another comet, which passed near us, in 1835, and which has appeared twenty-five times, since the Christian era, has been associated by the superstitious with many important events which have occurred near the period of its visitation."

In 1066, William the Conqueror landed in England at the head of a numerous army, about the time the comet appeared which now bears the name of Halley's comet. The circumstance was regarded by the English as a prognostic of the victory of the Normans. It infused universal terror into the minds of the people, and contributed not a little toward the submission of the country after the battle of Hastings, as it had served to discourage the soldiers of Harold before the combat. The comet is represented upon the famous tapestry of Bayeux, executed by Queen Matilda, the wife of the Conqueror. The same in 1456, threw terror among the Turks under the command of Mahomet II, and into the ranks of the Christians during the terrible battle of Belgrade, in which forty thousand Moslems perished. The comet is described by historians of the time as "immense, terrible, of enormous length, carrying in its train a tail which covered two celestial signs, (60 degrees,) and producing universal terror." Judging from this portrait, comets have singularly degenerated in our day. It will be remembered, however, that in 1811 there appeared a comet of great brilliancy, which inspired some superstitious fears. Since that epoch science has noted nearly eighty comets, which with few exceptions, were visible only by the aid of the telescope. Kepler, when asked how many comets he thought there were in the heavens, replied: "As many as there are fish in the sea."

"Thanks to the progress of astronomical science, these singular stars are no longer objects of terror. The theories of Newton, Halley, and their successors, have completely destroyed the imaginary empire of comets. As respects their physical nature, it was for a long time believed that they were composed of a compact core, surrounded by a luminous atmosphere. On this subject the opinion of M. Rabinet, who must be regarded as good authority on such questions, is as follows: "Comets cannot exercise any material influence upon our globe, and the earth, should it traverse a comet in its entire breadth would perceive it no more than if it should cross a cloud, a hundred thousand millions of times lighter than our atmosphere; and which could no more make its way through our air than the slightest puff of an ordinary bellows could make its way through an anvil." It would be difficult to find a comparison more reassuring."

*This celebrated tapestry is in the ancient Episcopal palace at Bayeux. It represents the principal incidents, including the appearance of the comet; in the history of the conquest of England, by William Duke of Normandy. It is supposed to have been executed by Matilda, the Conqueror's wife, or by the Empress Matilda, daughter of Henry I. It consists of a linen web, 214 feet in length and 20 inches broad, and is divided into 72 compartments, each having a description indicating its subject. The figures are all executed by the needle."

A LOOPER'S SOLILOQUY.—"I wish I knew where to get a cent, I do. Blast if don't emigrate to Kamtschatka, to dig gold. Money's scarce or no wit; can't live by neither—at least I can't. Sold the last old shirt, pawned my boots for three cents, and went home rich as a lord. Told my landlady I had a hundred thousand dollars and wanted the best room in the house. I suited me by saying the attic was too good for me."

"I'm an injured individual. Society persecutes me. I don't do society no harm, as I know on. I don't rob widder's houses. I don't know no widders. I don't put the bottle to my neighbor's lips. I ain't got no neighbors, and fact is I don't own no bottles.— Couldn't fill 'em if I did."

"I'm an despr't man. Nobody can look me in the face and say I ever hurt 'em—nobody. And yet I haven't got a roof to lay my head into. My old landlady raved me; why? I couldn't pay, and I left. 'Cause why? I ain't better to dwell in the corner of a house-top than with a brawling woman in a wide house! But I ain't got a house-top; and if I had, a corner wouldn't be safe, would it?"

"I'm a despr't man. I'd go to work if it wasn't for my excessive benevolence. I'm afraid of taking the bread out of somebody's mouth. Besides, wisdom's the principal thing; don't the good book say so? 'What's money to wisdom? Ain't I studying character? If a man gets me 'cause I can't pay for my licker, ain't I killing me 'understanding? ain't it a lesson in human nature? I'm told the world owes me a living. When is it going to pay, I wonder? I'm tired of waiting.'—Washington Star."

WASHINGTON'S CHARMED LIFE.—Of eighty-six officers, twenty-six were killed, (in Braddock's action,) among them, Sir Peter Halket, and thirty-seven were wounded, including Gage and other field officers. Braddock braved every danger."

His secretary was shot dead. Both his English aides were disabled early in the engagement leaving the American alone to distribute his orders. "I expected every moment," said one whose eye was on Washington, "to see him fall." Nothing but the superintending care of Providence could have saved him. An Indian Chief—I suppose a Shawnee—singled him out with his rifle, bade others of his warriors to do the same. Two horses were killed under him; four balls penetrated his coat.—"Some potent Manitou guards him!" exclaimed the savage. "Death," wrote Washington, "was leveling my companions on every side of me; but by the all powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected." "To the public," said Davis, a learned Divine, in the following month, "I point out that heroic youth, whom I can but hope Providence has preserved in so signal a manner for some important service to his country. 'Who is Mr. Washington?' asked Lord Halifax, a few months later. "I know nothing of him," he added, "but they say he behaved in Braddock's action as bravely as if he really loved the whistling of bullets."—Broncroft's American Revolution.

General News.

From the South Carolinian.

Russia and Turkey.

From present indications there will probably be stirring times throughout the world ere long. Wars and rumors of wars come thickly upon us, and the repose of Europe, which for so many years past has given life and acceleration to the progress and prosperity of the nations of the earth, is now threatened to be grievously and seriously disturbed. It is true that all may be peaceably adjusted yet between Russia and Turkey, but the concentration of the Emperor's troops on the frontiers of the latter country, and the great secrecy maintained in the movements of Great Britain, forebode trouble. That our readers may have some idea of the nature of the quarrel and the feeling of the people of Great Britain on the subject, we subjoin some extracts from the English papers received by the previous steamer."

The first extract is from the London Daily News, May 24: "On the 3d instant the Russian Envoy presented to the Divan a draft of a convention which must either be accepted or declined within ten days. The purport of this ultimatum was, in point of fact, what we stated circumstantially in this journal many weeks ago to be the main object of Prince Menschikoff's mission. The Sultan was virtually called upon to abdicate his functions in favor of the Czar, in all that most vitally concerned the government and the control of the Greek Church, in his dominions. The Emperor was to be solemnly declared the lawful and legitimate protector in all matters affecting the religion of nine or ten millions of Christians—an authority which it is self-evident would defy all semblance of definition, and open the door to ceaseless and unlimited interference by a foreign power in the domestic condition of every city and province of the Ottoman Empire. Nor were the means whereby this audacious claim was to be exercised left in uncertainty. The Greek Patriarch at Constantinople, as well as the provincial patriarchs, were henceforth to be rendered irremovably by the Porte, no matter how they might abuse their office to promote dissension or treason. 'If cause of complaint as to their conduct should arise, the hearing and adjudication was to lie with the sovereign of Russia, not with that of Turkey, and throughout the realm nominally governed by Abdull Medjid, the consuls and envoys of the Emperor Nicholas were to be recognised as specially charged by their master with the functions of protecting in his name all persons of the Greek faith, in whatever appointed to the exercise of their religion. In a word, the Sultan was required to surrender one of the most essential portions of his authority as an independent monarch, and to vest it by treaty irrevocably in the hands of his most dangerous neighbor and rival."

It was impossible that the representatives of England and France should do otherwise than advise the Porte peremptorily to reject proposals so insulting and so utterly at variance with the formal assurances given in London and Paris but a few weeks ago, by the express command of the Emperor Nicholas. So direct and explicit were the assurances in question, that they were publicly spoken of by Lord Clarendon as affording the guarantee of the personal honor of the Czar that nothing was meditated by him inconsistent with the integrity or independent dignity of the Turkish empire. 'What becomes of that imperial pledge and protestation now? We commend the subject to the candid criticism of our contemporary, who has devoted so much ingenuity of late, with so little success, to the task of defending the cause of Muscovite aggression. Meanwhile, it would appear that the Sultan is fully aroused to a sense of his true policy and duty. It was but the other day that, in the vain hope of propitiating his insidious and implacable enemy, he consented to sacrifice one of his ministers, whom Prince Menschikoff had thought fit publicly to slight. The futility of such ill-considered concessions has now become obvious, and a wretched episode has been resolved upon. Redschid Paqua, the ablest and most popular of the men who have hitherto filled the office of chief minister to a reforming Sultan, has been recalled to power. His character and antecedents indicate the resolution which has been taken, and the conviction that concession to Russia has at length reached its utmost limits. The insolent envoy may linger a little longer at Constantinople, and occupy himself and his aides-de-camp in disseminating the seeds of discontent among certain sectaries and classes of the Greek population. But the majority even of this portion of the community are far from desiring to exchange the easy rule of the Ottomans for the iron yoke of Muscovy. Prince Menschikoff will have as many partizans, of course, as he can afford to buy; but what dependence can be placed on such treacherous allies in the hour of need? If France and England do their duty, and keep to plighted faith of treaties, the perfidy of northern despotism will be compelled to abandon its intended prey."

The London Times seems to be more prudent and conservative, and from its article we should judge that Great Britain will only interfere when all hopes of adjustment or reconciliation have failed. The following is the concluding paragraph of an article in that paper of 24th May: "The course to be pursued under circumstances of such extreme gravity must be determined by the British Cabinet. The truth is that France and Russia, by their successive attempts to bully the Turks, have brought themselves within sight of hostilities with one another, in which neither side is probably very ready to engage. The threatened action of the one and the counteraction of the other are alike opposed to British notions of policy and justice. In the present embarrassing and complicated relations of all the European States, the safe and dignified course for this country to pursue is one of entire independence—leaving herself to no petty combination for the advancement of this or that separate interest, but reserving her influence and her strength for public interests and for fixed principles. Nothing has yet occurred to compel the British government to descend with precipitation into the lists, or to induce the ministers of the crown to engage this country in a course of policy to which no definite result can yet be assigned. We can observe, without alarm or agitation, the course of events by which other nations are more nearly affected than we can be; and it would be the greatest of errors to commit ourselves hastily to