

SELECTED POETRY.

FROM THE ALBANY GAZETTE.

MESSENGERS, EDITORS.—I think the following lines, which were extracted from an old Maryland Gazette, well worthy a conspicuous place in your next paper, & I have no doubt but you will think the same.—They were written by the hon. St. George Tucker, of Virginia, the author of notes on Blackstone's Commentaries, on being solicited to know why he ceased to court the inspiration of the poetic muse. They are full of feeling and simplicity, and cannot but touch the heart. In them we find an elevation of spirit, & a lively Christian hope, which points to the future. Let the hopes of your age be fix'd on your God.

Days of my youth! ye have glided away,
Hairs of my youth! ye are frosted and grey.
Eyes of my youth! your keen sight is no more
Cheeks of my youth! ye are furrow'd all o'er
Strength of my youth! all your vigor is gone,
Tho'ts of my youth! your gay visions are flown.

Days of my youth! I wish not your recal,
Hairs of my youth! I'm content you should fall,
Eyes of my youth! ye much evil have seen,
Cheeks of my youth! bath'd in tears have ye been,
Tho'ts of my youth! ye have led me astray,
Strength of my youth! why lament your decay

Days of my age! ye will shortly be past,
Pains of my age! yet awhile ye can last,
Joys of my age! in true wisdom delight,
Eyes of my age! be religion your light,
Tho'ts of my age! dread ye not the cold sod,
Hopes of my age! be ye fix'd on your God.

From the New-Albany Chronicle of February 17.

TRIAL.

On the claim to the services of Moses, a black man, and to hold him to involuntary servitude for life, together with a relation of the most remarkable events that transpired on that occasion in this place.

A blackman named Moses, in the month of November 1810, having abandoned the service of Abraham Fields, near Louisville Ky. came over the Ohio to reside in this town. On the 1st of February 1820, Moses was seized by order of Fields, claiming him as a fugitive from labor, in other words as his slave for life; and according to the statute of the United States, in such cases made and provided, brought him before David S. Bassette, Esq. a Justice of the Peace—a motion was made in behalf of Moses.—Fitch and Elderkin, his counsel, for the postponement of the trial to the 8th Feb. on the ground of procuring evidence to prove Moses' right to freedom. This motion was resisted by Messrs Denny and Thommasson, counsel for the claimant, alleged he cause before the court was in the nature of an ex parte trial.—The justice however, on bail being given for appearance, allowed the motion and the cause stood adjourned accordingly.—On the 8th February the parties appeared with their respective counsel; Mr. Ferguson supplied the place of Mr. Denny, claimant to prove right to services gave parol evidence of the sale of Moses on an execution issued on a judgement rendered in Kentucky against Case, the old master of Moses, more than 12 years past. It also appeared in evidence that Moses had repeatedly and generally acknowledged himself a slave to claimant while in his employ. On these grounds it was contended that Moses still owed service to claimant. On the part of Mo-

ses, it appeared in evidence, that Case had owned him for many years before 1808 when Case had removed with Moses over the Ohio, into the then Territory of Indiana with the intention of making a new home and permanent residence there, and that he had remained there ever since, and that he went there under a belief, that by such removal Moses by law would be entitled to his freedom, that Moses after remaining with his old master, Case, in Indiana nearly 12 months, by his own consent and by the advice and direction of Case, (the latter having then little for him to do) was hired to service with a person residing at a place called Mann's Lick in Kentucky, where he was taken as the property of Case, as before mentioned, on execution issued on a judgement rendered against Case, after he went to reside in Indiana. On this evidence, it was contended that Moses was entitled to freedom.

About the hour at which the court stood adjourned 8th February, forty-three able bodied men accompanied the claimant's agent from Kentucky over to this place, of whom nine only were sworn as witnesses in the cause. The sheriff for this county, having been credibly informed, believed, that most of those who passed over the river, before they sat off on the other side, had taken the resolution in case of being unsuccessful in the issue of the trial, to rescue the negro and bear him off by force. This belief the sheriff had formed before the trial, and was but too well confirmed on that day, that so large a number other than witnesses, he supposed could not be drawn hither merely from idle curiosity—the threats by some, the discovery of concealed weapons with others and the general deportment of the greater part strengthened, as he affirms, his first suspicions. On consultation with and advice from Judge Woodruff, believing the exposed security of the public peace required the measure, he directed Charles Paxson, Colonel of the militia, to order out a sufficient guard to prevent public disturbance and to enforce the laws—20 men under arms were accordingly ordered out, col. Paxson, directed them to parade near the court of Justice but in no case to interfere, nor use violence, without an evident appearance of disturbance. The trial lasted till about 7 o'clock in the evening, when the Justice decided that there had not been proof to his satisfaction that service was due from Moses to the claimant, and accordingly ordered that Moses should be discharged out of custody. After this adjudication, as Moses began to go out of the Justice's office, in approaching the door, some of the claimant's adherents seized on him and by violence forced him into the public street apparently determined, to carry into execution, in violence of law and public order, their previous resolution of rescuing the negro. A number of the citizens feeling this rude proceeding an insult on the dignity of their state government, resisted the outrage by attempting to reclaim Moses out of their hands and to afford him the protection of the law. A scene of uproar and confusion now ensued, in which nearly 100 men, including the combatants of both parties were engaged; with 200 spectators looking on, feeling all the terrible apprehensions of bloodshed and murder. In this alarming scene of angry looks and uplifted deadly weapons, Judge Woodruff stood forth and with a loud voice commanded the peace; no

sooner were his words heard than he was knocked flat to the ground by a person from the other side of the river, whose name is well known. The colonel of the militia now ordered them to advance and charge with bayonets, but in no case to fire without special orders—but resist violence and restore order. The negro man in the mean time was reclaimed and conducted out of the crowd. On giving the orders to charge Col Paxton was insulted by one of the assailants, by most appropriate language, and accompanying his abuse by words with a violent kick against his thigh. For this insult the aggressor was knocked down with a musket by a soldier and put under guard. The assailants still persevering in their violence, pressing on the militia and insulting them, several of them were knocked down with muskets, and others pricked with the bayonets and some badly wounded. In this terrible conflict, between so many combatants, many with arms and most of them wrought up to that state of phrenzy which is usually followed by the most desperate acts, it is a matter of wonder, that numbers should not have been desperately wounded or killed.

An instance of moderation this, on the part of men, with loaded arms in their hands basely insulted by aggressors without having given any known provocation, and ordered out under the authority of law, to preserve the peace of society, rarely to be met with under circumstances so aggravating and deserving of high commendation. Angry looks and threats were exchanged for a good while, but the most tumultuous part of the scene, when confusion and uproar prevailed, and every moment was full of peril, lasted but about 20 minutes. The assailants, compelled to desist from their purpose, finally retired peaceably. How many of them were concealed weapons is unknown, but during the contest, two pistols, one dirk and two sharp long knives were taken from them, and a few other pistols and dirks were discovered. Two inhabitants of this place were slightly wounded with dirks or knives.

The writer of this communication aimed to act the part of a dispassionate historian. He supposed himself a candid looker on, almost equally unknown to both parties, not warped, as he conceived by local feelings. He had no enmities to revenge, no spleen nor partialities to gratify, nor any other ends to attain but that of the public good. The transaction from its nature seemed to strike his mind, as embracing objects of a wide range in their operation & in their progress, should the business go on, to portend great peril and public mischief. As we live under one general government, we are all countrymen and fellow citizens. We ought not therefore, to suffer state feelings to pervert our reason, nor permit different conditions in society that have, in a manner, been imposed on us without our own agency, & the effectual alteration of which is beyond our controul, to be a cause of schism & dissention or a standing source of acrimony and recrimination.

ARKANSAS, December 29.

INDIAN HOSTILITIES.

The long expected war between the Osage and Cherokee nations of Indians has at length broke out. Report says that the former are the aggressors. We understand that a party of about 70 of the Osages made an attack on a hunting camp of the Cherokees, a short time since in which the latter had two killed and one

wounded and lost all their horses and other property, the Osages had one killed. This affair took place on the Peto, and no great distance from fort Smith.

Governor Miller has been at fort Smith and in the Indian country since early in November, endeavoring to settle the disputes between the hostile nations—but without success. When the news of the above affair was received by the Cherokees, they could no longer be restrained and gov Miller was reluctantly obliged to let them settle their disputes in their own way.

The Cherokees have for some time shown a hostile disposition towards the Osages, and it is said, are determined to drive them from their country. We also learn that the Shawnees and Delawares, now on their way to this Territory from Indiana, intend joining the Cherokees—if this be correct we have but little doubt that the result of these hostile movements will be fatal to the Osages.

The Osages are a bold and warlike people, but it is said they are badly supplied with arms and ammunition—their principal weapons are bows and arrows; they have a few muskets and shot guns, but make very little use of the rifle. The Cherokees are said to be well supplied with every thing necessary for a vigorous prosecution of the war.

Let the result of these movements be as they may, the white inhabitants settled in this country by the name of Lovely's purchase, will be placed in a perilous situation.

Grand Lodge of Indiana.

IN obedience to a resolution of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, I forward you for publication, a list of persons expelled or suspended by the lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Indiana, and request the editors of newspapers, friendly to the masonic family, to republish the same.

EXPULSIONS.

Thomas Glass, for ungentlemanly and unmasonic conduct, expelled by Vincennes Lodge, No. 1 December 6, 1819.

Samuel C. Tate, for unmasonic conduct, expelled by Blazingstar Lodge, No. 3, November 6, 1819.

Jacob Zenor, for gross unmasonic conduct, expelled by Pisgah Lodge No. 5.

Daniel Williams, a member of Lodge No. 11, Troy, N. Y. for gross unmasonic conduct, expelled by Vevay Lodge, No. 7, on the 20th of July; 1820.

Alexander Holton, Hezekiah P. Hall, David C. Swan, expelled by Vevay Lodge No. 7, for non payment of Lodge dues.

Charles Reading, for gross unmasonic conduct, expelled by Zif Lodge, No. 8, on the 5th September, 1820.

Copied from the records of the Grand Lodge of Indiana:

WILLIAM C. KEEN,
Grand Sec'y.

Shriff Sale

By virtue of an execution issued from the clerks office of the Vanderburgh circuit court and now in my hands, I have taken a number of valuable law books, also all the right and title of Jas. A. Boies to lots No. 11 and 12, in the lower enlargement of the town of Evansville, which I will expose to sale at the house of Daniel Chute in said town on the 24th day of March for which nothing but specie or its equivalent can be taken in payment.

A. WARNER, s. v. c.
March 3d, 1821.