AN AMERICAN WOMAN IN PARIS....No. XVII.

BREAKFAST AT RAMBOUILLET.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

PARIS, Friday, March 3, 1854.

How have you amused yourselves during the long time we have left you in the salon of the Imperial farm house at Rambouillet? Did you look out on one side at the pheasants in the park, and on the other at the bees in their N. E. habitation? Did you notice how the windows opened in the center like folding doors, and how the light was softened by small white curtains hung close to the glass, and how the whole window recess was draped with embroidered muslin? The Baroness begged you to distrust the dampness of your dresses and sit by the fire. Did you prefer to look at the pictures and the knick knacks all about the room? and were you startled at the impertinence of the people who stared at you from the mirrors? The Quaker said, "It takes two to make a stare." Now let us look at the parchment the Baron spoke of. It has a familiar signature, and reads thus:

"Be it known that the Baron D'——, Lieutenant General in the armies of France, is a member of the Society of the Cincinnati, instituted by the officers of the American army at the period of its dissolution, as well to commemorate the great event which gave Independence to North America, as for the laudable purpose of inculcating the duty of laying down in peace arms assumed for public defence, and of uniting in acts of brotherly affection and bonds of perpetual friendship, the members constituting the same. In testimony whereof, I, the President of the said Society have hereunto set my hand at Mount Vernon, in the State of Virginia, this, 10th day of December, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, in the tenth year of the Independence of the United States. By order,

"GEO. WASHINGTON, President.

"H. Knox, Secretary."

We may look at the portrait of this Baron D'——, the father of our host, who at fourteen years of age, instead of Latin and Greek at the Sorbonne, preferred joining the forces of La Fayette for America. He served seven years in the armies of the Continental Congress and then returned to France, and perhaps assisted in sowing that seed which sprung upward and bore such bitter fruit for the King who had cost us aid.

The badge, hung with a blue ribbon on his breast, represents the cypher of the Society of the Cincinnati. We saw some private letters of La Fayette, and one written during his visit to America in 1825. The present Baron inherits the title of his father's membership, with the motto, "Omnem relinquat republicam." It would be treasonable to translate this literally at the present time.

Breakfast was announced at half past twelve. This is called the second breakfast, as coffee or chocolate are taken early in the morning. I laid off my bonnet and cloak in the dining room. The Baroness offered me a cap, fearing I should feel the cold after wearing a bonnet all the morning.

I have conscientious scruples about tattling the private hospitalities one may have the good luck to receive among strangers. So if you will pardon an infringement on the unities of time and place, I will introduce a fiction at this epoch of my narration, and tell you that we breakfasted with spirits in the Donjon of Vincennes, and all the truth I mean to utter is that we found their society fascinating and the breakfast delicious and satisfying to our tangible selves, and that cheerfulness, bounty and grace rivaled each other in serving us. First they sent us fresh boiled eggs hid in a napkin, and we put them in ivory egg cups and ate them with a little spoon from the shell. Then we had beef steak walled around with triangular spheroids of hot fried potatoes and sprinkled with green bits of savory herbs. We had one kind of red wine, then another; then black sausages and white ones; then kidneys cooked in Madeira; then a dessert of apples, pears, cheese, preserves and cakes; then afterward coffee and toast. We took the coffee in bowls, with abundance of hot milk.

Breakfasts have an end. We were reluctant to say adieu to this amiable family. We were allied to them by love and gratitude. Their father had fought for us and attested our victories, and they as well as we gloried in our republic. We hoped to see them on our side of the Atlantic and assured them that the signature of Washington would be a passport to the home of every American patriot.

Our bloused charioteer and his steed had rejoiced too in imperial hospitalities and awaited us at the door. We were packed, the shawls tucked in and we departed. Madame said "Au revoir," and I turned back again to her voice calling the dog—Amour, Amour, who seemed intent to follow us. *Amour* was the last cadence of our visit. *Amour*, like music slumbering on its strings, breathed tranquilly in our hearts.

We repassed the chateau—in one of its turrets Francis I had slept and this gallant monarch and his levee; the luscious Diana of Poictiers, and Henry the King, her mad lover; Catherine de Medicis and the demoniac Charles IX; Rabelais and Voiture; Louis XIV and his Court and his Queen Madame Maintenon; Marie Antoinette and her dairy maids and shepherdesses; Charles X and his abdication and the Parisian populace of 1830; Virgil's Elysium and Dante's Infernal Circles—hand in hand, reeled their many associations around this old chateau. The voices of the past mingled in mocking music, dead marches and bacchanal songs—and blended in awful chorus wails of wo and notes of delirious ecstacy. The rippling laugh of voluptuous love—the out cry of blood of St. Bartholomew's Eve—the plaintive love and penitence of La Valliere—the icy sense of Maintenon—the echoing footsteps of the Austrian on the scaffold, and the tripping gayety of the goddess queen and her sylphs—the trembling agony of abdication and the threats and *ça ira* of a Parisian mob—the long diminuendo and dying away in neglect and forgetfulness. Then the clarion tones of the new Empire.

Such are the harmonies and discords of the overtures of these old French palaces. What holocausts of human experience have been offered at their shrines. Death is the high priest at their altars, the sythe his crozier, kings and heroes his deacons, and memory is all the incense offered. "What is life? Think of the joke! the fiercest flame but "ends in smoke!"

We glimpsed through the long avenues of the forest. Press your eye-balls now and you will recall visions of gay hunters—chasing bounds and bounding game—but we must break these bands of the enchanted past, and shiver into the reality of a misty, drizzly February afternoon, and jog-jog along a macadamized road—up hill and down hill, the same immutable jog. Clouds draggled their ragged skirts along the plain, leaving tatters on the top of the stark poplars, trimmed to the hight of fifty or sixty feet for firewood. Rows of humped-back, mossy, gnarled looking apple-trees were posed in perpetual courtesy along the wayside. Their ugliness rather than their virtue is their protection, and from respect to law their fruit is safely yielded to its proper owner.

For some distance the fields were without hedges or inclosures, and evidently belonged to some large proprietor. Furrowed surface-drains conducted a little moisture to the ditches by the wayside; plows attached to wheels, like trains of artillery, drawn by Trojan-looking horses, turned the turf. The horses wear high collars, covered with blue shaggy cloth. We saw some of the same kind at the farm-house, which we were told weighed nearly one hundred pounds, and also another part of the harness for the back of the horse, of about the same weight.

These fashions might have been introduced from the excavations for the Holy Sepulcher during the first crusades, and if so, they will be forever cherished by the peasants for their antiquity and sacred origin. Change is incomprehensible to a provincial peasant; there is no new thing under the sun for him. Napoleon I lived a new embodiment of their ideal hero, and when Napoleon III made his provincial tour, it was considered a second advent of the same personality.

The houses of the peasants were low huts, built of mud and straw, thatched and grown over with thick moss. Sometimes several were joined together, and the elevation on each for a dormer window gave a festooned line to the cornice of the roof. The floors were on a level or below the surface of the wet, dirty yards in front of the houses.

At the axis of several roads we passed a large elm tree. A cross stood near by. An image of a female saint, inclosed in a box with a glass front, was suspended from the tree. Here the village people go to pray and invoke their patron saint, and on fête days the priests and people form processions and offer incense.

We dined and spent the night with an intelligent family in the country, six miles from Rambouillet. AU REVOIR.

PERSONAL.—The HUTCHINSONS are singing in Ohio.

SARAH PELLET is lecturing in Ohio.

BAYARD TAYLOR lectured at Chillicothe on the 3d inst. From there he went to Cincinnati, and thence to St. Louis and Louisville. He has already lectured some sixty times and has thirty more engagements ahead, extending into the middle of May.

☞ AN AGED REVOLUTIONARY VETERAN.—John Ward, a soldier of the Revolution, residing in Johnsburgh, Warren County, N. Y., attained the age of 100 years on the 15th day of May, 1853. He still enjoys good health. His memory retains but little except Bible and Revolutionary incidents.

NOTES OF WINTER TRAVEL.

CANADA WEST.

The new Railroad through Canada West from the Suspension Bridge at Niagara Falls to Windsor, opposite Detroit, (228 miles,) runs mainly through a remarkably level country, variously timbered, quite thickly settled on its principal east and west roads (here called streets,) and much like Michigan in its general appearance, though it seems to have a good deal more swamp, covered with evergreens, and less prairie or openings than our Peninsular State. The country appears to be settled mainly by emigrants from Great Britain, though there are some Yankees among them. The farmers have generally framed houses of neat but comfortable dimensions, usually painted white, and the general aspect of the rural districts is that of moderate thrift and general plenty, with less enterprise or speculation than prevails on our side of the Lake. Of the towns, Hamilton, at the head of Burlington Bay on Lake Ontario, seems the most active and growing, but London, on the little river Thames, rather more than half way from Niagara to Detroit, is the largest town in Canada west of Toronto, having some 10,000 inhabitants. Its dwellings are generally small, and indicate that the town had a rapid growth at some not remote period in the past. Ingersoll, some twenty miles further east, is a growing village. Chatham, at the head of steamboat navigation on the Thames, some sixty or seventy miles from Detroit, also promises to grow. The Railroad will prove a great help to all this region.

As to the Road itself, with its management, we were agreeably disappointed. The country traversed is generally quite level (the partial exception being the first twenty or thirty miles from Niagara, where the route is somewhat cut up by creeks or inlets debouching in Lake Ontario;) but there are few roads in the United States of easier average grades per mile, and hardly one which has so little curvature as this exhibits for three fourths of its length. The time made is, for a new road, respectable, despite the sneers wherein "Young America" is apt to indulge with respect to everything Canadian. We left Niagara on Tuesday of last week about noon, (being put an hour behind time by awaiting the arrival of the morning express train from Rochester,) and reached Windsor, opposite Detroit, at five minutes past 11—say 11 hours making 228 miles, including a half for dinner. Next night, the train from Niagara reached Windsor about 10 o'clock. Our train had six large cars, full of passengers, with ten to twenty-five obliged to stand up for a good part of the way. The business exceeds anticipation, and we hear that a second track is to be constructed forthwith. It is clearly needed.

There is one bad regulation which seems peculiar to this road—that which places each train under the control of the station-master from the time of its arrival at a stopping-place till said station master sees fit to ring his bell as a signal that it has liberty to start. What its object may be, we can only guess; but if it be safety, we think it ill advised. Where each conductor is master of his train throughout, you know exactly on whom to throw the responsibility in case of a collision; but where this responsibility is pieced out among a dozen station-masters and a conductor, it will be almost impossible to ascertain the blame of a casualty. The station-master may say that he let the train move on in ample season to reach the next turn out, which the conductor will deny, saying that he proceeded with all possible diligence, yet the result was a collision and a smash-up. We trust this rule will be rescinded.

MICHIGAN.

DETROIT has about doubled in population and business since we last before saw it, nearly six years ago. The Michigan Central Railroad has done much for it; the Canada will henceforth contribute to its growth; while the road north-west, which has hitherto halted at Pontiac, is now being vigorously prosecuted. After making some fifty miles north west, it takes a due west course to Grandhaven, on Lake Michigan.

We ran out on the Central Road 119 miles to the thriving young village of Battle Creek, passing Ypsilanti, Ann-Arbor, Jackson and Marshall, which are among the largest inland villages of the State. All are growing vigorously though not rapidly. Battle Creek is younger and smaller than either of these, but has a fine water-power on the Kalamazoo, well improved, and the best "Union School-house" we ever saw in a village of its years and size. It accommodates 700 children, but another Primary Department is required to meet the wants of the rising generation. It is melancholy that any man who calls himself an architect, and knows enough to make such a building stand up, should not know that it needs capacious and unfailing ventilation; but so it is. Who will procure the indictment for malpractice and manslaughter of the next man who draws the plans of a school house or other building intended for a public use, without providing adequately and thoroughly for ventilating it. Whoever does this will be a greater public benefactor than Franklin or Howard.

—MICHIGAN has been passed by in the general rush for the Far West, and so has grown far less rapidly than Northern Illinois, Wisconsin or Iowa. She was heavily cursed by Land Speculation in 1835-6, and has hardly yet thrown off the incubus. The general 'lay of the land' throughout her southern and more settled half is more level than we should prefer, and we do not think her soil so fertile in the average as that of the three rival States above named. Her prairies are often wet and sour, and she has too many of those shallow reservoirs of mud and water which try to be ponds or petty lakelets, and only succeed in not being exactly sloughs. Yet her drier lands are strong, contain a good share of lime, are well adapted to wheat, and improve visibly with cultivation. Her wet lands are generally rich, and only need draining—which in most cases is not difficult—to render them decidedly and lastingly productive.

This State, having been settled more slowly than those south and west of her, is more thoroughly American and homogeneous in her population than either of her young rivals. This enables her to devote more attention and means to Education, as well as to enact a Maine Liquor Law, which her People ratified by the largest proportional majority of any State which has yet voted on the question. And what she has thus declared, she will stand to. Just now, the Liquor Traffic is enjoying a partial and skulking revival, under the patronage of certain Judges, who, emulating the logic of Bottom in naming his dream, hold the Law invalid because the People have expressly sanctioned it! At their State Election next November, the People will cure these legal gentlemen of their cavils by choosing a Legislature to enact the Law 'pure and simple,' driving the hoops and tightening the rivets wherever experience shall have shown such a course to be necessary. Thus patience and effort will soon make all right.

OHIO

Is probably at this moment better supplied with Railroads than any other State west of Lake Champlain and the Housatonic, and is growing rapidly in consequence. Cincinnati will have a Quarter of a Million inhabitants at the next census—more than New-York had at any census before that of 1840—Cleveland will have over 50,000, Columbus and Dayton some 30,000 each, and so on. You may leave almost any town in the State in the morning and be in Buffalo by evening, and in New-York for early dinner next day. The eastern part of the State, lying in the great bend of the Ohio between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, has hitherto been nearly destitute of these conveniences; but the void is being rapidly filled. Newark, Zanesville, Mount Vernon, Canton, &c., are now connected by Railroad with all parts of the country, and a new route from the West to the East is to be completed this summer by way of Columbus, Wheeling, and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad—only the link between Zanesville and Wheeling being now wanting.

NEWARK, shire town of Licking County, some thirty miles east of Columbus, on the Ohio Canal, and connected both by that and the Railroad with all parts of the State, is to have the Agricultural State Fair next autumn. A beautiful forest of the coolest and finest hard wood, about fifty acres in area, has been selected for the Fair-ground, and is now being prepared for this use. This wood is nearly engrossed by the site of one of the most remarkable and best preserved of those ancient earth-works—whether fortifications, temples, or whatever else, let those say who know—that is anywhere to be seen. Its preservation uncleared is most fortunate; and it has just been bought by the County Agricultural Society as a permanent location for their Fairs. Here (about two miles from the center of Newark) some Fifty Thousand persons will doubtless assemble at the State Fair next September, and we urge those who would see Ohio, her people, her products and her natural marvels, to improve the opportunity thus proffered them.

Newark is a fine village, though located on a level plain, like nearly all the interior villages or cities of Ohio. MOUNT VERNON (some forty miles north) is the most remarkable exception that we remember. It is located on the western edge of the high, rolling country which separates the great central flat which covers half the State from the Ohio River, and rises beautifully from that level, covering the side of a gentle acclivity for perhaps a mile square. Apart from Cleveland (and this doubtful,) Mount Vernon is destined to be the finest though not the largest town in the State. It has already some Ten Thousand inhabitants, and is growing rapidly.

THE CUTTING AND BRECKENRIDGE CORRESPONDENCE.

Mr. Cutting to Mr. Breckenridge.

WASHINGTON, March 27, 1854.

Hon. J. C. BRECKENRIDGE—*Sir*: In the course of the debate in the House this morning, in reply to what I considered to be a legitimate criticism upon your argument, you asserted what I had said was false.

I now call upon you to retract this assertion, or to make the explanation due from one gentleman to another.

This will be handed to you by my friend Mr. Maurice, who is authorized to receive your answer, and to act for me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[Endorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS. F. B. CUTTING.

NO. II.

Mr. Breckenridge to Mr. Cutting.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 27, 1854.

SIR: Your note of this date, by the hands of the Hon. James Maurice, is this moment received.

The word to which you except, having been founded on one personally applied by you to me, which I considered improper and offensive, cannot be withdrawn while the cause of it remains.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BRECKENRIDGE.

Hon. F. B. CUTTING, Washington City.

[Endorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS.

NO. III.

Mr. Cutting to Mr. Breckenridge.

WASHINGTON, March 28, 1854.

Hon. J. C. BRECKENRIDGE—*Sir*: Your note of last night in answer to mine, was handed to me at too late an hour to admit of a reply.

The expression to which you object was applied by me in the course of what I considered to be a legitimate criticism upon a part of your argument, and was not intended to be personal in its character, nor, in my opinion, when considered in connection with my remarks, does it justly admit of that construction.

I therefore have to reiterate the demand already made.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. B. CUTTING.

[Endorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS.

[This letter was shown by Mr. Maurice to Col. Hawkins, who declined to receive it.]

NO. IV.

Mr. Breckenridge to Mr. Cutting.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 28, 1854.

The Hon. F. B. CUTTING—SIR: Having received your note last night at a very late hour, I had no time to consult a friend to whom I would refer the Hon. Mr. Maurice, to embrace the alternative offered by your note and arrange the terms of our meeting, until this morning.

My friend Col. Hawkins will present this note, and act for me in the matter.

I have the honor to remain your obedient servant.

JOHN C. BRECKENRIDGE.

[Endorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS.

NO. V.

Mr. Cutting to Mr. Breckenridge.

WASHINGTON, March 28, 1854.

The Hon. J. C. BRECKENRIDGE—SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this morning in which you refer me to your friend Col. Hawkins, "to arrange the terms of our meeting."

My friend Col. Monroe, whom I have chosen for that purpose, will confer with Col. Hawkins on the subject.

I have the honor to remain your obedient servant.

[Endorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS. F. B. CUTTING.

NO. VI.

Col. Hawkins to Col. Monroe.

WASHINGTON, March 29, 1854.

Col. JAMES MONROE—*Sir*: Below I submit the terms regulating the meeting between the Hon. F. B. Cutting and the Hon. J. C. Breckenridge:

The time of meeting shall be this afternoon, between the hours of 3 and 4 o'clock.

The place of meeting shall be at or near the residence of Mr. F. P. Blair, in the State of Maryland, and about six or seven miles from the City of Washington.

The weapon shall be the ordinary rifle, commonly known as the western rifle, which shall be charged with one charge of powder and one round ball.

The distance shall be sixty paces.

The parties shall stand erect, with their feet not more than twelve inches apart.

The weapons shall be placed in the hands of the principals by their respective seconds, cocked, with the butt to the shoulder, the muzzle pointing to the ground, not more than three feet from the left toe.

The word shall be given in the following manner: Gentlemen, are you ready?—Fire—one—two—three—with a pause of at least one second between the words. Neither party shall be at liberty to raise his piece before the word fire, or fire after the word three. If the parties are ready, no response shall be given, if not ready, he will respond promptly, not ready.

Before the parties are seated, the word shall be given in blank by the second who has won it, in as nearly the same manner as it will be given when they are to fire.

The choice of position and the giving of the word shall be determined by lot; the parties holding the same position so long as the fight may continue. But previous to each fire the seconds shall again cast lots for the word. Respectfully, your obt. servant,

T. T. HAWKINS.

[Indorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS.

NO. VII.

Col. Monroe to Col. Hawkins.

WASHINGTON, March 29, 1854.

SIR: I requested a statement embodying your views of the terms of the meeting of Mr. Breckenridge and Mr. Cutting, with the hope that our views would coincide as to the weapons, distance &c. But as the weapon selected is one with which my principal is wholly unacquainted, and the terms otherwise objectionable, it becomes my duty to stand on our rights as the challenged party, and I am under the necessity of proposing the following:

Proposed terms of the meeting between the Hon. J. C. Breckenridge and the Hon. F. B. Cutting:

1. The parties are to meet at ——, in the State of ——, at — o'clock, on the — day of March instant.

2. Weapons to be the ordinary dueling pistols; distance, ten paces; pistols to be held downward in a perpendicular direction.

3. The choice of weapons and giving of the word are by each to be decided by lot, in a manner to be agreed upon by the seconds.

4. The word to be given in the following manner: "Gentlemen, are you ready?" (upon each party responding "ready,") "fire—one, two, three, halt"—no less than one, nor more than two seconds to elapse between each word from "fire" to "halt."

5. Neither party shall be permitted to elevate his pistol from a perpendicular position before the word "fire," nor fire after the word "halt" under the penalty of being shot down by the second of the adversary of the offending party.

6. The pistols are to be loaded with the ordinary charge of powder and one round ball, each to be loaded alike, by some person or persons to be selected, by and under the supervision of the respective seconds.

7. The pistols having been marked out by the seconds, the choice thereof is to be decided by lot.

Very respectfully, your obed't servant, JAS. MONROE.

[Endorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS.

NO. VIII.

Col. Hawkins to Col. Monroe.

WASHINGTON, March 29, 1854—10 P. M.

Col. JAMES MONROE—*Sir*: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this date.

There seems to be a misapprehension as to the relative positions of Mr. Breckenridge and the Hon. Mr. Cutting. Mr. Breckenridge, I am confident, considers himself the challenged party. I never entertained the idea that my principal occupied any other attitude.

Under these circumstances, I conceive that the rights appertaining by custom to the challenged party belong to Mr. Breckenridge, who stands only in a defensive position, and not to Mr. Cutting, who addressed the original note to him on which this correspondence is based.

I have the honor to remain, with assurances of high respect, your obedient servant. T. T. HAWKINS.

[Indorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS.

NO. IX.

Col. Monroe to Col. Hawkins.

WASHINGTON, March 29, 1854.

Col. T. T. HAWKINS—*Sir*: In reply to your note of this date, I have the honor to say that, in my opinion, the misapprehension to which you allude has arisen from a misconception of the exact character of Mr. Cutting's original note.

On referring to that note, I find that Mr. Cutting uses the following language: "In the course of the debate in the House this morning, in reply to what I considered to be a legitimate criticism upon your argument, you asserted that what I had said was false. I now call upon you to retract this assertion, or make the explanation due from one gentleman to another."

I am not able to regard this in the light of a challenge, and I am confident it was not so regarded by my principal, nor did it seem to be so considered by Mr. Breckenridge in his reply of the same date.

To enable me hereafter to speak with certainty on this point, I wish to confer with my principal, and will apprise you of the result of that conference to-morrow morning.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

[Indorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS. JAS. MONROE.

NO. X.

Col. Monroe to Col. Hawkins.

WASHINGTON, March 30, 1854.

Col. T. T. HAWKINS—*Sir*: I have the honor to apprise you that on conferring with my principal, I am authorized to say that the view taken by me of Mr. Cutting's original note as expressed in my note to you last evening, is correct.

I have the honor to be your ob't serv't, JAS. MONROE.

[Indorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS.

NO. XI.

Col. Hawkins to Col. Monroe.

WASHINGTON, March 30, 1854—2 o'clock.

Col. JAS. MONROE—*Sir*: As you inform me in your note of this date that neither the Hon. Mr. Cutting nor yourself considers his original note as a challenge to Mr. Breckenridge, but merely a demand for verbal explanation of language used in debate, I have merely to refer you to Mr. Breckenridge's note to Mr. Cutting of the 28th March.

I remain, with assurances of high esteem, your obedient servant, J. T. HAWKINS.

[Indorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS.

NO. XII.

Colonel Monroe to Colonel Hawkins.

WASHINGTON, March 30, 1854.

Col. T. T. HAWKINS—*Sir*: In answer to your note of this date, referring me to Mr. Breckenridge's of the 28th inst. to Mr. Cutting, I have the honor to inclose to you the reply which Mr. Cutting made to that note the next morning, and which, when then tendered to you, you declined to receive, and which I beg leave to request you will now present to your principal.

I remain, with assurances of high respect, your obedient servant,

(Indorsed) Correct, T. T. HAWKINS. JAS. MONROE.

NO. XIII.

Colonel Hawkins to Colonel Monroe.

WASHINGTON, March 30—3 o'clock.

Col. JAMES MONROE—*Sir*: I have just received your note inclosing one from Mr. Cutting to Mr. Breckenridge, which was shown to me on the 29th instant by Mr. Maurice, and which, in my judgment, could not be received, as I considered a challenge then pending between the parties, and it would involve an impropriety to receive it before the delivery of my principal's response.

I will deliver Mr. Cutting's note to Mr. Breckenridge to-night, and hand his answer to you in the morning.

I have the honor to be, with high regard, your obedient servant,

[Indorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS. T. T. HAWKINS.

NO. XIV.

Mr. Breckenridge to Mr. Cutting.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 30, 1854—10 o'clock P. M.

HON. F. B. CUTTING—*Sir*: The correspondence between Colonel Monroe and Colonel Hawkins, our respective friends, has been submitted to me by the latter, by which it appears you did not intend the note originally addressed to me as a challenge, but a demand for an explanation of the language used by me in debate, and at the same time Colonel Hawkins delivered to me your note of the 28th instant.

In reply to that note, I state that the disavowal it contains of an intention on your part to be personal in the language which led to my remark is satisfactory, and I willingly withdraw the expression which I used in reply. A similar declaration at the moment would have prevented me from ever giving them utterance.

Permit me to express my regret that any misunderstanding should have occurred between us, and my gratification at its explanation.

I remain, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BRECKENRIDGE.

[Indorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS.

NO. XV.

Mr. Cutting to Mr. Breckenridge.

WASHINGTON, March 31, 1854.

HON. J. C. BRECKENRIDGE—*Sir*: Your note of last evening has been handed to me by Colonel Monroe.

I take pleasure in acknowledging its receipt, and the gratification I feel that the causes which originated the correspondence referred to in it have ceased to exist. Reciprocating the sentiments of regret that any misunderstanding should have taken place, and of satisfaction at its happy explanation,

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. B. CUTTING.

[Indorsed] Correct, T. T. HAWKINS.

MR CLAY AND NEBRASKA.

The subjoined communication from Gen. Leslie Combs will be read with deep emotion by every Whig in the land, and with interest by every American of every party whose love of the Union has not been blunted by sectional or fanatical prejudice. In devotion to that Union, as our supreme national interest, next to public liberty, his patriotic soul was bound up, and for its preservation he was ever on guard. These resolutions from his pen, now for the first time made public, come to us like a voice from the grave, enforcing anew the chief object of his life, "the union of the States, now and for ever."

[National Intelligencer.

"WASHINGTON, April 5, 1854.

"To Messrs. GALES & SEATON:

"*Gentlemen*: Inasmuch as Mr. CLAY's name has been frequently mentioned and his opinions alluded to in the recent debates on the *Nebraska* bill, I feel it to be due to his memory as well as to the truth of history to give to the public the following resolutions, which were written by him and inclosed to me at Lexington, Kentucky, in a letter dated '*Washington, 22d December, 1849.*'

"The words '*within the Territories recently acquired from Mexico*,' in the second resolution, were interlined by him. With this exception there is no change from the original draught in the slightest particular.

"His object was to have them, or some similar ones, presented to the people of Kentucky, without distinction of party, at public meetings to be called for the purpose.

"Very truly, your most obedient servant,

"LESLIE COMBS."

[COPY.]

1. *Resolved*, That this meeting is firmly attached to the Union of these States, and that they go for it one and indivisible, now and forever.

2. *Resolved*, That while this meeting would be most happy that the controverted question of Slavery within the Territories recently acquired from Mexico should be settled in a manner satisfactory to all parts of the Union, no settlement of it, whatever it may be, will create any just occasion for dissolving the Union.

3. *Resolved*, That this meeting beholds in the dissolution of our glorious Union no remedy for any alleged evils, real or imaginary, but a great aggravation of them all, and contemplates that deplorable event as the parent of other calamities far transcending in magnitude and fatal consequences any of which complaint is now made.

4. *Resolved*, That, as far as depends upon us, we will stand by, support and uphold the Union against all attacks from without or within, and against all ultraism, whether at the North or the South.

ANOTHER MINISTERS' REMONSTRANCE.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL., Saturday, March 25, 1854.

I trust that many such remonstrances as that presented by Mr. Evercit, will find their way to Washington, before the passage of the "Nebraska bill." I have just sent one to the men her from this Congressional District to the lower House, signed by sixteen ministers, embracing the ministers of all the Churches in this place, without regard to politics. Mr. Douglas will find in due time "mene tekel" written upon the wall, which he is yet unable to read. I have scarcely heard a man speak in approbation of his course.

I was raised in the South, and am well acquainted with their favorite institution, and I desire to confine it where it is, and that the soil of our free territory may remain unstained by the blood of Slavery. R. O. WARINNER.

NEBRASKA IN TENNESSEE.—Nebraska resolutions failed in the Tennessee House of Representatives, after having passed the Senate. No quorum present. So says *The Cleveland Herald*. We see it also stated that Mr. Taylor, who was recently elected to Congress from the XIVth District of that State, is uncompromisingly hostile to the Nebraska bill.

TEMPERANCE IN SUFFOLK, N. Y.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

PATCHOGUE, Suffolk Co., Wednesday, April 5, 1854.

The election in this town (Brookhaven) came off yesterday, and resulted in the triumph of the Temperance ticket by an overwhelming majority. The vote stood thus:

Temperance ticket.....602 Opposition.....385

Majority.....217.

Thus much for Veto Seymour.

P. S.—At the last town election the Temperance and Opposition votes were nearly equal, thus showing a great victory.

NEW-YORK TOWN ELECTIONS—Supervisors.

WESTCHESTER Co.—According to *The Sing Sing Chronicle*, the Board of Supervisors is politically classified: 6 Whigs, 7 Hard Shell, and 10 Soft Shell Democrats.

WASHINGTON Co.—The Board of Supervisors stands 10 Whigs and 7 Democrats.

So far as we have the results, the Supervisors elected will be divided thus: Whigs, 360; Democrats, 347. As to the divisions of the latter, it is known that 60 are Hards and 63 Softs.

WISCONSIN.—An Anti Fugitive Slave Law Convention has been called, in view of the recent attempt to kidnap a colored man, and the arrest of several of the citizens of Wisconsin, who turned out for the protection of their fellow man. We make an extract from the wording of the call:

"The question is now to be settled whether we are freemen or slaves at the mercy of the slave catchers. We therefore invite all our fellow citizens throughout the State, who are opposed to slave-catching, and to all slave catching laws which trample on State sovereignty and State rights, and who are in favor of maintaining inviolate the writ of Habeas Corpus, and the right of trial by jury, and of protecting our own citizens from outrage by the federal courts and federal officers, to meet at Young's Hall, in the City of Milwaukee, on Thursday, the 13th day of April, at 11 o'clock A. M., to consult together as to the best means of accomplishing these objects and to pledge to each other a hearty cooperation in defending our rights as freemen."

—*The Columbus* (Columbia County, Wisconsin) *Reporter* hoists the name of SAM. HOUSTON of Texas, as a candidate for the Presidency in 1856. In making this announcement, *The Milwaukee Wisconsin*, the principal Democratic paper in the State, says:

"In so doing, *The Reporter* echoes the feeling of tens of thousands. Gen. Houston deserves well of his country, and never more so than for his truly noble and statesmanlike course in throwing himself into the breach to resist the attempted repeal of the Missouri Compromise. It required the moral courage of a hero to take the stand he did at that time. Northern sentiment had not been aroused, and the fanaticism of Slavery was at its hight. Gen. Houston was the first man from the whole South to openly remonstrate against that scheme which is now acknowledged to be fraught with iniquity and division."

MICHIGAN.—*The Cold Water* (Branch Co.) *Journal*, a leading Whig paper, thus concludes an article, urging union among the opponents of the Repeal of the Missouri Compromise:

"Let us then, friends of the Union, friends of Domestic Peace, friends of National Faith and Honor, friends of American Liberty, whatever and of every party, *all* who are opposed to the Nebraska Platform Test, *act in concert and "union,* for the sake of the Union." Let us respond to the noble *action* of New Hampshire—not that we love *party names less, but that* WE LOVE OUR COUNTRY MORE. Let the INDEPENDENT DEMOCRACY of Michigan, whether known as Democrat, Whig or Free Soil, come together in Mass Convention, for consultation and ACTION, at an early day—say the latter part of April—and let us unite upon unexceptionable, *true* MEN for State nominees, and agree upon such union of effort, as shall elect them, whatever their former party attachments; and thus let Michigan give an honest, overwhelming *New Hampshire* reproof to the Nebraska traitors.

NORTH CAROLINA.—At a Pierce "Democratic" meeting at Keenansville Duplin Co., March 28, the following among other resolutions was adopted:

Resolved, That the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, on account of his bold and eloquent advocacy of the great States Rights doctrine of Congressional non-intervention on the subject of Territories, as engrafted in the Nebraska bill now pending before Congress, is worthy of our most enthusiastic approbation.

Douglas, we believe, owns a plantation in North Carolina. That accounts for the milk in that cocoa-nut.

ARKANSAS.—On the first Monday of August next the sense of the people will be taken upon the propriety of calling a Convention to amend and reform the Constitution of the State. *The Little Rock Gazette* mentions, as among the great objects of the Convention, the extension of the elective franchise, and the election of the Judges of the Supreme Court, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, and all other public officers, by the people.

THE ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION OF SALMON.—As several reports have been circulated in the newspapers, to the effect that the attempt to propagate salmon by artificial means in Ireland and elsewhere had extensively failed, we think it right to state that we have obtained some information from the very best sources, which convinces us that these reports are wholly unfounded. On the contrary, we are glad to say the success attending the first attempt at propagation on an extensive scale in the country has surpassed our most sanguine expectations. It is reported from Perth, where about 350,000 ova are nearly hatched, that everything has progressed most satisfactorily; the whole of the ova, with a trifling exception, seem in a lively state. The only difficulty appears to be, that of providing sufficient ponds for such a multitude of fishes, when they are able to swim, as the feeding ponds already provided will not contain one-tenth of them; and such is the number that there appears no other way, after having hatched and protected them for twenty weeks, but that of committing them to the river to take their chance. At Galway about 260,000 ova are in a similar prosperous condition. Propagation on a smaller scale has also been carried into effect on the rivers Tweed, Louchard, the Foyle, Bush Mills, the Blackwater, the Moy, the Dee, near Chester, and other places. By the use of spring water the spawn has been entirely protected from injury by frost, during the past severe winter; and of 2,500 eggs which were sent from Galway to Basle, a distance of nearly 1,000 miles, M. Lex states that a considerable portion are good, and in a state likely to live. [Manchester (Eng.) Guardian.

The Hon. D. Tod, ex Minister to Brazil, is out in very decided terms against the Douglas Nebraska bill. He considers it anti Democratic and uncalled for, and thinks that Douglas could not have more effectually killed himself if he had cut both jugular veins. [Ohio State Jour.

A "CONFIDENCE MAN" IN VERNON.—*The Oneida Chief* tells a curious story about a "confidence man" in Vernon. He was formerly a stage-driver between Clinton and Vernon. Subsequently he became converted to Methodism during a recent revival. *The Chief* says:

"After his conversion he began to pay attention to a young lady in Vernon, a very pretty and virtuous girl. To her parents and others he represented that he had been educated at Yale College, that his father was a wealthy man, and that he himself had $2,000 then in his possession. The parents of the girl and many others believed this story. In proof of his possessing money, he exhibited what appeared to be a roll of bills, on the ends of which were seen figures of large numbers. He was very careful not to show the faces of any of the bills. They would probably have proved to have been medicine advertisements, which are frequently printed in the form of bank bills.

"Some two or three weeks after his convertion, he was taken violently sick, and had paroxysms of insanity, and during his ravings he would swear roundly, and damn the Methodists off in no measured terms. He appeared so very sick that it was thought he could live but a short time, and during a lucid interval, he asked the parents to let her be married to him; and they believing that he would die and leave $2,000 in clear cash to somebody, and being little anxious that their daughter should have it, consented. A clergyman was therefore called, and they were married. The next morning the fellow was convalescent, and he recovered so rapidly that in a few hours he was out.

"Two or three days after this, he reported that he had lost his pocket book, containing his $2,000; but he manifested no concern about it, and made no effort to recover it. This led the parents of the girl to suspect that the fellow had not truly represented matters; and her father set out for Canajoharie, where he said he came from, to learn something about him; and the fellow, finding he had carried his game as far as practicable, left rather suddenly, and has not been heard of since."

STEAMBOAT LINES ON LAKE ERIE.—*The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser* gives the following summary of the principal steamboat lines on Lake Erie for the coming season:

"The steamers May Flower, Buckeye State and Ocean will form the Michigan Central Railroad line from this city to Detroit, on the opening of navigation, till the two steamers Western World and Plymouth Rock are ready to take their places on the route.

"The Southern Michigan, Northern Indiana and Empire State will run as last year, in connection with the Southern Michigan Railroad at Toledo, direct.

"The Crescent City and Queen of the West continue on the route between Cleveland and the city as last year.

"The Key Stone State, Niagara, Louisiana and Empire are to form a daily line between Dunkirk and Toledo, touching at Erie, Cleveland and Sandusky, in connection with the New York and Erie Railroad.

"It is not determined whether to run the Mississippi and St. Lawrence between this port and Ohio City, opposite Cleve