

Virginia Free Press.

CHARLESTOWN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, VIRGINIA,

VOL. 52.

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THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 7, 1859.

BY GALLAHER & CO.

NO. 28.



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is now

VIRGINIA FREE PRESS AND FARMERS' REPOSITORY.

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BY GALLAHER & CO.

THURSDAY MORNING.

JULY 1, 1860.

INDEPENDENCE DAY IN CHARLESTON TOWN.

The Third anniversary of American Independence, occurred on Monday last, and was ushered in, in our town, by the firing of salutes by the Jefferson Guards in the advance of early morn. At 9 o'clock, the Guards, under the command of Capt. John W. Ross, and those who there is no more accomplished officer, paraded in front of their armorial shield, to the music of their band, to the Pique Grounds, where the parades of the Guard were also formed into line at this place, under the command of Lieut. Robert W. Martin, and joined the Guards in parade. Both companies then proceeded to the Sepulchre Hotel and received the Oration Read and Clergy, and from thence to the Carter House, where they were met by the Chief Marshal, Col. John T. Jones, who assumed command of the military, and those of our citizens who took part in the celebration—

10th.—The Federal Constitution. An address to the true spirit of freedom. Under the inspiring notes of martial music, the procession moved on accompanied by a large turn-out of young America, as well as Cuffee, who seemed to be more than usually gratified and pleased at the proceedings in honor of the return of our Nation's birth day.

The procession arrived at the grounds at 11 o'clock, when the military was dismissed a short time for recreation. A number of carriages, containing a fair representation of ladies, had preceded the procession and were already waiting its arrival upon the grounds. Their procession lost much additional zest to the otherwise interesting occasions, and showed they were worthy descendants of the patriotic mothers of '76. At 12 o'clock, the cessation of the drum called the assembly around the Speaker's stand, the majority drawn up in ranks encircling the right, the ladies and citizens the front and left of the rear. The Chief Marshal, Col. Gibbs, then announced the program, prefacing it with some highly eloquent remarks in reference to the occurrence of another Independence Day. In his concluding, the Rev. Dr. Campbell of the Presbyterian church addressed to the God of Nations an exceedingly appropriate invocatory prayer, in which the names of Hymen, whose hands the destinies of the world are held, were set forth in fervid and expressive terms, and in humble acknowledgement of His protecting and fostering care over the earnest desire was expressed that we should become a God fearing and a pious people. At the conclusion of the prayer, D. Smith Eshleberger, Esq., in the robes of oratoriness, then read the Declaration of Independence, in a clear and impressive manner, prefacing the Declaration by a few remarks eloquent and comprehensive, and possessed by the plenitude of all present, and by a salute from the Guards.

Thomas M. Estell, Esq., the orator of the day, then proceeded to deliver one of the most appropriate and eloquent orations which we have ever had the pleasure to hear. From the beginning to the end of the address he held, with a firmness which won him the admiration of all, and I might add, the entire audience, and was cloathed in the most marked and general approbation. We shall now attempt a synopsis of Mr. Estell's address, it would be vain for us to attempt even a general outline by which we could convey an approximate idea of its eloquence and appropriateness, but we hope he will gratify those who have the misfortune not to hear its delivery by sending a copy of it for publication. We know of nothing which will afford a greater intellectual treat to our readers than the publication of this address in our columns.

The conclusion of the session was the signal for another salute from the Guards, after which the military and a number of citizens took up one of Hymen's Praise—and was a feast, indeed. Every imaginable delicacy from of hand down through the various gradations of flesh, commented as elegant, and fit to partake of by man, was spread out before, both invited and invited, then there were volatilities of every mode, whilst the doors and other extensives, were such as to tempt the appetite of the most fastidious. When we say that every body did full justice to the repast, we do not but single justice to the truth. Long may Blessing wave!

After dinner various recreations of an animal character were indulged in until the hour of three o'clock, when the military were again formed into line around the cart-horse to do honor to the Regular Guards preparatory to the departure. These were made by the Chief Marshal, each bearing a sprig of the company. The reading of the toast being done, the Jefferson Guards, accompanied by the Guards and a large number of citizens, then advanced on an adjacent field for the purpose of target shooting. During the first hour of the competition, the members of each party, interested in the practice, the targets were placed in the various positions, and each company fired five rounds of ball cartridges. Private Nelson S. Angel, a member of the best marksmen, being always successful, was about string his bow. It is an old private with him to relate, that he made the best single shot—coming within a very short space of the center of the target. There were others who evinced considerable skill in the use of the musket and showed that in an actual engagement they could be infinitely accurate to make an enemy tremble to the bone. The result of the contest being that the Guards, Col. Gibbs, on behalf of the Guards to a most felicitous speech, presented Mr. Angel with a richly carved holly gold pen and purse a testimonial of his skill in

marksmanship to which upon his arrival, Mr. A. replied in so lively and bedding terms.

This closed the ceremonies of the day—long to be remembered by those participating as one of the most pleasant of its number. The weather was delightful, a soft, cool wind, and foliage of the trees throughout the day, the leaves seem jubilant of the occasion. Old Sol, dressed in holiday attire, sent forth his brightest rays, but mollified by his greatest warmth. The golden grain in adjacent fields was typical of peace and plentiness, and all sky seemed to wear a smiling aspect and lend enchantment to the scene—Every thing conspired to make the occasion a most pleasant one, and nothing occurred to mar the pleasures and festivities attending the proceedings. May each recurring anniversary of our Freedom and Independence be a counterpart of that of '59, and may it always be celebrated appropriately by our citizens, should be the desire of east and all who enjoy the glorious blessings which it emphasized.

The following are the Regular Toasts to which we have referred:

1st.—The day we celebrate. Who hath another like it?

2d.—Our Country. Where's its equal?—The American People. They are able to speak for themselves.

3d.—Our Government. Every citizen a soldier who took part in the celebration—

4th.—The Federal Constitution. Address to the true spirit of freedom.

5th.—Our Army. From Bunker Hill to the Gates of Mexico, invincible.

6th.—Our Navy. Her hunting fleets in every sea.

7th.—American Citizenship. Thirty millions of us can make it's protection in every climate.

8th.—Virginia. She wears no emblem.

9th.—The Virginia Regiment in Mexico. Its dead and survivors, we keep in memory that have died, and emulate their patriotic example.

10th.—Washington and his compatriots. Their memory is ever fresh in the hearts of the American people.

11th.—The oppressed of every clime—let them have an independence day.

12th.—Woman. God bless her, time but serves to brighten her virtues and suggest her prophecies.

MATTHEW D. LEWIS.

This young gentleman is the well known operator of the Magnetic Telegraph, for the Harper's Ferry Station, Jefferson County, Virginia. Our object in this notice is to draw attention to him—not only as an agent of the state of fidelity to the Company employing him, but as a friend who sympathizes with the distressed. His excellent qualities found ample field for their exercise, in behalf of the friends of Mr. Hawes, during the last week—when, for twenty hours, his efforts were put forth, but in vain, to get a dispatch through from Chicago. Within two hours after the intelligence of Mr. Hawes's disaster arrived at his home, his wife soon had a message dispatched to Chicago. But, car readers may judge of the agonizing suspense—when, a storm coming on, the wires ceased working. In the twenty hours, this estimable young gentleman adopted every expedient known to his wonderful art in order to hasten the arrival of intelligence, and by the tenor of his discourse, showed that he possessed those fraternal feelings towards humanity in distress, which are often allied to eminent attainments in art. May the richest of blessing ever atop the pathway of Matthew D. Lewis.

A GENTLEMAN OF THE OLD BUCHOLZ.

A New York correspondent of the "Charleston Mercury" says of a well-known physician who walks Madison in knee-breeches: "The only surviving eccentric worth mentioning is Dr. Boyle, who dresses in the knicker breeches, buckled shoes, shod with leather, and having belted vest, each hat, ruffles, and having pointed toe, fast setting. The only person otherwise. When a boy he had a strange fondness for that costume, and determined to indulge in it when he was rich enough for the due sum is about ten years as a boy, as an ordinary civilian. An increasing impatience caused him to quit his dress, and then he played the antique very creditably. He is about fifty years ago, and since then he has played the antique very creditably. He is about fifty and just by nature, but an old stick through McAlpin, his career is far from remarkable, though he is a man of great attainments in art. May the richest of blessing ever atop the pathway of Matthew D. Lewis."

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THE DISASTER ON THE SOUTHERN HIGHWAY, EAST ROAD, CHARLESTON, JEFFERSON CO., VA., JULY 5, 1860.

To the Editor of the Free Press:

Dear Sir: You have requested me to furnish a statement of the accident which lately occurred on the Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana Railroad. It requires no embellishment, no imagination, to describe the scene. My statement, though rough and plain, will have the one virtue of truthfulness; for the solemn scenes of that night are still before me, sleeping or waking, and they will be, through life.

I left Chicago on the ill-fated train, on Monday evening the 26th of June, at half past 7 o'clock. It consisted of three first class and one second class passenger cars, all filled. There were about 200 passengers aboard besides the men employed on the cars. We proceeded on our way toward Toledo with safety, until 15 minutes past 12 at night, when the accident occurred.

We were behind time, and were running at a fearful speed—at last fully under an hour.

The first intimation I had that anything was wrong, was that I felt the cars of the track and running over the cross-ties. In a moment afterwards, we leaped into the *chaos*, *the tumultuous confusion of suddenly thrown forward, and rolled up like a ball*. Fourth led the pressure of passengers pressed open me, and felt the water gathering around me. I made a mighty effort to free myself and succeeded. The water had by this time gained on us so fast, that it was running out of the ear windows. I directed myself of flat and staid, and leaped through the window into the black and angry waves. I am a good swimmer, and leaped into the fish with perfect confidence of saving my life. I was perfectly calm and self possessed, and never doubted that I would be saved. After rising to the surface, and swimming with the current about ten yards, as far as the stream ran on the back, and forced me under the water. I turned a complete somersault, came up, and struck out to the surface, that had passed over me. Just then some man caught me by the last who was a desperate grip. I succeeded in rousing myself from him and soon found myself by the side of a large tree, which had been washed away, and layed down in the mud. I turned a complete somersault, and again struck out to the surface, that had passed over me. I was perfectly calm and self possessed, and never doubted that I would be saved. After rising to the surface, and swimming with the current about ten yards, as far as the stream ran on the back, and forced me under the water. I turned a complete somersault, came up, and struck out to the surface, that had passed over me. Just then some man caught me by the last who was a desperate grip. I succeeded in rousing myself from him and soon found myself by the side of a large tree, which had been washed away, and layed down in the mud. 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POETICAL.

W. H. COOPER.
I was drooping when you called me,
Giving life to my heart.
Of the sun upon its boughs,
New sprouts spring in the pathway.
My light lesson in need,
And the vine young and pliant,
Is trailing over the dead.

I was drowsing when you came to me,
Off my mother's boughs;
The bright touch on my cheek,
Of her love, like a ray of light,
That dispels gloom and despair,
And the vine young and pliant,
Is trailing over the dead.

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VARIETY.

ENTERTAINMENT.

Albeit we record now, and often, what we see, we do not concern ourselves with the works of Mr. Joseph Miller, such, therefore, cannot possibly be the following or something very much resembling it may have been related by him. It is however told of a distinguished lawyer of Maryland, who has but a few years past made the way of all flesh. He died in consequence of a certain case in the Circuit Court, which he believed to be his last, superior to his client. Declining against the verdict, he said "The whole of them might have been tried for a pack of hounds."

What is left said the Judge "You dislodge yourself, and the court, as well as the jury, by such an imputation."

"I mean no disrespect to the court, your honor, and self myself."

"You will see the propriety, I hope, of retreating the words."

"With all due reference to your honor I cannot see the propriety of using what is there."

"Do you intend to aggravate the offence by repeating it? Let me tell you, sir, that is not to be suffered and unless you retract forthwith we shall deem it necessary to strike you from the rolls of the court."

"Certainly your honor, and, on second thought I do it with great pleasure. I am convinced now that I wronged the jury in saying they could be bribed for a pack of hounds, and thus openly and publicly retract the same. I hope the court and jury will be satisfied."

"You expressed these terms in the affirmative, when the lawyer replied "But may it please the court and jury, had I not half a *bribel* instead of a *pound*? I would have been hanged sooner than taxed!"

BUT A factitious mathematician hands us the following:

PHYSIQUE & MUSCLES.

"The twenty seven muscles of the neck three pairs of them, may now be seen with given pull when fully unstrung."

"Keep! Manipule the number of your flakes for the number of days on the calendar, divide the product by 1000, and day turn up to the sum of the quotients to obtain and multiply the sum by hydrocarb."

HAPPINEN.

"Now let me tell you a secret, several words being off the subject, for which I am responsible to pay. From what I know of it, I would soon have half剃 of a living, or bottle up moonshine for daily nights. The only true way to happiness is to take the drops of happiness God gives them to us every day of our lives. The boy must learn to be happy when he is plodding over his lesson, the apprentice when he is learning his trade, the merchant while he is making his fortune. If he fails to learn this art, he will be sure to miss his enjoyment, when he pines that he ought to."

DEATH OF PROFESSOR HICKS.—Dr. J. B. P. HICKS, a Professor in the Randolph (Va.) Female Seminary, died on the 1st July. He was a native of Harrisonburg, Va., and during the Civil War served as surgeon in the 2d Virginia Cavalry, having a tour of service at Harper's Ferry, and at the time of his death was 45 years of age.

The cause of death was a cerebral hemorrhage, the brain being found to contain about 1000 cubic inches of blood.

He had been a member of the 2d Virginia Cavalry, and had been promoted to the rank of captain.

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