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## THE CAMDEN JOURNAL.

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**THOMAS J. WARREN.**

### TERMS.

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### THE WORTH OF WOMAN.

FROM THE GERMAN OF SCHILLER.

Honored be woman! she beams on the sight,  
Graceful and fair, like a being of light;  
Scatters around her wherever she strays,  
Roses of bliss on our thorn covered ways;  
Roses of Paradise, sent from above,  
To be gathered and twined in a garland of Love.

Man, on passion's stormy ocean,  
Tossed by surges mountain high,  
Courts the hurricane's commotion,  
Spurns at reason's feeble cry.  
Loud the tempest roars around him,  
Louder still it roars within;  
Flashing lights of hope confound him,  
Stuns with life's incessant din.

Woman invites him with bliss in her smile,  
To cease from his toil and be happy awhile;  
Whispering wooingly—come to my bowers—  
Go not in search of the phantom in power—  
Honor and wealth are illusory—come!  
Happiness dwells in the temples of home.

Man, with fury stern and savage,  
Persecutes his brother man,  
Reckless if he bless or ravage,  
Action, action—still his plan.  
Now creating—now destroying,  
Ceaseless wishes tear his breast;  
Ever seeking—ne'er enjoying;  
Still to be; but never blest.

Woman, contented in silent repose,  
Enjoys in its beauty life's flower as it blows,  
And waters and tends it with innocent heart,  
Far richer than man with his treasures of art;  
And wiser by far in the circles confined,  
Than he with his science and lights of the mind.

Coldly to himself succumbing,  
Man disdains the gentler arts,  
Knoweth not the bliss arising  
From the interchange of hearts.  
Slowly through his bosom stealing,  
Flows the genial current on,  
Till by age's frost congealing,  
It is hardened into stone.

She like the harp, that instinctively rings,  
As the night breathing zephyr soft sighs on the strings,  
Responds to each impulse with steady reply;  
Whether sorrow or pleasure her sympathy try;  
And tear drops and smiles on her countenance play,  
Like sunshine and showers of a morning in May.

Through the range of man's dominion,  
Terror is the ruling word—  
And the standard of opinion  
Is the temper of the sword.  
Strife exalts, and pity blushing,  
From the scene departing flies,  
Where, to battle madly rushing,  
Brother upon brother dies.

Woman commands with a milder control—  
She rules by enchantment the realms of the soul,  
As she glances around in the light of her smile,  
The war of the passions is hushed for a while;  
And discord, content from his fury to cease,  
Reposes entranced on the pillows of peace.

### The Preacher and the Robbers.

A Methodist preacher, many years ago, was journeying to a village where he was to dispense the word of life, according to the usual routine of his duty, and was stopped on his way by three robbers. One of them seized his bridle reins, another presented a pistol and demanded his money; the third was a mere looker on. The grave and devout man looked each and all of them in the face, and with great gravity and seriousness said, "Friends, did you pray to God before you left home? did you ask God to bless you in your undertakings to-day?"

The question startled them for a moment. Recovering themselves, one said, "We have no time to answer such questions, we want your money."

"I am a poor preacher of the gospel," was the reply; "but what little money I have, shall be given to you."

A few shillings was all he had to give. "Have you a watch?"

"Yes."

"Well, then, give it to us."

In taking his watch from his pocket, his saddle-bags were displayed.

"What have you here?" was the question again.

"I cannot say I have nothing in them but religious books, because I have a pair of shoes, and a change of linen also."

"We must have them."

The preacher dismounted. The saddle-bags were taken possession of and no further demand made. Instantly the preacher began to unbutton his great coat, and throw it off his shoulders, at the same time asking, "will you have my great coat?"

"No," was the reply; "you are a generous man, and we will not take it."

He then addressed them as follows: "I have given you every thing you asked for, and would have given you more than you asked for. I have one favor to ask of you."

"What is that?"

"That you kneel down and allow me to pray to Almighty God in your behalf; to ask Him to turn your hearts and put you in the right way."

"I'll have nothing to do with the man's things," said the ringleader of them.

"Nor I either," said another of them.

"Here, take your watch, take your money, take your saddle-bags; if we have anything to do with you, the judgment of God will overtake us."

So each article was returned. That, however, did not satisfy the sainted man. He urged prayer upon them. He knelt down; one of the robbers knelt with him; one prayed, the other wept, confessed his sin, said it was the first time in his life that he had done such a thing, and it should be the last. How far he kept his word, is only known to Him to whom the darkness and light are equally alike; to Him whose eyelids try the children of men.

### The Galveston Negro Case.

There will, we doubt not, be a long and loud howl from New England abolitionism, when it hears of the strict and sharp way with which the law of Texas has dealt with the Massachusetts free negroes who were caught at Galveston enticing away slaves. Yet Texas dealt with them mercifully, considering the nature of the crime, in its consequences upon the security of property and the domestic quiet her people. She first imposed only a fine, and when that was not paid, condemned the criminals to expiate the offence by personal servitude, and to form an example to deter others from offending in the same way. The code of many of the Southern States would have justified even more summary action. White men have been hanged with little compunction for the same offence, without exciting any very great clamor elsewhere, yet we expect to hear a fierce outcry against the condemnation to slavery of these "colored brethren," whose lives might have been taken without departure from prevailing opinions of right, and cogent reasons of policy. Philosophers have traced the origin of domestic slavery to the natural rights of war, by which the life of the captive in battle became the absolute property of the conqueror, and might be taken at will at once. To spare it on condition of personal service was an act of mercy. The modifications of this barbarous law in more civilized times, proceed upon the principle, that as the original right was an arbitrary law of necessity for self-protection against the repetition of hostile attacks from the same quarter, or of the same kind, the measure of melioration is in the degree of the proved absence of such a day of self-preservation.

In a combat for life all treatment of the assailants is justified to the extent which will secure safety to the assailed. As regards the malignant warfare against the vipers of the South waged by the mediocrities, of which these criminals were agents or tools, the Southern States have generally believed that the lives of those caught and convicted are justly forfeited, and that they ought not to be spared. Texas, more merciful, fines only; and, in the last resort, condemns them to servitude, as unfit for the duties of freemen, and unsafe to be left at large to plot mischief. She has exercised her rights; and, we believe, too, performed an act of duty to herself and her sister States of the South, for which she is entitled to thanks. This growing and more perilous plague of free negro association with the slave population, which is pertinaciously thrust upon us from the North in defiance of all our attempts at exclusion by police laws, must be sternly met, and driven back whenever and wherever it approaches our borders. The sentimental advocates for negro equality will, no doubt, raise a grand clamor at this act of stern justice. But it will justify itself in all reflecting minds on grounds of social and political duty. And if there be to some the appearance of harsh pressure upon guilty individuals, disproportioned to their intrinsic responsibility for the particular act, because they have been deluded by others into a position, where indulgence can scarcely reach them, the fault and the consequences are justly to be imputed to the deliverting villains who, prompting the deed, kept themselves in personal safety at a distance. The example, will, we hope, have a beneficial effect in warning some of these poor tools from listening to such advisers, that they avoid the same unrelenting fate, if detected in their crimes.

N. O. Picayune.

LIFE IN THE POLAR REGIONS.—Mr. R. C. Weld, in a letter to the London Times, gives the following to show that life may be sustained for a long time in the Arctic regions, and that Sir John Franklin and his companions may still survive:

In the year 1743, four Russian sailors forming part of a crew of 14 men, went in a small vessel to fish for whales on the east coast of Spitzbergen. By some unfortunate accident the ship sailed away, leaving the above four men on that dreary island. Their entire stock, at the time of the disaster, consisted of a small bag of meal, a musket, a powder-horn, twelve charges of ammunition, an axe, a knife, a small kettle, a stove, a piece of touchwood, a tobacco-box, and four pipes. The men were overwhelmed by their calamity, but instantly set to work to provide for their future wants. The wreck of a ship, which they found on the shore, supplied them with fuel, and the twelve charges of powder and ball procured them as many reindeer, which were numerous on the island. With nails extracted from a piece of ship-timber they made three lances, where-with they killed a bear, and with the strong tendons of the bear they strung and strengthened a

piece of crooked drift-wood, which they converted into a bow. With this, and the arrows which they easily made, they killed, during their stay of six years on the island, 250 reindeer, 10 bears, and a vast quantity of foxes; and when they were at length relieved by a vessel which touched unexpectedly at this island, they were able to pay for their passage home with 2,000 lbs. of deer fat, and many hides of animals they had slain.

One of this number, a very indolent man, who, from the beginning, had eschewed almost every kind of exertion, died of scurvy, while the other three found health in their daily active employments.

A Brave Woman.—Saved her Husband's Life, and Killed his Assailant.—The Cincinnati papers contain the following account of a tragical occurrence which took place near Marietta, on the 25th ult. It appears that a man named McKimick went to the house of John R. Sisk, and, without any altercation, declared his intention to take his (Sisk's) life, at the same time presenting a pistol, which he snatched. Sisk took up a chair and attempted to strike McK., but the chair caught in the clothes line. McK. again snatched the pistol, and then the parties eluded and soon after fell. After snatching the pistol a third time, and finding that it would not go off, McK. began beating Sisk with it over the head. Sisk and his wife both cried murder, and McK., who was much the heavier man of the two, had decidedly the advantage, when Sisk's wife struck McK. on the back of the head with a chair, which fractured his skull and killed him. The affray commenced in the house, but when it terminated the parties were a few steps from the door, and the body of the deceased remained on the ground where the fatal blow was given, from Sunday night, until the coroner reached the place, on Wednesday afternoon. The verdict of the coroner's jury was, that McKimick's death was caused by wounds inflicted by Mary Sisk, in efforts to save her husband's life, and also her own life; without any malice or attempt to kill.

REMARKABLE DISCOVERY IN VIRGINIA.—A letter in the Richmond Times states that a few days ago several men were engaged in blasting out limestone near Buchanan, Botetourt county, they discovered a cave, with an entrance of some six or eight feet in height, and upwards of one hundred long, with two apartments. In the first they found some earthen ware and a large stone cross; on the cross there was carving, but was so much defaced by the hand of time that it was scarcely discernible. A number of citizens, with a lantern subsequently entered the second apartment, where they found a skeleton seated on a hureon chest, with its back resting against the wall. On opening this chest they found it to contain gold coin, perfectly smooth on one side and a cross with some characters on it, on the other. The gold in the chest by weight is worth seven hundred and eighty-three dollars.

Death from Gas.—A whole family, of the name of Sauerbier, met a horrible fate in St. Louis, Mo., a few days since, from the unconscious inhalation of gas in their sleep. The St. Louis Republican states that the house and tailor shop of the family remaining closed all of one morning, and none of the inmates being seen, curiosity became excited. The Republican says:

A strong odor of gas was noticed to issue from the cellar or the shop, and the officers of the Gas Company, at the request of some of the neighbors, dispatched a messenger to ascertain if there had been a leak of gas.

The man repaired to the house, and having knocked at two or three doors, retired with the intention of returning at a later hour. Between one and two o'clock in the afternoon, some friend of Sauerbier repaired to the house, and after some inquiries, with the advice of others about the premises, resolved on breaking open the door. As he effected his object on the first door, a strong and almost overpowering odor of gas issued from the room. He entered, accompanied by the persons with him, and found a journeyman in the employ of Sauerbier, in bed, pale, panting and unconscious, as if at the point of death.

The party immediately opened every door and window to admit as much air as possible, and then proceeded to the room overhead. There the smell of the gas was even more overpowering than below. Having opened the windows, they witnessed a sight sufficient to curdle the blood. A bed in one corner contained four persons, Sauerbier, his wife and two children. The woman was quite dead, with her limbs cramped and her face swollen, and holding to her breast a child aged about eighteen months, also dead. The husband lay alongside, with a boy, aged four years, both unconscious, and apparently breathing their last. Such temporary modes of relief were applied as occurred to the party, and medical aid was sent for.

When we were there, Drs. P. B. Reilly, and Dr. Lentworth were on the ground, and were endeavoring to restore the three surviving persons. They gave but a very faint hope of their final recovery, the combination of apoplexy with the poison of the gas, having almost accomplished its work before the unfortunate victims had been discovered. Dr. Coleman, Clerk of the Board of Health, had the three removed to the Hospital. The bodies remained in the house. Coroner English held an inquest, the result of which we did not ascertain.

The death of the woman and child, as well as the very critical condition of the two men and boy, resulted from the inhalation of gas that had seeped during the night, while they were asleep. How the gas was allowed to escape, whether from the bursting of the meter or pipe, as we heard rumored, or from carelessness of the unfortunate victims in not shutting it off at night, as is not at all improbable, we do not know. To-day a full investigation will be made.

THE ST. LOUIS GAS CALAMITY.—All the surviving members of the unfortunate family of Mr.

Sauerbier, as well as the journeyman tailor who was with them, and the dog that was in the house, have died since the disaster was discovered.

SERIOUS RECONCILE.—The Georgetown So. Carolina True Republican of the 11th inst. relates the following serious rencontre:

"We understood from the mail driver on Saturday last that on the Thursday preceding, about 20 miles above this, at or near the residence of Mr. Isaac P. Taylor, a serious and perhaps fatal rencontre took place between a Mr. Cooper McCutcheon and Mr. John W. Sturges, the latter receiving several cuts from a knife in the arm and body, some of which are of the most dangerous character. The cause of the difficulty between the parties we have not understood. Mr. McCutcheon was arrested and lodged in the Williamsburg Jail, and when we heard, Mr. Sturges was lying in a most critical situation.

The following interesting details respecting the royal families of Europe appear in a Leipzig Journal:

There are forty-six sovereigns upon the Continent, including the Emperor of Brazil, who belongs to a European house. The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg, Strelitz, is the oldest, having passed his 72nd year. There is but one other who has entered his 70th year—the King of Wirttemberg. The sovereign who has reigned the longest is the prince of Schaumburg-Lippe—65 years in all, or 49 years since his majority. Eighteen have come to the throne in the last ten years, and two, the Prince of Lippe and the King of Hanover, succeeded to power in 1851.

Seven out of the forty-six have never been married, namely: the Pope, the Emperor of Austria, the Duke of Brunswick, the Princess of Reuss-Schleitz, of Waldeck, and of Lippe and the Landgrave of Hesse-Homburg. Among the remaining thirty-nine, three are widowers—the Grand Duke of Oldenburg, for the third time, the King of the Belgians for the second time, and the Duke of Anhalt-Dessau for the first time. Two, the King of Denmark and the Elector of Hesse, are married morganatically; and one, the Sultan, lives in polygamy.

Ten out of the thirty-nine sovereigns who were married, or who have been so, have no children. Twenty-six have sons who are heirs presumptive. Two thrones, that of Brazil and that of Spain, will descend to daughters, as the Emperor of Brazil and the Queen of Spain have no sons.

Of the twenty-six hereditary Princes, several are married. The oldest is 34 years of age, and the youngest—the hereditary Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin—is nine months old. The Princess expectant of Spain is younger still however, having been born on the 20th of December last.

Eighteen of the forty-six sovereigns have no descendants who can succeed them. Eleven will be succeeded by their brothers; two—the Duke of Denmark and the Duke of Modena—by their uncles, and one—the Elector of Hesse—by his cousin. Four—the Pope of Rome, the Duke of Brunswick and of Anhalt-Bernburg, and the Landgrave of Hesse-Homburg—have no descendants or collateral heirs who can succeed them.

Barrett and his Cats.—The anecdote of the two cats, which has been told of many learned men, originated with the painter Barrett. His only pets were a cat and a kitten, its progeny. A friend, seeing two holes in the bottom of his door, asked him for what purpose he made them there. Barrett said it was for his cats to go in and out.

"Why," inquired his friend, "would not one do for both?"

"You silly man," answered the painter, "how could the big cat get into the little hole?"

"But could not the little one go through the big hole?" said his friend.

"Egad," said Barrett, "and so she could; but I never thought of that."

The Patriarch of Weddings.—The Boston Transcript says that the Rev. Sebastian Streeter has joined in marriage, during the past year, 284 couples. The number will appear the larger, if we remember that he was absent from the city for the space of five weeks, and of course, lost the weddings he would otherwise have received in that time. During his pastorate of twenty-seven years, he has married 3,176 couples.

A writer asks, what is a Bloomer? And then answers it, himself, thus:

It is a woman who pants for notoriety.

EASTERN VIRGINIA.—Nowhere has the farming interest advanced with more rapidity than it has of late years in the Tidewater District of Virginia. It was stated by a gentleman from Lancaster county, the other day, that there was annually more than double the quantity of wheat now sown in his district, than was reaped there twenty years ago. Another large proprietor stated that he had realized upwards of fifteen per cent. on his investment in land cultivated in wheat. This change has been brought about by the discovery and application of manure, inexhaustible in that quarter, and the free use of guano—one farmer in Westmoreland, we learn, having last year applied twenty tons of that manure with striking effect, in the improvement of his lands.—Winchester Virginian.

A RENT COMET.—A correspondent of the Boston Traveller states it as a fact, that Bela's Comet was rent in twain in November, 1845. There is no doubt of the fact. The two pieces were seen both in Europe and America. One was larger and brighter than the other, and side by side they retired into the distant regions of space, in the same path the unbroken comet would have pursued.

The Life Insurance Company of New York, have declared a dividend for the last year of 40 per cent.

### The Practical use of Leaves.

There are two facts in the function of the leaf which are worth consideration, on account of their practical bearings. The food of plants is, for the most part, taken in solution through the roots. Various minerals—silex, lime, alumina, magnesia, potash—are passed into the tree in a dissolved state. The sap passes to the leaf, the superfluous water is given off, but not the substances which are held in solution. These, in part, are distributed through the plant, and, in part, remain a deposit in the cells of the leaf. Gradually, the leaf chokes up, its functions are impeded, and finally entirely stopped. When the leaf drops it contains a large per cent. of mineral matter.

An autumnal or old leaf yields, upon analysis, a very much larger proportion of earthy matter than a vernal leaf, which being yet young, has not received within its cells any considerable deposit. It will be found, also, that the leaves contain a very much larger per cent. of mineral matter than the wood of the trunk. The dried leaves of the elm contain eleven per cent. of ashes (earthy matter) while the wood contains less than two per cent; the leaves of the willow eighteen times as much as the wood; the leaves of beech an excess over the wood a small fraction less; the leaves of European oak, nineteen times as much as the wood; and those of the pitch pine, twelve times as much as the wood.

It is very plain, from these facts, that, in forests, the mineral ingredients of the soil perform a sort of circulation; entering the root, they are deposited in the leaf, then, with its fall to the earth, and by its decay, they are restored to the soil, again to travel the circuit. Forest soils, therefore, instead of being impoverished by the growth of trees, receive back annually the greatest proportion of those elements necessary to the tree, and besides, much organized matter received into the plant from the atmosphere; soils, therefore, are gaining instead of losing. If the owners of parks or groves, for the sake of neatness, or to obtain leaves for other purposes, gather the autumnal harvest of leaves, they will in time take away great quantities of mineral matter, by which the soil ultimately will be impoverished, unless it is restored by manures.

Leaf manure has always been held in high estimation by gardeners. But many regard it as a purely vegetable substance; whereas it is the best mineral manure that can be applied to the soil. What are called vegetable loams, (not peat soils, made up principally of decomposed roots,) contain large quantities of earthy matter, being mineral-vegetable rather than vegetable soils. Every gardener should know that the best manure for any plant is the decomposed leaves of its own species. This fact will suggest the proper course with reference to the leaves, tops, vines, haulm, and other vegetables of the garden.

The other fact connected with the leaf is its function of exhalation. The great proportion of crude sap which ascends the trunk, upon reaching the leaf is given forth again to the atmosphere by means of a singularly beautiful economy. The quantity of moisture produced by a plant is hardly dreamed of by those who have not specially informed themselves. The experiments of Hales has often been quoted. A sunflower, three and half feet high, presenting a surface of 5,616 square inches exposed to the sun, was made to perspire at the rate of twenty to thirty ounces avoirdupois every twelve hours, or seven ounces more than a man. A vine, with twelve square feet, exhaled at the rate of five or six ounces a day. A seedling apple tree, with twelve square feet of foliage, lost nine ounces a day.

These are experiments upon very small plants. The vast amount of surface presented by a large tree must give off immense quantities of moisture. The practical bearings of this fact of vegetable exhalation are not a few. Wet forest lands, by being cleared of timber, become dry, and streams fed from such sources become almost extinct as civilization approaches on wild woods. The excessive dampness of crowded gardens is not singular, and still less is it strange that dwellings covered with vines, whose windows are choked with shrubs, and whose roof is overhung with branches of trees, should be intolerably damp, and when the good housewife is scrubbing and scouring, and nevertheless marvelling that her house is so infested with mould, she hardly suspects that her trouble would be more easily removed by the axe or saw than by all her elths and brushes.

A house should never be surrounded closely with shrubs. A free circulation of air should be maintained all about it, and shade trees so disposed as to leave large openings for the light and sun to enter. The unusual rains that some seasons produce great dampness in our residences, cannot but be noticed by all, both on account of the effect on the health of the occupants and upon the beauty and good condition of their household substance. Such facts should always be kept in mind, when locating houses, and when planting trees and shrubs about them.—Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

Destructive Hurricane at Vera Cruz.—The brig Hercules, at New Orleans, from Vera Cruz, reports that a violent hurricane commenced there on the 12th ult., which continued for two days. Several vessels dragged their anchors and stranded on the rocks, including the American barks Rosara and E. Wilson, and schooners John R. Somers and Robert Sheldon. The English brig Sultan was also wrecked.

COLORADO MECHANICS.—A bill to prohibit colored mechanics or masons from making contracts for the erection of buildings &c., has been introduced into the lower house of the Alabama Legislature and will probably pass both branches.

The work of raising the U. S. steamship Missouri, which took fire and sunk at Gibraltar in 1843, is going on successfully.