SOUTH PACIFIC COAST.

We have news from Valparaiso to the 15th, and from Callao to the 20th of January. *The Callao News* of the 20th says:

A decree was published a few days since, by order of the Provincial President, Gen Castilla, giving freedom to all those slaves who had not volunteered to serve in the army of Echinique. The Government pledges itself to pay the owners for their property in five years. Public opinion is divided as to the propriety and justness of the measure.

The political guillotine has been at work very lively since the accession of Castilla to power, and about 200 Army and Navy officials have been called upon to retire to private life.

The News of the 13th says: Two Peruvian war steamers were dispatched coastwise—one south and the other north—on Monday night last to bring back those citizens who were expatriated for their political opinions by Echinique's Government. Some are in Ecuador, some in Bolivia, and a large number are in Chili.

From The Foreign News, Jan. 13.

THE BATTLE FIELD OF LA PALMA.—We were unable last week, for the want of accurate information, to give anything more than generalities in connection with the battle of La Palma, as it is now called, that being the name of the hacienda upon which the fight occurred. Our authority for the account given was derived from various rumors, many of them contradictory; but by carefully comparing the reports we were able to give a tolerably correct narration of the important event.

More than a week has now elapsed since the battle was fought, and yet no detailed statement, no official account has been published; and we are still dependent upon general rumor for particulars and incidents, which, if well authenticated, would be interesting to the public.

We were misinformed in relation to the desertion of two of Echinique's battalions to the side of Castilla. They ran, but in a different direction. The battle was a fierce one, while it lasted, and on the part of the Revolutionists it was characterized by many brilliant instances of individual bravery. The Sagrados, a battalion composed of picked men, among whom were a party of Americans, led on the attack, and the opposing ranks went down like grass before their furious charge. Castilla's officers invariably headed their columns, and many of them were slain. On the side of Echinique, the officers generally took good care of themselves, and kept out of harm's way. Echinique himself was among the first to turn his back upon the enemy, and with a few officers fled to Lima.

A friend who was over the battle-field a few hours after the action, informs us that the scenes he there witnessed were horrible and soul-sickening. He was for some time engaged in carrying water for, and administering aid to the wounded, who were left entirely neglected and uncared for. No surgeons were on the ground; and nothing seemed to have been provided to alleviate their sufferings. Those who had strength staggered away toward Lima, some of them dying by the way-side, while others succeeded in reaching the city and were taken to the hospital. As late as Sunday, the field was still strewn with the bodies of a hundred dead and dying, and the stench from the putrifying heaps was horrible. The features of the dead, exposed as they had been to the sun for two days, were awfully distorted and swollen, and here and there a score of the filthy *gallinazos* were quarreling over the putrid corpses.

The field was strewed with arms, clothing and accoutrements, and the road to Lima, and the pampas, for miles around, gave evidence of a hurried flight from the battle ground. The spot where the infantry of Echinique received the impetuous charge of the Sagrados was easily distinguishable, from the heaps of dead lying in line. That charge, without doubt, decided the battle.

LIMA AFTER THE BATTLE.—The excitement in Lima, when it was known that Castilla had been victorious, was intense. A mob repaired to the magnificent summer residence of Echinique, just on side the city walls, and it was soon completely sacked and pillaged. The elegant and costly furniture was carried away or broken up, marble statues were thrown down and destroyed, the flowers and shrubbery torn up, and nothing that could be of any value was saved. We understand, also, that two or three servants attached to the premises were shot down. In Lima, the private residence of Echinique came near sharing the same fate. The crowd assembled in front, and attempted to batter down the gates; but finding them securely fastened, they effected an entrance above, and would very soon have gutted the premises, had not a guard of Castilla's soldiers arrived in time to prevent it. As it was they destroyed considerable furniture, broke in all the windows, and completely ridiculed a portrait of Echinique with musket-balls.

The President's palace was also occupied by the people, and many articles of value were taken away. Several other residences and places of business, belonging to persons known to be particular favorites of Echinique, were broken open and plundered. But at length quiet was restored, guards were stationed in all parts of the city, and once more the shops and stores were thrown open for the public convenience.

ECHINIQUE, THE EX-PRESIDENT.—Jose Rufino Echinique, who is now a refugee, stripped of his former almost despotic power, was elected President of Peru on the 20th of December, 1850, and took his seat in May following. He had accordingly occupied his seat nearly four years. He received 2,447 votes; Elias 528, and Vivanco 258. Two or three other candidates received scattering votes. A short time after the election, there was a slight demonstration made in favor of Vivanco, but nothing serious grew out of it. In Trugillo there occurred an insurrection among the slaves about this time, and affairs presented an alarming appearance for a short time; but quiet was soon restored. A question was also raised as to the eligibility of Echinique, on the ground of his not having been born in the Republic; but a Congressional Committee appointed to examine the matter, decided in his favor.

During the first year or two of his term of office, Echinique devoted himself assiduously to the public business, and suggested many Government reforms, which were creditable to his statesmanship and patriotism. The papers of that period speak in high terms of his public acts, and it is quite likely that had he continued as he began, his administration would have been a popular and useful one. But yielding at length to the clamors of political favorites, and to his own avaricious promptings, he began a system of wholesale public plunder, the extent of which has not a parallel in the history of republics. Our readers will doubtless remember the list published a few months since, containing the names of the favorites, together with the amounts paid them by Echinique—amounting in all to upward of $15 000 000.

A large proportion of this money was awarded to members of his own family, on frivolous claims, and the people soon began to murmur loudly against the corruptions existing in the palace. One or two of the papers also commenced an exposure of the matter; but they were speedily suppressed, and all who presumed to speak boldly on the subject were arrested, and many of them banished the country. Matters moved on in this way until General Castilla took the field, about twelve months ago, determined to overthrow the Government. Without men, without money, and destitute of everything like the elements of war, he pushed forward, raised the standard of revolt, and invited his countrymen to rally to his support. They responded to his call; and although opposed by the power and influence of a corrupt President and Ministry, with money at their command, he steadily persevered, until success at last crowned his efforts.

AUSTRALIA.

We have advices from Sydney to the 7th, and Adelaide to the 2d of December.

ANARCHY IN VICTORIA—REBELLION AT BALLAARAT.

From The Sydney Empire, Dec 6

By the arrival of the steamer Hellespont, last night, we have intelligence from Ballaarat which really is of an alarming nature, disclosing, as it does, a state of armed rebellion against the constituted authorities in that populous part of the gold fields. From the complexion of events at the last moment, we may expect that the next mail will inform us of a set collision between the military and the populace, attended by serious consequences and certain bloodshed.

We subjoin the latest accounts of these unhappy occurrences as they are given by the correspondents of *The Argus*. A letter, dated from Ballaarat, Nov 29, appears in *The Argus* of Friday. It is as follows:

Never, perhaps, have these columns seen such an outburst of popular feeling as was exhibited last night on these diggings. In the course of the afternoon of yesterday, a detachment of the Forty-th arrived here, from Geelong. At 10 P. M., a squadron of mounted police arrived from the same place, passing through the main street at a hard gallop. As they proceeded they were attacked with sticks and stones, by the exasperated diggers, and some severe injuries were the consequence. The populace were by this time wrought up to an awful pitch of excitement, but it remained for the detachment of the Twelfth, from Melbourne at 11 P. M., to feel what a wronged and neglected class could be capable of doing, and to what lengths an indignant population could go. On passing the Eureka, they were met by a large number of diggers, who allowed all the wagons containing the soldiers and ammunition to pass, except the last one, which they upset, cutting the traces, and beating the soldiers with their own arms, partially smashing the wagon, and injuring the driver in such a manner that his life is in danger. One drummer boy was shot in the thigh. The return of the wounded is not forthcoming; but, from the number of bullets, sticks, boulders, and other missiles flying about, I have no doubt that very many accidents occurred. I never wish to pass again through such scenes as I witnessed last night. This state of excitement lasted until this morning. Everything was quiet until 2 P. M. when the diggers began to assemble on Bakery Hill, according to public notice.

Some thousands of guns and revolvers were fired off at one period of the meeting; two bonfires of licenses were made. I had no means of ascertaining the dates of those burnt. Many tickets were issued to those who wished to become members of the Reform League. I believe the subscription to be 5s.

The following account appears in *The Argus* of the 2d inst., having been brought from the scene of disturbance by a special express:

THURSDAY, 11 P. M.—In great haste I forward you the proceedings of this morning, and considering them of the greatest importance, I send them by a special messenger.

At 10 A. M., Messrs. Commissioners Rede and Johnson, with their troop of mounted and foot police, with drawn swords and fixed bayonets, demanded from the diggers their licenses. The diggers, on their appearance, assembled in masses, many with arms, to resist the enforcement of this most obnoxious tax. Mr. Commissioner Rede attempted to reason the point with the diggers. He told them he must do his duty, having received instructions from the highest authority to that effect, and do it he would. He drew their attention to what their own deputation had told them yesterday, viz.: that if they memorialized the Lieut.-Governor they would get their rights, and that, moreover, Mr. Fawkner had been selected as one of the number to inquire into the grievances of the gold fields. [Three cheers for Fawkner.] The cry of the diggers was, "We will not have drawn swords or fixed bayonets." "Where is the Governor?" "Send up Sir Charles Hotham." "We want justice, and we will have it."

Upon this Mr. Commissioner Rede declared he was determined to collect the licenses. "We haven't got them; we can't give them." "We have burnt them." Mr. Commissioner Rede—"My lads, I must read the riot act." The cry was, "Read it, read it." He read it. The scene of confusion and excitement which occurred in the new road at this moment, eye-witnesses alone can depict.

A moment of silence being obtained, Mr. Rede being evidently confused, and Mr. Johnson "sheepish," the former said, "The licenses must be shown; we must apprehend all who have not their licenses." One great, universal cry then arose, "To the camp, boys! to the camp!" For some distance the diggers followed toward the camp the retrograding military force, when suddenly there was a shout of "Not to the camp, boys! not to the camp! Back to our own ground on Bakery Hill!"

During this period, the detachment of the 40th and 12th had formed near the bridge.

Of the diggers, some went to the Eureka, some to the Red Hill, where they hoisted their flag—"The Southern Cross" while the Commissioners and commanding officers were holding a consultation on the new road, evidently nonplussed as to what were the intentions of the diggers, and what they were next to do. At length the military and police formed themselves into divisions on the Bakery Hill, throwing out their "light horse," as sharp-shooters, behind the heaps surrounding the holes. The position being thus taken up, Mr. Johnson asked what he was to do if in the collecting of the licenses, and the apprehension of the unlicensed, violence were used. The answer from the officer in command of the police was: "If a man raises his hand to strike, or throws a stone, shoot him on the spot." These were the orders given to the police. An unfortunate man riding, not being licensed, was taken prisoner to the camp under the guard of two troopers, with orders from their officer if he made any attempt to escape, to blow his brains out.

All this took up some time, of course, and the grand review having taken place on Bakery Hill, the Government force, for some reason which though both an ear and eye witness, I cannot understand, retired toward the camp, but not in peace, for hundreds of diggers had equipped themselves with revolvers and with weapons of all kinds, both offensive and defensive. Scattered shots were heard about this time, and one man, having "scaled" his piece, was pursued by party of police, who, acting under orders, fired on him among the tents, but luckily missed, and eventually captured him.

Throughout the whole of this eventful morning, from 10 A. M. until 4 P. M., there was one universal unanimous cry—"We will not pay the license. We will have our rights."

I may state that the whole of the camp was barricaded with sand-bags and trusses of hay, and parties of soldiers and police posted behind these defenses. No one was allowed to approach, but even in the main road travelers were told to "move on."

At 5 P. M. we were aroused by reiterated shoutings and firing, which we discovered to proceed from the digger's stronghold, Bakery Hill. On going there I found a large number of diggers assembled, formed in line, giving in their names, in rotation, in order to become members of the Reform League. All were armed. The sailors were placed in a division by themselves. Parties were going through the manual exercise under the superintendence of an old soldier, and every one present gave strong evidence that they were unanimous and determined.

A meeting will take place at 4 A. M. to-morrow morning.

Seven P. M.—An outbreak has taken place on Creswick's Creek, and a part of the police has been sent there from this place, the result of which I will mention in my next; but I have not one moment to spare.

You may rely upon receiving the earliest information from me. I have seen personally, or heard all I have sent you to-day. It is impossible to depend upon the numerous reports hourly circulated and brought down to Melbourne by interested parties.

A strong party of diggers have occupied the road to Melbourne to rescue the prisoners.

I believe seven prisoners are taken; several wounded on both sides, but no deaths. The driver of the American wagon is rallying.

Of the steps adopted by the Government, on the receipt of the news in Melbourne, *The Argus*, of Saturday, says:

From the statement made in the Legislative Council yesterday by the Colonial Secretary, it will be seen that a collision had taken place between the rioters and the military, although happily without loss of life on either side. The state of things on the diggings has indeed become most critical, and any hour may bring us intelligence of the most serious nature. The Government is thoroughly aroused, and is concentrating the whole military and police force of the colony at Ballaarat. All the available men of the 40th and 12th regiments have left town for that locality. A body of three hundred rank and file of the former regiment with their rand, were marched out yesterday afternoon, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Valliant, and the whole of the officers of the regiment. They took with them four field-pieces, two six and two twelve pounders. All the officers and the men of the 12 h regiment, with the exception of Capt. Vereker and the necessary guard, have left for the same place. They number about three hundred. Twenty-four men-of-war's men, and about twenty marines from H. M. ship Electra, have also been sent off. Fifty horse and about the same number of foot police were to be dispatched yesterday afternoon. A large number of baggage and ammunition wagons were sent with the military. We also hear that Sir Robert Nickle, Commander-in-Chief of the forces, and Colonel Macartney, Adjutant-General, intend to start for Ballaarat at 3 o'clock this morning. The amount of the force, military and police, to be assembled at these diggings, will be little short of a thousand men.

THE PANAMA EXCURSION.

From Our Own Reporters.

ASPINWALL, Friday, Feb. 16, 1855.

The party, of which your Correspondent is one, that left New-York on the 5th of February, in the George Law, to proceed to the Isthmus, in order to celebrate the opening of the Panama Railroad, arrived this day, (Thursday, Feb. 15,) between 9 and 10 o'clock. The voyage was a fair average one in regard to time, being a few hours short of ten days, and was not characterized by any remarkable event. The change of temperature experienced in a rapid transit during the month of February, from the northern latitude of 40° to the tropics, heated up our sensibilities so near to the boiling point, that we fully realized our tropical position, without the aid of that convenient inspiration, by which Shakspere tells us we may secure what temperature we please, in spite of Fahrenheit. On the day we left New-York, we were fully conscious, without consulting the thermometer, that we were many degrees below freezing point—20° was the record. On the third day out, the thermometer indicated already 67°; on the fourth, 70°; and so gradually rising until it reached 84°, which seems to be very nearly the ordinary temperature of which the denizens of the tropics may call their *hot* month of February. A cool morning and evening breeze tempers the noon-day heat, and refreshes and invigorates the human system sufficiently to endure the perpetual summer of these latitudes. There is but little variation in the thermometer during the twenty-four hours—not more than five or six degrees.

The steamer George Law was found well appointed in most respects. We were startled, however, to observe, in spite of the impressive lesson illustrated by the tragic fate of the Arctic, that the provision in regard to boats in case of accident to the ship, was not such as to encourage confidence or secure safety. With over five hundred souls on board, there were but six boats capable of holding at the utmost not more than two hundred and fifty people; while not one of these boats was in a condition to be immediately available had there been any necessity for their use. In Lieut. McKinstry, now in command, passengers have every guarantee of skillful command and kindly treatment. In the steward's department, tastes that had not undergone the necessary "sea change" found somewhat in the more than peck-full of dirt to shock their fastidiousness, and would have been better pleased to eat their "lobscouse" and "Irish stew" with a temperature some degrees higher than the freezing point. There was more truth than poetry in the standing joke, that the cook by mistake had cooked his dinner in the ice-house instead of the galley.

An old traveler on the California route could not fail to observe the striking difference between the present and former class of travelers to the golden region. Instead of the reckless dare-devils who formerly, with bowie knife and revolver, were ready to outrage law and gospel, was found the more agreeable and less dangerous company of orderly citizens, who shewed themselves worthy recruits for the march of Christian civilization. There were four hundred and fifty passengers, all told—of whom two hundred and fifty were cabin, and the remainder steerage; and notwithstanding this large assemblage of miscellaneous people of all classes and occupations and dispositions, nothing occurred to disturb the harmony which universally prevailed from the first day to the last.

There were some notabilities on board, whom, of course, it becomes us, in due respect for their dignity, to note. First, there was Judge Bowlin, with whose antecedents as a member of Congress from St. Louis, and as the unsuccessful antagonist of Benton in a contest for a seat in Congress, you are, doubtless, familiar. He is unquestionably a native, as was indicated by his indefatigable tobacco-chewing, which kept the deck-hand who is detailed for that specialty busy with his swab. So far, the Know-Nothings will think the appointment an improvement upon Pierce's precedents in diplomatic appointments. Of the Judge's other qualifications for the position of Minister to New-Granada we are ignorant, but shall be able, perhaps, to form an estimate hereafter, as he is to take an important part in the coming ceremonials of the railroad celebration. Judge Bowlin will await the arrival of an American man-of-war or the English steamer at Aspinwall to carry him and his family to Carthagena. A General or Colonel Ward—we are not precise in regard to titles—the American Consul at Panama, comes next in our current list. He is a veteran *torso*—having lost an arm in Texas and left a leg in Mexico. He is not a favorite on the Isthmus, and wherefore we cannot tell, except it is that the Panamaians are incapable of appreciating a character which certainly has its good-humored side, though it may be deficient in courtesy of the Castilian standard. Lieut. McCrie, too, was one of our number—a naval officer, whose modesty is equal to his merit. Having served with great credit on Lieut Gillies's Survey at Santiago, in Chili, he has now been ordered to join the Coast Survey on the coast of California. He has been induced to stay over a fortnight on the Isthmus, in order to make a survey of the harbors in the Bay of Panama, for the benefit of the Railroad Company. A Mr. Robertson, the Agent R—— of Dana's "Two Years Before the Mast"—whose marriage with a native Californian is so charmingly told in that Defoe-like narrative—and a Mr. Temple, an old California millionaire, who boasts of the possession of hundreds of leagues of land and fifteen thousand head of cattle, complete the list of notabilities.

Our own company is made up of seventeen original members, who, although from their courteous bearing and social qualities, are the most agreeable companions, are not quite the men we would have chosen for the expedition now in progress. There is neither a naturalist nor an artist among us, and hardly any capable of giving special eclat to the occasion, or disposed to consider the journey otherwise than as an opportunity for a frolic.

A programme for the coming celebration has been already prepared. To-morrow we go to Panama, and stop on our way at the Summit, where it is proposed to lay the corner-stone of a monument in honor of the original projectors of the Railroad, Messrs. Aspinwall, Chancey, and the late John L. Stephens. Judge Bowlin has been notified that an address is expected from him on the occasion, and the poet (for we have a poet) of our party has suggested that we should mingle the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific on that occasion, and pour them out in baptism of the event.

On Saturday, there will be an excursion on the Pacific, and a banquet, where the aspiring orators of our party will have an opportunity of breaking the eggs of their eloquence, which have been so long in a state of incubation, and trying themselves as newly-fledged Demosthenes within the sound of the roar of the Pacific.

The Railroad officials have also devised a plan for honoring the occasion with a demonstration more suitable to the tastes of the native inhabitants than English speeches, which they cannot understand, and American dinners, for which they do not care. This part of the celebration, which is to consist of a breakfast at Aspinwall and a ball at Panama, will take place on Tuesday. The larger portion of our party will, however, by that time, have left, as they purpose to leave here by the El Dorado, on Monday next, for Havana, and thence home; but your Correspondent will remain, and report until the last, in spite of the terrors of fever and the roastings of the tropics, for which he finds all possible alleviation in the generous hospitality of the Railroad Company.

The Californian passengers have arrived, and are eager to be pushing their way homeward, so I have only time to state that we are all well, though not much encouraged for the future, by the general "yellow jack" look of the denizens of this plague-spot, where I have yet to meet the inhabitant who has *not* been sick. "How do you like this country?" I asked a little Jamaica negro. "Me no like it at all; berra bad country; me hab de feber ebery oder day," was his answer.

EXCITEMENT AT HARRISBURG.

ARREST OF SLAVE-CATCHERS.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

HARRISBURG, Saturday, Feb. 24—6 P. M.

Our borough has been thrown into a state of excitement for the past twenty-four hours, in consequence of a daring attempt of an obnoxious slave-catcher, and two unprincipled colored men, to kidnap a colored free boy, at a late hour on Friday night. The names of the accused are "Sol." Snyder, (a well-known trafficker in human blood, and the "stool pigeon" of the Southern soul drivers for this vicinity,) James Thompson, colored, (at large,) and David Jackson, colored, formerly of Holidaysburg in this State.

The boy upon whom this bold attempt to rob him of his freedom was made, is named George Clark, aged about eighteen years, and was born and raised in Carlisle, Pa.

Clark had been lured from a dance-house kept by a colored man above Harrisburg, under the pretext of being sent on an errand for brandy for the occasion. Thompson and Jackson accompanied him, and took him to Snyder's residence, in the lower section of our borough, and invited him up stairs to get some grog. Immediately after entering Snyder's room, the latter fastened the door and said: "Clark, I am going to send you," or "take you back to your master." A struggle ensued; the boy made for a window fronting on the depot of the Pennsylvania Railroad, broke the sash through—severely cutting his arm—and raised the cry of "Murder." A number of citizens and colored folks made for the spot, and found Clark hanging out of the window some forty feet from the ground, head downward, and Snyder and his wife holding on to the *other end* in good earnest. A party rushed up stairs, and learned from the boy that he was a free negro; that an attempt had been made to knock him down and gag him, and that his only refuge was a precipitous exit from the window.

Snyder, who stood like a felon detected in his wicked act, and had nothing to say for himself, was immediately taken before a magistrate, and thence to prison. Jackson has been captured since, but Thompson made his escape.

At 10½ o'clock Snyder had a hearing before Esquire Reader, and was committed in default of $1,000 bail, at least the security was not forthcoming at the time of this writing, nor is there any likelihood of any individual involving himself in so dangerous a case—a *prima facia* act of kidnapping. Snyder is an inveterate slave-hunter, and has barely escaped the penalty of the law on two or three former occasions, while one of his accomplices was driven from this community, with the mark of Cain upon his brow, and remained abroad for a period of two years. Latterly, since settling the affair, he has been permitted to come into this community, but is now an object for the finger of scorn to point at.

"Sol" has at last been caught, and his attempts to refute the serious charge brought against him will be of no avail. "Justice is slow, but certain," was never so truthfully verified as in this instance. During the examination of Snyder, the magistrate's office and vicinity of the prison were filled with spectators, and the joy of the colored population knew no bounds on beholding their inveterate enemy in the hands of the officers of the law.

Jackson is to have a hearing on Monday. The officers are in search of Thompson, but up to this hour he has eluded their vigilance.

Numerous witnesses have been placed under bonds to appear at the next term of Court, when the matter will be tried; and there is no particle of doubt that the kidnappers will be dealt with to the fullest extent of the law. Numerous instances of a similar nature, it is alleged, have occurred in our community, and so adroitly were they managed that no one was conversant with the fact until too late for "practical purposes."

The cries of the intended victim, Clark, were heart-rending, and soon brought a large crowd to Snyder's residence; and the paint from the weather-boarding of the building is scratched off in long, broad marks, showing how dexterously the boy's heels were employed in his endeavors to free himself.

A colored woman, named Margaret Brady, was committed to prison, on the charge of infanticide. Upon an investigation of the matter, yesterday, by Coroner Chandler, it was proved that the child was born in an out-house, was exposed to the cold, and died from neglect or want of proper attendance, a few days thereafter. The woman is, however, to have another hearing.

We have had another "cold snap" in this vicinity. The thermometer to-day, (Saturday,) at 7 A. M., stood at 16° above zero, and at 1 o'clock P. M. 26° above the same point.

Mad dogs are prevalent in the neighborhood of Mechanicsburg, in the adjoining County of Cumberland. A man was taken through our borough to Lebanon, Penn., that had been bitten at the former place, and our informant says that many cattle have been bitten by rabid dogs. KEYSTONE.

FROM MOBILE.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

MOBILE, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 1855.

No cotton, no money, hard times; the rivers are low. We have had no rise all winter. The Tombigbee and Black Warrior are fordable near their mouths. Our cotton receipts are 160,000 bales short of the corresponding period of last year; making a value of six millions of dollars now lying on the banks of our rivers, in the upper part of the State. The money to purchase this crop is mainly advanced by the cotton factors here, who are seriously embarrassed by the unprecedented drouth. Our wharves presses and yards are comparatively deserted. This state of things, with the low prices now ruling, will make a difference of many millions of dollars in the resources of the cotton-growing region this year. The evil does not stop here. The planter, when his cotton sells for 10 cents, or more, as it has for a few years past, with an obliquity of reasoning that seems indirectly consequent to the atrocious system of Slavery, convinces himself that it will never again fail to the average of former years. Then he runs in debt for more negroes, neglects the culture of corn, bacon and stock, *splurges* on his surplus at the North, and is deeply in debt when low prices rule again. Collections of northern debts are poorer this winter than they have been since 1838. Cotton has been shipped from Montgomery, and Columbus, Geo., to Charleston and Savannah, by railroad, in considerable quantities and at heavy cost, and the receipts at those Atlantic ports will be larger than usual.

The telegraph, this morning, reports a few inches rise in the rivers—not enough, as yet, to allow the largest boats to run; but as an indication of the "good time coming," causing heartfelt congratulations among our factors, half of whom would be bankrupt in another month of low water. P.

FROM LAKE SUPERIOR.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

ONTONAGON, Monday, Jan. 22, 1855.

It is a long time since we have had an opportunity of writing. Only one mail has left here since the boats stopped running, and that was carried by James Carson and his men. He carries letters only—50 or 60 pounds being all that one man can carry on his back through the wilderness. This letter and mail will be carried 400 miles on the backs of the carriers, who sleep in the woods—snow for their beds, and the sky for their covering. There are four numbers of our new paper, *The Morning News*, awaiting transportation, and the editor, Mr. Bradford, has mail arrangements for carrying his own mail.

Of this paper I have before spoken, and I speak of it now because it is so cheering to us to see the carrier going from house to house with this advance-guard of civilization. The proprietor has overcome many of the obstacles incident to a new paper in the wilderness of the Lake Superior region, and is meeting with a reasonable degree of success. At the start, he had to manufacture his own ink, &c., but before the winter set in, he had received the necessary supplies, and the paper, in its neat appearance, and in the general interest of its contents, will compare favorably with your city journals. Published as it is, a most among the mines, it represents fully the varied interests of the miners, and is arousing the public to a proper estimate of the riches and needs of this long-neglected section of the mineral region. Legislators begin to be aroused to the importance of the interests here represented, and we shall soon have that protection and encouragement from Government which we so much need in harbor and river improvements.

Oh, how dreary it is to be so far separated from the world, so that only twice in six months we can hear from it! You, who have mails almost hourly, and all the luxuries of civilized life at *moderate prices*, cannot realize the deprivations of our position, shut out from the world so large a portion of the year. There is not what can be called a farm on the whole section. The miners try to supply themselves with vegetables, but here on the lake shore is a village without a garden. Our vegetables are all brought a distance of seven hundred miles to us. The luxury of feathers is unknown here, and such a thing as a hair mattress, or pillow, or chair, or bedstead, cannot be had. We sleep very comfortably, however, on beds made of hay. But then hay here is $70 per ton! It is but recently that we have begun to make our own chairs—chairs with wooden bottoms.

We have had snow almost every day since the middle of November, with only two or three days of sunshine during that time. Ontonagon is the largest place on Lake Superior and is the point at which a very large majority of the mines on the south shore of the lake receive their supplies from below; and also the place of shipping copper. The pretty River Ontonagon runs through the village. On the opposite side reside a few Indians of the Chippewa tribe, retaining their stately walk and graceful bearing, but dirty, lazy, drinking habits. The small-pox now prevails among them, and the Indians have a special horror of that disease. One poor Indian who had it became depressed, drove all the other Indians away, shut himself up in his hut, shot his dog, and then shot himself, Indian fashion. Last week the Indians collected, and proceeded to drum away at their wild music, singing the while a sort of invocation to the Great Spirit to take away the awful disease from the people.

KANSAS AND SLAVERY.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

LAFAYETTE Co., Mo., Jan. 16, 1855.

Having seen some extracts from your paper in *The Weekly St. Louis Republican*, on the subject of Kansas, I am induced to believe that there is a wrong impression in the East as respects the sentiments of the present population of that Territory, in regard to its ultimately becoming a Slave State. I have conversed with a number of emigrants on their way to Kansas, and four out of five of those with whom I have conversed are decidedly in favor of making it a Free State. I have thought it probable that the great opposition which is manifested in these border Counties might induce those in the East who contemplate making it their future homes to abandon the idea, in consequence of the harangue that the friends of Slavery are making here. On that subject, from my knowledge of the facts in the case, I think I can say with propriety, that those emigrating from this State to Kansas are generally poor families, that are seeking a home, that have no slaves, and are almost universally opposed to making that Territory a slave State. At the recent election for a Delegate to Congress from Kansas, the slave population of the State went some fifty miles on the day of election in order to vote against the free candidate; probably two-thirds of the votes that were given in were persons from Missouri. The town of Lexington and its vicinity sent on an immense number of its citizens for the purpose of controlling the election; as also all the border counties. There has been some of the most iniquitous management by the slaveholders to make Kansas a slave State, whether the people will or not, that could be imagined. The friends of a free State, at the election, were so threatened and overawed by the slaveites, that a fair state of the case could not be obtained by the votes cast. In a recent debate in Congress, Mr. Washburn and Mr Mace charged our member, Mr. Oliver, that there had been outrages in the election—that persons from Missouri had gone to Kansas and voted for Whitfield for Congress, who were not then nor did they expect to be citizens of that Territory, which he (Oliver) tried to deny; but at the same time, I believe, he knew better, and I think he novised that course. I am well satisfied that the emigrants from the East went to Kansas for the purpose of making it their future home, notwithstanding they may have been assisted by the Emigration Society to come to Kansas; but they did not come with the view attributed to them by the slaveites. I believe that if the citizens of the State of Missouri could be interrogated on that subject, without being lectured by the slavites, there would, at this time, be an overwhelming majority in favor of making this a free State. I have been living nearly twenty years in this State, and have conversed freely and frequently on the subject with non-slaveholders and some slaveholders, and I find a great many, and some men of influence, who would go for making Kansas a free State. There is not more than one fifth of the inhabitants, and probably less than that number, who dont own or have any interest in Slavery, and they will almost universally go for a free State. Those in Missouri who wish to make Kansas a free State had better look nearer home, for I believe that in less than ten years the subject of emancipation will be agitated here in this State. I am living in a community of slaveites, and if they knew what I have said in this correspondence, they would mob me, or do me or my family or property some serious injury. A man that has so little morality as to take the labor of a fellow-man without paying him for his services, would be capable of committing a wicked act—consequently I hope my name may be kept private.

Among the mercies which the Patriarchal Institution daily turns up, may be cited the following, from *The New-Orleans Delta*:

"An inquest was held, yesterday, on the body of a negro named Sampson Richardson, a native of Louisiana, aged 35 years, found dead at No 55 St. Peter st. Verdict: 'Committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor, thereby severing the carotid artery, while in a fit of temporary insanity.' Deceased he owed to the succession of the late Alexander McKeever and had been advertised for sale on the 10th inst. He had deposited $1,200 with some man to purchase himself, and had lost it in consequence of mismanagement on the part of the man he trusted; and so it appears, he became insane. He could read and write, and scattered over his room were papers, in which he had written his ravings about the loss of his $1,200. Before he committed the fatal act, he took his best clothes from an armoire, and wrote on a slate a request that he should be buried in them."

This is published, mark, without a word of comment; it is of no consequence that a man kills himself, unable, after he has earned his "value," to buy his liberty! What more hideous barbarism can be found!

From the same journal, the following comparison, afforded between the Caucasian man and the "brutal negro," is notable:

"TRUNK FOUND.—On Tuesday morning a negro woman, who was passing along Gaives st., near the Canal, found a leather trunk broken open well filled with clothing papers, &c. The trunk also contained six or seven gold watches, a lump of California gold about a hundred dollars in gold coin, and a number of other valuables. With a rare honesty, the woman closed the trunk and went in search of a policeman, whom she informed of the discovery, and then returned and watched the trunk until he came with a dray. It was taken to the First District Police Office, and this morning the trunk was claimed by a man named Johnson, who lives, we believe, in the rear of Perdido st., and who stated that the trunk had been stolen from his room. He proved his property, and took the trunk away. The honest old negro woman who had discovered and guarded the property, supposed, as every one around did, that she would receive a handsome reward, but the generous owner very coolly informed her that he would not give her a cent. The shout of derision which went up from the admiring crowd around would have brought the blush of shame to any less hardy cheek than the undeservingly lucky owner of this recovered treasure."

The third paragraph of the following, from the Legislative news of the State, indicates the perfection of generous and gallant chivalry:

"BATON ROUGE, Feb. 6.—There was no quorum in the Senate to-day.

"In the House, a bill was passed appropriating $5,000 to the Minden Female Seminary.

"Also a bill to prevent colored persons from testifying against whites."

A NEW BROTH FOR THE SICK.

RECIPE BY PROFESSOR LIEBIG.

Translated for The N. Y. Tribune.

For one portion of broth take half a pound of freshly killed meat, (beef or chicken,) cut it in small pieces, add to it 1½ pound of distilled water, to which has been added four drops of pure chlorhydric (muriatic) acid, and half to one drachm of common salt; mix them well together. After standing an hour, the whole is strained through a conical hair sieve, such as is ordinarily used in the kitchen, allowing it to pass through without pressing or squeezing. The portion passing through first being cloudy, it is again poured through the sieve, and this process repeated until it becomes perfectly clear. Upon the residue of meat remaining in the sieve, half a pound of distilled water is poured, in small portions. In this manner about one pound of liquid (cold extract of meat) is obtained, of a red color, and pleasant meat-broth taste. It is administered to the sick, cold, by the cup full, according to their inclination. It must not be heated, as it becomes cloudy thereby, and a thick coagulum of meat albumen and hematin is deposited.

A young lady of 18 years in my family, being ill with typhus fever, first induced this preparation. It was called forth by the remark of my family physician, (Dr. Pfeufer,) that, in a certain stage of this disease, the greatest difficulty met with by the physician lay in incomplete digestion, a consequence of the condition of the intestines, and besides, in the want of a nutriment proper for digestion and for the formation of blood. The common broths prepared by boiling are deficient—in fact, in all those constituents necessary for the formation of the albumen of the blood—and the yolk of eggs, often added thereto, contains very little of this material, for it has 84 per cent. water and fat, and only 17½ per cent. of a substance very similar to, if not the same as the albumen of eggs; and whether this is equal in nutritious qualities to the albumen of meat is, according to the investigations of Mulder, at least doubtful. The new broth contains besides meat-albumen, a certain quantity of hematin and therein, a far greater quantity of iron necessary for the formation of the blood corpuscles, and, finally, the digesting chlorhydric acid.

A great hinderance to the employment of this broth in summer is its liability to change in warm weather; it commences regularly to ferment, like sugar-water with yeast without the usual odor. (What substance is here formed is well worthy investigation.) On account of this the meat must be extracted with perfectly cold water, and in a cool place. Ice-water, and refrigeration with ice, completely removes this difficulty. Most important of all is it that the meat be perfectly fresh, and not several days old.

This broth is now in use in the hospital and in the private practice of several of the most distinguished physicians of Munich.

I should, perhaps, have hesitated to give greater publicity to so simple a thing if a new—and to my family an especially important—case had not convinced me of the great nutritious properties of this soup, and hence arises the natural wish that its benefits may be experienced by a wider circle, and other sufferers be restored by its beneficent effects. A young married lady, who in consequence of an ovarian inflammation, could take no solid food, lived for two months entirely upon this broth, at the end of which period her health was perfectly restored. During this time she gained in flesh and strength. Generally patients take this food without opposition only so long as they are ill; as soon as they can take other food they reject this, perhaps owing to the color and the faint meat-odor. It might in many cases be of use to color the broth brown by adding burnt sugar.

THE LATE PUGILISTIC TRAGEDY.

Considerable excitement prevailed throughout the City on Monday in consequence of the murderous affray which took place on the night previous between a party of pugilists, at the saloon of Messrs. Deane & Deagle, No. 579 Broadway, during which Bill Poole and other "boxers and bruisers" were dangerously shot; and various rumors prevailed. It was ascertained last evening that the physicians of Poole report him to be out of danger, and that Baker, the principal assailant, had, with some of his friends, proceeded, immediately after the affray, to Lyng's gambling house in Canal st., when it was ascertained that a ball had entered his thigh, and passed into the lower part of the abdomen.

Dr. Clark attended him, and probed the wounds, tracing the ball to the distance of three inches, when he lost trace of it. He also had a groove plowed through the upper part of his cranium. He complains of great pain in the lower part of the abdomen, supposed to be caused by internal hemorrhage. Dr. Clark is now attending him and of course is aware of his place of concealment, but declines revealing it to the Police. Chief Matsell has a large force in search of his whereabout, and is determined to have him. It is understood that he is in a house on the north side of Canal st., somewhere between Greene and Sullivan-sts., and this neighborhood is under the surveillance of a strong police force. It is also rumored that one or more of the Eighth Ward Police, who are friends of Baker, know where he is, but won't tell.

Jim Turner is lying in a critical state, under the guard of the Police, at Lyng's place. His physicians state that removal to the Tombs would endanger his life. Morrissy has been arrested and held to bail in $1,000.

The testimony taken in this case on Sunday has been sent to the District-Attorney.

CALICO BALL IN BROOKLYN.

Last night a Calico Ball, for the assistance of the poor, came off in Brooklyn; and whether the attendance was to be attributed to the charitable feelings that were evoked on the occasion, or the natural love of such recreations, it did great credit to the city. The scene was laid in Montague Hall, which was rendered as radiant by the "calico" dresses of the fair participants as if they had been clothed