

Table-talk.

WE opine that the table-talk all over the land, corresponds on many points, in these days. We go to our meals (rations rather) for rest and refreshment, leaving further effort and care, for the nonce, and before we know it, and while the knife and fork are out skirmishing in different directions, the verbal feast waxes high. Market prices are serious subjects, and grave differences of opinion are apt to follow their introduction;—but some of us have special consolation touching this subject, for our fish and cabbage, the best the land and water can produce, are free gifts, (thanks to the Surgeon in charge,) making our table highly desirable, both in an economical and gastronomic point of view.

We are happy to testify that we have not heard a cheerless sentence uttered at the table, since the election; consequently, we are bound to believe that dyspepsia so hopelessly commonplace all over the land, must give way before the Sanitary influence of elections like our last. Success and thanksgiving go together, both adding greatly to the geniality and joyousness that furnish such capital seasoning for a light digestive meal.

We believe there is no topic in Hospital quite so fruitful of speculation, endless comment, serious reflection, and close inspection, as diet. Interest in this subject has become so intense and general, that every hand is willingly extended in the direction that will aid an facilitate the best plan for its perfectness;—and we doubt, (always leaving room for improvement,) if a better plan has been constructed, for order and nicety of arrangement, than the present one in operation at the Naval School.

For the Crutch.

Union Celebration.

Monday evening was the occasion of a Grand Torch-Light Procession and Union Meeting, in Annapolis, to celebrate the glorious triumph of the Union cause, and the re-election of our present Chief Magistrate. The inhabitants of the Ancient City probably never witnessed a display on so magnificent a scale since its incorporation, and were, doubtless, (those patriotically and loyally inclined) jubilant and revived; while to the unpatriotic and disloyal inclined, it must have caused chagrin little favoured or comfortable.

The procession formed at the rifle-pits at the termination of West Street, at about 6 o'clock, and by about 7 o'clock the line formed and moved under the Chief Marshalship of Lt. Col. CHAMBERLAIN. The Provost Guard, consisting of a company, led the column, to clear the streets, then followed Col. CHAMBERLAIN and Staff, consisting of Staff Officers from Camp Parole and the General Hospitals, next succeeding was the Band of Division No. 1, which preceded the Fire Company and Engine of this Hospital; the Engine drawn partly by horses, and handsomely decorated with flags, mottoes, and torches. After them came a long line of men from Division No. 1, and College Green Barracks, bearing torches and transparencies; then following a beautiful boat on wheels, drawn by six horses and decorated with flags and torches, after which came the employees of the Quartermaster's Department, and following them a long line of men from Camp Parole bearing torches, preceded by the fine Eastern Shore Band formerly at this Hospital, and last a long line of citizens bearing torches or transparencies.

The procession proceeded down West Street to Church Circle, turned down Green Street to Main Street, up Main Street to Church Circle, up Church Street to State House Circle, round the Circle to East Street, down East Street to the Naval Academy Hospital, down to the right by the GOVERNOR'S to the lower gate of the Hospital, through the Hospital grounds to the main entrance, out the main entrance to the right to Tabernacle Street, up Tabernacle Street by St. John's College

Hospital to Prince George's Street, down Prince George's Street to Market Street, and down this street to Market Square, the place of meeting.

All along the line many houses were beautifully illuminated. From the suburbs of the city to Church Circle, on either side the gleam of lights gave evidence of the feelings of the people. MR. SEABROOK'S residence was handsomely illuminated, and decorated with flags and flowers. Many other houses on this street were ablaze with lights of different kinds. Only some portions of Green Street exhibited much display. MRS. GAMBRIE'S house, corner of Main and Green Streets, was brilliant from top to bottom. Passing up Main Street many private houses were handsomely illuminated, including Mr. MONROE'S, who displayed several beautiful transparencies with appropriate mottoes. The CITY HOTEL, AMERICAN HOUSE, HOLLAND HOUSE, and others, showed the spirit of their inmates. The GOVERNOR'S Mansion gleamed with lively brilliancy, and presented a beautiful view. St. JOHN'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL was light from stem to stern, and much taste was displayed in its decoration. Prince George's Street was bright and cheerful, flags were flying, windows were decorated, and the blaze of light almost vied with the brilliancy of the moon of that evening.

When the procession reached the corner of Green and Main Streets, the artillery, under the direction of CAPT. MILLER, U. S. ARMY, boomed out its loud detonations, which, with the loud huzzas of the multitude, rent the air with rejoicings, and stirred the patriotic feeling of the masses to their highest pitch.

The procession halted at the stand at Market Square, around and about which there was a blaze of resplendency scarcely witnessed in cities of more pretensions. Post Head Quarters and the adjoining two buildings were illuminated in every pane from cellar to attic, and elegantly decorated with flags and transparencies. The display of pyrotechnics was quite an interesting feature of the occasion. The entire square from street to street was filled with an enthusiastic multitude, which included many of the fair sex.

The meeting was called to order by COLONEL ROOT, Commanding the Post, MR. CARTER was appointed Secretary. MR. SEABROOK presented a series of resolutions which were loudly responded to. Hon. MR. RANDALL, then opened the meeting by a stirring address, who was followed by MR. SEABROOK, MR. FIERY, CAPT. CURRY, CAPT. BLODGETT, and others.

After cheering, and three times three for the President and other celebrities, the large crowd dispersed, evidently well pleased with the grand fete, which no doubt left impressions long to be remembered.

For the Crutch.

The Right Will Prevail.

The war in which we are engaged for the preservation of the Union, has lasted much longer than any of us anticipated at the commencement of the rebellion. No one supposed that the conflict would continue for one year. But now we are in the fourth year of this terrible struggle. Any one who believes in a divine revelation, and that an infinite providence rules in the affairs of nations, will not be discouraged or disheartened, in respect to the final issue, though the conflict still rages. Great principles are involved; not merely principles affecting our own national prosperity, but those relating to the welfare of the whole human family. It has always been the case, that great principles and the purposes of good to mankind, are brought to light and established only through long processes. Good is always in the end, obtained from the evil which we are called to endure.—We know that infinite wisdom has a brighter and more exalted position for our nation, than she occupied before this civil strife began. And it will go on until that position is attained. The right will prevail. We may have enemies in the front, contending with all the power of artillery to destroy the government, and enemies in the rear, a worse foe, insidiously plotting its overthrow, but their efforts will all come to naught. What a mighty advance have we made already towards this position.—Because the war is not over, and peace, that blessed boon, so much desired by every lover of his country, is

not vouchsafed to us yet, by the Great Ruler of the Universe, we are apt to overlook the gradual success obtained and the accomplishment of events, all tending to peace and perpetuity, and the destruction of every cause that can endanger the Union. Let any one enumerate these gains, and they will not be discouraged. It would not do for us to end this war in a few months—a year, or four years. Great events, principles that must effect for good, myriads of the race of man are evolved through long and painful processes. This is the history of all past ages. And it will be our history. We met with a disastrous and disgraceful defeat at the first battle of Bull Run. And who cannot read in all that has transpired since, even with disaster and gloom, a steady, gradual tending towards a final awakening into that strong and noble position which the nation is to occupy. It would not have done for right and loyalty to have won the victory in that first great contest. There was a greater weight of glory in store for us as a nation. And like gold, the nation must pass through the fiery furnace, until all the dross, the evil, and the false theories and the false interpretations of the constitution, are all purged away. This could not be done in a day. It could not be done by a constant round of victories at the opening of the struggle. We must be educated and brought to view things through a true medium, by events as they transpire while the contest goes on. Each year brings us nearer to the true stand point. And the nearer we get to the end, the fiercer, more inveterate and implacable will the enemies of these principles become. The devil was never more busy and wrathful, than when He who brought life and immortality to light, appeared on the earth. And so, when the end approacheth, it is represented that his power will be redoubled and his wrath excited to the highest pitch. Courage then. The right will prevail. Maryland is free. The territory of our National Capitol is free. And the government holds in possession portions of every rebellious State. And copperheads we trust, will soon be as harmless and as silent, as when St. Patrick drove the snakes and toads from the beautiful Emerald Isle.

Conundrums and Queries.

Is it honorable for a gentleman to return a lady's affections without making his reasons known to the public?

A McClellan man asks if the bird-picture in last week's CRUTCH, was not a foul proceeding?

Why is the Fifth Section the best rationed one in the yard? Because it has plenty of stakes and tender-lines, and coffee and tea, strong enough to be intense, (in tents.)

Is a sailor necessarily an anchorite.

A young person asks for information, why pipes are allowed in the Chapel during services, and if it is proper for the clock to run, when everybody is expected to keep still.

Why is a hen immortal? Because her son never sets.

WHAT is the difference between Noah's ark and an archbishop? Noah's ark was high, but the archbishop is a hierarch, (higher ark.)

The following parties are respectfully requested not to attend either of the series of Popular Lectures to be given in the city the ensuing winter:

The man with creaking boots.

The woman with the cough.

The man who sees a friend and desires to sit beside him.

The man who insists upon procuring a better seat for the ladies under his escort.

The woman who cannot refrain from audible criticisms on the looks of the lecturer.

The man who eats pea-nuts.

The man who laughs in the wrong place.

The man who is invariably ten minutes late.

The young woman who goes invariably to see the fashions.

The man who invariably has to go out five minutes before the termination of the lecture.

The man who continues to read his evening paper during the entire lecture.