New Orleans Daily Crescent.

CURIOSITIES OF WORDS.

[illegible] Trench, D. D., Dean of Westminster, [illegible] philologist, and founder of the [illegible] of words than an old Virginia [illegible] into the antecedents of the Synonyms [illegible] recently made a notable addition to [illegible] contributions to his favorite line of research, [illegible] "A Select Gleaning of English Words [illegible] from their present." [illegible] of the best uses to [illegible] at last, shooting low [illegible] British and wrested by [illegible] their original signification [illegible] a shade of malpractice to [illegible] were not then. It shows, for [illegible] a "sandgoard" now-a-[illegible], whereas the original [illegible] were only fellows of [illegible]. We call all our goods our [illegible] man in WICLIFFE's and Chaucer's days [illegible] only "cattle," with which it is [illegible] "Chaos," which is both Greek and [illegible] languages simply means empty infinite [illegible] understanding of it is confusion, [illegible] We are apt to call a fresh, rosy [illegible] "[illegible]" lass, but we may compliment her [illegible] by twinking her with an adjective which indi[illegible] "[illegible], tractable," while thinking [illegible] only complimenting physical charms.

[illegible] "Christadelphian" we indicate the Christian [illegible] many of the old writers mean "baptism" [illegible] the word—among them Wickliffe in [illegible] of the Bible. With us a "church" means [illegible] of Christian worship, but Golding, Marlowe, [illegible] speak of the "Church of Jove," "Church [illegible] other heathen divinities, and the word [illegible] "churlish" originally meant but "man of the health," [illegible] about beyond the outskirts of [illegible] of the mere civilized. By the word [illegible] we signify notions of brotherly equal[illegible] a companion was a contempla[illegible] of an inferior no longer ago than the [illegible] and Smollett. By a "corpse" [illegible] body, but it used to signify a living [illegible] of clothing their corpses with [illegible] "Gentleman" is a bad word [illegible] only has degraded it, for it origin[illegible] a fellow of courts. Foxe, [illegible] write "fondly men," meaning [illegible] are all are, not ferocious, dangerous, [illegible] A "frowardly" man once indicated [illegible] a fellow who felt terror, a [illegible] Shakespeare's commentators [illegible] with an anachronism in the transfer of [illegible] title of "duke," as "Theseus, Duke of [illegible] but Duke is from the Latin word "dux," a [illegible] leader of the people.

[illegible] know what "[illegible]" signifies, and would [illegible] to the application of the word to [illegible] only a scurvy trick of usage makes it [illegible] the original dance of all was Dans [illegible] "written of the school divines," accord[illegible] the Reformation came, and his [illegible] name of others of the Schoolmen, full [illegible] Scotus, their great [illegible] to with such scorn and contempt [illegible] then to call a stupid student a [illegible] to exercise the finest ingenuity of [illegible] "Cloth" now refers to dress when used [illegible] to man apparelmore, but it used to in[illegible] of a man's department, and mood [illegible]. The word "gazette" signified [illegible] Italian coin of tin, the price of the [illegible] sheets of news published in Venice. [illegible] "[illegible]" is now applied to a tom-boy girl, but for[illegible] was synonimous with heathen. When we [illegible] a man's "knuckles" now, we mean that [illegible] of his frame which he uses to administer [illegible] in practicing the manly art of self-[illegible] yet Christians of the time of Milton and [illegible] put them to a different purpose, being used [illegible] to bend them (the "knuckles of the knee") in [illegible] and they laced the "knuckles of the [illegible]

[illegible] were the pawnbrokers of the mid[illegible] and the pawned goods which these great [illegible] of "my uncle" got hold of in the hypo[illegible] way, were put in rooms which were popu[illegible] called "Lombard rooms," and hence the [illegible] of our word "lumber," (lombard,) which [illegible] miscellaneous second-hand goods. The old [illegible] termed any town or country that was in[illegible] "mediterranean," yet with us it indicates only [illegible] which indicates only [illegible] which is Island. "Miser" is now a designation [illegible] of contempt, but it used to mean miserable. [illegible] "quacksalver," we mean any antic fool, but it [illegible] to signify a quack doctor, who *mounted* on a [illegible] to hold forth as to the surpassing [illegible] of his nostrums. By "nursery," we signify [illegible] of nursing, but it formerly meant the [illegible]. It is not complimentary to the physi[illegible] of a person to call him or her "puny," [illegible] is the only authority for such sense as [illegible] (puis ne) properly means younger, born after. [illegible] "a staple," but old writers would call [illegible] a staple, as being the place where cot[illegible] is stock dealt in, and with this last showing up [illegible] of usage—a home-thrust at the [illegible] we may say, though it has given us a very [illegible] staple—we will conclude our chapter [illegible] verbis.

[illegible] TELEGRAPH ENTERPRISE.—Contracts [illegible] in New York on the 8th, by the West[illegible] Telegraph Company, the Missouri River Telegraph Company, and the Missouri, Kansas and Utah Company, by which the former company have [illegible] of all the telegraph lines west of St. Louis, and arrangements are now in progress and [illegible] provided to extend the lines of the two [illegible], under the general superintendence of Charles M. Stebbins, Esq., from St. Louis to Fort [illegible] two hundred miles on the route of the Butterfield Overland Mail—and from St. Louis to Atchison and Utah. The latter is now in successful operation [illegible] a distance of about four hundred miles west of St. Louis, and the line to California, via Fort [illegible] is in good working order about three hundred miles west of St. Louis. By the latter line, which will soon open another section of about two hundred miles, the Associated Press will receive very full reports of California news three or four days in advance of the arrival of the Overland Mail at St. Louis; and, within the next few months, it may be reasonably anticipated that the California and Utah lines will become the most important sources of exciting public intelligence.

HEAVY PRICE ON GOVERNMENT.—A serious *expose* relative to the late mule sale at Camp Floyd, in Utah, is made by the Utah correspondent of the St. Louis Democrat. He asserts that the Secretary of War ordered the Quartermaster-General to receive notes from Mr. Halliday, of breadstuffs contract notoriety, as cash, and that the auctioneer received secret instructions—from whom is not stated—to knock down the mules to Halliday at certain figures.

It is said that Halliday makes near a hundred thousand dollars by this operation, and it looks as if "that favorite son of the Old Dominion" who occupies the War Cabinet, was interested in this as well as the breadstuff business. Halliday has a contract to supply Government with a thousand mules, the number sold at this famous auction, and which are to be delivered at another station in the West at no great distance from Fort Utah. The Secretary of War might have had these mules driven from one fort to the other, but he preferred to have them sold and bought over again for Halliday's, and perhaps his own, benefit.

PEAKS OF OTTER.—These celebrated mountain [illegible] near the Knoxville Whig, justly rank among the Natural Curiosities of Virginia. With few exceptions, they are of greater altitude than any mountains in the Eastern country. They are in the county of Bedford, only some eight or ten miles from the town of Liberty, and some 25 miles from the city of Lynchburg. The northern peak is 42,000 feet above the sea, and 5307 feet above the level of the ocean, which is more than a mile in hight. The summit of these two peaks are, perhaps, near two miles apart. The most southerly peak is much visited by travelers and strangers. Approach them as you may, north or south, or on the railroad from the east or west, their interesting heights loom up in the distance, far above all other objects, even penetrating the clouds. Those who ascend to the top of this peak, find themselves upon the wild platform of one of nature's most magnificent observatories, and apparently above all things else terrestrial. With the aid of a spy-glass, one can distinguish houses in the town of Pincastle, some thirty miles distant. It is said that the eccentric John Randolph once spent the night on this elevated peak, attended by no one but his servant.

EXCEEDINGLY FUNNY RESULTS.

We are free to admit that we like a good laugh, particularly at the expense of those whom we despise, and that, sometimes, but not very often, we indirectly hint things calculated to superadded the opportunity. Some time ago we dubiously intimated that there was a possibility that the African slave trade was in full operation, and that "cords of Congos" would soon throng every Southern port. But we did'nt state it directly or indirectly. We only commented upon a Northern freesoil text. Well, in due course of time the mails brought us Northern freesoil journals. Did'nt they howl, and rave, and rant, and lie, and did'nt we laugh immoderately? Assuredly they did, and we enjoyed ourselves hugely while perusing their diabolical incubations. The business was not a very dignified one, it is true; but we have high authority to justify its use. Holy Writ says when "you are in Rome do as Romans do," and when we deal with Abolitionists, we have no idea that we are subject to the rules which govern honorable men in their intercourse with honorable neighbors; and, consequently, think if we can make any fun out of them it is alike legitimate and proper to do so.

A few weeks afterward, we took another view of the subject, having the same object to accomplish, and proceeded very coolly to give advice to the approaching Charleston National Convention of the Democratic party. We told the Democrats that there would be difficulty, perhaps, respecting the slave trade question, and pointed out the mode by which it could be dodged. We advised them to abrogate the treaty with England which binds us to keep a squadron on the coast of Africa to put down the slave trade; that the squadron did'nt do any good, and was costly and unpopular; that the North could'nt well object to a treaty abrogation; and that such a course would probably suit both South and North.

This was all done deliberately, with malice aforethought, and the result has been just what we anticipated, and we have enjoyed to the fullest extent the amusement looked for. We have put numerous freesoil journals in a rage, while the New York Tribune howls frantically.

The Tribune of the 10th inst. lengthily and bitterly reviews our article. It takes all for gospel. It has no idea that it has been terribly hoaxed. And, to cap the climax of absurdity, it puts the Crescent down as a Democratic journal, and argues that its suggestions were made to advance the interests of the Democratic party! This will be news in the Southwest. The Crescent a Democratic journal! If the Tribune man were not all avowed non-combatants we would be bound to have a difficulty on account of that last insinuation. And, we tell them plainly, that we will not abide a repetition of the outrage. We are amiable men—we would'nt harm a human being if we could help it—but, gracious goodness! we can't, won't, and shall not, stand *that*.

As selfishness forms no part of our nature, we are determined that our readers shall have a chance at the fun we have enjoyed. Therefore we copy the three last paragraphs of the Tribune's article. Prepare to laugh:

Presuming that the Southern Democracy will be satisfied that its scheme of removing the blockading squadron will enable them to kidnap in Congo, Guinea, and other African slave haunts, and transport to New Orleans, Charleston, and other American slave markets, all the negroes which the exigencies of the party and the planters may demand, the Crescent, turning to its Northern allies, disposes of their case in the most summary style. It says: "Douglas, and his very essential Northern constituency, could not hesitate to place themselves upon this platform. This compromise will, doubtless, prove acceptable to the North."

Whether this mode of adjusting the difficulty will be equally acceptable to the negro-stealing Democracy of the South and their, as yet, reluctant coadjutors of the North, may be doubted. The morality and decency of the plan cannot be questioned! It is (to cite what would be an analogous case) simply a propositon from the burglars and thieves of the Five Points to their coy confederates dwelling in cleaner parts of the city, not exactly to repeal the laws forbidding robbery, larceny, and shop-lifting, but to remove the night-watch and extinguish the gas-lights, so that they could conjointly pick pockets, break into banks, and rob warehouses without running the risk of detection in the act, or conviction for the offence afterward. We beg pardon of the scoundrelism of the Five Points for instituting this comparison between it and man-mongering. We doubt not it regards negro stealing in Africa as rather more wicked, and a great deal meaner than picking locks and rifling pockets.

But, seriously, one can hardly credit his senses as he reads such coolly stated and calmly elaborated diabolism! A proposal to re-open a traffic which the civilized world has branded as piracy, and the prosecution of which involves the commission of every crime in the decalogue, and the infliction of every species of cruelty that curses the earth! And, not daring to brave the indignation of every honest man in this country by perpetuating the crime directly and in open day, the Crescent hopes to escape the scorn of the world by doing it indirectly, and under the cloak of hypocritical pretenses. And all in the name of compromise, and for the benefit of Democracy!

Let not New Orleans despair. The party in New York and New England alone will furnish a dozen candidates who will gladly accept the Charleston nomination on such a platform.

We are not going to answer the above in detail. We can't do it. We are too full of laugh for it. The joke is too exquisite to admit of serious reply. But we will simply make three or four statements, and conclude: 1st, The Crescent is not a Democratic paper. 2d, It has never yet, to our knowledge, done anything to advance the Democratic party, by arguments, suggestions, or otherwise. 3d, Nineteen-twentieths, at least, of the slaveholders of the South are opposed to a re-opening of the African slave trade, not because they do not think it fraught with beneficial results to the African, or that it is not supported by every authority which true christianity and philanthropy can furnish, but on grounds of expediency. And, 4th, you fanatical fools, if the treaty was abrogated, and all coasts kept entirely clear, Northern and New England Abolitionists would furnish the capital, vessels and seamen to kidnap every Congo that would be brought to a Southern port. Pharisees, have you no sense of honor, truth, or decency?

Abd-el-Kader, though resigned to inactivity in his quiet retreat in the East, seems by no means inclined to let the world forget the fact of his existence. The appointment of the Count Chasseloup-Laubat to the Ministry of Algeria has called forth from the emir a complimentary letter, which is printed in the Paris journals.

A peculiarly horrible accident occurred in Buffalo, on Thursday afternoon. The foreman in a large soap factory fell into a vat, in which lye was boiling, and before his body could be rescued, the flesh was fairly boiled.

A steam fire engine, named the Antelope, was exhibited in Boston on Monday, and attracted much attention. It weighs only 3,400 pounds, and was drawn by one horse. The machine is said to force an inch-and-a-quarter stream two hundred and forty feet horizontally. It was tried in Court Square and streams were forced as high as the flag staff on City Hall.

BUCHANAN AND BENNETT.—Buchanan James, President of the United States, and Bennett James Gordon, editor of the New York Herald, have been enjoying the pleasure of each others' society at Washington recently. Occasional, Forney's correspondent, says:

We have had quite an effulgence of a newspaper and moral respectability shining upon our city during the last few days. Mr. James Gordon Bennett, of the New York Herald, called here, I understand, by special invitation from the President, has been alternating between his hotel and "the Soldier's Home." Mr. Bennett has taken his meals so frequently at the President's as to be considered a guest of his Majesty. How the ladies of Mr. Buchanan's household here could tolerate this man, Bennett, passes my comprehension. There is no public character whom he has so steadily, persistently, and cruelly maligned as Mr. Buchanan. Every man known to be Mr. Buchanan's friend has been assailed and persecuted and proscribed. He has held up the name of Buchanan to contempt and scorn; laughed at him through twenty five years newspaper experience; hunted and hounded him with every epithet of calumny and ridicule; and not content with this, when the National Democracy had crowned Mr. Buchanan with their confidence in 1856, this Thersites of the press surpassed all his former efforts at malignity, attempting to fasten upon the reputation of the Democratic candidate for the Presidency a crime too horrible to mention in a decent journal. But when, with the knowledge that this act of self-prostitution has been greeted by the press and the people of the country with indignant surprise, the President brings such a man as Bennett to his own household, makes him a fixture at his own table, clothes him with his confidence, and sends him off sealed with the imprimatur of the Presidential favor; may I not say that this is a sight heretofore unsurpassed, either in the morals or the politics of the country!

The Effects of the Storm in Mobile.

From all the accounts received, the storm of Thursday night was more disastrous elsewhere than here in the city. In several of the stores on Commerce and Front streets, above St. Francis, the water covered the floors, in some instances, six or seven inches, to the injury of sugar, flour, bagging, etc., which occupied the lower floor. Many of the merchants were actually engaged in removed their goods to the second stories, employing help at the rate, per hand, of $2 an hour. Other than this the damage was light, being confined principally to the destruction of awnings, signs, and window glass, and the flooring of a number of large and beautiful shade trees.

On this side of the bay the loss in wharves, bathing houses, etc., was also heavy, and we are informed that Magnolia Association's is the only wharf now standing, and about twenty feet of that is gone.

At Point Clear nearly all the little bath houses and wharves, except the long wharf of the hotel, were swept away, and the sojourners were much alarmed.

Higher up, on the eastern shore, every wharf and bath house, except Hudson's and Stark's, is gone.

In the neighborhood of Short's wharf, two oyster boats capsized, one of them, the Sea Bird, and two persons, names unknown, were drowned. It was only by excellent management that the steamer Junior was saved thumping to pieces on the beach, whither she had been blown, dragging her anchor nearly a quarter of a mile.

The steamer Crescent was saved by getting up steam, running out and anchoring off in the bay, where she had plenty of sea room.

The steamer Flirt, which left for up the river about half past five, Thursday evening, returned before daylight yesterday morning with the loss of her chimneys.

The steamer Oregon, from New Orleans, reports that there was no light at Grant's Pass, and that the large dredging machine in use there had capsized. The Oregon also met the California early this morning. She left here yesterday afternoon, but put into Fish river and remained there during the most of the night. [Mobile Register.

LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM BUENOS AYRES.—The bark O. J. Hayes, arrived at New York from Buenos Ayres, bringing advices to July 16, and Buenos Ayres papers to July 12. The Confederation troops had fired from their batteries upon Buenos Ayrean vessels, as they passed Rosario, on their way to Corrientes. The American steamer Asuncion, on her way to Rosairo direct, having the Hon. Mr. Yancy, United States Minister, Captain Steadman, United States Navy, and other of our citizens on board, was also fired on, but the commander acting for the Confederation stated, in explanation to Mr. Yancy, that the act was done in mistake, the Asuncion having been taken for a steamer of Buenos Ayres.

BOSTON, Sept. 10—The bark Armenia, from Constantinople, which arrived here this morning, reports that while passing the Straits of Gibraltar she was fired on twice from the Spanish fort at Tarifa. The first fire was a blank cartridge and the second round shot, which passed through her lower maintopsail.

FROM ARIZONA.—Charles La Motte, better known in California as Dutch Charley, was killed near by Franklin, Texas, early in August. He had been living there for three years, pursuing an honest and industrious life. His death was caused by some dispute as to water privileges with some Mexicans, and he was whipping an old Mexican. He was killed by Mexicans, who made their escape.

Four Americans, who were concerned in stealing stock from a company of emigrants on their way to California, were lately arrested, and two were hung, one shot, and the other drowned. The emigrants had lost about two hundred head of cattle.

Mr. John Wrighton, the agent of the Santa Rita Silver Mining Company, was recently killed at his ranche near Tubac. It seems that he had gone out for the purpose of hunting cattle, was betrayed by some of his Mexican peons into an ambush and lanced; he was killed instantly. His death will probably effectually wind up the affairs of the Santa Rita Mining Company, as I understand it had as good as suspended all operations. The company originally knew nothing of mining, and its sudden termination should act as a warning to other companies, who have an idea that any one can work silver mines advantageously. To work them well requires long experience and a complete knowledge of the country and its people, and no one without these requisites can succeed.—[Arizona cor. St. Louis Republican.

THAT OPPOSITION TICKET.—By reference to another column the proceedings of the Opposition Convention held in New Orleans on Monday last will be found. In our next issue we will say what we have to say upon this important matter. In the meantime we suggest to all desirous of joining in this movement to prepare for a hearty co-operation when the ticket is fairly before the people. Many have been lulled into apathy by the tardiness displayed in bringing it out, and even now are inclined to doubt its success, or even a formidable position. To all such, we say, be of good cheer. The ticket assuredly would not have been brought out were there no chances of success. This has been fully and fairly tested long since, and the delay must be attributed to the time required for perfecting all necessary arrangements. Our adversaries do not understand, and, so far, have been with all their tact and ingenuity, unable to discover our plans and workings. We tell them this, with all good feeling imaginable, and trust they will not be annoyed at their own lack of shrewdness. Of course *no one knew anything about it.* [West Baton Rouge Sugar Planter, 17th.

THE KNOWING ONES SOLD.—Matthew Hale Smith, correspondent of the Boston Journal, relates the following New York incident:

A little incident took place in New York a short time since that I will put in this place. We have a noted gentleman in New York, whom I will call T. He is a member of one of the New York clubs. Opposite to him was another person, who one evening sported an elegant ring. It dazzled T. He wanted it, but the owner seemed to care little to part with it. Yielding at last to the importunity of T., the ring was sold for the sum of $600. It passed to T. amid the titterings and suppressed mirth of the crowd, which did not escape the quick ear of T. He knew that both the ring and the purchaser was sold. T. said nothing. The next day he called upon a jeweler, and learned that the ring was paste, and was worth about $25. He called for some real diamonds, and among them found one not unlike his paste. T. made a bargain with the jeweler for the use of the real diamond. He pledged $1200, the price of the diamond. He gave $100 for its use for a time. He had the paste removed from the settings, and the real diamond put in its stead. Thus armed, he appeared among his associates at night, flourished his ring, and seemed to be in high glee, to the astonishment of his chums, who believed he had been sold.

But the advantage was with T. He talked about "fool and his money," etc.—said that if any gentleman present had a $1200 ring that he wished to sell for $600, T. knew where a purchaser could be found. Bets were freely proposed that the diamond was not real. They were accepted. One man bet $1600; so did another; and two bet $500 each; and all were taken by T. Umpires were chosen, the money and the ring put into their hands, the test applied, and all said the stone was a diamond of the first water, and was worth not less than $1200. T. quietly put the $3000 in his pocket and went his way. He carried the diamond back, recalled his $1200, paid for the use of the stone, and, with the paste ring on his hand, went back to the Club at night. The man who had sold the ring was at the Club, waiting, for he wanted to regain the ring. He had sold it for fun. He knew all the time it was a real diamond. He never had any false jewels. He could tell a real diamond at any time, by its peculiar light. He would not do so mean a thing as to cheat his old, dear friend T. And he knew that T. would let him have the ring back. But T. was stubborn; said that the seller was a cheat, and now, that he saw the value of the ring, would'nt undo what he had done. At length, T. agreed to restore the ring on the payment of $800, which was joyfully paid. But the matter came out, and all parties came to the conclusion that when "diamond is to cut diamond" some more pliable, and one less sharp than T., will be selected for the operation.

AN HONEST CONFESSION.—The London Times, after a review of the actual condition of the British West India Islands and a contrast of their former prosperous condition with their present state of decline, closes with the following emphatic paragraph against the policy of black emancipation:

We wish to heaven that some people in England—neither government, people, nor parsons, nor clergymen—but some just-minded, honest-hearted and clear sighted men would go out to some of the Islands—say Jamaica, Dominica or Antigua, not for a month, or three months, but for a year—would watch the precious protege of English philanthropy, the freed negro in his daily habits; would watch him as he lazily plants his little squatting; would see him as he proudly rejects agricultural or domestic service, or accepts it at wages ludicrously disproportionate to the value of his work. We wish, too, they would watch him while, with a hide thicker than that of a hippopotamus, and a body to which fervid heat is a comfort rather than an annoyance, he droningly lounges over the prescribed task, on which the intrepid Englishman, unaccustomed and uninured to the burning sun, consumes his impatient energy, and too often sacrifices his life. We wish they would go out and view the negro in all the blazonry of his address, his pride, his ingratitude, contemptuously sneering at the industry of that race which made him free, and then come and teach the memorable lesson of their experience to the fanatics who have perverted him into what he is.

WOOL.—According to the best authorities, in this country some 40,000,000 pounds of wool are produced annually, while the annual consumption in the United States is rather above than below 100,000,000 pounds, and is steadily increasing. More than 50,000,000 pounds of wool are imported every year in this country, which the country is abundantly able to produce within its borders.

Particulars of Foreign News.

BY THE ANGLO-SAXON.

FASTNET POINT, Monday, Sept. 12—The steamship Anglo-Saxon, from Liverpool 31st ult, passed this point at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon, on her way to Quebec, where she will be due at noon to-morrow.

A dispatch dated Trieste, August 28, says the American ship Ben Bolt, which arrived here with a cargo of Havana sugar, and had sailed again for London with the same cargo for want of sale, was wrecked on the 25th at Brandess. The crew were saved. She is insured in London.

THE ZURICH CONFERENCE.—A dispatch, dated Zurich, August 27, says: "For the last few days there has been no conference of the Plenipotentiaries. It is believed they will be enabled to quit Zurich at the latest in a fortnight."

On Sunday, the 28th, the Austrian and French Plenipotentiaries held a private conference.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times, in a letter dated on the evening of the 28th, says:

A private letter from Zurich, of the 26th, states that the labors of the Plenipotentiaries were going on slowly enough, notwithstanding the announcement made a few days ago, that it was doubtful if any important point had been settled. Whether the fault is attributable to the Plenipotentiaries themselves, to the preliminaries of the treaty at Villafranca, or to the Emperors not having taken into calculation, in their eager anxiety to make peace, all the difficulties of the negotiations, no one knows. Some people incline to the opinion that this delay is intentional, and the manner in which M. de Bourquenay is acting lends some color to the suspicion. What the French Government will at last have to do is, simply to declare to Austria that it has done all that was morally in its power in favor of her protege, or else it must dispose itself to impose them on the Duchies by intrigue, if not by force.

A late Berne telegram says that the reports current as to the proceedings of the Conference were quite contradictory, and that there was every reason to believe that the Sardinian Plenipotentiaries would not affix their signatures to any protocol in favor of the return of the deposed rulers of the Italian Duchies.

Great Britain.

The directors of the company owning the Great Eastern had declined Mr. Lever's amended offer to charter her, and their original programme is to be carried out. The ship had been closed to the public, and was to leave the Thames in a day or two. The receipts from visitors during the few days she was open to the public exceeded £4,000. Few or no policies of insurance had been taken out on the ship at Lloyd's, the underwriters being generally unwilling to transact business until the completion of the trial trip. There were some anxious to see the ship safe out of the Thames, but those in charge of her entertained no fears on the subject.

Leigh Hunt, the popular author, died in London on the 28th August, in the 75th year of his age. He had been in a declining state of health for a considerable time.

A Cabinet Council was unexpectedly summoned in London on the 29th. Various speculations were afloat as to the cause of it, but it was generally supposed to have reference to some new phase in the Italian question.

The strike of the London builders continued.

The London Times, in a leading article on England's defensive preparations, says that she is now rapidly approaching, if, indeed, she has not actually attained it, a state in which no assailant can hope to attack her with impunity.

France.

The Emperor remained in retirement in the Pyrenees. It was asserted that he would proceed to Cherbourg, and also pay a second visit to the Chalons camp.

A speech by Count de Morny at the opening of the Council General of the Department of Puy de Dome attracted considerable attention, as it was regarded as an enunciation of the sentiments of the Emperor.

The Count endeavored to show that the apprehensions existing in England, of a French invasion, were quite groundless, and that on the contrary France was very desirous of cementing the alliance between the two countries, and waging only a manufacturing and commercial war. He denounced that portion of the English press and those members of Parliament who questioned the intentions of the French Government.

The Paris *Constitutionnel*, in an article on the Duchies, says the Emperor agreed at Villafranca to the formal restoration of the former reigning Princes. He has not yet given up all hopes of success, and will fulfill, loyalty to the end, his disinterested mission; but if he should not succeed to reunite the Princes and people in mutual accord, it is not his intention to force either one or the other. It is not the wish of his Majesty to follow the errors of the ancient Austrian policy, whose armed intervention in the affairs of the peninsula has ceased forever. We have given to the Italian people advice which we believe wise and prudent, and which, if they do not follow it, will grieve us, but which we could not press upon them by force. To us Italy owes her independence; we shall not take away from her again what we have given her yesterday.

Italy.

The situation of affairs in Italy has undergone no change.

A Deputation of the National Assembly of Modena had gone to Paris on a special mission to Napoleon.

The elections throughout Romagna had taken place with the greatest tranquility and order.

The official Piedmontese *Gazette* gives a denial to the reports of political dissension among the Members of the Sardinian Cabinet.

Count Lymoty, Mayor of Parma, issued a proclamation on his return from Paris. Napoleon, in addressing him used the following words:

"Tell the population that have sent you to me that my army shall never do violence to their wishes, and that I will not permit any other force to commit violence against you."

The Count adds:

These words make you the abiters of your destinies.

Garibaldi has resolved to maintain in the army of Central Italy the same spirit of order and discipline that distinguished the Chasseurs of the Alps. In an order of the day, he says: "I will cause to be shot any one who calls himself a Mazzinian, a Republican, Socialist, or even a Garibaldian. I will have none with me but soldiers and Italians."

The following are the amounts of the loans at present required by the Governments of the Duchies: Tuscany, 129,000,000 francs; Modena, 5,000,000 francs, and Parma 3,000,000.

The city of Bologna has also been authorized to raise the sum of 600,000 francs.

The Tuscan *Moniteur* publishes a decree abolishing the Tuscan army regulations, and adopting those of the Sardinian.

Garibaldi's command comprises the troops of Tuscany and Modena.

An earthquake had taken place at Sorcio. Two hundred persons were killed, and a large number wounded. Nine thousand of the population had encamped in the neighborhood of the town. The Pope had dispatched assistance to them.

Late advices from Rome say that the French Minister had held a conference with Cardinal Antonelli on the subject of the reorganization of the Legations.

Germany.

The cholera was spreading all along the shores of the Baltic.

A combination of bankers and financiers had been formed at Frankfort-on-the-Main, for contracting the Bavarian 4½ per cent loan, to defray military expenses. The loan is issued at 98½ per cent, and is for about a million sterling.

Russia.

It is stated that the Russian Government had given orders to demobilize the first three *corps d'armee* placed under the orders at Prince Menschikoff, in Poland.

The whole £12,000,000 had been subscribed.

India.

The Bombay mails of August 5, would reach England on the day the steamer sailed.

Intelligence had reached Lloyd's that at Calcutta, on the 26th July, there was a cyclone in the Hoogley river, and that two steamers and a number of other vessels were wrecked.

The Latest.

LIVERPOOL, Wednesday Evening.—The weather has been so stormy that tenders could not place passengers on board the Anglo-Saxon and Kangaroo, and both vessels are consequently detained until to-night's tide.

A Zurich telegram, of this date, says that private conferences continue to take place daily between the French and Austrian Plenipotentiaries, and yesterday there was a meeting between the French and Sardinian representatives.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times, writing on the 30th, says:

"Things are going on so badly at Zurich as to render the dissolution of the Conference in a very few days probable. A Congress of War seems to be the only alternative, a Congress which Austria is decidedly opposed to, and which will have as little success as this conference."

The designation to be given the new kingdom has been discussed at Zurich. Austria is willing that Victor Emanuel should be known as King of Sardinia and Lombardy, but will not consent that he should describe himself as King of Upper Italy.

The *Constitutionnel* of Tuesday contains an article repudiating in the strongest terms the fratricidal policy of war with England. It says: The Emperor has not thought to avenge the past, but to repair the future for the sake of consolidation of the English alliance. He has on every occasion combatted the hereditary prejudices of the French people.

Very Latest.

ZURICH, August 31.—Private conferences have continued to take place between the Plenipotentiaries for the last three days. The representatives of France and Austria have daily conferred together. Yesterday there was a meeting of the French and Sardinian Plenipotentiaries.

A writer in a Galveston, Texas, paper, describing the excellencies of Sour Lake as a watering place, says: "When I came here I weighed just 144 lbs. 9 ozs. 7½ grs. apothecaries weight, 'slip shucked,' but now I pull down generally, but especially after dinner, 174 lbs., hog measure, and am as independent as a wild cat. The air is so perfectly rarified and ethereal that a jay-bird can scarcely fly through it for the want of a sufficient volume necessary to its support.

HARD TO BEAT.—The best thing we have heard of an antiquarian is told of William F. Goodwin, Esq., of Concord, N. H., who is acknowledged to be the greatest antiquarian in New England. Mr. G., in order to add another valuable volume of legal lore to his already well stocked library, is engaged in hunting up copies of the celebrated criminal trials that have taken place in the State of New Hampshire. Observing in a catalogue of books issued by an old and distinguished publishing house in New York, that a copy of a trial he was in search of was for sale, Mr. G. immediately wrote to the firm requesting them to forward it to him. By due course of mail he received a letter informing him that the copy of the trial he desired had been sold, but that they would procure another copy for him, and that their business was so extensive, both in this country and in Europe, that *they could furnish him with a copy of any trial he might desire.* Mr. G. having been placed in the same position several times by attempting to purchase catalogue books with the prices annexed, wrote back the following short but pithy note:

CONCORD, N. H., July 2, 1859. Messrs. ——: Gentlemen: Yours of the 30th of June is at hand. Be kind enough to procure for me, as soon as may be, one copy of the trial of the "*two thieves*" who were hanged, "one on the right hand and another on the left of our Savior when he was crucified," and very much oblige,

Your obedient servant,
W. F. GOODWIN.

P. S. Be very careful and get an edition that contains the indictment, for I have never been able to find out what those two rascals stole.

The above letter is to be preserved in the New York Historical Society Archives, and a dinner waits the pleasure of the author. [Boston Journal.

PALMO.—A New York correspondent of the Charleston Courier says: I met little, dried-up Palmo on Broadway yesterday. Poor fellow! He is nearly used up—lost all; is cook, at $12 a week, to some restaurant on Broadway. Who is there, even in Charleston, that does not remember Palmo? Palmo, with his *Cafe des mille Colones*, where he made thousands. Palmo, the Italian opera manager, where he sank tens of thousands! At one time Palmo was ahead of the world $250,000. Who so great then as Palmo? When Louis Napoleon was in this country, he lodged at Washington Hall with his suite. Palmo supplied the Imperial fodder, done in his best style. Louis Napoleon left him, and when he went away made Palmo a superb present; and in those days if Louis Napoleon had wanted to "come the borrow" over Palmo, the Italian could have spared him 250,000 francs without inconvenience. What a pity Palmo had not invested $50,000 in that way. Even now, I think Palmo would do better if he would abandon "cookdom" and go to Paris. Napoleon would remember and do something for the old man, who is now verging on to seventy. Palmo will not die a regular death; he will dry up gradually, and his life will go out easily and gently, like lamp wick when the oil is all gone.

LIFE AND HISTORY OF FLORA TEMPLE.—The Waterville Times assures its readers that the following is an authentic record of Flora Temple's early life:

Flora Temple, the "Queen of the Turf," was born in the town of Sangerfield. She was foaled in 1845, and, when quite young, sold to Nathan Tracy, of Hamilton, Madison county, for the sum of $13, who kept her less than three years. Flora then became the property of Wm. Congdon, of Smyrna, Chenango county, who subsequently sold her to Messrs. Richardson & Kellog, of Eaton, Madison county. This firm kept a livery, and Flora became quite popular with the patrons of their stable. Mr. Richardson finally took the mare to Washington Hollow, Duchess county, and swopped her off for a purse containing $155. Flora's dam was Madame Temple a "horse of all work," first owned by Elisha Peck of this village. Flora was her first colt.

AURORA BOREALIS EXPLAINED.—The following humorous explanation renders the aurora borealis mystery as clear—as clear as—as clear as—crystallized mud:

The Aurora Borealis.—A lady friend of ours is anxious to know the origin of the recent celestial visitor. We give it, as we studied it, a long time since: When the melofygistic temperature of the horizon is such as to calorocise the impurient indentation of the lime humpsbrie ammology, the cohesion of the borax curbristus becomes surcharged with infinteesimals, which are thereby deprived of their fissural disquisitions. This effected, a rapid change is produced in the thorambumpter of the guyasticutis palerium, which causes a convulcular in the hexagonal antipathies of the terrestrium aequa verusil. The clouds then become a mass of decolorumized specules of cermocular light which can only be seen when it is visible. We hope our friend will be satisfied with this explanation.

A DEN OF SNAKES.—On Thursday of last week, while the hands in the field belonging to Col. Thomas Kasey, some fifteen miles south of this place, were engaged in fallowing the land for wheat, a nest of young moccasin snakes, from six to eight or ten inches in length, was "turned over" by the plow. The number counted was twenty-four, one of which is a perfect curiosity, having two distinct, well developed heads, and four eyes, attached to one single body. His double-headed snakeship has been preserved in a bottle of alcohol for the inspection of the curious.—[Bedford (Va.) Sentinel.

POPULATING TWO STATES IN ONE DAY.—The New London Star, of the 8th states that after the 11 o'clock A. M., train from Boston, via the Shore Line, left that city, a young married lady informed some of the female passengers she was ill. She was taken to the saloon and delivered of a fine boy. This was in Massachusetts. After crossing the line into Rhode Island she was delivered of a fine girl. The boy was named after the conductor, Ira F. Gliddon. The mother is "doing as well as could be expected," and so is the Shore Line. Where is the line that can do better?

SAN JUAN ISLAND.—*Modest Claim.*—Col. P. K. Hubbs, a U. S. revenue officer at San Juan Island, says that in 1854 the civil authorities of Whatcom county, Washington Territory, assessed the usual taxes on property in San Juan Island, which not being paid, the assessor seized thirty sheep belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company, and sold them to liquidate the taxes claimed. That company has since made a claim on the United States government for $15,000, for the value of the sheep.

The largest sale of diamonds in a single lot to one person ever made in this country was to the amount of $21,000 by Ball, Black & Co., of New York. One of the gems (there were five of the precious beauties) was worth $14,000. The price of diamonds has gone up 30 or 40 per cent. within the last dozen years.

The Minnesota Times says of its friend, Mr. Grow, of Pennsylvania, that he "had courage enough to knock down a drunken Southerner who insulted him on the floor of Congress." Yes, but would he have had courage enough to knock down a *sober* "Southerner?" [Louisville Journal.

FATAL STABBING.—A difficulty took place on Saturday last at "Paul Rip's," in the vicinity of "Grape Vine" in this county, between a Mr. Felps and a Mr. Brown; the latter gentleman receiving such knife wounds as to cause his death on the Monday following. [Shelbyville Expositor.

The monopoly of the Hudson Bay Company in the purchase of furs has ceased. The Toronto Globe states that at the North-west, the Indians are paid for a beaver skin in some small articles worth about one shilling sterling, such as a knife, a dozen buttons or needles, a cheap hatchet or a pair of scissors. The beaver skin thus purchased the company sells for about eighty times its cost. A silver-fox skin, which costs about four knives, is sold for $60 to $70, and others in proportion.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11.—The Ordnance Bureau of the United States Navy Department, with a view to the wants of the service, has lately ordered five hundred of Joslyn's breach-loading fire-arms, and nine hundred Sharp's rifles.

DESERTION OF A WAR VESSEL.—Private advices from Buenos Ayres, brought by the O. J. Hayes, state that the steamer General Pintos, one of the best of the Buenos Ayrean war vessels, had deserted and gone over to the side of General Urquiza, her marines having mutinied and shot the captain.

THE MILITARY MOUSTACHE.—An order has been made at Park