The Democrat.

FRIDAY.....NOVEMBER 4, 1870.

SELF-MADE MEN OF OLDEN TIMES.

BY THE "FAT CONTRIBUTOR."

The self-made men of the day being monopolized by the *Enquirer*, we are compelled to turn our attention to the self-made men of olden times. We begin with

ROBIN HOOD.

Robin Hood was one of the self-made men of England, who followed the profession of an outlaw during the reign of Richard Cœur de Lion.—Richard often tried to capture Hood, and thereby stop his Robin. He desired to reform him by cutting off his head, for in those weak, effeminate days, that is the way they used to serve robbers. Now they give them great grants of land and elect them presidents of big corporations. Hood refused to be cured of his outlawry.—He said Richard might Cœur de Lion but he couldn't cure *him*. Richard sometimes professed to wink at his robberies, so as to beguile him into his clutches, but Hood said with a wink that he could not hood wink him. His headquarters were in Sherwood forest, but his hindquarters, like Gen. Pope's, were in the saddle.

He is said to have been a man of good birth, but losing heavily in speculations in Western lands, and squandering what there was left, in a praiseworthy, though fruitless endeavor to "keno," he took to the woods, making his first appearance in the play of the "Robbers."

It may be related to his credit that just previous to taking this step he was urged to run for Congress in his district on the Reform ticket, but refused.

"No," said this noble man, sternly, "if I am to be a thief, I will be one open and above board."

The politicians who were urging him pressed the matter no further when they heard such sentiments.—They saw he wouldn't do.

Robin pursued a system in his robberies for which he may have been overpraised. He only robbed the rich; the poor, who hadn't anything he didn't rob. He has been known to rob a rich man and then turn round and give it to a poor man—give it to him over the head for not having anything.

He was particularly gallant to women always promising to return any little sums circumstances compelled them to lend him. His *carte de visit* (he sold them at a handsome profit) was in great demand among the ladies of that period. Ballads relating his adventures were sold at every corner and sung at all the variety shows.

His death was peculiar. Being attacked by illness, it occurred to him that he had better be bled. Having devoted many years to bleeding others, he thought it would do him good to get bled himself. He went to a convent for that purpose, as the doctors had all moved out of his neighborhood on account of its being unhealthy, and the nuns thinking to "give him a rest" (he was eighty-six years old) from his laborious life of robbing the rich and "giving it to the poor," let him bleed to death. His last words were, "Hood'a thought it?"

Robin Hood had numerous descendants. The numerous brother Hoods, whose name is legion, were distantly connected. Then there was little Red Riding Hood, another of the Hood family. Mistaking a wolf for her grandmother, on account of some resemblance in ears, eyes, &c., she was devoured over Robin Hood's barn, producing great excitement in her neighborhood at that time.

Robin has been quite a favorite name since his day. There are Auld Robin Grey, Robin Peter-to-pay-Paul, Robin Redbreast, and Robin Hen Roosts.—*Cin. Times.*

A BRIDAL GIFT.—A gentleman, not long since, gave his daughter, on her marriage, the following "words of wisdom," which will do for every pair:

Never talk but to each other.

Never both manifest anger at the same time.

Never speak loudly or boisterously to each other.

Never reproach each other in the presence of others.

Never find fault or fret about what cannot be helped.

Never repeat an order or request, when understood.

Neglect everybody else rather than each other.

Never make a remark at the other's expense.

SOME experienced philosopher says that if you kill a mosquito while engaged in drawing blood from you, the poison remains in the wound, while if you let him slide until he gets a cargo of blood and retires, you will suffer no inconvenience. That may be all right in theory, but the practice of mashing them on the spot is what does one's soul good.—*Portland Advertiser.*

IN Austria, according to the Imperial Patent of 1664, women as well as men vote in the class of landed proprietors, and in Sweden women also take part in the elections. In Russia where every household is entitled to send a communal voter, women are often sent to vote as representatives of the family.

THE Hamburg *Gazette* says, speaking of the influenza, or *grippe*, in Hanover, "The disorder is, however, of short duration, being over in two days, especially when the patients remain quietly in their chambers, without any medical advice."

AN Irish gentleman parting with a lazy servant woman, was asked with respect to her industry, whether she is what is termed called afraid of work; "Oh, not at all!" said he, "not at all; she'll frequently lie down and fall asleep by the very side of it."

It took only three days married life to kill an Indiana bridegroom. Not time enough for even a divorce.