

The Oxford Democrat

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Editor and Proprietor.

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Personal attention given to practice in Oxford and Androscoggin Counties. Jan. 3, '68 11
Dr. W. B. Lapham,
WILL ATTEND TO THE PRACTICE OF
MEDICINE AND SURGERY,
AT BRYANT'S POND, ME.

Business promptly attended to and charges reasonable.
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Will practice in Oxford and Androscoggin Counties 6d/22-3m*
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Physician and Surgeon,
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March 13, 1868
GEORGE A. WILSON,
Attorney and Counsellor at Law,
(Office opposite the Atlantic House)
SOUTH PARIS, MAINE.

Collecting promptly attended to.

POETRY.

THE GOLDEN SIDE.

There is many a rest in the road of life,
If we only would stop to take it;
And many a tone from the better land
If the querulous heart would make it!
To the sunny soul that is full of hope,
And whose beautiful trust never falters,
The grass is green and the flowers are bright,
Though the wintry storm prevaileth.

Better to hope though the clouds hang low,
And to keep the eye still lifted;
For the sweet blue sky will soon peep thro',
When the ominous clouds are riddled!
There was never a night without a day,
Or an evening without a morning;
And the darkest hour as the proverb goes,
Is the hour before the dawning.

THE WIFE

The following are a few verses from Whittier's poem, "The Wife," in the January Atlantic.
We drove before the farm house door,
The farmer called to Mary;
Bare-headed, with Jano's step she came,
White aproned, from her dairy.
Her air, her smile, her motion told
Of womanly completeness;
A music as of household song,
Was in her voice of sweetness;
An inborn grace that nothing lacked
Of culture or appliance,
The warmth of genial courtesy,
The calm of self-reliance.
Before her queenly womanhood
How dared our landlord utter
The paltry errand of his need
To buy her fresh churned butter.
She led the way with household pride
Her goodness disclosing,
Fall tenderly the golden balls
With snow white hands disposing.

MISCELLANY.

THE FARMER'S SON.

In the low-roofed turf cottage of a Scottish farmer, the only chimney of which was a barrel protruding through the ridge, a boy first saw the light, who was destined by the father to till the farm which had yielded oats and potatoes for two centuries, under the hands of his thrifty ancestors.
The carts and ploughs were of the rudest kind, such as might have been used immediately after the curse was pronounced on the earth for man's sin, and he was forced to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow. Hard work supplied, as far as possible, the place of science in farming.

Without regard to symmetry or order, one strip of land was devoted to oats, an irregular patch to potatoes, and then a ragged piece to cabbages; these surrounded by and interspersed with heaps of rubbish. In the rear of all this, and around the farm, stretched vast, unbroken moors, the picture of desolation.

And this was the place to which an ambitious boy was to be bound for life, because his forefathers had been so before him.—He was to drag a cart without wheels and a basket on rollers home from the harvest field with half starved oxen.

Young Kenneth rebelled against his lot until he disgraced himself as "a child of the convent," and brought down the curse of the minister on him, as a son that would bring down the gray hairs of his father with sorrow to the grave.

He was for a while forced to walk behind the old plough, that only scratched the surface of the earth; but often, after a whole morning's toil, it was found that he had been all the time retracing the first furrow. He was given over as incompetent for a plough boy, and regarded but one step higher than a "fule."

Next the guide farmer, "sorely ashamed of his shiffling lad before his industrious neighbors," set him to watching the sheep, saying that "only a fule, w' a sheep's brains in his head, could keep the gentle creatures from rolling over the bank into the burn."

But even here young Kenneth proved unfaithful. At the close of the first day several of the sheep were found with broken limbs and necks at the bottom of the burn, and the rest rioting in the winter's grain, while the reckless boy was in a deep ravine, constructing water-mills and pumps out of hemlock twigs, with which to raise the water he had extemporized for the experiment.

At other times he would be missing altogether, and the sheep would have their own way, while he lay at full length in the sand near a meal mill a mile off, watching the play of the wheel in the water.

At length the worthy old farmer declared "he could mak' na thing at a' o' the laddie; that although he seemed as full witted as

any ither lad wi' the book and the thought, still, when it com' to the practical, he was just an idiot."

Kenneth's mother, however, could not give up her darling for lost, and insisted "there was in him that wad mak' a man yet."

When at last he rose in unlikelike rebellion against parental authority, and declared he would do anything if he bid him abroad in the world, but he would not be a farmer, the mortified father took him to a neighboring town and apprentice him to a cabinet maker, who soon grew very sick of his bargain. The boy spoiled every thing he attempted, and at last got the name of "Spall the wood," (spoil the wood,) and he made as bad havoc among the tools and materials as he did before among the sheep and grain.

But his day came at last. A ship had come in needing some little repairs, which any man who could handle a hammer could make. So our poor workman was dispatched on the business. Once on board he spied a compass, the first he had ever seen. He leaned over it in rapt delight for hours, and suffered the repairs to take care of themselves. He forgot what he had been sent for, and returned home without his tools, and his head full of compasses.

Provoked by his heedlessness, the honest cabinet maker tried to throw him back as a bad bargain on his father's hands; but the old man was two shrewd for him, and would not take the burden back, till forced to do so by the expiration of the time mentioned in the indentures.

But their abuse of him and quarrels with him were scarcely heard by Kenneth. He thought of compasses, of ships and mechanics in general, and he whistled at the advice of his friends and the scorn of foes.

As soon as his apprenticeship was over he left the region where he was born, and for years he was heard of only perchance by some fellow townsman meeting him in extreme poverty.

But by and by the world heard that "a certain ingenious Scotchman, a very scientific man, had invented a compass, which was to mark a new era in navigation." It was on every tongue. Prince William Henry, afterward William the IV, was at that time commanding a man-of-war, and he tried the Scotchman's compass. He was charmed with it; and the lad who trod the clay floor of the poor thatched cottage with barrel chimney, was appointed "compass maker to His Majesty," and Catherine, exarina of Russia, heard of the wonderful inventor, and felt that she must have some of the results of his genius, and she sent him an order for a philosophical apparatus for a college being erected in St. Petersburg.

He was ready for the royal order, and was equal to its fulfillment. Money began to pour in upon him, and he became master of a fine house, and was honored and respected by the very men who when boys, used to call him "Spull wood," and "mak' na bread," in scorn.

All at once his old father found out that Kenneth had ever been a wonderful lad, and although he did let a few worthless sheep brak' their necks by falling over the edge of the ravine, after them devouring the winter's corn, who could expect a genius to be looking after a poor shepherd's work?

And the minister, too, remembered how he used to balance one pin on another and whistle out wee anthers during the last half of the two hours' sermon. He forgot, however, how he used to threaten to inform upon him at home, or report him to the elders for a "maist unsanctified lad," and now declared that although his conduct was certainly disorderly for a lad fortunate enough to be born in the kirk of Scotland, he had no doubt that it was the genius cropping out of him, instead of total depravity, as he then believed.

His native town grew proud of him, and every man in it remembered some word or act worth repeating of the boy who, they once declared, "wad never earn a red herring."

There was one who had always smiled on his water wheels and excused his carelessness when the dead sheep was found, one who had called him, tenderly, her "rain dear bonnie laddie," and who never would suffer any one to call him a fool unbeked. That was his mother. He had always been a hero in her loving eyes, and although she was rejoiced, she never would admit that she was surprised at his good fortune.

Now, had the honest Scotchman discerned the boy's talents, he might have saved himself all the trouble and mortification he had in his unsuccessful efforts to convert him into a ploughman or a shepherd, and he might have saved him years of toil and poverty, during which he was hourly stung by the mean sneers and sarcasms of those who were afterwards proud to boast that they knew him when a boy.

Had Kenneth's courage or his health failed him before he had accomplished anything, the world would have been robbed of a great blessing in the compass which would

have died in his brain. Her Majesty's ships may be guided by it to-day, unless, which is quite likely, it has been superseded by an improved invention of some scientific Yankee.

Young Kenneth's case illustrates the wrong often done by parents to their children. The idea that you can make what you please of a boy is a mistaken one. A lad who possesses talents for a trade will not be likely to be skilful at the plough, nor yet will the one whom God has designed for a farmer guide safely the ship of State. How many boys are dragged by force through college, and the irksome studies of a learned profession, simply because their parents can afford to pay their bills, when perhaps they had quickness and taste for some mercantile pursuit, in which they would have proved a blessing to the world.

Parents should study the natural tendencies of their children in the matter, and be guided by them in the selection of a suitable business or profession.

Look Sharp Through Your Eye-glasses.

Madam! Look sharp through your eye-glasses, madam! The lady walking in front of you, wears a dress which has been altered and pieced, time after time, with feminine ingenuity, so as to bring it as near as possible to the present style. The bonnet which she wears was made by hand. It is true there is a piece in the velvet which shows a great deal of wear, but she was unable to turn that under, so that our eyes could not see it. The hat is so trimmed with expensive Parisian flowers; you have already remarked that of course; but she was unapprised that you were going to turn up your precious nose at it. And, moreover, she may have been unable to afford a better one.

Survey her from head to foot! Your stare will make her uncomfortable; but never mind that. She thought that she looked nicely when she left home, she tried to make herself believe that her toilet was elaborate; and she attempted to imagine that no one would notice the extra seam in her sash. What if she did? You have all easily dispelled that fancy from her mind. O, cruelly kind madam, do not soften your searching glance, even though by so doing you might spare her feelings! But remember she is a pure woman that presides over a happy home. These evidences of her self-denial have a beautiful background which you ought to behold. She wears a common dress; and yet, by so doing she makes her boy, Willie, happy with new skates and a sleigh. Go down to the frozen river. Do you notice the little fellow with red cheeks and sparkling eyes? See how he glides over the ice now on one foot, now on the other, and now on both. Hurrah! cap in air! cap in hand! Hurrah! this is fun! These are the new skates! And this is the boy's life! Those muscles and sinews of his body are gaining increased power; they are being brought up to the proper tension. To the boy skating is sport to his body, it is health, and to his mother, it is self-denial, which brings with it a joy unspeakable. Wait till he shall go home to his supper, all elate with enjoyment. He does not stop to run up the steps but hurries in by the basement door, for fear of being late. There is no lassitude in his step, and no dyspepsia in his stomach. He sits down to the table, pushes back the hair from his forehead, looks into mamma's eyes, whose image is his own, tells her and papa what lots of fun he has had, then eats like a ravenous little fellow that he is, and goes to bed.

Who shall say that when the mother stands by the bedside of her sleeping boy in whose veins pulses the energy of strong vitality, she will envy you, madam, with your wealth and puny offspring, that is being murdered with a refined neglect? Do not understand that I mean to assert that a position of affluence always brings with it a neglect of home duties, for I know that there are many who are rich that scatter blessings broadcast. In this instance, I mean to point out the class to which you belong.

Look sharp through your eye-glasses, madam! The lady to whom I have called your attention, has slackened her pace; and now she stands before a poor blind negro, around whose neck is a string, and from it is suspended a box upon which is printed "BLIND." You passed him fifteen minutes ago. He heard your coming and departing steps, and his mute appeal for charity was unheeded by you. And yet this plain woman paused to add her little gift of money to his scanty means, and to utter a word of cheer to the soul behind those sightless eyes. Joy overpreads the old negro's face, and the woman has been amply repaid for her deed of charity. Tell me, O madam, proud as you are, may it be that you are going through life filled with sunshine and clouds, and yet seeing less than the blind man upon the corner of the street? Have you ever thought that your body, which you dress so richly, may have a soul that is dwarfed and repulsive?

Have you ever reflected how few are the good deeds that you do, and how many are the selfish ones? The old woman sitting by her fruit stand, over yonder, has a face covered by wrinkles and browned by exposure; and yet she has a heart which far surpasses yours in beauty and goodness. The little boys and girls who have been made glad by the bonbons and nuts which she has given them, may be reckoned by scores. You say, "Those were small things." Not for this old woman! Not for these children! But have you ever stopped a child on the sidewalk and said a cheery word? No? Well, try the experiment, and you will be astonished at the amount of happiness which will result from such an act. Do good deeds, and thus clothe your soul in a garment of everlasting light.

COURTSHIP AND LOVE.—In the new play "Under the Gaslight," the heroine gives utterance to the following:

Courtship is the text from which the whole solemn sermon of married life takes its theme. As lovers are discontented and unhappy so will they be as wives and husbands. So as you would be happy all the years of your life, listen to the voice advising you: Let the woman you look upon be wise or vain, beautiful or homely, rich or poor, she has but one thing which she can really give or refuse—her heart! Her beauty, her wit, her accomplishments she may sell to you—but her love is the treasure without money, without price! She only asks in return that when you look upon her your eyes shall speak a mute devotion, that when you address her your voice shall be gentle, loving and kind. That you shall not despise her because she cannot understand all at once your various thoughts and ambitious designs—for when misfortune and evil have defeated your greatest purposes, her love remains to console you! You look to the trees for strength and grandeur—do not despise the flowers because their fragrance is all they have to give. Remember, love is all a woman has to give—but it is the only earthly thing that God permits us to carry beyond the grave.

A few days since there were several persons in a house where there was a young child, some two or three days old—among them a bright eyed boy of four summers. When the grandmother soon after came in, with the babe in her arms, he was much pleased with it, kissed it and evinced every symptom of delight; asked his aunt where she got it, and was told she bought it of Dr. Adams; then asked how much she gave for it. She told him ten dollars. He then stood by her lap, on which the child was lying asleep; his eyes beaming with intense satisfaction. The babe soon awoke and squaled vociferously. Instantly his countenance fell; and with almost disgust pictured on his beautiful face, he turned around and said: "Aunt, if I was you, I'd take it back to Dr. Adams and get my ten dollars!"

A SECRET WORTH KNOWING. An able writer gives utterance to this valuable secret:

"This looking forward to enjoyment don't pay. For what I know of it, I would as soon chase butterflies for a living, or buble moonshine for a cloudy night. The only way to be happy is to take the drops of happiness as God gives them to us every day of our lives. The boy must learn to be happy while 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 gains what he has sighed for."

ORIGIN OF NEWSPAPERS. After the defeat of the Spanish Armada, intended by Philip 2d, of Spain, for the invasion of England, great interest was excited in every class, which gave rise to a very important invention—hat of newspapers. Before this all articles of news had been published in manuscript, and all political remarks which the Government found itself interested in addressing the people, had issued in the shape of pamphlets. But the convenience, at this time, of uniting the two objects in a periodical publication, became obvious to the ministry. In the month of April, 1588, the first number of the English Mercury appeared. A copy dated July 22, 1588, may now be seen in the British Museum, being the earliest specimen of the paper now in existence. Thus it may be seen that the first newspaper ever published was in England 280 years ago, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

HARTFORD.
A paper, giving an account of Toulouse, France, says: "It is a large town containing sixty thousand inhabitants built entirely of brick." This is only equalled by a well-known description of Albany: "Albany is a town of eight thousand houses and twenty-five thousand inhabitants with most of their gable ends to the street."

In the Supreme Judicial Court at Belfast, Charles A. Hooper has recovered a verdict against S. G. Haskell and three others, of \$918, for conspiring against him and driving him from the town of Deer Isle.

Base Ball.

At a meeting of the State Association of Base Ball Players, at Portland, on the 15th, S. W. Burnham, President of the Pennesseewassee, was elected Recording Secretary.

The time fixed for the annual meeting of the Association was the first Wednesday of May instead of in November as heretofore.

The following revision of the rules governing the "silver ball" were adopted:

1. All games for the championship shall be played on the grounds of the club holding the ball.
 2. The champion club must be challenged through the Portland papers and must accept challenges in order of their date, and when two or more challenges bear the same date the challenged club may choose with which they will first contend.
 3. The challenged club must play within fifteen days from the date of the appearance of the challenge in the papers, provided no other previous challenges are to be met, in which case the games shall be played within fifteen days of each other, until all the challenges are met.
 4. One game shall decide the title of championship.
 5. Any club that shall be able to keep uninterrupted possession of the ball for three years from the day on which it was won, shall become owner of the ball, and not afterwards be subject to any challenge for it.
 6. The season when challenges shall be legitimate shall be from May 15th to October 15th of each year.
 7. No challenge shall hold over from one season to another.
 8. Any match game prevented by the inclemency of the weather shall be played on the next fair day, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon, but no such postponement shall effect any other challenge, which shall take date from the day first appointed.
- A call has appeared for a Convention of Junior Base Ball Clubs to be held at Brunswick on the 28th inst., at 3 o'clock P. M. for the purpose of organizing a Junior State Association and to make the necessary arrangements for a State tournament.

English papers publish a letter from the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon on the subject of secular education, which is interesting because the writer may fairly be assumed to express the opinions of a large body of Dissenters. Mr. S. is not disposed to join the outcry about dividing religion from education, partly because it is useless to cry over spilt milk—the thing must be, and there is no preventing it; and yet more, because he thinks the result will be a gain rather than a loss to the cause of religion. He says: "The lads of the village might generally carry in a hollow tooth all the religion that they receive at the charity schools. Do they not learn the Church Catechism? Yes; but that is not religion; it begins with an assertion of baptismal regeneration, maunders about behaving one's self lowly and reverently to one's betters, in a manner suitable for an American negro previous to the late war; and has not a fraction of the simple Gospel of Jesus in it from end to end. It will be highly beneficial to the morality of youth to dispense with this miserable farrago, in which the false of superstition and the true of law are hopelessly jumbled. The present religious teaching of our week-day schools, is as we believe, as nearly as possible a sham, and a most mischievous sham, too."

MEDICINAL QUALITIES OF PUMPKINS.—At a recent discussion in the New York Farmer's Club, a correspondent writes of the virtues of the pumpkin: "I will give you a simple yet valuable cure for inflammatory rheumatism. A woman's arm was swollen to an enormous size and painfully inflamed. A poultice was made of stewed pumpkin, which was renewed every fifteen minutes, and in a short time produced a perfect cure. The fever drawn out by the poultices made them extremely offensive, as they were taken off. I have known a man cured of severe inflammation of the bowels by the same kind of application. I think such subjects as this proper for discussion in a farmer's club."

Dr. Snodgrass—I have no doubt pumpkins make a good poultice. Whatever holds warmth best is the most suitable.
Dr. Smith—In my travels in Syria I found pumpkin seeds almost universally eaten by the people on account of their medicinal qualities—not because they are diuretic, but as an antidote against animalcules which infest the bowels. They are sold in the streets as apples and nuts are here. It is a medicinal fact that persons have been cured of tape worms by the use of pumpkin seeds. The outer skin being removed, the meats are bruised in a mortar, into an oily paste mass. It is swallowed by the patient after fasting some hours, and it takes the place of chyle in the stomach, and the tape worm lets go his hold on the membrane and becomes gorged with this substance and in some measure probably torpid. Then a large dose of castor oil is administered, and the worms are ejected before they are able to renew their hold.

The Press says the Trustees of the Maine State Agricultural Society have decided to hold the State Fair in Portland, commencing Tuesday, September 29th, and to continue four days. The Cumberland County Agricultural Society will unite with the State Institution, and, thus combined, the Fair will be a neat affair.

The Oxford Democrat

PARIS, MAINE, MAY 29, 1868.

FOR PRESIDENT,
ULYSSES S. GRANT.

OF ILLINOIS.
FOR VICE-PRESIDENT,
SCHUYLER COLFAX,
OF INDIANA.

THE CAMPAIGN OPENED!

Sharing in the general enthusiasm which pervades the country, at the result of the National Republican Convention, in placing in nomination, such a glorious, soul-inspiring ticket as

GRANT AND COLFAX.

We hoist their names to the mast-head with the utmost confidence that they will be triumphantly declared the choice of the people for the high offices to which they have been nominated.

They need no eulogizing, for they have both made their mark upon the most stirring times of our national history. We say to our Democratic opponents, match these men, if you can.

We also publish the platform of the party upon which they stand, and which we take pride in, and challenge investigation of its points. It is sound, every plank in it, and the only safe one to stand on. General Grant, after reading it carefully, endorsed it emphatically with the declaration, "That is good."

While GRANT is the representative of the patriotic, unconditional surrender spirit of the Union, which guaranteed the integrity of the country, COLFAX represents the Young America element which furnished the enthusiasm of the contest.

It is a ticket full of inspiration, to young and old.

"Rally round the flag, boys,
Rally once again."

Impeachment Settled.

As we expected, the vote on the 11th article was indicative of the final result. On the 20th inst., after some ineffectual attempts to adjourn the vote on the other articles to periods more or less remote, the 2d and 3d articles were acted on, with the same result—35 to 19.

The Court then adjourned sine die. Sec'y Stanton immediately resigned his office, upon the acquittal of the President.

The Republican National Convention.

We should be glad to give the proceedings, in full, of this enthusiastic Convention, but our space forbids. Gen. U. S. Grant was nominated by ballot, receiving every vote cast, 650 in all. The announcement was received with unbounded applause, music, waving of banners, &c.

On the first ballot for a candidate for Vice President, Wade led, Fenton came next, and Wilson and Colfax closely followed, while Hamlin received only 16 votes besides those of the Maine delegation. On the fourth ballot, Wade led, Colfax came second and Fenton third, while Hamlin fell off. On the fifth ballot Colfax had 224 votes, Wade 196, Fenton 137, and Wilson and Hamlin a smaller number. Before that vote was declared, however, the delegates from every State but New York and Ohio changed to Colfax, when it was announced that he was nominated, receiving 522 votes out of 650. The nomination was made unanimous amid applause.

The Platform of the Convention was reported before the ballot was taken, and is as follows:

The Republican Creed.

The National Republican Party of the United States, assembled in National Convention, in the city of Chicago, on the twentieth day of May, 1868, make the following declaration of principles:

1st. We congratulate the country on the assured success of the reconstruction policy of Congress, as embodied by the adoption by a majority of the States lately in rebellion, of constitutions securing equal civil and political rights to all. It is the duty of the government to sustain these institutions, and to prevent the people of such States from being retrograded to the state of anarchy.

2d. The guarantee by Congress of equal suffrage to all loyal men at the South was demanded by every consideration of public safety, of gratitude, and of justice, and must be maintained. The whole question of suffrage in the loyal States properly belongs to the people of those States.

3d. We denounce all forms of repudiation as a national crime. The national honor requires the payment of the public debt, in full, and on the basis of good faith, to all creditors at home and abroad, not only according to the letter, but to the spirit of the law under which it was contracted.

4th. It is due to the labor of the nation that taxation shall be equalized and reduced as rapidly as the national faith shall permit.

5th. The national debt, contracted as it has been for the preservation of the Union for all time to come, should be paid by the most economical and judicious means, and it is the duty of Congress to reduce the rate of interest thereon whenever it can be honestly done.

6th. The best policy to diminish our burden of debt, is to improve our credit, that capitalists will seek to loan us money at low rates of interest than we now pay, and must continue to pay as long as repudiation partial or total, open or covert, is threatened or suspected.

7th. The government of the United States should be administered with the strictest economy, and the appropriations which have been so shamefully misapplied and misused by Andrew Johnson, should be reduced to a radical reform.

8th. We profoundly deplore the untimely and tragic death of Abraham Lincoln, and the accession of Andrew Johnson to the presidency, who has acted treacherously to the people, who elected him and the cause he was pledged to support, who has usurped high legislative and judicial functions, who has refused to execute the laws, who has used his high office to inflict the heaviest penalties on the liberty and the life of the citizen, who has abused the pardoning power, who has denounced the national legislature as unconstitutional, who has perverted the public patronage into an engine of wholesale corruption, and who has justly been impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors, and properly pronounced guilty thereof by a vote of 36 yeas.

9th. The doctrines of Great Britain and other European powers, that because a man is once a subject he is always a subject, and that every law made by the United States as a relic of the feudal times now authorized by the law of nations and at war with our national honor and independence. Naturalized citizens are entitled to be protected in all their rights of citizenship as though they were native born, and no citizen of the United States, native or naturalized, must be liable to arrest and imprisonment by any foreign power for acts done or words spoken in this country, and if they are so arrested and imprisoned, it is the duty of the government to interfere in their behalf.

10th. Of all who were faithful in the trials of the late war there were none entitled to more special honor than the brave soldiers and seamen who endured the hardships of campaign and cruise and imperiled their lives in the service of the country. The bounties and pensions provided by the law for these brave defenders are obligations never to be forgotten; the widows and orphans of the gallant

dead are the wards of the people—a sacred legacy bequeathed to the nation's future care.
11th. Foreign emigrations, which in the past has added so much to the wealth, development and resources, and the increase of power to this nation, the action of the oppressor of all nations, should be fostered and encouraged by a liberal and just policy.

This convention declares itself in sympathy with all the oppressed people which are struggling for their rights.

[For the Oxford Democrat.]

Representative to Congress.

Will you allow me sufficient space in your columns to say: that at the next Congressional Convention for the Second District, the Republicans of Sagadahoc County will unanimously present the name of WASHINGTON GILBERT, Esq., of Bath, as a candidate for Congress.

Mr. Gilbert is a gentleman of culture, education and acknowledged ability. He was one of the pioneers in the Republican party—has always been unwavering—true to the cause and true to his friends. His moral standing is beyond even suspicion, and he has talents and fitness for the place equal, at least, to any of his competitors.

The Republicans of Sagadahoc have never before presented a candidate, and at the three last Congressional Conventions have given a solid vote for an Oxford County man, Hon. S. Perham, and we now claim that, as honorable men (which we believe them to be), the Republicans of Old Oxford reciprocate the favor. Brother Republicans of Old Oxford, an opportunity is now given you to be just to your Sagadahoc friends. Will you do it—or will you oppose those who have always been your best friends?

SAGADAHOC.

Oxford Congregational Conference.

We have been requested to publish the following assignment to places of entertainment, at the Conference to be held in Norway, June 24 and 25; Bethel Hill church, at S. O. Brown's; 2d church, Bethel, at Elder Barker's; Gorham ch. N. H., at Dr. C. E. Evans; Turner ch. at I. A. Denison's; Oxford ch. at A. A. Muzzey's; Samner ch. at Moses Ames's; Rumford ch. at E. A. Holmes's; Andover ch. at D. H. Young's. South Paris ch. at Robert Noves's; Dr. G. P. Jones's; and Mrs. E. P. Greenleaf's. Norway Center ch. at Mrs. W. W. Hobbs's; Mr. Oxnard's; S. Hathaway's.

Ministers not belonging to the conference are cordially invited to Dea T. G. Goodwins.

Persons attending the conference and not assigned to any particular place, will call on the committee for places of entertainment. Elder Barker, J. L. Howe, I. A. Denison, Committee.

[For the Democrat.]

Mr. Editor: "M." in the Democrat of the 15th says: "The spring term of the Norway Academy, under its able and competent Principal, C. D. Barrows, has been a success, notwithstanding opposition." Then says: "There will be a summer term, commencing Wednesday, May 20th."

As "M." has thus thrown down the glove he of course will not complain if it is picked up. After the defeat of Mr. Barrows at the spring election of our School Agent, those opposed to Mr. B. were willing to let the matter pass and sink into oblivion, but it seems that some of his friends are anxious to have the matter brought before the public.

Now let us look at the facts in the case that we may understand whether or not there is any reason for the opposition.

Last fall term, Mr. B. came from Fryeburg, and opened a school in Norway. He was represented as a superior teacher, and much effort was made, in his behalf to obtain a large school, the result of which was a number of scholars ranging from 100 to 125, if I recollect rightly. This great success was duly chronicled in the Democrat so as to give popularity to B. The spring term was advertised to commence at the proper time, and did commence as advertised, but instead of increased numbers as would be presumed from B's advertised popularity, the numbers had so fallen off that another such "success" would be worse than a "Waterloo defeat."

Of course there must have been some reason for such a falling off of numbers, and it may well become us to examine and see whether there are good and sufficient reasons therefor. To the minds of many there are strong reasons for not placing their children under Mr. B's charge.

It is a well known fact that our public schools are made up of all religious sects, and it is also well known that there is nothing about which people are more sensitive than their religious opinions; hence when one of a liberal faith sends his child to the public school, he will at once resent any attempts on the part of the teacher to proselyte his child to a different faith, and vice versa, the same being true of the so-called evangelicals. Now whether true or not it is very generally believed that Mr. B. has exerted himself quite too much in that direction; that he undertakes to explain the scriptures to his pupils, giving his own interpretation to doubtful passages, and otherwise using his influence to bring those placed under his charge (by too confiding parents) into the evangelical fold.

Had Mr. B. confined himself to his duties as a teacher, the school would, undoubtedly, have been as large or larger than last fall term. Such at any rate has been the experience heretofore with successful teachers, but when parents who profess a liberal faith desire to send their children to an evangelical school, they will be more likely to send them to one openly professing the doctrine, rather than to one thus covertly teaching the same doctrines.

As to the opposition mentioned in "M." article, Mr. B. will be pretty sure to meet with it, wherever he may be, while under the guise of teaching he takes to preaching.

If Mr. B. feels that he is called or chosen for a religious teacher, let him adopt the profession openly and no one will be disposed to find any fault with him, as that is a right which every one possesses, but whenever he offers himself as a public teacher, he will miserably fail so long as he pursues the course followed in the Norway Academy, where his descent has been most rapid, notwithstanding the efforts being made to have it appear a success.

Any one can see that the failure has been complete, by looking at the announcement in the Democrat: "The students will meet at 9 o'clock on that morning, (May 20th,) at the rooms of the Y. M. C. A. instead of at the Academy building." What a fall is there! The fact that the Norway Academy, or the students of the Norway Academy, are to meet in a seven by nine room barely capable of accommodating twenty to thirty, were it properly furnished, is of itself the strongest evidence of failure, whatever may be said of its success.

Then the announcement above stated (whether intentionally or not) seems to convey the impression that Mr. B. is still the Principal of the Norway Academy, yet such is not the fact. Mr. Ambrose has engaged, and will commence the summer term at the Academy building May 20th, with which Mr. B. has no connection whatever. This announcement conveys the impression to those understanding the position of affairs, that Mr. B. is endeavoring to obtain pupils under false pretenses.

Let it be understood, that Mr. Ambrose is the principal of the Norway Academy, and that Mr. B. has no connection therewith. If Mr. B. wishes to open a private school here let him do it under his true colors, and no one will make any objection.

Gleanings by the Way.

MASON, MAY 25, 1868.

Were the weather our theme, we should say it is decidedly wet. The earth is most thoroughly saturated, so much so that farming operations of most all kinds are necessarily suspended. The amount of rain that has fallen is far greater than has fallen in the space of time, and at this season, for many years. It has made full amends for the drought of last year and winter, and the same people who two weeks ago were clamoring so loudly for rain, are now ready to say, we wish it would dry up. There has as yet been no great freshet, but our streams have been swartly swollen, making it one of the best springs for running logs or river driving, for many years.

The logs put into Pleasant river by A. A. Grover & Co., last year, and which have, during most of the time, remained near where they were put in, came down with a rush, filling their boom with a fine lot of hemlock, and spruce, giving Mr. Grover a full supply of lumber for the present season. The timber coming down so suddenly, severely tried the boom, but it remained firm; yet a few logs escaped, by passing under it. The loss by this may be reckoned from five to ten thousand feet of lumber—a greater portion of which will be recovered on the intervals below.

Mr. Grover has got a good Mill, and it is doing a fine business the present season. J. H. Watson has repaired his shingle machinery. He employed Mr. A. Turner, a Mill Wright from Hebron, to put him in a new center vent wheel, which gives him an abundance of motive power. He can now, with a Perry machine, cut out one thousand shingles in an hour, which is pretty smart for old fashioned machinery.

A. C. Bean of New York, who has purchased the privilege formerly owned by the late Dr. Mason, has taken out his grist mill, and is putting in, in addition to his shingle machine, new and improved machinery for the manufacture of broom handle, from poplar and spruce. When he gets in operation, I trust the gentlemanly proprietor will give your readers a description of his machinery and its workings.

A. C. Paine is making preparations to build a fine barn the coming summer. His plans and specifications are first rate—it will make a great addition to his farm.

Artemus Mason, one of our most industrious farmers, who has been laid up most of the time for the past year, with a lame foot and leg, has so far recovered as to be able to attend to his farm work himself.

Asa Bennett has purchased the Symond's place, and intends removing the building.

D. A. Coffin has moved on to the Cole farm, and is turning much of the land up side down.

Nathan G. Mills sold, a few weeks since, a pair of three years old steers, raised by himself from calves, which for beauty of form and color, can not well be beaten, for \$200. The reason he did not get more, was because he was too modest to ask it.

Mason is a small place among the mountains, with but few inhabitants, but the way our farmers have gone into the Hop business, is strong presumptive evidence it is bound to rise, impeachment or no impeachment. There are but three or four farms in town without a hop field.—New York and Wisconsin roots are well represented. The general appearance of the New York roots, on their arrival, gave much dissatisfaction to parties purchasing them, but no blame attaches to the agent, as they have done and are doing everything in their power to make all right. If there is really any wrong anywhere, it must attach to the parties putting them up, and forwarding them from New York.

The spring is advancing—grass and early sown grain are looking beautifully. The leaves on our forest trees are putting out very fast. The Sugar Plum and Pomegranate are in bloom, and in a few days the wild cherry will be fleecy white.

When we look out upon the vegetable

world to-day, all arrayed in its spring-time glory, and compare it with what it seemed but a few weeks since, how strongly are we reminded of that great and cheering truth, that much to us which seems dead "only sleepeth."

G. H. B.

Oxford Items.

The Robinson Manufacturing Company are about commencing to rebuild their large Factory building, which was burned in December, 1866. More than half of the old walls are still standing, and the former building was so substantially constructed, that most of them are as solid and firm as when originally put up. Both towers are still standing, the front one as good as ever, while the rear one will want but little repairing. The burning of the old mill was a great loss to the village and town, and its rebuilding will give a new business start to the village.

The Oxford Village Corporation held its annual meeting the first Monday in this month, and elected John J. Perry chief Engineer, and Joseph French, and Seth H. Faunce, assistant Engineers. The old Fire Company has been disbanded and a new one organized, and George J. Parrott chosen Captain.

Two new Milliners and Dress maker's shops have recently been opened in the village, one by Mrs. Geo. E. Hawkes, and the other by Mrs. Rice.

A new Harness maker's Shop has also been recently started in the village, by two enterprising young men, Hutchins & Willey, who are doing a good business.

At Welchville Village, the Methodist Church Society, are building a fine Chapel, which building is very much needed by that community. Mr. Tracey is building a new Store, and we learn, that Mr. B. F. King also intends to erect the present season, a large and elegant building to be used for a store and other purposes. We further learn that several dwelling Houses are to be built in this place the ensuing summer.

The Woolen Mill in this village, under the superintendence of its enterprising proprietor, John Harper Esq., is doing a prosperous business.

Welchville Village contains a good share of enterprising citizens, who are determined to make it in the future a smart business place. Every thing just now is at high tide, a perfect flood, and farmers, with the prospect before them, are obliged to comfort themselves, by falling back upon the old Bible promise of "seed time and harvest." Upon that, more than upon present appearances, do they rely, for coming crops.

Waterford Items.

The people of this town seem disposed to furnish their children with comfortable and convenient School houses, in which to obtain the elements of education.

Eight of our school houses are new, or have been built within a few years; two were built last year; two are to be built this summer, and one or two more districts need to build new houses; one of those to be built this season is at the Lower Village or City District.

The Universalist Church at this place has become the property of four individuals, who have had the pews and other fixtures taken out and are having it fitted up for a public Hall. There is to be an addition put on for ante-rooms &c. The building is to be raised up and a basement story built under by the school district, to be finished for a large school room, entry wood room, and recitation room. They intend to have a very commodious and convenient school and fixtures. The society formerly owning the Church retain the right to hold meetings occasionally in the Hall.

There have been some symptoms of the hop fever in this town; though it has not yet spread very much. A few acres of hops will be planted this spring, and a few fields have been planted heretofore. There may be danger that this business will be "run into the ground." If all raise hops, where will the bread come from?

Some of our farmers intend to plant sweet corn this season. It promises to be a remunerating crop, under favorable circumstances. Mr. Benj. Tucker, Jr. intends to plant 8 to 10 acres; several others one to four acres each.

The crop is delivered in the ear, before it is husked, at the factory in Bridgton Center; where quite a large business is done in putting up sweet corn, peas and berries in tin cans, holding about a pint each, or a little more, which are exported in large quantities from that and other places in this state.

Fryeburg Items.

Rain! Rain! Rain! Such is the greeting on every hand. Almost incessantly for twelve days it has continued to drench mother earth, until bogs, meadows and every low place, and a good many high ones, are overflowed with water. The Saco has not been so high for many years, excepting the terrible fall freshet we had four years ago. Considerable damage will be done to the crops of grain that were early sown, many fields being under water, and will remain so until the seed is killed. I know of acres of potatoes that will undoubtedly be rotted by the same cause. The intervals upon Cold river, Stow, are quite badly washed, the waters of the Saco being muddy with its rich soil. Grass never looked better, and farmers try to look cheerful, and hope to be able to get their seed in, in season to get good crops.

One of Mr. Seymour A. Farrington's hens presented him with an egg last week, measuring six by eight inches. She claims no relationship with the Brahma, Black Spanish or any other fancy breed. All she asks is to have a fair chance for herself and kindred.

Bethel Items.

May, this season has nobly kept up its reputation for fickleness, and we shall never prophecy balmy weather again. Even now, while we write, this twenty-first day of May, a quart north east rain storm is going on, or rather coming down. There has not been more than three or four hours of sun shine, for over a week past. These late editions of spring are somewhat putting back the farmers in regard to their planting; as yet there has been but little done.

Most of the intervals, farms are now under water, and many farmers will not be able to do their planting much before the first of June. Some unbelieving tongues dare hint at the possibility of a dry season, but we look upon them pityingly and regard them as laboring under a delusion which time only can cure.

What can be more delightful than the fields, now that the lingering spring is almost gone, and summer is about to take her place. The grass is luxuriant, and the violet and dandelions will soon unfold their golden blossoms. The trees are now putting forth their green foliage, and the morning and evening clouds seem to vie with the plains below in producing exquisite scenes for the eye of the artist.

It is yearning times with the flocks and herds, and the boys and girls are rejoicing over the calves and lambs that so suddenly and mysteriously make their appearance in the fields and pastures.

Potatoes started at fifty cents last fall, crept steadily on, till they reached one dollar—Corn goes up and down from one dollar and fifty cents, and wool hovers around forty-five cents, but farmers are looking for fifty cents after shearing. There will be more potatoes planted this spring than usual, for it is with potatoes as with everything else, when they bring a high price everybody goes into it with a will. There will be some three hundred acres of hops planted this spring in this town.

Mr. Galen Holt, who sold out his store last fall to Cole & Estes, on Maine St. and purchased the Goddard stand, has built a new store near his house, and filled it up with dry goods. Mayville is a thriving little village, situated on the west side of the river; it has one store and one church. Rev. David Garland has been their Pastor for some twenty years, and we know that his untiring services are highly appreciated.

We understand Dr. N. T. True is now giving a course of lectures on Geology before the Female College, at Kents Hill. The Dr. meets with good success wherever he goes.

We have just received a letter from one of the students at that place. He says the school never was in a more flourishing condition than at the present.

We hope the weather will be more favorable in a few days for farming operations, as there is much land too wet to work. Some one says that corn will ripen if planted on the first day of June, and potatoes will turn out a good crop planted the middle of the month. Grass is getting a fine set, and the cool weather is favorable for fruit.

Dixfield.

The Universalists of Dixfield Village and vicinity, have secured the services of Rev. Mr. Chaffee of Bridgewater, Mass. for the ensuing year. He has made arrangements to settle his family in Dixfield village, and will remain there as long as he may be employed. He is a man of fine culture of mind, and his efforts to do good are appreciated highly, by all who have heard him.

H. N. Robinson, the well known and successful Photographic Artist, has finished and furnished rooms, with modern improvements, over S. E. Griffith's harness store and shop, where he is ready to execute all kinds of work in his line, in a finished style on the most reasonable terms.

In the last number of this paper, we noticed an article from Mexico, one section of which was headed, "An Explanation" under which Dixfield Village is represented "as possibly having been heard of" and as a collection of houses, "magnifying men" etc. Who does not know that a village is a collection of buildings, with inhabitants of various trades and professions, unless it is some whose "sciences" is limited outside of the rudimentary school geography. Who is the first to cry magnify, but he who always is ready to be magnified? Dixfield Village is no less a New York City, than when our Mexico friend resided there. The citizens of Dixfield village are a working class of people, all, lawyers, doctors, ministers, and merchants, and it is a quiet, prosperous village, Mexico Corner, too, is a thriving little village, and our friend there with other young men are giving an impetus to the place.

Another section of the same article is headed, "The Beautiful," referring to the wild condition of the Androscoggin river, the wild, terrific and sublime rush of waters at Rumford Falls, with the leaping, rolling and pitching of timber over them, all making a sublime picture, and all this our friend calls beautiful. His error can best be illustrated by reference to a young lady, when she had presented her a picture of Niagara Falls, exclaiming, "oh! how beautiful," and exclaimed on looking at a picture of a beautiful placid lake, "oh! how sublime!"

May 25, 1868.

A. Citizen.

Canton Items.

When the mail arrived which bore the news of the result of the Impeachment trial the liberty pole which has stood unwavering for years in the center of our village, yielded to the force of the wind, and leaned over several degrees, in an angle of humility at the announcement of the disgrace of those colors which had so long and gracefully

floated at its summit. Some patriotic citizens, not wishing to see its further decline, braced it into position by means of a stick of hard wood timber, about fifteen feet long, in such a manner as to represent an inclined plane, elevated some ten feet. On Saturday night, the boys of the village discovered an amusements in running up this plane in the feat of clapping the mast, and returning by the same path or slipping down to the foot of the pole. A son of Mr. James B. Russell, a lad some twelve years old, in attempting to perform this feat, made a misstep at the highest point, and grasping the timber to save a fall, he jarred it from its position, and both fell together, the boy striking the back of his head upon the ground, and the timber falling upon his face and crushing his nose, sadly disfigured it. He was taken home senseless, his wounds dressed by Dr. J. A. Coolidge, and he is now doing well.

Mr. Cyrus Gammon has enlarged his shoe manufactory, and designs to enlarge his business proportionately.

Considerable is said here about making an effort to build a Rail Road from Lewiston, through Turner and Livermore, to Canton, and perhaps to Rumford Falls, when the P. & O. C. road is abandoned. Much interest is felt in the matter, as the resources of this part of the valley of the Androscoggin cannot be shut out from civilization for the want of a Railroad, without some clamor and a good deal of work being done, though the unfertilized whistle over the prospective loss of what they now have, in humble imitation of that august body who did not impeach the President.

East Rumford.

NARROW ESCAPE. As Mr. C. T. Wheeler and Wilson Thomas were riding the other night, by Emery Abbott's, Mr. Wheeler's horse took fright, running into a hole. Mr. Wheeler's foot slipped, as he attempted to get out, and was caught in the forward wheel, dragging him several rods. We think that road must be fixed.

Mr. Hiram Swain has a cow which had two calves on Monday night.

Hartford Items.

MR. EDITOR: Since my communication of May 4th, the pastures and fields have exchanged their robe of gray for one of a most beautiful visible green, assuring the farmer that the veto upon his work, by the copious rains, only makes him the brighter shine.

The Nesinsett Lodge of I. O. of G. T. have been notified that they must leave their beautiful Hall at Buckfield Village for the orbit of the Evening Star Lodge of Free Masons, whose light will be highly appreciated by them, if it does not eclipse their cause for temperance.

C. Henry Bicknell of Hartford, owns a horse that is 29 years old this spring. It is smart enough to go to Lewiston to market. For her good deeds, she has the promise to die on the old homestead, instead of falling into the hands of a jockey.

A farmer in Buckfield, by the name of Taylor, drove into Hartford on the 10th inst eleven sheep to pasture, which had been sheared this spring. Result, within 4 days the flock was reduced to five. No sane farmer will ask the cause of their death.

Having noticed the following in an Italian paper, I would ask if any of your readers ever knew a quicker piece of telegraphing. A despatch was sent by the editor of the London Times on Monday, the 9th of March, at 5 o'clock P. M. to New York, to know the accuracy of the impeachment of Johnson. The following was received at 11 o'clock, the same night—"Trial will go on next week—Party united." Only six hours going six thousand miles, including delivery of message and writing reply. Who would not patronize a newspaper at this day?

The early and numerous flight of the June Bugs, calls to mind a law in France, when one dollar per lb. is paid for them. If our Agricultural Societies would offer a premium for the greatest destruction of these bugs, the farmers would not suffer so much by the ravages of the white worm. A brush fire in the evening will destroy hundreds.

A son of Luther Whiting of Hartford, ten years of age, being afflicted by one of his eye balls not moving naturally in its orbit, was carried to Brunswick by his father last week, where the cause was soon skillfully removed, without pain, to the great joy of parents and others.

The communication of S. R. N. of May 11th, is in time and to the purpose. It brings to mind this great truth, that there are hundreds who were reared in Old Oxford, and now dwell in other places, who have near and dear friends dwelling among their dear native hills and dales, that have ample means to furnish them with the weekly doings of their dearly loved country, and would if they knew how much such a gift would be prized. A lady at East Buckfield, lately returned from Kingston, Minn., informed me that when the Oxford Democrat arrived, its contents were devoured with a zest, because they spoke of "Home, Sweet Home." Reader, can you not make glad an absent one?

The friends of Sabbath Schools of different religious sects, have organized a school at the Line school house, Hartford, which meets every Sabbath at 5 o'clock P. M. Dea. Cyrus Ricker Sup. (Charles H. Berry, Assistant.

HARTFORD.

Campaign Subscribers have come in so rapidly this week, since we worked the outside of the edition, that we fear we shall be unable to supply all. We are averaging over a hundred a week. We shall make good the Nos. to all, for six months, from the time of commencement.

OXFORD: A. C. 22

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