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## Poetical Department.

For the Camden Journal.  
'Tis at the silent noon of night,  
When starbeams dance upon the wave,  
The heart can call the feelings back,  
Which love in earlier hours gave.  
When mem'ry gently sweeps the heart,  
As zephyrs o'er the harp's light string,  
As soft as moonlight on the skies,  
Or tones which melody can bring,  
Who would not at this mystic hour,  
When floats the glittering moon-beam by,  
Recall each look—rehear those tones  
Which in the clime of mem'ry lie?  
For ah there's not a moonlight hour,  
But what has something bright its own,  
As not a star in yon sweet heaven,  
But what can say, "I too have shone;"  
There's not a mem'ry of the past  
That dwells within the soul's deep shrine,  
But what can claim some pleasure too,  
And say, "that mental gem was mine."  
Then I must love the memorized past,  
So soft, so beautiful, and bright,  
And live within its fancied realm,  
This mezzotinted noon of night.  
Camden, S. C.      CONSTANCY.

## Miscellaneous Department.

**AN OLD BEAU.**—If men sneer, as our habit is, at the artifices of an old beauty, at her paint, perfumes, ringlets, at those innumerable, and to us unknown, stratagems with which she is said to remedy the ravages of time and reconstruct the charms whereof years have bereft her; the ladies, it is to be presumed, are not on their side altogether ignorant that men are vain as well as she, and that the toilet of old bucks are to the full as elaborate as their own. How is it that old Blushington keeps that constant little rose-tint on his cheeks; and where does old Blondel get the preparation which makes his silver hair pass for golden? Have you ever seen Lord Hotspar; get off his horse where he thinks nobody is looking? Take out of his stirrups, his shiny boots can hardly totter up the steps of Hotspar House. He is a dashing young nobleman still as you see the back of him in Rotten Row; when you behold him a foot, what an old fellow? Did you ever form to yourself any idea of Dick Lacy. (Dick has been Dick these sixty years) in a natural state, and without his stays! All these men are objects whom the observer of human life and manners may contemplate with as much profit as the most elderly Belgravian Venus, or inveterate Mayfair Jezebel. An old reprobate daddy long legs, who has never said his prayers (except perhaps in public) these fifty years; an old buck who still clings to as many of the habits of youth as his feeble grasp of health can hold by; who has given up the bottle but sits with young fellows over it, and tells naughty stories upon toast and water—who has given up beauty, but still talks about it as wickedly as the youngest rone in company—such an old fellow, I say, if any parson in Pinlico or St. James were to order the beads to bring him into the middle aisle, and there set him in an arm-chair, and make a text of him, and preach about him to the congregation, could be turned to a wholesome use for once in his life, and might be surprised to find that some good thoughts came out of him.  
Thackeray.

**WHAT CAN BE DONE ON ONE ACRE OF GROUND.**—The editor of the Maine Cultivator published a few days ago, his management of one acre of ground, from which we gather the following results: One-third of an acre in corn usually produces, thirty bushels of sound corn for grinding, besides some refuse. This quantity was sufficient for family use, and for fattening one large or two small hogs. From the same ground he obtained two or three hundred pumpkins, and his family supply of beans. From a bed of six rods square, he usually obtained sixty bushels of onions; these he had sold at one dollar per bushel and the amount purchased his flour.—Thus, from one-third of an acre and an onion bed, he obtained his breadstuffs. The rest of the ground was appropriated to all sorts of vegetables, for summer and winter use; potatoes, beets, parsnips, cabbage, green corn, peas, cucumbers, melons, squashes, &c., with fifty or sixty bushels of beets and carrots for the food of one cow. Then he had also a flower garden, raspberries, currants, and gooseberries in great variety; and a few choice apple, pear, plum, cherry, peach and quince trees. If a family can be supported from one acre of ground in Maine the same can be done in every State and country in the Union.

**EDGEWORTH'S GOLD MINE.**—Since the acquisition of California, and the discovery of its rich mines of gold, our minds at home have excited but little interest in the public mind. During the past week, we paid a hasty visit to the mine named at the head of this article; which is situated in the upper part of the island of St. John, in the bay of St. John, in the late Mr. Edgeworth's property, the celebrated English author. This mine was accidentally discovered about two years ago, since which time, it has well rewarded the labor of the operators. It is a vein mine, the veins of which have been traced for about half a mile. The gold is found in quartz rock, which also contains pyrites of iron, copper, silver and lead. The gold bearing rock is found in veins of from one inch, to more than one foot in thickness—closely imbedded in blue slate; and in many places shows unmistakable evidence, of having been subjected to great heat. The rock yields from five to twenty-five penny-weights of gold in the quick, per bushel. The apparatus in use at the mine,

at present, is not the best adapted to a successful operation. The ore after being raised, is first crushed by the hammer then it is ground in iron and stone mills with the mercury, and then washed out. By this process, much of the gold passes off with the water in re-washing.—There are but few hands now at work and sediment, the latter of which pays well at this mine; the aggregate yield therefore, is not large, but sufficient to pay well for the labor.  
Ch. in Gazette.

From the National Intelligencer.

## A CARD.

**MR. FOOTE EXPLAINS.**—The subjoined "Card" was handed to our reporter yesterday, explanatory of what took place in the Senate on Wednesday:

In the report of the unhappy occurrence which took place on yesterday in the Senate, I regret to perceive one or two slight inaccuracies, which I hope you will promptly correct. The inaccuracies alluded to are not in the report of the debate, which is one of the following statements:

[Here Mr. Foote, who occupies a seat in the outer circle, in front of the Vice President's chair, retreated backwards down the aisle, towards the chair of the Vice President, with a pistol in his hand; Mr. Benton, a moment before having suddenly risen from his seat and advanced by the aisle, outside the bar towards him, following him into the aisle down which the Senator from Mississippi had retreated.

In a moment almost every Senator was on his feet, and calls to "order," demands for the Sergeant-at-Arms; requests that the Senators would take their seats, from the Chair and from individual Senators, were repeatedly made.—Mr. Benton was followed and arrested by Mr. Dodge of Wisconsin, and in the confusion and excitement which prevailed, he was heard to exclaim, from time to time: "I have no pistols!" "Let him fire!" "Stand out of the way!" "I have no pistols!" "I disdain to carry arms," "Stand out of the way, and let me pass!" While making these exclamations, Mr. Benton was brought back to his seat, but breaking away from Mr. Dodge of Wisconsin who sought forcibly to restrain him, he advanced again towards Mr. Foote who stood near the Vice President's chair, on the right hand side, surrounded by a number of Senators and others not members of the Senate. Mr. Dickinson took the pistol from the hand of Mr. Foote, and locked it up in his desk, and Mr. Foote, on the advance of Mr. Butler, returned to his seat.]

Now, as to the "retreat" spoken of it was simply a movement in a line; which made something like a right angle with the one which the Senator from Missouri was advancing. On seeing him advancing, I simply glided towards the alley leading from the Secretary's chair to the door, in order to take a defensive attitude, and then await any assault which might be made. I could not have done otherwise, without, in a certain event, endangering the lives of unoffending persons. You seem to represent myself as being pursued by my antagonist down a narrow alley. If you allude to the alley along which I walked in order to take my defensive position alluded to, you are in error, as the person alluded to did not even reach my seat, nor even get me than something like half way from his seat to mine. The fact is, that I neither retreated from, nor advanced upon, the Senator referred to: I simply advanced to a convenient position for the purpose of defence. You say "Mr. Dickinson took the pistol from the hand of Mr. Foote." This is true, but I would add, that it was cheerfully surrendered on application being made for it, and upon seeing that I was no longer in danger of being assaulted I regret that I have deemed it necessary to make this explanation, but I did not know how to avoid it.

H. S. FOOTE.

**ISLANDS OF LAKE NICARAGUA.**—From a paper, by the Hon. E. G. Squier, read at a recent meeting of the Ethnological Society of New York, we make the following extract:

"Perhaps a more singular group of islets cannot be found in the wide world. As I have before said, they are all of volcanic origin, generally conical in shape, and seldom exceeding three or four acres in area. All are covered with a cloak of verdure, but nature is not always successful in hiding the black rocks which start out in places, as if in disdain of all concealment, and look frowningly down in the clear water, giving an air of wildness to the otherwise soft and quiet scenery of the island.—Trailing over these rocks, and dropping in festoons from the overhanging trees, their plant tendrils floating in the water, are innumerable vines, with bright and fragrant flowers of red and yellow, mingled with the inverted cone of the "gloria de Nicaragua," with its overpowering odor, with strange and nameless fruits, forming an evergreen roof, so dense that even a tropical sun cannot penetrate. Many of these islands have patches of cultivated ground, and on such, generally crowning their summits relieved by a dense green background of plantations, and surrounded by kingly palms, and the papaya with its great, golden fruit, are the picturesque canchets of the inhabitants. Groups of naked, swarthy children in front—a winding path leading beneath the great trees down to the water's edge—an arbor-like miniature harbor, water's edge—a woman naked to the waist with a purple skirt of true Tyrian dye, for the famous murex is found on the Pacific shores of Nicaragua, her long, black, glossy hair falling over neck and breast, reaching almost to her knees—a flock of noisy parrots in a congressional squabble among the trees—a swarm of parrots scarcely less noisy—a pair of vociferating macaws like floating fragments of a rainbow—inquisitive monkeys hanging among the vines—active iguanas scrambling up the banks—long-necked and long-leg-

ged cranes in deep soliloquy at the edge of the water, their white bodies standing in strong relief against a background of rock and verdure—a canoe glancing rapidly and noiselessly across a vista of water—all this, with a golden sky above, the purple sides of the volcano of Momobacho overshadowing us, and the distant shores of Chontales molten in the slanting sunlight—these were some of the golden elements of the scenery of the islands; elements constantly shifting, and forming new and pleasing combinations."

## Political Department.

**SPEECH OF HON. DANIEL WALLACE,**  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

In the House of Representatives, April 8, 1850.

In Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, on the President's Message communicating the Constitution of California.

Mr. Wallace rose and said:

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Among the political questions which now demand our attention, none are more deserving the profound consideration of the American people than the questions of the non-extension, and of the abolition, of slavery. The bill now on your table affords me a fit occasion to express my views on these subjects, which now so fearfully agitate the public mind. I believe I shall be able to show, that non-extension is but the means by which the abolition of slavery is intended to be accomplished. I shall therefore consider these subjects together, with the view to show the identity of their object and tendency.

The agitation of these questions has produced a state of excitement in the public mind, unexampled in our history. Throughout a large section of the Union, deep discontent prevails, and men calmly and sternly deliberate upon the means of saving themselves and their children from the intolerable wrongs which are impending over them. Confidence in this Government, to answer the ends of its formation, is rapidly giving way. We cannot, without being criminally guilty, close our eyes to the fact, that old political systems are viewed with profound and well-founded distrust, and the advantages of new ones, formed upon their ruins, openly and boldly discussed. This want of confidence in established systems, is not confined to Europe. It is here in our midst also. The human mind asserts its freedom, and will no longer be deluded by the sanctity, which the hallowed associations of the past have thrown around a name. The substance of things is now demanded, and this demand must be satisfied. To draw a faithful picture of the state of the Union, in reference to these questions, is the duty now before me.

The first step towards the restriction of slavery, was the enactment of the ordinance of 1787, the sixth article of which reads as follows:

"There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment for crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided always, That any person escaping in the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original States, such fugitives may be lawfully reclaimed, and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service, as aforesaid."

In the Federal Convention which framed the Constitution, the Southern States prescribed the terms upon which alone they would agree to become parties to it. They demanded, that the proviso in this ordinance, for the surrender of fugitives from labor, should become a part of the Constitution.

They also demanded, that persons held to service, should be represented in Congress; and to effect this object, the following clause was inserted in the Constitution:

"Representatives and direct taxes, shall be apportioned among the several States, which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons."

These clauses constitute the guaranties which the Southern States demanded before they would consent to enter into the Union, and without which the Union never would have been formed. They are fundamental conditions of the compact which was formed between the North and the South, in reference to the great question now at issue between them. With what fidelity the North have kept that compact, I will now proceed to show.

The ordinance of 1787 shadowed forth the policy which the North are now pursuing. The intention is now avowed, to restrict slavery to its present limits, with the view to ultimate abolition in the States.

The Missouri compromise was another act in the same drama—the accomplishment of another part of the same scheme. In that compromise, the North agreed that the line of 36° 30' north latitude should forever divide the slaveholding from the non-slaveholding States. This compromise embraced all the territory acquired in 1803, by the treaty of Paris. In this territory slavery prevailed everywhere, but was abolished north of the compromise line. The North now repudiate that compromise, and are impatient to spread upon the record more conclusive evidence, if it were wanting, to establish the fact, that no constitutions, no compromises, no compacts, or solemn engagements, into which they enter upon this question—no matter how binding in law or conscience, or how solemn the form and ceremonial of their execution—can bind them to the observance of their obligations any longer than suits their own purposes.

The ordinance of 1787 provided for the surrender of fugitives from service. In the Con-

stitution this provision was re-affirmed in solemn form. The same compact was expressly recognized in the Missouri compromise, as applicable to free States to be formed out of the Louisiana territory. Thus has this fundamental law been three times affirmed, at three successive epochs in our history, and as often violated and disregarded.

The expression, "delivering up fugitives," is a technical term in the law of nations, and is often used in extradition treaties. It is twice used in the Constitution—once in relation to fugitives from justice, and once in relation to fugitives from labor. In its technical meaning, it imposes an obligation on the State in which the fugitive is found, to take active measures for his delivery to his owner; or if a fugitive from justice, to the state having jurisdiction of the crime for which he fled. Up to the time of the Missouri compromise, nearly all the northern States had passed laws to carry out, in good faith, the provision of the Constitution, and the fugitive from labor was provided for in the same statutes which provided for the delivery up of fugitives from justice. But as the scheme of abolition advanced towards the ends to be accomplished, another policy was to be adopted. These statutes were repealed, and a large majority of the northern States have since passed laws to prevent the redelivery of fugitives from service. This is the abolition policy, to which the States of the North are committed by the acts of their legislatures, in open violation to the Constitution.

I repeat, that a design is now avowed to restrict slavery to its present limits, with the view to its final abolition in the States. To show that proofs are abundant upon this subject, I call the attention of the committee to a speech lately delivered here, by a member from Pennsylvania, (Mr. Stephens.) He first quotes from a speech of Mr. Meade, of Virginia. "If," said Mr. Meade, "we intend to submit to the policy of confining the slaves within their present limits, we should commence forthwith the work of gradual emancipation. It is an easier task for us than for our children." The member next repeats a remark from the speech of Mr. Hilliard, of Alabama. "We must," said Mr. Hilliard, "make up our minds to resist the interdiction of the progress of slavery, or to submit to an organic change in our institutions." In reply to these remarks of Mr. Meade and Mr. Hilliard, the member from Pennsylvania exultingly exclaims:

"Yes, sir; this admitted result is, to my mind, one of the most agreeable consequences of the legitimate restriction of slavery. Confine this malady within its present limits, surround it by a cordon of freemen that it cannot spread, and in less than twenty-five years every slaveholding State in this Union will have on its statute books a law for the gradual and final extinction of slavery. Then will have been consummated the fondest wishes of every patriot's heart. Then will our fair country be glorious indeed; and be to posterity a bright example of the true principles of government—of universal freedom."

"I am opposed to the extension of slavery into territories now free, for still graver reasons, because I am opposed to despotism throughout the world. I admit that this Government cannot preach a crusade of liberty into other States and nations; much as she abhors tyrants and tyranny, there she can only mourn over its existence. But when the question of government is within her own control, and she permits despotism to exist, and aids its diffusion, she is responsible for it in the face of the civilized world, and before the God of Liberty."

In these sentiments, often repeated here, the end and aim of all this slavery restriction, this free-soil and abolition agitation, may be clearly seen. The member from Pennsylvania sends forth the rallying cry to the abolition legions of the North, to press forward to the accomplishment of this great scheme of slavery restriction, with a view to its final abolition in the States. "Surround them with a cordon of freemen," says he, "so that slavery cannot spread, and in less than twenty-five years every slaveholding State in this Union will have on its statute books a law for the gradual and final extinction of slavery."

Sir, this avowal of the ultimate design of the free-soil scheme, does not disclose to me any new phase, in the controversy between North and South. I have heretofore warned the people I represent, that it is the design of the majority of the North, to accomplish the end announced by the member from Pennsylvania; that is, to surround the slave States by a cordon of free States—to confine them to their present limits; and more still—to circumscribe these limits by driving in the outposts of slavery in the border States, with the view to the final abolition of slavery, and until the South, hemmed in on all sides, is reduced to the condition now exhibited by St. Domingo. This is the abolition scheme, of which non-extension is but the means to accomplish the end.

To obtain the control of every department of the Government, to enable them to effect their designs, it was first necessary to provide for the united action of a majority in both Houses of Congress, and to elect a President who would repudiate the veto power. Both these preliminary steps have been accomplished. Gradually the work of uniting all parties at the North, up to a well-defined geographical line, has been going on. Any public functionary who dared to accord justice to the South, soon found a political grave. Ex-Presidents have entered the lists of free-soil, and contended for the prize offered by the inscriptions upon its banner, as did the kings of the East in the Olympic games. Down with slavery was the battle-cry, which has rallied the legions of these crusaders. True, they march to the field of action under banners slightly differing in device, but when once there, Whig, Democrat, Abolitionist and Free-Soiler, all unite in one grand army

for the overthrow of slavery. Every aspirant for political honors has learned that to denounce the South, and preach deliverance to the slave, is the only road to political distinction. And however much the different organizations of party may differ on minor questions of public policy, upon non-extension they all agree. On this subject there is but one party and one policy. As far, therefore, as this question is concerned, how does the northern Whig differ from the northern Democrat, or how does the Free-Soiler and Abolitionist differ from either? Do not all give their aid to the great scheme of ultimate abolition, by pressing forward the scheme of non-extension? Did not all vote for the Wilmot Proviso, with three or four exceptions, while it was a practical question? Are not all now in favor of the admission of California, and that, too, for the reason that the Wilmot Proviso is ingrafted in, and constitutes a part of her so-called fundamental law, and that her admission into the Union thus becomes a part of the scheme of non-extension, and therefore of ultimate abolition? And what is it worth to us, if some do it reluctantly?

This Union of incompatible elements, up to the geographical line which divides the North from the South, accomplishes one essential purpose, which all have in view. It gives the North a decisive majority in both Houses of Congress. There is, therefore, but one obstacle in the way of the absolute power of this majority; and that is the Constitution. But, sir, power is never restrained by written laws.—Having secured the necessary majority, the next step is, to remove every obstacle, which impedes its action. For this purpose, the Constitution must be overthrown, and the will of the majority substituted in its stead.

We have thus arrived at a new era in our political history. The time has come, when the question must be decided, as was said by the gentleman of Georgia, (Mr. Toombs,) how far written constitutions can protect the rights of a minority, against the usurpations of a reckless majority. There must be a veto power somewhere. If the President refuses to discharge his constitutional duties, the minority of States must exercise it for themselves, or their liberty will be destroyed.

To suit this new political system, a new vocabulary is being formed, and a catalogue of ideas, heretofore unknown, are brought to our consideration. At one time, it was conceded, by the highest authority, that a State of this Confederacy can peacefully secede from it.—Upon this subject Mr. Madison said, in the debates on the Federal Constitution:

"It has been alleged, that the Confederation having been formed by unanimous consent, could be dissolved by unanimous consent only. Does this doctrine result from the nation in the Article of Confederation? If we consider the Federal Union as analogous to the fundamental compact, by which individuals compose one society, and which must in its theoretic origin, at least, have been the unanimous act of the component members, it cannot be said, that no dissolution of the compact can be effected without unanimous consent. A breach of the fundamental principles of the compact, by a part of the society, would certainly absolve the other part from their obligations to it. If the breach of any article by any of the parties does not set the others at liberty, it is because the contrary is implied in the compact itself, and particularly in that law of it which gives an indefinite authority to the majority to bind the whole in all cases. This latter circumstance shows, that we are not to consider the Federal Union as analogous to the social compact of individuals, for if it were so, a majority would have a right to bind the rest, and even to form a new Constitution for the whole, which the gentleman from New Jersey, (Mr. Patterson,) would be among the last to admit. If we consider the Federal Union as analogous, not to the social compacts among individual men, but to the conventions among individual States, what is the doctrine resulting from these conventions?—Clearly, according to the expositions of the law of nations, that a breach of any one article by any one party, leaves all the other parties at liberty to consider the whole convention as dissolved.

The convention of the State of Virginia, which met to ratify the Federal Constitution, in the terms of ratification, used the following language:

"We, the delegates of the people of Virginia, duly elected, in pursuance of a recommendation from the General Assembly, now met in convention, having fully and freely investigated and discussed the proceeding of the Federal Convention, and being prepared, as well as the most mature deliberation hath enabled us, to decide thereon, do, in the name and in behalf of the people of Virginia, declare and make known, that the powers granted under the Constitution being derived from the people of the United States, may be resumed by them, whenever the same shall be perverted to their injury or oppression, and that every power not granted thereby, remains with them and at their will. That therefore, no right of any denomination can be cancelled, abridged, restrained, or modified, by the Congress, by the Senate or House of Representatives, acting in any capacity; by the President or any other department or officer of the United States."

At the same period of time, a convention of the State of New York met to ratify the Constitution, which convention, in the terms of ratification, used the following language:

"We, the delegates of the people of the State of New York, duly elected and met in convention, having maturely considered the Constitution for the United States of America, and having also seriously and deliberately considered the present situation of the United States, do declare and make known, that the power is originally vested in, and consequently derived from the people, and that the