

SKETCHES AND STATISTICS

OF

CINCINNATI IN 1851:

BY CHARLES CIST.

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V. PUBLIC AUTHORITIES.

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COURTS OF JUDICATURE.

BESIDE the administration of township magistrates residing in Cincinnati, and of the Mayor, who derives his authority under the city charter, there are four courts held here: the Supreme Court of Ohio, the Court of Common Pleas, the Superior Court, and the Commercial Court of Cincinnati.

1. THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO holds its session here, in the month of March, annually. The constitution and laws of this State have conferred upon the Supreme Court, original jurisdiction, concurrent with that of the Common Pleas Court, in all civil cases at law where the cause or matter in dispute exceeds one thousand dollars; and appellate jurisdiction from the Court of Common Pleas, the Superior Court, and the Commercial Court of Cincinnati, in all cases in which these courts have original jurisdiction. This court has also original jurisdiction, concurrent with that of the Court of Common Pleas, of all offenses, the punishment whereof is capital. It is also invested with authority to issue all writs which may be necessary to enforce the due administration of justice, and for the exercise of its jurisdiction, agreeably to the usages and principles of law.

2. THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS for Hamilton County holds three sessions annually for the transaction of civil business,—four for the trial of criminal causes. This court has original jurisdiction in all civil cases, both in law and equity, where the sum or matter in dispute exceeds the jurisdiction of justices of the peace. It has also *exclusive* cognizance of all crimes, offenses, and misdemeanors, the punishment whereof is not capital, and concurrent jurisdiction with the Supreme Court of all crimes, the punishment whereof is capital. It has exclusive jurisdiction likewise, of all matters of a probate and testamentary nature—though the new constitution formed by the Convention, but subject to the adoption or rejection of the people in the month of June ensuing, among other changes in the judicial system, directs the establishment of a new and distinct court, to which the sole jurisdiction of probate matters shall be confided. The Court of Common Pleas, upon appeal from the decisions of the

county commissioners, supervises the public economy of the county. It revises the proceedings of justices of the peace in civil matters upon certiorari and appeal, determines all contested elections of sheriffs and other county officers, grants licenses, fixes the rates of ferriage, and appoints inspectors of meat, flour, &c.

3. THE SUPERIOR COURT was established in 1838, for the purpose of facilitating the dispatch of business on the civil docket of the Court of Common Pleas. It has concurrent jurisdiction with the Court of Common Pleas, in all civil causes at common law and in chancery, wherein the last mentioned court has original jurisdiction. The three sessions of this court commence in January, June, and October.

4. THE COMMERCIAL COURT OF CINCINNATI was established in 1848, and for the same purpose as that for which the Superior Court was organized, viz.: to expedite the administration of justice in civil causes. It has concurrent original jurisdiction with the Court of Common Pleas of all civil cases at law, founded on matter of contract, whether written or parol, expressed or implied. This court holds three terms in a year, commencing on the first Mondays in January, May, and October.

5. The MAYOR, in his judicial capacity, has *exclusive* authority in all causes for the violation of city ordinances, beside possessing such criminal jurisdiction and powers as are vested in Justices of the Peace.

6. JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.—Of these, there are seven in the city. They are conservators of the peace; their jurisdiction in civil cases, is, in general, limited to the townships in which they are elected and reside; and under certain restrictions and limitations they have cognizance in all cases where the matter in dispute does not exceed one hundred dollars. Their jurisdiction, however, in criminal matters, and in the administering of oaths, the issuing of subpoenas for witnesses in causes pending before them, &c., is coextensive with the county in which they reside. Justices have no jurisdiction in actions of assault, and assault and battery, or in actions of ejection, replevin, slander, verbal or written; or in actions on contracts for real estate, or in which the title to lands and tenements may be drawn into question.

SUPREME COURT.—Peter Hitchcock, Rufus P. Spalding, William B. Caldwell and Rufus P. Ranney, Judges. Isaac G. Burnet, Clerk; S. G. Burnet, Deputy.

**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.**—R. B. Warden, President Judge; John A. Wiseman, Robert Moore, and James Saffin, Associate Judges; E. C. Roll, Clerk; J. M. McMaster, and W. W. Warden, Deputies.

**SUPERIOR COURT.**—George Hoadly, junr., Judge; Daniel Gano, Clerk; John G. Jones, Deputy.

**COMMERCIAL COURT OF CINCINNATI.**—Thomas M. Key, Judge; E. P. Cranch, Clerk.

**MASTER COMMISSIONERS IN CHANCERY.**—A. H. McGuffey, A. Paddock, A. H. Lewis, L. Mosher, S. Matthews, J. H. Jones, A. Todd.

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.**—Ebenezer Harrison, Elias H. Pugh, David T. Snelbaker, John W. Reilly, Jacob H. Getzendanner, F. W. Rowekamp, and Peter Bell.

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#### LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

THE fiscal and prudential concerns of the city, with the conduct, direction and government of its affairs, devolve on the mayor, and a board of trustees of three members from each ward, usually known by the name of the City Council.

The Mayor is elected biennially, on the first Monday in April. It is made his duty by the charter, to cause the laws and ordinances of the city to be duly executed and enforced, to inspect the conduct of the subordinate officers of the city, and to bring to punishment all negligence, carelessness and violations of duty. He is the keeper of the public seal of the city, issues all licenses, commissions and permits, under the authority of the city council, has power to administer oaths, take and certify depositions, and to certify the proof and acknowledgment of deeds and other legal instruments. An appeal lies from his decisions to the court of common pleas for the county of Hamilton.

The trustees, composing the city council, are elected annually on the first Monday of April. They must be freeholders, and residents of the city three years previous to the election. They determine the rules of their own proceedings, and it is made their duty to keep a journal thereof, open to the inspection of every citizen. They are required to take an oath of office, administered by the mayor, and to elect from their own body a president, who is to preside over its meetings, and, when necessary, act as its representative; and a re-

cord, whose duty it is to keep in his custody the laws and ordinances of the city. They elect from the qualified voters, a city clerk, whose duty it is to keep a journal of their proceedings. They are empowered to appoint all collectors, assessors, surveyors, inspectors, street-commissioners, health-officers, weighers of hay, measurers of wood, lime and coal, &c. They have the control and management of all the real and personal estate of the city, but are expressly prohibited from banking, and restricted in borrowing, for city purposes, to an amount of not more than five thousand dollars in any current year. They have power to establish a board of health, to organize a city watch, establish and regulate markets, wharves and fire-companies, and to license and regulate public shows. They are authorized to abate nuisances, to appropriate ground for new streets or alleys, to open, straighten, widen or repair streets, to license and regulate wagons, drays, &c., and to levy and collect taxes for city purposes. It is made the duty of the council, annually to publish for the information of the citizens, a particular statement of the receipts and expenditure of the public moneys. For their services the members receive one dollar per day, which is restricted to the actual meetings of the board.

A city treasurer, and marshal, a wharf and three market masters, are elected biennially by the qualified voters of the city, on the first Monday in April.

**MAYOR**—Mark P. Taylor.—**MARSHAL**.—James L. Ruffin.

CITY COUNCIL.—TRUSTEES.

*First Ward*.—Wm. B. Cassilly, E. Underwood, M. B. Coombs.

*Second*.—William Bromwell, John Whetstone, Jona. Spinning.

*Third*.—Wm. J. Shultz, Ferguson Clements, Henry A. Gott.

*Fourth*.—A. W. Anderson, John R. Johnston, J. M. Blundell.

*Fifth*.—Chas. Anderson, Edward Woodruff, Saml. B. Findlay.

*Sixth*.—Wm. H. Malone, George Graham. R. B. Moore.

*Seventh*.—R. C. Hazelwood, J. H. Rothert, J. B. Anderson.

*Eighth*.—P. C. Bonte, Wm. T. Barkalow, William Hand.

*Ninth*.—John B. Warren, C. H. Vonseggern, Herman Klein.

*Tenth*.—Jacob Diehl, And. Giffin, J. A. Stolz.

*Eleventh*.—Charles Snyder, Benj. T. Dale, John Maholm.

*Twelfth*.—Michl. Gœpper, F. J. Eichenlaub, D. S. Judd.

*Thirteenth*.—J. W. Piatt, Benj. Loder, jr., John Ryan.

*Fourteenth*.—Joseph Ross, Chs. F. Wilstach, Geo. W. Runyan.

*Fifteenth.*—Wm. P. Stratton, John H. Layman, Benj. V. Enos.

*Sixteenth.*—Geo. W. Skaats, George George, William Sargent.

CITY CLERK.—William G. Williams.

CITY TREASURER.—James Johnston.

CITY CIVIL ENGINEER.—James Stewart.

CITY SURVEYOR.—Wm. G. Halpin.

PORT WARDENS.—Joseph Pierce, Charles Ross.

WHARF MASTER.—John W. Reily.

MARKET MASTERS.—Stephen Jones, Henry Lowrey, Wm. Moody.

TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.—William Crossman, John Hudson, John Hauck, Trustees; John Minshall, Clerk.

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## V I . M O N E T A R Y .

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### BANKS AND BANKERS.

#### INCORPORATED.

OHIO LIFE INSURANCE AND TRUST COMPANY, south-west corner Main and Third Streets; Charles Stetson, President; William Greene, Secretary; G. S. Coe, Cashier; S. P. Bishop, Assistant Cashier; Charles Stetson, Jacob Burnet, John C. Wright, Samuel Fosdick, D. B. Lawler, Timothy Walker, S. C. Parkhurst, A. M. Taylor, W. W. Scarborough, George Luckey, W. G. Breese, Cincinnati, D. Kilgore, Samuel Forrer, S. F. Vinton, in the State, Moses Taylor, Robert Bayard, New York, J. B. Hosmer, Ct., Trustees.

COMMERCIAL BANK, 132 Main Street; Jacob Strader, President; James Hall, Cashier; Rufus King, Solicitor; Jacob Strader, James Hall, John McCormick, Rufus King, and David P. Strader, Directors.

FRANKLIN BRANCH BANK, north side Third, between Main and Walnut Streets; J. H. Groesbeck, President; T. M. Jackson, Cashier; W. S. Groesbeck, Solicitor; J. H. Groesbeck, J. C. Culbertson, John B. Groesbeck, T. M. Jackson, John Kilgour, Directors.

LAFAYETTE BANK, north side Third, between Main and Walnut Streets; George Carlisle, President; W. G. W. Gano, Cashier; G. Carlisle, E. S. Haines, S. Wiggins, Moses Brooks, G. K. Shoenberger, F. Lawson, R. W. Lee, S. S. L'Hommedieu, P. Wilson, Directors.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' BRANCH BANK, 100 Main Street; T.

W. Bakewell, President; Stanhope S. Rowe, Cashier; T. W. Bakewell, D. A. James, John H. James, Samuel L'Hommedieu, and F. Eckstein, jr., Directors.

CITY BANK, south side Third, between Walnut and Vine Streets; E. M. Gregory, President; J. P. Reznor, Cashier; E. M. Gregory, L. D. Ingalsbe, J. P. Reznor, William Burnet, Thomas Heaton, J. K. Glenn, William S. Scarborough, Directors.

These banks discount daily.

#### PRIVATE BANKING

From the limited amount of banking capital, heretofore allotted to Cincinnati by the Ohio Legislature, the business of Private Banking has become an interesting feature in the growing commercial operations of our city. Among the most important Private Banking institutions of Cincinnati, may be named,

#### ELLIS & MORTON,

*Corner of Third and Walnut Streets.*

This Banking House has a large list of customers among the merchants of our city. Persons who keep accounts at this bank, are allowed six per cent. interest per annum on their accounts, and are charged at the rate of twelve, for discounts—thus if they do not borrow more money in the aggregate, in the course of the season, than they have to their credit, the cost is less to them than though they borrowed at six per cent., and obtained nothing upon their balance.

This house does not vary their rate of discount—it remains invariably the same, whether money be plenty or scarce; but they do not buy paper of transient parties, confining themselves at all times, to those keeping accounts with the establishment.

The sales by the firm, of exchanges on the eastern cities for the season past, were upward of ten millions of dollars—their average deposit account during that period, was about eight hundred thousand dollars—they draw bills and make collections on the principal cities, east, west, and south. Their bills discounted, range from five hundred thousand to eight hundred thousand dollars, according to the season of the year and demands for money.

This Banking House pays a tax on capital used in business, to the amount of seventy thousand dollars, and holds real estate and other assets of the value of about eighty thousand dollars. It was established in April, 1838, and was about the first to introduce the general system of allowing interest on current accounts.



## BIOGRAPHY.—S. P. CHASE.

THE subject of this sketch, was born in Cornish, N. H., on the 13th of January, 1808. He is a lineal descendant of Capt. Aquila Chase, one of the original settlers in Newburyport, from whom have sprung a numerous progeny, now scattered over the United States.

At the age of ten years, Mr. Chase was deprived, by death, of a father's care, and shortly afterward, he was sent to Ohio, and placed in the school at Worthington, then under the charge of his uncle, Bishop Chase, where he remained a few years; when he came to Cincinnati, whither his uncle had removed, and became a student of Cincinnati college, under the Bishop's presidency. He entered Dartmouth college as Junior, in 1824, and was graduated in 1826.

After his graduation, he repaired to Washington, D. C., where he commenced the study of law, in the office of William Wirt; and while thus pursuing his legal studies, a friendship was formed between the preceptor and the pupil, which terminated only with the decease of Mr. Wirt. While thus a student in Mr. Wirt's office, at the request of a respectable member of the Society of Friends, he drafted a memorial to Congress, praying for the abolition of slavery and the slave trade, in the District of Columbia. This memorial having been revised and modified, was signed by about eleven hundred citizens of the district, and presented to Congress in 1828, by whom it was received, and referred to the committee, for the district of Columbia.

Having completed his preparatory legal studies, Mr. Chase was admitted to the bar by the Circuit Court of the United States, for the District of Columbia; and shortly after his admission, he returned to Ohio, where he was admitted to practice, by the Supreme Court of the State, and then commenced his practice in Cincinnati, in 1830.

The leisure which usually attends the earlier years of a young lawyer's practice, did not, in his case, pass away unemployed. Finding that his own studies had been retarded by the confused state of the statutes of Ohio, he conceived the idea of embodying, in one work, all the general laws of the state, as well those which had been, as those which were in force. This purpose was carried into effect, and in the short space of three years, he gave to his profession, a work of two thousand three hundred royal octavo pages, which at once established his reputation for diligence and fidelity of

research, and ability of production. This work, enriched by annotations of all the decisions bearing upon the statutes, and by an able and accurate sketch of the history of Ohio, still stands a monument to his fame. His "years of leisure" soon passed away, and these were followed by years of unceasing toil and complete success. In 1837, he made his first forensic effort for freedom, in the case of Matilda, who was claimed as a fugitive slave by a person from Missouri; but his effort was unavailing in her case, and the court remanded her to slavery. He afterward defended James G. Birney, upon an indictment for harboring a fugitive slave; and although unsuccessful in the inferior Court, he succeeded in the Supreme Court, in obtaining a reversal of the judgment, and the acquittal of Mr. Birney.

These efforts were followed by his masterly defense of John Vansandt, in the Supreme Court of the United States, who also was charged with harboring and concealing fugitive slaves; by his argument in Ohio, in the case of Samuel Watson, claimed as a slave; and by his public speeches and reports, made to the numerous state and national conventions, held with reference to the great question of human liberty, within the last ten years. In 1841, he became a conspicuous member of the Liberty party, to the democratic principles of which, as promulgated at Buffalo, in 1848, he still adheres.

In February, 1849, he was called from his office labors, by the voice of the General Assembly of Ohio, to a seat in the senate of the United States, for the full term of six years; a position to which, although placed there from the walks of private life, his previous training, had peculiarly fitted him.

As a lawyer, Mr. Chase is diligent, patient, and accurate, and as an advocate, he takes rank among the first in the country. In politics he is a democrat; and if, in his political action, he has not fully harmonized with the great party bearing that name, it is because of his conviction, that to nationalize, extend, and perpetuate slavery, is irreconcilable with democratic principles.

For twenty-three years past, he has been a member of the Episcopal Church, and his character is without a stain. Of the various public and benevolent movements of the day, he has ever been a steadfast supporter, and to the poor and oppressed, he has always proved a disinterested friend.

The fine mezzotint portrait of Senator Chase, in these pages, will be recognized at once, as a faithful and striking likeness.

## BIOGRAPHY—NICHOLAS LONGWORTH.

NICHOLAS LONGWORTH, the subject of this memoir, was born in Newark, N. J., on the 16th of January, 1783. He came to Cincinnati, which has been his residence ever since, in May, 1804. He engaged at once in reading and studying law in the office of Judge Burnet, then and always, the first lawyer in the city, in point of ability and standing, and after a briefer space than would now be allowed by the courts, was admitted to the bar. He followed his law practice until 1819, when he left the pursuit of the legal profession to newer or younger members. His earnings and savings had been, during the period alluded to, invested in lands and lots in and adjacent to Cincinnati, under the conviction that no other investment of his funds, would prove so profitable. This may seem insufficient to account for the amount of property he has since accumulated from these investments; but it should be remembered that property here was held at low values, in early days, many of his city lot purchases having been made for ten dollars or less, each. It must also be recollected, that Mr. Longworth was a regular lot and land dealer, selling as well as buying, and his profits constantly furnished the means of extending his investments. Nor should it be forgotten, that dealing in property in a rising market, which Cincinnati has always afforded, is a business in which all is gain and nothing loss; differing in this respect from ordinary trade, both in the certainty of profit as well as the security of its debts, which are always protected by mortgage. As an example of the facility with which small amounts, comparatively, secured what has since become of immense value, it may be stated, that Mr. Longworth once received as a legal fee, from a fellow accused of horse stealing, and who had nothing else to give, two second hand copper stills. These were in charge of Joel Williams, who kept a tavern adjacent to the river, and who was a large property holder here in early days. On presenting his order, Mr. Williams told Longworth he could not let the stills go, for he was just building a distillery in Butler county, but he would give him a lot of thirty-three acres on Western Row, in lieu of the article. Mr. Longworth, whose view of the value of property here, was always in advance of public opinion, gladly closed with the proposal. These thirty-three acres occupied a front on Western Row from Sixth to Seventh street, running west for quantity, and this transaction alone, taking into view

the prodigious advance in real estate here, would of itself have furnished the basis of an immense fortune, the naked ground being now worth nearly two millions of dollars.

Mr. Longworth went on adding lot to lot, acre to acre, in this mode, until, although he has sold more lands and lots than any man in Cincinnati, he is still the largest landholder in the city.

What Mr. Longworth's property is worth, is rather difficult to determine; but as his taxes for 1850 were upward of seventeen thousand dollars, the largest sum paid by any individual in the United States, William B. Astor excepted, whose taxes for the same year was twenty-three thousand one hundred and sixteen dollars, the presumption is, that there are few individuals of higher reputed wealth in the United States. If, however, he were a man of wealth, and nothing more, this notice would not have appeared in these pages.

Longworth is a problem and a riddle; a problem worthy of the study of those who delight in exploring that labyrinth of all that is hidden and mysterious, the human heart, and a riddle to himself and others. He is a wit and a humorist of a high order; of keen sagacity and shrewdness in many other respects than in money matters; one who can be exact to a dollar, and liberal, when he chooses, with thousands; of marked peculiarity and tenacity in his own opinions, and yet of abundant tolerance to the opinions, however extravagant, of others—a man of great public spirit and sound general judgment. All these things rarely accompany the acquisition and the accumulation of riches.

In addition to all this, it would be difficult to find an individual of his position and standing so perfectly free from pride—in the ordinary sense. He has absolutely none, unless it be the pride of eccentricity. It is no uncommon circumstance for men to become rich by the concentration of time, and labor, and attention, to some one object of profitable employment. This is the ordinary phase of money getting, as closing the ear and pocket to applications for aid is that of money saving. Longworth has become a rich man on a different principle. He appears to have started upon the calculation that if he could put any individual in the way of making a dollar for Longworth, and a dollar for himself at the same time, by aiding him with ground for a lot, or in building him a house on it—and if, moreover, he could multiply cases of the kind by hundreds, or perhaps thousands, he would promote his own interests just in

the same measure as he was advancing those of others. At the same time, he could not be unconscious, that while their half was subdivided into small possessions, owned by a thousand or more individuals, his half was a vast, a boundless aggregate, since it was the property of one man alone. The event has done justice to his sagacity. Hundreds, if not thousands, in and adjacent to Cincinnati, now own houses and lots, and many have become wealthy, who would in all probability have lived and died as tenants under a different state of case. Had not Mr. Longworth adopted this course, he would have occupied that relation to society which many wealthy men now sustain, that of getting all they can, and keeping all they get. There are men, even in Cincinnati, who do not deserve the very ground which forms their last resting-place.

Every man of extensive means, who does not give freely to every object to which that disinterested individual, the public, thinks he ought to contribute, is, of course, branded as penurious, or at least, destitute of liberality of spirit. It would be impossible for Nicholas Longworth to form an exception to this rule, since it is one of the very few general rules that have no exceptions. There is a story told of the rich Duke of Newcastle having been applied to for aid, by an individual claiming to be a poor relation. "What is the relationship?" inquired the duke. "We are both descendants of Noah," replied the applicant. "A very just claim," rejoined the duke, and giving him a penny, added, "There, take that, and if every one of your relations gives you as much, you will be a richer man than the Duke of Newcastle." If Mr. Longworth were to contribute to every application made here, it would leave him as poor a man as the most necessitous applicant at his doors.

Mr. Longworth has his own views and his own ways, as regards relief of, and assistance to, the necessitous. That he is governed by conscientious motives, no one ought to doubt, who learns, as he easily may, that Longworth is a supernumerary township trustee, whose office is crowded at regular hours with twenty, thirty, or fifty miserable objects, whose cases he examines into, and disposes of at a cost of time and patience, which most men would, ordinarily, not submit to. Relief is then provided for, on a system which protects itself from being made a means of fostering idleness or mendicancy. All this is done obviously on principle, since he must be a loser pecuniarily, as well as in precious time, by such a course.

Many instances might be cited to show that Mr. Longworth is, for

a rich man, an uncommonly liberal one. I shall refer to the Observatory case, alone.

Mr. Longworth, on application to him to know whether he would part with the Mt. Adams property, and on what terms for an observatory, promptly made a donation of the ground—four acres in extent, for that purpose. After the building had been erected, an assertion was made in one of our city papers, and as Mr. Longworth believed and charged in his reply, by an individual who had property equally suitable for this purpose, that Longworth was governed by interested motives, the value of Mr. Longworth's property contiguous, being enhanced by that improvement. Every intelligent person who read the article, must have felt that an imputation of the kind, in this case, was supremely ridiculous. But Longworth was piqued, and in his own caustic language, retorted with an offer, that if the individual who wrote that piece, would deed the same quantity of ground for an observatory, he would himself put up a building equal to that which had been erected upon Mount Adams, and appropriate the spot thus vacated, for promenade grounds for the benefit forever, of the citizens of Cincinnati. In this way he suggested to the writer, that he might appropriate to himself all the benefits which such an improvement would secure to his adjacent property, and at the same time, be the means of conferring a lasting public benefit on the citizens of Cincinnati. No reply was made, and perhaps had not been expected.

The original gift of the four acres, all within the heart of the city, was a very liberal act, and the proposition to put up an observatory at his own cost, rendered the proposal thus made, a munificent one.

If the fact, that a community has been made the better or worse, by an individual having existed in it, be, as a standard writer considers it, an unerring test of the general character of that individual, there is no hazard in saying that Cincinnati is the better off for Nicholas Longworth having been an influential citizen of its community, and that putting him to this test, he has fulfilled his mission upon earth, not indeed, as fully as he might have done, but perhaps as fully as one would have done, who might have stood in his shoes.

Nor ought it to be forgotten, that by Mr. Longworth's labors in the introduction of the grape, and improved cultivation of the strawberry, on which objects he has spent thousands of dollars, he has made these fruits accessible to the means of purchase of every man, even the humblest among us. How much more manly and spirited

is this, than tempting the poor man with the sight of luxuries he may look at, but can never expect to taste.

Mr. Longworth is a ready and a racy writer, whose vein of thinking and expression is always rich, and who blends pleasantry and wit with grave arguments and earnest purposes. His writings on the strawberry and the grape, and his various contributions to the press abound with examples of this kind, recognizable here, as his, at a single glance. His bon-mots and quizzicalities are like his own sparkling champagne, brilliant and evanescent. Few of these can be referred to on the spur of this occasion; two or three, however, may suffice as a sample, if even inferior to the average. They are taken from "Cist's Advertiser," the editor of which, relates them upon his own knowledge.

"During the war with Mexico, one of our city dailies stated that Mr. Longworth had offered a contribution of ten thousand dollars, as advance pay and equipment of the Ohio volunteers, a large share of which were from Cincinnati—a difficulty having arisen as to the State of Ohio furnishing the necessary advances. I was somewhat surprised at this, believing Mr. Longworth no friend to the war with Mexico, and when I next met him, congratulated him on his public spirit, referring at the same time to the statement in the journals. "Not a word of it true! not a word of it true!" observed Longworth. "I might have said, and believe I did say, that I would give ten thousand dollars as a contribution to a regiment of volunteers, but it was on condition—on the express contingency that I should have the picking out who among our citizens should go, and I believe I would make money by the offer, yet—but recollect, I am to have the say who are to go."

While the Presidential struggle of 1844 was raging, Mr. Longworth was applied to for a contribution of one hundred dollars for campaign expenses. "Don't know whether I shall give a cent," he replied. "I never give something for nothing. We might fail to elect Clay, as we did before, and I should fling away the hundred dollars." The applicant, a President of one of our banks, assured him there was no doubt of Mr. Clay's election—there could be none. "Well," said Longworth, "I can tell you what I will do. I will give you the hundred dollars, but mind, you shall be personally responsible to me for its return if Clay is not elected." The politician, finding he could make no better bargain, and never dreaming of defeat, acceded to these terms. The funds all went into the com-

mon purse, and when the hundred dollars had to be made good, the banker had to pay the amount out of his own pocket—*multa gemens*.

The other day, I had occasion to make up a contribution to relieve the wants of a destitute, but deserving widow residing in the Sixth ward. Among other persons, I applied to Longworth. "Who is she? Do you know her? Is she a deserving object?" I assured him that she was; I had good reason, I said, to believe that she bore an excellent character, and was doing all in her power to support a large family of small children. "Very well, then," said Mr. Longworth, "I shan't give a cent. Such persons will always find plenty to relieve them. I shall assist none but the idle, drunken, worthless vagabonds that nobody else will help. If you meet with such cases call upon me." That this was not a mere pretense I find in the success of an application made here, in behalf of the Mormons, after they had been driven from Illinois. A committee of that people visited Cincinnati and applied to a friend of mine who said he had no money to give, but wrote a note to Mr. Longworth, in which he stated that he had sent these persons to him, as having a claim on him, *they not being Christians!* Mr. Longworth gave them accordingly ten dollars.

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### BOWLDER PAVEMENT.

OUR limestone pavements have long been an annoyance and reproach to the community. Of friable material and irregular shape, they soon break into inequalities, where water lies after heavy rains, increasing and extending the irregularity of the surface. It is easy to perceive, to what extent this must affect the comfort as well as the health of our citizens.

Of late years, we owe to the public spirit of D. L. Degolyer, the introduction of bowlder pavement, which is gradually changing the whole surface of the city. Properly laid, these require neither repaving nor repairing, for fifty years or more. Indeed this material, is nearly indestructible. Our bowlders are smaller than those used in the Atlantic cities, which circumstance renders the surface here, comparatively smooth. When this species of pavement shall be spread over the whole city, we may hope to escape those clouds of dust, which in dry summer weather, constitutes our greatest street nuisance.