

## COMMUNICATION.

For the Palladium.

### Marriage Ceremonials.

Marriage being the most important event, and the one which has the greatest influence on a man's happiness, that may chance to transpire during the whole pilgrimage of life, it behoves him, not only to take care to obtain a good and virtuous wife, who will "love and cherish him, in sickness and in health," et cetera, et cetera, but also to take special care that he be rightly, properly, and legally married. I am not ambitious to be thought an antiquary, nor have I any very pernicious attachment to the fashions of "olden time;" but I have a great veneration for the old established marriage ceremonial, and think the alarming innovations that some clergymen are making on that form should be forcibly resisted by every man who considers himself a candidate for matrimonial life, and a proper degree of resentment shown toward those who are daring enough to make those outrageous alterations—alterations which go far to deprive the husband of all authority over his wife, and leave him no more power or right to abuse and command her, than if she were (what few men are willing to admit) fully his equal. Without further preamble, Mr. Editor, I would inform you that I learnt, a few evenings since, from some ladies, (what you probably learnt some years ago,) to my utter astonishment, that marriages are frequently consummated, in these degenerate days, without a promise from the bride that she will implicitly "obey" the commands of the bridegroom, good or bad, or whatever they may chance to be. Such a promise I say is not to be dispensed with; and its omission ought certainly to be considered sufficient to invalidate the marriage. What shall we give up the power of commanding, and basely sue and entreat for that which it is our unalienable right to extort? Shall we yield the power of exercising our petty tyranny in our own house, and be compelled to acknowledge a wife as an equal in importance and authority? Pride, manly pride and manly dignity forbid!

"Obedience" is, to be sure, a ponderous word; and women have, doubtless, a natural and inherent antipathy to it; but they are the weaker vessel—"might makes right"—and they must be constrained to obedience, *volens* *volens*. The bride always claims the right of choosing the presiding clergyman, and he who does not urge that promise of obedience, finds himself, of late, in very profitable business. I propose that the legislature—you are a member, you know, Mr. Editor, and may present my petition to that effect, if you please—instead of attempting to lay a tax on bachelors, should exact a heavy fine from every audacious parson or magistrate who marries a couple, omitting such a promise, and that the said fine be appropriated to the benefit of those who have suffered by their former treachery.

Besides the humiliation to which such a metamorphosis of the marriage oath subjects a man, another great evil must necessarily ensue, which is the inevitable increase of bachelors, and the intolerable consequences of such an increase—a double surplus of old maids. No man will enter the holy state of matrimony, unless he may have the privilege of maltreating his wife when he pleases, and chastising whenever his whims may dictate. "My lord and master" was the epithet with which every wife should address her husband; but under the present perverted marriage form she may say, "out upon you, I owe you no obedience; I promised none." Very humiliating indeed to a man—to the lord of creation; but swallow it he must if his wisdom does not teach him to be married in the good old way.

I hope, Mr. Editor, that you will have the goodness to recommend the notice of this subject to our worthy governor, that he may mention it in his message to the next legislature; and I doubt not that they will pass an "act," compelling, from this time, henceforth and forever, the due observance of the ancient oath, and thus free the husband from the obstreperous independence of the wife, who is bound to obey by divine, and should be by human laws. L\*\*\*.

THE CHEROKEE CANDIDATE.—A prominent trait in the character of the anti-masonic candidate for the Presidency, is his rare benevolence. When our northern philanthropists were exciting the Indians to resist the authorities of Georgia, and appeal to the Supreme Court for protection, Mr. Wirt was engaged to manage their cause, & it was supposed, the object pure benevolence, that his services would be gratuitously rendered; or at least it was for a time believed that no selfish motive prompted him to urge the course adopted by the Indians; but the poor, ill advised Indians were defeated, as every body knew they would be, & Mr. Wirt claimed ten thousand dollars for his services!! Such was the disinterestedness of the anti-masonic candidate. *Utica Observer.*

From the Washington Globe.

We have received from an honest old Farmer of Kentucky, a letter on business, in which he makes the following remark on the subject of Mr. Clay's future prospects. The writer is a sagacious, though a very plain spoken old fellow, and has come to very sound conclusions all his life, rather from his observations of things, than from a knowledge of books.

"Mr. Clay has been spoken of as a candidate for United States Senator—a great falling back. Mr. Clay reminds me of one of our Peacocks, when we lived on Elkhorn. I noticed that one of our Peacocks, for several months, roosted on a broken or short limb of a peach tree, near the farm house and appeared to be very well satisfied. One evening, at dusk, I saw him standing on his peach tree limb and he appeared very much dissatisfied for some minutes. At length he flew and aimed to settle himself in the top of a tall and beautiful sugar tree; he reached the top of the sugar tree and scolded in it for some time, and thought to place himself on the sugar tree to roost: the darkness of the evening prevented him finding a limb, and at length he came to the ground. I saw nothing more of the Peacock until next evening, when he took his old peach tree limb, and seemed well enough satisfied with it. Mr. Clay is willing to descend to the peach tree limb again."

PRECEPT vs. PRACTICE.—We find the following notice in a late Connecticut paper; we wonder how it agrees with the tender sympathies of the advocates for Indian sovereignty:

"Escape of a Prisoner.—We learn, that one day last week, an Indian escaped from the Sheriff of New London County. He had been sentenced to the State Prison, at Wethersfield, for two years, we know not for what crime, and the Sheriff had him in charge on his way to the Prison. They stopped near Lyme, and the Indian gave him the slip. His handcuffs were found in the woods; but the Indian had disappeared."

A small remnant of a tribe of Indians still inhabit a spot of earth in the State of Connecticut. The authorities of that State long since exercised the right of legislating over these original inhabitants of their present residence, and yet no benevolent philanthropist has appeared, to mourn their state of vassalage; no patriot has arisen to assert their independence. For them the tear of sympathy has not been shed, nor has the vengeance of heaven been invoked on their oppressors. But in Georgia, where a larger number of Indians reside, we are told the principle is changed. We cannot have jurisdiction over the Indians, because they number five thousand souls; but in Connecticut, where there are perhaps a hundred, the case is different? We would thank some of our northern friends to tell us why an abstract principle of immutable justice will not apply as well to the government of five thousand Indians, as to one hundred, or even less; and why that which is wicked in Georgia is not equally so in Connecticut.

According to a late decision of the Court of Common Pleas, of Hamilton County all notes issued by the United States Branch Bank under 100 dollars signed by the president and Cashier of the Branches, are illegal, and unauthorized by the charter of the Bank. The charter authorizes no person but the President & Cashier of the Mother Bank to sign even a bill of exchange under \$100.

This decision was made in the case of a criminal who was charged with having about him counterfeit notes, with intent to pass them, purporting to be signed by a President and Cashier of one of the Branches. It was set up as a defence that no such note was authorized by the charter of the Bank, and therefore the defendant was not guilty of counterfeiting.

This defence was sustained by the decision of the Court, and the criminal discharged.

Senator Benton has since given his opinion on the subject publicly in St. Louis, coinciding with that of the Court. If the correctness of this decision be sustained, some dozen or twenty convicts, now in the Penitentiary for imitating that which the Bank had no right to put forth as the original, will be asking to be set at liberty upon the plea of having been convicted and punished without law. *Hamilton Telegraph.*

### NAT TURNER.

"By Wednesday afternoon's southern mail," says the Norfolk Herald of Friday 4th inst. "we received a further confirmation" of the capture of Nat Turner, the negro insurgent, in the following letter from the Postmaster at Murfreesborough, dated on Tuesday:—

"Hos. G. BROUGHTON, Esq.  
Dear Sir:—The notorious Nat Turner is taken; this you may confidently rely upon. I yesterday had it from a gentleman of respectability who saw him after his capture. He was taken on Sunday last, near his former residence,

and surrendered without resistance. No doubt public curiosity is on tiptoe to hear his confession, but I am inclined to think it will be disappointed. It seems he pretended to act the ideot. He says he can command the thunder, and can thunder when he pleases; that he was in the way of his duty; that he could read it upon the leaves of the trees, &c.

"You will probably hear farther from him soon. Respectfully yours,  
"JOHN WHEELER."

We were, subsequently to preparing the above extracts for the press, politely favored with the perusal of a letter from Southampton, to a gentleman in this place, from which we are enabled to give the following statement, corroborating the one published in our last, with some interesting additions:

Nat was shot at by Mr. Francis, (as stated in our last,) on Thursday, (yesterday week,) near a fodder stack in his field; but happening to fall at the moment of the discharge, the contents of the pistol passed through the crown of his hat. He had the hat on his head when he was taken, with the shot holes in it, which he exhibited, to show how narrowly he had escaped being shot.

Although he escaped from Mr. Francis, the rencontre caused a general turn out in the neighborhood, and on Sunday there were at least 50 men out in search of him, none of whom could have been two miles from the place where he was caught, at the time of his capture.

He was taken about a mile and a half from the house of Mr. Travis, the man he served, and whose family, including himself, were the victims of this cruel fanatic and his besotted followers. He had made himself a sort of den in the top of a fallen tree, which he had covered over with pine brush. His head was protruded through this covering, as if he was in the act of reconnoitering, when Mr. Phipps, (who had that morning, for the first time, turned out in pursuit of him,) came suddenly upon him. Mr. Phipps, not knowing him, demanded, "Who are you?" was answered, "I am Nat Turner." Mr. Phipps then ordered him to hand out his arms, and he delivered up a sword, which was the only weapon he had.

Mr. Phipps then took him to Mr. Edwards', whence the news of his capture spread so rapidly, that in less than an hour a hundred persons had collected at the place, whose feelings, on beholding the blood-stained monster, were so much excited, that it was with difficulty he could be conveyed alive to Jerusalem.

He is said to be very free in his confessions, which, however, are no further important than as showing that he was instigated by the wildest superstition and fanaticism, and was not connected with any organised plan of conspiracy beyond the circle of the few ignorant wretches whom he had seduced by his artifices to join him. He still pretends that he is a prophet, and relates a number of revelations which he says he has had, from which he was induced to believe that he could succeed in conquering the county of Southampton! (what miserable ignorance!) as the white people did in the revolution.

He says the idea of an insurrection never crossed his mind until a few months before he started with it; and he considered the dark appearance of the sun was a signal for him to commence! His profanity in comparing his pretended prophecies with passages in the Holy Scriptures should not be mentioned, if it did not afford proof of his insanity. Yet it was by that means he obtained the complete control of his followers, which led them to the perpetration of the horrible deeds of 22d August.

Nat Turner has been convicted, by the called Court of Southampton County. The record of his conviction has been received by the Executive. He was sentenced to be hung on Friday last week. *Richmond Whig.*

Some of the New York Daily papers, in the frequent habit of borrowing the earliest foreign news from the Courier and Enquirer, and palming it upon the public as the production of their own industry, have lately been caught at their dirty work and justly exposed before an indignant public, by the editors of the Enquirer. It will be recollect ed that the proprietors of this paper have lately increased their facilities for obtaining the latest foreign intelligence at an early date, which has been attended with much expense, for which they anticipate a commensurate support for their already widely circulating Journal.

A day or two after the arrival of the news of the fall of Warsaw, the editors of the Enquirer, to use their own language, baited a trap for the rats who nibble at their cheese, with a statement that Warsaw had not fallen; that by the arrival of the *Ajax*, the previous accounts of the fate of the Poles was stated to be all a fabrication of the Prussian State Gazette. This news was not printed in the daily edition of the Courier, but only in a few copies

sent to those papers before alluded to, the editors of which hastily caught it, stopped their presses, and gave it to the public as their own news, received by the arrival of the *Ajax*. The *Ajax* had not arrived, and to their great shame and mortification, these men, in the habit of feeding at another's crib, found themselves caught in a trap set for their particular accommodation. This is as it should be.

*Bridgeton Ob'r.*

The political Babel. The opposition, including Anti-Masons, Clayites, &c. as our readers were last week advised, are in a great quandary. Some of the more wise & prudent friends of Mr. Clay, who are real connoisseurs in the signs of the times, from appalling omens begin to distrust their own strength, & make overtures to the Anti's and their new Apostle, suggesting that "the two parties will ultimately fall upon the promise of running Mr. Clay for the President, and Mr. Wirt for the Vice P." while others scruple not to pour upon them plentiful showers of abuse.

Some think that Mr. Clay would act magnanimously to "yield his claims to any candidate who can concentrate the popular suffrage, so as to ensure the defeat of the present President." Others say "nay; at present he bids fair to carry more votes than any other candidate that could be named." Some recommend that the nomination by the Baltimore Convention should be postponed until a late period—"say until towards the close of the session of Congress." This will afford an opportunity of feeling the pulse of that body. "Let us pause (says one.) We are not recommending any abandons, but only protesting against unnecessary and injurious commitments." The Anti-Masons appear determined to stick to their candidate.

This dilemma of the Opposition forcibly reminds us of the condition of the impious descendants of Noah, who undertook to "build a tower whose top should reach unto Heaven." These modern Babel-builders, in their fierce contention against the Administration have not only used brick and clay, but like the bold giants of the Greek and Roman poets in their war with the Gods, they have piled Osse upon Pelion in order to scale the elevated seat of power and distinction. But they have ascended as high as the public voice will permit. "Truth is mighty and will prevail." It is beginning to speak in the public sentiment, with a irresistible force; and already has it thrown the adversaries of the faithful rulers of this happy land into utter confusion, and they appear to labor under an entire destitution of any thing like unity of sentiment. If they are not literally as "seventy two different nations, with seventy-two different languages," their situation is not altogether unfitly illustrated by the following description of their ancient prototypes, by the French poet Du Bartas, which has been rather quaintly paraphrased by the English poet Sylvester:

"Some speak *between the teeth*, some in the *noe*,  
Some in their *throats* the words do ill dispose;  
'Bring me,' quoth one, 'a *trouw*, quickly quick!'

One brings him a *hammer*. 'Hew this brick,'  
Another bids; and then they *cleave a tree*.  
'Make fast this rope,' and then they *let it flee*.  
One calls for *planks*; another *mortar* lacks:  
They bare the *first a stone*, the *last an axe*.  
One would have *spikes*; and him a *spade* they give:

Another asks a *scow*, and gets a *seive*.  
Thus crossly cross, they *prate and point in vain*.  
What one hath made, another mars again.  
These masons, then, seeing the storms arrived  
Of God's just wrath, all weak & heart deprived;  
Forsake their purpose; and like frantic tools,  
Scatter their stuff; and tumble down their tools."

*Raleigh Star.*

American Slaves seized at Nassau, N. P.—In March last we gave the particulars of the seizure, by the Governor of New Providence, of 165 Slaves saved, from the wreck of an American vessel from Alexandria bound to New Orleans. The Judge of the Vice Admiralty Court dismissed the libel filed on the part of the seizure, & it was recommended by the House of Assembly and most of the respectable men of the community, that the slaves should be restored to their former owners; but his Excellency Sir J. C. Smyth, persisted in retaining them. A Col. Morse of New Orleans, had arrived at Nassau, as agent for the owners of the slaves, and a correspondence commenced between him and the Governor, the result of which had not transpired; but the *Bahama Argus* intimates that it is likely to become a national question between the British Government and the United States.

A bill is now before the House of Representatives to prevent the importation of slaves from other States, for sale, and will, we are informed, probably become a law. It inhibits the introduction of slaves into Kentucky, from and after the first of June next, except by emigrants, or persons residing here who may become, by descent or marriage, proprietors of slaves in other states.

*Louisville Adv.*

## Late Foreign News.

Four days later.—By the arrival at New York of the Packet ship Silas Richards, London papers to the 25th, Liverpool to the 26th, and Glasgow to the 23d of September have been received.

The Reform Bill has passed the House of Commons—Paris is tranquil—and there is every appearance that the peace of Europe will not be disturbed.

The most important intelligence by this arrival, is the final passage of the Reform Bill in the House of Commons on the morning of the 22d by a majority of 109.

The vote stood

For the Bill	345
Against it	236
Majority	109

On the same evening it was carried up to the House by Lord JOHN RUSSELL, Lord ALTENOR, and more than one hundred members of the lower house.

The great question which now agitates the public mind almost to revolution, is, "will the Lords reject it?" Bell's Weekly Messenger of the 25th, says it will pass by a majority of from 40 to 47, whilst other papers evidently fear that it will be rejected. A private correspondent says, that although Lord Wellington is pledged to vote against the bill, he will give his proxies—about 13 in number—in favor of its passage. If this is so, there can be but little doubt of the result.

Meetings have been held in all parts of the country, in favor of Reform. That in London, at which the Lord Mayor presided, is said to be the most respectable that could be assembled throughout Europe, for wealth, commercial importance and intelligence. In remarking on this meeting, the *Times* says, "The crisis indeed in our political condition has now become one of breathless interest.—The people, on one side, are in movement every where, to put down the atrocious calumny which described them to have betrayed their own cause, by deserting the Government which first opened for them the road to liberty; while on the other side, the agents of corruption are more malignant than ever, and more desperate, louder and more audacious in their prophecies, that the Lords will throw out the bill."

The Bill was to have been read the second time in the House of Lords, on the 18th of October.

Contrary to our expectations, Paris has become quiet, and the members of the Perier administration, again firmly fixed in their places. In future all speculations as to the affairs of France will be idle. They present an enigma which even the leaders of the different parties do not comprehend; and more unsettled state of things cannot well be imagined. A highly interesting debate, which lasted three days, took place in the Chamber of Deputies on the questions put by M. MAEGUIN to Ministers, respecting the foreign policy of France. At the time when all the Paris and London presses were speculating on the result of the vote—which all parties believed would be a close one—a division was made and stood thus:

For Ministers	221
Against Ministers	136

Majority for Ministers 85!!

Accounts from St. Petersburg say, that the cholera had again appeared with such violence at Nischno Novgorod, that the merchants left the city before the fair was ended.

It is said that a forgery has been detected on a London Banking house, to the amount of 40,000*l.* sterling.

The *Times* says that if the Lords reject the Reform Bill, it will be an attempt to put down the King, the Commons, and the People—that they in that case would be rebels and the army would not obey them!!

*St. James Palace*, Sept. 21.—This day had audience of his Majesty Mr. Van Buren, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States of America to deliver his credentials.

*Algiers*, Aug. 15.—Since the unfortunate expedition to Medeah, the Bedouins carried terror to the gates of Algiers, and it was reported that they are assembling, to the number of 50,000 men, in the plains at the foot of the Little Atlas.

*Brussels*, Sept. 20, Tuesday Evening.—Persons who have lately left Holland, assure us that the greatest enthusiasm prevails among all classes of the people, who are determined not to yield to the Belgians in any of their rights; and who imagine that in consequence of their victories over the brave smock-frock men, they ought not only to subdue this country with the portion of the debt, but also take the portion of the country best suited to their territories. The Flanders paper states, that there is