

THE DARLINGTON FLAG.

DEVOTED TO SOUTHERN RIGHTS, MORALITY, AGRICULTURE, LITERATURE, AND MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

JAMES H. NORWOOD, EDITOR.]

To thine ownself be true; And it must follow as the night the day; Thou canst not then be false to any man.—HAMLET.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

[From the Illustrated Family Friend.]
LANGDON CHEVES.

Mr. Cheves belongs to the highest class of men that South Carolina has ever produced. There is something about his character and reputation, such as is attached only to those venerable men who distinguished themselves in our revolutionary struggles. No man, in so short a course of public life, ever acquired a greater popularity, not only in his own State, but throughout the Union, while none certainly ever took less pains to gain or retain it. Unasked for, it followed him, the unsought homage of his country to the high merit, distinguished wisdom, and unswerving purity of his character. Self-educated and self-sustained, cast from boyhood upon his own resources, he has by energy of will, indomitable perseverance, and commanding intellect, made himself a name which through the wide extent of the Union is known and revered; and while all have acknowledged the vast powers of his mind, perhaps the higher praise, and certainly the more uncommon is, that none, even in the bitterest jealousy of party feud, has ever dared to doubt or challenge the unbending honesty and incorruptible integrity of his character.

Mr. Cheves was the son and only child of Alexander Cheves, a native of Scotland. His mother, Mary Langdon, was a Virginian. Langdon Cheves, the subject of this short sketch, was born in the midst of our revolutionary struggle, on the 17th of September, 1776, in a small log fort, on Little River, Abbeville District, South Carolina, which fort had been erected to protect the scattered population of the neighborhood, from the onslaughts of the Indians, then in great power in the north-western part of our State; and near it his aunt, Miss Langdon, was, about the time of his birth, murdered, it was supposed, by the Indians. The death of his mother, almost in his infancy, and subsequent second marriage of his father, left him, at a very early age, the world to struggle with—and the boy-man did not flinch the brunt of battle, at which many a strong man turns pale. Of the further events of his youth we know but little, Mr. Cheves adding to the other characteristics of greatness a modesty which seldom allows him to speak of himself. We have understood that the first efforts of his youth were in the mercantile line, and that at sixteen years of age he held a high and confidential position, as chief clerk in a considerable mercantile establishment. At about eighteen he commenced the study of the law, contrary to the advice of the few friends the boy had made for himself, and who shook their heads, lamenting that a lad "cut out" to be a merchant should thus throw himself away. When and how, in this life of labor, without money and without schooling, he acquired an education which has placed him by the highest in the land, can best be guessed at by the poor student who, like him, has hungered and thirsted for the forbidden fruit of education, and stolen at last what fate had denied him. We only know that the strong will conquered, and the education was attained.

Mr. Cheves read law in the office of Judge Marshall, and soon after commenced the practice with Mr. Joseph Peace. He soon acquired an immense business—we believe the most laborious and profitable that was ever obtained in South Carolina. We know, from excellent authority, the income from it amounted, some years, to twenty thousand dollars; and this, accompanied by an unusual moderation and liberality with regard to fees, the payment of which he never enforced. His well-known business habits, his attention and industry, and his indefatigable power to labor, with his great genius, soon created for him a reputation which was rewarded by this immense practice. With great rapidity he wrote a plain and beautiful business-like hand. Whole sheets of

Bills in Equity he would write without blemish or blot, nor was there any necessity for altering or amending the style. Otherwise he could never have conducted such an immense mass of business.

It followed, of course, that Mr. Cheves soon became one of the most popular men in Charleston. Elected to the Legislature, he was among the first there; but soon, without his seeking it, was removed to the House of Representatives of the United States. There Mr. Cheves formed one of that famous mess, called the "war mess." This mess was made up by Mr. Clay and himself. Mr. Clay, then attached to the republican party, was among Mr. Cheves's most intimate friends. Besides these gentlemen, Messrs Lowndes, Calhoun, Bibb, of Kentucky, and Grundy, constituted the mess, and it was by their influence that the war of 1812 was declared against Great Britain, and by them it was managed in the House.

It was during this period that Mr. Cheves gained so much reputation by his independent and liberal course in the matter of the "Merchants' Bonds," and by his great speech on that occasion. We have heard a gentleman, late a very distinguished member of the United States Senate, say, that Washington Irving, who was present at the delivery of this speech, told him that it was the first speech he had ever heard which gave him a correct idea of ancient eloquence—of the manner in which the great Greeks and Romans spoke. Certainly a higher compliment could not be paid, nor come from a higher source. Upon Mr. Clay's appointment to the Commission at Ghent, Mr. Cheves, who was his junior in the House, succeeded him as Speaker, in which situation he gave universal satisfaction. Not one of his decisions was ever reversed by the House, and he maintained an order and propriety there, which presents a striking contrast to the present state of affairs in that body. Mr. Cheves did not remain long in Congress; but no man ever left behind him a more enviable reputation in that body. Respected by all parties, he dared to do what few men can do, and that without loss of popularity or influence—he dared to differ from his own party. This he did, both in the question regarding the chartering of the United States Bank, and in the matter of the Merchants' Bonds. He, by his casting vote, while Speaker, defeated the charter then proposed for the Bank. It was rechartered after he left Congress.

After the peace between the United States and Great Britain, Mr. Cheves declined a re-election to Congress, and returning to Charleston to the practice of the law, he was elected one of the Superior Judges of the Courts of Law in the State of South Carolina, where he distinguished himself, as in every sphere in which he had been placed. His opinions may be found in Nott and McCoil's Reports.

About this time, the affairs of the Bank of the United States, which had been again in judgment, began to be terribly involved under the management of Mr. Jones, and by the importunity of friends, and much through the influence of Mr. John Pott, late of Princeton, New Jersey, but then a citizen of Charleston, and an old friend and client of Mr. Cheves, he was induced to resign the office of Judge, a position which he liked, and to accept the Presidency of the Bank. The firmness, wisdom, independence and sagacity with which he managed the very difficult affairs of that institution, then tottering upon the verge of ruin, are yet familiar to the public mind.—Unfortunately for the public good, could he be induced to remain in this situation only so long as was necessary for him to place the affairs of the Bank in a prosperous condition and in the highest credit. The Augean stable was cleansed. The Bank was saved; and as Mr. Harrison, a gentleman then well known in Philadelphia, used to say, "Mr. C. stuffed the saddle for Nick," who succeeded him, and rode the saddle to rags.

After resigning his position in the Bank, Mr. Cheves continued to reside for some years in Philadelphia; and during some of that time spent his winters at Washington, as Chief Commissioner of the Treaty of Ghent, to settle the losses of such slaveholders whose slaves had been carried off from our shores by British ships, after the date of the treaty—a clear acknowledgment, by the way, both on the part of the Government of Great Britain and of the United States, that there could be property in slaves.

From Philadelphia, Mr. Cheves re-

moved to Lancaster, Pennsylvania; but a longing for home soon brought him back to the South, where he invested his property in various planting interests. We should have before stated that Mr. Cheves, then in the full practice of the law, married, in 1806, Miss Mary Dulles, daughter of Joseph Dulles, of Charleston, whose parents having become residents of Philadelphia, had been the principal cause of Mr. Cheves's continuing to reside in the North after leaving the United States Bank, when all his own impulses and partialities were for the South. After the death of his wife, in 1836, Mr. Cheves having become one of the most successful planters of the State, has devoted himself to the interests of his children, with an unexampled generosity and forgetfulness of self. For years after he left Congress, he received invitations to accept appointments under different administrations, all of which he uniformly declined. Repeatedly, too, his own state invited him to the most honorable stations, but he has chosen a retirement, from which, for many years, nothing but the strongest sense of duty has drawn him for a moment.

Long dissatisfied with the course of the General Government, and hopeless of its amendment, Mr. Cheves was the first—as early as 1830—who declared his belief in the approaching necessity of the withdrawal of the South from the Union, and advised a Southern Confederacy. On this subject he has written within that period, some of the most able political papers that has ever come from the American press. His "Occasional Reviews" against separate State action and in favor of co-operation and a Southern Confederacy—his letter to the people of Columbia in 1830 on the same subject—his letter to the people of Pendleton—his Nashville speech, and other letters, show a power, vigor and eloquence, seldom or never surpassed. It would be extremely desirable that these should be re-published in a volume, as a textbook for the South. In this connection, we are also tempted to mention his admirable essays on the subject of the Bank, under the signature of "Say."

We have found great difficulty in making up this hasty sketch of Mr. Cheves's life, owing to a peculiar dislike on his part to communicate any facts, even dates, or to lend any aid toward the accomplishment of any purposes by which he is to be glorified or applauded. With a giant intellect he has always combined the modest simplicity almost of a child, and directly in the teeth of wonderful success, will in public affairs undervalue his own exertions, even to a fault, for he thus, in our humble opinion, fails to perceive, in its full extent, the power which, would he use it, could be exercised by the immense moral lever which his character and intellect give him over the hearts and heads of his fellow-citizens.

A FATHER'S ADVICE TO HIS SON.

BY GOETHE.

The time draws nigh, dear John, that I must go the way from which none returns. I cannot take thee with me, and have thee, in a world where good counsel is not superabundant. No one is born wise. Time and experience teach us to separate the grain from the chaff. I have seen more of the world than thou. It is not all gold, dear son, that glitters. I have seen many a star from heaven fall, and many a staff on which men have leaned break. Therefore I give thee this advice, the result of my experience: Attach not thy heart to any transitory thing. The truth comes not to us, dear son; we must seek for it. That which you see scrutinize carefully; and with regard to things unseen and eternal, rely on the word of God. Search no one so closely as thyself.—Within us dwells the judge who never deceives, and whose voice is more to us than the applause of the world, and more than all the wisdom of the Egyptians and Greeks. Resolve, my son, to do nothing to which his voice is opposed. When you think and project, strike on your forehead and ask for his counsel. He speaks at first low, and lips as an innocent child; but if you honor his innocence he gradually loosens his tongue and speaks more distinctly.

Despise not any religion; it is easy to despise, but it is much better to understand. Uphold truth when thou canst, and be willing for her sake to be hated; but know that thy individual cause is not the cause of truth, and beware that they are not confounded.—Do good for thy own satisfaction, and care not what follows. Cause no gray hairs to any one; nevertheless, for the right even gray hairs are to be disre-

garded? Help and give willingly when thou hast, and think no more of thyself for it, and if thou hast nothing let thy hands be ready with a drink of cold water and esteem thyself for that no less. Say not always what thou knowest, but know always what thou sayest.—Not the apparently devout, but the truly devout man respect, and go on his ways. A man who has the fear of God in his heart is like the sun that shines and warms, though it does not speak. Do that which is worthy of recompense, and ask none. Reflect daily upon death, and seek the life which is beyond with a cheerful courage; and, further, go not out of the world without having testified by some good deed thy love and respect for the Author of Christianity.

BUSINESS NECESSARY.—The experience of all, demonstrates that a regular systematic business is essential to the health, happiness, contentment, and usefulness of man. Without it, he is uneasy, unsettled, miserable and wretched. His desires have no fixed aim, his ambition no high and noble ends. He is the sport of visionary dreams and idle fancies—a looker-on where all are busy, a drone in the hive of industry; a mope in the field of enterprise and labor. If such were the lot of the feeble and helpless only, it were less to be deplored; but it is often the doom and curse of those who have the power to do without the will to act, and who need that quality which makes so many others, but the want of which unmakes them—the quality of vigor and resolution.—Business is the grand regulator of life.

The prominent characteristic of the female mind is affection; and that of the male mind is thought; but disparity does not imply inferiority. The sexes are intended for different spheres of life, and are created in conformity to their destination by Him who bids the oak brave the fury of the tempest, and the Alpine flower lean on the bosom of eternal snow.

If in the truth there is a good, or a good end in view, or can be attained by it, it is wholesome food to the man, and his life; provided he believes it to be true from the heart.

Misfortunes are moral bitters, which frequently the healthy tone of the mind after it, has been cloyed and sickened by the sweets of prosperity.

He that goes to the tavern first for love of company, will at last go there for the love of liquor. Remember that, young man.

Evil spirits exist, and dwell in evil men. They desire in them, urge to action, and both plot and contrive all the means to the commission of evil.

To be as nothing, is an exalted state; the omnipotence of the heavens exists in the truly humbled heart.

A SHORT STORY WITH A MORAL.—A young Yankee had formed an attachment for a daughter of a rich old farmer, and after agreeing with the "bonnie lassie," went to the old fellow to ask consent, and to dig the ceremony—which was an awkward one with Jonathan—he whittled away at a stick. The old man watched the movement of the knife, at the same time continued to talk on the prospects of his future son-in-law, as he supposed, until the stick was dwindled down to naught.—He then spoke as follows:

"You have fine property, you have steady habits; good enough looking, but you can't have my daughter! Had you made something, no matter what, of the stick you have whittled away, you could have had her; as it is, you cannot, your property will go as the stick did, little by little, until all is gone, and your family reduced to want. I have read your true character, you have my answer."

Jonathan conveyed the unhappy news to his anxious fair one, who after hearing the story, burst out a crying, "why didn't you say you'd made a litter out, if nothing more! Git out! I'll marry the first feller that points his eye at me—I will so—boo-o-o-o."

BEATEN BY ONE.—A chap who had his hand blown off by a Fourth of July explosion, applied to the Tennessee Legislature to be made doo-keeper.—He tells the story of his failure in the following style: "Why, sir, there were four one-armed men besides myself—two of them with their limbs off close up to the shoulders—besides any quantity of one-legged fellows stumping about. After a while a chap put in with only one arm and one leg. He beat us all by one. When I saw that I put for home."

FLUENCY IN CONVERSATION.

Roll an empty barrel down hill, and what a rattling noise it makes! So with an empty carriage over the pavement. So also with an empty head. Have you not such an individual in your mind's eye? We have. His name may be Lick or Jim, Bill or Joe—but he is the same everywhere—he wags the same tongue, shoots forth the same ideas. He thinks he is wise, but every body else thinks otherwise. Had he real knowledge he would talk less and say more. Generally, a man of sterling talents talks but little, but every word tells. Addison was a man of this description. He was always embarrassed in company. Some of our best living authors—men of genius and talent—have been noticed for their paucity of words in common conversation.

When a man thinks he has been insulted, and challenges the accused, and besides the insult gets a bullet through his nerves, arteries, or brains, this is a kind of action called Satisfaction. When a man's pocket-book is not in a plethoric condition at best, and he is compelled by an inexorable dun, to hand over the little that remains, that is the kind of action called Subtraction. When a tea-sipping, gossiping gathering, each in turn, lets off the pent up stream of scold, sneer, and scandal that has been hissing after delivery for weeks and months, that is the kind of action called Detraction. When a man smites another, in the folly and madness of his sudden wrath, and gets in return a blow, or missile, that loosens a tooth, or blackens an eye, and sends him wounded, ashamed and conscience smitten to his home, that is what we call Reaction.

LARGE NEWSPAPERS.—A cotemporary who knows what he's about, tells us of about these "bed-blanket" newspapers: "Some folks think the biggest newspaper is always the best. Wise men these—about as sensible as the fellow who turned up his nose at your common-sized women, and bragged that he meant to have a bigger wife than any other man within two hundred miles."—*Providence Mirror.*

AGRICULTURE.

HINTS TO YOUNG FARMERS.

Our country is a country of busy men. What ever gives facility and expansion to labor, benefits every class of the community. Unlike the European States, we have no piles of hoarded wealth to be transmitted in mass to our posterity. Opulence, among us, is a gilded pyramid that stands upon a pedestal of ice, and its foundations are perpetually melting in the sun—the stream that flows from them may fertilize the land, and may spread bloom and beauty over barren places; but the pyramid itself falls in its appointed time, to be built up again by other hands, and to adorn other sites. Our laws, which forbid the accumulation of hereditary treasure, have reiterated to the American citizen, that "sad sentence of an ancient date"—that "like an Emmet, he must ever toil"—and they have promised to laborfulness of honors. In providing, therefore, for the industry of posterity, we but hew out for ourselves and our posterity, a better and more auspicious destiny.

Frank Stevens was the youngest of seven sons, whose common father was a man of some fortune, and he belonged withal to one of the learned professions. The eldest boys, left pretty much to their own guidance, grew up in habits of indolence and failed to raise upon a good farm the necessary provisions for the family. Frank, finding himself taxed with most of the labor, resolved, to take care of himself. With this view he applied, at fourteen, to be put to a trade; and although rather humiliating to family pride, he succeeded in obtaining his parents' consent. From that moment, Frank abandoned all hopes of family aid; and resolutely determined to depend on his industry and good conduct alone for success in life. He supported his aged parents during the last years of their lives; and has been the happy instrument of relieving his brothers from pecuniary embarrassment. Frank has often told me, in relating his adventures, that but for the early determination he made, to rely upon himself, he should not now probably have been worth a sou in money or reputation. And he has settled it as a maxim in his own mind that a sprout is not likely to do so well, or produce so fine fruit, when left to grow under the shade of its parent tree, as

when early removed, and accustomed to depend upon its own roots for nourishment and support. Observation in life has induced us to believe that Frank's rule is not far from being true.

Habits of youth, be they good or be they bad, almost invariably retain an influence through life. The young mind is like a sheet of white paper on which every one writes his own character, which it is extremely difficult in a later time to obliterate. It is the acquisition of knowledge, and the useful application of time, that elevates the civilized above the savage state; and the further we would be from the latter, the greater should be our exertions to be wise and virtuous. The public are ever most disposed to help those who evince an ability to help themselves.

GATHER UP THE MANURE.

If you have not done it before, lose no time now, in carefully raking up all the vegetable matter for manure. Make pens, and put it all carefully up, that it may not be scattered, to be washed by the rains and dried by the sun. We haul a great deal of improvised trash to the field, costing just as much labor, for the want of a little timely painstaking. Therefore, whenever you put yourself to the trouble to make and scrape up your manure, secure the full profits of your labor, by putting up in pens, and covering over the tops with straw or leaves. This operation ought to be made a part of the business of every plantation, at least twice a year. No time is to be lost now, in putting up all that which is to be used for the next crop. Forget not also to use the showery, damp days now occurring, when you want to keep near home, to replenish your supplies of straw, stalks, and all these things at the command, to make new and large supplies of manure. This should constitute a prominent object in the plantation regulations, and all good managers, who want to be generous to the soil, and reap a good harvest, should look well to it, and properly improve all these convenient little opportunities; and if they do not come pretty frequently, lay aside everything else, and fill up the horse lot, the hog and cow pens, the stables, and every nook and corner, where a bushel of manure can be made. We have before told you something of the manner of composting, and do not now propose to do more than to remind you that now is the time to go to work.—*Soil of the South.*

HOW TO SUBDUCE A VICIOUS HORSE.

—A correspondent of the New York Commercial gives the following account of the method adopted by an officer of the United States service lately returned from Mexico, to subdue a horse who would not allow his feet to be handled for the purpose of shoeing.

He took a cord about the size of a common bed cord, put it in the mouth of the horse like a bit, and tied it tightly on the top of the animal's head, passing his left ear under the string, not painfully tight, but tight enough to keep the ear down, and the cord in its place. This done he patted the horse gently on the side of the head, and commanded him to follow, and instantly the horse obeyed, perfectly subdued, and as gentle as a well trained dog, suffering his feet to be lited with entire impunity, and acting in all respects like an old stager. The simple string thus tied made him at once as docile and obedient as any one could desire. The gentleman who thus furnishes this exceedingly simple means of subduing a very dangerous propensity, intimated that it is practiced in Mexico and South America in the management of wild horses.

PICKLING MEAT.—Prof. Refiensene denounces the use of saltpetre in brine intended for the preservation of flesh to be kept for food. That part of the saltpetre which is absorbed by the meat, he says, is nitric acid or aquafortis, a deadly poison. Animal flesh, previous to the addition of pickle, consists of gelatinous and fibrous substances, the former only possessing a nutritious vitality; the gelatine is destroyed by the chemical action of salt and saltpetre, and, as the professor remarks, the meat becomes as different a substance from what it should be, as leather is from the raw hide before it is subjected to the process of tanning. He ascribed to the pernicious effects of the chemical change all the diseases which are common to mariners and others who subsist principally upon salted, meat such as scurvy, sore gums, decayed teeth, ulcers, &c., the best substitute for which is, he says, sugar, a small quantity rendering the meat sweeter, more wholesome, and equally as durable.