

## LAFAYETTE COURIER.

Americans,

Sterling draws the following picture, which, with all its exaggeration, contains many traits of truth:—“Some say the Americans have no physiognomy; a great mistake, I think. To me their physiognomy seems most strongly marked, bearing deep impress of that intensity which is the essence of their being. The features even of the young are furrowed with lines of anxious thought and a determined will. You read upon the nation's brow the extent of its enterprise and the intensity of its desires. Every American looks as if his eyes were glaring into the far West and the far future. Nay, his mental physiognomy is determined by the earnestness of purpose. The American never plays, not even the American child. He cares nothing for those games and sports which are the delight of the Englishman. He is indifferent to the play either of the mind or muscle. Labor is his element, and his only relaxation from hard work is fierce excitement. Neither does he laugh. The Americans, I imagine, are the most serious people in the world. There is no play even in their fancy. French wit is the sparkle of the diamond that dazzles a saloon; the American imagination flashes its sheet lightning over half the world. The same terrible earnestness is, I am persuaded, at the bottom of that ill-health which is so serious a curse to American life. No doubt other things contribute—climate, stimulus, sedentary occupations, and so forth; but the deepest-rooted cause of American disease is that overworking of the brain, and over-excitement of the nervous system, which are the necessary consequences of their immense activity. Hence nervous dyspepsia, with consumption, insanity, and all its brood of fell disorders in its train. In a word, the American works himself to death.”

GRANT'S TURNOUT.—A Washington Correspondent of the Chicago Times says: “The President's new team, composed of four handsome bays, with gold trimmed harness, made its second appearance on the avenue this afternoon. Very wide and very white reins controlled them, and the team surpassed anything of the kind ever seen here. About the only thing that ever came up, to it in style was Buchu Helmold's turnout with a gold trimmed harness also, which was here four or five years ago. The horses of the President's four-in-hand are superior, and it is said that the team can get over the turf at a three minute gait. Two of the horses, the leaders, have done better than this on the private half-mile track south of the Executive Mansion, on the White House lot, on more than one occasion, and once at least President Grant himself held the ribbons.”

SEEDY.—A Boston lecturer the other night repeated a story which an old lady once told him. This lady at one time kept the most select boarding-house in Cambridge, near the college. One day a seedy-looking man, with unkempt hair and beard, came to her door and asked for board. “Sir,” she said, “understand that I receive none but gentlemen into my house.” “Very well,” he replied, “I will go elsewhere.” “And who do you think that shabby fellow was?” the venerable lady said to the speaker. “He was no less than Professor John Quincy Adams, afterwards President of the United States.”

Comets doubtless answer some good and wise purpose in the creation; so do women. Comets are incomprehensible, beautiful and eccentric; so are women. Comets shine with peculiar splendor, but at night appear most brilliant; so do women. Comets confound the most learned, when they attempt to ascertain their nature; so do women. Comets equally excite the admiration of the philosopher and of the clod of the valley; so do women. Comets and women, therefore, are closely analogous; but the nature of both being alike inscrutable, all that remains for us is to view with admiration the one, and devotedly love the other.

—Hood.

Street cries: “Shrimp gwine by, byas. Here's yer big, fat shrimp. I'm trying to make an honest living now, and ef I can't, I'll have to go back to stealing. Raw shrimp gwine by, byas. Hero's me.”

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