

citizens assembled to meet them, and shewed by their continued cheerings how anxious they were to pay the proper tribute of respect to the men whose heroic deeds shed a lustre on the American arms and entitled them to their country's lasting gratitude.

From the Greensburgh Gazette.

THE FORESTER:
BY WALTER WOODLANDS, ESQ.

No. VI.

'The rising moon began to glower
'The distant Cumrock hills out
owre:
'To counterborens, wi' a' my pow'r,
'I set mysel';
'But whether she had three or four,
'I cou'd na tell.' BURNS.

APOLOGY FOR DRUNKENNESS.

It appears from the public papers, that the Synod of Pittsburgh have prohibited the use of ardent spirits, and have thereby condemned drunkards to suffer everlasting thirst: for if they cannot get ardent spirits in this world, it is not probable that they will obtain any in the world to come, however great their thirst may be. But, with submission to the Synod, we may venture to ailege, that before they pronounced a sentence calculated to place drunkards in purgatory before their time, they ought to have given them a fair trial. For, whatever the merits or demerits of these men may be, they are entitled by the constitution and the law, to trial by competent judges and a jury of their peers; and a drunkard has no peers, in, above, or under the earth, except drunkards, therefore he cannot be condemned, on constitutional and legal principles, but by the verdict of a jury composed of twelve drunkards, they only being his peers. Yet, in the case in question, drunkards have been condemned without a trial by jury or their peers, and by judges incompetent to the task, being destitute of that experimental knowledge of the subject, which would have led them, when deciding on drunkenness, to make a liberal allowance for the thirst of the drunkard—an important point in the cause. And that a generous allowance ought to be made for the thirst of drunkards, will appear evident, when the influence and operation of that thirst is taken into view. Now, it is well known, that there are men, who have drunk their horses, cows, sheep, hogs, houses and lands, to allay their thirst, and still they are dry—extremely dry, and if they could have distilled their wives and children, as easily as they can mash them, they would have drunk them too. Surely, the thirst of such men is entitled to serious attention.

On these principles, we move an arrest of judgment; and, with the most profound humility, submit to the consideration of the venerable Synod the following statement of the advantages of drunkenness, supported by facts within the knowledge of the court.

Drunkenness has a legal and patriotic tendency—Because, drunkards pay their debts according to

law, and furnish abundant employment for lawyers and sheriffs, justices and constables; and they support the government generously by paying more excise than any other class of citizens.

Drunkenness promotes liberty and equality. Because, it deposes the subjects to spurn all restraint, human and divine; and brings down the proudest gentleman to a perfect level with the greatest ruffian, and renders their company equally agreeable and entertaining, as they are equally disposed to pour out a deluge of nonsense, billingsgate and blasphemy.

Drunkenness promotes legal science.—Because, drunkards obtain an interesting knowledge of criminal jurisprudence, and a number of them study the penal statutes, in those legal seminaries, commonly called jails and penitentiaries.

Drunkenness promotes domestic government.—For, if you follow a drunkard home you will, generally, find him raging and foaming blaspheming God, and abusing his innocent, industrious, and miserable wife and children, who stand before him with fear and trembling honour and anguish, as silent as the grave and as submissive as the slave chained to the oar.

Drunkenness is subservient to orthodoxy & virtue.—Because, drunkards demonstrate the doctrine of human depravity & degradation, by arguments the most convincing and unanswerable; and they display vice, in an attitude & dress the most odious and disgusting.

Drunkenness promotes religion in general, and humility in particular.—Because, some men have no religion until they obtain a stiff grog, and their religion increases in proportion to the quantity of spirits which they imbibe, until at length they become so extremely religious and humble, as to wallow in the mud along with the hogs, for the edification of the spectators.

Drunkenness circumscribes the agency of the prince of darkness.—Because, his infernal majesty, from long experience, has so much confidence in drunkards, that they will directly or indirectly, render themselves and their families as miserable as possible, that he seldom interferes in the business. And whenever a drunkard appears in any company, the demon on duty puts on his hat and leaves the room, as his presence is no longer necessary.

Drunkenness prevents testamentary litigation and funeral mourning.—Because, drunkards, generally, live their own heirs and die their own executors, and leave the world with the consent of their friends and neighbors.

All which is respectfully submitted, on behalf of the thirsty, by their attorney in fact.

TIMOTHY DRY.

'Westmoreland, Jan. 1817.

Those editors of newspapers, who published the scorching resolutions of the Synod of Pittsburgh, will confer a favour on thirsty humanity, by inserting the above apology.

T. D.

BOSTON, MARCH 2.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Richard Skinner, of Boston, on board the French brig Brunette, bound from Baltimore to N. Orleans, dated Campeachy, Bay of Mexico, December 25th, 1816.

"You will have no doubt been uneasy on my account, not hearing of our arrival at N. Orleans. You may perhaps have given us up for lost; we escaped being so very narrowly. On the 25th of Nov. we struck on a reef of coral rocks, about 6 leagues from Manzanillas, at 8 o'clock at night; immediately all was fright and confusion, and all subordination was at an end, the sailors refusing to obey the orders of their officers, & immediately attempted to get out the boats, the jolly boat they stove in getting her over the side; the long boat they succeeded in getting out without injury, and then set to work making up their bundles of clothes, and put them into the boat; they also put into the boat, a small cask of water and a bag of bread, and then insisted on leaving the brig immediately. The captain and myself represented to them the danger of leaving the vessel at the beginning of night in a small boat, with 23 souls, & as we supposed 10 or 12 miles from the shore, with a dangerous reef of rocks between us and the shore; no entreaties of ours however could prevail upon them to abandon the rash project, & they gave us to understand that if we did not go, they would leave us to our fate in the brig. Thus situated, with no other boat, we were obliged to comply, and with all the passengers, including the wife of the French Consul, with three small children, went into the boat.

After quitting the brig, we rowed about one hour and a half along the reef, and the mate who kept sounding every moment, announced from 3 to 4 fathoms water—on which I observed to the captain and sailors, that we were evidently on the rocks; that if the boat struck, we must all perish, and the only chance to save our lives was to stand out from the reef until day light. One of the sailors immediately proposed that we should return to the brig and wait for day, which I seconded. They agreed at last to return to the brig; and having a compass we steered back North, having steered nearly South from the time we left her.

After rowing about 2 hours, we discovered the brig about 2 miles distant which convinced us she had drifted off the rocks and having all sail set she was going from us; this discouraged all for a moment: but on my observing that we neared her fast, they set too with redoubled force, and after two hours more hard rowing we got on board, and to our great joy on sounding the pumps, found she did not make more water than ordinary. We immediately trimmed all sail, and stood off till day light; and the next day passed the Havanna, continuing our course for New Orleans—it was about one chance to a hundred our regaining the brig; some part of the jolly boat which was stove, got entangled in the rudder, and

the steering sail had got into water, both of which served to keep her broad side to the wind, had she got before the wind, having all sail set, we should never have caught her. When we arrived within about sixty miles of the Belize, we had a violent gale of wind from the north and two days, but the vessel suffered so much, the leak increasing, and the sheathing going from her bottom, the captain thought proper to bear away for the Havanna, to repair damages; but in running over from the Tortugas, we found it blowing fresh from the North East, we were obliged to tack ship and stand to sea. In three days beating off and on the dangerous reef of Coloredas, we lost sixty miles to leeward and seeing no prospect of beating up to the Havana, and being in danger of going on the Coloredas in case the wind veered to the northward, we consulted which was best to be done in our melancholy situation. To have steered to N. Orleans was risking all, for in case we should encounter another gale at the mouth of the river we had not sufficient provisions of water to have reached the Havana; thus situated, with two small casks of water, and a small quantity of provisions, we bore away for this place, and arrived the 16th instant, having been on very short allowance of provisions and one glass of water per meal.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

A respectable number of choice spirits from the old sod met in the borough of Zanesville, on St. Patrick's Day, when the following toasts were drank with a merry glee and appropriate music by Mr. Smith.

1. The Day—held in remembrance of the tutelar Saint of the land of our nativity, who propagated the doctrines contained in the good old book, the Christians discipline—May we, his sons, pattern after him in theory and practice.

Tune—St. Patrick's Day.

2. America, the land of our adoption—she stands firm amidst the downfall of kingdoms and the crush of empires—the distinguished asylum for the persecuted of all nations; May we and our offspring respect the abode of liberty. Hail Columbia.

3. Ireland—our native soil which for landscape and harbours for prospect; statesmen, good men and great men, is not exceeded. But alas! the laws shipped from a foreign nation govern her! Will she be free, or will she be a slave.

Ireland my Darling.

4. Monroe and Tompkins, president and vice president; the choice of a nation of freemen. May they give to their present offices the same degree of lustre, they have heretofore imparted to stations of inferior magnitude.

Monroe's March.

5. James Madison, our late president; he leaves the ship in full sail; gives up the helm to his successor in a fair wind, and not a rope yarn wanting; with his jib pointing to the N. E.—a