

## Reason for Risibilities.

BY OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

Sweet coz, I'm happy when I can,  
I'm merry while I may—  
For life's at most a narrow span,  
At best a winter's day.  
If care could make the sunbeams wear  
A brighter, warmer hue,  
The evening star shine out more fair,  
The blue sky look more blue—  
Then should I be a graver man;  
But since 'tis not the way,  
Sweet coz, I'm happy when I can,  
And merry while I may.

If sighs could make us sin the less,  
Perchance I were not glad—  
If mourning were the sage's dress,  
My garb should then be sad;  
But since the angel's wings are white,  
And e'en the young saints smile—  
Since virtue wears a brow of light,  
And vice a robe of guile—  
Since laughter is not under ban,  
Nor gladness clad in gray—  
Sweet coz, I'm happy when I can,  
And merry while I may.

I've seen a bishop dance and reel,  
And a sinner fast and pray—  
A knave at top of fortune's wheel,  
And a good man cast away.  
Wine I have seen your grave ones quaff,  
Might set our fleet afloat;  
But I never heard a hearty laugh  
From out a villain's throat;  
And I never knew a mirthful man  
Make sad a young maid's day—  
So, coz, I'm happy when I can,  
And merry while I may.

[From the New-York Daily Times.]

## How Things are done at Washington.

The Northern Minnesota Wagon Road—The True Reason of Col. Noble's Delay—Secretary Thompson and Codfish—Luxuries of Life—Artful Lodges of a Cabinet Officer, &c.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Aug. 6, 1857.

A practice, more honored in the breach than the observance, has grown up in the administration of our Government during late years, to which public attention should be directed. It is that of sacrificing individuals unjustly, whenever it seems the easiest way to cover up a blunder of a Cabinet officer, or when such a movement promises to accomplish any other selfish end for the benefit of men in power. The late Administration, for instance, did not hesitate to sacrifice Mr. Soule, when public sentiment pronounced its judgment against the Ostend Conference, which never would have assembled except under advice from Washington. That the present Chief Magistrate was not also retired in disgrace for his participation in that affair, was owing, doubtless, to the fear that such a persecution would react upon its authors, and more certainly transfer the Minister at London from St. James' to the Presidential chair. Other less notable instances of similar conduct might be enumerated, but they will readily occur to the reader.

It was hoped that the new Administration would recognize no necessity for similar discreditable proceedings; but circumstances are transpiring showing that the policy is deemed wise, by at least one of its members. The report has been industriously circulated of late, that Col. Noble, commanding the Northern Wagon-road expedition through Minnesota and to the South Pass, had been compelled to return in consequence of Indian difficulties which threatened the party. This statement of the reason for his delay is untrue. Col. Noble returned only because the conduct of the Secretary of the Interior rendered it impossible for him to proceed—conduct that is hardly to be accounted for on any other hypothesis than the determination of the Interior Department—now in the hands of a Mississippi fire-eater—that this Northern Road shall not be made. Mr. Thompson has on more than one occasion declared that it was useless to open the Northern Road, and that it could never be made available. Congress, thinking otherwise, ordered the work done, and it does not become 'President's chief clerk,' as Jackson denominated the Secretaries, to nullify the will of Congress in deference to his own opinions.

When Col. Noble set out upon his duties he was sent from Washington without a dollar in money with which to fit out his expedition. 'Buy your supplies and equipment,' said the Secretary, 'and send the bills to me, when I will settle them.' This certainly was a novel way of transacting business. It may answer in Mississippi, where 'repudiation' of just obligations is noted the sentiment of the people—but few men out of her boundaries like the plan. Nevertheless, Col. Noble proceeded to his rendezvous, called on the merchants, showed his instructions, and attempted to buy on the terms suggested therein. Of course he received for answer a decided refusal. Parties having merchandise for sale were perfectly willing to let the Colonel have whatever he wanted on his own security—but they wouldn't think of trusting Uncle Samuel on any such loose terms, justly fearing that if they should venture the speculation, they would have to go to Congress for their pay, and then spend the greater share of their claims in buying votes to secure its allowance. Col. Noble didn't feel that he could afford such an operation either,—so he wrote back to the Interior Department stating the condition of affairs.

Meantime his party were collected together ready to proceed, and the expenses of their subsistence—necessarily large—were daily accumulating. At last Secretary Thompson instructed the Colonel to buy whatever he wanted, send the bills as certified by himself, and the Department

would pay them. Under this arrangement he succeeded in completing his preparations and started his men; but was soon brought to a halt by the news that the Secretary had refused to honor his bills, or a part of them, because he had bought some dried codfish, which the Department esteemed one of the 'luxuries of life,' and could not therefore authorize it for the use of the poor, 'critters' who were mean enough to locate a Northern wagon road!

The Colonel—determined not to be caught by such tricks as this, or made responsible privately for public expenses—concluded to await further advice from the Secretary, to whom, it is said in the Department, he wrote some very spicy letters, suggesting among other things that if he thought it sound economy to keep the entire expedition in a state of inactivity for the price of a sardine or codfish, he was welcome to just as much of the article as he should see fit to appropriate. Of course the Mississippi Secretary was not pleased with the suggestion. What impudence in a mere engineer to expose the folly of a President's clerk!

The next move was to send a disbursing agent out to pay the expenses of the party, and so prevent Col. Noble from stealing any of it. The marvelous wisdom of our Secretary in adjusting this check-strap so as to be sure of keeping all parties honest, deserves 'embalming' in your columns. If Noble should pay out the money, he might collude with the payees to steal some of it—so the Secretary employed the disbursing agent—utterly useless except as a virtue promoter—at a good round salary, to make all payments 'on the order of Col. Noble.' It is difficult to see how the public money was rendered safer, in the least, by this appointment of a second individual who might be tempted to steal, and who had no discretion except to fork over what his chief ordered him to pay. When this disbursing agent reached the party, he found it necessary to raise several thousand dollars at once, to pay up the obligations and let the Commission start. Secretary Thompson having instructed him that he would place the money to his credit at once, he drew against the funds, his draft was cashed by a banking house, and the main body of the party started for St. Peters, where Col. Noble intended to overtake it in a few days. But the very day on which he proposed starting, the draft aforesaid came back protested! Of course he would not and could not proceed in this condition of affairs.

These are the true causes of the failure of the expedition thus far. Col. Noble has been for months earnestly endeavoring to get off upon his work; but from the beginning, the Secretary of the Interior has baffled him. Depend upon it, he does not intend that the Northern route shall have any fair chance for competing with the more Southern ones. How else shall we account for his remarkable conduct, equally dishonorable and injurious to the interests of the Government?

Within the last few days it is given out that Col. Noble is to be removed. I have no doubt this is true. He has had the manliness to look official delinquency in the party of his superior fairly in the eye. The chances are that he will be sacrificed to appease the wrath of the Secretary, and perhaps with a view of discrediting before the country such a statement of the conduct of Mr. Thompson as he owes to justice and the public service.

That is the old game, and the House of Representatives played it with a mastery last Spring, when they attempted to crush the witness who had compelled them to expose a slight inkling of the corruption existing in the body; but the public saw through the trick, as they will through that now in hand if consummated. It remains to be seen whether Mr. Buchanan will acquiesce in the sacrifice of a faithful officer under such circumstances as these, and simply because he refused to be kicked and cuffed around the Northern Territories for the amusement of even a Cabinet member.

ANOTHER HAILSTORM IN LENAWEE COUNTY.—The Tecumseh (Michigan) Herald gives an extended account of another remarkable hailstorm, which visited that place on Friday, Aug. 7. It says: "It was not hail, but frozen pieces of ice, from the size of hen's eggs, which were about the smallest, to those very considerable larger than goose eggs. Hail stones three and four inches in diameter were quite common, and from that up to fifteen inches in circumference. In several instances the shingle roof of barns and houses were broken through with a single hailstone, and in more than one instance the siding in like manner."

The storm was limited in extent, and was not attended with much wind, or the damage from it would undoubtedly have been much greater. It seemed to commence near Manchester, in Washenaw county, and passing southeast between Tecumseh and Clinton, reaching nearly to Dundee, in Monroe county, in all, perhaps about fifteen or twenty miles in length, and not more than half a mile to a mile and a half in width. Wherever the hail fell in any considerable quantity, the crops that stood in its path are almost entirely destroyed. Even wheat in the shock was much injured, and that standing, together with corn and oats, was almost annihilated.

By this second calamity by storm, many farmers have lost their entire crop for the present season, some suffering to the extent of over one thousand dollars, and others less according to the breadth of land exposed. Many of the cattle were much injured, and some killed. Several of the inhabitants also were much injured by the hail, but we do not learn that any lives were lost. We had indeed heard of such hail stones before, but were inclined to think the accounts somewhat fabulous. The Herald, however, vouches for the truth of the statements, and says they can be readily verified.

PROPER TIME FOR TRANSPLANTING.—Mr. Charles Fischer (Mopatschrift fur Pomolog &c) observes:—It is very nearly certain, from many

opportunities of verifying the fact, that the roots of trees take their principal development and growth when the Autumn begins the natural arrest of vegetation in those parts of the tree that are above ground. Mr. Fischer noticed this very particularly in various kinds of prune trees; when the first frost kills the leaves the sap thickens and ceases to circulate in the parts above ground, but it is still fluid and active in the parts below—the roots cannot send it to the tree any longer.

On these facts Mr. Fischer has for 15 years based his practice in transplanting young fruit trees from the end of August, in all September, whenever the leaves have fallen; if a tree still has fresh leaves on, he lets it stand till they drop off. He has succeeded beyond his hopes. Very few have failed, and all the rest next Spring grow on vigorously as if they had not been transplanted. They must be transplanted carefully, of course, as well as suitably and well watered.

MILES DARDEN, THE GREAT AMERICAN GIANT.—Some weeks ago, says the Jackson, Tenn. Whig, we gave a few facts in regard to the weight and dimensions of this extraordinary man, and promised our readers, through the courtesy of a friend in Henderson county, further items of interest.

The friend we referred to was the Rev. John Brooks, whose veracity, we believe, has never been questioned by any one. He writes as follows:—

Mr. Darden was born in North Carolina, in the year 1798, and departed this life, at his residence in Henderson county, Tennessee, on the 23d day of January, 1857 in the 59th year of his age. He joined the Baptist church in early life, and shortly after emigrated to Tennessee, where he connected himself with what is called the Christian church, but had not been a member of any church for years past, but was moral and fond of conversing on religious subjects.

He was an obliging and kind neighbor, and fond of company. And about fifteen years ago he joined the order of Masons. He was twice married. His children are very large, but probably none of them will ever be more than half the weight of their father. He was quite active and lively, and labored until about four years ago, when he became so fleshy that he was compelled to stay at home, or be hauled about in a two horse wagon.

In 1848 he made a contract with a tailor to furnish him a suit of clothes for \$50; the cloth was to cost \$5 per yard.

Upon measurement, it took twelve yards of cloth, so the tailor lost \$40 and the making.

The tailor states that three men, each weighing over two hundred pounds, put the coat on, buttoned it around them and walked across the square at Lexington.

In 1850, it took thirteen yards of flax cloth, yard wide, to make him a coat. It took sixteen yards of cambric for his shroud; twenty-four yards of black velvet to cover the sides and lid of his coffin; 125 feet of plank to make his coffin.

His coffin was eight feet long; across the breast, thirty-two inches; across the head, eighteen inches; across the feet, fourteen inches; its depth, thirty five inches.

He weighed in 1845, 871 pounds; his height was seven feet six inches. His weight, when he died, as nearly as could be ascertained, was a fraction over 1,000 pounds.

MIND YOUR PREACHING.—A preacher was holding forth to a somewhat wearied congregation, when he 'lifted up his eyes' to the gallery and beheld a youngster pelting the people below with chestnuts. Dominie was about to administer a sharp and stringent reprimand for his vagrant act of impiety and disrespect, but the youth, anticipating him, bawled out at the top of his voice: 'You mind your preaching, daddy, and I'll keep em awake!'

## Ninth Quorum

Of Seventies will meet at the house of William Burgess, 15th Ward, G. S. L. City, at early candle-light, on the first and third Saturdays in the month.

JOHN JACQUES, Clerk.

## Married:

In G. S. L. City, Nov. 5, by Bishop Kessler, 16th Ward, SAMUEL HAMER and Miss ANN ALVION.

At E. T. City, Tooele county, Mr. JACOB BASTIANSEN to Miss JOHANNA MARIA SANDERSEN, late from Denmark.

## Died:

At East Weber, Weber county, Nov. 1, 1857, ABIGAIL PARSONS ROBINSON, wife of John Robinson.

At North Canyon Ward, on the 13th October, 1857, MARY MATHIESON, wife of Richard J. M. Bee, late of Scotland, aged 22 years, 10 months and 27 days.

On Sunday, Oct. 25th, in South Cottonwood Ward, THIRZA LUCINA, daughter of Andrew and Mary Cahoon, aged 1 year, 7 months and 23 days, of diphtheria.

## NOTICE.

JOHN H. PICKNELL is always on hand at C. Taylor's slaughter house to kill beeves for \$1 per head, and will pay a good price for hides. N.B. Tripe and cow heels always on hand. 33-1f

## LOST, STRAYED, &amp;c.

## STRAYED OR STOLEN.

ON Tuesday night the 27th of October, from my pasture in North Canyon Ward, TWO Work Horses, one brown horse blind in the near eye, some white on one hind foot, some saddle marks, little white hairs by the collar, 15 or 16 hands high, 9 or 10 years old, heavy built. The other a dark bay mare about the same age and size, collar marked, and a little white the size of a five cent piece on the left flank; both shed all round; the horse just back from the road and thin in flesh. Any body that will bring them to me or any information of them shall be liberally rewarded by me. 35-3 JAMES HENRIE.

## THE PUBLIC

ARE hereby forbidden to pass and repass over the land known as Dr. Richards' pasture, and lying between the ten acre lots and Jordan river. Such as transgress this prohibition will be liable to prosecution for trespass. BRIGHAM YOUNG, FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

JENNINGS & WINDER, are prepared to kill beeves for private families at their public Slaughterhouse. Persons wishing can have them cut up ready for salting and taken home. Charge for killing, \$1, or will take the hide and pay \$1.50.

## JENNINGS &amp; WINDER'S

New Meat Market is on the corner North of J. Cain's.—Meats of all kinds and of the first quality always on hand. Also Pork and Bologna Sausage, dried Beef, corned Beef, Lard, Tallow, pickled Tongues, &c., &c.

## JENNINGS &amp; WINDER'S

Tannery and Leather business continued at the old place. The best price paid for hides of all kind.

N.B. The above firm would be glad if those persons indebted to them would call and settle forthwith, and any having claims present them and take your pay. 34f

## THE DESERET NEWS.

## WEEKLY:

PRINTED ON WEDNESDAY MORNING DELIVERED ON THURSDAY.

TERMS—\$6 PER ANNUM.

OFFICE—P. O. BUILDING.

TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements to insure insertion in the current number must be handed in on Monday.

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Archibald Gardner	-	-	do
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Joseph Hammond	-	-	do
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[Ten Lines, or less, constitute One Square.]

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