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VASCO NUNEZ DE BALBOA.

Sinking more and more into hopeless decrepitude, and proving by her frequent revolutions, not the power of renewing her vitality, but her increasing and incurable weakness and decay, Spain seems to be losing that last inspiration of a dying people, pride in the future, the brave, the strong, the majestic of the past. She is forgetting her great men and great deeds, and leaves to foreign pens the celebration of the former and the record of the latter. Philip the Second, by a bigotry pertinacious, indomitable, sublime, if ever bigotry can be sublime, razed the Catholic Church, but ruined his country. As, in the nineteenth century, Spain shattered the stupendous empire of Napoleon, so, in the sixteenth, she arrested the victorious march of Protestantism. At what a price to herself, however, did Spain purchase the renown of snatching the tottering papacy from ruin? Except through some tragical episode, she has been severed from Europe's grandest movements, and in the presence of Europe's grandest industrialisms she has, rotting, lumbered with her sullen loneliness the Atlantic and Mediterranean waves. It would be absurd and false to deny the civilization which grew up by the side of or in the bosom of Catholicism; it would be equally absurd and false to deny that Spain, when at the apogee of her glory, and in the full sweep of her conquests, was the mightiest of Catholic lands. But the Reformation—its religious aspects and bearings together apart—introduced new conditions of social, political, scientific, and commercial development and success, which could not be burned without deadliest peril, and which Spain alone had the daring and the madness couragefully to reject. What, three hundred years ago, was daring and madness, is now simply idleness and impotence. Spain, by some of her most recent acts, has proclaimed her determination to stand by a condemned, adored, and exhausted theological criticism.—Abominations long buried she disemphatizes, and banishes the bones as her weapons, and holds the grave-clothes as her banner, in the face of the world. Those of her children who, like Balboa, would flatter her, may call this magnanimity, chivalry, martyrdom if they choose; by far other names would the wise deplore, and the stern denounce it. As an anarchy and emptiness in the very heart of the culture, the ideas, the enterprises common to all the nations of the West, Spain is destined to become the spoil of the first foe that has the courage to attack her.

Perhaps on no picture could the historian exhibit a more valiant glow, and a more enchanting episode of color, than on what Spain, now a lazy, leprous, imbecile thing, was forty or sixty years after the discovery of America. Her brow gleamed and her feet were shod with the splendor of romance; for the most prosaic occupations of her sons, as they sailed over the waters, were then richest poetry. Her lowest born started into heroes more wonderful than the fictions of genius ever dreamt of; and the career of her obscurest sailor or soldier, had something of epic grandeur. The meanest adventurer ceased to be either vulgar or vile from the atmosphere of magnificent marvel which surrounded him. Yet only a few of the Titanic race can command honor among his everlasting worthies.—The most of them repel us by their brutal lust, their grasping avarice, or by the sickening stench of blood upon their garments. In signal contrast to such, the purer renown of him should be fervently cherished, who added the Pacific to the conquests already gained by his countrymen. The late attempts to make the enormous oceans one, by vanquishing the impetuous which the Isthmus of Darien opposes, give fresh interest to the achievements of Balboa. M. Ferdinand Denis, who has done so much to render the French familiar with Spain and Portugal's departed glories, will furnish us with the chief materials of the account we are about to present, in which the eminent qualities of a man and the astonishing circumstances of his life in an age of the wild, the colossal, the prodigious, dispense with the necessity of embellishment.

Vasco Nunez de Balboa was born in 1475, in Xeres de los Caballeros. His family was noble but poor, and he had to create a destiny for himself with his own quick brain and his own stalwart arm. But that was not difficult when new continents and new seas were everywhere summoning the bold to conquer them. Balboa was at first in the service of Don Pedro Puerto Carrero Lord of Moguer. He then joined the expedition to the sea of the Antilles, which, partly for mercantile objects and partly for purposes of discovery, Rodrigo de Bastidas fitted out and commanded. The explorations of Bastidas had considerable and interesting geographical results, though that jealousy which seems ineradicable in the Spanish character, and which distinguished especially the Spanish navigators of the period, hampered and at last ruined the enterprise. Balboa settled down for a time as a planter at Salavatierra in the island of San Domingo. His dissolute youth had not prepared him for such regular occupations as those in which he was now engaged; his ambitious audacities still were unfulfilled for them; his affairs did not prosper. The Spanish colonists of San Domingo were in general loaded with debt, and the governor had passed a law forbidding any individual who was pursued by his creditors from being taken on board a vessel which was leaving the island. A tempting opportunity occurred for Balboa to bid farewell to his plantation and to his creditors too. Fernandez Enciso was about to set sail for the Gulf of Darien in 1510, to complete some part of that mighty work which Columbus, in dying a few months before, had bequeathed as a heritage to Spain. The roving spirit of Balboa was stirred, and his necessities were awkward and pressing.— Concealed in a cask, he procured himself to be conveyed into some hidden corner of Enciso's ship. Immense was the indignation of the latter when he learned the singular stratagem which Balboa had employed; but seeing that the unwelcome intruder had the mien of a gentleman, and that he seemed gifted with rare intelligence, force, adroitness, and activity, he pardoned him. The superiority of Balboa was soon conspicuous; his sagacity was as admirable as his resolution. When the voyage was ended, and when trying labors came, the legal recognition of Enciso as chief availed him little. He was constrained to surrender the command to Balboa, and to leave the colony. Here was clearly a usurpation; but our adventurer by his courage and wisdom soon made men forget the path by which he had arrived at power.— He induced the Spaniards to transport the establishment which they had already formed to that part of the Gulf where the river Darien or Arato flows into the ocean, and where is at present situated Santa Maria de la Antigua. Balboa accomplished as much by his high political talent and his humanity as by his vigor and valor. The chroniclers are unanimous in praising him for the qualities which nearly every Spanish leader was destitute of. It is recorded that in a few years he subdued about twenty nations, all of them either formidable as assailants or fiercely obstinate in resisting. This was done with a handful of Spaniards, who but for the grand inspiration which they

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received from their chief would speedily have been annihilated. It has been said that Balboa was worthy of a place beside Cortez and Pizarro; yet as the predecessor of these, it might be more truly stated that he was a creator while they were only imitators. Whatever others might do, he it really was who laid the foundations of the Spanish empire in America. But, as America received its name not from Columbus but from an inferior man, so by a similar caprice in human destiny Cortez and Pizarro are familiar to the lips of all, while the name of Balboa, that far mightier one, is comparatively unknown.

Humane as Balboa undoubtedly was when compared to a Cortez or a Pizarro, he had yet to contend with foes who would often have mistaken commiseration for cowardice. He had to strike terror into their hearts before he could effectually show that he was disposed to pity and to pardon. The implacable tribes resorted to ambushes, from which they shot poisoned arrows. Balboa terribly retaliated by introducing bloodhounds from Haiti, where they had spread carnage, devastation, and dismay. The favorite bloodhound of Balboa, Leoncillo, the famous son of the famous Bellerio, frightened the Indians more than twenty of the bravest men. He regularly received the pay of a good soldier; and it is affirmed, perhaps with some extravagance, that thirty Leoncillos would have sufficed to depopulate the whole Isthmus of Darien. A word from his master calmed Leoncillo in his hottest, most headlong fury; and perhaps as much to exhibit his power as from motives of mercy, Balboa was fond of uttering that word before the end of the combat. In spite of the bloodhounds and of many a cruel act perpetrated by those he commanded, most of whom differed but little from bloodhounds, the conquistador gained the affections of the Indians. Each Spaniard who had gone forth to this new world was not merely an armed warrior but an armed inquisitor. Rejoicing to exterminate and to enslave, he yet dreamed of converting.— Loading the Spaniard as slayer and spoiler, the Indians probably loathed him as the proselyte-maker more. What, therefore, must have been the noble qualities of him who could enchain himself in the love of rude bosoms, where everything provoked to boundless rage, and hatred.

Numerous expeditions had set forth from Antigua in search of those golden regions regarding which a vague tradition had reached the ears of the Spaniards. The natives stimulated curiosity without satisfying it. Much which reached themselves as subtle they delighted in making still more fabulous. Perhaps they thought that, by sending the Spaniards to hunt in a thousand directions for gold, they would be less exposed to their reckless ferocities. Among many reports was one, the excitement of which was irresistible; a massive image of the God Dobaiba was spoken of, fashioned of the precious metal whose glitter so fascinated the Spanish imagination. Strict Catholics as they were, fanatical almost to fiendishness, it is doubtful whether the Spaniards would not have been willing to bow down in worship to Dobaiba if they had received as a reward the enormous figure, the dream of which so filled and entranced them. They plunged into forests, they traversed swamps, they faced more perils and vanquished more obstacles than ever they had done on the battlefield, but the God Dobaiba they found not. They found only wherever they went the myth growing still more gigantic and deceiving.— Yet, though they obtained little for themselves of what they sought, they obtained much for mankind by their geographical discoveries.— These were better than gold.

It was not either as a goldseeker or as a goldfinder that Balboa headed or took part in those bold wanderings over mountains, over rock, through wood, through morass, through river. To found abiding colonies, to govern them well, to add to human knowledge, to extend civilization, to augment the dominion of Spain, to flash on this new world the glaze of Europe's chivalries, the benefits of Europe's manners, ideas, and institutions, to be a conquistador not in the vulgar sense but in the most blessed and beautiful sense, these, and not visions of Peruvian treasures, as yet but dimly revealed by the vague words of rovers through the wilderness, these were the habitual impulses of Balboa's career. Yet he would have been unable to influence and rule those around him if he had had no prompt and living sympathy with their schemes and feelings. They might clutch at gold for gold's sake; but to him in that season of miraculous enterprise it was the symbol of empire, and the most gorgeous ray in a crowding apocalypse of romance. To him it could not be the base thing which it was to his followers, but if he had tried to view it like a sage he would have been a pedant and all unworthy to be a chieftain. As the most perfect type of the conquistador, not as the most perfect type of the great man, does he claim our admiration. In his character as the conquistador, with the better attributes thereof, but also as one having away over beings to whom gold was an insatiable hunger, Balboa, accompanied by his lieutenant Colmenares, on one occasion received hospitality from the Indian prince Comogre, one of the most notable in those countries. The repasts were spread, and the guests, including the troops which Balboa had with him, were welcomed under the vast penthouse which served Comogre for a palace. The Indian was proud of alliance so redoubtable; their friendship made him great among his own people, great among rival princes. Partly from policy, partly from gratitude, partly from ostentation, he loaded the Spaniards with presents, and scattered gold with a lavish hand amongst them. The more freely he gave, however, the more was their rapacity roused. They quarreled with each other; they broke forth into murmurs against their munificent host, protesting that he had not been fair in the distribution. Suddenly Comogre put his hands on the scales with which they were weighing the gold, and said: "Cease your reproaches, cease your janglings; this is a trifle for which you are contending. If it is the desire of gold which brings you into this land you shall have your fill of gold. But you must be more numerous than you are now. A thousand of you, however, would suffice to subdue some neighboring countries, where reign powerful chiefs, where men drink out of golden vessels, and sail in barks almost similar to yours. I shall serve as your guide. Six times you must see the sun rise if you would contemplate the sea that bathes our shores in that direction; and he pointed to the south.— Need we ask if the words fell on other than greedy and credulous ears?

Rich with gifts, but richer still with the stupendous fantasies which the utterances of Comogre had engendered, Balboa returned to the rising settlement of which he was the governor. Could his brain or his hand now rest? What were all his past deeds, however memorable, to be regarded, but as heralds of some new undertaking, which would be the immortal amazement of mankind! After a few months he despatched to St. Domingo the regidor Valdivia to convey to the admiral the king's fifth of the gold already amassed, and to request a thousand additional troops that he might pursue his path of conquest in fashion commensurate to his own heroic resolves and to Spanish glory. The gold did not reach the hand of Ferdinand; the vessel perished in the waters, and with her went down to the deep the magnificent news of golden lands to the south of the Isthmus. Waiting in vain for reinforcements, Balboa at last determined to proceed without them. After crushing a revolt of the Indians, and winning by his intrepidity therein still more the devotedness of his followers, he departed to cleave his bold way thro' the illimitable forest, at the head of a hundred and eighty-six Spaniards and a thousand natives. One of the Spaniards had formerly been a swineherd. He does not seem to have gained much of the notice either of Balboa or of his brave lieutenant. Perhaps, on account of his former occupation, he was even despised by his companions, though his energy had always made him remarkable. But fortune had much in store for him. He was to leave a broad and bloody trace in history. His name was Francis Pizarro.

It was the port of Careta, to which a brigantine and ten Indian canoes had been brought, that Balboa made the starting point of his expedition. Thursday, 1st September, 1513, saw the explorers setting forth. From one of the canoes called Ponca he received guides for his journey over the Sierras, likewise men to carry baggage. Ponca and Balboa exchanged presents, Ponca being immensely delighted with some glass beads and other trifles which he received. Some of the canoes did not show the same pacific temper. The Indians of the district Quareguin, led by their chief Torocha, opposed themselves in vast numbers, and with determined ferocity, to the march of the Spaniards. In an engagement, however, into which they rushed with their savage cries and savage impetuosity, the crossbows, the muskets, and the bloodhounds were not long in doing their work. Six hundred of the Indians were killed, and the Spaniards, having smoothed away that obstacle, as Quintana, the biographer of Balboa, oddly enough expresses it, seized the town belonging to the defeated, where they obtained just so much spoil as to sharpen their appetite. The terror of Balboa's name, as well as his reputation for equity, diffused in that region such a submissive spirit, that the conquistador ventured to leave his sick here; he likewise dismissed the guides given him by Ponca, taking fresh ones for his further progress.

Quintana's work was translated into English about twenty years ago. It attracted no attention, we believe. It is confusedly written with that tendency to mingle small things with great, and trifling legal debates with narrative, which seems to characterize Spanish historians more than any other. We give an extract from it at the point we have now arrived at:— The tongue of land which divides the two Americas is not at its utmost width above eighteen leagues, and in some parts becomes narrowed to little more than seven. And altho' from the port of Careta to the point towards which the course of the Spaniards was directed was only six days' journey, yet they consumed upon it twenty; nor is this extraordinary. The great Cordillera of Sierras, which from north to south crosses the new continent—a bulwark against the impetuous assaults of the Pacific Ocean—crosses also the Isthmus of Darien, or, as may be more properly said, comprises it wholly, from the wrecks of the rocky summit which have been detached from the adjacent lands; and the discoverers therefore were obliged to open their way through difficulties and dangers which men of iron alone could have fronted and overcome. Sometimes they had to penetrate through thick entangled woods, sometimes to cross lakes where men and burdens perished miserably; then a rugged hill presented itself before them, and then perhaps a deep and yawning precipice to descend, while at every step they were opposed by deep and rapid rivers, passable only by means of frail barks or slight and trembling bridges; from time to time they had to make their way through opposing Indians, who though always conquered were always to be dreaded; and above all came the failure of provisions, which formed an aggregate with toil, anxiety, and danger, such as was sufficient to break down bodily strength and depress the mind.

The grandest geographical discovery next to that of America itself was to be the reward of so many perils, labors, and sufferings. The guides pointed to a summit from which the waves of earth's hugest ocean could be seen. Sublime and solemn moment! Balboa wished to be the first to gaze on a spectacle so stupendous. Leaving his companions below, he ascended the mountain alone. When he reached the top, the glory of that billowy expanse burst on his sight. Speechless with overwhelming emotion, he fell on his knees—he raised, in gratitude and wonder, his hands to heaven.— The eloquence of this silent prayer told the Spaniards of that boundless marvel on which their chief was gazing with the pride of a discoverer, the piety of a Catholic, the rapture of a poet, the imagination of a patriot, and the tears of a man. His companions ascending with eager steps, he embraced them, they embraced each other, and Balboa again knelt in thanksgiving to God. His countrymen like-wise prostrated themselves in breathless adoration. The moment he and they rose from the ground, words came in a tumult to his lips, and thus he spoke: "You behold before you, friends, the object of all our desires, and the reward of all our labors. Before you roll the waves of the sea which has been announced to you, and which no doubt includes the immense riches we have heard of. You are the first who have reached these shores and these waves; yours are their treasures, yours alone the glory of reducing these immense and unknown regions to the dominion of our king, and to the light of the true religion. Follow me, then, faithful as hitherto, and I promise you that the world shall not hold you equals in wealth and glory." With a unanimous cry of enthusiasm, the Castilians promised to follow wherever he should go. Cutting down a tree, they rudely fashioned it into a cross, on a heap

of stones which they had hastily gathered together. On the trunks of other trees near, they engraved the names of the monarchs of Castile. This was said to be the only monument which was ever raised to tell men that a new ocean had been given to them. From that mountain peak, thenceforth forever famous, the Spaniards descended with acclamations into the plain. According to the best accounts, it was on the 25th September, 1513, at ten o'clock in the morning, that Balboa first saw the Pacific.

The Spaniards had yet to reach the shores of this great sea; and an Indian chief called Chiapas tried by defending a pass to hinder them from approaching any nearer to the coast, but a few musket shots and the fierce howlings of the war dogs soon dispersed the savages.— Chiapas was glad to abandon an ineffectual opposition, and to enter into friendly relations with the Spaniards. He was as much charmed and diverted as a child with a few beads and toys which they gave him. Partaking for a few days of the hospitality offered by Chiapas, Balboa sent Francis Pizarro, Juan de Escarez, and Alonso Martin, to reconnoitre the surrounding districts, and to discover the shortest road to the sea. It was the last of the three who arrived the first at the coast. Throwing himself into a canoe which chanced to be there and pushing off a little from the beach, he could boast that he was the first Spaniard who had ever floated on the Pacific Ocean. On the 29th September, toward the evening, Balboa, followed by twenty six of his companions, in a manner the most solemn and impressive, took possession of this boundless realm of waters which came dashing to his feet. Covered in complete armor, bearing his naked sword in one hand, and in the other a banner on which was painted an image of the virgin with the arms of Castile below, he marched majestically in the surges which had travelled from Asia across half the globe to salute him; then waving the banner in triumph, and giving his sword one broad sweep, he cried in a loud voice— Long live the high and mighty sovereigns of Castile. Thus in their names do I take possession of these seas and regions; and if any other prince, either Christian or Infidel, pretends any right to them, I am ready and resolved to oppose him, and to assert the just claims of my sovereigns. This ceremony took place on the day of St. Michael the warrior archangel, in whose honor the gulf which had been the scene of such memorable doings became known under the name of San Miguel. The notary of the expedition drew up on the spot a formal statement of the act by which these shores and these seas were from that time forth to belong to Leon and Castile, and by which every other European power was to be excluded as far as legal words could exclude them, from any share in the conquest. As if to make the Pacific Ocean more completely their own, the Spaniards all stooped down and tasted its waters. Like good Catholics also they converted many trees into crosses, and on others they cut the sign of the cross. They repeated, in short, those simple forms of consecration by which they had transmuted into holy ground for themselves and for all men the victorious height from which Balboa had descended the bosom of a rival to the Atlantic main.

Balboa had discovered an ocean, and he had taken possession of it for the crown of Spain. To render the discovery more valuable, he continued his indefatigable explorings. He had three obstacles to overcome: the impassable character of the country; its unhealthiness, disabling sometimes the most devoted in his small band of followers; and the hostility of the Indians. How he mastered all these it would profit little to narrate in detail. After an absence of four months and a half he once more entered in triumph the head quarters of the colony which he had done so much to consolidate. He was hailed as the conqueror of the Mountains, the Pacificator of the Isthmus, and the Discoverer of the Austral Sea. He brought with him eight hundred Indians of service, forty thousand ounces of gold, a hundred and sixty ounces of pearls, and, better still, an acquaintance with the regions he had traversed, and the character and habits of the tribes he had encountered, such as was of infinite value to all future Spanish leaders.

It would have been well for the Spanish name if Balboa had been allowed to finish the work he had so nobly begun. Spain would not then have been exacerated throughout all time, in the old world and the new, for cruelty, faithlessness, fraud, avarice, and for every hideous vice in its most giant proportions; and the horrible deeds of Mexico and Peru would have been an everlasting infamy. But Balboa had his enemies at the court of Castile, the bitterest being that commonplace and insignificant mortal, Enciso, whom by the general wish and the emphatic approval of the colonists he had displaced. It is true he had also his friends at the court, who stood up bravely against calumny and falsehood. But their ardent advocacy could not prevail on the Catholic king to continue Balboa in the high office to which he had ascended by his own genius and valor, and which he owed so little to royal favor. He was indeed named Adelantado, or Captain of the South Sea, a title carrying with it very uncertain duties and privileges. But a new governor was appointed: the most striking contrast to Balboa in every respect. This was Don Pedrarias Davila, a man crafty, envious, mean, cowardly, and unscrupulous. Ferdinand fitted out an armada to accompany him at an expense of more than fifty-four thousand ducats. Two thousand adventurers, chiefly youths of good family, joined the expedition, eager for the gold and the pearls, regarding which such exaggerated reports had been circulated. Pedrarias on anchoring before Darien, on the 29th of June, 1514, immediately despatched a messenger to Balboa to inform him of his arrival. The messenger was astonished to find the conquistador, not gorgeously arrayed, surrounded by pomp and splendor, and with hosts of armed men guarding him, and multitudes of slaves bowing in homage and in fear before him, but attired in a cotton shirt over one of linen, a pair of coarse sandals on his feet; he was employed in directing and assisting some Indians to put fresh thatch on his house. He received the message of Pedrarias with courtesy and dignity, and declared his readiness to pay him due honor and service.— The old colonists, the old companions of Balboa, did not look on the new comers with any favorable eye. They would have been glad to repel them from shores which they had made their own by years of toil, endurance and combat. Balboa, however, gave no countenance to this disloyalty. Solemnly advancing at the

head of his people, and joining with them in the Te Deum, he welcomed Pedrarias to his future government. Tragical enough must the feelings of this Sampson of the Indies have been when impelled by his sense of obedience to the majesty of Spain to bow to this decorated pigmy.

Pedrarias had no sooner entered on the control of affairs than he contrived to be immensely unpopular. He thought only of gorging his own rapacity and that of his satellites.— The old colonists were disappointed, the new colonists were disappointed, the Indian bosom burned with revenge for gathering wrongs and oppressions; the personal followers of Balboa could not repress their hatred, contempt and disgust, when they saw him who had the noble virtues of a king supplanted by one who had not the most ordinary qualities of the most subaltern magistrate. Though Balboa gave Pedrarias his energetic co-operation, yet the governor had determined, from the moment he landed, on Balboa's ruin. To have attempted this at first by force would have been perilous, so real and so preponderant was the conquistador's influence. Pedrarias therefore tried to ensnare Balboa by all the small trickeries that his malignant cunning could invent. While, for a time a sort of approval was given to his public acts as the predecessor of Pedrarias, he was yet condemned to satisfy the claims of any private individuals who could get up a pretence of injury; by which his fortune, amounting to more than ten thousand ounces of gold, was quickly devoured. This put him more completely at the mercy of his foe, who suddenly found that the conqueror of the European world of the Pacific Ocean was a great criminal, who ought to be sent without delay in chains to Castile. From an act so mad and monstrous Pedrarias was dissuaded by Quevedo, the first Spanish bishop of Darien, who showed him that the appearance of Balboa at the court of Spain would inevitably awaken the deepest interest and sympathy on behalf of one who had achieved so much for the growth of the Spanish empire. Through the energetic intercession of Quevedo, whose motives however were of a selfish kind, a reconciliation was accomplished, and as a pledge that he meant the peace to be durable, Pedrarias agreed to give Balboa the hand of his eldest daughter; who however was unfortunately in Castile, otherwise perhaps the hollow truce might have been converted into a firm alliance. Pedrarias now made a show of employing Balboa in various exploring and colonizing expeditions, but he always tried to ensure failure by making the means as inadequate as possible. At last, however, after conquering countless obstacles, Balboa obtained the command of four ships and three hundred men. Radiant with hope, with valor, with enterprise, and with grand imaginations, he was sailing exultingly on that sea which he might consider as his own domain.— Boundless as that sea were his projects, rich as its pearls, beneficent as the fruits falling on its innumerable islands. He was about to do for Peru, with love and wisdom, what Pizarro, with his legions of devils did badly and barbarously twenty years later. Brilliant are thy dreams, O Balboa, but who is this that comes to awake thee from them? Pedrarias summoned Balboa from his ships to the port of Acila, as he wished, he said, to confer with him on matters of importance and to furnish him with fuller instructions. Balboa, unsuspecting, set out at once, disregarding all the warnings he received by the way. He had not proceeded far when he was arrested by armed men sent by the cruel, jealous, envious, narrowhearted old governor. With a heavy chain of iron round his neck he was conducted to prison; when, after some mockeries of justice, he was condemned to die as a rebel and a traitor. His appeal to the Emperor and the Council of the Indies was refused. All the while, nevertheless, Pedrarias affected to treat Balboa as his son-in-law, and to be overwhelmed with sorrow for the stern measures he was compelled to adopt. Yet no one, however prejudiced against Balboa, was the dupe of this hypocrisy. When the prisoner was led forth, the chief denounced him as an usurper of the lands of the crown. Raising his eyes to Heaven, Balboa protested that he had never cherished a thought which did not favor the Emperor's glory and the empire's aggrandizement. The multitude, after having seen with horror and compassion the head of the conquistador struck off, beheld it ignominiously stuck on a pole. The body remained exposed for twelve hours on the place of execution. Pedrarias witnessed the bloody scene from behind some canvas which formed a palisade to his house. With Balboa were executed Luis Botello, Andres De Valderrabano, Herman Munoz, and Fernando Arguelles, who had remained faithful to him through all his fortunes.

This was perpetrated, in 1517, a foul, deliberate, and most unjustifiable murder. While denouncing it as an individual's guilt we must execrate it as a nation's sin, for it was in harmony with the Spanish character, and it was never avenged.

Francis Harwell.

To think of making men virtuous by means of preventive statutes, is just as absurd in our judgment, as it would be to pass a law that iron should not break, as a means of preventing accidents on railways. It is simply absurd. Men are made virtuous by the influence of education, by moral culture, and the sublime teachings of religion.— [State of Maine.]

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drinking, just as education combines with law in the prevention of murder and theft.

[Lewiston Falls Journal.]

PUSH ON!

BY HENRY J. BARRETT.

Awake! and listen, Everywhere—
From upland, grove and lawn,
Out-breathes the universal prayer,
The cry of morning.
Arise! and don thy working garb;
All nature is astir;
Let honest motives be thy barb,
And usefulness thy spur.
Stop not to list the boisterous jeers,
(He would be what thou art.)
Try should not offend thine ears,
Still less disturb thy heart.
What though you have no shining armor,
(Inheritance of stealth.)
To purchase at the broker's board,
The recompense of wealth—
Push on! You're rustling while you stand;
Inaction will not do.
Take life's small bundle in your hand,
And trudge it briskly through.
Push on!

Don't blush because you have a patch
In honest labor won;
There's many a sin not rooted with thatch
That's deeper than a throne.
Push on! The world is large enough
For you and me and all;
You must expect your share of rough,
And now and then a fall.
But, up again! act out your part—
Bear willingly your share of pain,
There's nothing like a cheery heart
To mend a stony road.
Push on!

Jump over all the *ifs* and *buts*;
There's always some kind hand
To lift life's weight from your rat's,
Or poke away the sands.
Remember, when your sky of blue
Is shadowed by the clouds,
The sun will shine as soon for you
As for the monarch proud.
It is but written on the moon
That toil must endure;
The king won't dance a rigodon
With that little cloud of yours.
Push on! You're rustling while you stand;
Inaction will not do.
Take life's small bundle in your hand,
And trudge it briskly through.
Push on!

And he played on a harp uv a thousand strings—
spirits uv just men made perfect.

My text, brethren, leads me to speak uv spirits. Now, that's a great many kinds of spirits in the world—in the first place, that's the spirits as sum folks call ghosts, and then that's the spirits uv turpen-time, and then that's the spirits as sum folks call liquor, and I've got as good an article of them kind uv spirits on my flat-board, as ever was fetched down the Mississippi river; but that's a great many other kind uv spirits, for the text says;—

He played on a harp uv a thousand strings—
spirits uv just men made perfect.

But I'll tell you the kind uv spirits as is ment in the text, it's fire. That's the kind uv spirits as is ment in the text, my brethren. Now, that's a great many kinds of fire in the world. In the first place, that's the common sort uv fire you light yure sugar or pipe wit, and then that's can fire, fire before yure redly, and fire and fall back, and many other kinds uv fire, for the text says:— He played on a harp uv a thousand strings—spirits uv just men made perfect.

But, I'll tell you the kind uv fire as is ment in the text; my brethren, it's hell fire! That's the kind uv fire as is ment in the text, my brethren. Now, that's a great many kinds of hell fire in the world. In the first place, that's the common sort uv hell fire you light yure sugar or pipe wit, and then that's can fire, fire before yure redly, and fire and fall back, and many other kinds uv fire, for the text says:— He played on a harp uv a thousand strings—spirits uv just men made perfect.

And then, my brethren, that's the Baptist-ah! and they hev bin likened unto a possum on a simmon tree, and the thunders may roll, and the earth may quake, but that possum clings ther still-ah! And you may shake one foot loose, and the other's ther, and you may shake all feet loose, and he laps his tail around the limb, and he clings, and he clings forever, for— He played on a harp uv a thousand strings—spirits uv just men made perfect.

And then, my brethren, that's the Baptist-ah! and they hev bin likened unto a possum on a simmon tree, and the thunders may roll, and the earth may quake, but that possum clings ther still-ah! And you may shake one foot loose, and the other's ther, and you may shake all feet loose, and he laps his tail around the limb, and he clings, and he clings forever, for— He played on a harp uv a thousand strings—spirits uv just men made perfect.

UNPAID FOR PESTERES ARE THE BEST.
What should we think, if we were so utterly incapable of supplying ourselves with enjoyment from our own resources, as to be forever unhappy, unless at intervals, when we hired somebody to tickle us; and yet, is not this very much the condition of a considerable portion of the community? How many are there, who, having lost all power of self-ammusement, are obliged to fly to theaters and public exhibitions of some kind, and pay somebody for tickling them a few hours! People seem to have forgotten, or never known, the bliss of possessing a perpetual fountain of enjoyment in their own bosoms, and the delightful and genuine communion of kindred spirits in sympathetic, private or domestic intercourse and conversation.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE N. KENNEBEC AG. AND HORT. SOCIETY, TO BE HELD AT WATERVILLE, On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 2d, 3d and 4th, 1855.

The Trustees of the North Kennebec Agricultural and Horticultural Society have determined to offer the following Premiums, with the annexed Rules and Regulations, for the ensuing year.—namely:

HORSES.
Committee.—John B. Bradbury, Edward Jones, and Tufton Simpson.
For best Stallion, \$5; 2d best, \$3. Premium to be paid when the horse has been kept in the limits of Society one service season.
Best breeding Mare, 3 00; 2d best, 2 00; 3d, 1 00.
Patent Office Report. One or more colts to be shown as proof of breeding qualities of Mare.
Best gelding Horse, not over ten years old, 3 00.
Best pair Farm Work Horses, 3 00.
Best three yrs. old Horse Colt, 2 00; 2d, 1 00; 3d, 1 00.
Best pair Transactions of Agricultural Societies in Maine for the years 1850, '51, '52.
Best three yrs. old Mare Colt, 2 00; 2d, 1 00; 3d, 1 00.
Best two yrs. old Colt, 2 00; 2d, 1 00; 3d, 1 00.
Best one yr. old Colt, 1 00; 2d, 50; 3d, 50.
Patent Office Report.

BULLS.
Com.—Warren Percival, R. H. Green and Henry Lawrence, 2d.
Best Bull, not under two nor over five years old, 4 00; 2d, 2 00. Bull to be kept in limits one season before premium is paid.
Best Bull one yr. old and under two, 3 00; 2d, 2 00; 3d, 1 00.
Best Bull Calves, 2 00; 2d, 1 00; 3d, 50.
Patent Office Report.

COWS.
Com.—E. W. Hutchinson, Asa C. Holbrook, and Nathan Perry.
Best Cow, for all purposes,—one or more calves to be shown as evidence of her stock properties, and satisfactory written statements in regard to her dairy qualities, giving the product of her milk and butter, in pounds, for thirty days, and her feed during the time of trial, and for ten days previous to the commencement of the trial—4 00; 2d, 2 00.
Best dairy Cow, 3 00; 2d, 2 00; 3d, 1 00.—written statements of the yield of butter during the first ten days of June, or the first ten days of September, and the feed during, and for five days previous to the trial, together with the breed, and date of last calving, will be required of those who enter dairy Cows.
Best stock Cow, one or more of her progeny to be shown, 3 00; 2d, 2 00; 3d, 1 00.
Best lot of Cows for dairy purposes, not less than three in number, and including all the cows kept by competitor, with satisfactory written statement of the yield of butter and cheese, in pounds, and the value per pound, of each, from first day of June to first day of October, and giving the average daily yield of milk, in pounds, to be obtained by weighing the milk of each cow, one day in each week during the above time, and making a record of the same; also a full and fair statement of the feed and management of the cows during the time of trial with age of cows, and date of last calving—4 00.

HEIFERS.
Com.—Paul T. Stevens, John Otis and Robert R. Drummond.
Best two yrs. old Heifer, 1 vol. Maine Farmer, and 1 50; 2d, 1 copy Transactions, &c., and 1 00.
Best one yr. old Heifer, Patent Office Report and 100; 2d, 1 vol. Maine Farmer.
Best Heifer Calves, 1 vol. Maine Farmer; 2d, 1 00.

OXEN.
Com.—Eliaser Burbank, Thomas Whitehouse and Silas Hoxie.
Best pair Oxen, five years old or more,—their strength, discipline, training, and fitness for all kinds of farm work to be tested upon the ground in presence of the committee, by trials upon a cart loaded with stone not exceeding three tons' weight, and upon a drag loaded with stone not exceeding two tons' weight, each pair of cattle to be allowed ten minutes upon the cart, and ten minutes upon the drag—4 00; 2d, 3 00; 3d, 2 00.
Best pair four yrs. old Oxen, same conditions as above, 4 00; 2d, 3 00; 3d, 2 00.
Best pair three yrs. old Oxen, same conditions as above, 4 00; 2d, 3 00; 3d, 2 00.

FAT CATTLE.
Com.—Samuel Doolittle, Bradford Sawtelle, Thomas Gage.
Best pair Fat Oxen, with written statement of manner and expense of fattening, Patent Office Report and 2 00.
Best Fat Cow, Steer, or Heifer, statement as above, 1 vol. Maine Farmer.

STEERS.
Com.—Williams Bassett, Amos Rollins and Seth Holway.
Best three yrs. old Steers, tested in the yoke, 3 00; 2d, 2 00; 3d, 1 00.
Best two yrs. old Steers, Maine Farmer and 1 00; 2d, 50; 3d, 50.
Best one yr. old Steers, 2 00; 2d, 1 00; 3d, 50.
Patent Office Report.
Best Steer Calves, 1 vol. Maine Farmer; 2d, 1 00; 3d, 50.
Patent Office Report.

TEAMS.
Com.—H. C. Burleigh, Jos. S. Cummings and Chas. Drummond.
Best Team of Oxen from one town, four yrs. old or more, eight pairs or more, 8 00; 2d, 6 00; 3d, 4 00.
Best Team of three yrs. old Steers from one town, eight pairs or more, 6 00; 2d, 4 00; 3d, 2 00.

FARM STOCK.
Com.—Joseph Cole, Watson Holway, and Wm. H. Palmer.
Best Stock Neat Cattle, from and belonging to any one farm, not less than ten head, and including all belonging to the farm, Youatt on Cattle, and the Farmer's Dictionary.

PLOWING.
Com.—Samuel Taylor, Jr., Geo. E. Stores, and Wm. Weeks.
Best Specimen of Plowing greensward with four oxen, regard being had to skill of the plowman and teamster, and discipline of team, rather than the time in which it is performed, provided it is done in a reasonable time, 3 00; 2d, 2 00.
Best Plowing with two Horses, same conditions, 3 00; 2d, 2 00.

SHEEP.
Com.—John F. Hunnewell, Ellis Gifford, and Chas. Hallett.
Best pair French Merino Sheep, buck and ewe, to be kept within the limits of the Society two years, 5 00.
Best Buck of any breed, Shepherd's Own Book; 2d, Randall's Sheep Husbandry.
Best six Ewe Sheep, Shepherd's Own Book; 2d, Randall's Sheep Husbandry.
Best six Ewe Lambs, 1 50.
Best six Buck Lambs, 1 50.

SWINE.
Com.—John B. Stratton, Alphus Crosby, and Lauriston Guild.
Best Boar, 2 00; 2d, 1 00.
Best Sow having one or more litters of pigs, two or more pigs to be shown, Maine Farmer and 1 00; 2d, Maine Farmer.
Best lot of Pigs of one litter, five or more, from two to ten weeks old, Maine Farmer; 2d, 1 00.

POULTRY.
Com.—Isaiah Marston, Willoughby Taylor, and Frederic Paine.
Best six Hens of any breed or kind, with written statement of expense of keeping, and profits, for the season, and their advantages, if any, over other breeds or kinds, Burnham's History of the Hen Fever and 1 50; 2d, Transactions of Ag. Societies in Maine and 1 00; 3d, 1 00.
Best six or more Turkeys, with written statement of mode of raising, Maine Farmer; 2d, Patent Office Report.
Best lot of Geese, six or more, statement of age and keeping, Maine Farmer; 2d, Patent Office Report.

RULES.
Animals will not be entitled to the highest premium, if the best presented, unless judged worthy to receive it by the committee; but they may take a second or third, at the discretion of the committee, or if unworthy of any, no premium will be awarded.
Statements will be required of those who enter yearlings and calves, as to how they have been reared, and their age, in months.
Animals deemed worthy will receive no premium, unless satisfactory written statements are furnished, where required by the rules.
In all cases where it is found that animals entitled to the first premium have received the same, in the same class, at any former exhibition of this Society, a certificate that the animal is the best presented, shall be awarded, instead of the premium. A certificate shall also be awarded to choice animals from without the limits of the Society, at the discretion of the several committees.

CROPS, MANURES, AND FARM ACCOUNTS.
Com.—Joseph Percival, Ephraim Morrell, and Harrison Jaquith.
Best acre Winter Wheat, not less than twenty bushels, Maine Farmer and 2 50; 2d, Maine Farmer and 1 50; 3d, 2 00; 4th, 1 00.
Best crop Winter Wheat, not less than two acres, and not less than twenty bushels per acre, 5 00.
Best acre Spring Wheat, not less than fifteen bushels, Maine Farmer and 1 00; 2d, 1 00.
Best acre Winter Rye, not less than twenty bushels, 2 00; 2d, 1 00.
Best acre Spring Rye, not less than fifteen bushels, Maine Farmer; 2d, 1 00.
Best acre Indian Corn, 4 00; 2d, 3 00; 3d, 2 00; 4th, Patent Office Report.
Best acre Oats & Peas, one third Peas, not less than thirty-five bushels, 2 00; 2d, Patent Office Report.
Best acre Oats, 2 00; 2d, 1 00.
Best acre Barley, not less than twenty-five bushels, 2 00; 2d, Patent Office Report.
Best half acre Peas, Maine Farmer; 2d, Patent Office Report.
Best half acre Beans, Maine Farmer; 2d, Patent Office Report.
Best half acre potatoes, not less than two hundred bushels per acre, 3 00; 2d, 2 00.
Best quarter acre Carrots, not less than five hundred bushels per acre, 2 00; 2d, Maine Farmer.
Best quarter acre Beets, not less than five hundred bushels per acre, 2 00; 2d, Patent Office Report.
Best quarter acre Ruta Baga Turnips, not less than five hundred bushels per acre, 2 00; 2d, Patent Office Report.
For greatest profit from half an acre of land in any crop or crops, full statement in writing of expense of labor, manure, &c., with the value of crop, certified to by a competent witness, Maine Farmer and 1 50; 2d, Patent Office Report and 1 00.

LIST OF ENTRIES BY GIRLS.
Com.—Joshua Nye, Jr., Daniel R. McFadden, Stephen C. Marston, Miss L. Ingalls, Mrs. C. H. Keith, and Mrs. F. Follansbee.
Best Bed-quilt of patchwork, 1 00; 2d, 50.
Best specimen of Plain Sewing, such as shirts or bed-linen, silver Tumbler.
Best Fine Needlework, such as wrought Hdkfs., Capses or Collars, Sewing Bird.
Best specimen of Knitting, 50.
Best " " Worsted Work, 50.
Best Lamp Mat, 50.
Best Mending of boy's clothing, silver Tumbler.
Best Mending of Stockings, 50.
All articles of household manufacture must be made within the limits of the Society, to entitle them to premium.

FAIRM ACCOUNTS.
Best Farm Accounts, giving a minute account of the management of the Farm, Stock, and Crops, &c.—any improvement in fencing, or in any farm operation, farm buildings, or stock of any kind, together with a debt and credit account, to be kept through the season, showing the profit or loss upon any portion of the year's business, with a view to getting at the most profitable and economical manner of conducting farm operations—the account to be left with the Secretary, on or before the last Monday in December, 10 00; 2d, 5 00. The premium of 10 dollars is a donation for this purpose, by a member of the Society.

MANURE.
Best ten cords Compost Manure, prepared at least expense, by any process, full statement in writing of manner and expense of preparation, 3 00; 2d, 2 00.
Best experiment upon half an acre of land in Indian Corn, one half to be manured with common farm-yard manure, and the other half with guano—full statement in writing of quantity of each kind of manure, the value and manner of applying the same, and the results in all particulars, 3 00; 2d, 2 00; 3d, 1 00.
For a like experiment with super-phosphate of lime, made in same manner, with statement as above, 3 00; 2d, 2 00; 3d, 1 00.

RULES.
All entries for premiums of animals or articles to be exhibited, at the October Show, may be made with the Secretary at any time before the first day of the Show, and must be made before ten o'clock, A. M., of said day, to entitle them to the privilege of competition.
All articles of manufacture must be produced within the limits of the Society, to entitle them to premium; but any new or useful article from without the limits, will be received for exhibition, and duly noticed by the committee. Committees are instructed not to award premiums where the Rules and Regulations are not complied with.

TROTTER MATCH.
Com. Francis Kendrick, of China; Wm. Golder, of Waterville; Henry Lawrence, 2d of Fairfield.
Fastest Stallion, 25 00; 2d, 15 00.
Fastest Mare or Gelding, 20 00; 2d, 15 00; 3d, 10 00.

LIST OF ENTRIES BY BOYS.
Com.—Ephraim Maxham, Josiah Morrell, and Watson Jones.
For the most value raised from 1-8 acre of land, in Garden Vegetables, written statement by the boy himself, giving the mode of cultivation, and the value of each portion of the crop, 2 00; 2d, 1 00.
For the most value from 1-8 acre in Potatoes or other root crops, statement as above, 2 00; 2d, 1 00.
For the most value from 1-8 acre, in Indian Corn, statement as above, 2 00; 2d, 1 00.

FRUIT.
Com.—Daniel Taber, Chas. C. Stratton and Wm. Burgess.
Best lot Winter Apples, not less than four kinds, one peck of each kind, and all raised by the person presenting them, Downing's book upon 'Fruits and Fruit Trees'; 2d, 1 00.
Best lot Winter apples, not less than ten kinds, and two bushels in all, Downing's Fruit book and 1 00.
Best specimen Pears, 1 00; 2d, Cole's Fruit Book.
Best specimen Plums, three kinds or more, 1 00.
Best specimen Grapes, Allen's Book upon Grape Culture.
Largest number seedling Apple Trees, raised the present season, Downing's Fruit book; 2d, Cole's Fruit Book.
Best and largest lot of Pear and Plum Trees, either set the present season, 2 00.

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES & IMPLEMENTS.
Com.—Obed Emery, John Mathews, Jr., and Amasa Dingley.
Best Improved Sward Plow, 2 00; 2d, Patent Office Report.
Best do. Seed Plow, 2 00; 2d, Patent Office Report on Mechanics.
Best do. Hay Scythes, 1 00.
Best do. Hay Forks, 1 00.
Best 1-2 doz. Manure Forks, 1 00.

Best 1-2 doz. Shovels, 1 00.
Best 1-2 doz. Hoes, 1 00.
Best 1-2 doz. Axes, 1 00.
Best Improved Horse Rake, Patent Office Report on Mechanics and 1 00.
Best Sleigh, 1 50.
Best Single Wagon, 2 00.
Best Single Harness, 2 00.
Best Double Harness, 1 00 and Patent Office Report.

Best Sole Leather, 1 00.
Best Harness Leather, 1 00.
Best 1-2 doz. Calf Skins, 1 00.
Best Cow or Kip Skins, 1 00.
Best Thick Boots, three pairs, 1 00.
Best Calf Boots, pegged, three pairs, 1 00.
Best Calf Boots, sewed, two pairs, 1 00.
Best Ladies' Cloth or Leather Boots, two pairs, 1 00.
Best Ladies' Shoes, cloth or leather, two pairs, 1 00.
Best Cabinet Work, 1 50.
Best Ox Cart, 2 00.
Best Horse Cart, 2 00.
Best Farm Wagon for two horses, 2 00.
Best Farm Wagon for one horse, 1 00.
Best Horse Hoe, or Cultivator, 1 00.
Best Wheelbarrow, 50.
Best Horse Seed Sower, 50.
Best Improved Harrow, 1 00.
Best Ox Yoke & Bows, 1 00.
For any new and useful improvement in any Farm Implement, or Machine, from 1 00 to 5 00, according to its value, at discretion of committee.

For any new and useful improvement in any household Machine or Implement, article of furniture or utensil, calculated to lighten the labors of females, from 1 00 to 5 00, at discretion of committee.
All articles designed for the Fair, and for exhibition, must be on the ground at 9 o'clock, A. M., of Tuesday, Oct. 2d, and remain until 4 o'clock, P. M., of said day, and animals removed from the ground before that hour, without permission from the Trustees, forfeit all claim to premium.

All horses and colts presented for premium or exhibition, must be on the ground at 9 o'clock, A. M., of Wednesday, Oct. 3d, subject to the direction of the Marshals, and to remain until dismissal.
All articles designed for the Fair, and for exhibition, must be presented before 12 o'clock, A. M., of the first day—Tuesday—and remain in the place of exhibition until 4 o'clock of Wednesday. Trusty persons will take charge of all articles presented either for premium or exhibition, and preserve them from loss or damage, until delivered to the owners.

All persons interested will take particular notice that all entries of animals and articles and of competitors for riding and trotting, or plowing, must be made with WILLIAM DYER, before 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning, Oct. 2d, so that schedules may be prepared for the committees, and the arrangements be successfully carried out.
Entries may be made any time after the 15th of Sept.; and it is particularly requested of all who can do so, to make their entries previous to the morning of exhibition, in order to facilitate the business of the officers.
Hay and water will be furnished upon the grounds, for stock during the exhibition.
It is understood that the several Railroads leading into Waterville will take passengers to and from the Show at half price.

By understanding with the landlords of the several Hotels in Waterville, the rates of charge, upon the days of exhibition, will be from thirty seven to fifty cents per meal; and for horses to hay and grain, fifty cents through the day, and seventy-five cents for day and night.
Arrangements have been made with the proprietors of the Waterville and Winslow bridges, to allow stock designed for exhibition, and necessary drivers, to pass free of toll.
Ladies and Misses are invited to contribute to the interest of the Fair, by presenting specimens of their skill and handwork.
Members of all committees are requested to report themselves at the office of Secretary at the entrance of Show Ground, by 10 o'clock, Tuesday, Oct. 2d, and receive schedule of entries, &c.
The fee for admission to the exhibition will be five cents for each person not a member or belonging to the family of a member, or an exhibitor, for each and every time such person shall enter the grounds; and the fee for a horse and carriage, twenty-five cents, and for two horses and a carriage, fifty cents, in addition to the fee for license to occupy the ground.
The price for license to occupy the ground, with tents, or otherwise, for the purpose of vending, or the sale of merchandise, shall be 2 00 for each square rod of land so occupied; and no license will be granted for less than the price for occupying a square rod.
Persons taking licenses for the above purposes, will have the right to pass in and out with the necessary teams to convey their goods, and will also have the right to occupy such ground through the whole time of the exhibition, being subject to the direction of the Trustees, of whom said licenses must be procured.

ON TUESDAY—Exhibition of Cattle, Sheep, Swine and Poultry.—The Stock to be on the ground by 9 o'clock, and to remain until 4 P. M. Keepers to be with their animals at 11 o'clock to answer questions of Committees. All animals to be labelled with their age, and the name of the owner. At 2 o'clock, P. M. there will be a trial of Oxen and Steers.
ON WEDNESDAY—Fair, to be open through the day.—At 9 1-2 o'clock a Grand Cavalcade of all Horses entered for premium or exhibition, in regular order in regard to classes, under the direction of Chief Marshal. At 10 1-2 o'clock, Plowing Match. At 2 1-2 o'clock, an Address will be delivered upon the Show Ground, by T. S. Lang, Esq.
ON THURSDAY—Exhibition of Horsemanship, and trial of Speed of Horses.—At 10 o'clock, Grand Cavalcade of Ladies and Gentlemen on Horsemanship. At 2 o'clock Grand Trial of Speed of Horses for the prizes. At 4 o'clock Report of Committee, and presentation of Prizes to successful Lady Competitors.

STEAMING ON THE KENNEBEC.—The Rural Intelligencer indulges in some reminiscences of the early attempt to introduce steamboats upon our waters, in which Portland inventors were prominent actors.
We have seen an article lately in some of our newspapers setting forth that the first steamer which ever plied the waters of the Kennebec consisted of two river skows attached together, called the 'Kennebec'; that was advertised to run at the unprecedented rate of six miles per hour, between Augusta and Portland. This was in 1822. We forget what year the 'old Experiment,' or Capt. Porter's 'Patent' began their trips on the Kennebec, but think it was before that date. Will some one post us up on that history? But we do know and remember this—that a steamboat navigated the waters of the Kennebec years before that. We think this was as early as 1815. At that time Jonathan Morgan, Esq., a second Father in genius—a lawyer in Portland, then residing in Alna, undertook to demonstrate the power of steam in propelling machinery, and constructed a craft, like a long gondola, in which he placed an engine that propelled the first boat ever moved by steam on the Kennebec, in Maine, or in New England. Thousands turned out to behold the wonderful sight. The shores were covered with men, women and children. We saw the wonder in Hallowell. She was a self-moving thing; she went down

with the current rather faster than the water, and came back again against it by the help of oars attached to tow lines on the shore. Mr. Morgan is yet alive—an old friend, we reckon, of ours—and we respectfully ask him to favor us with the true history of the Alna Steam Boat.—[Rural Intel.]

LADIES' HORSEMANSHIP.
Com.—John B. Bradbury, E. W. Hutchinson, and J. W. Freeman.
For best specimen of riding, a saddle, bridle and whip.
Second best, Genin riding hat.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.
Com.—Eph. Maxham, E. W. McFadden, John Richardson, Mrs. Susan L. Phillips, Mrs. John W. Drummond, and Mrs. Chas. E. Tohey.
FINE ARTS.
Com.—Wm. S. Heath, Daniel R. Wing, Thos. Stackpole, Mrs. Joshua Nye, Jr., Miss Theodore Lang and Miss Sarah Paine.
COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.
Joseph Percival, E. W. Hutchinson, Seth Holway, Wm. Golder, S. S. Parker, J. W. Freeman.
COM. TO HAVE CHARGE OF FAIR.
H. B. White, E. H. Piper, and George H. Esty.

MARSHALS.
Chas. R. McFadden, Joseph Nye, William Brown, H. B. White, E. H. Piper, and Geo. H. Esty.

All animals designed to compete for premiums, except horses, must be on the ground and in the places assigned them by the Marshals, by 9 o'clock, A. M., of Tuesday, Oct. 2d, and remain until 4 o'clock, P. M., of said day, and animals removed from the ground before that hour, without permission from the Trustees, forfeit all claim to premium.

All horses and colts presented for premium or exhibition, must be on the ground at 9 o'clock, A. M., of Wednesday, Oct. 3d, subject to the direction of the Marshals, and to remain until dismissal.
All articles designed for the Fair, and for exhibition, must be presented before 12 o'clock, A. M., of the first day—Tuesday—and remain in the place of exhibition until 4 o'clock of Wednesday. Trusty persons will take charge of all articles presented either for premium or exhibition, and preserve them from loss or damage, until delivered to the owners.

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Entries may be made any time after the 15th of Sept.; and it is particularly requested of all who can do so, to make their entries previous to the morning of exhibition, in order to facilitate the business of the officers.
Hay and water will be furnished upon the grounds, for stock during the exhibition.
It is understood that the several Railroads leading into Waterville will take passengers to and from the Show at half price.

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ON THURSDAY—Exhibition of Horsemanship, and trial of Speed of Horses.—At 10 o'clock, Grand Cavalcade of Ladies and Gentlemen on Horsemanship. At 2 o'clock Grand Trial of Speed of Horses for the prizes. At 4 o'clock Report of Committee, and presentation of Prizes to successful Lady Competitors.

STEAMING ON THE KENNEBEC.—The Rural Intelligencer indulges in some reminiscences of the early attempt to introduce steamboats upon our waters, in which Portland inventors were prominent actors.
We have seen an article lately in some of our newspapers setting forth that the first steamer which ever plied the waters of the Kennebec consisted of two river skows attached together, called the 'Kennebec'; that was advertised to run at the unprecedented rate of six miles per hour, between Augusta and Portland. This was in 1822. We forget what year the 'old Experiment,' or Capt. Porter's 'Patent' began their trips on the Kennebec, but think it was before that date. Will some one post us up on that history? But we do know and remember this—that a steamboat navigated the waters of the Kennebec years before that. We think this was as early as 1815. At that time Jonathan Morgan, Esq., a second Father in genius—a lawyer in Portland, then residing in Alna, undertook to demonstrate the power of steam in propelling machinery, and constructed a craft, like a long gondola, in which he placed an engine that propelled the first boat ever moved by steam on the Kennebec, in Maine, or in New England. Thousands turned out to behold the wonderful sight. The shores were covered with men, women and children. We saw the wonder in Hallowell. She was a self-moving thing; she went down

with the current rather faster than the water, and came back again against it by the help of oars attached to tow lines on the shore. Mr. Morgan is yet alive—an old friend, we reckon, of ours—and we respectfully ask him to favor us with the true history of the Alna Steam Boat.—[Rural Intel.]

LADIES' HORSEMANSHIP.
Com.—John B. Bradbury, E. W. Hutchinson, and J. W. Freeman.
For best specimen of riding, a saddle, bridle and whip.
Second best, Genin riding hat.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.
Com.—Eph. Maxham, E. W. McFadden, John Richardson, Mrs. Susan L. Phillips, Mrs. John W. Drummond, and Mrs. Chas. E. Tohey.
FINE ARTS.
Com.—Wm. S. Heath, Daniel R. Wing, Thos. Stackpole, Mrs. Joshua Nye, Jr., Miss Theodore Lang and Miss Sarah Paine.
COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.
Joseph Percival, E. W. Hutchinson, Seth Holway, Wm. Golder, S. S. Parker, J. W. Freeman.
COM. TO HAVE CHARGE OF FAIR.
H. B. White, E. H. Piper, and George H. Esty.

MARSHALS.
Chas. R. McFadden, Joseph Nye, William Brown, H. B. White, E. H. Piper, and Geo. H. Esty.

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The Eastern Mail. WATERVILLE, SEPT. 6, 1855.

AGENTS FOR THE MAIL.
P. PALM, JR., American Newspaper Agent, is Agent for this Paper and is authorized to take Advertisements and Subscriptions at the same rates as required by us. His office is at Scott's Building, Court st., Boston; Tribune Building, New York; N. W. cor. Third and Chestnut sts., Philadelphia; S. W. cor. North and Fayette sts., Baltimore.
S. M. PERRELL & Co., Newspaper Agents, No. 10 State st., Boston, are Agents for the Eastern Mail, and are authorized to receive Advertisements and Subscriptions at the same rates as required at this office. Their receipts are regarded as payments.

A. T. BOWMAN—Traveling Agent.
FAIR PLAY.—A friend who writes us from Portland, complains that we did injustice to Judge Wells in asserting last week that he was acting in favor of the Nebraska swindle. He confidently asserts that Judge W. is opposed to that measure, and has often so declared. If this be so—and our friend should know, and we presume does—it seems to us to present only the greater entanglement of his integrity. The apparent position of the democrats of Maine is on the side of the national administration. If not in favor, then they must be against the great and infamous measure that characterizes the national party; and if against it, then certainly an important item of the supposed difference between them and the Republicans is removed. Does the difference between the two parties consist only of rum? Will even Judge Wells admit this? Are the democrats of Maine supporting a declared opponent of the administration? Certainly if Judge Wells is an opponent of the Nebraska measure, he is equally an opponent of the national democratic party. We desire to think better of Judge Wells, than that he is either favoring modern slavery outrages, or permitting his supporters to be deceived in regard to his true position. To one of the two charges he certainly seems liable; and however the assertions of our friend might relieve the anti-slavery adherents of the democratic candidate, they certainly only embarrass us as to the frankness and integrity of his position.

PAPER FROM BARK.—That a good article of printing paper, competent at least for newspapers, will ultimately be made from the fibre of wood and bark, is pretty generally expected by those concerned in the manufacture or use of paper. Indeed, it has already been done to a very limited extent, and samples are exhibited that compare well with the quality used for a good class of newspapers. But the use of bark for the manufacture of wrapping paper is now successfully and we think profitably carried on in Waterville. Messrs. Sanger & Appleton, late proprietors of the Messalonskee Paper Mill, at this place, recently sold their establishment to a company to be used for this purpose. They are now making from cedar bark an article of wrapping paper that promises to take the market from anything of the kind. It is stronger and more substantial than ordinary straw paper, and we presume will be sold at least as low. But an extensive use to which it is peculiarly adapted, is for underlaying carpets, and lining drawers, closets and other places where clothing is kept. Cedar is a well known protection against the moth, and paper made from the bark must meet an extensive demand merely for this use. For this purpose it will be sold in rolls containing any desired quantity.

The present proprietors of the Messalonskee Mills are Messrs. Warren, Appleton & Co., to whom the benefit of the discovery is secured by patent. Should they ultimately succeed in properly bleaching this paper to admit of its use in printing, it will be a discovery of vast importance to publishers of newspapers.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUS.—The Republicans have called their caucus, for the nomination of Town Representative, at Town Hall, Friday evening at 6 o'clock. Now let all who take any interest in the matter be present, and see that the best man is put in nomination. The old way of leaving caucuses to the control of a half-dozen self-chosen managers, who have no interest but to help themselves, is apparently getting out of fashion. We trust the freemen of Waterville will give it a kick in the right direction. Let none come with their hats full of votes; the voters of the republican party know how to write their names. After candidly comparing opinions, there will be time enough for each man to write his vote, without taxing those generous scribes who generally come prepared with a supply. Let us have a new-fashioned caucus—a caucus of the people instead of the wire-pullers. Have faith in the honest men, open-handed, frank, fair play is always the safest.

THE RAILROAD TO BANGOR.—Travellers over the P. & K. Railroad, which is now doing business in the hands of the Stockholders, speak in terms of high compliment of the manner in which Messrs. Moor & Dunham have executed their contract. It is doubtless one of the best built roads, taking the time into consideration, in New England; and from the superior quality of the gravel used in grading, it will probably prove also one of the most permanent. It has even now the smoothness and finish of the oldest and most perfect roads. The amount of business is said to be thus far highly satisfactory, promising to meet the best expectations of the connecting roads.

STATE AGRICULTURAL FAIR.—This festival is to be held at Gardiner, on the 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th of September instant. Those who have expected to see the first exhibition of the State Society at Waterville, are informed that the grounds and trotting course of the North Kennebec Society, though in tolerable condition for their own use, are not yet

sufficiently perfect to warrant their tender to the State Society for its first Fair.

MR. WASHBURN AT W. WATERVILLE.—It is enough to say of Mr. Washburn's speech at W. Waterville, on Tuesday evening, that it was heard by a crowded audience. If such facts and arguments as he presented will not tell upon the minds of intelligent and honest men, there is no security for freedom among freemen. His aim was at the conscience of men whose leading object is to do right and leave the result to God. He was followed by Mr. Benson of Winthrop, our representative in Congress; who in a brief speech showed himself as zealous for temperance as his colleague for freedom, and ready to stand by the Maine Law in aiding the cause. He thought it might ultimately demand amendments, and that his friends were ready and willing to make them whenever their necessity was seen. His remarks were plain and forcible, and as usual directly to the point.

A train of four cars carried a good delegation from this village, who were received with hearty cheers by their fellow townsmen at the W. Waterville depot; and the Waterville Band escorted the procession to the Union meeting-house. On returning home Messrs. Washburn and Benson were escorted to their lodgings at Elmwood Hotel, where the procession took their leave with hearty cheers. Three cheers for the Waterville Band, whose services were well appreciated, and who are always gratefully remembered by those who know them best, closed the evening entertainment.

PAINFUL ACCIDENT.—A most melancholy accident occurred last night, near the upper depot, just after the arrival of the Bangor train, at half past eight o'clock. While passengers were leaving the depot, the horses of the Williams House back became frightened and started down Main street. When nearly opposite the house of Mr. Rufus Nason they ran over

