as that of the North is already placed, under the care of the respective States? The whole subject is summed up by Mr. McRae in the subjoined paragraph:

"I believe the South requires more labor. I am therefore in favor of reopening the trade in a race with Africa. I see no difference, morally, socially, or politically, in buying a slave in Africa, the original source of the supply, and buying one in the home markets of our slave-breeding states. In this, yourself and others in the North will differ from me. But this is a question for the people of the States to decide, when they have control of it free from Federal restraints. Are you willing to give them the opportunity to decide it by freeing them from these restraints?"

We don't know what may be the individual answer which the Hon. Jacob Thompson, Secretary of the Interior, makes to Mr. McRae's concluding question; but there can be no doubt as to the course of the Executive Government, of which Mr. Thompson forms a part. Though it is perfectly notorious that the laws of the Union have repeatedly been violated by the importation of African slaves, we have not had a whisper of a Presidential proclamation against it; and though it is certain that many slavers are expected soon to arrive on the Southern coast with their cargoes, we have heard nothing of any additions to the home squadron, nor of any new orders issued from Washington to our naval officers on the coast to prevent the landing of these cargoes. The influence is plain; Mr. McRae and his friends have carried their point with Mr. Buchanan; and the present Democratic Administration is tacitly a party to the reopening of the African slave-trade.

THE LATEST NEWS

RECEIVED BY

MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

From Washington.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, July 20, 1859.

The nomination of Buchanan by *The Pittsburgh Post*, one of his favorite organs, immediately on his reaching Bedford, shows it a movement that was preconcerted, and confirms previous indications here which were well known in political circles. This step was not expected so soon, and has been precipitated by particular causes. It virtually notifies Cobb and the Cabinet aspirants to withdraw.

Attorney-General Black has given an opinion that the conditions which Toucey sought to insert in the coal contract for the Bureau of Construction were not authorized by the terms of the advertisement, and hence cannot be incorporated. So that device to break the contract has failed.

Slidell is expected here hourly. He disclaims modestly, by private letters, desiring the Presidency, but would serve his country in an exigency. His personal relations with Buchanan are considerably cooled, like all his old friends.

There are twelve cases in Prussia involving the question of the rights of adopted citizens abroad.

To The Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, July 20, 1859.

A novel commitment has been made to the District of Columbia Penitentiary, in the shape of an Indian, who has been found guilty of horse-stealing. He was immediately set at work.

The Commissioner of Pensions has issued a circular, in which he directs the invalid pensioners of the Army and Navy, who are subjected to biennial examinations, to present, with their usual vouchers, on the 4th of September and 1st of January next, respectively, the certificate as to the state of their disability. The operation of the act of Congress of the 3d March, 1859, virtually suspends the semi-annual payments of invalid pensions at the commencement of each biennial period until the certificate of two physicians or surgeons has been presented.

The Secretary of the Interior will transmit by the Pacific steamer of the 5th August, $264,000 to Oregon and Washington, to satisfy the recently audited claims on account of advances for restoring and maintaining peaceable and friendly relations with the Indian tribes.

Judge Gillis of Pennsylvania has been appointed special agent to the Pawnees, with the view so to arrange matters as to prevent future difficulties.

Books and public documents pertaining to the first session of the late Congress are being boxed up to be sent to the various literary institutions throughout the country, in accordance with law. This is one of the reforms which has deprived members from selling such works, as was formerly practiced, for waste paper, or at nominal sums to speculating book-traders.

Non-arrival of the Africa.

SANDY HOOK, Wednesday, July 20—11 p m.

There are no signs of the Royal Mail steamship Africa, now in her twelfth day from Liverpool and fully due. Wind north-west, fresh; weather cloudy.

Lynch Law in Missouri--Hanging and Burning Negroes.

ST. LOUIS, Wednesday, July 20, 1859.

A dispatch received to-day from Marshall, in this State, states that three negroes, who were on trial yesterday at that place for rape and murder, were at night taken forcibly from the jail by a mob, and two of them hung, and the other burnt at the stake.

From Pike's Peak.

LEAVENWORTH, Tuesday, July 19, 1859.

An express arrived from Denver City this evening, and reports everything in the mining region to be in a flourishing condition. The express brought no papers, and hence there are no details of the news. Another express is due to-morrow.

LEAVENWORTH, Wednesday, July 20, 1859.

Another express, from Denver City 14th inst., arrived this afternoon, bringing $2,500 in treasure.

The Overland Mail.

ST LOUIS, Tuesday, July 19, 1859.

The Overland Mail of the 27th ult. has reached this city.

The prisoners escaped from the California Penitentiary by overpowering the guard, twelve of them were recaptured, and eight were shot in the bushes in endeavoring to escape arrest.

The Italians in San Francisco have raised $5,000 to send to King Victor Emanuel for the benefit of his needy subjects.

The people of Carson Valley have called a convention for the 18th of July to consider the public safety of the proposed Territory of Nevada. The election for delegate to Congress is fixed for the 24 of July.

The weather was intensely hot throughout California, parching vegetation, some parts of the country looking as though they had been burned.

The County of Santa Barbara had been visited by a terrible sirocco, forcing the people to shut themselves indoors, killing animals, and literally roasting the fruit on the trees. This occurred on the 17th ult.

The mining news from Fraser River continues discouraging.

The Pittsburgh Post and President Buchanan.

PITTSBURGH, Tuesday, July 19, 1859.

The Pittsburgh Post, the leading Democratic organ in Western Pennsylvania, this morning puts up the name of James Buchanan for redelection, and in a strong and unequivocal leader takes the ground that he is the only candidate who can be nominated by the Charleston Convention to reconcile the differences which exist in the Democratic ranks at the North and South.

The Canadian Government, etc.

TORONTO, Wednesday, July 20, 1859.

The different departments of our Government are making active preparations for their removal to Quebec. A portion have already gone, and others are about leaving.

Samples of the new wheat are now coming in from various parts of Canada West, indicating an abundant crop and excellent quality. The weather is very favorable for the growing crops.

Death of Judge Nash.

PETERSBURG, Va., Wednesday, July 20, 1859.

Judge John W. Nash died at his residence in Powhatan on Sunday night.

Fire-Alarm Telegraph.

NEW-ORLEANS, Wednesday, July 20, 1859.

The City Council has adopted J. N. Gamewell & Co.'s system of fire-alarm and police telegraph.

POSTSCRIPT.

THURSDAY MORNING—SIX O'CLOCK.

THREE DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA.

NO MORE FIGHTING.

AN ARMISTICE

BETWEEN

FRANCE AND AUSTRIA

The Royal Mail steamship Africa, Capt. Shannon, which sailed from Liverpool at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the 9th of July, arrived here at 4 o'clock this morning, bringing 600 passengers.

The City of Manchester, from New-York, arrived at Queenstown at 6 o'clock on the evening of the 7th, and the Fulton reached Southampton about 8 o'clock the same evening.

THE WAR.

ARMISTICE BETWEEN FRANCE AND AUSTRIA.

On the 8th inst. the Emperor of the French telegraphed to the Empress that an armistice had been concluded between the Emperor of Austria and himself, and that Commissioners had been appointed to settle the clauses and duration of the armistice.

The Paris *Moniteur*, in publishing the official dispatch, appends the following remarks:

It is necessary that the public should not misunderstand the extent of the armistice. It is limited merely to a relaxation of hostilities between the belligerent armies, which, though leaving the field open for negotiations, do not enable us, for the present, to see how the war may be terminated.

The Armistice had given rise to a variety of speculations in the English papers. *The London Times* believes in peace, and remarks:

"That before the truce has ended the French army will be refreshed and reenforced. A fleet of gunboats will be ready for launching upon the lake that surrounds Mantua, and a great army will be ready to make its descent upon the shores of Northern Italy. Broken and dispirited as Austria now is, she is yet better able to fight at this moment than she will be at any future time. We believe, therefore in peace, and we believe that the path to peace will be made smooth to her, for the Emperor has won the advantage which for the moment he proposes to himself. If this war between France and Austria is ended, France comes tremendous in power out of the conflict, and Austria and Europe will look on with still increasing interest, much meditating upon the future, while she rests upon her arms."

The London Post inclines to think that the proposition for an Armistice came from the moderation of the Emperor of the French, and is of opinion that Austria will consent to sacrifice her Italian sway, and thus end the war.

The London Daily News says it would be interesting to know whether the propositions for an armistice came from Austria or from a third power, for no one will suppose that it was made by France. By whosoever, it can have been accepted only for the purpose of giving scope to negotiations.

The Globe interprets the armistice as a prelude to peace.

THE LATEST.

TERMS OF THE ARMISTICE.

PARIS, Saturday, July 9.—The *Moniteur* of to-day contains the following:

"The armistice was signed at Villafranca on the 8th instant, between Marshal Vaillant and Baron Hess. Its term is fixed for the 15th of August. It stipulates that commercial vessels, without distinction of flag, shall be allowed to navigate the Adriatic unmolested."

LONDON, Saturday, July 9.—*The London Times* of to-day, says:

With regard to the armistice, there is little to communicate beyond what the public already know. All that seems to be well authenticated, that the proposal came from France, and was the result of the Emperor's own determination. This fact is indeed highly important. That the Emperor Napoleon should stop short in a career of victory and make overtures to the foe whom he has defeated in two pitched battles, and hurled back to the limits of Lombardy, argues the moderation of the necessities of the French rule. We can hardly believe that the latter have been the cause of this sudden resolve. If the next week or two show that Napoleon and Francis Joseph really wish to stop the effusion of blood, and to settle permanently the affairs of Italy, we shall be glad to help them; but it becomes this country not to lower its dignity by pressing her advice unasked on the two Emperors, who have shown no desire that we should share their council.

EXTRAORDINARY EFFECT OF THE ARMISTICE ON THE VARIOUS MONEY MARKETS, &c.

The City Article of *The Daily Times*, dated Friday evening, says: Great sensation was produced in the Stock Exchange this morning by the news of an armistice. The immediate result was a rush to buy back on the part of the part of recent speculative sellers. Mainly under the influence of the demand from operators for the fall, Consols soon obtained a rise of 1¼@1¼ ⅌ cent. Upon news that the French funds had risen fully 2 ⅌ cent, Consols, which had meanwhile experienced experienced a relapse of ¼ ⅌ cent, at once sprang up again. At the close the market showed renewed firmness, and the latest quotations were exactly 1¼ ⅌ cent above those of yesterday. The rise extextended through nearly all the other departments of the Stock Exchange. Lombardo-Venetian shares closed about 30 per share higher than yesterday. In Turkish stocks a rise of 3 to 4 ⅌ cent was established. British Railway stocks advanced in most instances 1 to 2 ⅌ cent.

The London Times (City Article), dated Friday Evening, says:

This has been settling day in consols, and the effect of the sudden intelligence of the armistice has been extraordinary. The opening transactions were at a rise of 1¼ per cent, and the upward movement early made further progress. There was then a reaction, but the latest operations were at nearly the highest quotations of the day. Any moderate arrivals of gold that may now take place will be purchased for export to the Continent. In the foreign exchanges this afternoon there was a considerable improvement in the Austrian rates.

The Austrian funds rose on Friday at Frankfort from 58 to 58.

The Continental markets appear to have been taken entirely by surprise, for at Boston on Friday there was a fall of one per cent in Austrian stock.

The Corn market at Mark Lane was paralyzed by the news of the armistice, combined with favorable reports of the crops. Sales could not have been effected unless at a fall.

At Amsterdam yesterday Austrian metalliques rose 7½ per cent.

PARIS, July 8.—Great agitation prevailed in the Bourse to-day, and prices continued to advance till they were 2½ per cent higher than they were yesterday—say 69-40 for money and 69-60 for accounts—at which they closed firm and animated. Railway shares were from 20 to 30 per cent higher.

MISCELLANEOUS WAR NEWS.

The following items show the complexion of affairs before the armistice was announced.

TURIN, July 7.—The fortress of Peschiera, now invested by the Sardinian army, is cannonaded day and night. With the aid of the gun-boats which will soon be launched on the lake of Garda, the resistance is not expected to be very prolonged.

BERNE, July 7.—Advices have been received from Sanscon to the 6th inst. All the Austrian troops have left Windschan, and are concentrating on the Stelvio Pass, where a conflict is expected to-day.

FURNE, July 6.—Two French war steamers have been reconnoitering off this place. 1,000 French soldiers have occupied Cherso. The occupation of Fulme by Austrian troops continues.

The Paris correspondent of *The London Times* says that private letters from the headquarters of Prince Napoleon state that another great battle was expected on the banks of the Adige, and that the Austrians were to have 300,000 men in line. Fresh battalions of Zouaves were organizing at Paris, and a considerable number of non-commissioned officers had applied to be admitted, even as privates.

The London Times correspondent with the Austrian army says that a bombardment of Verona and Mantua will not suffice; there must be a good deal of fighting at close quarters before anything can be done. They and the other strongholds of this great military quadrangle are very much stronger than they were ten years ago. There are great field-works to be taken before any approach can be made to the main defenses, and in the mean while Austria may have brought together again an army capable of risking another general action. At Verona quantities of grain are stored in every available place, and 25,000 Hungarian oxen are either there or in the immediate neighborhood.

Reliable advices had reached Vienna that Garibaldi's men had violated the Federal territory in the Southern Tyrol, by entering the Tonale Pass. Prince Windischgratz is reported to have been sent to Berlin to requisit the Prussian Government of this fact.

An order of the day of General Urban recommends the inhabitants of Verona to lay up stores of provisions for several months as both the town and the fortress may very possibly be attacked.

An address from the Sardinian Admiral to the people of Messina says:

"SICILIANS: The hour for presenting yourselves in line against the common enemy, or those who support him, is not yet come. It will come, however. We are sure of seeing you fly to the banners of Victor Emanuel."

Legal proceedings are said to have been instituted against a secret society at Messina.

Advices from Ancona to the 30th ult. state that the Papal General Calbermatten had taken the command of the town, and declared a state of siege. A general disarming had been ordered.

The Vienna correspondent of *The London Times* says that on the 3d inst. the French fleet, consisting of 64 sail, was at no great distance from Venice.

The Vienna *Gazette* publishes an amended list of the losses at Solferino. As to officers, the return gives 30 killed, 414 wounded, 13 made prisoners, and 70 missing; of the rank and file, 2,005 killed and 8,621 wounded, making a grand total of 11,213. Nothing is said respecting the number of men taken prisoners.

The French and Sardinian killed and wounded were 18,215. The numbers given by the *Vienna Journal* are believed to be below the truth.

The management of the siege of Verona was said to have been confided to Marshal Vaillant.

It is stated that, on the 4th inst., Count d'Urban, son or nephew of the Governor of Verona, arrived at the head-quarters of the Emperor, as the bearer of a flag of truce. The object of his mission was supposed to have reference to an exchange of prisoners.

GERMANY.

It is stated that the proposals made by Prussia in the extraordinary sitting of the Federal Diet on the 4th of July were as as follows:

First: The junction of the 9th and 10th *corps de armée* to the Prussian army.

Second: The appointment to the command-in-chief of the four non-Prussian and non-Austrian *corps de armée*.

Third: The placing of all reserve contingencies in readiness to march.

In the sitting of the Federal Diet on the 7th, Austria proposed that the whole Federal contingent should be mobilized, and that the Prince Regent of Prussia should be requested to asume the command-in-chief.

HUNGARY.

The London Times, in its City Article, gives information obtained through a perfectly legitimate financial channel, respecting the Emperor's intentions with regard to Hungary, through the agency of Kossuth, who had an interview with his Imperial Majesty before he left for Italy, when the Emperor agreed to give Kossuth a *corps d'armée* and arms and ammunition to any extent required. It was settled that the Emperor should issue the first proclamation to the Hungarian nation, and that this should be followed by one from Kossuth. That in case of Hungary rising and freeing herself from Austria, France should be the first officially to recognize the independence of the country, and would then obtain the same recognition from her allies.

That the Emperor should allow Hungary, without interference on his part, to choose her own form of government, and to elect for Sovreign the person she may deem most desirable. That the Emperor should place 3,000,000 francs at Kossuth's disposal, the management of which Kossuth having declined to accept, has been placed under the Hungarian Committee now acting at Geneva.

In Kossuth's proclamation to the Hungarians he never speaks of Austria, but of the house of Hapsburg, whose expulsion, he says, is the mission of the Hungarian nation. He asserts that he will be supported by a power, which, ten years ago, replaced the house of Hapsburg on the throne.

Gen. Klapka had also issued a short proclamation, calling upon the Hungarians to take up arms and display the national colors, and under his command to avenge all the Maygars who were assassinated by the Hapsburgs.

The Paris correspondents of *The Daily News* and *The Globe* hint at the probability of a French force operating in Hungary, and making a dash at Pesth, which they could reach without setting foot upon any territory belonging to the Germanic Confederation.

The London Daily News, referring to the above article from *The London Times*, says:

"It is impossible to understand with what object inventions, like the self-contradicted accounts, are published day after day. It is needless to point out that if the reported conditions had been agreed to by the French Emperor, M. Kossuth would not now be in Italy."

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

LIVERPOOL, July 9.—COTTON—The Brokers' Circular says: "The market opened this week with only a moderate demand, which continued, as before, to be very freely supplied. On Wednesday, owing to the favorable accounts of the state of business at Manchester, the demand was unusually active, and the sales reached 15,000 bales, nearly all to the trade; still holders have met the buyers so freely that American descriptions can scarcely be valued more than 1-16d."

The sales for the week, ending Thursday morning inclusive, footed up 65,250 bales, including 5,500 on speculation and about 2,000 for export. The official quotations on Thursday were:

Fair Orleans	8¾d	Middling	6¼d
Fair Mobile	7¾d	Middling	6¼
Fair Uplands	7¾d	Middling	6¼d

On Friday the news of the armistice caused much buoyancy and active demand. Holders demanded, and partially obtained an advance of ⅛@¼d. on the above figures. The sales of the day were 12,000@15,000 bales, including 3,000 on speculation and for export. The stock on hand is estimated at 724,750 bales—635,470 being American.

At Manchester the news of the Armistice caused much excitement and a general demand in yarns of from ¼@½d and upwards. Not much business was transacted, many of the German having to confidence in peace. Goods advanced in proportion to the yarns.

PHILADELPHIA.—The weather continues brilliant for the crops. Messrs. Richardson, Spence & Co. report continued depression in the Corn trade, which has been increased by the armistice. Flour is offered at a decline of 12½@25 ⅌ sack, without sales. American, 40@41 ⅌ barrel. Wheat offered at 30@44, decline since Tuesday, but without leading to business. Western Red, 1 year-1, White, 50@56 ⅌, Southern, 10@11c. Corn quiet and prices nominal. Mixed and Yellow, 57@60c; White, 7@8.

PROVISIONS.—Beef heavy, and prices nominal. Pork dull, and easier to buy. Bacon dull at a decline of 2@3d on the week. Lard dull, and selling only in retail. Tallow in limited demand, and 6d@7d lower. Butters Am. prime 90.

FREIGHTS.—Ashes flat at unchanged prices. Rosin steady at 3 10@3 11 for Common. Spirits Turpentine heavy and lower under large arrivals, closing at 59. Sugar quiet, and tending downward. Coffee firm at extreme prices. Rice in very limited demand. Pork dull. Saltpeter offered at 8¾. Philadelphia at 10½ for Blue ground. Fish Oil—nothing doing. Linseed Oil in fair demand at low rates. Tea inactive.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.—Consols on the 8th were very buoyant, and advanced to 96¾@¾ for money, and 96¾@¾ for account. Money was in abundant supply, and the demand was pretty brisk. First class bills were taken at 2½ per cent. The bullion in the Bank of England had decreased during the week £202,000. Messrs. Baring Bros. & Co. quote Bar Silver at 5¼. Mexican Dollars 5⅛, and American Eagles 76 2½.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.—Messrs. D. Bell, Son & Co. report as follows:

"In the market for American securities during the past week there has been no material alteration. The demand for Federal and State stocks continues, while the supply is but limited. Railroad bonds have been more freely dealt, but the actual transactions in them has not been to any extent."

Messrs. Baring Brothers say: "In American Stocks there has been a demand for United States 6s at 99¾@¾; the 5s of 1868 have been done at 97@98. Massachusetts 5s Sterling 101@101. Maryland offered at 93, ex-div.; for Pennsylvania Circulates 31 has been paid to-day for a parcel. Bonds 65, Virginia Bonds 71@74. Pennsylvania Central Railroad Bonds, 1st Mortgage, 90@91; 2d Mortgage Sterling, 80@81. New York Central, 92@94; Illinois Central, 7 0 77. Freeland, 45@47. Shares, 4@5⅞ dis.; Canada 6s, 112; Nova Scotian and New Brunswick, 106."

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

Harvard College.

BOSTON, Wednesday, July 20, 1859.

The customary commencement exercises at Harvard College took place to-day. The Governor, Executive Council and Members of the Board of Overseers, proceeded to Cambridge under escort of the Lancers. The Collegiate exercises took place in the Church of the First Parish. The assembly present was unusually large. Edward Everett, Prof. Sparks, Judge White of Salem, and other prominent persons, occupied seats on the platform with President Walker. The programme of exercises by the graduating class was carried out, and gave general satisfaction. For the new term there were 140 applicants, of whom 120 were accepted.

At the meeting of the Alumni, a letter was received from R. C. Winthrop, declining a reelection, but the association reelected him, with the whole of last year's Board of Officers.

On motion of Chas. E. Norton, a Committee was appointed to procure a marble statue of Josiah Quincy, to be made by Wm. W. Story, who graduated while Mr. Quincy was President of the College. A Committee of two members of each class under Mr. Quincy, and of thirteen other gentlemen of distinction, was appointed to procure subscriptions for the statue.

The degrees of LL. D. were conferred on Charles Sumner and Geo. B. Emerson of Boston, Henry W. Longfellow of Cambridge, and George P. Marsh of Burlington, Vt.

Suicide.

TORONTO, C. W., Wednesday, July 20, 1859.

William B. Crew, a well-known auctioneer, committed suicide to-day by shooting, in consequence of business difficulties.

Very Important Decision.

BALTIMORE, Wednesday, July 20, 1859.

In the case of Horace H. Day et al. agt. Stellman et al., which lately occupied the Court here for two weeks, his Honor Judge Giles this morning rendered, at the close of a very able opinion, a decision in favor of Mr. Day on all the points presented, holding that, under his agreements with Goodyear, Mr. Day has an exclusive monopoly of elastic goods containing vulcanized rubber. A perpetual injunction was granted. Some fifteen other suits were depending here upon this decision, in all of which perpetual injunctions will issue.

POLITICAL.

—The following letter from Gen. Houston, declaring the extinction of his own hobby—Americanism—appears in *The Galveston Union:*

"DEAR SIR: Since my reply to your letter, I have seen the letter referred to (Gen. Houston's Independence letter of July 24, 1855), and with pleasure say to you, in return for your courtesy, that I have not known, since 1855, of the existence of any organization in this State of the Know-Nothing order, nor of any intention to revive it. For my own part, I am not in favor of agitating that or any other 'ism.' It was stated, years since, that Know-Nothingism was dead, and I have so regarded it.

"There are 'isms' of a most dangerous character which threaten our safety as well as our existence, to which I am unalterably opposed. These are the 'isms' of Nullification, Secession and Disunion, and which are in vogue with many men, who claim to be friends of the South, but are in reality demagogues, who live on agitation, hoping to be elevated by the confusion of the times. Many of these are prominent advocates for reopening the African slave trade, than which no greater evil is to be apprehended to the South. If this were once done, the South would be overrun by African barbarians, and our lives, and, what is worse, our homes and our families, would be subject to their barbarities—and in no possible way advance our general or national prosperity.

"In my opinion, all these devices are intended to bring about disunion. Hence, I am opposed to all 'isms,' and henceforth will rely for safety and free government upon the Constitution and the Union. They embrace all that can exist of freedom and genuine liberty among men. Under their protecting aegis we can enjoy everything. Without them the reflecting mind can expect nothing but anarchy and ruin to the best hopes of mankind. In haste, thine truly, SAM. HOUSTON."

DEPARTURE OF JUSTICE WELSH FOR EUROPE.—About 200 of the personal friends of James H. Welsh, Police Justice of the City Hall Police Court, assembled at 10 o'clock yesterday morning in the dining-hall of Patten's Hotel, in Greenwich street, and partook of a bounteous collation in honor of that gentleman's departure for Europe, where he proposes to spend several months in the improvement of his health, and the investigation of the police systems of Great Britain as compared with our own. Among those present were a number of the Police Justices, Police Captains, and officials of the city, the Presidents of several Republican organizations, beside a large number of prominent persons entertaining all shades of political opinion. Speeches were made by John E. White, esq., Judge Brownell, Judge Quackenbush, James Kelly, esq., Dr. Kennedy, George Wilkes, S. B. Dutcher, D. D. T. Marshall and others, which were appropriately responded to by Judge Welsh. The company then started in procession, headed by Robertson's Band, embarked on the steamer J. A. Stevens, and placed Mr. Welsh in the charge of Capt. Lott, of the steamer Asia, at Jersey City, which was thence escorted to Sandy Hook. Demonstrations of esteem and friendship were the chief order of the day, and were manifested principally by cheers and the waving of hats.

On returning to Quarantine, Staten Island, Capt. T. C. Burns of the steamer J. A. Stevens, and proprietor of the Nautilus Hall, invited the company out and treated them liberally to wines and sandwiches.

The excursion was attended by a very full representation of the press, and passed off in a most agreeable manner, under the superintendence of Dr. P. C. Van Wyck.

REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE.—This body met in regular session last evening, Mr. Dutcher in the chair. Mr. John A. Costa was elected as Vice President in the place of Mr. Sherwood, deceased. A resolution was passed ordering the proper Committee to strike out the names of such members as have not been sufficiently industrious in their attendance at the meetings of the Committee, and report the same at the next meeting. Resolutions were passed complimentary to the Hon. Galusha A. Grow of Pennsylvania. The action of the Police Commissioners on the subject of the rights of policemen to be politicians was then discussed at length, and with considerable earnestness. The matter was ultimately referred to a Committee of five, who were instructed to investigate and to decide in favor or in opposition to that action.

A RELIGIOUS ANTI-SLAVERY MOVEMENT.—A circular has been published in *The Cleveland Herald*, July 19, addressed "To Anti-Slavery Christians throughout the State," and signed by a number of the clergy and laity of Cleveland and vicinity, calling for a meeting at Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 10 and 11, to pray, deliberate, and give a public expression against Slavery. This proposed Convention has been suggested chiefly by the revival of the slave-trade.

FOR THE THOUSAND ISLANDS.—The steamer Cataract left this port last night for the St. Lawrence, after taking on board fifty persons, the most of whom are bound on pleasure voyages. There was a party of a dozen or more from Brockport, commanded by Capt. C. H. Mason, who are to spend a few days among the Islands. The rest of the number were prominent and well known citizens, including one or more clergymen. [Rochester Union.

AN OVERLAND JOURNEY.

XV.

WESTERN CHARACTERS.

DENVER, June 21, 1859.

I know it is not quite correct to speak of this region as "Western," seeing that it is in fact the center of North America and very close to its backbone. Still, as the terms "Eastern" and "Western" are conventional and relative—Castine being "Western" to a Bluenose and Carson Valley "Eastern" to a Californian—I take the responsibility of grouping certain characters I have noted on the Plains and in or about the Mountains as "Western," begging that most respectable region which lies east of the Buffalo range—also that portion which lies west of the Colorado—to excuse the liberty.

The first circumstance that strikes a stranger traversing this wild country is the vagrant instincts and habits of the great majority of its denizens—perhaps I should say, of the American people generally, as exhibited here. Among any ten who you successively meet, there will be natives of New-England, New-York, Pennsylvania, Virginia or Georgia, Ohio or Indiana, Kentucky or Missouri France, Germany, and perhaps Ireland. But worse than this: you cannot enter a circle of a dozen persons of whom at least three will not have spent some years in California, two or three have made claims and built cabins in Kansas or Nebraska, and at least one spent a year or so in Texas. Boston, New-York, Philadelphia, New-Orleans, St. Louis, Cincinnati, have all contributed their quota toward peopling the new Gold Region. The next man you meet driving an ox team, and white as a miller with dust, is probably an ex-banker or doctor, a broken merchant or manufacturer from the old States, who has scraped together the candle-ends charitably or contemptuously allowed him by his creditors on settlement, and risked them on a last desperate cast of the dice by coming hither. Ex-editors, ex-printers, ex-clerks, ex-steamboat men, are here in abundance—all on the keen hunt for the gold which only a few will secure. One of the stations at which we slept on our way up—the rough tent with a cheering hope (since blasted) of a log house in the near future—was kept by an ex-lawyer of Cincinnati and his wife, an ex-actress from our New-York Bowery—she being cook. Omnibus drivers from Broadway repeatedly handled the ribbons; ex Border Ruffians from civilized Kansas—some of them of unblessed memory—were encountered on our way, at intervals none too long. All these blended with veteran Mountain men. Indians of all grades from the tamest to the wildest, Half-Breeds, French trappers and *voyageurs* (who have generally two or three Indian wives apiece) and an occasional nigger, compose a medley such as hardly another region can parallel. Honolulu, or some other part of the South Sea Islands could probably match it most nearly.

The old Mountaineers form a caste by themselves, and they prize the distinction. Some of them are Frenchmen, or Franco-Americans, who have been trapping or trading in and around these mountains for a quarter of a century, have wives and children here, and here expect to live and die. Some of these have accumulated property and cash to the value of $200,000, which amount will not easily be reduced, as they are frugal in everything (liquor sometimes excepted), spend but a pittance on the clothing of their families, trust little, keep small stocks of goods, and sell at large profits. Others come years ago from the States, some of them on account each of a "difficulty" wherein they severally killed or savagely maimed their respective antagonists under circumstances on which the law refuses to look leniently; whence their pilgrimage to and prolonged sojourn here, despite enticing placards offering $500 or perhaps $1 000 for their safe return to the places that knew them once, but shall know them no more. This class is not numerous, but is more influential than it should be in giving tone to the society of which its members form a part. Prone to deep drinking, soured in temper, always armed, bristling at a word, ready with the rifle, revolver or bowie-knife, they give law and set fashions which, in a country where the regular administration of justice is yet a matter of prophecy, it seems difficult to overrule or disregard. I apprehend that there have been, during my two weeks' sojourn, more brawls, more fights, more pistol-shots with criminal intent, in this log city of 150 dwellings, not three-fourths completed nor two-thirds inhabited, nor one-third fit to be, than in any community of no greater numbers on earth. This will be changed in time—I trust within a year, for the empty houses are steadily finding tenants from the two streams of emigration rolling in daily up the Platte, as well as down Cherry Creek, including some scores of women and children, who generally stop here, as all of them should; for life in the Mountains is yet horribly rough. Public religious worship, a regular mail and other civilizing influences, are being established; there is a gleam of hope that the Arapahoes—who have made the last two or three nights indescribably hideous by their infernal war-whoops, songs and dances, will at last clear out on the foray against the Utes they have so long threatened, diminishing largely the aggregate of drunkenness and riot, and justifying expectations of comparative peace. So let me close up my jottings from this point—which circumstances beyond my control have rendered too voluminous—with a rough ambrotype of

LIFE IN DENVER.

The rival cities of Denver and Auraria front on each other from either bank of Cherry Creek, just before it is lost in the South Platte. The Platte has its sources in the South Park of the Rocky Mountains, a hundred miles S. W. of this point, but Cherry Creek is headed off from them by that river, and, winding its northward course of forty or fifty miles over the Plains, with its sources barely touching the Mountains, is a capricious stream, running quite smartly when we came here, but whose broad and thirsty sands have since drank it all up at this point, leaving the log foot-bridges which connect the two cities as useless as an ice-house in November. The Platte, aided by the melting of the snows on the higher mountains, runs nearly full-banked, though the constant succession of hot suns and dry winds begins to tell upon it, while Clear Creek, (properly Vasquer's Fork) which issues directly from the Mountains just above its crossing on the way to the Gregory Diggings, is nearly at its highest, and will so remain till the inner mountains are mainly denuded of their snowy mantles. But, within a few days, a foot-bridge has been completed over the Platte, virtually abolishing the ferry and saving considerable time and money to gold-seekers and travellers, while another over Clear Creek precludes not only delay but danger—several wagons having been wrecked and two or three men all but drowned in attempts to ford its rapid, rocky current. Thus the ways of the adventurous grow daily smoother, and they who visit this region ten years hence will regard as idle tales the stories of privation, impediment and "hair breadth 'scapes" which are told, or might be, by the gold seekers of 1859.

—Of these rival cities, Auraria is by far the more venerable—some of its structures being, I think, fully a year old, if not more. Denver, on the other hand, can boast of no antiquity beyond September or October last. In the architecture of the two cities there is, notwithstanding, a striking similarity—cottonwood logs, cut from the adjacent bottom of the Platte, and roughly hewed on the two perpendicular sides, and chinked with billets of split cottonwood on the inner and with mud on the outer side, forming the walls of nearly or quite every edifice which adorns either city. Across the center of the interior, from shorter wall to wall, stretches a sturdy ridge-pole, usually in a state of nature, from which "shooks" or split saplings of cottonwood, their split sides down, incline gently to the transverse or longer sides; on these (in the more finished structures) a coating of earth is laid, and, with a chimney of mud-daubed sticks in one corner, a door nearly opposite, and a hole beside it representing or prefiguring a window, the edifice is complete. Of course, many have no earth on their covering of shooks, and so are liable to gentle inundation in the rainy season; but, though we have had thunder and lightning almost daily, with a brisk gale in most instances, they have had no rain worth naming such here for weeks, and the unchinked, barely shook-covered houses, through whose sides and roofs you may see the stars as you lie awake nights, are decidedly the cooler and airier. There is a new hotel nearly finished in Auraria, which has a second-story floor; beside this, mine eyes have never yet been blessed with the sight of any floor whatever in either Denver or Auraria. The last time I slept or ate with a floor under me (our wagon-box and Mother Earth excepted) was at Junction City, nearly four weeks ago. The "Denver House," which is the Astor House of the Gold Region, has walls of logs, a floor of earth, with windows and roof of rather flimsy cotton sheeting, while every guest is allowed as good a bed as his blankets will make. The charges are no higher than at the Astor and other first-class hotels, except for liquor—25 cents a drink for dubious whisky, colored and nicknamed to suit the taste of customers, being the regular rate throughout this region. I had the honor to be shaved there by a nephew (so he assured me) of Murat, Bonaparte's King of Naples—the honor and the shave together costing but a paltry dollar. Still, a few days of such luxury surfeited me, mainly because the drinking room was also occupied by several blacklegs as a gambling hall, and their incessant clamor of "Who'll go me XX?" "The ace of hearts is the winning card. Who-ever runs the ace of hearts wins the $20," &c., &c., persisted in at all hours up to midnight, became at length a nuisance, from which I craved deliverance at any price. Then the visitors of that drinking and gambling room had a careless way, when drunk, of firing revolvers, sometimes at each other, at other times quite miscellaneously, which struck me as inconvenient for a quiet guest with only a leg and a half, hence in poor condition for dodging bullets. So I left.

"How do you live in Denver?" I inquired of a New-York friend some weeks domiciled here, in whose company I visited the Mines. "O, I've jumped a cabin," was his cool, matter-of-course reply. As jumping a cabin was rather beyond my experience, I inquired further, and learned that, finding a cabin deserted and tenantless that suited him, he had quietly entered and spread his blankets, eating at home or abroad as opportunity might suggest. I found, on further inquiry, that at least one-third of the inhabitants in Denver and Auraria were desolate when we came here, (they have been gradually filling up since); some of the owners having gone into the Mountains, digging or prospecting, and taken their united supply of household goods along with them; while others, discouraged by the poor show of mining six weeks ago, when even the nearer mountains were still covered with snow and ice, rushed pell-mell down the Platte with the wild refux of the Spring emigration, abandoning all but what they could carry away. It is said that lots and cabins together sold for $25—so long as there were purchasers; but, these soon failing, they were left behind like camp-fires in the morning, and have since been at the service of all comers.

So, in company with a journalizing friend, I, too, have "jumped a cabin," and have kept to it quite closely, under a doctor's care, for the last week or ten days. It is about ten feet square and eight feet high, rather too well chinked for Summer, considering that it lacks a window, but must be a capital house for this country in Winter. I board with the nearest neighbor, and it is not my landlady's fault that the edible resources of Denver are decidedly limited. But even these are improving: To the Bread, Bacon and Beans, which formed the staple of every meal a short time ago, there have been several recent additions: Milk, which was last week twenty-five cents per quart, is now down to ten, and I hear a rumor that eggs, owing to a recent increase in the number of hens within five hundred miles from four or five to twelve or fifteen, are about to fall from a dollar a dozen to fifty cents. On every side, I note signs of Progress—Improvement—Manifest Destiny—there was a man about the city yesterday with Lettuce to sell—and I am credibly assured that there will be Green Peas next month—actually Peas!—provided it should rain soakingly meantime—whereof a hazy, lowering sky would seem just now to afford some hope. (P. S. The hope has vanished.) But I—already sadly behind, and nearly able to travel again—must turn my back on this promise of luxuries, and take the road to Laramie to-day, or at furthest to-morrow.

H. G.

"ONE OF THE WEST POINT VISITORS."

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: My attention is called to certain extracts from a letter published under the above caption, in your paper of the 9th inst., with your strictures upon the same. If, as may be inferred from your article, the letter had actually been addressed to the editor of a newspaper, for the purpose of publication, I should be ready to admit the justice of the criticism, at least to a certain extent. But such is not the fact; it was a private communication to an intimate and valued friend, who, like the writer, had spent some of the earlier years of his life at West Point, and known familiarly many of the persons and scenes alluded to. Hence the careless freedom of expression and detail, that characterized that very hastily-written communication, with not the slightest expectation of ever seeing it in print. That it should, therefore, quite in