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PORTLAND DAILY AND WEEKLY "COMMERCIAL," FOR 1869.

THE DAILY COMMERCIAL (\$5 A YEAR), is published every evening, Sundays excepted, and contains 20 columns; a fair share of which is devoted to Editorials, Miscellaneous News, Politics, Correspondence, and a carefully prepared summary of telegraphic news.

In politics, the "Commercial" is most emphatically Democratic. There will never be any question as to the character of our Democracy. We mean to labor for the return and re-establishment of constitutional law. We shall strive to instill in the minds of the people the truth—that the Constitution as it was before the commencement of the late civil war, far exceeded in wisdom and adaptation to the happiness of a free people any instrument of the same kind that has since been devised.

Our motto is: We support the Constitution with all its guarantees—all its requirements—with all the rights, privileges and institutions which existed under it. Not one of these institutions but what were essential to a republican Government. On no other plan than that marked out by our fathers can the Government be maintained in its purity. Our motto is: The "Old Union" and the "Old Constitution."

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POETRY.

AFTER THE BATTLE. BY MR. JOHN L. FLAGG.

A waste of land, a sodden plain, A lurid sunset sky, Mid clouds that fell and faded fast In ghastly phantoms;

The dying and the dead lie low; For them no more shall rise The evening moon, the midnight stars, Nor daylight's soft surprise.

Two soldiers lying as they fell Upon the reddened clay, In daytime gloom, at night at peace, Breathing their lives away.

Among New Hampshire's many hills There pray for me to-night A woman and a little girl, With hair like golden light;

And as the thought broke forth at last The god of anguish wail, That would not long be suppressed—"O God! my wife—my child!"

And, across the Georgia plain, There watch and wait for me loved ones I'll never see again.

The dying lips the pardon breathe, The dying hands entwine; The last ray dies, and over all The stars from heaven shine;

And the little girl with golden hair, The one with dark eyes bright, On Hampshire's hill and Georgia's plain, Were fatherless that night.

A SETTLED POLICY OF THE FARM.

The whole secret of the successful farmer often lies in his having a fixed plan of operations. Multitudes have no plan but to meet their immediate necessities and make money by the easiest and seemingly shortest methods.

The "settled" method is to plant early, to have ready for firing by as simple and rapid a motion as the turning of a crank. They are fired by another slight motion, which drives twelve needles, inserted in the breech for the purpose, into the fulminate with which the cartridges are prepared.

These facts, with many others, showing the drift of Republican party sentiment at that time, are susceptible of the clearest proof. Long before these occurrences Senator Wade, President Lincoln and many others had either directly or indirectly, admitted the right of the South to withdraw from the Union, without coercion, if she chose.

But in the twinkling of an eye all this was altered. The administration and the Radical party resolved on coercion and war, and from that day to this they have been assiduous in persecuting every one who did not change as soon as they did, and keep step to the different kind of tune which was chosen for the entertainment of the dancers.

There are thousands—yours, and hundreds of thousands—who are not aware of these facts, and when in due time they are informed of them, it will break many popular idols to which they had formerly bowed in adoration. The fact that they were for punishing all those whom they had inculcated themselves with the expediency, if not the right, of recognizing secession, does not speak in their favor, and to the end of time will show them to be as uncharitable as they were unjust and unchristianlike.

After having brought the anti-coercion sentiment into existence, they endeavored to destroy it by arbitrary violence and to suppress it by confining its advocates in dungeons and fortresses. Cincinnati Enquirer.

BUTTER FROM FIVE COWS. Ephraim Penrose of Berks county, Pa. sold from five cows 1,131.2 pounds of butter in one year, commencing the 1st of May, 1867, when they were first put to pasture.

They were native cattle including no striking marks of any particular breed, but of medium size and well built. One week's trial gave 11 1/2, 11 1/4, 10 1/4, and two 8 pounds each, the one giving 11 1/4 had her first calf, and the two giving 8 pounds had been milked about three months before the trial. The family, always consisting of six persons, and sometimes more, used freely of milk, cream and butter from the same cows. The butter used, they think, was not less than four pounds a week, making the yield from each cow about 266 pounds.

Their food consisted of meadow grass, clover and timothy, and they always had access to running water. During the winter they had as much clover and timothy hay as they would eat, and about 2 1/2 quarts of beans twice a day. They also had pumpkins the early part of winter. The stable was warm, cleaned daily and well littered with straw. The cows were carded, carried or brushed all the year.

The above is not given because of the extraordinary yield, but is proportionally more than is obtained in large dairies under much stronger feeding, at least in concentrated food. The care taken in cleanliness was doubtless of much benefit. It is a common saying that with five cows currying is half the feed; why then will not the same care taken with cattle be equally beneficial?—Practical Farmer.

If brooks are, as poets call them, the most joyous thing in nature, what are they always murmuring about? It costs the United States nearly four thousand dollars to educate every candidate that graduates at West Point.

MISOGENATION.—The House of Representatives of the Alabama Legislature has passed a bill repealing all laws prohibiting marriages between the blacks and whites.

Two Montreal ladies rescued a skater from drowning, recently by tying their cloaks together and hauling him out, while the frightened men of the party were running ashore for help.

A Virginia farmer says that with sheep and clover he can make any land productive unless it has the barrenness of the sands of Sahara.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE WAR.

It seems to be pretty well established that President Lincoln, before the assault on Fort Sumter, was willing to recognize the independence of the Southern Confederacy, and that he had taken active steps to that end.

The late developments about his proclamation to South Carolina, announcing that purpose, only confirm his known previous official acts. He received unofficially the Commissioners from the Southern Confederacy for weeks. For more than a month after he was inaugurated he did nothing to recover the forts and other Government property in the South.

He was evidently unwashed in Washington in February, 1861, declaring that "nobody had been hurt thus far," and suggesting that probably nobody would be hurt in the future by the South-secession. Mr. Seward, his Secretary of State, was declaring that it was but a "sixty days' business, and that by that time all would be settled." That also looked to a peaceful accommodation, which would recognize secession as an accomplished fact.

It was the meeting of Northern Republican Governors in the latter part of March and early in April, 1861, which changed the policy of the administration from peace to war—from a recognition to the denial of the recognition of the Southern Confederacy. The argument was used privately by the Governors that a dismemberment of the Union would destroy the Republican party. Before this meeting of the Governors the Federal Government had resolved on evacuating Forts Pickens and Sumter, the only important fortresses in the South over which the Federal flag then floated. General Scott called every day for some time to get his definite orders to that purpose, but with the hope, like "Micawber," that "something would turn up," they were delayed by the authorities.

The Cincinnati Gazette considered it a wise measure to evacuate the forts. The Southern Independence. The New York Tribune, edited by Mr. Greeley, had strongly advocated it, and defended it upon the principles of 1776. The Indianapolis Journal, the Columbus Journal, the Chicago Tribune, the Albany (N. Y.) Journal, and many other Republican papers had protested against any attempt to cede the South. Chief Justice Chase was advocating this policy in the Cabinet of Mr. Lincoln. The Republican majority in Congress, after the South had seceded, refused to pass any law increasing the army and navy for coercion purposes. These facts, with many others, showing the drift of Republican party sentiment at that time, are susceptible of the clearest proof.

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A CRACK IN A HOG TROUGH.

The following from a recent number of the Prairie Farmer is almost equal to Franklin's story of the whistle:

A few days ago a friend sent me word that every day he gave nearly twenty pairs of buttermilk to a lot of hogs, and they scarcely improved at all. Thinks I, this is a breed of hogs worth seeing. They must be of the sheet iron kind. So I called on him, heard him repeat the mournful story, and then visited the sty, in order to get a better view of the marvellous swine. I went into the pen, and on close examination found a crack in the trough through which most of the contents ran away under the floor.

Thinks I, here is the type of the failures of our agricultural brethren. When I see a farmer omitting all improvement because of a little omelet, selling all his farm stock, to buy bank or railroad stock or mortgage stock, robbing his land, while, in reality he is also robbing himself, and his heir, thinks I, my friend, you have a crack in your hog trough.

When I see a farmer subscribing for a half dozen political and miscellaneous papers, and spending all his time in reading them, while he doesn't read a single agricultural or horticultural journal, thinks I, to myself, poor man, you have got a large and wide crack in your hog trough.

When I see a farmer attending all the political conventions, and knowing every man in town who votes his ticket, and yet, to save his neck, couldn't tell who is President of his County Agricultural Society, or where the Fair was held last year, I "unanimously" come to the conclusion that the poor soul has got a crack in his hog trough.

When I see a farmer buying guano, but wasting ashes and lion manure, trying all sorts of experiments except intelligent hard work and economy, getting the choicest of seeds regardless of cost, then planting them regardless of cultivation, growing the variety of fruit called Sour Tart Seedling, and sweetening it with sugar, pound for pound, keeping the front fields rich while the back lots are growing up with thistles, briars and elders, contributing to the Choctaw Indian fund and never giving a cent to any agricultural society; such a man, I will give a written guarantee, has got a crack in his hog trough, and in his head also.

When I see a farmer allowing loose boards all over his yard, fences down, hinges off the gate, manure in the barnyard, I come to the conclusion that he has got a large crack in his hog trough.

When I see a farmer spending his time traveling in a carriage, when he has to sell all his corn to pay the hired help, and his hogs are so lean that they have to lean against the fence to squeal, I rather lean to the conclusion that somebody that stays at home will have a lion on the farm, and that some day the bottom will come entirely out of his hog trough.

THE DOG.—We take the following from Mr. Blaze's History of the Dog: "The Dog possesses, incontestably, all the qualities of a sensible man; and I grieve to say, man has not in general the noble qualities of the dog. We make a virtue of gratitude, which is nothing but a duty; this virtue, this duty, are inherent in the dog. We brand ingratitude, and yet all men are ungrateful. It is a vice which commences in the cradle, and grows with our growth; together with selfishness, becomes almost always the grand mover of human actions. The dog knows the word virtue; that which we dignify by this title, and admire as a rare thing—and very rare it is, in truth—constitutes his normal state. Where will you find a man always grateful, never selfish, pushing abnegation of self to the utmost limits of possibility; without grand devotion even to death; without ambition rendering swayed in short, forgetful of injures and mindful only of benefits received? Seek him not, it would be a useless task; but take the first dog you meet, and from the first moment he adopts you as his master, you will find in him all these qualities. He will love you without calculation entering into his affection. His greatest happiness will be to be near you; and should you be reduced to your bread, not only will he aid you in this difficult trade, but he would not abandon you to follow even a king into his palace. Your friends will quit you in misfortune; your wife perhaps will forget her plighted troth; but your dog will remain always near you; or if you depart before him on the great voyage, he will accompany you to your last abode."

MIXED RACES.—The principle is laid down by many scientific men that crosses between distinct species prove inferior, and either are infertile, or in the familiar cases of the mule, or degenerate and disappear in a limited number of generations; while, in the case of mere varieties, the crossing produces a progeny vitally superior to either progenitor. It will be readily seen what would be the bearing of such a law on the question of the unity of the human race. If the races of men are separate species, mongrel races ought to degenerate; while they ought to be hardy and potent if of a single species. Agassiz, in his Journey in Brazil, strongly asserts that the numerous mongrel races, are far inferior in intelligence and moral qualities to the pure races. The same is asserted by Darwin, who quotes Humboldt to the same effect. Dr. Livingston quotes a common saying in Africa, that "God made white men and negroes, but the Devil made half-casts."—Independent.

A RICH joke is told on the radicals of Salem, Ind., which is said to have occurred during the late campaign. An extra train, loaded with jackasses, was transported over the Louisville & New Albany Railroad. The telegraphic operator at Salem, a boy, getting wind of it, set a rumor afloat that a large delegation of radicals would pass through at a certain hour. Rumor impressing as it flew, said that many eminent speakers were aboard, and that bands of music accompanied the expedition. Immense crowds of enthusiastic Grant men repaired to the depot, but in vain, ready for the expected cheer. When the train thundered in and the fabulous cars stuck his head out of a stock car, and gave vent to a long, agonizing hee-haw that fairly shook the hills around, consternation seized the crowd, and in two minutes not a radical was to be seen near the depot.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

PER YEAR; One Column, \$100; Half Column, \$50; Quarter Column, \$25. Transient Advertisements per Square often lines or less, first insertion, \$3; each subsequent insertion, \$1.

A square is one inch in space down the column, counting cuts, display lines, blacks, &c., as solid matter. No advertisement to be considered less than a square, and all fractions counted a full square. All advertisements inserted for a less period than three months to be regarded as transient.

ROAD LAWS AND MANNERS.

It is commonly said that every one has a right to half the road. This is practically true, and comes about in this wise. You and I meet upon the road—our legal rights are exactly equal, and both have a right to go several ways without obstruction; so, popularly we say I own half and you half. This law steps in to facilitate matters and directs each to turn towards his right hand. This is true whatever the load or the team; for if one can drive such a team that another can pass him but with difficulty, if at all, their rights are no longer equal. This point becomes very important in winter, for it is no joke to turn your horse and all into the deep snow, while your neighbor goes smoothly along in the beaten path. No one has a right so to load his team as not to be able to give up half the track to whoever demands it.

A footman may choose the part which pleases him or any portion of his right hand half of the way, and the team must yield it to him. This is clearly so in winter, and no man is obliged to go in the snow for one or two horses. This is law, and the court awards it.

The first requirement of the road manners is good nature, and an accommodating spirit. Do to others as you would have them do to you. Always be willing to yield more than half the space; then you will be pretty sure to be equally well treated. They who exact inches will have inches exacted of them. If your neighbor has a heavy load, consult his convenience as far as possible; you may sometimes be loaded. It has become a practical rule of courtesy to turn for heavy teams, especially in winter, and when the roads are heavy. But remember it was a favor, not your right, and you have a reciprocal duty to perform, and one which, I am sorry to observe, is not always borne in mind.

When a team comes up behind you, that team has a right to a reasonable space and opportunity to pass on—in fact, to half the road for that purpose—and your obstructing him in his lawful desire is your fault, and not his. If you have a load in heavy, do the best you can. In most cases the very least that can be asked is that you should stop. This is particularly so in the winter, when it is a heavy tax on the team to force it into a trot or deep snow, or deep mud, or frozen or ruts—made necessary by your continuing to move on.—Northwestern Presbyterian.

JOSH BILLINGS PAPERS.

THE GOOSE. The goose is a grass animal, but don't chaw her cud. They are good liver; about one akor to a goose is cauff, altho' there is sum folks who think that one goose turn 175 akers is nearer rite.

These two kalkulations are so far apart that it is difficult tew tell now what will finally win. But I don't think if I had a farm of 175 akers, awl paid for, that I would sell it for half what it is worth, just because I didn't have any goose upon it. I Geese stay well; some out best biographers say seventy years, and grow tuff to the last.

They lay one egg at a