Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12, 1851.

Accident to the Methodist Church.

An accident occurred this morning, at the Wesleyan Methodist, called the "Foundry Church," at the corner of Fourteenth and G streets, which was near being attended with fatal consequences.

It was generally known that the Rev. Dr. Durbin, who is a very eloquent preacher, and, I believe, from the State of New York, was to deliver a sermon, and the house was consequently crowded at an early hour.

Previous to the commencement of divine service, the ceiling under the gallery cracked, owing to the great weight above it, and the supporters appeared to be giving way. I arrived at the spot at this moment, and found the windows crowded with females in a state of the utmost excitement, endeavoring to escape, one of whom jumped out and was safely received by those below. There was an area which rendered this a difficult operation; boards were, however, speedily obtained, and several well dressed females and children escaped by this means. Meantime, most of those in the gallery had retreated through the nearest doors, and it was with difficulty that females were prevented jumping from the windows, which in this part of the building are on the second story. After a short time the alarm subsided, and the service commenced; but numbers were afraid to enter, and thus expose themselves to another alarm and probable danger, and accordingly came away, as did others who found it impossible subsequently to enter, owing to the crowded state of the house.

This accident, and the probability (along time apparent) that several persons would have been seriously injured in endeavoring to escape, evince the necessity of their being means provided by which egress can be afforded from the windows by having ladders at hand, to be used in cases of emergency, and which, in the present instance, could not be obtained.

While on this subject I would state that the Smithsonian Institution is very badly constructed in this respect. The lecture room is easily emptied, but the avenues all terminate in a narrow passage, with but one door at the basement for egress; and in case of fire this passage would become so blocked up that escape through the main entrance would be impossible.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11, 1851.

Interesting Lecture on the Alps.

I attended a lecture at the Smithsonian Institution, delivered by Dr. Morris, of Baltimore, descriptive of the Alps and their glaciers; which was rendered more interesting from the circumstance of the lecturer having personally visited those wonderful objects in nature. He commenced with an account of the Alps, which, commencing in Switzerland, extend a distance of one hundred and seventy miles in length, and having a width of about twenty. The Alps are not an uninterrupted chain of mountain ridges, rising some fifteen thousand feet above the level of the sea, but are composed of innumerable peaks, clothed with perpetual snow. The lower vallies—which, however, are about five thousand feet above the level of the sea—are inhabited by shepherds; not those described by Virgil, and having but little of the romantic about them. They possess a large number of cows and goats; and the adventurers, on their ascent to the summit of the peaks, obtain milk and cheese in abundance. There are also hospices, kept by monks, who supply the way-worn traveller with refreshments. The ascent is made, for the most part, on the backs of donkeys, which are trained for the purpose; and so sure-footed are they, that those whom they carry are cautioned by the guides to trust entirely to their sagacity, and to leave them to choose their path, sometimes winding around the edge of the mountain, or along the edge of the precipice, and at other times among fragments of rock, at the peril of breaking their legs. The side-saddles on which the ladies ride are so constructed as to prevent their slipping forwards or backwards, and, as well as those of the gentlemen, are so secured that they cannot shift on the back of the animal. Occasionally, a plank or ladder is laid across fissures, over which the party pass; and, at other times, the frozen surface of snow has to be crossed, which sometimes yields to the weight of the traveller, who sinks down some hundred feet, and is never heard of more. Among the more daring of those who undertake this dangerous journey are English ladies, who remain on the backs of their beasts; while gentlemen who accompany them, and who possess less nerve, dismount and lead their animals on arriving at some of the more dangerous places that have to be passed on the route.

Dr. Morris gave a brief account of his ascent to the peak called Riga; and his description of the rising sun was graphic in the extreme. Sometimes, however, old Sol does not rise and set in a very good humor; and, when the weather is not clear, the summit of Riga is not one of the most agreeable places in the world. Englishmen, who are proverbial for grumbling, do not submit to the disappointment incident to such an occurrence with the best grace imaginable, as the following lines, quoted by Dr. Morris, will abundantly testify:—

"Seven tedious hours that day we climb'd,
The setting sun to see;
Sullen and grim he went to bed—
Sullen and grim went we.

Nine sleepless hours that night we pass'd,
The rising sun to see;
Sullen and grim he rose at last,
Sullen and grim rose we."

It fortunately happened that the morning after the Doctor's arrival was clear and serene, and the party were summoned from their beds to witness one of the finest objects in creation, but which many of the children of affluence and luxury never see—the rising sun—and who waste in bed "the fleeting moments of too short a life." First, there appeared a horizontal streak on the sky, of the brightest crimson; then a solitary peak, covered with snow, received the earliest rays of the sun, and assumed a similar hue. This was followed by another and another, within a circle of a hundred miles in extent, and at length all around were innumerable peaks, glittering against a dark blue sky, meeting the gaze of the bewildered and admiring spectator, which gradually and successively faded into a more delicate tint, until they ultimately resumed their original purity, before the approaching splendor of the god of day, who at length burst upon the astonished view of the beholder, an adequate conception of the gorgeous beauty of which, he said, no language could convey.

The third division of the lecture was devoted to a description of the glaciers, and the phenomena connected with them—a sort of frozen river, in some instances fifteen miles in extent, and three in width—from one of which the Rhine derives its source, whose appearance would seem to convey the idea that the descending torrent had suddenly become congealed. The glaciers have their origin in the immense masses of snow and ice that fall from the precipitous summits of the higher peaks, and descend through the adjacant valleys to a lower level, partly owing to their inclination, and partly in consequence of the pressure caused by their expansion, from the absorption of water when rain falls. The ice of which the glaciers are composed, is of various, and often uncommon hardness, and is from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifty feet in thickness. The water which the ice yields, when perfectly pure, has one peculiarity for which it has hitherto been found impossible to account—it is quite blue, and the coloring matter cannot be detected. They have, also, another peculiarity—they throw off any foreign substances, such as rocks or wood, or any other substance thrown into the fissures, with which they abound, that vary from a hair to several feet in breadth, and which, after a lapse of time, come to the surface at some distance lower down. These glaciers often flow through a well cultivated country, forming a striking contrast with the verdant fields and beautiful flowers in their vicinity.

The lecture was the better understood, owing to views which were exhibited of the glaciers, and the scenery of the Alps, one of the former reminding me of the Falls of Niagara. I omitted to mention that the summit of Riga commands a view of several lakes, of which there are quite a number within the field of vision.

Altogether, the lecture was one of much interest, and commanded the deepest attention of a crowded audience, and which the lecturer might have extended to a much greater length, without wearing out their patience. G. U.

Our Granada Correspondence.

Progress of the Panama Railroad—Rainy Season—Launch of a Steamer, &c.

NAVY BAY, NEW GRANADA, Dec. 22, 1850.

The work on the Panama Railroad is progressing finely, there being 600 men on the road, and we expect an addition of 300 more in a few days. The men and officers are stationed at three different points, viz: Manzanilla Island, Gattoon, and Mount Arrow Root. I am happy to say that they are enjoying good health.

The rainy season is now over, and I would state that the steamers I wrote you concerning, are progressing very fast, and we shall be able to launch the first one in about twelve days, if the workmen keep good health. This is rapid work. Her keel was laid on the 12th inst; she is 120 feet long, and 16 feet beam; depth of hold 4½ to 5 feet. She is intended to ply on the Chagres river, and also between that place and Navy Bay. I would also state that we now have a road cut directly to Gattoon, and I hope it will soon be in operation.

MARINERO.

Our Texas Correspondence.

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, Dec. 4, 1850.

Signs of a Revolution—Port of Matamoras—Canales—Morals and Law—Losses of Merchants—Postmaster at Brazos—Elections, &c., &c.

A few lines from this place, the principal city on the Rio Grande, and on the frontier, will not prove, I trust, uninteresting to you.

On Sunday night last, the greatest excitement prevailed at Matamoras, and a revolution was expected. News having been received favorable to the election of Arista as President, the indignation of the masses was visible, and it became necessary to call out the military. Loaded cannons, strongly guarded, were placed on various corners, and in the plaza. The outskirts of the city were strongly guarded, and the soldiers were under arms all night. But it was all smoke, and peace now once more prevails in our sister city.

The authorities at Matamoras have closed the port, so that for the present no goods can be imported there. The object is supposed to be to veto the authority which the military commander, Noales, had heretofore exercised, of giving permits for the introduction of goods, on the merchants paying him the money, which he appropriated to his own use. The authorities no longer recognise his power, and will seize, or not permit any goods to be brought, unless the full amount of duties is paid at the Custom House.

Canales, the great Mexican robber commander, who so much harassed our troops during the war, is now at Matamoras. The purpose of his visit, it is supposed, is to find out the opinion of the people on the merits of the candidates for the presidency. He is to be stationed at Camargo, as commander. He will have to keep a bright lookout, and not cross on the Amerndan side, for there are many Texans in that neighborhood, who were prisoners at Mier, and who will pay him off for the very kind treatment they received at his hands.

I am pleased to state that the morals of our city are improving, and we are becoming civilized. Our District Court is now in session, and busy trying criminal cases. Already three persons have been found guilty of murder in the first degree. There are many prisoners who have been in jail for more than fifteen months. Improvements are rapidly going on, and the foundation of a large market is about being laid. Brownsville can now compete with any city in Texas, though it is but two and a-half years since the first building was erected here.

Of late, our merchants have suffered some severe losses. Some $700,000 was lately seized in Monterey, San Luis, Saltillo, and other ports in the interior, the goods being introduced in contravention of the revenue laws. The greater part of the losses fall on the merchants here. The loss of one dry goods firm is estimated at $80,000, and another's loss is ascertained to be a fraction less than $40,000.

The case of Glover & Mather, for $55,000, which was seized while on the road from one port to another, has not been decided. The Supreme Court has it before them.

Some attention is beginning to be paid to agriculture in this section of the country, and the enterprising men who have engaged in the business will reap a rich harvest. The soil is capable of producing corn, sugar, tobacco and cotton.

The river is rather low, and business is dull, owing to the rigorous course adopted by Mexico to prevent smuggling. We have now six boats lying at our levee, a portion of which have not moved for six months.

The steamer Yacht, on her last trip, experienced very heavy weather, and was two days beyond her usual time in getting in, owing to the violent northers that have prevailed lately.

The injuries sustained by the mercantile community of this place, through the caprice of the postmaster at Brazos, cannot be imagined. He detains the mails at Brazos for a week after the arrival of the steamer, notwithstanding the distance is only twenty-eight miles, and we have daily stages from Point Isabel. A petition has been got up and signed by nearly every man for the removal of the old stubborn official.

The *Herald* is much sought after here, and is looked upon as the best and most independent journal in the Union.

This is a great city for elections. Scarcely two weeks pass without an election being held. On Monday next we are to have an election for mayor and councilmen. Already the excitement has commenced, and whiskey is abundant.

The city, as also the garrison, is very healthy—not a case of sickness to be heard of. The weather is cool but pleasant. CHAPPARAL.

Our New Jersey Correspondence.

TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 13, 1851.

Political Matters in Jersey—Three of the Candidates for the U. S. Senate.

At present the all absorbing topic of conversation, and subjects of conjecture, are the consequences and effects of our late election. You may remember that last November witnessed the total rout, horse and foot, of the whig forces of the New Jersey division, including a lasting rebuke to the free soil fanatical faction leaders of the same, and to those constitutional philanthropists who rest their faith in a "higher power," a most inglorious defeat, that was almost too timely, and required to be passed over in silence.

The Augean stable, which but little exceeded the State offices in corruption, did not need cleansing more than these. It is being done; and it only remains to consummate the triumph by the selection of a U. S. Senator to fill the place vacated by Senator Dayton, who retires in March. Many doubts exist as to the result; and, no doubt, trouble will arise in caucus. From present appearances, such must be the case. Many able and prominent men of the democratic party, of course, are named, yet I believe the list is reducible to these three—Com. Stockton, Gov. Vroom and Jno. R. Thomson. Of the first of these little need be said. He has been for some years before the country, in various capacities, in all which he has gained an enviable distinction. His claims are strong, and he may be the man. We think, however, public opinion assigns the gallant Commodore a higher station than even United States Senator.

Peter D. Vroom, of these, is certainly as prominent, and many believe as able, a candidate as I have named. He is, and has been, identified with the party throughout a long political life, as Governor of the State, representative in Congress, &c. At present he is an eminent member of the New Jersey bar, in a flourishing practice of his profession, at Trenton, which many would be loth to abandon for the honor of spending a few winters in Washington.

Mr. Thomson's claims to this distinction are far more complicated than numerous, though he has friends who urge his appointment, and many who insist on it. We must, however, await the action of the Legislature, which meets on Tuesday, the 14th. Many, very many, radical changes are contemplated in various departments, of the policy of which there are different opinions. Reform of some kind is loudly called for, and I doubt not will be effected. We live in a progressive age, though we think at times our movements are crab-like.

OMEGA.

Our Baltimore Correspondence.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 13, 1851.

Firemen's Reception—Death of Thomas H. Fulton—Captain Joseph Willey—Commerce—Burglars, &c.

The firemen of Baltimore are making extensive preparations for the reception of the Weccacoe Engine Company, of Philadelphia, which will reach here in the cars this afternoon. A general dress parade will take place, and numerous entertainments will be given them during their stay.

The announcement of the death of Thomas H. Fulton, the extensive cotton manufacturer, has thrown quite a gloom over his immense circle of friends and acquaintances. He died yesterday morning, at Washington Factory, five miles from the city, after but a few hours serious illness. He came to this city about 25 years ago, a penniless Irish boy, and after struggling with adversity for some years, started the manufacture of cotton batting, with dog power, and soon getting a start in the world, at the age of thirty-eight he had amassed a property worth at least $150,000. The prosperity that was then attending cotton manufactories induced him to invest the whole of his property in two extensive cotton factories—the Washington and Phœnix—one five miles, and the other twenty miles from the city, on the Susquehanna Railroad. With an energy unsurpassed, he has since succeeded in breasting the storm which had swept off so many of his competitors, until a few weeks past, when one of his factories fell into the hands of his creditors, and the other was supposed to be considerably involved. He was about moving his family, consisting of a wife and ten children, to the Phœnix factory, to exert his whole energies to recover his fortunes, when a slight indisposition turned to a brain fever, and soon numbered him among the dead. He was but 44 years of age, and was beloved by all who knew him, for his many noble qualities of both head and heart.

Captain Joseph Willey, who was thrown from a buggy a few days since, is said to be in a dying condition, no hope being entertained for his recovery.

The number of vessels in the port of Baltimore, on Saturday, was, 6 ships, 16 barks, 27 brigs, and 45 schooners, amounting in the aggregate to 94.

The burglars are doing an extensive business in this city, being evidently an experienced gang. On Friday last, they made their way to a third story bedroom of Mrs. McFail's, on Holliday street, and abstracted $700 in gold from a bureau, and also about $100 worth of jewelry.

Our California Correspondence.

KLAMATH, (U. C.) Oct. 1, 1851.

The Klamath River—New Region for Enterprise—Gold-bearing District—Products of the Mines—The Indians—Scenery, &c. &c.

Located as we are here, a small party of us in the upper part of Upper California, surrounded by nature's gigantic scenery, of huge mountains and the towering redwood, besides the many specimens of animate nature, such as swarms of naked Indians, deer, elk, bears, &c., and having enjoyed but little communication with the civilized world for some months past, we begin to apprehend that possibly we may be entirely forgotten, and have accordingly hit upon the expedient of sending you a missive, by which you may know that we have commenced a settlement, even as high up in California, on the Pacific coast, as 41 deg. 33 min. north, and some 250 miles from San Francisco—and having particularly demonstrated that we cannot get much farther west, by land, we have concluded to stop here at present. But the fact is, we are not very anxious to leave here, any how, because, in the first place, we are on one of the finest and largest rivers in California, (known, I think, on some old maps, as the "Calumet,") affording a safe and excellent harbor for shipping, of safe and easy access—a river that is navigable for boats, up a distance of 100 miles, or more, into the country, and right plum into the very heart of the Klamath mines. Furthermore, the river abounds in the finest salmon that ever graced the palate of mortal man; and the whole country besides, hitherto undisturbed by the presence of whites, or the advance of what is termed civilization, is full of game of all kinds, both fowl and beast. The Indians, who are very numerous here, are rather noble specimens of the race, and quite friendly; go entirely naked, except in cool weather, when a deer skin is thrown over their shoulders. The squaws are always clad, so far as to wear a waist cloth, reaching to the knees. This, their only article of apparel, is made of tanned deer skin, richly ornamented with shells or beads. They are the most chaste and temperate class of people that I ever fell in with, and, withal, the most inveterate, universal, and dexterous set of thieves that I ever wish to see again—twin virtues of the Indian race, temperance and theft!—(temperance, I mean, of passion and appetite.) Disease is a thing almost unknown among them, attributable, I think, either to their simple habits of living, or to the climate of this region, which is certainly a most delightful one, unsurpassed by any other under the sun. The Klamath mines will, and must soon, I think, be the great centre of attraction in the way of mining in California. They are reached after ascending the river from this place to the Forks (where the Trinity branches off to the southeast), a distance of fifty miles; but the richest diggings yet discovered are fifty or sixty miles farther up, on the tributaries known as Salmon and Beaver Creeks, Scott's and Shaste rivers, also Rogues rivers, farther north. The mines on Beaver and Salmon, during the past season, have made, and are now making, from two to three ounces a day, and frequently taking out $80 and $100; but a general average yield has been at least an ounce a day per man, counting the lucky and unlucky all together. The entire country throughout abounds with gold, both river and dry diggings, and it is the opinion of old and experienced miners, judging from appearances and developements already made, that no portion of California can compare with it in its gold bearing qualities. As soon as these facts become generally known and established, as they must in a very short time, these mountains and valleys will suddenly become attuned to the sound of the pan and pick, where now the bear and the elk roam undisturbed; and this noble river the busy thoroughfare of steamboats and sloops, where now naught is heard save the occasional heavy splash of salmon and seal, or else the light dippings of the Indian paddle, as some noble son of the forest, with his squaw, is gliding along under the bank, in their graceful canoe. J. P. C.

SACRAMENTO CITY, California, November 14, 1850.

One of the Dead of Sacramento City.

Will the Editor of the *New York Herald* please insert the following in his paper?—

If any of the friends of Capt. James D. Jones are residing in the city of New York, or vicinity, this will inform them that Captain Jones was murdered on the 22d day of October last, by a company of ten Indians, and was found on the 25th day of the month by one who was his partner, and his remains were decently interred.

As far as I can understand, he has a little property, and if the friends of Capt. Jones will write to me, at Sacramento City, what disposal of his effects they would wish, their request shall be attended to, and the amount forwarded to them in any way they shall see fit to dictate.

Very respectfully,
GEORGE DRYDEN.

Interesting from Santa Fe and the Great Salt Lake.

A correspondent of the St. Louis (Mo.) *Republican*, writing from Independence, under date of the 27th ult, says:—Yesterday, two mails reached us from the Salt Lake route, and one from Santa Fe. The news from Salt Lake is not very recent, owing to detention, in consequence of much snow on the Plains. One of the mails, in fact, was stopped entirely for awhile by ice in the Platte river. In the course of their travels, two or three of the attendants were badly frost-bitten, and one man nearly frozen to death, but timely assistance from Fort Kearny rescued him from such a fate.

The mail from Santa Fe come in in good time, only twenty-two days' travelling, but with it we have dates seven days later from Moro. This later intelligence was brought in by Mr. Davis, conveying to us the unwelcome news of the death of Mr. James Brown, of Pettis county, Missouri; a man familiarly known, and very much respected by many persons in every part of the State. He was, at the time of his death, largely engaged as freighter for government across the Plains, and contractor for the Salt Lake mail, and for many years past has been traversing, in almost every direction, the vast domain lying west of us. Nothing seemed too arduous for him to undertake; nothing impeded his progress in the course of his travels, or stopped him from the fulfilment of his purposes. His loss will be deeply felt in this community. After starting all his trains, he found it necessary for himself to go to Santa Fe, to see that all things were right. In company with one or two men and Rev. Mr. Kephart, he reached Santa Fe in safety, but had not been long in the place before he was attacked with erysipelas in an aggravated form, and in a few days breathed his last.

Mr. Sabine, a trader to Santa Fe, had charge of the mail in to the States from San Jose. Mr. Borland, the one engaged at that place, owing to the great severity of the weather, and exposure of himself, was frozen so much that in a day or two he died. His friends here and at a distance will learn with regret his untimely death.

From the new post at Arkansas, Mr. Moore accompanied the mail-carriers, and on the route was badly frosted, but reached here with the rest of his companions.

We have not much news of importance from Santa Fe. Sickness, of the kind of which Mr. Brown died, prevails to some extent. Business is very good throughout the whole of New Mexico. Large demands for goods were made for the Southern towns and Chihuahua.

By the present mail, we learn that up to the 18th November, Mr. Coons' train had not reached El Paso. The great scarcity of water on that route prevented him from getting through, and I believe he was so much dispirited with things that he had abandoned the hope of getting his wagon in, and had left for Southern Mexico.

Local news, we have not much that is of interest. Good health prevails through all this region.

MOST MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE.—We learn from Captain James Bridges, who sails a schooner from Bayside, Talbot county, that a most melancholy occurrence took place at that place on Tuesday last, at the dwelling of Mr. Ballard Shores. The particulars are as follows:—On that day Mrs. Emma Jones had paid a visit to Mrs. Shores, taking with her her infant child. She was seated in the sitting room, with Mrs. S., and in a cradle a little son of Mrs. S., about eleven months old, was lying, while another little son, aged three years, was standing by the cradle, rocking it. In another part of the room there was another son of Mrs. S., aged about eight years, who, unobserved, picked up a loaded gun, which had been imprudently left there. While in his hands, the gun was discharged, the load blowing the brains out of the little boy standing by the cradle, killing the infant in the cradle, and lodging several of the shot in the person of Mrs. Jones, who was sitting in the line of the shot. Her infant which was in her lap, was somewhat injured by the powder from the gun. Mrs. Shores sprang up and seizing the child whose brains was blown out, ran into the yard, and there finding him dead, she ran back into the house. Here she found her other child dead, and so great was the shock, that she immediately fainted, and has been in almost a deranged state ever since. Mrs. Jones, though badly hurt, was not considered dangerous. This is another and a most melancholy instance of the evil consequences resulting from the extreme folly of placing loaded fire arms within the reach of any but those who know how to use them.—*Baltimore Sun, Jan. 13.*

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE BLOCK FOR THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT.—The block of granite voted by the Legislature of this State for the national monument to Washington is completed, and is to be forwarded this week. The face of the stone is four feet by two, the depth eighteen inches, the weight about a ton. The face is beautifully polished, and the word "New Hampshire," deeply cut in capitals, cut the whole length.—*National Intelligencer, Jan 13.*

The Mexican Boundary Survey.

A correspondent of the New Orleans *Picayune*, of the 4th inst., writing from El Paso Del Norte, under date of the 17th of November, says:—As a short detail of the proceedings of the Mexican boundary commission will probably be interesting, I undertake to furnish you with the most important items within my knowledge. You are informed, no doubt, of all the particulars up to the time of leaving San Antonio; I will commence, therefore, with that event.

The Commissioner, feeling the necessity of his immediate presence at El Paso, determined on taking a small escort with him and going through by what is called the upper or northern route. On the 10th of October, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the party set out; it consisted of the Commissioner; Dr. Thomas H. Webb, secretary; Mr. George Thurber, botanist; Mr. Moss, geologist; and Messrs. Murphy, Clark, Thompson, Pierce, Garner, Young, Mathews, Weems, Dunn, Cremony, Stewart, Simms, Wilbar, and McDuffie, of the engineers; Messrs. Ferguson, Smith, Miller, and Garritt, of the mechanics; seven teamsters and one carriage driver; Mr. Wells, two white servants and two Mexicans; one man named Gun, who pretended to be a guide, but who was entirely destitute of any useful information, and two others of like calibre, who offered themselves as hunters and guides.

The Commissioner being supplied with the best charts and compass obtainable, launched boldly on the hitherto almost untravelled wilderness. We met with no Indians, except a party of six friendly Lipans, from whom the Commissioner purchased a fine mule. Our march was excedingly toilsome and hazardous, being employed the greater part of time in making fords and roads, filling up ravines, from time to time dragging out mired wagons and mules, and keeping strict guard. In all these duties it is but just to say that the Commissioner himself was ever foremost, enforcing by his own example the necessity of action in each member of the commission. The *jornada*, or immense desert plain, which we had to cross before reaching the Pecos, was exceedingly trying to men and animals.

The distance is about seventy miles, without one drop of water, and it was accomplished in less than twenty-four consecutive hours. One day and a half were allowed for recruiting after reaching the Pecos, which we found fordable at one point, a thing heretofore unknown. On many occasions we passed the remains and *debris* of large Indian encampments, which gave evident signs of having been occupied but just before. In some, the fires were still burning, and the remains of slaughtered oxen were fresh on the ground.

After leaving the Pecos we encamped next on the Delaware Creek, where we encountered a severe snow storm, which lasted two days. The weather was so threatening, and the storm so severe, that, with the Guadalupe Mountains and pass in front us, the animals fast failing us, ourselves reduced to our last rations, and the distance still one hundred and sixty miles to El Paso, the Commissioner, with the example of Fremont before him, judged it most prudent to send an express through, desiring assistance. For this purpose, Mr George Thurber, Mr. Moss and two young gentlemen were sent on.

Two days subsequent Mr. Bartlett thought it best, in order to relieve the train as much as possible, to go through himself, accompanied by Dr. Webb, his secretary, and Messrs. Murphy, Young, Thompson, Mathews, Wilbar and Cremony. This little party pushes through night and day, and accomplished the distance (about one hundred and forty-five miles) in a little short of four days. Mr. Thurber and his party were met by them, returning with the needful assistance, which was received at the train in an uncommonly short time. The remainder of our advance train arrived here safely to-day.

The Mexican Commissioner, Gen. Pedro Garcia Conde, has not arrived yet, but is expected in the course of a fortnight. In the meantime the American Commission have been received and entertained by his brother, Don Alejo Garcia Conde, in a manner truly gratifying. The main train of the American Commission, under the command of Col. John McLellan, U. S. topographical engineers, was to leave San Antonio on the 14th of October, by the southern route. It will probably reach this place in from forty to fifty days from date.

The business of the commission is being put through without delay, and by the time Col. McLellan arrives, the different parties will probably be organized for the field, on which they will enter as soon as practicable.

AN INSTANCE OF WOMAN'S DEVOTION AND MAN'S INCONSTANCY.—A case of melancholy interest, to one of the parties at least, occurred here the other day, which we will relate for the public good. A young lady arrived here from the State of New York on her way into the southern States, whither she was going to consummate a marriage contract entered into some ten years since. Her intended was a young man who had been reared near her father's residence, but who in all things did not suit the "old folks," and consequently the latter opposed the match. The result was, the young man left the country, but has kept up a most intimate correspondence ever since, until last summer he informed her by letter that as she could not be married at home she had better meet him at ——, in this State, in the month of August, and be married. To this she consented, but it was found inconvenient for her to leave home at that time, and she did not arrive on her mission of love until a few days since. She stopped at one of our best hotels, preparatory to her voyage South. She appeared cheerful, was exceedingly well dressed, sported a gold watch and other paraphernalia peculiar to the gentlity. Previous to her departure, she stepped into the telegraph office to inform her lover, who, by the way, was operator himself, stationed in a Southern office on the same line, that she had got so far on her joyous way and would like to hear from him at this point. After her despatch was sent and waiting a reply, one of the operators, who was very well acquainted with her intended remarked, that the young gentleman to whom she had sent her message had fallen into a "streak of luck." The young lady was observed to be considerably startled, and she inquired what he meant by a "streak of luck." He told her that the young man was married. She fell back in her chair and fainted, almost instantly. The operators and clerks were much frightened, but managed to bring her to by the use of water, &c. She could not believe the report, and requested them to telegraph again and ascertain the truth. The operator stepped to his key, called the office where the young man was employed—he was not in. A clerk in the office, answered the message, saying Mr. —— was actually married on the 17th of October, and was then "keeping house." When this was read to the weeping lady she instantly swooned away, and for a time seemed quite lifeless. She was resuscitated and taken to her hotel in a most frantic condition, where for the whole day she remained entirely insane.

"Oh, grief beyond all other grief, when fate
First leaves the young heart desolate
In the wide world, without that only tie
For which it wished to live or feared to die."

Kind care and time, that curer of most hearts' diseases, have now nearly restored her. She exhibits letters showing with what fidelity she had trusted in the one now false to her; that during the ten years of their engagement she had refused several offers; she had furnished her betrothed money; her parents being rich and he poor; had endured the contumely of her friends at home opposed to the match; and all for his sake. She is now in our city, among strangers, alone, as it were, in the world, having clandestinely left her father's roof to meet her lover here—and now deserted by him; her constitution shattered and spirit broken. Earth seldom produces in human form so miserable an object. No wonder she went mad—

"Her wretched brain gave way,
And she became a wreck at random driven,
Without one glimpse of reason or of heaven."

She is now better, but the picture of desolation. Young men can here see the danger of trifling with such affections; yea, the dark sin of creating hopes or raising expectations in a heart too true and confiding to survive such disappointment.—*Cleveland (Ohio) Plaindealer.*

THE LEGISLATURE OF ARKANSAS AND THE COMPROMISE MEASURES.—The Legislature of Arkansas, on the 11th ult., passed a series of resolutions relative to the Compromise measures, of which the following are the principal:—

That she has at all times asserted, and is now satisfied with, the principle as lately established by the Congress of the United States, in the creation of territorial governments for New Mexico and Utah; that Congress has no power to interfere or intermeddle with, or in any way to legislate concerning, the admission into, or exclusion from, any such Territory, of any species of property whatever, whether the same be or be not peculiar to one portion of the Union; and that she equally asserts the principle that the people of such Territory have no right to pass any laws or enact any provisions for the exclusion of such property, except when they proceed, under and by virtue of the proper constitutional authority, to frame a constitution to govern them, upon their admission into the Union as a State. And, moreover, she utterly denies the doctrine that the laws of a conquered country, excluding and forbidding the existence of slavery, can remain in force after the conquest, so as to prevent the victors from taking to such conquered territory anything which their own laws recognize as property.

That while she cannot but be sensible that injustice has been done to her and her sister States of the South, by the mode in which the constitution of California was formed, and by the means and manner of her admission as a State, still she recognizes and admits that the Congress of the United States had ample power to overlook any irregularities in these respects, and has, in the admission of the new State, exercised no power not granted by the constitution, and done no act which would justify a secession from the Union on her part, or on the part of any of her Southern sisters.

That whatever might have been her opinion as to the propriety of the late act of Congress in regard to the boundary of Texas, under other circumstances, and if enacted in a time of profound calm and of national contentment, she is satisfied that at the time of its enactment, and under the circumstances which forced it upon the country, it was a wise and politic measure, indispensable to the public peace and the continued existence of the Union.

The Newspaper War in Washington.

Having published the letters of the other side, we give the following from ex-President Tyler, in reply to Mr. Rives, the editor of the Washington *Globe*:—

SHERWOOD FOREST, Jan 9, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR:—The charge of Mr. John C. Rives, of collusion between Mr. Polk and myself, in 1844, with General Cameron as the instrument, for the destruction of the *Globe* newspaper, edited at the time by Messrs Blair & Rives, would most probably have been permitted by me to have descended, without a word of comment, to the same common tomb with a thousand other falsehoods, but for the very emphatic manner in which you refer to me in the *Union* of the 2d of January, which paper did not reach me until the day before yesterday. Not being a subscriber to either the *Union* or the *Globe*, I did not know of the existence of the controversy between yourself and Mr. Rives, and, of course, was ignorant of the fact that my name was figuring in it, until copies of both the papers reached me by our last mail. I propose to respond to the allegations of Mr. Rives with as much brevity as possible. His charge consists of two allegations—the first embracing Mr. Polk and myself; the second, Mr Polk, Mr Cameron of Pennsylvania, and myself. By the first, I am represented as making an overture to Mr. Polk, as a condition precedent to my withdrawal from the presidential canvas of 1844—which overture is said to have been accepted by Mr. Polk—that, in the event of his election to the presidency, he should not make the *Globe* newspaper, edited by Messrs Blair & Rives, the official organ of his administration; and, secondly, to enable General Cameron to purchase out the editors of the *Globe*—he being the instrument selected by Mr. Polk and myself for the accomplishment of that purpose—it was arranged that I should cause to be deposited in some bank at Middletown, Pennsylvania, over which General Cameron is said by Mr Rives to have had complete control, $50,000 of the public moneys, which was accordingly done in November, 1844, and which money Mr Polk was not to withdraw from the bank until 1847 and then by small amounts. Such is the substance of Mr. Rives's allegations.

As to the first allegation, I solemnly declare that I never made, or authorized to be made, to Mr. Polk any such overture as that charged, or any other, of any sort or description, as a preliminary to my withdrawing from the Presidential canvass; and that, if any one approached him in my name, with a view to urge any such stipulation or overture, he did so without a shadow of authority from me, and in utter ignorance, on my part, of his having done so. Nor had I the slightest conceivable knowledge of Mr. Polk's intentions upon the subject of an official organ, not having, in any manner or at any time, approached him in regard to it. I mean to make this statement as broad as language can make it. My reasons for withdrawing my name from the canvass are set forth in my public address, of August, 1844, "To my friends throughout the Union," to which I beg leave to refer you. The convention of my friends, which assembled at Baltimore at the same time with the democratic convention, had, by its prompt action, not a little aided, as I believe, in inducing the democratic convention to nominate a candidate favorable to the admission of Texas into the Union, and I had nothing left, of a political nature, to desire other than what is set forth in that address.

The foregoing declaration might well preclude any reply to Mr. Rives's second allegation in regard to Gen. Cameron, who is represented as the instrument selected by Mr. Polk and myself to carry out the alleged agreement. There being no such agreement, there could be no agent or instrument of any sort required. But the allegation is of too gross a character to merit only an inferential negative. Not content with representing Mr. Polk and myself as carrying on an intrigue, we are accused of violating a high public trust, by using the public money for consummating such intrigue. The lips of Mr. Polk are sealed in death, but he must have lived to little purpose if he had not secured himself a sufficiency of public confidence in his honesty, to shield his character against such an imputation as is now attempted to be cast upon it. For myself, I emphatically declare that I never exchanged a word with General Cameron, or authorized any other to do so for me, on the subject of the purchase of the *Globe* newspaper, and that I have no knowledge of the entertainment of any wish, willingness, or intention on his part to purchase that newspaper. If $50,000, or any other sum, was placed in deposit with the Middletown Bank—of which I have not, at this time, the slightest recollection, but which may very well have been—I doubt not that it was done for reasons entirely satisfactory to the Secretary of the Treasury, and on securities of the most ample character; and if Mr. Walker, the Secretary of the Treasury under Mr. Polk, did not withdraw the fund until 1847, and then in the manner set forth by Mr Rives, it proceeded doubtless from considerations having exclusive reference to the public interests, and from no other. He is fully equal to the task of explaining his own course. Upon the expiration of my term, I left in the treasury from seven to eight millions of dollars of surplus funds, all resting on most perfect securities, their safety being increased by the fact that overlarge sums were not deposited with any.

Here I take leave of the subject, and subscribe myself my dear sir, with sentiments of high respect, yours, &c., JOHN TYLER.

THOMAS RITCHIE, Esq., Editor of the *Union*.

MORE OF THE MCDONOGH WILL CASE.—Judge Buchanan.—State of Louisiana, vs. The Executors of John McDonogh et als—on a rule to quash the sequestration. His honor yesterday morning delivered a written opinion in this case, in which the State, by Mr. Isaac Johnson, the Attorney General, had filed a petition claiming that the estate of the late John McDonogh had, by reason of the non-acceptance of the cities of New Orleans and Baltimore of the succession, lapsed to the States of Louisiana and Maryland. The Attorney General, for reasons set forth in the supplemental petition, prayed that a writ of sequestration might issue, and all the property of the estate be taken possession of by the sheriff, until the relative rights of the claimants shall be determined. The executors took a rule to quash the sequestration, on the ground that they had been duly qualified, and put in possession of the property, the seizing of which could not be taken from them. The opinion of Judge Buchanan is very able, and occupies over seventeen pages. We give, however, the substance of the decision. The Court decided that by the provisions of the will the executors could, under no circumstances, claim the seizin of the real estate; the testator's intention being to vest the seizin of that portion of his property in certain agents and commissioners to be appointed by the universal legatees, to wit: the cities of New Orleans and Baltimore. The Court, after surveying the whole grounds advanced by the counsel in their arguments, comes to the conclusion that, as the action in the Federal Court, brought by the heirs, opposing the executors, is still pending, and the suit by the State of Louisiana against the city, is yet to be decided, the sequestration should be sustained until the final settlement of these suits. It felt that the Court of Chancery, if applied to, would grant the sequestration; and that instead of a receiver being appointed, the sheriff being by our laws a judicial receiver, there will be no necessity for an extra appointment of an officer to be made. The rule was therefore dismissed.—*New Orleans Picayune, Jan. 5.*

THE CASE OF THE FUGITIVE SLAVE LONG.—The Richmond, Va., *Enquirer*, of the 14th inst., publishes the following card from the agent who reclaimed the fugitive slave, Henry Long, in this city:—

Contradictory statements having been made in regard to the case of the fugitive slave recently returned to our city, it has been thought proper to reconcile these statements as well as may be. The tedious delay and heavy expense attending the case were rather accidental. Had it been practicable to have carried the fugitive on the day of his arrest before Judge Betts or Judge Judson, or before some experienced Commissioner, the case would most probably have been disposed of in a few hours; certainly during the first or second day. The opposition and delay caused by the generous swearing of Mr. Jay and certain of his demented coadjutors, should, perhaps, rather excite our pity than our indignation, evincing, as it does, the intensity of their moral blindness and stupidity. Mr. White, it is believed, took no part in this foul proceeding. The conduct of the officers of government concerned in this prosecution, was highly commendable. They performed their duty with much marked promptness and courtesy. The course taken by the Union Safety Committee was eminently praiseworthy. The expenses borne by the committee exceeded $500, while the costs incurred by the claimant amounted to about $300, which sum would, also, perhaps, have been paid by the committee, had it been deemed proper by the claimant to have made it known. There was also manifested much personal kindness