The Daily Crescent.

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THE DAILY CRESCENT.

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TERMS OF THE CRESCENT.

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NEW ORLEANS:

MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 8, 1849.

Telegraphing.

We find in a letter of the Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Herald the following relative to Bain's Telegraphic instruments lately patented in this country, and now used by O'Reilly on his Telegraph lines. There may be some exaggeration in it, but we are assured that the instruments will work *at least* as rapidly as those of Professor Morse; and although we should have preferred that the invention of our own countryman should have been used exclusively in his native land, yet such has been the conduct of his agents and associates in the business of Telegraphing, that we are forced to hail the success of his rival as a public benefit. The line of O'Reilly to this city will, we understand, soon be opened, and then we will have the advantage of competition in the business of Telegraphing, and that alone will do away with many of the causes of complaint now existing. But here is the extract from the letter:

I had the pleasure, the other day, of a long interview with Mr. Alexander Bain, the great telegraph inventor. Mr. Bain is a native of the North of Scotland, and was born about twelve miles from that famous spot which is known as John O'Groat's House. He is a well formed, "stalwarth chiel," with a noble head, a fine, dark, intellectual eye, and is about eight and thirty years of age. He was apprenticed to the clock-making business, but at an early age discovered remarkable inventive faculties, and, like many of his countrymen, found his way to London, where, after some years of patient perseverance, he at last attained the first rank among the philosophers and inventors of the age. One of Mr. Bain's first inventions was that of the "electric clock," by which the vibrations of a pendulum were made to let on currents of electricity to any number of other clocks, at any distance, and as many places as might be required, so that by this arrangement, a single clock, situated at the observatory or Smithsonian Institute here, would cause every clock in the connection to beat isochronously together, and with this one clock itself. This invention was patented, in 1841, in Great Britain, having been first devised and put into operation between the years 1837 and 1840. The value of the invention, in connection with astronomical science, is obvious. By a more recent discovery, Mr. Bain causes the sun itself to set these electric clocks to time. But it was to Mr. Bain's wonderful telegraphic instruments that I wished to direct your attention at this time. He has realized the idea thrown out by you long since—the practicability of reporting by the telegraph. Stenographic characters can be transmitted directly through Mr. Bain's telegraphic lines, so that while Mr. Webster or Mr. Calhoun is speaking here in the Senate Chamber, his *ipissima verba* may be flying over the wires to the compositors of the Herald office, so that before the speaker closes, the greater portion of his speech may be in type, in the city of New York! This is no idle dream. The rapidity of transit by this instrument is almost miraculous. Twelve hundred letters have been communicated by it in a minute! The whole new testament, from the first chapter of Matthew to the last solemn words of the Book of the Apocalypse, may be transmitted by this instrument, along the wires from Halifax to New York, in ten hours! The vast stimulus which this whole business of telegraphing is yet to give to human genius, industry, and activity, can hardly be imagined. Do we give this subject anything like the attention which it deserves?

It is quite certain, that, as yet, the magnetic telegraph is but in its infancy. The line from Washington to New York, for instance, is susceptible of vast improvement. In general, the reporters employed to transmit intelligence are incompetent. The rates must be reduced. Greater facilities must be afforded to the press and the public. Hence, we gladly see the healthful spirit of competition introduced. Thousands and thousands of miles are now in process of construction under O'Reilly, the great "telegraph king," on which Bain's instruments are to be employed.

This subject might profitably occupy many columns. But I must pause. Some other time I may again advert to the inventions of this calm, taciturn, reflective Alexander Bain, whose youthful genius was nurtured amid the stern grandeurs of that iron-bound Scottish coast, the Orkneys and the Shetland Isles, where, of old, the sea-kings of the frozen North maintained their empire, and some of whose blood, for aught I know, may flow in all sobriety in the veins of our great inventor.

A New Orleans Vessel—A Prize Case.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29, 1848.

The District Court meets on the 15th of January next. A very important case is to be tried before it. Certain persons resident in New Orleans, some of them citizens of the United States and others subjects of the Queen of Spain, chartered a certain vessel named the Admittance, and loaded her with a valuable cargo of paper, iron, etc. The vessel cleared in March, 1847, for the port of Honolulu, in the Sandwich Islands; and all her papers were so prepared at the Customhouse in New Orleans. The United States and Mexico were then at war, and the ports of the latter country blockaded.

The Admittance sailed and touched at Valparaiso, and never steered for Honolulu, but sailed direct for the port of San Blas, in California. When she arrived there, she hoisted English colors, then anchored and raised a white flag at the foremast; this last flag was kept flying for several days. While the vessel lay off San Blas, the captain placed over her name a piece of canvass, and painted it black. It appears her cargo was consigned to certain Mexican merchants in San Blas, and the delay in landing was the difficulty in communicating with the parties on shore. Two letters were delivered the captain from the shore, and after the receipt of the last one, he hoisted sail and steered along the shore in search of a landing called Masanillio.

He did not find this place, and finally went into the port of San José. Here the Admittance lay at anchor for several days. The captain living on shore. About this time the U. S. vessel Portsmouth, J. B. Montgomery, commander, entered San José harbor and anchored near the Admittance. The captain of the latter was questioned by Com. Montgomery, and his answers were evasive. From certain information derived from a Mr. Mott, at San José, and from a Mexican who was the bearer of certain letters from the consignees of the Admittance, Capt. Montgomery was induced to board the Admittance and search her papers. Here he found the deceptive clearance, and from the entries in the log-book, he ascertained that she had been in communication with the enemy, and in fact that her cargo was consigned to citizens of Mexico.

Upon these facts, Capt. Montgomery seized the vessel and her cargo, and upon application to a court in California, the Admittance was condemned as a prize to the officers and crew of the Portsmouth. The cargo, Capt. Montgomery says, was worth $90,000. The libellants—the owners—charge, that it was worth $150,000. The parties chartering the vessel, have filed their libel against Capt. Montgomery, in this Court. Messrs. Coxe and Carlisle appear.

Correspondence of the Crescent.

The Weather and the Cholera—Negro Abduction Case—Bishop Hughes—Brooklyn—Horace Greeley—The Academy of Medicine—The Steamship Crescent City, etc.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27, 1848.

Eds. Crescent—Our fine winter-like weather of yesterday was followed this morning by a heavy fall of snow, which in its turn has been swept away by a hard summer-like rain. Many a hope that nurstled itself away in soft bosoms, prompting nice answers to the sweet sayings expected in the morrow's sleigh-ride, are not exactly nipped by the frost, but have died from exposure to the chilling rain.

The cholera takes a fresh jump, and to-day we have a report from the health officers of two deaths at the Quarantine Hospital—not passengers by the ship New York—no new cases there—and none in the city.

The gold fever holds its own. Companies already formed are filling up rapidly, and many new ones are forming. The terms generally of admission into associations of this kind are the payment of two to five hundred dollars, for which passage in a ship, and share of her cargo are conditioned. In some instances the ship also forms part of the stock of the association. One company has its shares as high as $2000, and another as low as one hundred and thirty. Passengers, without share in cargo, etc., are taken for much less in some of the vessels that are up. Sailors are shipping at 25 cents per month, for the passage *to* California. One company is forming here, with every prospect of soon fulfilling its object, for the purpose of purchasing a large steamer and filling her with cargo of the right kind, the stockholders to go in her, but her passengers not to be confined to stockholders. She is expected to be ready, if the arrangements are consummated, to start for San Francisco about the first of February. I have been offered a chance in that craft, but not suffering very severely from the fever, I have decided to withhold acceptance until the symptoms become more aggravated.

The negro abduction case was yesterday again brought upon the carpet in the Supreme Court, before Judge Edwards. The case takes the form of "The People *vs.* Lee," and the District Attorney, McKeon, consequently finds himself in the position of counsel for Bell, the negro. His argument against Mr. Lee's claim was a miserable series of quibbles—hardly equal to Mr. Calhoun's effort against Jefferson. Mr. Whiting, former District Attorney, as Lee's counsel, answered with a falsehood, and the poor Judge became so puzzled that he put the papers belonging to the case in his pocket, saying he would render a decision on Thursday, at noon.

The Evening Post this afternoon contains a letter from "A Catholic Democrat," broaching a subject that I have wondered to see lie so quietly without producing a comment. The writer asks, "How am I to get along with Bishop Hughes's order to incorporate a prayer with the Mass for the safety of the Pope against his ungrateful subjects?"

"True it is, and pity," that Bishop Hughes *does* call the Roman citizens "ungrateful subjects," for which it is to be hoped he will receive a Cardinal's hat, by the time such a gift will be as worthless as it ought to be. The "Catholic Democrat" says he thinks "that the Pope's subjects have a perfect right to dethrone him," and yet he owes obedience to the Bishop, and must pray that they may not succeed. His religion and his principles are made to jangle by the edict, and in his wilderment at the discord he naturally cries out "*what can I do?*" Bishop Hughes commits an outrage on the rights of his flock by issuing such an order, and they are surely under no obligation to respond to those parts of the service which embrace such interpolations.

The mortuary lists of last week, for this city and Brooklyn, were as follows: New York, 236; Brooklyn, 39. For Boston same time, 75.

For people who wish to live a long time, but who don't much care *how* they live, Brooklyn, as the statement above proves, offers "handsome inducements." It is two-thirds as large as Boston, and has only about one-half as many deaths. It is one-fifth the size of New York, and loses by death only one-sixth. Sometimes the reports would show a much greater disparity.

The following important announcement, which I find in the advertising columns of the Brooklyn papers, lead me to hope that in time that city will be visitable as well as healthy: "The Brooklyn Gas-light Co. will be prepared to furnish Gas for lighting stores and dwellings in the principal streets of the city by the first of August next."

This Brooklyn Gas-light Company has had a Rip Van Winkle nap, but now seems to be "waking up" in earnest. I had occasion recently to speak strongly about their way of doing things, but if they will now go to work right "I will take it all back." We are, by contract, to have nine miles of pipe laid ready for use in August. The first brick for the Gas-house is not yet laid—and probably not made.

Both lines of telegraph wires leading South are down. Beyond Philadelphia I believe they are good. We have intelligence from New Orleans—and sorrowful it is to us—up to the 23d. Two epidemics in one year seem to me like severity in the dispensations of Providence, to your city.

Very respectfully, yours, INDICATOR.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28, 1848.

Eds. Crescent—The afternoon mail from Washington brings us reports of the proceedings of the House yesterday. It was to have been expected that our very industrious and self-denying Representatives would feel considerably scandalized by the *exposé* made the other day by Mr. Greeley. All sorts of feelings were stirred up in the breasts of the different members who took the matter most to heart, and the tremendous burst of virtuous indignation that followed the raising of the "question of privilege" nearly had the effect to drive Greeley into deprecation. He certainly kept his temper well under the bullying manner of Mr. King, and the scurrilous charges of Mr. Turner. These. Messrs. King and Turner, both knew that the article which elicited their deep displeasure had not one word of *falsehood* in it, and in charging falsehood upon its author, they placed themselves under a liability to a similar charge.

They did not violate the law! and that is an all-sufficient justification for the enormous charges that they made against the Treasury. *They did not calculate their own mileage!* it was done by a committee appointed for that purpose. If that is not what Greeley called it, "shirking," then I should like to know what Mr. King would call it. Mr. Greeley will probably be censured by a vote of the House for the article, but his object will be attained, and members will be saved the trouble of bending their consciences so seriously in future sessions.

If members want $20 a day, they have the power in their own hands to raise their pay to that sum; and why do they not exercise that power, rather than resort to the "contemptible" (it is Mr. Turney's word) expedient of making it up by charges of mileage, stationery, new books, etc.? Greeley ought to be supported fully in his efforts to remedy some of the abuses with which our legislative department at Washington abounds, and the whig press especially, should stand firm in his favor. But Greeley has his worst enemies in the whig ranks, and some of them leading members of the press of that party.

Our Academy of Medicine again met last night and resumed the consideration of the contagiousness of the cholera. After long discussion the meeting decided not to come to a decision. The only sensible part of the debate was a quotation from a newspaper to the following effect: "Is the cholera contagious? No—yes. No, in a clean, pure and healthy atmosphere—*yes*, in an unhealthy atmosphere—cholera infects the air, and creating a cholera atmosphere, *resolves all other maladies into cholera.*"

A letter from Dr. Darcy, of Newark, was read, in which the writer proves to his own satisfaction that dirt and filth are not favorable to the cholera, because he had found it as much among the clean and healthy as he had among the vicious and filthy.

There seems to be a growing disposition in the Academy to turn the public generally, and the reporters particularly, out of their doors, for the reason, actually assigned by one of the members, that he was "convinced that the reports look disgraceful to the Academy." As Paddy would say, "He may well say *that.*"

I think I have heretofore referred to a project in contemplation to supply the city of New York with Congress water, by pipes laid between this city and Saratoga Springs. The notion has now assumed a definite shape, and headings of a petition are now lying upon numerous desks, soliciting of the Legislature a charter for a company to be raised for the object stated. The projectors say that the whole cost of the work will not exceed $300,000; making the pipes of glass and laying them in mason-work with hydraulic cement. The distance between this city and Saratoga is about one hundred and eighty miles, and the difference of elevation, I suppose, is about two hundred and twenty-five feet. This would give a fall of fifteen inches per mile, which, I fancy, would be sufficient for all practical purposes.

The Boston Journal says there was a report in circulation in that city yesterday, that the steamship Crescent City was lost with all her passengers except five. Such a report must naturally produce much anxiety in this city, and people constantly ask where it came from. The Crescent City has not been heard from since she sailed, the report of the Panama referring to the schooner of that name, not the steamer.

Two churches in Brooklyn were robbed on Monday night last, and last night an attempt was made to rob another, but the sacrilegious villain who attempted it was caught in the act. The name of the fellow is Allen, and there is reason to believe that he was one of a party extensively engaged in business of this kind.

The cholera report for to-day is three cases and one death, none of which belonged to the ship New York. Bedlow's Island, which has recently been transferred to the city of New York by the Secretary of War, is now fitted up as a hospital island, or second quarantine, and may eventually be the regular quarantine. It is an excellent place for a lazaretto. Yours, respectfully, INDICATOR.

Corpus Christi—The Country—Col. Hays—The Trains—California Route, &c.

CORPUS CHRISTI, January 1, 1849.

Eds. Crescent—Six weeks since I left your city, on a tour of observation, on the good steamship Fanny, bound coastwise, for Matagorda Bay, Port Lavaca, Indian Point and Corpus Christi. On the third day out we reached Lavaca bar, but, there being no pilot boat at that place, were obliged to stand off and on, and eventually "go it blind," and cross as best we could. The water on this bar is too scant to warrant the belief that Lavaca can ever be a port for the entrance of vessels drawing over seven feet water. From the bar to Indian Point, a distance of twenty-five miles, and ten miles short of Lavaca, the bay is so shoal that the Fanny, although drawing six feet scant, was obliged to drag herself through the mud for some distance. Doubtless this lack of water is to be attributed to the force of the prevailing "Northers" at this season of the year. The unfavorable weather kept us at anchor in the bay for some days, when we "up anchor," and off for Corpus. The weather having now settled down to a sturdy Nor'wester, with the aid of sail and steam, we made the entrance of this bay in fine style—only a breakfast spell for the Fanny. Here we were boarded by a pilot off the bar, and, carrying thirteen feet water over the bar, and from twenty to twenty-four up to the St. Joseph wharf, we were once more permitted to take a scamper on *terra firma*.

Nothing can exceed the beauty of Corpus Christi Bay. It is here the first highlands or bluffs are to be seen on the uniform, monotonous coast of Texas, and here is first seen the verdure of living vegetation—and here the first spot where man can be content to dwell. The waters of the bay abound in fish, and of the choicest—such as would fill the eye of the most fastidious piscatory epicurean of your own luxurious city. The shores of the bay and of the numerous little islets were literally strewn with fish and turtle in a half-torpid state, owing to the force and chill of the "Northers," of which an unusual number have occurred on this coast this winter. What glorious feasting—soups, chowders, courbouillon, roasts, fries, bakes! Oysters, too! Biloxi, Bon Secour, Cat Island—none of them can beat our delicious Corpus Christi "blue-pointers." Then, on shore, the sportsman enamored of the chase finds a never-failing source of glorious excitement. Talk of the hunting parks and the royal huntsmen of old England—what are they, compared to our boundless fields of perpetual verdure, where Nature and not Art has spread and lavished her richest gifts, and glows in almost continuous summer, and our huntsmen—God's noblemen! Here a pent up, sickly stag is not marked out and waylaid for days, enclosed by wall and hedge, and then beset by the privileged royalist, with his cortege and hounds, and finally run to death—but from among thousands and tens of thousands of these sleek denizens of our forest is selected one worthy of our marksmen's unerring aim.

This place is a centre for the Rio Grande Valley from the Presidio to the mouth of that river, and must ere long be the entrepot of commerce for a section of country having an area of many thousands of miles, and furnishing a direct and copious supply of all articles merchantable in the Mexican markets.

A few days since a party, composed of some gentlemen from the United and citizens of this place, made a tour of observation up the west bank of the Nueces to the rancho La Casa Blanca, and on their return gave a most glowing account of the face of the country in that direction. In 1806 this tract was granted by the Spanish Government to a company of settlers who went at once to work on it. They brought with them cattle, horses and sheep, and worked the land while their flocks and herds were grazing. In 1810 four years, they counted 60,000 head of sheep, 24,000 head of cattle and 15,000 horses. The immense increase is attributable to climate, and the good water and grass to be found at all seasons of the year. The party on its return found in a "Mott," the remains of two men who had perished in some way from natural cause. Their blankets, saddles and bridles, and a quantity of provisions were found in their camp; there were no marks by which either the cause of death or their identity could be ascertained.

Col. J. C. Hays, who started from Bexar early last summer for the purpose of ascertaining whether a practicable route existed for wagons from that point to Chihuahua, has returned and reported to Col. Bell. The route traversed by him was not as direct as it was supposed could be made, he being obliged to come down south to the line ascertained to be practicable from Corpus Christi to the Presidio. He traveled north-north-west to the head waters of the San Saba, south-south-west to the head waters of the Nueces, west to the Rio Grande, which river he crossed and entered Chihuahua by way of the west bank of that river. The expedition suffered immeasurably from hunger and exposure, and but for the indomitable spirit of its leader would inevitably have failed to extricate itself from the many toils into which it had passed; as it is, their object has not been fully accomplished, and until a thoroughly scientific survey of the section of country through which the Colonel endeavored to pass, can an adequate estimate be made of the advantages to be derived from a route abounding in craggy sierras and deep ravines.

Two trains started from here last week laden with goods; one for Laredo and another for Bexar. On Thursday last Mr. J. W. Letting came in from Laredo, which place he left on Monday. There is a party of Indians, supposed to be Lipans, hovering about Laredo, committing depredations; they had burnt one rancho and stolen the horses from another. At the rancho they burned they killed a Mexican boy. The rancheros, having no arms, have abandoned their ranchos and moved into Laredo. There has not been a night passed for some time that those Indians have not come into the suburbs of the town and committed depredations. Laredo is the upper settlement on the American side of the Rio Grande, containing from 1500 to 2000 inhabitants—Mexicans; there are only fifteen Americans in the place. The disbanding of the Ranging Companies is bad policy; turning out of service men experienced in Indian warfare and substituting troops who have yet to learn. Our regulars are a glorious set of boys; brave, and skilled in the science of the "big war," where legion is opposed to legion; where the sublime science of arms contend for mastery; where entrenched camps and mounted forts are to be carried by successive strategy and with mathematical precision; but the red man defies their bookish knowledge, and while some problem is being solved his weapon speeds away the life of some helpless victim whose scalp is added to his countless bloody trophies. The citizens pray for protection such as the Ranging Companies of Texas have always given them; trailing the savage and following his foot-prints, wherever he may go; driving him back to the mountains, blunting the edge of his murderous weapon.

The California fever has penetrated to the interior of this State, and there is a company forming to take the overland route from here to San Diego. A most interesting route can be had from this place to Chihuahua; from thence by a well known route, due west, to Loreto in Lower California; thence to the Bay of San Francisco. The advantages of this route are superior to any other, as the country through which it passes is well watered and thickly inhabited. A little north of west from this place lies Chihuahua; due west from Chihuahua, 100 miles, you strike the Rio Yaqui; running a little south of west and emptying into the Gulf of California. The banks of this river are thickly studded with towns and villages and can furnish abundant supplies for a large number of men and horses. The expedition which is expected to start from this place will be joined by several small parties from the interior of this State. It is impracticable to take wagons, pack mules being not only a cheaper method of transportation but more certain; much of the route laying through mountain ranges, close passes, and rugged defiles, would render wagons in a very short time entirely unserviceable. This route, as proposed, would be of absorbing interest to the geologist, and doubtless open to us the knowledge of vast mineral resources said to abound in Sonora, Sinaloa, and Lower California. Yours, F.

TWO STEAMBOATS BURNED.—The Louisville Journal of the 29th gives the following particulars of the loss of the Tributary and Mail, which we noticed a day or two since:

"A little before 4 o'clock yesterday morning (28th) the steamer Tributary, lying immediately below Fifth street, was discovered on fire, and the flames spread with such rapidity that in less than ten minutes her whole cabin was in flames. The Mustang was lying immediately ahead of her and the Arkansas Mail behind her. The Tributary was cut loose and drifted alongside of the Arkansas Mail, setting her on fire also. The T. was burned and her hull sunk at the wharf. All the upper works of the Arkansas Mail were also burned, though her hull and machinery were saved by the active exertions of the firemen. Neither of the boats had any freight on board. In consequence of the high stage of the river, the boats were lying close to the buildings, which would undoubtedly also have caught fire had it not been for the snow which covered the roofs. The persons asleep on the boats had barely time to escape in their night clothes. The clerk of the Tributary burned his hands severely while trying to secure several hundred dollars in his office, which were also lost. It is not known how the fire originated, but it is generally supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. The Tributary was owned by Capt. Denny and others, was valued at $5000, and insured at Cincinnati for $3000. The Arkansas Mail was owned by Capt. Diller, and was not insured. She was worth about $2000.

PROTECTION OF CHASTITY.—Among the bills which passed the New Hampshire House of Representatives recently was one to "protect chastity."

Additional Intelligence of the California Gold.

ORIGIN OF THE MINES, ETC.—The following letter from Professor Horsford, of Harvard University, says the Boston Journal of the 18th ult., will be read with interest, not only for the statement of the analysis of a specimen of the California gold recently received in this city, but also for the plausible theory therein advanced in relation to the formation of the gold mines:

CAMBRIDGE, Dec. 14, 1848.

My Dear Sir—The California gold, from Feather river, received by Mr. Eaton, has been analyzed, and contains gold, silver, iron, and a trace of copper.

It has been carefully examined for platinum, tellurium and any other bodies that might have been present, but without success.

In constitution it corresponds with fifty other specimens, whose analyses are on record. The iron and copper are present in invariably small quantities, while the proportion of silver ranges from one per cent. to more than seventy.

The very small quantity employed in the analysis, (about 250 millegrammes) and the four separate determinations, rendered a slight loss inevitable. The gold might safely be stated a little higher:

Gold, 88.09; silver, 10.00; iron, 0.40; copper, trace; sand, 0.40; loss, 2.11. Total, 100.00.

You will remember that the specimen sent for analysis was in scales. The average weight of them may be of interest to you:

62 scales weighed 205.5 millegrammes:
6 " of least size, weighed 5.5 millegrammes;
6 " of greatest size, weighed 51.5 "
1 " of least size, weighed 0.9 "
1 " of greatest size, weighed 8.6 "
1 " of average size, weighed 3.3 "

The occurrence in this form, while the gold in the rock from which the scales have been derived, is without a doubt, in California, as in Mexico and Virginia, in granules, of more or less approximation to a spherical form, presents an inquiry of much interest, viz: How have the granules become flattened?

From what I have seen of glacial action in the Alps, and of its effects in this vicinity and in various other sections of the Northern United States, I am strongly persuaded that the flattening of the granules has been caused by the transit of glaciers, with their masses of imbedded boulders and gravel, over the rock containing the gold. It accomplished at one stroke the reduction of the rock to gravel and sand, and of the granules to plates. This will explain how, in the alluvial plain, here and there, richer veins of the metal occur. The paths of ancient moraines, or rivers parallel to the direction of the glaciers, would contain more: the intervening spaces now filled up with lighter materials spread about by subsequent simple aqueous agency, would contain less of gold.

This consideration may furnish a suggestion as to the direction from a point found to be rich in metal, in which labor will probably be rewarded. If the deposites have been made by glacial agency operating at right angles to the direction of the coast, excavation in a direction north and south must cross their course; excavation in a direction from or towards the mountain range, would be either upon or parallel to their course, and would cross only the terminal moraines. I am, very truly, yours,

EBEN. N. HORSFORD.

THE TEHUANTEPEC ROUTE.—A writer in the N. Y. Tribune, recommending the route to California across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, says:

"I will now call the public attention to a much shorter and cheaper route, the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. By looking at the map of Mexico you will find the mouth of the Coatzacoalcos river, situated in N. lat. 18°. It is navigable for ocean steamers about twenty miles from its mouth; its general course is due South, and it is navigable for small steamers to within fifty miles of the Pacific Ocean. The continent is just two degrees wide, say 130 miles. On the Pacific Coast is the city of Tehuantepec, about three leagues distant from the port of San Francisco, a lake or inlet of the Pacific Ocean, which, it is said, affords sufficient water for large vessels to enter. The writer of this article resided on the banks of the Coatzacoalcos sixteen years, and crossed the continent about fifty times; he therefore feels himself competent to give a practical opinion upon the subject.

If a partial arrangement was made with the Mexican Government, the United States mail could at present be transported across the Continent, from Coatzacoalcos to Tehuantepec, in from 60 to 72 hours; and at a trifling expense the road could be shortened so as to bring those two points within 36 hours of each other. A line of small steamers, such as are used on the Ohio River, would enable passengers to cross the Continent in 48 hours or less. Merchandise would, with the actual condition of the roads, require some six or eight days for its transportation. I will now sum up the time that would be required to carry the mail from New Orleans to San Francisco in California, under existing circumstances, provided a partial arrangement was made with Mexico—viz: From New Orleans to Coatzacoalcos, 90 hours; thence to Tehuantepec or the Port of San Francisco, 72 hours; making in the aggregate, 6 days and 18 hours—say 7 days. From the Mexican Port of Tehuantepec or San Francisco, to our San Francisco in California, say 12 days; making, in all, 19 days. Practical men, by looking at the map, can decide, whether the time I have allowed for the Ocean navigation is sufficient. In regard to the transit across the Continent, I speak from positive knowledge. This subject cannot but interest the American people, and I beg you will lay the facts before them. I will illustrate the position I have here assumed, by facts and proofs which cannot fail to convince our Government that the route of Tehuantepec is by far preferable, in every point of view, to that of Chagres and Panama. A railroad can be built for $10,000,000, which would bring the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans within five hours of each other.

ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA.—[From the Mobile Herald.] For the information of persons desirous of reaching California, we publish the following, furnished by a person who has been twice over the whole distance:

The steamship Fanny leaves New Orleans for Corpus Christi twice in the course of each month. On arriving at that port, persons desirous of proceeding to the gold regions in California, can procure horses or mules and baggage wagons at reasonable prices, and form parties among themselves and travel to suit their own convenience. The route is from Corpus Christi to Mier, distance 160 miles; thence to Monterey, 100 miles; thence to Saltillo, 60 miles; thence to Parras, 80 miles; thence to the intersection of the road from Paso to Mazatlan, 160 miles; thence by that road to Durango, 160 miles; and from thence to Mazatlan on the Gulf of California, 240 miles; making the whole distance from Corpus Christi to Mazatlan 960 miles. From this point to St. Francisco the distance is about 1500 miles.

The route from Corpus Christi to Mazatlan is one of the most pleasant through Mexico. After leaving Mier, it is through a range of country in a good state of cultivation, where travelers can be furnished with every thing required for their comfort—provisions, provender for horses, &c., wood and water in abundance being found on the whole extent of the route. The roads are unsurpassed by any in Mexico.

ALABAMA GOLD.—We were shown, says the Alabama State Gazette, a few days ago, a lump of pure gold ore, the first we have ever seen in such pure state. We were informed that these lumps of this precious metal were found in the bed of the water of Blue Creek, Tallapoosa county, where there is but little doubt the greatest abundance exists.

THE SMITHS IN DANGER.—We are sorry to say this popular—and populous—family is declining from its former high estate, and is threatened with being ousted from the throne of numerical supremacy by another family, as has already happened in the city of Liverpool, England; where, the Directory informs us, there are only 542 Smiths to balance the magnificent multitude of 849 Joneses. *North American.*

From Texas.

By the arrival on Saturday last of the steamer Fanny, Capt. ——, from Corpus Christi, we are in receipt of files of the Star to the 30th, from which we extract the following interesting paragraphs:

FROM MIER.—Mr. Manning, who left here some four weeks since, to see if he could shorten the distance and better the route from here to Mier, returned on Sunday last. After a careful survey he became satisfied that he was very near correct in his first effort, and only succeeded in lessening the distance a few miles. He was accompanied in by a party of traders from Mier and its vicinity.

On the Escoba he fell in and encamped with Capt. Deas' company of artillery, on a *scout.* They had with them *four pieces of cannon*, but we did not learn whether with the view of hunting Indians or robbers.

At Roma, Mier, and Hays' Rancho, business is represented as being quite brisk, and the Americans settling very fast on this side the river. All fears of Indians have vanished.

Mr. Manning reports, even at this dry time, a sufficiency of water on the route to Mier. The Mexicans are more friendly than ever to the Americans, and this feeling seems constantly on the increase. As we said in the city of Mexico, the day is not far distant when Americans will command more respect than any other foreigners in Mexico. Recently in Mier, while a party of Americans was there, a number of the most respeceable citizens gave them a ball, which was well attended by both sexes, who vied with each other in honoring the men who had treated them with so much respect and consideration while the two nations were at war.

Mr. Manning tells us that several of the principal American merchants at and about Roma, had been so vexed by the delay and expense of getting up their goods by the river, that they told him they should give this route a trial.

FROM GUERRERO.—Among a party of traders now in town from Guerrero is the First Alcalde of that place. The party brought in from the ranches on this side of the river, a large number of cattle and horses and "*mucho plata*" to exchange for goods. A party in the rear of them have hides, wool and tallow.

We are glad to hear that the people in and about Guerrero are freed from the annoyances of the Indians, and that they are permitted to pursue their avocations in peace and quiet. The lands on this side the river are being settled on by the owners, who, for years past, have been forced to live in the town for protection.

FROM LAREDO.—Mr. J. W. Lettig came in from Laredo on Thursday last, which place he left on Monday. He informs us that there had been about Laredo a party of thieving Indians, supposed to be Lipans, who had burnt one rancho and stolen the horses from another. At the rancho they destroyed, they killed a Mexican boy. In consequence of the appearance of these Indians, the rancheros have moved into the town.

We had been led to believe from the Brownsville Flag that the steamer Maj. Brown would proceed to Laredo and land troops there, but all that is known of her at that place is that she failed to reach it, which was announced by a subaltern and five or six soldiers, who remained in the place a short time and disappeared.

Laredo is the upper settlement, we believe, on the American side of the Rio Grande, and as such should have been one of the first posted. Losing sight altogether of our merchants and citizens there, the honor of our Government, in treaty obligation, is pledged to protect the Mexicans on both sides of the river. A few infantry soldiers, though affording little protection, might inspire confidence, and if, after every other route is tried, they will land them here, in five or six days they will be in Laredo, by a good road.

The frontier requires a few companies of rangers to keep the savages beyond the mountains, and until they are received into service, or the cavalry force in the State trebled, the places north and north-west of us will be harrassed.

FROM BEXAR.—Lieut. Goodall arrived on Thursday last from San Antonio. He reports that the last of the ranging companies were about being disbanded, as also Col. Bell and staff. Some of the infantry companies were being mounted, but we doubt the practicability of this move. Business is represented as being quite brisk, and the town lively.

RELIGIOUS.—The Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, a Catholic Minister of the Gospel, arrived here yesterday. He belongs to this circuit, and we welcome him among us.

CANAL BANK OF ALBANY.—Total amount of liabilities, including capital, $1,156,690 36; total amount of assets, $1,071,688 39—excess of liabilities, $85,001 97. If we deduct the capital from the amount of liabilities, there will be an excess of assets amounting to $214,998 03. It is estimated by those pretty well acquainted with the affairs of this institution, that not more than fifty per cent. of the assets can be collected. If a larger per cent. is not realized, the depositers will be heavy losers, as the balance left, after redeeming the circulation, will only pay them about forty cents on the dollar. About the middle of this month, a dividend of about fifty per cent. will be paid to bill holders.

STRANGE FREAK.—A singular old gentleman residing near Boston, a disbeliever in Christianity, has bought a barn near his house, turned it into a church, with steeple, pulpit, etc., and had a vault dug under the floor with a coffin placed therein.

TEAS! TEAS!!—72 Canal Street.

Agency of the NewYork Canton Tea Company.
The Oldest Establishment in America—Principal Establishment in New York.

THE CANTON TEA COMPANY has been popularly known for many years. This is the largest and oldest Tea Establishment in America. The public have had full proof of the integrity and the responsibility: but such has been the great and pressing demand for their Teas, of late, that they have been obliged to enlarge, to a great extent, their two principal Establishments in New York, namely: Nos. 125 Chatham and 163 Greenwich streets. They moreover possess facilities in relation to the Tea Trade, in a very abundant degree, and doubtless superior to any other Tea concern in America. Their scrupulous regard to all principles that tend to elevate the character of a large house is well understood, and has already secured them a connection probably larger than all other Tea Establishments united, and they consequently are determined to sell TEAS, *purer, more fragrant and perfect* for the PRICES, in the aggregate, than any house in the world, China excepted.

They most zealously invite the attention of the inhabitants of this city to their Agency, where the following assortments are always on hand; and they feel no hesitation in stating, that wherever a single trial is made, a very decided preference is given to the celebrated Teas of the Canton Tea Company.

☞ Readers, make the experiment.

The Retail Prices are as follows, subject in all cases to be returned, if not approved of:

GREENS.

Good Young Hyson	$ 50 ⅌ lb.
Fine Young Hyson	62½ "
No. 2, Fragrant do	75 "
No. 3, very fine do	1 00 "
Silver Leaf do	1 25 "
Good Hyson	75 "
Very Fine Hyson	1 00 "
Extra Fragrant Hyson	1 25 "
Good Hyson Skin	50 "
Good Imperial	75 "
Very Fine Imperial	1 00 "
Extra Fine Imperial	1 25 "
Good Gunpowder	75 "
Fine Gunpowder	1 00 "
Extra Fine Gunpowder	1 25 "

BLACKS.

No. 1 Souchong	50 "
No 2 Souchong	62½ "
Finest Souchong	75 "
Fragrant Pouchong	(various prices.)
Congo	(various prices.)
Fine Oolong	50 "
Very Fine Oolong	75 "
Extra Fine Oolong	1 00 "
Ningyong	(various prices.)
Finest English Breakfast Tea, very rich Pekoe flavored	75 "
Fine Orange Pekoe	75 "
Finest Pekoe Flowers	1 00 "
Howqua, or Finest Black Tea imported	1 00 "
Ne plus ultra Teas, both Green and Black, of all descriptions, the highest grades down in China	1 50 "

TAKE NOTICE.—The Canton Tea Company are the *exclusive* venders of the superior Black Tea called "Howqua's Mixture." They introduced it into America in 1840, and every other person or house professing to sell the same at all—much less at a lower price—deceive the unwary, as the public themselves will perceive, by comparing the spurious with the genuine "Howqua" vended by the Canton Tea Company.

☞ Every package—in addition to it containing full weight, independent of the wrapper—bears the stamp of neatness and elegance, and the Teas therein are so thoroughly seared from light and air that their quality and power will remain unimpaired in any climate. d4 3taw 3m

FOREIGN ITEMS OF NEWS.—A great number of valuable pictures in the public collections of Paris have been destroyed during the revolution.

A new and splendid Theatre is about to be erected in Liverpool.

"The Haunted Man and the Ghost's Bargain," is the title of Dickens's new Christmas story.

Dr. Farady is said to have proved that crystalization is in a remarkable manner dependent upon magnetism.

Mr. Layard has lately left England to continue researches on the site of ancient Nineveh.

Sir C. Harris, author of a work on Africa and of the "Highlands of Ethiopia"—interesting and valuable books—died lately in India.

Dr. Bialloblotzky has started on a voyage of discovery into a totally unknown part of Africa, near the upper basin of the Nile. His name ought to be a talisman.

THEATRICAL.—The Seguins are in Charleston. Mr. Forrest commences an engagement at the Federal street theatre, Boston, this week. Mr. Macready will commence an engagement at the Howard as soon as Forrest takes his benefit.

ANOTHER RAILROAD.—We learn from the Village Recorder that quite a large meeting was recently held in Benton, for the purpose of taking preliminary steps towards the building of a railroad from that village to Yazoo City.

MILD RECOMMENDATION—*Cholera in New Orleans.*—We observe a letter in the Louisville (Ky.) Courier of the 29th ult., from this city, in which the writer makes the following recommendation: "For my own part, I believe that if the corporation were all *lynched*, and the gutters and streets covered with lime, and cleansed a little, the evil would at once subside." What do our city authorities think of the proposition?

LARGE SUBSCRIPTION.—The Common Council of Allegheny City has authorized the city treasurer to subscribe $200,000 towards the construction of the Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad.

ANOTHER INDIAN TREATY.—The Green Bay Advocate announces that a treaty had been made with the Stockbridge Indians by Mr. M. L. Martin, acting for the United States, whereby a valuable and partially improved tract of land is thrown open to settlers. The tract lies along the east bank of the Fox river, about forty miles from Green Bay, is traversed by the milirary road, and is represented as being very fine farming land.

A WAR OF PHYSIC.—The New Hampshire Legislature was, on the 20th and 21st ult., the scene of a fierce war of doctors, on the question whether the New Hampshire Botanic Medical Society should be incorporated. The speeches, pro and con, went fully into the merits of Thompsonianism and the regular practice, but the former triumphed and the bill passed by a vote of 125 to 107.

New Orleans Money Market.

CORRECTED DAILY BY JOS. GRANT, 94 GRAVIER STREET.

SPECIE.	
American Gold	½@¾ ⅌ct.pm.
Sovereigns	$4 [illegible]@ $4 88
Twenty Franc pieces	$3 [illegible]@ $3 85
Spanish Doubloons	$16 20@$16 40
Patriot do.	$15 52@$15 60
TREASURY NOTES.	
United States	2 @2½ ⅌ct.pm
Second Municipality	par.
MUNICIPALITY NOTES.	
First and Second Municipalities	par.
Third Municipality	50@55c. on dol.
BANK NOTES.	
NEW ORLEANS—	
Atchafalaya	25@28c. on dol.
Exchange	20@25c. " "
Improvement	12@15c. " "
Citizens'	¾@1½ ⅌ ct. dis.
Orleans	par.
Consolidated	—@— ⅌ ct. dis.
MISSISSIPPI—	
Northern Bank	2@ 2½ ⅌ct.dis.
Agricultural	50@55c. on dol.
Planters'	—@— " "
Port Gibson	56@60 " "
Commercial Railroad	12@12 " "
Grand Gulf	30@32 " "
Rodney	45@50 " "
NORTHERN BANKS	1@ 2 ⅌ ct. dis.
SOUTHERN BANKS—	
Alabama State Bank	1½@2 ⅌ ct. dis.
South Carolina	1½@2 " "
North Carolina	1½@2½ " "
Georgia	1½@2½ " "
Virginia	1½@2½ " "
WESTERN—	
Tennessee	1½@ 2 ⅌ ct. dis.
Kentucky	½@ ¾ " "
Indiana	¾@1½ " "
Arkansas	70 @72 " "
Illinois	60 @70 " "
TEXAS—Red Backs	10½@12c. on dol.
Interest Notes	12 @13c. " "
8 ⅌ ct. Bonds	16 @18c. " "
10 ⅌ ct. Bonds	18 @20c. " "
Com. and Agri. Bank at Galveston	½@ ¾ ⅌ ct dis.

Howard Association.

This Society is now organized and ready to afford relief to the indigent in all cases of Cholera. The following Physicians and Apothecaries have been appointed by the Second Municipality to aid in connection with this Association:

First Ward....Dr. Lindsay, Tchoupitoulas street, between Race and Orange streets. Apothecaries: E. C. Bolton, corner of Magazine and Estelle streets; H. Curtius, corner of Race and Tchoupitoulas streets.

Second Ward....Dr. Harrall. Apothecary: Mr. Reed, Nayades st.

Third Ward....Dr. H. Smith, corner of Edward and Magazine st. Apothecaries: U. Rostrop, 276 Tchoupitoulas street; E. C. Bolton, corner of Magazine and Estelle streets.

Fourth Ward....Dr. Wossestra t, St. Charles street, near St. Joseph street. Apothecaries: Mr. Baghnecha, corner of Triton Walk and Tivoli Circle; C. A. Florist, head of New Basin.

Fifth Ward....Dr. A. F. Axon, Camp street, between Girod and Julia. Apothecaries: P. L. Massey, corner of Camp and Gravier streets; Mr. Davis, Tchoupitoulas street.

Sixth Ward....Dr. W. T. [illegible], Common street, near St. Charles. Apothecaries: Serda & Schuetze, corner of Baronne and Poydras streets; J. B. Booth, corner of Girod and Carondelet streets.

Seventh Ward....Dr. Dalton, Circus street. Apothecaries: E. Banzino, corner of Marais and and Jackson streets; B. J. Wolfe, corner of Canal and Basin streets.

RESIDENCE AND NAMES OF THE MEMBERS.

General Relief Committee of the Howard Association.

Wm. L. Robinson, Camp street, opposite the Orphan Asylum, and Sugar Platform.
H. W. Palfrey, 125 Julia street and 27 Camp street.
G. Kursheedt, 40 and 305 Camp street.
W. Emerson, corner of Camp and St. Joseph streets, and 158 Tchoupitoulas street.
C. Funk, 26 Hevia street.
P. Conniff, 87 Customhouse street.
J. O. Pierson, Orange street, between Religious and St. John the Baptist street, and 95 St. Charles street.
B. O'Connell, 5 Front Levee.
L. C. Dillard, Municipality Hall.
E. L. Nimmo, 51 Tchoupitoulas street, and Constance street, between Basin and Robin.
J. E. Caldwell, Poydras street, near the Levee.
G. W. Harby, corner of Railroad and Casacalvo streets.
J. C. Vandergriff, Moreau street.
V. Boullemet, Dryades street, near Triton Walk, and 6 Magazine st.
D. I. Ricardo, 79 Gravier street.
William C. Hamner, 36 Camp street.
G. W. Shaw, 24 Poydras street, and Bacchus street, near Prats.
J. J. Browne, Camp and Orange streets, and 90 Gravier street.
J. W. Andrews, corner of Camp and St. Joseph streets, and 91 Common street.
C. H. Noble, 9 New Basin.
Charles W. Whitall, 5 Esplanade street, opposite the Mint.
J. Livingston, 98 Bartholomew street, and 12 Exchange Place.
W. L. Giles, corner of Julia and Foucher streets, and St. Paul, near Julia street.
J. Willis, Carondelet street, near Hevia, and 7 Chartres street.

☞ Committee appointed to Collect Funds—J. W. Andrews, D. I. Ricardo, A. J. Willis, J. O. Harris, H. W. Palfrey.
d25tf D. I. RICARDO, Secretary.

THE WEEKLY CRESCENT:

PUBLISHED
EVERY SATURDAY EVENING,
At No. 95 St. Charles street, New Orleans.
BY HAYES, M'CLURE & CO.

The publishers of the Daily Crescent have just issued a Weekly Paper of the largest size, printed in beautiful style, for circulation in the country. The Weekly Crescent will contain the News of the Day, Original Articles upon all subjects of general interest—and more particularly upon those in which the people of the South and West are more immediately concerned—Original and Selected Sketches, Tales, Anecdotes, etc., and a Price Current carefully corrected up to the hour of publication. It will be a paper useful to all classes of citizens, and especially adapted to merchants, mechanics, planters and families. In its political character it is, in the largest sense of the word, independent, taking no part in mere party strife, but aiming to inform and instruct the people upon all the great questions which arise affecting the internal welfare or foreign relations of the country.

The paper will be furnished to Single Subscribers at Three Dollars per year; to Clubs of Four or more, directed to the same Post-office, at Two Dollars and Fifty Cents a year each. Postmasters and others who may act as Agents, and send orders, paid, for ten copies, will receive one copy in addition for their compensation. *Payable in all cases in advance.* Single papers or packages, in wrappers, can be had at the office of publication.

Papers with which we exchange will favor us by giving the above a place in their columns.