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(FOR THE BANNER.)

The Washingtonian System.

Mr. Editor:—Will you indulge me while I present to your readers a few extracts from respectable authorities, which to my view, presents the fallacy of making either public opinion or expediency, a permanent rule of action, where conscience is concerned. It is well known, one or both of these, is the acknowledged basis for, or upon which the Washingtonian system is laid.

1. Extract, *South Carolina Temperance Advocate*, Volume 3d, New Series, No. 20.—*Drunkard's Looking Glass*, No. 45.—The author asks this question. Is it however, the part of Legislation to wait for public opinion? He answers, it is not legislators are chosen to make such laws for the government of the people as in their wisdom, after debate and due consideration, may think to be necessary and proper. Here their conscience, and not the will of the people, must prevail; for they are sworn to discharge their duty according "to the best of their ability." This plain requisition on the part of the people in their Constitution, is neither to be gainsaid or denied. The Legislator brings to his office, his own ability, his own perceptions of right and wrong, he must act according to his own conscience in deference to public opinion and leave the people, if after due reflection they think him wrong, to correct his error by placing some other in his place. The Hon. Judge O'NEILL is understood to be author. The same who represented Temperance, at the Anniversary or Commencement of (Erskine College,) to be one of our household Divinities "the more we worship the better."

2. Extract, *Southern Christian Advocate*, November 11th 1842—Editorial on "Clerical Costume."—But if a man's conscience is involved, even the thousandth part of an hairs-breadth, with reference to the cut of a coat, why let him here follow his own light, and beware of trifling with what he deems a sacred matter."

3. Extract, *Christian Advocate and Journal*, November 23d, 1838.—"There are many instances it must be conceded, public opinion will and should exert, a controlling influence. When for example, as in our own country, the will of the majority, legitimately expressed constitutes the supreme law of the land. Public opinion as the only method of expressing that will should and must be heard, and when heard, must be bowed to with submission. But in whatever relates to the subject of religion, a totally different rule and standard claim, and claim of right, to prescribe to us, and decide upon our entire course of conduct. Here the law of God, not public opinion, is the only sufficient rule, both of our faith and practice, and for this very important and obvious reason, among many others; that upon the subject of religion, all history proves, that public opinion is to the full as liable to be wrong as right. However true the popular maxim, "Vox populi, Vox Dei." The voice of the people is the voice of God. On the subject of religion it is anything but true. Public opinion put the Saviour of the world to death. The voice of the people cried "away with him, away with him, it is not fit that such a fellow should live. Crucify him, crucify him." Public opinion shed, until it swelled into an ocean the best blood of the primitive church. Public opinion sanctioned, and indeed it was it that decreed all the monstrous and unheard of cruelty by which ancient Rome appears to have been so greatly entertained and enraptured, in the bloody entertainments of her Amphitheatres &c.

4. Mathew 22—21—"Render therefore to CESAR the things which are CESAR'S; and to God the things that are God's." Doctor A. CLARK, on this text asks this question. "But what is CESAR'S? Answer 1st, Honor. 2nd, Obedience, and 3rd, Tribute. But if CESAR should intrude into the things of God, coin a new Creed (total abstinence for instance (mine) or broach a new gospel (the end sanctifies the means (mine), and affect to rule the conscience while he rules the State; in these CESAR is not to be obeyed. He is taking the things of God, and he must not get them.

5. Extract, *Temperance Discussion Charleston Observer*, September 17th,

1842. Editorial as to the Lawfulness of using wine as a beverage, there may be no doubt; and yet its use may be abandoned on the ground of expediency. * * * The subject is one which, in our opinion, comes not within the province of the Church. For the Church there is a full Code of laws given in the bible, and its officers are bound to administer them with all fidelity. "But they are to add nothing to, they are to take nothing from this unerring standard. They cannot therefore, make as a term of communion what God has not made. As the use of wine is not prohibited in the bible, they cannot prohibit it. All that they can do as Church officers, is to admonish against the abuse of their privilege, and exercise the discipline of the Church upon those who drink to excess."

6. Extract, *Southern Christian Advocate*, August 5th, 1842. No ecclesiastic body making the New Testament code a standard of law, has a right to interdict what God has not proscribed." This declaration is made in allusion to the wine as a beverage. Let this suffice to show the affinity between public opinion and the rule that should direct and dictate conscience. Expediency in my next. J. P.

(REPORTED FOR THE BANNER.)

The Board of Directors of the Bible Society, of Abbeville District, beg leave to present, this, their nineteenth Annual Report.

No Annual Report was presented to the Society at its meetings in July 1843 and 1844, for reasons assigned in the last Report.

It will be seen by reference to the last Report, that up to that time, this Society had received about 1958 Bibles, and about 3230 Testaments; and had distributed about 1867 Bibles, and 3060 Testaments: Since the last annual meeting the Society has received 159 Bibles, and 315 Testaments, and has put into circulation 179 Bibles, and 282 Testaments; making the number of Bibles and Testaments, that have been received since the organization of the Society up to the present time as follows:—

Bibles received,	2117
Testaments received,	3545
Ag'te of bibles & testaments rec'd,	5662

And in the same time the Society has distributed 2046 Bibles, and 3342 Testaments: Aggregate of Bibles and Testaments distributed, 5388

In conformity to the Resolution of the Society at its last meeting, fifty dollars have been forwarded to the parent Society as a donation, and the receipt acknowledged. Two Colporteurs have been supplied with Bibles and Testaments from our depository for distribution in our district the past year. These Colporteurs were endeavoring to supply the whole of the destitution in our district; and although the labors of one of them is now suspended, it is hoped that it will be so, but for a short time.

In the organization of this Society and for several years afterwards, it had for its members, friends and supporters many of the Clergy, and other leading citizens of our district: But for several years back, there has been a lamentable falling off of its members, as well Clergymen as laymen. It is strange to see the apathy and apparent indifference manifested by our citizens generally in this good cause. But it is some consolation, that in the midst of this coldness, some of its friends have stood fast and firmly by it; and it is hoped that they will press forward with increased zeal and might in its cause.

In looking back to the time (now about a quarter of a century) that this Society was organized, and in view of its action since, the board are satisfied that much good has been done; but the board think that there is much yet to be done, and that the times call upon the friends of the bible cause every where to come up to its support.
All which is respectfully submitted
July, 1846. THOS. C. PERRIN.
Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be tendered through the Abbeville Banner, to the gentlemen who composed Jury No. 2, at the last Extra Court for the donation presented to this Society through their Foreman, A. GILES, Esq.

From the New York Sun. Eight Days Later from Europe ARRIVAL OF THE GREAT WESTERN.

By the steamer Great Western, Captain Matthews, in eighteen days from Liverpool, we have English papers to the 12th instant. This favorite steamer has a large number of passengers, and a heavy freight.

The improvement in business, ceased at the sailing of the last steamer; and matters are nearly in the same relative position.

The Cotton market continues steady, and although we cannot fix a higher quotation, yet on some descriptions there has been an upward inclination. Considerable anxiety prevails respecting the new crop.

The failure of the potato crop influences the price of provisions of every kind. Bacon and ham are rising rapidly. Indian corn is also increasing in value, as in fact is almost every kind of grain.

The Sikh war is about to be renewed in India. The British army is assembling again for this purpose.

IRELAND.

O'Connell has gone to Darrynane, and there will be a lull at Conciliation Hall. He dilates on the failure of the potato crop, and promises the people plenty of food and work if they keep quiet—if they do not violate the law. He estimates the expense of feeding the people until the next harvest, at Fifty Millions of Dollars, which sum, he estimates, the Government is ready to advance, if the necessity arise.
The commissioners have reported that the bay of Galway presents great natural advantages for a more rapid communication with North America.

From the N. Y. Express—By Telegraph. Seven Days Later from Europe.

ARRIVAL OF THE
STEAMER HIBERNIA.
By the arrival of the mail steamer Hibernia, Captain Ryrie, which arrived here this forenoon from Liverpool, making the passage in thirteen days and eighteen hours, we have advices from Liverpool to the 19th September, London 18th.

Well founded apprehensions of a failure in the American cotton crop have caused an increased demand for the staple in Liverpool, and prices have accordingly advanced a farthing per pound.

Her Britanic Majesty's government and the people of Spain have manifested so much hostility to the marriage of the Queen of Spain's sister, to Louis Philippe's youngest son, that the celebration of the nuptials has been postponed for the present, if not forever.

The immediate consequence is a tremendous war of words between England, France, and Spain. The remote consequences will probably be the destruction of the entente cordiale, which have so long existed between the Courts of St. James and St. Cloud. It is hoped that the sudden extinguishment of the fires on the altar of two young hearts, will not prove the means of exciting a general conflagration among the crowned heads and kingdoms of Europe.

The total failure of the potato crop appears to be a sad reality. Every where in Ireland, and in the greater part of the British Island, the potato fields are shrouded with the dark mantles of the plague. The vegetable has turned into purid matter, which even the hogs will not devour. From the Continent of Europe, including Russia, we have dismal accounts of the progress of the blight. The future use of the potato, as an article of food, is now almost abandoned.

At the latest date, 18th September, American flour was selling at twenty-nine shillings to thirty shillings per barrel, duty paid, at Liverpool. The price in bond, was twenty-seven shillings and six pence.

Indian corn was quoted three shillings the quarter higher; and closed at forty shillings for yellow and forty-seven shillings for white.

IRELAND.

The rupture amongst the Repealers is daily manifesting its consequences in Belfast.

A day or two back a meeting was called of prophysical and moral men, when the former achieved a decided tri-

umph and left the adherents of Mr. O'Connell in the minority.

From the Union, Oct. 2.

CAPTURE OF SANTA FE.

We understand that official information has been received from Gen. Kearney, announcing the capture and quiet military possessions of the territory of New Mexico. On the 18th August he entered the city of Santa Fe without firing a gun or spilling a drop of blood, having accomplished this after a march of nine hundred miles in fifty days. Gov. Armijo had assembled a force of about 4,000 men, and had taken a strong position in the vicinity of Santa Fe to oppose his progress, but that force dispersed, and the Governor himself fled on the near approach of the American Army; and he was supposed to be about 150 or 200 miles below, accompanied by a few dragoons; there is no apprehension of any attempts on his part to disturb the quiet possession which Gen. Kearney now holds of Santa Fe and the adjacent country. The American flag was hoisted, and now waves over what was once the Mexican Governor's palace, and all is tranquil and quiet among the people, and they appear not only to acquiesce in, but to be reconciled and pleased with, the change of government. It appears that Gen. K. has treated them with great kindness and consideration. Some ordnance was captured, including a brass field piece taken from the Texan expedition fitted out against Santa Fe some years since. It is understood that Gen. Kearney, with a small force, is about to leave Santa Fe for a few days on an excursion to some of the principal places in the territory, and many conclude to establish a military post below or near to the Rio Grande.

From the Petersburg Intelligencer.

CHILLS AND FEVER.—The whole of Virginia, East of the Blue Ridge, has this year been more subject to Chills and Fevers than at any other period within the memory of man. There is scarcely a family within a circuit of fifty miles around Petersburg that has not had one or more of its inmates "down" with this most annoying of diseases. In some counties, we hear, the Tobacco has suffered for the want of the proper attention—the negroes being sick with ague and fever.

We find in the last Union a remedy for the disease, which is so simple and convenient, that we should not hesitate to try it:

COMMUNICATED.

Remedy for Chills and Fever, or Fever and Ague.—Take one pint of sweet milk and one large table spoonful of ground ginger, mixed thoroughly, and heated over the fire as warm as it can be drank, when the chill comes on or commences. Repeat the dose once or twice, if necessary, and the cure will be effected.

N. B.—If the system be costive, an aperient may be necessary in order to prepare it properly for the above prescription.

This is the most accessible, the cheapest, the most efficacious and the speediest remedy in the world. As this is the season for the prevalence of that disease, I do myself the honor to furnish you with the above receipt.

THE HERMIT IN SOCIETY.

Washington, D. C. Sept. 21, 1846.

LOSS OF A STEAMBOAT.—The N. O. Picayune tells a story of the snagging of a steamboat, with her owner on board who was very fond of playing upon a violin. The captain, pilot, and engineer were in the cabin, playing cards one day, when her bow struck a snag, with a force that knocked a hole in her as

large as a hoghead, the shock upsetting the fore bank and those around it; and causing general confusion and consternation among all save the owner, who, having righted himself in a chair, commenced his tune where he had left off, and went on as though nothing had happened.

"She is sinkin'!" shouted an Arkansas man dressed in a hickory-bark coat, who was making his way out of the cabin with a pair of saddle bags on his arm. "Tomahawk me if she ain't sinkin' sure!" The owner heard it, but fiddled away with as little unconcern as Nero at the conflagration of Rome.

"Three feet water in the hold! Run the Old Buzzard ashore, if you can!" shouted the captain. These startling words reached the ear of the owner, but he continued to saw away. A passenger ran to him and bawled out.

"Did you know the boat had snagged?"

"I suspected something of the kind," coolly answered the owner, as he laid his ear upon his violin, *a la Ole Bull*, and appeared perfectly enchanted with his own strains.

"She'll be lost in five minutes," continued the passenger.

"She's a been losing concern these five year," responded the owner, as he drew and excruciating note from his fiddle.

"I can feel her settling now," responded the passenger.

"I wish she'd settle with me for what I've lost by her before she goes down," was the only answer, as the owner's hand still moved backwards and forwards over his instrument.

"But why don't you speak to the captain—give him some orders what to do in the emergency?"—ejaculated the good-natured passenger.

"Interfering with the officers of this boat is a very delicate matter!" meekly, and quietly remarked the owner, as he still swayed his head about and still sawed away. The boat careened, and the next moment the cabin was half full of water.

The Buzzard, together with her cargo and machinery, proved a total loss; the officers, crew and passengers saved themselves by means of the yawl—the owner swam ashore with his fiddle under his right arm and the bow in his mouth. No insurance.

BENEVOLENCE.—"Not for ourselves, but others," is the grand law of Nature, inscribed by the hand of God on every part of creation. Not for itself but others, does the sun dispense its beams; not for themselves, but others, do the clouds distill their showers; not for herself but others does the earth unlock her treasures; not for themselves, but others, do the trees produce their fruit or the flowers diffuse their fragrance and display their various hues. So, not for himself, but others, are the blessings of heaven bestowed on man.

* * * * He who lives only to himself, and consumes the bounty of heaven upon his lusts, or consecrates it to the demon of avarice, is a barren rock in a fertile plain; he is a thorny bramble in a fruitful vineyard; he is the grave of God's blessing; he is the very Arabia deserts of the moral world.—Payson.

KISSING.—The following curious facts in natural history afford matter for profitable reflection, both to the philosopher and the man of the world.

The Boston girls holds still until they are well kissed, when they flare up all at once, and say, "I think you ought to be ashamed."

When a young chap steals a kiss from an Albany girl, she says, "I reckon it's my turn now," and gives him a box on the ear that he don't forget in a week.

The ladies of New Berlin, however, are so fond of kissing that, when saluted on one cheek, they instantly present the other.

The girls of Baltimore, when thus saluted by their beaux, archly remind them that they live under the laws of Mar(r)tyland.