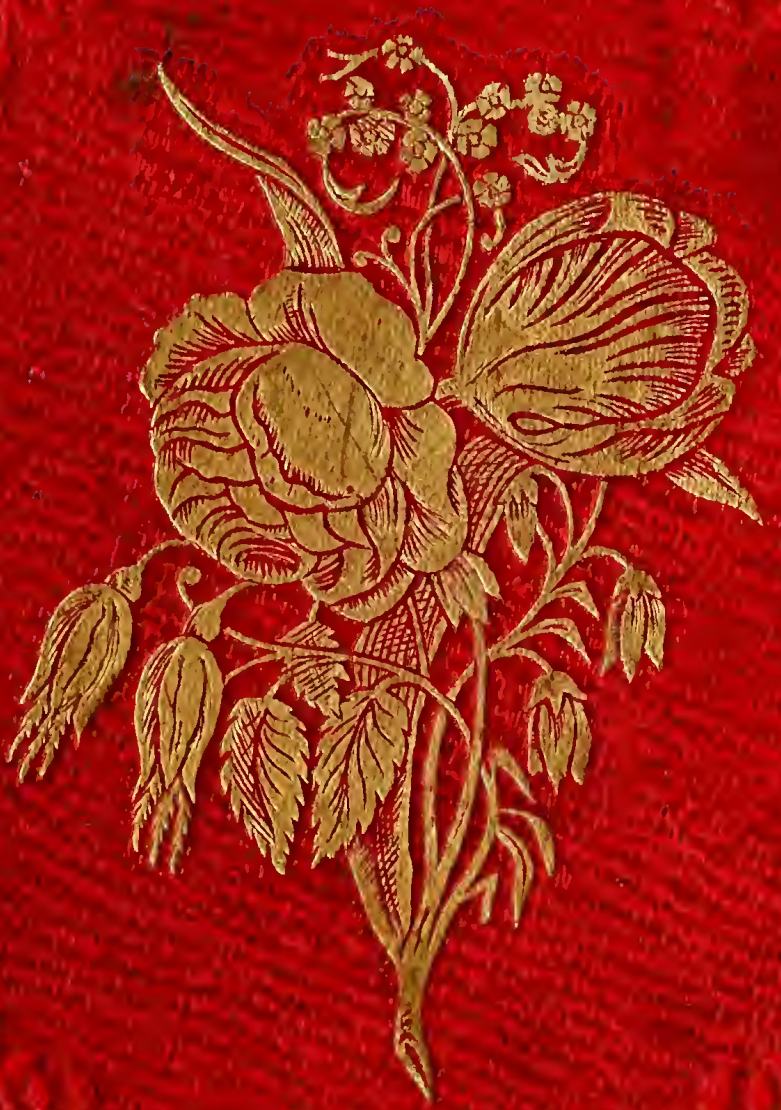


THE

CLAY MEMORIAL;

OR THE

DOMESTIC AND PUBLIC LIFE

OF

HENRY CLAY,

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF HIS

LAST SICKNESS—DEATH,

AND

FUNERAL OBSEQUIES.

BY

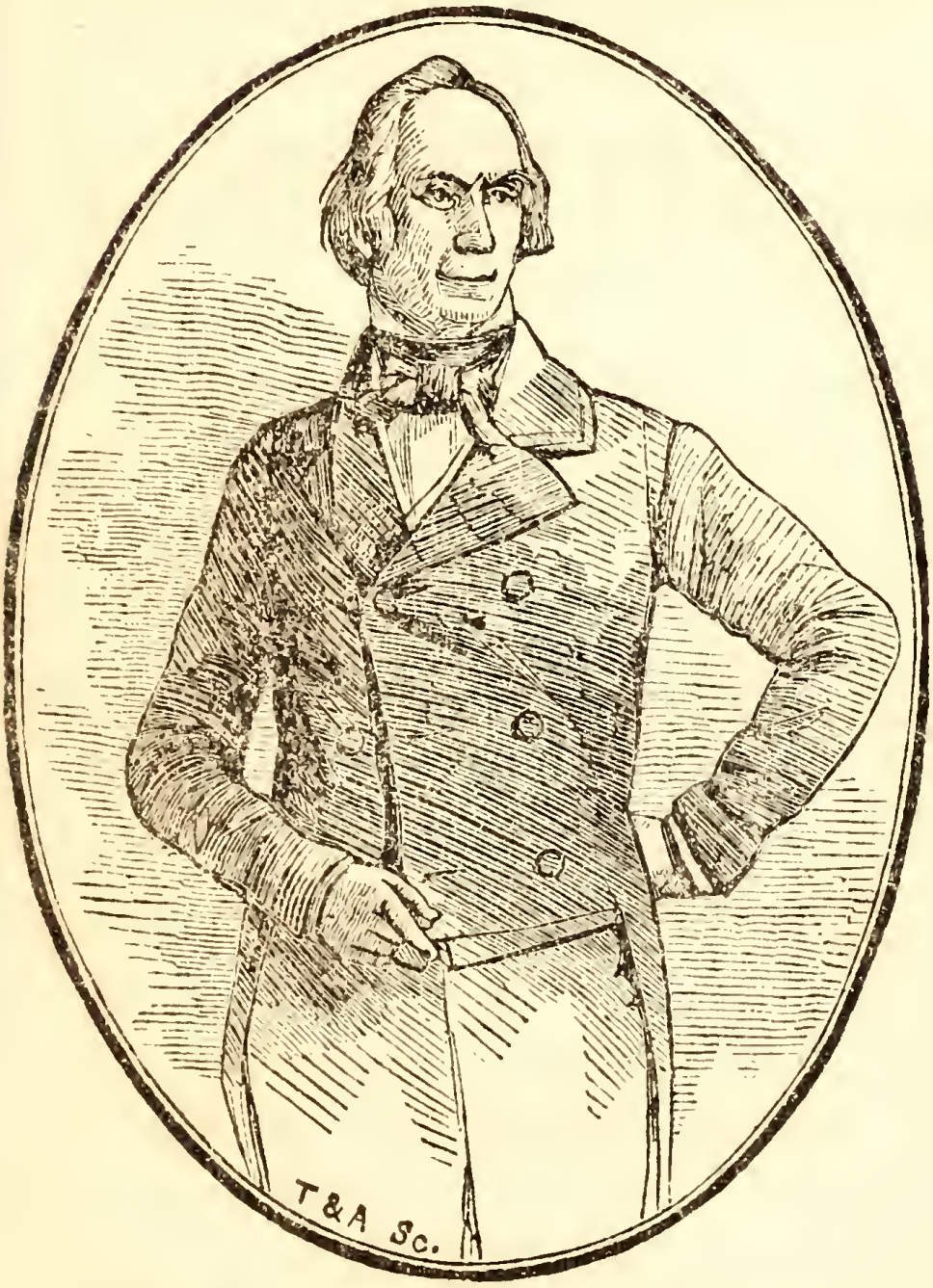
H. B. SKINNER, M. D.

BOSTON.

1852.

A PORTRAIT OF

HON. HENRY CLAY,



FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE,

BY PLUMBE.

INTRODUCTION.

In the preparation of this little work, the compiler has taken great pains to present the friends of Henry Clay with an accurate sketch of the prominent events of his public life, his last sickness, death and funeral obsequies, as a memorial of this great statesman, and to present it in so attractive a form that it will be sought for as an offering of friendship, and as an ornament to the parlor table. The life of Henry Clay scarcely need be written ; it is already engraven upon the hearts of his countrymen. This little volume we offer in the light of a memento of the great and good man. "Tho' dead yet he speaketh," and the patriots of the fu-

ture will study his character as their model, and aspire to catch his fallen mantle, while the christian may learn in his tranquil sickness and peaceful death, *t*he real and enduring comforts of the hope and expectations which religion inspires.

THE CLAY MEMORIAL.

HENRY CLAY was born in Hanover county, Virginia, in a precinct familiarly called "The Slashes," on the 12th of April, 1777. His father, who was a Baptist clergyman, died when the future statesman was in his fffth year, and it was to his mother, a woman in every way worthy of such a son, that he was indebted for his earlier training. Unfortunately, her limited means would allow her to give young Henry only such an education as he could acquire in a district school of very humble pretensions. A large portion of his time was devoted to manual labor upon the farm, and his frequent visits to a neighboring mill with the family grist at this period, gained him in after life, the title of "The Mill Boy of the Slashes."

At the age of fourteen years, Henry obtained employment in a small drug store in Richmond, Va. But compounding physic does not seem to have accorded with his taste, for the

next year found him in the office of Mr. Peter Tinsley, Clerk of the High Court of Chancery, where he performed the humble duties of an office boy. His thirst for knowledge and his industry soon attracted attention, and he was taken into favor by Chancellor Wythe, who made him his amanuensis. In 1796 he went to reside with the Attorney General of Virginia, Robert Brooke. During all this period his study was incidental to the minor duties of the office, and the year 1797 appears to have been the only one in which he read law uninterruptedly. Near the close of that year he was licensed to practice. We mention these facts to show the energy and perseverance which Henry Clay displayed thus early in life, and which enabled him to encounter difficulties that would have disheartened many less ambitious youths.

Young Clay entered upon the dnties of his profession in Lexington, Ky., under discouraging auspices. He was without money and without friends—having not even the means of paying his board. But his talents were appreciated, and in a very short time he had acquired a lucrative practice. He was soon

after admitted to the Court of Quarter Sessions of Fayette county, a court of general jurisdiction, where he found himself in competition with some of the ablest lawyers of the age. Since his admission to the bar he had diligently continued his studies, and his acquirements soon placed him in the foremost rank. His eloquence, united with his great legal attainments, made him a successful pleader, and his social qualities and winning manners, for which he has ever been distinguished, secured him a large circle of friends.

Passing over his cavalier triumphs at the bar, we find that the first entrance of the future statesman into political life, dates from 1797, when, although he had not been a year in Kentucky, he threw himself into the arena of politics *as an advocate of human freedom.* He recognized to the fullest extent, the evils of slavery which he found to be engrafted on the social system of his adopted State, and, believing that its removal might be gradually effected, he warmly advocated in conversation, on the hustings, and through the newspaper press, the propriety of making provision to that effect in the constitution which was about

to be framed. But the recommendations of those who deprecated a perpetuation of the institution were unheeded by the convention, and the pernicious system was sanctioned for an indefinite period by the constitution. It is worthy of remark, as showing his continued conviction of the evils of slavery, that but a few years ago, when Kentucky was about to revise her constitution, he again warmly urged upon the delegates the expediency of making provision for the gradual extinction of slavery.

Soon after Mr. Clay's entrance into political life, he was, although quite a young man, elected a member of the State Legislature. This event occurred in 1803. His talents and eloquence soon gave him an influence which is seldom acquired in a legislative body by one so young in experience as well as in years. He was re-elected to the Legislature for several successive terms. In the meantime he was gradually working his way into the front rank of his profession, and distinguished himself for his skilful and successful management of many delicate and difficult cases. In 1806 he was retained as counsel for the noto-

rious Aaron Burr, who had been arrested on a charge of being engaged in illegal military operations, and of treasonable designs against the United States. The incidents of this trial it is not necessary to review. Suffice it to say, Mr. Burr was acquitted, though shortly afterwards abundant evidence of his criminality was obtained. At the time Mr. Clay undertook the defence, he received the most solemn assurances of innocence from his client, who in a letter to him said: "My views have been fully explained to, and approved by, several of the principal officers of the government, and I believe are well understood by the administration, and seen by it with complacency." At the time of the trial, public opinion was strongly in favor of Burr, and the belief in his innocence was very general. When the true character of Burr was made apparent, Mr. Clay was among the foremost to denounce his schemes.

Shortly after his trial, Mr. Clay took his seat in the Senate of the United States, (session of 1806) to which he had been elected for one session, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of General Adair. Here he

almost immediately distinguished himself by a speech in favor of the erection of a bridge over the Potomac, in which he gave utterance to those liberal views in relation to internal improvements by the General Government, which he has ever since maintained. Several other works of internal improvement were proposed or advocated by him during the session, and a resolution offered by him was adopted, directing the Secretary of the Treasury "to prepare and report to the Senate at their next session, a plan for the application of such means as are within the power of Congress, to the purposes of opening roads and making canals," &c. &c.

At the expiration of his brief Senatorial term in Congress (in 1807) Mr. Clay was again elected to the Legislature of Kentucky, and was chosen Speaker of the House. In this station he was remarkable for zeal, energy and decision. He also, when not in the chair, distinguished himself in debate, and by his eloquence at times obtained a complete mastery over his fellow members. Mr. Clay had been through life a Republican, and an ardent supporter of the administration of Jef-

ferson. At the next session, in 1808, he was most violently assailed by Humphrey Marshall, an ultra Federalist, and a man of talent and eloquence. During the session, Marshall lost no opportunity of measuring weapons with Mr. Clay, and opposed him at every turn. Nevertheless, the latter succeeded in defeating his antagonist, and in carrying, with great unanimity, resolutions which he had introduced, fully sustaining the policy of the administration in relation to the embargo and the foreign relations of the country. At the same session Mr. Clay brought forward the germ of his great "American system" of protection to domestic industry, in the shape of a resolution, declaring that it was expedient for each member of the House, for the purpose of giving unequivocal evidence of his attachment to the policy of encouraging home manufactures, to clothe himself in fabrics of home production. Among those who opposed this resolution was Mr. Marshall, who, stung to the quick by his repeated defeats by his eloquent rival, resorted to personal abuse, and exhausted the vocabulary in search of insulting epithets, which he liberal-

ly applied to Mr. Clay. A false code of honor pointed to but one remedy for this insult, and a challenge was given and accepted. The parties met and exchanged two or three shots, resulting in a slight wound to each. This duel, and another in which he was subsequently engaged with Mr. Randolph, were errors which brought upon him in later years, much opprobium. They admit of palliation —though not excuse—in the false standard of courage and of honor which had been established by the public opinion of the times. Public sentiment has since materially changed, and it now requires far less moral courage to decline fighting a duel.

Mr. Clay continued in the Legislature of Kentucky until the winter of 1809-10, when he took his seat a second time in the Senate of the United States. It was at this period that the war with England was impending, and the Kentucky statesman, with that wise forethought which was a marked characteristic of his public acts, saw the necessity of being prepared for a complete independence of foreign nations. The first preparation for the impending exigency, he rightly considered

to be the encouragement of domestic manufactures. A bill had been introduced to appropriate a sum of money to purchase cordage, sail cloths, and the ordinary munitions of war. An amendment to this bill, giving preference to articles of domestic growth and manufacture, provided the interests of the nation should not suffer thereby, received from Mr. Clay a warm support.

During the remainder of the session, Mr. Clay took a prominent part in various public measures. It was during this session that the present existing system of pre-emption for settlers on the public lands was adopted. It was reported by a committee of which Mr. Clay was chairman. His talents, industry, assiduity and eloquence gained him at this session, that influence in the legislation of his country, which he maintained almost to the day of his death.

During the third session of the eleventh Congress, the subject of re-chartering the United States bank, occupied a large share of attention. It was at this time that Mr. Clay made his celebrated speech against the bank, which furnished its opponents with ar-

guments when Mr. Clay himself had changed his opinions, and was an advocate for a national bank.

The second term of Mr. Clay in the Senate was for two years only; but on his return to Kentucky, he was elected to the lower House, in which he took his seat in November, 1811, and was immediately chosen Speaker. We doubt whether any person has filled the Speaker's chair, before or since, with more dignity and ability. He proved himself equal even to the task of curbing John Randolph, who was then a member, and who was noted for his violations of every rule of order and decorum.

We have space to refer but in general terms to the great measures of public policy originated by Mr. Clay, or in the support of which he took a prominent part during the sessions of 1811, 1812. He was a prominent supporter of the President in the retalliatory acts which terminated in the war with England, the necessity of which war he fully recognized. The administration received from him valuable aid in urging through Congress the measures which were necessary for the efficient

prosecution of the war. One of the most prominent opponents of Mr. Clay during this period of his Congressional career, was the eccentric John Randolph, whose powers of withering sarcasm, waywardness, and passionate earnestness, made him a formidable antagonist. It has been said that Mr. Clay was the only man in the House who could dash aside with unerring certainty, the weapons of this Ishmael.

Towards the close of 1813, Mr. Clay was appointed one of the Commissioners, in conjunction with Messrs. Gallatin, Bayard, Adams and Russell, to treat for peace with Great Britain. The Commission met on the 6th of August, 1814, and the negotiations, which, it is well known, were of the most complicated, difficult and delicate character, were continued during a period of five months. The importance of this mission cannot be over-estimated, and its results were of the most saisfactory character, redounding to the credit of the Commissioners, and to the honor of the country.

Subsequent to the conclusion of the treaty Mr. Clay visited Paris and London, returning

to the United States in September, 1815. He had been unanimously re-elected to Congress while he was still in Europe. At the commencement of the next session he was again re-elected Speaker of the House, where he defended the treaty in a masterly speech.

The conclusion of the war found the finances of the country in a very embarrassed condition. An immense debt had been created, and the government securities, bearihg interest at six per cent, were depreciated some twenty per cent. The banks had been obliged to suspend specie payments. and the individual States had in some instances, usurped the power delegated to the general government to regulate the currency. This unwonted power they were executing in a most unfinancial-like manner, in many instances making their paper a legal tender, thus compelling the creditor to accept it or yield his claim. Under these circumstances, President Madison recommended the establishment of a national bank as a regulator of the currency. This was received with favor and was referred to a committee, the chairman of which, John C Calhoun, presented an able and elaborate re-

port, advocating the immediate chartering of such a bank. Mr. Clay, who had investigated the subject in all its bearings, and had been led by observations of the existing evils to change his opinions as to the utility of a national bank, was one of the principal advocates of the project. The bill passed both Houses of Congress by decided majorities, and the bank went into operation in 1817.

The winter of 1817 found Mr. Clay again in Congress. The South American colonies were then endeavoring to shake off the yoke of Spain, and their struggles elicited a large share of sympathy from the people of the United States. Mr. Clay ardently espoused their cause in Congress, and successfully opposed a bill "to prohibit our citizens from selling vessels of war to a foreign power." Mr. Clay did not advocate intervention, but recommended the recognition of the independence of the Spanish South American provinces. He took the broad position "that all oppressed people are authorized, whenever they can, to rise, and break their fetters," and proposed to send a minister to the independent provinces of the river La Plata. His efforts

were not successful at this time. The friendly mission was deferred until 1821, when, on his motion, after a spirited debate, the President was authorized to recognize the independence of the Spanish provinces of South America. His efforts in behalf of these provinces were fully appreciated, and his name has since been held in respect and veneration by the nations in whose behalf he so zealously labored. The Congress of Mexico voted him the thanks of the nation, and Bolivar, the deliverer of South America, addressed to him a feeling letter of thanks.

In 1818, Mr. Clay won another triumph which is an enduring laurel in his wreath of fame. We have already averted to his labors in behalf of internal improvements. A bill appropriating the bonus of the United States Bank for purposes of internal improvement, was passed in February, 1818, just before the retirement of Mr. Madison, which bill was vetoed. Mr. Clay immediately introduced into the House, a resolution declaring that Congress had power to construct military post-roads and canals, and also to appropriate money for that object. This motion prevail-

ed, and an appropriation was made to carry forward the construction of the Cumberland road. His efficient advocacy of this great work was gratefully acknowledged. There is now, we believe, on the national road, a monument of stone, surmounted by the genius of liberty, and bearing as an inscription the name of Henry Clay.

An opportunity was again afforded Mr. Clay in 1820, to advocate his great "American policy" of protection, which, however, did not commend itself to the favor of Congress. It was not until 1824, when the distress of the country and the prostration of the manufacturing interests had greatly increased, that a revision and enlargement of the tariff of 1816 was adopted. The operation of the protective tariff, in connection with the United States bank, which was now rapidly correcting the derangements in the currency, filled the land with gladness and prosperity. As Mr. Clay truly remarked when the repeal of the tariff was agitated in 1831, "if the term of seven years were to be selected, of the greatest prosperity which the people have enjoyed since the establishment of the present

constitution, it would be exactly the seven years which immediately followed the tariff of 1824."

The Missouri controversy in 1819, '20 and '21, enlisted the warmest feelings of Henry Clay. But it was not as a sectional agitator that he took part in the heated discussions of the day. His efforts were of a more ennobling character, and were exerted on the side of peace and harmony. Of the committee which finally reported the compromise by which the controversy was adjusted, Mr. Clay was chairman, and it was mainly through his efforts that an adjustment was effected.

For a brief period after the settlement of the Missouri controversy. Mr. Clay was not in Congress, having retired for the purpose of practising his profession, in order to repair the inroads whieh had been made upon his fortune. He was returned to the eighteenth Congress, and on taking his seat in December, 1823, was again elected Speaker of the House, over Mr. Barbour of Virginia, the late incumbent. In the course of this session, the subject of the Greek revolution came before Congress. Mr. Webster introduced this topic to

the House in a resolution "providing by law for defraying the expenses incident to the appointment of an agent or commissioner to Greece, whenever the President shall deem it expedient to make such an appointment." This he sustained in a speech of great power. Mr. Clay brought to its support the same feelings, the same warm sympathies, and the same strength of argument that he had arrayed around the subject of South American independence. Both of these great statesmen fought hard to procure the adoption of this resolution, but it was lost. Mr. Clay, however, when he was Secretary of State, succeeded in accomplishing the object for which he and Mr. Webster contended.

In 1824 Mr. Clay had the pleasure of welcoming Lafayette in behalf of the House of Representatives. Such was the influence of the Kentucky statesman at that period, that President Munroe offered him, at different times, a seat in the cabinet, and the choice of all the foreign missions. The offer was the more honorable to both parties in view of the fact that Mr. Clay differed with the President on the subject of the tariff and internal improvements.

Just before the close of Mr. Munroe's second term, (1824) the country was agitated by contentions for the succession. As candidates for this office, Messrs. J. Q. Adams, Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay and William H. Crawford had been brought forward by their respective friends. The number of candidates precluded the possibility of an election by the electors, and the probability was strong that Mr. Clay would be one of the three highest candidates from which, according to the constitution, Congress would be obliged to make a choice. Unfortunately, however, about the time when the Legislature of Louisiana (which was relied upon for Clay) made choice of her Presidential electors, three of the friends of Mr. Clay were taken sick, and the friends of Mr. Crawford and Mr. Adams seized the opportunity to make a coalition. They divided the five electoral votes of the State, so as to give the former three and the latter two. This consequently excluded Mr. Clay from the House, into which, had he gone, it is believed his election would have been probable, if not certain. The three candidates returned returned to the House were Andrew

Jackson, John Q. Adams, and W. H. Crawford. Mr. Clay gave his vote and used his powerful influence in behalf of Mr. Adams, who was elected. There can be no doubt that the views of Mr. Adams were more in accordance with those of Mr. Clay than were the views of either of the other candidates. But nevertheless, the fact that Mr. Clay supported Mr Adams, and afterwards accepted the nomination of Secretary of State, gave rise to a charge of bargain and corruption. This charge was completely refuted at the time, and is now generally acknowledged to be entirely unfounded. Among those who have come forward in defence of Mr. Clay against this charge we are happy to make honorable mention of Mr. Cass, whose political rivalry has not prevented him from doing justice to an opponent so maliciously and unjustly attacked. Mr. Adams, too, repeatedly and in the most solemn manner, vindicated Mr. Clay from this charge, and Mr. Benton, at the time, and also quite recently, has scouted the imputation.

By accepting a post in the cabinet under President Adams, Mr. Clay took leave of the field of his most brilliant labors. During his

occupancy of the chair, from 1811 to 1825, except for two years of voluntary absence, his decisions, though prompt, were seldom reversed. They were marked with the strictest impartiality, and friends and opponents readily acknowledged the value of his services, and the courtesy and dignity of his demeanor.

To follow the distinguished statesman through his new field of usefulness, as closely as we have during his early Congressional career, would require more room than we can devote to the subject He added to his already brilliant wreath of fame, new and enduring laurels. The number of treaties alone which were negotiated and concluded by him at Washington was greater than the number of all which had previously been concluded there from the first adoption of the federal constitution. These treaties relate principally to commerce, navigation and neutral rights, and were entered into between the United States, Central America, Prussia, Denmark and the Hanseatic Republic, and Austria. He abrogated in these treaties a clause introduced into the English treaties of 1815, by which English and American vessels were restricted in their mutu-

intercourse, to articles of the growth and manufacture of each, and inserted one in its place permitting them to enter the ports of the nation treated with, without regard to the place of growth or manufacture of their cargoes. The establishment of this great principle which has since been adopted in our commercial intercourse with Great Britain, removed one of the most serious impediments to the extension of navigation. For this, if for no other measure, the interests of America owe to Mr. Clay a lasting debt of gratitude.

Among the other official acts of the Kentucky statesman during his career as Secretary of State, was the recognition of the independence of Greece, to whom a Minister was sent. It was probably in some measure due to the efforts of Mr. Clay, that Russia interfered and decided the struggle in favor of the Greeks. The object of his letter to the Emperor of Russia, which probably influenced this result, was to induce him to use his good offices with the Court of Spain to persuade that government to terminate the sanguinary conflicts which it had waged for many years with its colonies in South America. This negotiation was fully

successful. The Emperor instructed his Minister at the Spanish Court to remonstrate in behalf the colonies, and the intervention was attended with favorable results.

We come now to speak of a passage in the life of Henry Clay, which dims the lustre of his fame,—of an offen e which he has more than expiated, however, by diminished popularity, and which he has regretted, perhaps, more deeply than any other act of his life. We allude to his duel with John Randolph. When we take into consideration the relations which subsisted between Mr. Clay and Mr. Randolph during the long period of their Congressional career, we can only wonder that, with the nice sense of honor peculiar to Southerners, a duel had not previously occurred. It was only through the forbearance of Mr. Clay that such a result was averted, and it was precipitated at this time, only by a most gross and offensive attack. The particulars of this duel are well known. The eccentric descendant of Pocahontas appeared on the ground in a huge morn ing gown. This garment constituted such a vast circumference, that the locality of "the thin and swarthy Senator" was at least a mat-

ter of very vague conjecture. The parties exchanged shots, and the ball of Mr. Clay hit the centre of the visible object, but Randolph was not there! The latter had fired in the air, and immediately after the exchange of shots he walked up to Mr. Clay, parted the folds of his gown, pointed to the hole where the bullet of the former had pierced his coat, and, in the shrillest tones of his piercing voice exclaimed, "Mr. Clay, you owe me a coat,—you owe me a coat!" to which Mr. Clay replied, in a voice of slow and solemn emphasis, at the same time pointing directly at Mr. Randolph's heart, "Mr. Randolph, I thank God that I am no *deeper* in your debt!"

This duel with Mr. Randolph, and that with Mr. Marshall, were two of the greatest errors in the life of Mr. Clay, and they probably contributed almost as much as any other of his acts, to keep him from the Presidency. There are few things in the character of a man more odious in the eyes of the people, than a reputation as a duellist. The two duels fought by Mr. Clay, were the result of circumstances which seemed beyond his control, but public opinion recognizes no justification for an offence of such an enormity.

Mr. Clay retired from office at the close of the administration of Mr. Adams, in 1828. In 1831 he was again elected to the United States Senate, and about the same time was nominated to the Presidency by a National Convention at Baltimore, in opposition to Gen. Jackson. During the session of 1831 and 1832, the subject of a revision of the tariff was agitated, and in part through the labors of Mr. Clay, the protective system was preserved unimpaired. This fact gave great offence to the South, and originated the nullification movement in which South Carolina took the lead, and by her very violence alienated the sympathies of her sister States. The various phases of this movement are too well known to require notice at the present time. Suffice it to say that the administration, although it nobly upheld the laws of the Union against the nullifiers, still showed a disposition to yield the whole ground, by recommending to Congress the reduction of the duties to a revenue standard. A bill of this character was introduced, and Mr. Clay brought forward a counter project, or compromise, which was finally adopted, and which in a measure restored peace and harmony,

while it preserved a vestige of the protective system. Among the most important characteristics of the new measure, was the principle of home valuation—a principle which was agreed to by Mr. Calhoun. It was during the discussions which grew out of these measures, that Mr. Webster dealt the death blow of nullification, in his celebrated reply to Hayne.

Another important measure brought forward by Mr. Clay at this session, was the bill for the distribution among the States of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, for the purposes of internal improvement This bill passed Congress in spite of the opposition of the administration. It was not signed, however, by the President. Although this measure was repeatedly urged at subsequent sessions by Mr. Clay, it was not until the Harrison administration came into power, that he succeeded in securing its passage and approval. It may be remarked in this connection that Mr. Clay, during his long Congressional career, invariably opposed all attempts like those which have become so common of late years, to divert the public lands from their original purpose—the equal use and benefit of all the States.

Soon after the adjournment of Congress, Mr. Clay made the tour of the Eastern cities, (including Boston,) and was everywhere received with enthusiastic popular demonstrations of respect and attachment.

The next great subject of public policy in which we find Mr. Clay actively engaged, was the Bank controversy. President Jackson in his first three annual messages, endeavored to influence Congress against re-chartering the United States Bank. Not succeeding in this, he vetoed the bill re-chartering the bank, and removed the deposits from the bank, and its branches to what were soon known as the pet banks. Mr. Clay introduced into the Senate resolutions declaring the reasons communicated by the Secretary of the Treasury for the removal of the deposits unsatisfactory and insufficient, and that the President in dismissing two previous Secretaries (Messrs. McLane and Duane,) because they would not, in violation of their sense of duty, remove the deposits, had assumed the exercise of a power over the treasury of the United States, not granted by the constitution and laws, and dangerous to the liberties of the people. These resolutions pass-

ed the Senate, and on the 17th of April, 1833, the President communicated to that body his celebrated protest, which was, by a vote of 27 to 16, excluded from the journals. Mr. Clay then introduced resolutions providing for the restoration of the deposits, which passed the Senate, but were laid on the table in the House.

The policy of President Jackson found in Mr. Clay a most uncompromising opponent. At one time we find him dealing his sledge hammer blows upon the pet bank system, and again urging the passage of a bill abating executive patronage. He opposed the plan recommended by General Jackson, of reprisals upon French commerce for non-payment of the spoliation claims, and reported to the Senate, as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, a resolution declaring the project inexpedient. This resolve passed, and was probably the means of averting a war. The policy of forbearance effected what menaces could not perform. Negotiations were again opened, and through the mediation of Great Britain, the differences between the two countries were amicably adjusted.

During the session of 1836, he declared in

favor of the right of petition, and was instrumental in procuring the recognition of the independence of Texas. The same year he accepted the appointment of President of the American Colonization Society. He was again re-elected Senator, his term having expired.

During the administration of Van Buren, which was one of strong political excitement, Mr. Clay was foremost in the attacks upon the policy which the President, "treading in the footsteps of his illustrious predecessor," had adopted. He opposed the sub-treasury scheme, urged the establishment of a national bank, and made his influence felt in urging or opposing other great public measures. There never was a time when the lines which separated the two great parties into which the people have ever been divided, were more distinctly defined than during the administration of Van Buren. Mr. Clay was then the acknowledged leader of the Whig party.

In December, 1839, a Whig Convention was held at Harrisburg for the nomination of a candidate for the Presidency. It was confidently expected that Mr. Clay would be the nominee. but the choice, as is well known, fell upon Gen-

eral Harrison. In this decision Mr. Clay acquiesced promptly, and labored zealously to promote the election of the hero of Tippecanoe.

Passing over the season of 1839, during which Mr. Clay continued to be the leading spirit of the Senate, we come to the extra session called by President Harrison, but which he did not live to communicate with. For the first time in many years there was a Whig majority in both branches of Congress. At this session Mr. Clay reported a plan for a national bank, which passed both Houses, but was vetoed by the President. Another bill was then framed, with special reference to the objections of the President, but was also vetoed. All will remember the astonishment and indignation with which these acts were greeted by the Whigs, and the undisguised exultation of their opponents. The policy which the Whigs had labored so earnestly and successfully to establish, had received a blow from a quarter whence it was least expected. The hopes which had been entertained of the establishment of a sound government were frustrated, and the Whig party became disheartened and disorganized. Mr. Clay, however, and other

leading Whig in Congress were not discouraged, but proceeded steadily with the great work of reform. The land bill, which the Kentucky statesman had urged during several sessions, was passed, and also the tariff bill and and the bankrupt law. The sub-treasury system of Van Buren was repealed. With the passage of these measures, Mr. Clay closed for a time his public life.

On the 31st of March, 1842, Mr. Clay retired to private life. He was nominated by the Whigs for the Presidency in 1844, but with the active influence of the government against him, was defeated. During this canvass he declared his hostility to the annexation of Texas, and prophesied the evils which have since resulted from that unwise and impolitic act. This act alienated the support of many of his Southern friends while it did not conciliate the friendship of those who were opposed to the annexation in the Northern States. The issue thus made probably contributed more than anything else to his defeat.

The claims of Mr. Clay for the Presidency were again urged in the Convention of 1848, but the availability of Gen. Taylor brought

abont the defeat of the more prominent candidates. The condition of the country was such on the accession of Gen. Taylor, as to call forth the most gloomy forebodings on the part of every true patriot. The dissensions which had grown out of the annexation of new territory, had produced a breach between the North and South which the acrimonious discussions of ambitious partizans, and the overardent zeal of honest but misguided reformers, only served to widen. When the controversy was at its height, Mr. Clay again made his appearance upon the stage of public life, in the character of a compromiser. He had been elected to the Senate by his own desire, in 1849, and he devoted his whole energies to the settlement of the existing difficulties. By his advice and influence a committee was appointed, of which he was chosen chairman, to consider and report some plan of adjustment of the questions at issue. This committee reported the series of measures known as the Compromise, which Mr. Clay advocated with his usual force and ability. It is doubtful, however, whether his labors would have been attended with success, had it not been for the powerfu

aid and co operation of Daniel Webster. The result is well known to the public The Compromise measures passed, and are now generally acquiesced in as a full and final settlement of the exciting and dangerous controversy which resulted from the annexation of Texas. The labors of Mr. Clay to bring about this settlement were earnest and self-sacrificing We believe they were dictated by an ardent desire to restore harmony to his distracted country.

This was the last great act of the public life of Henry Clay. It may be said with truth that he died in harness, for he was a member of the Senate at time of his death, and left his home at the beginning of this session to take his seat in that body. Those who have followed us in this sketch of his public career, cannot fail to remark that he has always taken a leading part in public affairs. A full history of his life would include a history of the legislation of the country during a period of forty years. He has left an enduring impress on the policy of this country, which time will not erase.

No public man in this country ever possessed, to a greater degree, the elements of personal

popularity. His affable deportment enlisted the feelings, while his eloquence warmed the hearts of the masses. Ardent and impetuous in his temperament, he was more fitted to lead than to follow, and his somewhat arbitrary will would brook no restraint from his party friends. Nevertheless, patriotism was the guiding star of his public career, and constituted him a safe leader. The harmony and prosperity of the confederacy was the great object of the labors of his life. Although he never attained the highest honor in the gift of the people, yet the Presidency could have added no new lustre to his name His fame is established on an enduring basis, and when some of the lesser lights who have occupied the Presidential chair, will be known only by name, the public services, the eloquence and the patriotism of Henry and his great compeer, Daniel Webster, will be the pride of America.

THE DEATH OF HENRY CLAY.

WASHINGTON. June 29 11 P. M. Mr. Clay was shaved about an hour before he died. His last words, as recollected by Gov. Jones, who was present, were a request to his son to fix his shirt collar. About twenty minutes before his death, he said to his son, "my son, I am going, and you had better sit by me." He simply slept away. So quiet was his death, that it was some five or ten minutes before Gov. Jones could satisfy himself that he was actually dead.

To-morrow morning the remains will pass into the charge of the Senate Committee, and they will determine whether they shall be exhibited to the public. Probably they will be. The body will be removed to Kentucky without being emtombed in Washington. and will be taken directly from the capitol to the depot.

Judge Underwood will announce Mr. Clay's death in the Senate, and Mr. Breckenridge in the House.

Mr. Clay had long been aware that he could not recover, but not a murmur was ever heard to cross his lips, beyond the regret he felt at the trouble he supposed he gave his friends. His mind retained its clearnes to the last, but his body was so wasted that he lay for weeks as helpless as an infant. His expectoration was so profuse for weeks before his death, that

it was feared when he had no longer the power of throwing off the phlegm, that he would suffocate. Fortunately this danger was avoided by his ceasing to expectorate several days ago. He has consequently suffered little pain. His son made him aware of the result of the Whig Convention, but he appeared to take little interest in it His last words this morning, addressed to his son, were, "I am dying, I am going." His death was as calm as an infant's sleep. During his illness he has been attended by Rev. Dr. Butler, of Trinity Church, and partook of the sacrament several times.

His body is wasted away to a mere shadow. In fact, life clung to him apparently whilst there was a remnant of his former self left. It is wonderful how he survived as long as he did.

His family have requested on several occasions, permission to come on here and attend him. He would not, however, consent that any one out his eldest son should be here.

In conversation with a friend a few days before his death, Mr. Clay remarked that he was aware of his speedy dissolution, but, said he, "if I knew I should die to-morrow, I should be prepared to meet it with composure."

Thomas Clay and a Committee of the Senate will accompany the remains to Ashland

The coffin which is to contain the remains of the lamented Clay, left for Washington last evening It is one of Fiske's metallic burial cases, is made of cast iron, and beautifully or-

namented. The inside is lined with white satin, wadded and quilted. The outside is covered with black broadloth of the finest texture, neatly draped and trimmed with a heavy fringe. On the top are three silver plates, and at the foot is a plate on which is engraved a rose, with stem and leaves, and a worm protruding from one of the leaves, that has knawed the flower from the stem, and it hangs ready to drop--fit emblem of the sad fate of Henry Clay.

Mr. Clay's countenance immediately after death looked like an antique cast. His features seemed to be perfectly classical; and the repose of all the muscles gave the lifeless body a quiet majesty, hardly reached by a living human being. His last request was that his body might be buried in Lexington, by the side of his friends and relatives.

One of the most remarkable phenomena accompanying the sickness and gradual dissolution of Mr. Clay, was a species of second sight —a living dream: dreamed with the perfect consciousness that it was a dream, which brought to his beside not only the persons of his living friends, but also those who had departed this life for many years. What a blessing it must have been to a man of such warm affections as Mr. Clay, to be thus surrounded by all he loved or had loved—to have the grave, which was about to encompass him, surrender the dead, by the magic attraction of his departing spirit!

THE FUNERAL OF MR. CLAY AT WASHINGTON.—The funeral cortege moved from the National Hotel at 12 o'clock. The following was the order of procession:

Military Escort.
Dr. Hall, Attending Physician.
Sergeant-at-Arms.
Senate Committee of Arrangements.
FUNERAL CAR,
Flanked on each side by Pall-bearers.
Senators and Representatives of Kentucky, as Mourners.
Members of the Senate, preceded by its President and Officers.
Members of the House of Representatives, preceded by its Speaker and Officers.
The President and his Cabinet.
Justices of the Supreme Court, and other Judges and Law Officers.
Officers of the Army and Navy.
The Baltimore Delegation.
Corporation Officers, and City Councils of Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria.
Mechanics and Laborers on the Capitol, headed by Architect Walker and Sup. Strong.
Citizens and Strangers.

The procession having been seated in the Senate Chamber, which was densely filled, Rev. C. M. Butler, Chaplain of the Senate, read the 15th chapter of the First Epistle to the Corinthians, beginning with the 36th verse. He then delivered a sermon, from the 17th verse of the xlviiith chapter of Jeremiah.

"How is the strong staff broken and the beautiful rod."

The sermon was a fine production, and showed great intimacy with the illustrious dead, and a high appreciation of and veneration for his noble character. We make a few extracts;

"A nation's mighty heart throbs against this Capitol, and beats through you In many cities, banners droop, bells toll, cannons boom, funeral draperies wave. In crowded streets, and on surrounding wharves—upon steamboats and upon cars—in fields and in workshops—in homes, in schools—millions of men, women and children have their thoughts fixed upon this scene, and say mournfully to each other, this is the hour in which, at the Capitol, the Nation's Representatives are burying Henry Clay! Burying Henry Clay? Bury the records of your country's history! Bury the hearts of living millions! Bury the mountains, the river, the lakes and the spreading lands from sea to sea with which his name is inseparably associated, and even then you would not bury Henry Clay, for he is in other lands and speaks in other tongues, and to other times than ours. A great mind, a great heart, a great orator, a great career have been consigned to history. She will record his rare gifts of deep insight, keen discrimination, clear statement, rapid imagination, plain, direct and convincing logic. She will love to dwell on that large, generous magnanimous, open, forgiving heart. She will linger with fond de-

light on the recorded or traditional stories of an eloquence that was so masterful and stirring, because it was but himself struggling to come forth on loving words; because, though the words were strong and beautiful and melodious, it was felt that behind them there was a soul braver, stronger, more beautiful and more melodious than language could express."

The duties, responsibilities, and high calling of a Christian statesman were then drawn in distinct and truthful characters, when the divine continued:

"Such is the character of that statesmanship which alone would have met the full approval of the venerated dead, for the religion which always had a place in the conviction of his mind has also, within a recent period, entered into his experince, and seated itself in his heart. Twenty years since he wrote:

'I am a member of no religious sect, and I am not a professor of religion; I regret that I am not; I wish that I was, and trust that I shall be; I have and always have had a profound regard for Christianity, the religion of my fathers, and for its rites, its usages and observances.'

"That feeling proved that the seed sown by pious parents was not dead though stifled. A few years since its dormant life was re-awakened. He was baptised in the communion of the Protestant Episcopal church, and during his sojourn in this city he was in full communion with Trinity parish. He averred to me his

full faith in the great leading doctrines of the gospel, the fall and sinfulness of man, the divinity of Christ, the reality and necessity of the atonement, the need of being born again by the spirit and salvation through faith in the crucified Redeemer.

"His own personal hopes of salvation he ever and distinctly based on the promises and the grace of Christ. Strikingly perceptible on his naturally impetuous and impatient character was the influence of grace in producing submission and patient watching for Christ and death.

"On one occasion he spoke to me of the pious example of one very near and dear to him as that which led him deeply to feel and earnestly to seek for himself, the reality and blessedness of religion. On another occasion, when he was supposed to be near his end, I expressed to him the hope that his mind and heart was at peace, and that he was able to rest with cheerful confidence on the promises and merits of the Redeemer. He said, with much feeling, that he endeavored to, and trusted that he did repose his salvation upon Christ. That it was too late to look at Christianity in the light of speculation. He had never doubted its truth, and he now wished to throw himself upon it as a practical and blessed remedy. Very soon after this I administered to him the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Being extremely feeble, and desirous of having his mind undiverted, no persons were present but

his son and servant. It was a scene long to be remembered. There in that still chamber, at a week day noon, the tides of life all flowing strong around us, three disciples of the Saviour—the minister of God, the dying statesman, and his servant a partaker of the like precious faith—commemorated their Saviour's dying love.

"His hope continued to the end though true and real, to be tremulous with humanity rather than rapturous with assurance. On the evening previous to his departure, sitting an hour in silence by his bedside, I could not but realize when I heard in the slight wanderings of his mind to other days and other scenes, murmuring the words, 'My mother—mother—mother;' and saying, 'My dear wife,' as if she were present—I could not but realize then, and rejoice to think how near was the blessed reunion of his weary heart with the loved dead, and with her (our dear Lord gently smooth her passage to the tomb) who must soon follow him to his rest, whose spirits even then seemed to visit and to cheer his memory and his hope. Gently he breathed his soul away into the spirit world"

Reception of the Remains of Henry Clay at Philadelphia.—Our citizens, at the request of the Committee of Arrangements, commenced closing their stores at 3 o'clock this afternoon. The hotels and other buildings are decorated with mourning. The declaration room, Independence Hall, is draped with

black, and a cenotaph erected in the centre, upon which the coffin will rest.

At ten minutes past 8 o clock, signal rockets from Broad and Prince streets, gave notice of the arrival of the train. Broad street was one dense mass of people, and also Market street, down to the depot.

Owing to the difficulty in arranging the various associations and fire companies in order, 10 o'clock arrived before the whole body got in motion.

In addition to Whig associations of different Wards, the City Councils and Committees of various districts, there were 41 fire companies in the line, and at least 3000 torches During th march of the procession, minute guns were fir d, and the solemn tolling of church and fire bells impressed all with feelings of regret and awe. The coffin was placed in a funeral car drawn by six black horses, led by grooms. The First City Troops formed the guard of honor, flanked by a file of men with torches. The procession formed a most imposing sight, and will long be remembered by all who witnessed this touching token of respect to the memory of the great and good.

THE OBSEQUIES OF CLAY IN NEW YORK.—New York, July 2. The remains of Henry Clay arrived at Jersey City at 3 o'clock, and left with the various committees, city authorities, &c., in the new ferry boat Philadelphia, for Castle Garden, where, owing to the lowness of the tide a landing was not effected until 4

o'clock; shortly after which, the mournful cortege proceeded up Broadway to the City Hall, where it arrived at quarter before five. The hearse was hung around with crape in festoons, with large pendants. It was drawn by eight white horses, decorated with sable plumes, each led by a groom attired in black. Business of all kinds in the lower part of Broadway, &c, was suspended, and the stores closed; most of the warehouses, public buildings, &c., are tastefully hung with crape.

Great crowds assembled along the line of march, and a general gloom pervaded the whole scene; flags were displayed in all directions at half mast, minute guns were fired and bells tolled. The Governor's room, in which the body is placed, is appropriately trimmed. The portraits of the Presidents, Governors of our State government, and other distinguished personages, are decorated with crape. Directly over the cenotaph upon which the body is placed, hangs a truthful likeness of Henry Clay, and under it these words: "A Nation Mourns Thy Loss."

FUNERAL OF HENRY CLAY IN LEXINGTON.—A more lovely morning never dawned upon the earth than the morning of Saturday, July 10, 1852, the day that HENRY CLAY was buried. Early in the day, in company with a friend, I drove out to Ashland. The gate at the entrance of the grounds stood open, several carriages had already entered and were seen here and there upon the road which winds

up to the old family mansion. Having an hour to spare before the Committee of Arrangements would arrive, we strolled over the grounds. The blacks, of whom there are on the estate upward of thirty, were to be seen here and there, wearing the mourning badge upon their holiday garments, and signs of grief, not to be mistaken, in their countenances. We brushed the dew from the grass as we passed round to the rear of the house and entered the garden where Mr. Clay had for so many years, day after day, enjoyed his morning walk. Old Adams, the black gardener, stood at the entrance, offered to show us through the flower garden, and plucked for us a boquet of roses. I enclose for you a few small buds, which, doubtless, when you receive them, will still retain a portion of the fragrance imparted to them by the earth that has been pressed so often by the feet of the illustrious Clay.

Having surveyed the classic grounds, we returned to the house, and gazed upon its walls, heaved a sigh at the appearance of decay presented by the exterior, noted the folds of sable cloth that hung about the entrance, and the platform spread also with black just in front of the main door. We had time while waiting for the ceremonies to commence, to view the interior of the mansion. The parlors are richly and tastefully furnished, but all the paintings and valuable mementos belonging to the deceased, were hidden from view by a covering of white muslin. The coffin was standing in the back parlor, at the right of the reception

room. The plate had not been removed since the body left Washington, so that no person, not even the family, had looked upon the face of the deceased. The undertaker informed us that the metalic burial case had proved defective, and that as the body had become decomposed, he had noticed an offensive smell on one or two occasions. This was imperceptible when the remains were at rest, but it was thought not best to expose the face even to the family

At 9 o'clock the people began to arrive in great numbers. Nobody was admitted to the house but the Congressional Committee, the Lexington Committee of Arrangements, the Committee of the Masonic fraternity, the reporters of the press, the clergyman who was to officiate on the occasion, and a few near friends.

The surviving sons of the deceased, Thomas Hart Clay, James Clay and John Clay, received and introduced the various persons admitted. Theodore Clay, the remaining son, of course was not present; you are aware that he has been an inmate of the Frankfort Lunatic Hospital during seventeen years past. Mrs. Clay, the widow, came in and stood a moment beside the coffin; her health was too feeble to permit her to follow the remains of her husband to the grave.

At 10 o'clock the coffin was removed to the platform in front of the house. Thousands of persons were assembled round it, waiting to

witness the ceremonies. Rev Mr. Berkley, of Christ Church Lexington, performed the burial services of the Episcopal Church, from the door steps. When he had concluded the regular services, he delivered a beautiful eulogy upon the character of the deceased, speaking particularly with reference to his religious character and manifold virtues exhibited in his public and private life. A solemn stillness pervaded the assembled multitude, and many a cheek was moistened by tears.

When he had concluded that portion of the procession delegated to escort the body to Lexington, formed in front of the mansion.

The car was a magnificent structure, draped in black, surmounted with a colossal urn, representing silver, and this in turn surmounted with a large eagle, plated with silver, and holding in its beak a pall of black crape, which enveloped the whole car.

The coffin, with its mahogany covering, being placed in the car, the procession started, the mourners following in carriages. Arrived at Lexington, the special escort joined the main procession, and proceeded to the cemetery.

At 1 o'clock the procession reached the cemetery, which is a lovely spot of ground, containing some thirty acres, and interspersed with every variety of surface and scenery. A dense crowd surrounded the public vault, where the coffin was to be deposited. The vault is constructed in the side of a hill, the entrance

being at the bottom of a beautiful ravine, surrounded by high ground on every side. As the head of the procession wound slowly along the hill side in its descent to the tomb, a spectacle was presented which will not be effaced from the memory of those present. Upon each ridge of ground rising from the valley below, stood thousands and tens of thousands of people, heeding not the broiling heat of the sun, but gazing intently down upon the tomb that yearned to receive into its dark and narrow portals the body of him whose fame fills a universe.

The services that had been commenced at Ashland, were now concluded by Rev. Mr. Berkley, and the body was deposited in the vault by the Masonic fraternity, with the impressive form and ceremonies peculiar to that order. Then the doors of the vault were closed, and the body of Henry Clay, the statesman, the orator, the patriot, was left to rest in peace.

The procession afterward passed through the principal streets of the city.

MR. CLAY'S FAMILY.

Mrs CLAY is now 71 years of age, and although her health is feeble, has the appearance of a lady of 50 Her name was LUCRETIA HART, and her native place Lexington Mr. CLAY married her shortly after he came to Lexington from his native State, Virginia.

By her he has had eleven children, three of whom died in childhood.

Eliza Clay died suddenly in 1824 while on the way to Washington in company with her father Her age was about sixteen. Another daughter, Mrs. Dubale of New Orleans, died about the same time. In 1835, another and the only remaining daughter, the wife of Jas. Erwin, of New Orleans, died also.

Of the eleven children, only four now live, Henry Clay Jr having fallen at the battle of Buena Vista. His body is interred in the family lot at Lexington.

Theo. Wythe Clay, who has been a lunatic since his boyhood, is near fifty years of age, being the eldest son. His recovery is hopeless. His lunacy is characterized by melancholy, with occasional fits of violence.

Thos. Hart Clay is the proprietor of Mansfield, a fine estate near Lexington, and devotes himself for the most part to the cultivation of hemp. His age is 42.

Jas. B. Clay, aged 30, is also a farmer, and owns a large estate near St. Louis, Mo., where he has a large dairy, and is engaged extensively in rearing stock.

John Clay, the youngest, is 28 years of age, and resides at home, managing the farm, and devoting a portion of his time to the profession of the law. In appearances he resembles his father more than any of the other sons. His features are similar, his hair has the same dry,

sandy appearance, and hangs about his features in the same careless manner.

All the sons are highly intellectual in appearance, but none of them have yet given promise of future greatness.

Of the 35 slaves owned by Mr. CLAY, Abraham, the groomsman is the oldest, being near sixty. Adams, the gardener, is 55 years of age. Thornton, Mr. CLAY's body servant, received from the hands of his master his free papers, but never left him, even after death, until the corpse was placed in the tomb.

The remains will not rest permanently in the vault where they were placed yesterday, but will be removed to the Clay family lot in the same cemetery, as soon as preparations have been made by the people of Lexington to lay the foundation of the monument to his memory. This event will take place some time next fall, when Daniel Webster is expected to deliver the oration.

RELIGIOUS CHARACTER OF MR. CLAY.

Theodore Frelinghuysen, who served with Mr. Clay many years in the Senate, and who was upon the same ticket with him in 1844, bears the following testimony to the religious character of his friend and associate. It is from his own private correspondence:

I have thought that a few extracts from a

friendly correspondence, evincing this serious and devout temper, would be grateful to you to hear. They show how universal is the need of a Gospel hope for the noblest and the humblest—that however human distinctions exist, and usefully, yet before God there is but one level; and they show also how far more gloriously true greatness beams upon us from the foot of the Cross, penitentially seeking peace through the blood of him that once died upon it for our sakes.

In 1836, after the severe domestic affliction in the death of a married daughter, he wrote to a friend:

I thank you for the deep interest you so kindly take in my spiritual welfare; I should be most happy to have full confidence and assurance on that serious subject. It is one on which, if I had given no evidence to the world of its having engaged my serious thoughts, I have long and I indulge the hope that I ultimately shall find peace. My late affliction has taught me an awful lesson and impressed me with a solemn conviction of the utter vanity of all earthly things."

Again, in 1844, he writes:

"You have, my dear friend, however, kindly suggested the truest of all consolation, in the resources of our holy religion. I have long been persuaded of that solemn truth; nor have I been entirely neglectful of exertions to secure myself its benefit. I wish I could add that I felt entire confidence that those exertions

have been crowned with success. But they shall not be intermitted; and I trust that by diligent searching, I shall find faith in our Lord Jesus, that solace which no earthly honors or possessions can give."

In 1846, he again writes:

"I am greatly obliged, my dear friend, by the kind interest you take in my spiritual welfare. I feel much more comfortable than I did on that subject I hope and believe that I have improved in my religious feelings, and in the performance of my religious duties. I attend the Episcopal Church regularly, and with satisfaction, but I have not yet become a member of it. This I hope to do. I must own, however, with regret, that I do not yet feel that *absolute* confidence in my future salvation which some Christians profess to have in theirs."

Not long after he lost his son Col. Clay, in one of the Mexican battles, with Gen. Taylor. God seems to have blessed this most afflictive bereavement in clearing his way to the truth as it is in Jesus. For, together with the little children of his beloved son, he was baptized and himself received into the communion of the church.

When, after these events, a friend referred to his having come out on the side of the Saviour, and confessed him before men, he fervently replied:

"Yes, Sir, and it has been to me a source of inexpressible consolation."

And during his late protracted illness, the

calm composure of his contemplations, and the peaceful resignation of his mind, in prospect of his approaching dissolution, cheer our hearts with the trust that his Savior was near with the support of His grace, and ministered unto him with the everlasting consolations of His gospel.

Rev. Theodore Clapp of New Orleans says:

"The last winter of his residence here, in the family of Dr. Mercer, in a private interview, I had the pleasure of listening to his sentiments on the most interesting of all subjects, religion. He said, 'I believe in the truth of Christianity, though I am not certain of having experienced that change of heart which divines call the new birth. But I trust in God and Jesus, and hope for immortality. I have not for years retired at night without prayer for the blessing of Heaven; and that, in His infinite mercy, He would be pleased to prepare me for the joys of another and better world. I have tried the world and found its emptiness. It cannot fill and satisfy the human mind. My dear sir, how utterly *disconsolate* should we be without something better beyond the grave!' Instructive spectacle! Here is a man prosperous and powerful, great in genius and achievments, whom the whole nation had fairly idolized for nearly half a century—whose name has floated across oceans and reached the utmost boundaries of the civilized world—who solemnly assures us that all terrestial glories to him appeared less than

nothing in comparison with a hope in the mercy which Jesus Christ has revealed."

HENRY CLAY.

If the dead are conscious of the events of earth, and are permi ted triumph or consolation in them, what a joy must swell the great soul which yesterday passed from among men. From north to south, and from east to west, far and wide as the lightning could bear the solemn tidings of the death of Henry Clay, one universal response of sad, yet proud emotion has vibrated from the hearts of freedom's millions. The lips of the reviler and the censor have been in a moment hushed; differences of opinion over the man living, are forgotten at the shrine of the mighty and immortal dead; party and its bounds retreat into darkness, and eulogy, looking only at the genius, the virtue, the patriotism, the integrity, and the splendor of half a century of pure and glorious life devoted to the service of his country and mankind, pours all its treasures to the memory of Henry Clay. O, Death!

> "Thou art the avenger or the good,
> By hate and malice shafts pursued"

No man has lived to centre himself a prouder admiration or a deeper love, and man never had more faithful and devoted friend than Henry Clay. Only death could measure the fealty of millions of hearts which have beat for him through every phase of his fortune and glory;

which have triumphed in their triumphs, joyed in his joy, mingled their tears with his sorrow, and which now mourn his death, and enshrine his memory forever. For all that peerless life, whose deeds are written on the brightest page of a nation's history, in the senate, the cabinet, and in the shades of his peaceful and beautiful Ashland, Henry Clay needs no perpetuating column of cold stone,

"No pompous pillar nor engraven tomb."

It has its urn and mausoleum in a nation's heart—in the heart of man wherever freedom and humanity triumph. The Bolivian and the Greek shall utter one high name to the remotest ages, and the farthest continents and isles shall yet hymn it in unison with the land that gave birth, and which is enobled by his ashes and his memory.

The sorrow of the hour is universal. It speaks in hamlet and city, in every valley, and on every hillside. It throbs in the bell-toll and the booming cannon; it sighs in innumerable craped banners, floating half mast, and in all the white sails that flutter more freely and proudly over freedom's keel on all waters, since the voice of Henry Clay thundered forth that glorious motto,

"Free Trade and Sailor's Rights."

The sorrow of the hour is universal—yet, not untempered. The idol it mourns is not perished, but exalted. Its cup of mortal fame full, it has passed to the immortal. It leaves

no desire of goodness or greatness unanswered. It has crowned the faith, the ideal of its worshipers; and hence—

"Companion with its God,
The soul of genius walks abroad,
Uplift from earth to native skies,
Pursuing prouder destinies."

THE LEAF TURNS.

Life is a book, the leaves of which are ever turning by the wings of fate. For none of us remains the same page constantly laid open. The leaf turns, and we read a new page—another—and another—and thus to the last. Consoling and joyous truth! the acceptance of which explains the enigma of "Never despair!" Thou weepest now—see the leaf turns, and thou smilest Thou sufferest—the leaf turns—thou art gladdened. Thou art happy now, even thou shalt see thy leaf of happiness turn to show thee that of sorrow. But be not spiritless! Hast thou not heard the storm arise, and again become calm? hast thou not seen the thunder clouds drawn up on a summer heaven, and again dispersed? See, the leaf turns—thou hast thy joy, thy bright skies again.

And should the wind even for some time remain quiet, subjecting thee to dwell long, perhaps, on a melancholy episode, then despair never! Eternal quiet is not found this side of heaven. Patience only! Hear the

winds playing again—the leaf turns, and with swelling sails thou art borne upon the dancing billows. And after having read through many, many leaves, after having in turn suffered and enjoyed, wept and smiled—when thou art weary of these ever-changing scenes, when thy feeble eye listlessly rests upon the pale writing before you, then once more turns the leaf, and thou dost rest!

The night is come—the winds are hushed. Death's leaf! how it rises, as if touched by unearthly power! Is not all ended? No! See the morning break; see the sun's shooting rays; life again respires Death's leaf has turned—thou seest that of eternal life.