

SELECTED POETRY.

FROM THE AUGUSTA CHRONICLE.

INDIAN SONG.

White man, feeble, sickly, poor,
Half our hardships can't endure;
Though no hardships e'er annoy,
Half our pleasures can't enjoy;
While in native forests here,
We hunt the Buffaloe and the Deer;
Or when we our fair maids woo,
Sailing in a bark canoe.

Free from toil, free from care,
Unknown alike to hate or fear,
Resting in his native glades,
Or in cool refreshing shades—
Or on the lake's smooth stream when
gliding,
And with skill his frail bark guiding;
Or when fair maids he learns to woo,
While sailing in his bark canoe.

Why should red men then repine,
That he can't with white men join;
Happier far than white men are,
For we know not want or care;
While upon the lake we're riding,
Or from heat in coverts hiding,
Or when Indian maids we woo,
While sailing in our bark canoe.

"I think I like the speckled axe best." The celebrated Doctor Franklin in his "memoirs" relates the following story: "A man having bought an axe of a smith, his neighbor, desired to have the surface ground as bright as the edge;—the smith consented to grind it bright for him if he would turn the wheel; he turned while the smith pressed the broad face of the axe hard and heavy on the stone, which made the turning of it very fatiguing. The man came every now and then from the wheel to see how the work went on: and at length would take his axe without further grinding—No, said the smith, turn on, turn on, we shall have it bright bye and bye, as yet it is only speckled." "Yes," said the man, "but I think I like the speckled axe best."

When I read this story, I thought that a great many persons might be found in the world who, like the countryman, unwilling to exert themselves "liked the speckled axe best."

When I see a man set out in life with a positive determination to pursue a particular study or profession, until he becomes completely master thereof, and afterwards becoming startled at difficulties, is satisfied with an humble mediocrity, I cannot help exclaiming, "that man likes the speckled axe best."

When I see a tradesman or mechanic lounging at corners and entering deeply into controversies about religion or politics, to the neglect and consequent ruin of his affairs, I say to myself "that man likes the speckled axe best."

When I see a man endowed by nature with brilliant talents, neglecting the means that would establish his fame, render him useful to his country, and cause his name to descend with credit to posterity, I say, when I see such a man wasting his time in dissipation, and frivolous amusements, or in the pursuit of visionary projects, I say to myself "that man likes the speckled axe best."

When I see a vigorous and healthy young man, who has become embarrassed in his circumstances, instead of exerting himself to bring relief to his present situation, folding his arms, and apparently waiting until some freak of fortune will raise him from his fallen state, I cannot help thinking that "he likes the speckled axe best."

In our journey through life, we often meet with men who are anxious to possess a particular object, or attain a particular end & which are really within their reach, by using the necessary industry and exertion, but like the man who wished to have his axe ground bright, they are unwilling to undergo the fatigue and trouble attending the accomplishment—such men "like the speckled axe best."

Economy of Labor.—An unparalleled instance of the power of a horse when assisted by art was shown near Croydon. The Surrey iron railway being completed, and opened for the carriage of goods all the way from Wadsworth to Merstham, a bet was made between two gentlemen, that a common horse could draw 36 tons for six miles along the road, and that he should draw this weight from a dead pull as well as turn it around the occasional windings of the road. The above day was fixed on for the trial; and a number of gentlemen assembled near Merstham to see this extraordinary triumph of art—Twelve waggons loaded with stones, each wagon weighing above three tons, were chained together, and a horse taken promiscuously from the timber cart of Mr. Harwood was yoked into the team. He started from near the Fox public house

and drew the immense chain of waggons with apparent ease to near the turnpike at Croydon, a distance of six miles, in one hour and 41 minutes, which is nearly at the rate of 4 miles an hour. In the course of this time he stopped 4 times, to show that it was not by the impetus of the descent that the power was acquired—and after each stoppage he drew off the chain of waggons from a dead rest. Having gained his wager, Mr. Banks, the gentleman who laid the bet, directed 4 more loaded waggons to be added to the cavalcade, with which the same horse again set off with undiminished power; and still further to show the effect of the railway in facilitating motion, he directed the attending workmen to the number of about 50, to mount the waggons, and the horse proceeded without the least distress, and in truth, there appeared to be scarcely any limitation to the power of his draught. After the trial the waggons were taken to the weighing machine, and it appeared that the whole weight was as follows—

	Ton	cwt.	gr.
12 Waggons, first linked together, weighed	38	4	2
4 Ditto, afterwards attach'd	13	2	0
Supposed wt. of 50 labourers	4	0	0
	55	6	2

Territory at the Pacific Ocean.—Our territory along the coast of the Pacific with our dominions, and for a considerable distance inland, to the foot of the first range of mountains, is very fertile; it is well adapted to the production of the grains of the Atlantic portions of the union, & abounds with the greatest quantity of excellent timber, particularly ship spars, which surpass in lightness elasticity and strength those of the growth of any other part of the world. The fisheries of the Columbia river, and the neighboring inlets of the coast, have been well ascertained to be more accessible, safer, and fully as productive as the best situations of Newfoundland. That the climate is healthy and salubrious is proven by the numerous and robust population of Indians that inhabit the country. Settlements will no doubt very soon grow up and spread along the shores of the Columbia river with astonishing rapidity, & the young athletic powers of our government will, ere long, launch into its waters a fleet to move along the coast of the Pacific, and take under its protection the commerce which the enterprize of our citizens will soon create and extend over those seas, to an incalculable amount.

Southern paper.

More Counterfeiters Detected.

NEW YORK, September 7.

A man by the name of James Hamilton has been apprehended at Albany charged with having passed a counterfeit hundred dollar note of the New-Orleans bank, to a gentleman in that city, sometime in the fall of 1819, and also for having passed a like note in the city of New York about the same time. No money was found upon him when apprehended but, by the vigilance of the police, a bundle was discovered on Friday night last, which Hamilton had left at a grocery in a back street, and on being opened, the following counterfeit bills were discovered, amounting to thirteen thousand and ninety-two dollars.

New Haven bank 139 \$10 bills
Havre de Grace bank—556 of \$2
Georgetown Union bank—1006 of \$3
Baltimore Franklin bank—386 of 2 and 1 of \$100
N. Y. Manufacturing Co.—25 of \$10
Orange county bank—1 of \$3
Baltimore Mechanics' bank—2 of \$2
Pittsburgh bank—469 of \$5
N. Brunswick state bank—101 of \$10
Buck's county Farmers' bank—44 of \$10
N. Y. Union bank—17 of 5, & 63 of \$3
N. Y. Merchant's bank—28 of \$10
Pittsburg F. & M's. bank—5 of \$10
Delaware F. bank—8 of 5, & 29 of \$3
Bank of Columbia—13 of \$5
Boston bank—4 of 5, & 1 of \$1
Maryland F. bank—145 of 5 & 27 of \$3
N. Y. Manhattan bank—13 of \$5
New-Brunswick bank—89 of \$3
Westmoreland Pa. bank—12 of \$3
Miami Exporting Company—3 of 50, & 5 of \$20
Paterson bank—1 of \$3
Baltimore Marine bank—13 of 10, and 10 of \$5

Also was apprehended at Albany on Friday last, for passing counterfeit bank bills, a fellow who says his name is Daniel Newton Smith, and that he belongs to Bakersfield, in Vermont. He is no doubt of the same gang with Hamilton.

Singular.—On the 23d instant, a Black Bass, weighing about one pound, was caught in the outlet of the Seneca lake, by a lad by the name of Horace N. Teal, Surinam, was playing billiards with some about two miles east of Geneva. On other American captains, at a public opening the fish, an English half penny house, when some English officers in full

token was found in its entrails, perfectly uniform came to the house and claimed bright, emitted, appears by date, in 1815 the table. A British captain of regulars The piece is now in possession of capt. informed captain Smith, that the Americans must give up the table immediately; which being refused rather uncivilly, the Briton challenged Smith to fight him next morning at 3 o'clock; offering him at the same time his choice in weapons, which was immediately agreed to by the Yankee. Smith then went on board his brig, and informed his mate that he had to fight a duel next morning, ordering him at the same time to grind the harpoon and make it sharp: next morning Smith appeared at the place appointed, accompanied by his mate, carrying the harpoon, and several American captains; where they found the Englishman and his second, with a crowd of spectators. Smith seeing the Englishman armed with sword and pistols, abruptly told him that his weapon was a harpoon, and his distance eight paces. He then stepped back to his place, and seizing the harpoon, told his antagonist to defend himself, at the same time raising his harpoon over his shoulder, in the act of throwing, and ordering his mate to "stand by to haul the fellow in." The Englishman's second seeing the destruction of his principal certain, called to Smith to hold, and thus ended the duel." Nile's W. Reg.

English Queens.—A London paper states "that treasonable or criminal proceedings against the Queen of England have taken place only in the Reigns of Henry VIII. and Charles I. At this former period, the Constitution was arbitrarily bent by a capricious and unrelenting despotism—in the latter, the country was in a state of insurrectionary civil war. In the former reign Anna Boleyn was tried by a Jury of 24 Peers, presided by the Lord Steward, and ultimately beheaded; Catharine of Arragon, was divorced, and degraded to Princess Dowager of Wales; Catharine Howard was attained and beheaded, at the suggestion of Parliament. In the latter reign the House of Commons sent up to the House of Lords articles of impeachment against Queen Harrietta, from which she saved herself by escape into France.

Warning to Husbands.—A farmer in the village of Geneva, infatuated by a woman of abandoned character, lately turned an amiable wife and children out of doors, to give room to a wretch who had seduced him by her allurements. Information was given to the magistrates, that he had absented himself from his wife, and thereby violated the law, and directed the overseers of the poor to enforce the 22d section of the "act for the relief and settlement of the poor," by taking & seizing the goods and chattels, and to let out and receive the annual rents and profits of the lands and tenements of this unfaithful husband for the benefit of the wife and children. This was duly performed, and the woman who had gained no residence in town was brought before the justices as to her last place of legal residence. She refused to give the magistrates any satisfaction. She was convicted as a disorderly person, and committed to jail for sixty days at hard labor. This is as it should be.

Duelling.—A merchant of Boston has lately had courage enough to refuse to fight a duel. It is public opinion that must bear him out in rejecting this barbarous mode of deciding controversies—we fear that, even in that sober town, he has not been supported as he deserves to be. We are wonderfully constituted—our words and actions are too often at variance with the dictates of the heart; a vulgar prejudice, on many subjects, triumphs over the convictions of reason, & the laws of God. We are hypocrites, and indirectly advocate what conscience condemns, if we do not directly countenance it. The greatest men are not exempt from this singular state of mind—Hamilton and Decatur both died in duels, protesting against the practice of them! Neither of these distinguished men were of doubtful courage—the latter especially, was brave even to temerity; yet he wanted firmness to yield to the voice of reason, and afford an example which he must have known would have been very beneficial in arresting a procedure, which, in general, can be productive only of mischief. When will mankind become truly honest, and do what they believe to be right? Is "tyrant custom" forever to master the intelligent mind?

While on the subject of duelling, the following anecdote (a old story, 'tis true but it is a very poor one,) presented itself, by which one of our countrymen may have saved his life by his wit and courage. And why should not a person select a harpoon as well as a pistol, for his weapon?—there is the plea of antiquity in favor of it—it is nearly the same as the javelin, with which Achilles, Hector and Alexander fought; one party to a duel may be as ignorant of a skilful use of the latter as the other can be of the former; and, in things of this sort, it is pretended that the combatants are to meet on equal grounds. The story is as follows:

"Some years since, captain Smith, of the brig—of Newburyport, who had been on many a whaling voyage, being in about two miles east of Geneva. On other American captains, at a public opening the fish, an English half penny house, when some English officers in full

Bathing in the Dead Sea.—It is well known that the water in this sea is saturated with salt, chiefly muriate with magnesia, and common salt. Its specific gravity is 1.211. Mr. Legg, bathed in it in 1818, informs us, that he saw several shell-fish in it, not unlike periwinkles. The account which he gives of the effect of bathing is singular—"Our Arab guides had endeavored to alarm us as to the consequences of bathing in these pestiferous waters: but we made the experiment, and found that though two of our party were unable to swim, they were buoyed up in the most extraordinary manner. The sensation perceived immediately upon dipping was, that we had lost our sight; and any part of the body that happened to be excoriated suffered excessively. The taste of the water was bitter and intolerably saline. From this experiment some of us suffered a great deal of inconvenience, an oily incrustation being left upon the body, which no attempt at washing could remove for some time; and several of the party continued to lose portion of skin for many successive days."

London pap.

In the year 1800, while on a tour to Niagara Falls and the Great Lakes, the late Governor Morris, wrote thus to a friend in Germany: "Hundreds of large ships will, in no distant period, bound on the billows of these inland seas. Shall I lead your astonishment up to the verge of incredulity? Know, then, that one-tenth part of the expense borne by Britain, in the last campaign, would enable ships to sail from London, through the Hudson river, into Lake Erie. As yet we only crawl along the outer shell of our country. The interior excels the part we inhabit in soil, in climate, in everything. The proudest empire of Europe is but a bauble to what America may be—must be."

N. Smith,

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