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MISCELLANY.

OUR LEGISLATURE.

A. J. Steinman, Esq., of the Lancaster (Pa.) *Intelligencer*, who was among the Marylanders and Pennsylvanians visiting this State last December, writes as follows of the reconstructed Legislature, in the concluding number of "Editorial Notes" for his paper:

We stopped a day in Columbia to see that wonderful production of Southern soil—a Negro Legislature. We saw but one branch of it, for the Assembly on the day previous, Friday, after an animated debate as to the propriety of voting a Christmas dinner to its employees, had adjourned over until Monday for the purpose of attending a circus that was to exhibit on Saturday afternoon. The members thought that there would be no use in holding a session on Saturday morning, as their minds would be so full of joyful anticipations of the pleasures which the afternoon had in store for them, they would be so intently dwelling upon the prospective male race, the mad gallop of the bare-legged, painted equestrienne, the perilous leap of the acrobat, and the wonderful jokes of the clown, that they would be entirely unfitted for the grave business of law-making. One hundred and eighteen of the one hundred and thirty-two members of this body are Radicals, of whom sixty-seven are negroes and the balance white carpet baggers.

There are thirty-two Senators, eighteen of them being white Radicals, nine black ditto, and five Democrats. The proportion of blacks in this body being less, it was more sedate than the lower House, and had a session on Saturday morning, taking very good care, however, to adjourn in excellent time for the circus. The Senate Chamber occupies the first floor of a building in the business-part of the City, the room having been apparently intended for a store or a drinking saloon. The chairman's desk stands about the middle of the side wall, and the august Senators have desks in front of him, fenced off from the common people that come in to see the menagerie, by a railing that curves elliptically around to the wall. The words that fell from the thick lips in that ellipse, Sanford or Christy would not eclipse, in their peculiar style of utterance. Beverly Nash was there occupying Wade Hampton's former place as representative of Columbia; a tall, slim darkey, who for many years was the porter in one of the principal hotels of the Capital. Two stolid looking colored gentlemen sat in a corner whose appointed business seemed to be, to second all the motions made by their dusky fellow Senators; they seconded the motion to adjourn the circus, with great apparent cheerfulness. Mr. Raney was a portly black man, who looked as if he had placed a great deal of hog and hominy under his jacket. He was Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and his former profession was that of a barber. He had had the custom of all the lawyers of the town, and was supposed to have acquired an ample legal knowledge from his numberless manipulations of the legal head; hence he was made the legal luminary of the Senate. Mr. Wright is accounted the orator of the body and is its leader; he is a mulatto, and a native of Pennsylvania, but is said to have been admitted to the bar in one of the Northwestern States. During the war he got down to Hilton Head, which district he now represents. He distinguished himself while we were listening with wrapt attention to his soul-stirring eloquence and earnestly striving to find out what he was talking about, by moving that "the bill be laid on de shelf;" we were somewhat startled and involuntarily looked for that article of furniture, but failed to see it. On the next subject that he handled, Mr. Wright made himself more clearly understood; he wanted to be paid for his services as a law-maker, and suspected that a clause in a bill which had been introduced for that purpose, might operate to delay the replenishment of his pocket book. The bill was entitled, "A bill to make

appropriations for the payment of the per diem and mileage of the members of the General Assembly, and the salaries of the subordinate officers and other expenses incidental thereto." The first section read thus: "Be it enacted, &c., That the sum of \$140,000, if so much be necessary, be, and the same is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose aforesaid." Mr. Wright objected to the words "not otherwise appropriated," and moved that the bill be sent back to the Judiciary Committee, and that they be instructed to report it with those words omitted. In a few eloquent sentences he portrayed the great value of the services which he and his colleagues were rendering to the State, to the Nation and to the world at large, and he insisted upon the eminent justice of their being paid for their services without any ifs or buts, and regardless of whether they had or had not previously voted away all the money that was in the Treasury; if there was any money there, they should first get their pay, and other creditors could take what was left. A darkey on the other side of the room got up and said that he had listened with great interest to the thrilling remarks of his brother Wright, and the amendment would be most agreeable to his feelings, but he was afraid the Treasurer couldn't pay them anyhow, if they had previously voted away all the money that was in the Treasury. "About dis 'ere pint," says he, "Ise doubtful, and I ax for in'ushun from de cheerman ob de 'Dishery mity.'" The chairman of the "Dishery mity," Mr. Raney, mildly remarked that the clause complained of was put in every appropriation bill, and he could not get it through his wool, how they could, let them be never so willing, appropriate the same money to two different objects. He wanted brother Wright to explain which that accomplished darkey did so much to the satisfaction of the chamber that they voted by a large majority to refer the bill. The sum appropriated \$140,000, was just \$100,000 more than white legislatures used to cost the State, and what additional legitimate expense the black sort has, except for perfume, we were not able to ascertain.

A Columbia (S. C.) correspondent of the New York *Times* writes: "From conversations I have had with well informed parties from the interior of this State—the central and upper portions, where cotton is the staple—it seems probable that the year 1869 is likely to yield the heaviest crop of cotton produced since the war. The past year, (1868,) South Carolina produced 180,000 bales of cotton. In some sections of the State, the quantity planted will be double that planted in 1863; and in all other portions marked increase is the order of the day. If the season be favorable and labor do not fail, 1869 may yield 225,000 bales, and one estimate puts it at 250,000 bales. A perfectly organized system of labor would render it practicable to produce in this State near 500,000 bales, worth something like \$50,000,000. The crop of 1869 was, I believe, over 400,000 bales, and economy of culture was not by any means at its maximum."

CANAL ACROSS THE Isthmus.—GEN. CUSHING'S MISSION.—The treaty made by Gen. Cushing with the Government of Columbia, confers to the United States the exclusive right to construct an inter-oceanic canal across the Isthmus of Darien, at any point which may be selected by the United States. The Columbian Government cedes six miles of land on each side of the canal—one-half for its own benefit, and the other for that of the party undertaking the construction of the work. The Columbian Government is to receive ten per cent. of the net income for the first ten years, and after the canal is paid for, twenty-five per cent. of the net profits. The treaty is to be ratified by the United States within ten months, and surveys made within two years after the ratification. The canal is to be begun within five years, and finished within fifteen years, after the ratification; other-

wise the charter fails. The charter runs for 100 years. The canal is to be under the control of the United States, and Congress can fix the rate of tolls. The navigation is to be open to all nations in time of peace, but closed to belligerents who may seek to avail themselves of its advantages. It is estimated the canal will cost \$100,000,000. A company was not long ago organized in New York, under a charter of that State with Peter Cooper as President. It is said on distinguished authority, that this company has the capital and is ready to commence the work. Congress, however, is at liberty to give preference to this or to any other private company, or the United States can itself undertake the construction of the canal.

HOW TO RETAIN YOUTH.—It is a matter of no little concern among men—and women, too—to preserve the bloom and freshness of their youth.—Cosmetics, plumpers, and the whole offspring of artifice and deception are resorted to, in the effort to stay the furrowing-plough-share of time. External appliances cannot reach or rejuvenate the decayed spirits of the man or woman who willfully and maliciously perpetrates a glaring wrong upon a fellow creature. Something must be done to quicken the vitality of the "inner man," if you would preserve the ruddy glow of health and rotund form of youth. An easy conscience is all the potent remedy for that elasticity of spirit and leanness to the human face, activity and energy to the physical body. Hear an old man sing:

They tell me I am handsome yet,
And all the ladies say
"Do look at him, the dear old man
Grows younger every day."
And when each friend asks, "At your age
How came you free from ill?"
I always answer: "In my youth
I paid my printer's bills."

NOTHING LEAVES US AS IT FOUND US.—If a sheet of paper on which a key has been laid, be exposed for a few minutes to the sunshine, and then viewed instantaneously in the dark, the key being removed, a fading spectre of the key will be visible. Let this paper be put aside for many months, where nothing can disturb it, and then in darkness be laid on a plate of hot metal. The spectre of the key will again appear. This is equally true of our minds. Every man we meet, every book we read, every picture or landscape we see, every word or tone we hear, leaves its image on the brain. These traces, which under ordinary circumstances are invisible, never fade, but in the intense light of cerebral excitement, start into prominence, just as the spectre image of the key started into sight on the application of heat. It is thus with all the influences to which we are subjected.

MAN AND WOMAN.—Adam was first formed; then Eve, and she was made of the man and for the man; all of which are urged as reasons for humility, modesty, silence, and submissiveness of that sex in general, and particularly the subjection and reverence wives owe to their husbands. Yet, man being made last of the creation; as the best and most excellent of all, Eve's being made after Adam, and out of him, puts an honor upon that sex; as the glory of the man. If man is the head, she is the crown; a crown to her husband, the crown of the visible creation. The man was dust refined, and the woman was doubly, refined, one further remove from the earth.

Woman was made of a rib out of the side of Adam; not made out of his head, to top him; nor out of his feet, to be trampled upon by him but out of his side, to be equal with him—under his arm; to be protected and near his heart to be loved.

ADVANCE IN SUGAR.—Within a few days, (says the Boston *Journal*), refined sugar has advanced about 34 cents per pound, owing to the political troubles in Cuba. The market is very buoyant for raw sugars, and holders of stocks are indisposed to sell even at the late advance. The present rise will have a tendency to stimulate shipments from Manilla and other sugar-producing countries.

FILIAL REVERENCE.—"Old man!" Stop, young man: who do mean? Your father? Truly he is an old man. The frosts and snows of threescore and ten winters have whitened that venerable head, and the scorching suns of as many summers have embrowned and withered that once smooth brow. Do you never think, young man, of the many sore trials through which that now stepping form has passed in those many years—trials that have borne him aloft to the grave—and can you say from your heart as to God, that you never caused him one pang? Ah, no! From your infancy, even to the present moment, has your life been a source of anxiety and care to him? How careful was he when you was yet a young and tender infant, to provide for your small wants; and as youth approached, did he not kindly and lovingly point out to you the path you should travel to secure the esteem and good will of all worthy men, and the smiling approbation of God? Often when he has seen you, in your heedlessness, throw yourself in the way of temptation, has he prayed to Him to preserve you, pure and free, from the temptations of the world and Evil One! Has he never gone hungry that you might be satisfied, and thinly clad that you might be warm? Yes, truly. And now see him, feeble from age and infirmity, slowly approaching the confines of the grave, alone in the world, save only you, his son; and will you not now, for all the love he has borne you these long years, lead and guide his feeble steps for a short time?

Your father! Yea, bless God that you have now the opportunity to return him some of the love he has shown you; that you have now the opportunity to obey God's command: "Honor thy father and mother."

Call him not old man. Speak of with reverence and respect and say: "My father."

A WORD TO BOYS.—Come boys and listen a few moments to your uncle.—You have now arrived at the age when you must begin to think about doing something for yourselves. The first piece of advice I have for you is, to do everything well which you undertake. There is but little danger of your being too particular in this respect. A boy who is careful to draw a straight line on his slate, will be very likely to make a straight line through life. There is no position in life in which you will not be called upon to act as exact as possible. Stop into the jeweler's shop and see how careful the workman must be in finishing up the article he holds in his hands. Visit the ship-yard, and the man with the broad-axe must learn to hew on a line, or be dismissed. You think of being a clerk. Well, remember that a mistake there is a little less than a crime. I never saw a man who was very particular about his affairs that was not successful. How exact is a military officer in the command of a body of men. A clumsy sailor will never rise to the command of a ship.

But there is one great danger which besets many young men at the present day. If it is the disposition to avoid all solid improvement, and take up with subjects that require no thought; and which serve as mere warfare with godliness, our portion will be that of the ungodly. As the tree falleth so shall it lie. We shall reap what we have sown. "Let my example warn you of the fatal error into which you have fallen," said the gay Sir Francis Dalaval, near the end of his life. "Pursue what is useful! pursue what is useful!" Reader, if you would not make your life a curse, present and eternal "pursue what is useful."—*Rural N. Y.*

DON'T SWEAR.—Profanity is one of the offensive and disgusting habits to which humanity is given; to say nothing of its sinfulness, (which every one of course understands,) profane swearing is a vile, vulgar, low-bred habit, from the indulgence of which a proper self-respect should restrain a man, even if he has no regard for the dictates of religion. It is a habit, too, which increases with fearful rapidity, when once given way to.

VARIETY.

INDIAN MASSACRE IN TEXAS.—The Corpus Christi *Advertiser* of the 6th instant says:

Reub. Holbein, Esq., arrived in this city on Tuesday, 2d inst., with exciting Indian news. An express from Los Coihitos to Capt. R. King, at Santa Gertrudes, brings the startling intelligence that two hundred Indian warriors attacked the Ranchos Los Angeles and Los Animos the latter part of last week. At Los Angeles four men were killed, and at Los Animos the entire population, numbering about forty men, women and children. They were scalped and their bodies shockingly mutilated. Rancho Los Angeles is about forty miles this side of Laredo; Los Animos is about half way between Santa Gertrudes and Brownsville. The two ranches are about forty miles apart.

Company L, 4th Cavalry, stationed at Camp Trinidad, in this county are in hot pursuit.

The Cuban authorities have refused to recognize the American Consul at Havana otherwise than as a commercial agent, and it is reported that he will probably be forced to leave the island. Naturalized American citizens are being arrested and imprisoned without any charges preferred against them. Probably on suspicion of being in sympathy with the insurgents.

Q. Smith, the negro Judge who presides in the Montgomery (Ala.) Circuit, has just pronounced the opinion from the bench that if a man neglects to pay his taxes to the United States, he can be committed to jail for contempt of court. Smith is a candidate for a Congressional nomination, and it is thought he is studying for a position on the House Judiciary Committee.

The largest man on record in modern times was Miles Darden, a native of North Carolina, born 1798. He was seven feet six inches high. At his death in 1857, he weighed a little over 1,000 pounds.

The Radical Methodist negroes of Macon have burnt down the African Church of that city, which they have held by force since the close of the war, and which was recently adjudged to the Church South as their lawful property.

The colored folks at Washington intend to have a grand ball on inauguration day, in order to eclipse the other ball got up by the white office-seekers.

A woman committed suicide in New York last week, by holding her head in a tub of water until she was drowned.

It costs \$1,400 for soap and combs, to keep Congress clean this session.

A youth of 65 and a maiden of 14 were recently married at Essex, Mass.

A New York paper in proof of the greatness of that city, says it consumes 50,000 meat skewers daily.

The New York *Tribune* says: "The negroes of South Carolina are sadly perplexed about State and county taxes. They cannot understand how a sheriff elected by themselves should turn around and ask them to pay taxes."

An exchange says: The latest mode of announcing a birth is call it, "cutting off a coupon from the marriage bond." Nonsense. It is simply a new issue bearing additional interest.

It is a common saying that the lower order of animals have not the vices of man; yet is certain that some of the insects are backbiters, and all quadrupeds tale-bearers.

A witness spoke of a "partially clad person." "Was he not quite nude?" asked the examining counsel. "No," replied the witness, "he wore a pair of spectacles."

A beautiful thought is suggested in the Koran: "Angels, in the grave will not question thee as to the amount of wealth thou hast left behind thee, but what good deed thou hast done in the world, to entitle thee to a seat among the blessed."

There are one hundred and fifteen thousand acres of public lands in Tuscaloosa county, Ala., some of them very valuable.

3,107 Mormons arrived at the port of New York during the past year. Nothing could be more convincing to our female friends of the honest desire entertained by the "nobler sex" for matrimony—and "a good deal" of it.

A dandy, strutting around a tavern took up a pair of green spectacles which lay on the table, put them on his nose, and turning to the looking glass said: "Landlord how do these become me? Don't you think they improve my looks? I think they do," replied the landlord, "they hide a part of your face."

A cotemporary thinks the rain a strange power. It keeps thousands away from church on Sunday, but won't deter a single man from attending to business on week days.

During the past eleven years 4,883 American vessels have been wrecked, involving a loss of over \$100,000,000.

The value of time varies with individuals, and in the same hour-glass which marks the flight of time to every eye, it is less than lost sand to the idler, but more than gold to the studious man.

The Grand Jury of Washington, D. C., has found a true bill against a man, who, without knowledge or skill in medicine, administered ten grains of sulphate of morphine to a woman, who it is alleged, died in consequence.

It is a blessed thing for a poor man to have a contented, loving wife—one who will not wish to live in a style beyond her husband's income, just because her next door neighbor does—one who can be happy in the love of her husband, her home and its duties, without asking the world for its smiles or its favors.

The employers of coolies, in India, have a legal right to whip them for neglecting work. One planter recently killed a coolie by hogging him. The evidence was technically defective; and he was sentenced to but twelve months imprisonment.

From 1804 to 1827, North Carolina furnished all the gold of the U. States, amounting, according to returns at the mint, to \$110,000. The aggregate of all her gold yield up to 1866, according to data from the same source, is about \$93,000,000.

VERY NATURAL.—A gentleman asked a little girl, an only child, how many sisters she had and was told "three or four." Her mother asked Mary, when they were alone, what had induced her to tell such an untruth. "Why, mamma," cried Mary, "I didn't want him to think you were so poor that you had'n't but one child. Wouldn't he have thought we were dreadful poor?"

A novel mode of dunning, lately introduced in New York, is to hire a chair painted in flaming red letters, "Collector's Chair," in which the collector makes his daily rounds to the domiciles of slow-paying debtors. In very obstinate cases, and when the debtor lives in a fashionable house, it is kept standing in front of the premises several hours a day.

Some one has beautifully said: "Let prayer be the key of the morning and the bolt of the evening."

Acknowledging we have been in the wrong is only showing that we are wiser to-day than yesterday.

Marriage makes a man and woman one; but the trouble is to tell which of them is the Ohio.

A man in Ohio is father of five boys named Fremont, Lincoln, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan.

St. Louis Mutual.

COMPARATIVE Statement of an all cash Company without dividends, and the St. Louis Mutual:

Year	Premium	Dividends	Cash Paid
1	\$22 62	\$22 62
2	22 62	\$5 67	16 03
3	22 62	7 56	17 14
4	22 62	7 91	14 79
5	22 62	8 36	14 34

The second payment in the St. Louis Mutual Life is less than in a stock company, and over decreasing, until self-sustaining.

J. W. RODGERS, Agent,
Camden, S. C.

Feb 11.