

Ambition is his darling theme,
Integrity an idle dream
That vulgar minds may awe;
At home, abroad, with friend or wife,
In public and in private life,
The tyrant's will is law.

Of deep resentments, wicked, bold,
The thirst of blood, of power, of gold,
Possess alternate sway;
And Johnson's*** bribe had surely won
Rebellion's pale-fac'd, matchless son,
Had Mammon ruled that day.

But time would fume to rehearse
In my poor, limping, doggerel verse,
His character divine;
Suffice it that in Dunlap's**** page,
Drawn by himself, from age to age,
It shall with splendor shine!

* Gen. Joseph Reed.

† This allusion is to a matter extensively discussed in the celebrated "Cadwalader pamphlet."

‡ Blair McClenahan, merchant, afterwards a strong Democrat and member of Congress.

§ Robert Morris, the financier.

¶ Benedict Arnold, then in command of the city.

|| At that time the "Modern Masons" and the "Ancient York Masons" had lodges in the city. It is not clear from the punctuation whether Stansbury, by "the double mason" alluded to a person not named, or whether he intended to insinuate that Arnold was "a double mason" belonging to both orders, or whether Wistar was entitled to that honor. There were two "Richard Wistars" in the city at the time, and the succeeding line intimates that one of them, the *Wig* Wistar, was "confounded with the *Tory*" Wistar.

** Most probably John Mitchell, merchant, or his brother, Randall Mitchell. Both were active in public proceedings at this time.

†† Well-known local characters, familiar to every citizen.

‡‡ Gen. Thomas McKean.

§§ Timothy Matlack, Secretary to the Supreme Executive Council.

||| The German population of the city at this time was influential, and their good will was important to be obtained.

¶¶ Col. John Bull, who was fluent in the German language.

*** Gen. Roberdeau, member of Congress.

**** Dr. Hutchinson, an active politician.

***** Andrew Bayard, merchant.

***** Dr. Benjamin Rush.

***** Gaff, a nickname of Timothy Matlack.

***** Samuel Bryan, member of the Supreme Executive Council, and afterwards President of the State.

***** Sir Wm. Johnson, who was accused of having incited Mrs. Ferguson to offer Reed the bribe, which Reed rejected, because "The King of Great Britain was not rich enough to buy him."

***** See the fulsome letter from Cleves, on the lower Rhine, in Dunlap's *Pocket*, May 25, 1779.



1858

PERFORATED NURSERY LAMPS,
With Tea Kettle and China Cup.

March 23-58-

Shad-fishing-

OLD TIME.—"In one of your April numbers you seem to fear that our shad fisheries are getting scant, because there are too many fish caught, and you recommend a cessation from fishing, so as to let them recruit. You suggest that perhaps the subject will become a matter for legislative action after a while, so as to effect 'an absolute prohibition of the shad fisheries for a period, say five years,' &c., &c. But, dear Dispatch, you know nothing (I should think) about shad fishing. How was it years ago, when at least twenty times as many fish were caught as at present—when on every fishing ground on the Delaware, on both sides, from Dunk's Ferry to Elsinboro', were caught thousands and thousands in a tide—when the Lawrences, Fauces, Coopers, Reeves, Howells, Clarks, Pauls, Lodges, Vannemens, Thompsons, Whitalls, and a whole host of others that I have 'lost sight of, or their names forgotten,' gave employment to at least a thousand men? Their business has for a long time been abandoned, and their 'avocation gone.' And why? Not from a lack of catching, because at nearly every haul they would take their hundreds, and very often would their thousands. There yet lives a man near Mantua Creek, N. J., who took his two thousand at a haul. These extra hauls, or 'catches,' if you please, always gave joy to all hands, and an extra allowance to the men. In those days our city was well supplied with that luscious fish. Where one is sold or salted now, thousands were then. Now I suppose you would ask why they did not continue the fishery? Why leave so lucrative a calling? Ah, that's the rub. Now I will tell you. It was 'Legislative action,' and 'Legislative inaction.' The introduction of steamboats, the increase of steamboats and steamboat companies, by Legislative action, and their refusing to protect the fisherman by their inaction; that was the cause of it. It seems that the increase of steamboats destroys the spawn in the first place; and many of those fish which attempt to return after their 'ocean pilgrimage,' as you call it, are either frightened off, or are lost in their endeavor to return. Again, the damming of the Schuylkill hinders the old ones from going up to spawn, as they used to do; and the manufactories, gas houses, distillery filth, &c., &c., poison the water, and keep them away, so that those that are now caught are not near so large, so fat, or so fine as they used to be. These are the reasons given by old fishermen, and you will find upon reflection and inquiry that they are sadly true. By the increase of steamboats the sailing vessels were compelled to hover more in shore, and in many instances the steamboats did so too, there being then little or no law regulating steamboats, so that the fishermen's nets were often torn, so as to require considerable repairs. Then came the gill net fishing, which became a still greater annoyance, and, added to the other causes already mentioned, produced grief and trouble amongst the master fishermen. They applied for Legislative protection. It was granted, so far as their jurisdiction went, but they could not go into the 'stream,' or middle of the river; so the 'gillers' kept outside, that being 'Uncle Sam's pathway.' He was then applied to, but he was so full of that 'blessed inactivity' that the master fishermen finally gave up in despair, and let the gillers have their own way. They gave up their vocation. Many of those old fisheries that yielded so well in those days are not at all worked now, and the few that are do not yield much over expenses. They supply themselves and a few of their neighbors, and send very little to market. Indeed, I think I may safely say there are not more than about one-tenth so many, and not near so fine shad sent to market now-a-days, as were in those flourishing days of the 'good old times.'"

PHILADELPHIA CATTLE MARKET, Monday, March 22.—The offerings of Beef Cattle for the past week, amounted to 754 head, of which over 100 were sent to New York. The market yesterday was quite brisk and prices were somewhat higher than those of last week. Among the sales we notice the following lots:—

24 head	John Smith, Ohio.....	\$8 @ 9
34 do.	A. J. McFadden, do.....	8½ @ 9½
36 do.	H. Brown & Co., do.....	8 @ 9
44 do.	Funk & Co., do.....	8 @ 9
30 do.	S. Robinson, do.....	8 @ 9
14 do.	Caldar & Co., do.....	9 @ 9½
24 do.	D. Multer, do.....	8 @ 9
13 do.	B. Mooney, do.....	9 @ 10
20 do.	Blum & Co., do.....	7 @ 8
76 do.	Courson, Halderman & Co., do.....	7 @ 8½
20 do.	David Irvin, Blair county.....	9 @ 9½
12 do.	D. Robinson, do.....	9 @ 9½
13 do.	Jos. Ervin, do.....	9 @ 9½
49 do.	E. McQuaid, Ohio.....	8½ @ 9½
21 do.	J. Hamaker, Lancaster Co.....	9 @ 9½
26 do.	J. Taylor, Mifflin Co.....	9 @ 9½
13 do.	A. L. Hackman, Lancaster Co.....	9 @ 9½
13 do.	Jos. L. Gheen, Franklin Co.....	8 @ 9½
14 do.	J. Shulenberger, Huntingdon Co.....	8½ @ 8½
51 do.	J. Abrahams, Ohio.....	8½ @ 9½
10 do.	Dan. Beckman, Chester Co.....	9 @ 9½
16 do.	Hugh Chain, Fayette Co.....	8 @ 9
10 do.	Isaac Kahn, Ohio.....	8 @ 8½
23 do.	Young & Co do.....	8 @ 9
10 do.	G. Stufflebine, Chester Co.....	8 @ 9
17 do.	A. Reidebaugh, do.....	9 @ 9½
14 do.	A. Kennedy, Chester County.....	9 @ 9½
25 do.	B. Balwin, do.....	9 @ 9½
13 do.	Geo. Weaver, Indiana County.....	8 @ 8½
25 do.	Jos. D. Wardell, Ohio.....	8 @ 9½
27 do.	Wm. Fuller, Fayette County.....	8 @ 9

There were a few extra lots sold at \$10. The offerings of Sheep at Wardell's Drove Yard amounted to 3000 head, which sold at prices ranging from \$3.50 to \$5. Sales of Dressed at 9@10c.

Of Cows the offerings reached 220 head, which were disposed of at \$45@75 for fresh Cows; 23@ \$30 for Dry.

300 Horses arrived at this yard last week, but the greater part of them have not yet been sold.

About 2028 Hogs arrived at Phillips's Yard—most of which were disposed of at \$7@7.50 @ 100 lbs. cash.

March 20-58

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OUR PRODUCE MARKETS.

Our markets during the last week have been well supplied with country produce, and meats of all kinds. Beef sold at 10a16 cents per pound; Corn Beef 8a10; Surlain Steaks 14a16; Rump Steaks 10a12; Mutton 8a10 cents per pound for chops; Leg of Mutton 9 cents per pound; Butter 23a32; Lard 12a14; Eggs 20 cents per dozen; White Potatoes \$1 10a\$1 20 per bushel, and plenty in market.



Dec. 23-1858.

J. RIDGELL ARCHTCT