

Indicator's letters, on our third page, will be read with interest.

FAYOR.—We thank the officers of the steamer Buckeye, Tennessee, Hecla, Illinois and Webster, for late papers; also to the officers of the steamship Fanny for files of the Corpus Christi star.

Thanks to the officers of the steamer California for late papers.

We are indebted to Capt. Smith, of the brig P. Soule, for files of late Havana papers.

THE HAUNTED MAN.—The last number of the Mammoth Weekly Crescent contains the whole of Boz's Christmas story—together with a great amount of interesting news and literary matter. Copies may be had at Morgan's Literary Depot, Exchange Place, or at the office, 95 St. Charles st.

Late from Panama. Condition of the California Emigrants—Expenses across the Isthmus—Cholera.

The following extract from a letter to a friend, who has kindly furnished it for publication, received from one of the passengers of the Falcon, gives the fullest information of the condition and prospects of the persons waiting at the isthmus for transportation to San Francisco. It will, no doubt, be read with much interest.

Eda. Crescent—I received yesterday a letter from one of the passengers of the steamer Falcon, dated "Panama, Jan. 5, 1848."

His words are as follows: "I avail myself of the opportunity of sending you a note by the agent of the Crescent City. We arrived here in safety, after one of the most disagreeable voyages probably ever performed by man. The California steamer has not arrived, and has not been heard of, and we know not when we shall be able to leave this place. Havana does not present any prospect of relief, and the price here is high. We have the cholera, or a disease of that type, among us. At Crazeo, twenty-one miles up the Chagras river, where we leave it, Capt. Elliott, of the Q. M. department, and Philip H. Lockett, fell victims to the epidemic. I wish you would inform Mr. Lockett's family of the fact. He died on the 24th inst. At the request of the American consul, I administered on his effects, and sold his personal property, and have taken charge of his goods. I have reserved his Daguerreotype likeness, which I will send by the next steamer."

On our arrival at Chagras, we all had to take canoes, at from \$20 to \$30, carrying from one to three persons. The river was very high, and it took four days to reach Crazeo. The distance to Panama from Crazeo is twenty-one miles, and the route is a pass or cut through the mountains, so narrow as to admit but one person at a time, and the track full of rocks. The great wonder is how any man, mule, or pack animal, can get along. We paid \$10 for each trunk, and now they are paying \$20. Those who have goods are in it, if they die.

Some eight or ten vessels have left Valparaiso for California, crowded with passengers."

ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA.—The communication from our friend CAP. FAIRCHILD, which will be found on the first page of to-day's paper, contains much valuable information relative to the Corpus Christi route to California. The description was accompanied by an accurate and neatly executed map, which we did intend to have engraved for the Crescent; and we may still do so; but which, in the meantime, may be seen at the publication office of this paper by any one desirous of examining it for information. The statements of Capt. Fairchild are entitled to the fullest reliance, and his map is as correct as the present state of knowledge of the localities will permit. There are many advantages which the route from Corpus Christi has over all the other overland passages. The road is more in the neighborhood of civilization; it affords better means for subsisting man and beast; it is better watered; and is through a milder and healthier climate than the northern roads, and there is no detention on the Pacific Coast for the means of transportation as at Panama, Acapulco or Mazatlan. Should we become afflicted with the gold fever we should at once make up our minds to pack our mules, put ourselves at their head as fathers of the family, and start for Corpus Christi.

We acknowledge the receipt of a communication signed "Lash," in relation to the pavement now being laid in the upper part of Magazine street. We have no doubt that the complaints of our correspondent are well founded, but we do not know that the evil would be in the slightest degree remedied by attacking the Council, the Surveyor or the contractors, through the newspapers, particularly through ours, which we have reason to believe is not very influential with the present fathers of the city. Our correspondent should apply to the Council, and if that body refuses redress, endeavor so to change its component parts as to secure better treatment for the future.

THE TELEGRAPH.—Mr. J. J. Haley, who had much to do with the construction of the Washington and New Orleans line of Telegraph, proposes to lease the whole line from the company and pay them seven per cent. a year on the whole amount of capital invested. He thinks that "notwithstanding the dissatisfaction recently manifested, and the facts that have been expressed in regard to the value of the investment," that he can make it profitable to the stockholders and useful to the public. The Charleston Courier, in which we find Mr. Haley's circular, seems to think that the gentleman possesses the ability to make good his promise. It may be so—if he succeeds in obtaining the lease of the line, it is to be hoped that he will not be disappointed himself, or disappoint others. But we have our doubts of Mr. Haley's success—he is too sanguine or too confident. Of this defect in his character, we have unquestionable evidence in his letter itself; for instance, he says, "I have unabated confidence in the officers and operators. I believe them to be faithful and able men." Such an exhibition of impudence and veracity, is not likely to obtain for Mr. Haley's judgment the same confidence from the stockholders which he has in others. We had thought that blind and implicit faith would never be met with again upon the earth, but here is a gentleman who would "give his life as far as St. Augustine, when he said, "the thing is impossible, therefore, I believe it."

MR. CALHOUN'S HEALTH.—The correspondent of the Charleston Mercury writes from Washington, under date of the 11th: "Yesterday Mr. Calhoun fell on his knees in the lobby of the Senate from a sudden vertigo, but to-day he is, as usual, in his seat in the Senate. He looks, however, very badly, and is suffering from a continual and harassing cough."

EDITORIAL LIFE IN MAINE.—The editor of the Frontier Journal, in Maine, having treated himself to a bran new pair of breeches, suspended the publication of his paper for two weeks to enjoy them. They were the first he had had for a year.

It is said that Mr. Du Solle, of the Philadelphia Spirit of the Times, is about to become editor of the New York True Sun.

The Philadelphia Republic, an able free soil paper, has been suspended for want of patronage.

FOR THE GOLD REGION.—All who are bent on a trip to California, would do well to call on Capt. Urie of the steamship Fanny, and make inquiries as to the facilities for fitting out an expedition at Corpus Christi. See advertisement in another column.

EDITOR DEAD.—Col. Christian J. Hutter, a venerable newspaper editor, aged eighty years, died recently at Easton, Pa. He was for many years a member of the Legislature of Pennsylvania.

VALENTINES.—Thos. L. White, 53 Canal street, has placed upon our table a specimen of Valentines for sale at his store, and judging from the one before us, we would say his stock is superlative, and as the day is drawing nigh, we would advise all to call soon.

THE HAUNTED MAN.—Brougham has dramatized this story of Dickens.

The Portuguese Benevolent Association.—The first Portuguese association formed in the United States—yesterday celebrated its organization, and commemorated the presentation of a banner to the Society. The Association was instituted about five months since, and during the brief period of its existence has been eminently useful. Although organized as a national association, its charities have been extended to men of all climes and creeds. During the recent epidemic, the members were active and in constant attendance at the sick bed; hundreds live to attest their humanity.

Engagements of importance prevented our presence in the earlier part of the day. From those who were present we learn the ceremonies were interesting and imposing. The Society assembled at 10 o'clock in the morning, on Canal street, opposite the State House, where a banner, wrought by a number of ladies, was presented in their behalf by the Senora Margarida Jonquina Pereira Camacho. The banner is beautifully wrought and of costly materials. From Canal street the Association moved in procession to the Catholic Cathedral, where, after the consecration of the banner, the solemn service of the Mass was performed.

From the Cathedral the Association adjourned to the Masonic Lodge of Polar Star No. 1, in the Third Municipality. There a table, loaded with all the substantial and delicate viands the most abundant market could afford, were spread, and the room was decorated in exceeding fine taste—the American and Portuguese flags prominently presenting a conspicuous feature in the decoration. It was here we first had the pleasure of meeting the Society. An hour was wasted away most agreeably in conversing, promulgating the garden, and listening to the music of a superior band. About 4 o'clock, dinner was announced in readiness, and nearly three hundred gentlemen sat down to an sumptuous "spread" as ever a table graced under.

The company was most agreeable. There was none of that coldness which so frequently chills general intercourse in our public festivities. There was an entire abandon, with the most perfect propriety. We have seldom sat at a table where the "feast of reason and flow of soul" prevailed in so pleasurable a degree.

Mr. Luiz Vieira, the worthy President of the Association, sat at the head of the table. Among the invited guests on his right and left, we noticed Mr. Barelli, Portuguese Consul; Gen. Blasco, Mr. B. Valls, Consul for Montevideo; Mr. Francisco Merceda, President of the Minorca Benevolent Association; Mr. Viosca, Mr. Rousseau, the assistant Clerk of the First District Court; Mr. L. S. Andrey, and Mr. Michel Meillere. The importunities of the table at last resisted by satiety, the cloth was removed and sentiment and speech followed in rapid succession, only interrupted by spicy anecdote and witty bon mot. The President gave as the first toast—

"The first President of the United States—The President incumbent, and the President elect—Gen. Taylor."

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm. The next sentiment was the health of Mr. Barelli, Consul for Portugal, which was drunk with three times three.

Mr. Barelli responded as follows: "As President and Grandmaster of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, I am honored to address you in a language (the English) I am more familiar with than the Spanish, French or Portuguese—or even the tongue of my native Italy. I tender you my heartiest thanks for the compliment you have paid me. The Government of Portugal has recently been pleased to appoint me Consul for this port. When, gentlemen, I came here this evening, in obedience to your invitation, I scarcely expected to find myself in the midst of so large and universally respectable a company. The intelligence and the philanthropy of those present, as well as the honor which is conferred on my position, as the representative of Portugal, more highly than ever. That honor I now hold inestimable. I am not, gentlemen, a Portuguese, but we all hail from Europe, and neither the imaginary lines, called national boundaries, nor any language, can destroy the sympathies which should exist among a people deriving from one race. It is in this bond spirit of philanthropy you have founded your valuable institution, and may it long live to yield the noblest fruit it has produced so generously, even in its infant growth. To you, sir, (turning to the President,) as the organ of this diffusion of good, I need not say, I am proud to give the honor of my position, as the representative of Portugal, more highly than ever. That honor I now hold inestimable. I am not, gentlemen, a Portuguese, but we all hail from Europe, and neither the imaginary lines, called national boundaries, nor any language, can destroy the sympathies which should exist among a people deriving from one race. 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