

Our Fisheries and our Government.

In the magnitude and diversity of the interests of the American people, and from the vast area they cover, one section or one interest is apt to underestimate the importance of another; and the Government, pressed by its numerous and daily increasing duties, and occupied so much with its partisan political concerns, too often fails to see or neglects matters of primary consideration. These evils have increased as our territory and population have extended, and as the science of government has become less the study of our leading men than political warfare and the mere personnel of parties. However, we do not fear territorial expansion, for the facilities of communication by railroad and telegraph will increase in greater proportion. Nor do we apprehend serious danger from the present degenerate state of our political system, for the power of the press augments daily.

Take the subject of our fisheries, and how few cotton planters of the South or farmers of the West comprehend their value either to the people of New England or to the whole Union! The Government, engaged in regulating party claims, difficulties, and affairs, had almost forgotten, till suddenly aroused from its slumber by the press, that we had an important interest to guard and adjust in the fisheries. And yet they are of great value, not only as to the number of men and wealth employed, but to the country at large.

According to the statistical returns in 1850 of the cod and mackerel fisheries of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, there were employed vessels to the amount of 138,000 tons, or a total for the United States of 143,758 tons, employing over twenty thousand men. Their local value to the industrious and hardy citizens of New England—to the many thousands who have no other employment or resources, who, if deprived of their fishing-grounds, are, to use the emphatic words of FISHER AMES, "too poor to live there and too poor to remove"—ought not to be lightly estimated. As a matter of commerce and as a business in which such a large amount of capital is invested, the fisheries are of the highest importance. But, as a nursery of enterprising and severely-disciplined seamen for our commercial marine and navy, they are of great national value. They have been fostered by nations of all ages for this reason. The commercial greatness of the existing maritime powers, as well as of those of former times, has been built on this foundation. Even in the present day, when free trade principles and free competition, and the great variety of employments to be found, have superseded to a great extent the old policy of protection, governments, and among them our own, encourage the fisheries by bounties. Two years ago the National Assembly of France passed a law giving liberal bounties to fishermen. M. SENARCHE said "the fisheries supplied more than a fifth part of the seamen of France, and by far the best part of them; and that there was no cheaper, better, or more useful school for the formation of seamen for the navy, and none more capable of extension and development." And Mr. ROGER affirmed that "without the resources which were found in the sailors engaged in the fisheries the expedition to Algiers could not have taken place."

General WASHINGTON, in a letter to Congress dissenting from that body on the subject of reducing Canada and other British settlements for the French, gave, among his reasons, "that France would engross the whole trade of Newfoundland whenever she pleased, and thus secure the finest nursery of seamen in the world." Mr. JEFFERSON, in his message to Congress, 1802, spoke of "fostering our fisheries as nurseries of navigation, and for the nurture of man," as among "the landmarks by which we were to be guided in all our proceedings." DANIEL WEBSTER, in his celebrated speech at Marshfield twelve months ago, said: "Our fisheries have been the very nurseries of our navy. If our flag-ships have met and conquered the enemy on the sea, the fisheries are at the bottom of it. The fisheries were the seeds from which these glorious triumphs were born and sprung." Eminent writers and statesmen have declared that "the English navy became formidable only by the discovery of the inexhaustible rich fishing grounds of America." Go into our magnificent packet-ships, into our "clippers" that rival the steamship, and into our war vessels, and you will find there the ablest mariners and most efficient and daring seamen from our fisheries.

If we would appeal to the sympathies of our citizens and the Government in behalf of a beneficial and speedy adjustment of the difficulties of our fishermen, how much could be said! We could give thrilling details of their sufferings and heroisms; of what we owe them for their bravery and usefulness in our struggle for independence and in the war of 1812; and we could show that fishermen have been the foundation of great States and empires, the very germ of all commerce, and the corner-stone of that beautiful structure of New England republicanism.

But we appeal to the interests of the whole Union, as bound up with that of our fishermen, of the commercial advantages to the entire country, and of the great benefits to our marine. The change which seems to be making in our navigation does not lessen the demand for or value of this class of citizens for commercial and naval vessels. Inured to hardships and severe discipline, full of daring enterprise, and having their home on the stormiest seas for months at a time, they are the men of all others to preserve the vigor and supremacy of our marine.

And they are in difficulties. The rival interests of British colonists have from the day of our independence been the cause of vexatious restrictions in their business. And even before that, when we were colonies, the mother

country oppressed our fishermen for the benefit of Englishmen at home. But within the last two or three years the colonies have clamored for more protection, and the British government has assumed an attitude of hostile determination to carry out the wishes of the colonists. A fleet of armed vessels cover all the seas where our citizens have been in the habit of fishing. Our poor and industrious fishermen see wherever they go the muzzles of British cannon before them, while the colonists are loading their vessels and monopolizing the market. Such a state of things is ruinous to them and injurious to the country.

The history of the rights and privileges of the fisheries in the seas, bays, and on the coasts of North America and the islands at the mouth of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, is too complicated and lengthy to recite in this article. They have been the subject of wars, of important conventions and treaties, and of interminable disputes. These rights have changed hands at different times according to the power of the nations who claimed them. France, England, Spain, and other powers, have had their rights. England claims most of them now. The best fishing grounds, except on the banks of Newfoundland, are near her territories. The treaty between the United States and Great Britain of the 20th of October, 1818, contains articles to regulate the rights and privileges of both parties in the fisheries. That is the last treaty on the subject. In the dispute as to the true construction of these articles, reference is made to a former treaty in 1783. In the treaty of 1818, on which the whole question turns, the following articles relate to the subject:

"1st. That the inhabitants of the United States shall have forever, in common with the subjects of Great Britain, the liberty to take fish of every kind on that part of the southern coast of Newfoundland which extends from Cape Ray to the Rameau islands, on the western and northern coast of Newfoundland, from the said Cape Ray to the Quirpon islands, on the shores of the Magdalen islands; and also on the coasts, bays, harbors, and creeks, from Mount Joly, on the southern coast of Labrador, to and through the Straits of Bellisle, and thence northwardly indefinitely along the coast, without prejudice, however, to the exclusive rights of the Hudson Bay Company.

"2d. That the Americans shall also have liberty, forever, to dry and cure fish in any part of the unsettled bays, harbors, and creeks, of the southern portion of the coast of Newfoundland before described, and of the coast of Labrador, the United States renouncing any liberty before enjoyed by their citizens to take the fish within three miles of any coasts, bays, creeks, or harbors of the British dominions in America, not included within the above limits, i. e., Newfoundland and Labrador.

"3d. That American fishermen shall also be admitted to enter such bays or harbors for the purpose of shelter, and of repairing damages therein, and also of purchasing wood and obtaining water, under such restrictions only as might be necessary to prevent their taking, drying or curing fish therein, or abusing the privileges reserved to them."

In these articles the difficulty arises upon the construction of the term "bay." The English maintain that it means all bays, so called, including such as the Bay of Fundy; and that our fishermen are not to enter within a straight line, drawn from headland to headland, of these bays. On the other hand, we assert that this is a forced construction and not agreeable to the intention of the terms of the treaty, nor to the common rights of the seas. We hold that the Bay of Fundy, which is some sixty miles wide, and all such bays, are arms of the sea, and are common fishing ground beyond the distance of three marine miles from the shore. We construe the terms of the treaty to mean only the ordinary indentations of the coast called bays, and not those large bodies of water like seas. That is the view also our fishermen have taken and acted upon. They look upon the fish in the sea as upon the birds of the air, free to those who can take them, so that in taking them we do not trespass on the ground of others. They have continued since 1818, with little interruption, to fish in those waters at a distance of three miles from shore, though sometimes they may have trespassed; they have thought they understood their rights, and have mostly adhered to them. Besides, to their common-sense view of things, the exercise of this privilege, if it were only a privilege, for so many years, would give a sort of prescriptive right. Suddenly England demanded the execution of the treaty according to her own construction of it. She sent last year, and now maintains a large naval force upon the fishing-ground to enforce her views of the treaty. The fishermen were alarmed; their very existence, in some cases, depends upon fishing in the accustomed places. They had no national vessels near to shield them or lead them from danger. It seemed their case would never be reached on the diplomatic docket. They had waited upon their Government more than twelve months; they were compelled to pursue their business for a living or abandon it altogether. Under these desperate circumstances they were compelled to arm themselves. In this state of facts what can be done for our fishermen? How, at least, can we protect, if we cannot encourage by legislation, this important interest? It is now one year since Mr. MASON, in the Senate of the United States, asked for information on this subject from the President; one year since he said that the high-handed course of Great Britain had committed an "indignity upon the American people," and that, "if he read the feelings of our people right, they would demand that a like force should be instantly sent there in order that the rights of our people may be protected."

He then, with an ardor unusual with a Senator whose temper is so well regulated, added:

"Aye, sir, at this day this great people, covering a continent numbering thirty millions, are to negotiate with a foreign fleet on our coast. I know not what the President has done, but I claim to know what the American people expect of him. I know that if he has done his duty, the reply to this resolution of inquiry will be—I have ordered the whole naval force of the country into those seas to protect the rights of American fishermen against British cruisers! I hope it will be the pleasure of the Senate to consider the resolution immediately."

The resolution was supported in the same strain by the most able and leading men of the Senate, and was adopted unanimously. It is now one year ago since this burst of indignation among the grave Senators of the United States, and what has been done? Congress has done nothing, and the Executive appears to have done nothing. The fishing season actually commenced this year under the muzzles of British cannon, without, if we mistake not, a national vessel near. If there were any the force must have been insignificant. No doubt we shall be told that negotiations are pending, that matters are in progress, and the hope is that all will end well. Matters have been progressing a long time, while our fishermen have been starving and the country suffering for the benefit of their industry. If we were to act with promptness and with a determination in face of the bold defiant attitude of the British to have this matter adjusted, there is no doubt that it might be settled without delay. The fishermen would at least know what they have to expect.

We understand that the people of the islands of St. John and Cape Breton and of the gut of Canso, who demanded help from the Imperial Government against the Americans, now sign petitions to readmit our citizens to the fishing grounds. They feel that our vessels were a source of prosperity to them which they have lost by the restrictions they solicited.

The Hon. DANIEL S. DICKINSON delivered an oration on the Fourth of July, before the citizens of Syracuse, New York, which we find published in the Syracuse Star of the 25th instant. It is a beautiful and most patriotic effusion, containing glowing tributes to the memories of CALHOUN, CLAY, and WEBSTER, and eloquent admonitions to the people of the State of New York to cherish a fraternal spirit towards the other States of this Confederacy.

In our leader of the 25th instant, the name of Mr. EMORY occurs instead of Mr. WHIPPLE. The alteration, though not material, will be made in the Weekly.

Mr. JOHN O'DONOHUE, the Irish patriot, who in December last escaped from captivity in Van Dieman's Land, having arrived at New York in the Northern Light, we learn from the New York Times, put up, on his arrival, at the Astor House, and was soon after called upon by his old companion in council and exile, Thomas Francis Meagher, who again waited on him at a subsequent period of the day. Mr. O'Donohue is in good health, and it is said intends to remain in New York for some time.

BOY KILLED BY A DRUNKEN MAN.—Dennis McNamara, a boy eleven years of age, was killed in New York on Sunday night by a stone thrown at him by a drunken man, named John Lyons, who has been arrested and held for examination. The deceased and the prisoner were both natives of Ireland.

THE MONEY MARKET IN NEW YORK.—The Journal of Commerce, of the 25th instant, says the warlike aspect of the foreign news has produced some trepidation in the money market; but this has shown itself mostly in an increased indisposition to enter into time engagements. Capital is very freely offered for short loans, and prime business paper at short dates is quite current at 6 a 7 per cent. Foreign exchange is in good supply at 100 for sixty days on London, (one or two leading drawers ask 109,) and 5.13 1/2 for ditto on Paris. The stock market is dull and heavy.

HEZEKIAH C. SEYMOUR, late engineer of the State of New York, died in the city of New York on Sunday evening. At the time of his death he had three important railroad contracts on hand, viz: that between Cincinnati and St. Louis, a \$9,000,000 contract; that between Maysville and Lexington, Kentucky; and that between Toronto and the St. Lawrence. He was the principal engineer on the New York and Erie Railroad. He is represented to have been one of the most accomplished officers engaged in his department in the country; and his loss, it is believed, will be felt as far as he is known.

Mr. JOSHUA SILSBEE, the celebrated Yankee comedian, and wife, have returned to this country by the Arctic. The New York Mirror observes that, if the rumors which have come to us from the other side may be relied on, Mr. Silsbee returns from one of the most successful professional tours ever made by an American abroad.

The Governor of Florida has appointed a number of State delegates to the New York World's Fair. Among them we see the name of Major John C. Casey, U. S. A. Most of the delegates are now in New York, or on their way there.

We tender our thanks to ADAMS & Co. for late California papers.

THE NIAGARA FALLS CATASTROPHE.—The Boston Post says: "It is highly probable that at least one of the men who went over Niagara Falls might have been saved but for the obstinacy of those who undertook to save them. Mr. Patton, of Lockport, incurred the expense of hiring a livery express, and taking half a dozen men with ropes and tackle, went to the Falls and earnestly entreated the privilege of stretching his large cable across the river, but was unceremoniously thrust aside. He had a rope of ample strength, with a winch to tighten it. He had also arranged on the rope a pulley, with smaller cords attached, by which to draw him ashore when he had become lashed securely to it."

LATER FROM VENEZUELA.—We have seen letters from Venezuela, which state that it is probable the Cumana insurrection against Monagas will be suppressed in that quarter.

The government has also been successful in Valencia and in the interior. They have also a strong force under José Tadeo, to march against Cumana. Maracaibo has not thus far felt any inconvenience from the difficulties.

NAVY.—The United States storeship Relief will sail to-day (Monday) from this port for Rio de Janeiro. The following is a list of her officers: A. B. Fairfax, Lieutenant Commanding; Samuel P. Carter, Acting Master; Morgan, Passed Midshipman; Oscar F. Johnson, do; Harmony, do; Potter, Assistant Surgeon.

The Relief takes out little more than stores for the squadron.—New York Express, 25th.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

WASHINGTON, July 26, 1853.

News to-day is almost as scarce as dry spots in our deluged city. The most industrious inquisition at all the points where information is usually to be had resulted in an exceedingly brief chapter.

A California newspaper, received by the Treasury Department, states that the grand jury of San Francisco has found a true bill of indictment against Colonel James Collier, first Collector at that port, charging him with having misappropriated some \$300,000 of the public funds; also, that a similar indictment was expected to be found against T. Butler King, who succeeded Colonel Collier, charging him with the misapplication of about \$100,000.

It is not true, I believe, that the Department has received any official notification of the facts, or any information on the subject, except that contained in the newspaper referred to. Some months since the Department sent out to San Francisco, by the present Collector (Major Hammond) such evidence as it had in its possession, with directions to have the subject brought before the grand jury, if the evidence transmitted, and such additional evidence as was expected to be obtained, was deemed sufficient to procure the indictments. This action of the Department was kept a profound secret until to-day.

Colonel Collier's accounts have never been adjusted by the Department. He acknowledges having in his possession moneys belonging to the United States, but had steadily refused to pay them over, until the Department should allow him certain suspended items charged against him. From the first, however, he declared his readiness to stand a suit and abide the issue, whatever it might be. It seems the Department preferred to take the more summary method of a criminal prosecution, which will probably end in smoke. Perhaps the prosecution in Mr. King's case rests upon similar basis.

Minister Soule left the city to-day for New York, after a final conference with the President this forenoon.

John A. Cuthbert, Southern Rights man, has been appointed live oak agent of the Government for Alabama.

John Tyssowski, recently a clerk in the office of the Register of the Treasury, has been appointed an examiner in the Patent Office.

Isaac Rudabaugh, of Indiana, is appointed to a clerkship in the Register's Office, to fill the vacancy occasioned by Mr. Tyssowski's promotion.

Samuel York A. Lee has been transferred from the Office of the Register of the Treasury to a \$1,500 clerkship in the Sixth Auditor's Office, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of R. C. Murphy, appointed Consul at Shanghai. Mr. Murphy, by the way, is from Ohio, and is spoken of as an energetic and talented young man. He came to Washington in the spring, expecting to get a consulate, failing in which he took a clerkship, and in time obtained the foreign appointment he sought.

ALEXANDRIA ITEMS.—Some sales of property, at private sale, and at excellent prices, have recently been made in this place to gentlemen from other parts of Virginia who intend residing here, and negotiations are on foot for further purchases. New buildings and improvements are still the order of the day.

Mr. James Fadeley, carpenter, accidentally fell yesterday from a back building of a house on which he was at work, lower end of Prince street, and was considerably injured.

A number of canal boats have reached this place, the Chesapeake and Ohio canal being now in navigable order.—Gazette, yesterday.

BRUTAL MURDER OF A FEMALE.—A murder was committed in North Haven, Connecticut, on the 24th instant, on the wife of Mr. Brasilia Bradley, a highly respectable citizen of that place. The family had gone to church, leaving her at home, and when Mr. B. returned he found her dead upon the floor and the house robbed. She was stabbed and cut in a savage manner. A young Irishman named Michael Jennings, formerly in Mr. Bradley's employ, has been arrested on suspicion of being the murderer. He exhibits a good deal of agitation. A \$20 bill with marks of blood upon it has just been taken from the man with whom he lodged on the night of the murder.

JOHN BELL—humane, negro-loving, "Uncle Tom's" John Bull—can flag a colored man! The Cape Town Mail, May 14, gives an account of the public flogging of two black men. They were tied up to a post as the market was proceeding, and in the presence of men, women, and children, underwent the torture of receiving on their exposed bodies some twenty or thirty lashes apiece.—Boston Post.

SINGULAR DEATH.—A Mrs. Barton came to her death in the most remarkable manner, at Quincy, Illinois. She fell upon a pair of scissors which were in her pocket at the time, and was so much injured by their being driven into her side, that she only survived until the 11th. Mr. Barton is in California.

PHILADELPHIA PAPERS state that an auction sale of 5,029 bags of Rio coffee took place in that city, in the month of June, which realized \$80,000. This is said to be the first sale of the kind in several years, and is attributed to the recent reduction in the auction duties by the Legislature.

PROFITS OF THE NEW COINAGE.—A New York paper says that the Bank of the State of Missouri has recently sold all its silver coin, amounting to \$250,000, to Messrs. Page & Bacon. The premium realized was upwards of two per cent., according to the character of the coin.

AN AFFRAY occurred in Boston on Saturday night between James Moore and Nathaniel B. Hall, in which Moore drew a dirk-knife and stabbed Hall twice in the groin, inflicting injuries so severe that it is doubtful if he recovers. Moore has been arrested.

A SPECIMEN OF MARYLAND COAL.—The steam propeller Parker Vein, from Baltimore, landed at New York, on Saturday, the monster lump of coal from the company's mines. It weighs fifteen tons, and was to be carried to the Industrial Exhibition.

LIBERATING SLAVES.—J. Garvill, a wealthy lawyer, residing in Owen county, Kentucky, took seven slaves to Cincinnati, on the 15th instant, and gave them their liberty, with ample means for sustaining them for one year.

HAY FOR USE in Fayetteville, North Carolina, has all along been imported from New York; but since they have opened a plank road from Fayetteville to the interior, they are getting enough hay of good quality by means of it, without sending to New York.

The Right Rev. Bishop McGill has purchased, for \$18,000, the Virginia House and grounds attached, on Grace street, Richmond, Virginia. The intention is to tear down the old buildings, and to erect a fine Catholic Cathedral on that eligible site.

THE EARL ELLENBERGER and family leave New York this afternoon for Boston, from whence, after a brief visit to Springfield and the neighborhood of Boston, he will pursue his journey alone, to Nova Scotia, and from thence to England. Lady Ellenberger expects to precede him. They will not return to this city before their departure. Sir Charles Lyell also expects to leave very shortly. Messrs. Dilke and Whitworth will remain for some months yet.

From the New Orleans Picayune, July 20.

From New Mexico.

We have received, via San Antonio, Texas, a file of the Santa Fé Gazette to the 11th ultimo, from which we extract the following items of news:

By information received from El Paso, we learn that General Trias had withdrawn his troops from the Mesilla under an order from the Mexican Minister of War.

It seems that a good understanding exists between the military officers of the two Governments.

General Trias, however, has no cause to be otherwise than friendly, so long as he is allowed to remain in the peaceable occupation of our territory.

Judge Watts, Lieutenant Thomas, and Henry Johnson, esq., returned from the southern part of the Territory on the 9th inst.

The party all appear to be highly pleased with the southern part of the Territory, they regard Las Cruces as one of the most flourishing and respectable-looking towns that they have met with in New Mexico. The population is active and industrious, and the eye is not offended, as in the case in most towns, by the spectacle of a set of blanketed loafers sunning themselves against the sides of the houses, who are of as much use to themselves and the rest of mankind as so many terrapins on a log across a mud-hole.

General Trias, accompanied by Colonel Lauberg, Captain Bustamante, his aide-de-camp, and other Mexican officers, visited Fort Fillmore about the 13th of May, by invitation, where they were handsomely received by Colonel Miles, commanding the post, and the other American officers of the station. A review of the troops of the garrison (3d infantry and a company of dragoons) was tendered the General, and took place on the morning after his arrival.

The party remained two or three days at the fort, and returned to El Paso highly gratified with their reception and entertainment.

A few days afterwards Judge Watts, Lieutenant Thomas, and some other gentlemen, visited El Paso, where they were cordially received and entertained by the Mexican authorities.

With the exception of a small guard under the command of a sergeant, there are no troops at the Mesilla.

The silver mines in the vicinity are apparently inexhaustible, and the ore is of great richness.

We learn that a careful analysis of some of the specimens brought up is being made by one or two gentlemen of the party, the result of which we hope to lay before our readers at an early day.

A herder had been killed by the Apaches in the vicinity of Hart's mill. The same Indians had also robbed some sixty head of stock from Mr. Smith's train that had just arrived from San Antonio.

We have been informed that Don Facundo Pino has been nominated as candidate for delegate.

The Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the State of California, E. N. Beale, arrived from the States on the 8th of June, en route for San Francisco.

He left Westport on the 16th of May by the Santa Fé road to Bent's Fort, on the Arkansas, thence by the valley of the Huernano, and across to Fort Massachusetts and Taos. He proceeds immediately on to California by the old Spanish trail to the Vegas of Santa Clara; from there he intends to pass through the Sierra Nevada near the head of King's river, and proceed direct to San Francisco, where he expects to arrive in twenty-five days.

From the New Orleans Delta, July 20.

FROM TEXAS.

The intelligence from Texas is not of a very interesting character.

We are happy to announce that by the last account from Waco, Governor Paine was recovering from his recent illness, and would probably be able to travel again in a few days.

The advices from the interior give encouraging accounts of the crops. The late rains appear to have been general, and the prospects of planters are quite good.

The Houston Telegraph is informed that a malignant description of dysentery prevails in the neighborhood of Austin and on the upper Brazos.

Judge Ochiltree, the Whig candidate for Governor, has issued a circular not remarkably differing from those of other candidates. He is opposed to a division of the State, and to the indiscriminate granting of railroad charters. He is in favor of an increase of the supreme bench and of the salary of judges, of the building of a great trunk railroad across the State, and of an amendment to the State constitution, which will enable the State to encourage internal improvements.

The Nueces Valley has a letter from Bellville, Webb county, to the effect that Captain Granger, with company F, United States rifles, attacked a party of about twenty Indians on the 19th ultimo, who had crossed the Rio Grande at that place the night before. Three of the Indians were killed, several wounded, and all their horses, guns, blankets, bows, arrows, &c., captured.

BUILDING OPERATIONS IN NEW YORK.—The Express of the 25th instant says:

"Throughout the entire city building operations have been engaged in to an extent quite unprecedented, but in that portion of the city in the vicinity of Church street, Park Place, Murray and Warren streets in particular. A dozen or so of large stores have been commenced, and several of them, though not much more than the foundations have as yet been laid, were leased at exorbitant rates some time ago. From \$6,000 to \$10,000 per annum was readily offered; (the latter running through the block from street to street); and in Park Place, a fine marble store was leased for five years for \$7,000 per annum, and the lease again sold for a bonus of \$10,000. Another store near by, in Broadway, was leased for \$28,000. For the distance of three blocks in Church street, there is not a house standing, with a single exception, and the occupant in this instance has been offered \$5,000 or \$7,000 to surrender his lease."

HOUSE STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.—The charge of electricity, whose release during the storm of Tuesday evening was accompanied by such a terrific peal of thunder, struck the house of Charles Pearson, on Franklin street. The electric fluid entered the building by the roof at the eastern end, and over the room occupied by Dr. N. K. Hunt. Dividing as it struck, the charge entered the room at seven points, and indulged in curious enough pranks with the doctor's furniture, surgical armory, &c. One division dashed down a large mirror—stripping it of its tissue envelope, knocking off the carvel work of its frame, amalgam of its back, and otherwise defacing it. Another entered the case of instruments, tearing it in pieces, and causing a confusion of scalpels, forceps, &c., like the disturbance of a medical student meeting over a just "resurrected" subject. The larger portion of the fluid escaped by the windows and piazza roof, showing its antipathy to the metals in the way of heated nail-heads, ruptured shutter-hangings, and untanned roofings. No one in the house was even stunned, although the bedroom adjoining was occupied by Dr. H., who describes the shock of the discharge and the simultaneous appeal of the thunder as most terrific.—Saratoga (N. Y.) Whig, 22d.

W. E. BURTON, esq., entertained the Shakspeare Society by giving them a sumptuous dinner at his elegant witly seat at Glen Cove, on Saturday evening. There was a full attendance of members; and the "Mulberry Feast" was celebrated in the true Shakspearian spirit. At the business meeting of the society, the Earl of Ellesmere, who has distinguished himself by his devotion to the works and the memory of the Great Bard, was unanimously elected an honorary member—a compliment hitherto conferred only on Washington Irving, and the Hon. Mr. Gregg, of Canadaigua.—New York Mirror.

THE GREAT IRON RAILROAD BRIDGE across the Monongahela river, about one mile above Fairmount, Virginia, was completed last week. It is stated that it cost \$498,000.

Further California News.

From the Alta California, July 1.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.—The Democratic State Convention assembled at Benicia on the 21st of June, and after a stormy session of three days succeeded in nominating their candidates. Very strong efforts were made to throw Governor Bigler overboard, but without success. The only names presented to the convention for the nomination of Governor, besides that of Governor Bigler, were Richard Roman, the present State Treasurer, and Henry P. Haven, of Marysville. A fierce battle between the Bigler and anti-Bigler men for the first two days argued little for the harmony of the party. But Bigler was nominated by a decided majority on the first ballot, and several who had been most earnest in opposing him came forward and pledged themselves to support the nomination. Samuel Purdy was renominated for the office of Lieutenant Governor; S. A. McMeans, of El Dorado, for State Treasurer; Alex. Wells, of San Francisco, was nominated for Judge of the supreme court; Samuel Bell, of Mariposa, for Comptroller; P. K. Hubbs, of Tuolumne, for Superintendent of Public Instruction, and S. H. Mariette, of Calaveras, for Surveyor General. The ticket is understood to be an out-and-out extension ticket, with the exception of Mr. Purdy. In various sections there is a very strong opposition to Governor Bigler, but unless an independent list, which it will probably give way before the day of election, is formed.

Since the last steamer news from the interior has been of the most encouraging character. From all parts of the mines we hear the most favorable reports, and the miners are generally represented as doing better than at any time previous. A great many water companies have got their ditches in operation, so that many miners are now successfully at work where it has previously been impossible to do anything.

A duel took place at Marysville between Colonel Rust of the Express, and Judge Stidger of the Herald. The judge was wounded in the coat-tail and the affair was settled.

The Whigs throughout the State are preparing for the fall election. Delegates to the convention to be held at Sacramento on the 6th of July are already chosen in many counties. Captain William Waldo has the best prospect now of being the nominee for Governor. General David C. Douglas and P. A. Robb, of San Joaquin, are also understood to be in the field for the same nomination.

The clipper-ship Typhoon, when leaving the harbor, struck upon a rock and stove a hole in her bottom. She returned and run on the rocks near Rincon Point to repair.

Mademoiselle Dimier, a celebrated actress and danseuse from South America, has arrived from Valparaiso.

Miss E. L. Bruce, the popular ballad singer from New York, has given a concert.

Lola Montez has gone to Sacramento. It is reported that she is about to be married.

About twenty-five thousand head of cattle have been driven this year from Los Angeles county to the northern markets.

Some immigrants have arrived from New Mexico, and a few have arrived over the northern route.

AN AWFUL TRAGEDY, consisting probably of a double murder and suicide, had occurred at San Francisco. Joseph Strible, for some real or imaginary ill-treatment, went to the house of his wife, and on the 19th ultimo, knocked him down with an axe, and on the 20th, killed her, raising an outcry of alarm, doing major skull, leaving her dead, and then withdrew and cut his own throat from ear to ear. The husband and the murderer were both in the hands of physicians, but it was considered hardly possible for either to recover. The parties were Americans, from Baltimore; the brothers being tinmen.

AFFAIRS IN CALAVERAS.—The farmers of Calaveras are very busy gathering in their crops. All along the Mokelumne river the ripe produce is falling before the sickle. In the country around the Forks there are many fine ranches laid out, now bearing goodly crops; and towards the plains, in the vicinity of Clay's Bar, the husbandmen are busily gathering into their garner. The editor of the Chronicle has seen specimens of oats eight feet and four inches, wheat and barley of similar height; while melons, cucumbers, and every kind of vegetables, he says, are of the most astonishing growth. California now takes her place as the most prolific agricultural country in the world.

A dispute arose between Dr. De Freuille and an Irishman named Conn, at San Andre, respecting a land claim, which led to the death of the latter. It appears that Conn threatened to shoot the Doctor, who thereupon went for his gun and came out into the street to await his opponent. Conn came out, drew his pistol, fired twice, then drew his knife to rest the pistol on a third shot, when De Freuille fired and killed him on the spot. The jury found that De F. had acted in self-defense.

Two Cherokees offered two mules for sale, near San Andre, which were recognised as belonging to a person in the neighborhood. They were seized, brought to the owner, identified, and the thieves shortly after expired their offence by dangling at the end of a halter.

CONDITION OF LOWER CALIFORNIA.—The Siglo XIX. says that letters from La Paz, under date of 25th of April, describe the condition of that province as follows:

"The territory is in the most miserable state. The custom-house at Mazatlan will not furnish flour to the government employes. The frontier is being abandoned, all the efforts of the Governor being directed to his protection. Since the beginning of June, a party of soldiers, commanded by Colonel Negrete, has been endeavoring to obtain means of subsistence for the troops, but they have not succeeded in raising a single dollar here, nor have they been able to procure any thing from Mazatlan. The demoralizing effect of such a condition of affairs is very great, and the colonies are exposed to great dangers."

THE NORTHERN SACRAMENTO.—The crops in the vicinity promise well. Wheat, barley, and oats all promise a good yield.

FROM SACRAMENTO.—Mr. Robert Carey is announced in the Union as having arrived in Sacramento from New Mexico with a drove of 1,700 sheep. The Union says:

The party, after leaving Taos, struck due north to Fort Laramie, which they reached on the 16th March, having crossed the Arkansas river sixty miles above Bent's Fort. From the last mentioned point they proceeded on the emigrant trail to Fort Bridger, a distance of some four hundred miles, and struck into Hudspehl's cut-off at Bear Lake, where they brought them out at the junction of the Salt Lake and California roads.

Mr. C. found it impracticable to come