



Extravagant Language.

There is an untasteful practice which is a crying sin among young ladies—I mean the use of exaggerated forms of speech—saying splendid for pretty, magnificent for handsome, horrid for very, horrible for unpleasant, immense for large, thousands or myriads for any number more than two. Were I to write down for one day, the conversation of some young ladies of my acquaintance, and then to interpret it literally, it would imply that, within the compass of twelve or fourteen hours, they had met with more marvellous adventures and hair breadth escapes, had passed through more distressing experiences, had seen more imposing spectacles, had endured more fright, and enjoyed more rapture, than would suffice for half a dozen common lives. This habit is attended with many inconveniences. It deprives you of the intelligible use of strong expressions when you need them. If you use them all the time, nobody understands or believes you when you use them in earnest. You are in the same predicament with the boy who cried "wolf" so often when there was no wolf, that nobody would go to his relief when the wolf came. This habit has also a very bad moral bearing. Our words have a reflex influence upon our characters. Exaggerated speech makes one careless of the truth. The habit of using words without regard to their rightful meaning often leads one to distort facts, to mis-report conversations, and to magnify statements, in matters in which the literal truth is important to be told. You can never trust the testimony of one who in common conversation is indifferent to the import, and regardless of the power of words. I am acquainted with persons, whose representations of facts always need translation and correction, and who have utterly lost their reputation for veracity, solely through this habit of overstrained and extravagant speech. They do not mean to lie: but they have a dialect of their own, in which words bear an entirely different sense from that given them in the daily intercourse of discreet and sober people.—*Address of A. P. Peabody.*

Connecting the Oceans.

It is currently reported that a government vessel has been sent to Campeachy with competent engineers authorized to make a survey of the isthmus, preparatory to opening a ship canal across to the Pacific. They may indeed survey a route for a ship railroad; but the idea of uniting the oceans by a canal is decidedly behind the age. Sixty-four wheeled cars with engines to match, will convey merchantmen or even armed ships across the isthmus, in less time than would be required to pass the first mile by canal.

Deep Fog.

An article is going the rounds of the press, recommending the addition of *varnish*—whether copal or turpentine varnish is not specified,—as an improvement to whitewash! We are inclined to enquire what light or intelligence can be expected to be derived from papers, whose conductors are ignorant enough to publish such sheer nonsense.

Paying Damages.

In Kershaw district, S. C., John Harrison has recovered \$650 from Jefferson Berkeley for selling to Harrison's slave, Bob, five quarts of whiskey, upon which said Bob got drunk, and died from the joint effects of intoxication and exposure. If all liquor dealers were required to repair the damages occasioned by the traffic, they would be glad to get out of the trade.

The Celebration.

It is decided to burn powder, and illuminate the public buildings in this city on Friday evening next, in honor of the recent victories in Mexico. It is expected that 20,000 candles and other lights will be used, much to the benefit of tallow chandlers. Baltimore was illuminated on Wednesday.

Thayer's Truss Bridge.

This invention appears to be gaining high favor with the public. We are informed that another is in progress of construction, to cross the Delaware at Damascus Pa., a few miles above the one heretofore noticed, and which from its extra length and strength, is among the wonders of the age. The Damascus Bridge is to consist of two spans of two hundred and fifty feet each. The river is rapid at this place, and no bridge hitherto constructed has been able to withstand the force of the current and floating ice.

Immense Business.

The inspections of flour and grain in Baltimore, for the last quarter, was greater than ever before in the same period of time, being no less than 311,703 bbls. and 7,510 half bbls. wheat flour, 1,153 bbls. rye flour; and 139 hhds. and 42,192 bbls. corn meal. The previous largest inspection was for the quarter ending December 31, 1846, exhibiting, for the last 6 months, an inspection of *over five hundred and sixty-two thousand barrels of wheat flour, and over fifty-eight thousand barrels corn meal.*

African Colonization.

Accounts from the Coast of Africa represent the English and French governments to have learned wisdom from the success of the American colonies. Both nations are said to have in contemplation the establishment of similar colonies along the slave coast, as the *cheapest and speediest* way of ending the slave trade, while at the same time conferring the blessings of nationality and self-government upon the colored race.

Wind Ship.

Mr. Thomas, the gentleman who has been engaged for some time past in building a wagon to go by wind and sail, as a ship, has, we understand, nearly completed his undertaking, and will make a trip some hundred or two miles out, in a short time. He has *dubbed* it the "*Wind Ship*"—it carries 100 square yards of sail.

Southern Cotton Factories.

From an article in the Tuscaloosa Monitor, we learn that there are eighteen Cotton Factories in Georgia. It is thought that there is a capital of a million and a half invested in these factories, and that they pay a dividend of from 13 to 24 per cent. on this capital.

Cause and Effect.

A Boston paper notices the appearance, on Monday morning, of eleven files of men and two of women hand cuffed together and accompanied by officers, on their way to the Police Court in consequence of the precious liberty tenaciously retained by a few, of retailing rum stuff.

Columbian Magazine.

We have received the May number, and find it furnished and embellished in the usual splendid style of that popular work, and to contain three first rate engravings—two of them fine steel plate,—besides two pages of music with poetry by Miss E. A. White. This work is published monthly by Ormsby & Hackett, 116 Fulton street.

A Gallant Irishman.

An Irish gentleman, remarkable for his devotion to the fair sex, once remarked, "never be critical on the ladies. Take it for granted that they are all handsome and good. A true gentleman will never look on the faults of a pretty woman *without shutting his eyes.*"

Commerce of Mexico.

Every commercial port of any note in Mexico is now in the hands of the Americans, and with a reduced tariff, and by throwing open the ports to the world without serious restrictions, immense business must be done.

Economy.

It has been remarked that as drop letters are only two cents postage whereas drop newspapers are three cents, it is better for those who would send newspapers to others in the city, to enclose them in letters.

Horses and Dogs.

It is stated in a Cork paper, that seventeen horses were lately killed in that county, to feed a pack of hounds. Both horses and dogs were likely to starve, and as the horses would not eat the dogs, it was decided to let the dogs eat the horses.

Gen. Taylor and the Presidency.

The General insists upon it, that he does not want to be President, nor a candidate; but the people, many of them, and a considerable portion of the press, say he must and shall; and even Mr. J. C. Calhoun urges his friends to unite on Gen. Taylor. It appears quite probable that the General will be constrained to abandon his country and seek refuge in foreign lands, from such a deprecable alternative.

Immense flight of Pigeons.

The Cayuga Tocsin says that during the whole forenoon of Sunday last the horizon at that place, was much of the time, literally darkened by a succession of immense flocks of pigeons, winging their way from north to south. Across the whole horizon as far as the eye could reach, *dense* flocks extended from east to west, which could not have been less than six or seven miles.

Expensive Publication.

The expenses of compiling, editing and publishing the "Encyclopædia Britannica," in the seventeen quarto volumes, amounted to \$600,000. The publishers, Constable & Co., are in a way to realize profitable returns from their enterprise. They have already received nearly \$550,000 from its sale. Authors and contributors to the work have been paid more than \$100,000.

Another Jehu Case.

While the engineer and firemen of the passenger train were at breakfast, at Newburyport one morning last week, a man, desirous to try his hand at locomotive driving, jumped on to the engine and put it in motion, but found himself unable to stop it. The consequence was a collision with a gravel train not far from the depot, occasioning damage to the amount of \$2,000.

Mr. Austin's Theory.

Extrapress of business, requires us to defer till next week the examination of the long drawn perpetual motion theory. We have been requested to correct certain typographical or other errors therein; but we prefer to first endeavor to ascertain whether there is *anything* correct about it.

Scolding.

We never knew a scolding person that was able to govern a family. What makes people scold? Because they cannot govern themselves. How, then, can they govern others? Those who govern well, are generally calm. They are prompt and resolute, but steady and mild.

Served Him Right.

Two men having recently been arrested at Baltimore for passing counterfeit half dollars, one of them turned State's evidence against his confederate; but in the course of his evidence he was detected in gross perjury, & was forthwith sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary.

Paper Glass.

It is announced in the foreign journals, that Schonbein, the inventor of gun cotton, has discovered a method of making paper transparent, and impermeable to water. It is to be used in making bottles, window panes, and vases; for it has all the qualities of glass except its brittleness.

A Young Howard.

J. Davenport Fisher, a boy but 12 years of age, at Boston, is said to have collected by his own efforts in one school the sum of \$60 for the aid of the starving population of Ireland.

Increase of Property in Boston.

Whole valuation of property in the city in 1844, \$118,450,309; 1845, \$135,948,700; 1846, \$150,000,000. Increase in 1845, 15 per cent, and in 1846, 10 1-2 per cent.

Egg Trade.

France is driving a splendid trade by the exportation of eggs to England, which on an average amount to \$2,000,000 a year, while the French themselves consume 90,300,000.

Route of the Great Western Rail Road.

From Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, 260 miles:—Columbus, 246:—Terre Haute, 290:—St Louis, 164. Whole distance 960 miles. This distance may eventually be travelled in less than 36 hours, including stops.

The former wife of Rev. J. N. Maffit, died recently at Galveston, Texas. She is spoken of as a lady of excellent character.

Mr. D. Sweeney, the inventor of sixpenny plates, has removed from his old stand in Ann street to No. 66 Chatham street, where he will "hurry up those beef stakes and hot cakes," to a few hundred daily, if they call in season to get seats at his table.

The St. Louis Republican of the 7th says:—"We noticed on the steamer Convoy yesterday, eight hundred boxes of rifle ball cartridges, each containing fifteen hundred, which were made at the St. Louis Arsenal, and shipped for N. Orleans.

POSTMASTERS, whose salaries amount to less than \$200 a year, have the *franking privilege restored to them*, as formerly. They can now remit subscription money to printers free of charge, as well as the names of new subscribers.

Mr. Walter Colton, an American, has established a newspaper in California; but being constrained to use the Spanish type, in which are no W's, he substitutes two V's instead.

An exchange speaks of Capt. Arnold's command of two companies of *dragoons* and four companies of *Kentuckians!* It should have added five companies of *volunteers.*

The Nashua, N. H., Telegraph says that the census of Nashua has been taken, and the number of males is 2024; number of females, 2802. Gain in one year, 220.

Gen. Taylor in a recent letter on the subject of the battle of Buena Vista, says, "I had not a single company of regular infantry, the whole was taken from me."

Our army, as a matter of precaution, have burned all the towns and villages between Monterey and Camargo. Of course the Mexicans complain of the barbarous Americans.

Rev. G. J. Adams, lately cowhided a Boston editor, and announced his intention of playing at the Providence Theatre on Saturday, and of preaching the gospel (?) at Boston on Sunday.

The Emperor of Austria has forbidden any person or company to construct lines of magnetic telegraph in his dominion without his special permission.

The New York Christian Advocate, has been presented by a Virginia Grand Jury, as an incendiary paper. Perhaps the paper will reform, as a matter of expediency.

Much of the recent news from Mexico, is obtained through the medium of the "American Eagle," a new American paper established at Vera Cruz.

The Mobile papers are boasting most provokingly of ice cream and strawberry parties, which are in vogue at that place.

The sum of fifty dollars was contributed by the negroes of a planter in Lowndes county, for the relief of the distressed in Ireland. This is the most generous contribution we have yet noticed.

The Boston Bess says that Ole Bull has written to a friend in New York, that he will return to this country soon, with his family, and settle here for life.

The greatest artificial cold is produced from a mixture of diluted sulphuric acid and snow. Its temperature has been known to be a hundred and twenty-three degrees below the freezing point.

A CHICAGO paper learns from persons who have passed through the wheat-growing region of Illinois and Indiana, that the young wheat is almost entirely winter killed.

Great mortality has taken place among horses on the American Bottom west of Missouri, caused by a fly that stings them to death in a few hours.

A bomb shell weighing 186 pounds, which was fired from the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa during the bombardment, has been placed in the rotunda of the Philadelphia Exchange.

Several instances have been reported within the month of April, from towns in this State, in which the thermometer indicated from 7 to 10 degrees below zero.

One of the watchmen of the Post Office Department at Washington, was arrested on Saturday for robbing the dead letter office.