

SEN. CURTIS HOWARD, JOSEPH FERRISS, JAMES PERCIVAL, and MARSHALL D. CHASE, in the presence of the other prisoners, 138 in number are acquitted, and the President has ordered their immediate release. The President-General and the parties to the damages claimed against them, and by consent this question is to be discussed at a special sitting. The President-General asks for a sentence of thirty years' banishment against Mr. Ferriss, and for a term of four years' imprisonment against the five others.

**Prussia.**  
The railway Congress, now sitting at Berlin, has decided on the following resolutions in the chair of heavy and bulky articles transported by the railway.

**Germany.**  
The celebrated painter, Dr. Schadow, director of the Düsseldorf School of Fine Arts, has died of the disease of the eyes, in consequence of which he had been blind for some years.  
M. Ger Vieux has been dismissed from his functions as Professor in the University of Heidelberg.

**Sweden.**  
A despatch from Stockholm states that the Danish and Swedish fleets has been recalled before the term for the cruise has expired, and ordered in haste into the Baltic.

**Australia.**  
The ship Nelson, Captain Taylor, of Glasgow, has arrived off here from Melbourne in 108 days, having on board about 25,000 ounces of gold and fifty passengers, some of whom landed here with the master, and bringing a few letters on shore.

The London Times reports that they have received to-day from Melbourne (Victoria) the 27th of April, being eleven days later than those by the last arrival. They were brought by the Yarra to St. Albans, and by the Anglia to Madras, whence they have come on to London. The vessel, the Yarra, was a new ship of the Kent, had reached Melbourne, from England, in 84 days, and the Harbinger steamer, belonging to the screw company, had made the passage in seventy days, including six days spent in coaling, so that her actual time was only sixty-four days.

Nothing had been heard of the steamer Adelaide, which left Plymouth on the 3d of January, and was expected to arrive at the date of the present article. The Adelaide has not been seen in consequence of the non-arrival of the large fleet, including altogether upwards of 100 vessels, that sailed from the port in November, December, and January last, which for a long time past has been the case in the Channel. No details are given of the progress of the gold production, and it is to be inferred that in that respect everything was going on satisfactorily.

The despatches from the port of London for the Australian colonies, which have been the subject of a special alteration. They comprised altogether nine vessels—four to Port Phillip, with an aggregate burden of 2,338 tons; three to Hobart Town, with an aggregate burden of 1,770 tons; and Adelaide, which for a long time past has been the case in the Channel. No details are given of the progress of the gold production, and it is to be inferred that in that respect everything was going on satisfactorily.

The last London journal.—The commercial accounts by the overland mail to-day were rather discouraging. At Bombay, owing to the setting in of the rainy season, there had been no business, and at Calcutta there was continued heaviness, with some cases of fever, and a further rise in the price of opium. From China the reports of the extent of transactions are also unfavorable, but less so than might have been anticipated under the critical events that were in progress.

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**The New York Crystal Palace in an English Point of View.**  
[From the London Times, August 1.]  
The Americans certainly are a very great people. What reason can we possibly have for disputing it? They are our own countrymen. They are the proprietors of our own nature, our own enterprise, our own national virtues, weaknesses, glories, and calamities. To some extent they indicate that to which we tend, for the parts of Great Britain, America, and Australia, Liverpool, and Glasgow, and there are many who tell us the best thing we can do is to be left alone throughout by those model cities. So, as a matter of self-protection to those who think that we are a superior race, it is not only necessary to take the opportunities that now and then present themselves for offering one little caution about our Brother Jonathan, viz., the occasional disparity between his promises and his performance, but to catch more notice in those higher regions of knowledge and science, where the world is not so much divided as it is by the sea, and to make a very grand figure in the world, and in a fair way to make a still grander. Most heartily do we wish that he may; for every consideration, both of interest and of feeling, should incline us to catch more notice in those higher regions of knowledge and science, where the world is not so much divided as it is by the sea, and to make a very grand figure in the world, and in a fair way to make a still grander.

**Telegraph Companies.**  
AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE INCORPORATION AND REGULATION OF TELEGRAPH COMPANIES," PASSED APRIL 12, 1848.  
The people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:—  
Sec. 1. Any number of persons may associate for the purpose of constructing, erecting, using, and maintaining a line of lines of telegraph, whether wholly within or partly beyond the limits of this State; or for the purpose of owning any interest in any such line of lines of telegraph, and the same may be done in any terms and conditions, and subject to the liabilities prescribed in this act, passed April 12, 1848, entitled "An act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of telegraph companies." And such association shall, upon compliance with the provisions of the said act, become a body corporate, and shall have the powers and subject to the provisions in the said act, and in the several acts amending the same, contained, not inconsistent herewith. And any telegraph company so organized, whether wholly or partly within the limits of this State, and entitled to the benefit of the provisions herein contained, on filing in the office of the Secretary of State a certificate of incorporation, and a majority of the board of directors to organize under this title, which certificate shall contain the specifications required by the said act, and shall be proved or acknowledged, and recorded in the manner therein prescribed.

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take a chair and enjoy a few moments' rest," though why he should be in this state after a railway journey we cannot divine. After a speech, which might have taken two minutes, and the substance of which was far from exhaustive of the matter or the man, he sat down, and the speaker some remarks on his work. It was stated some months ago that the worthy President was literally obliged to fly to the city by a determined body of ten thousand plebeians, who followed him in full cry the instant he was seen, and who were not satisfied until they had satisfied portion of the pack tickets for the opening, for the instant Mr. Pierce had closed his speech a rush was made for the platform, all anxious to take the opportunity to shake him by the hand. These men, in view of the crowd, and the fact that the crowd to desert from pressing upon him, and it was for some time feared that in the immense throng he might sustain bodily injury. After great exertion, however, he was rescued from his friends, and the crowd dispersed, but not before he had been assailed by the zealous attentions bestowed upon him. He was carried to the Astor House, where "he sought the repose necessary for his health," as he was evidently laboring under the physical debility, and the journal from which we quote these particulars, hopes that he will soon recover from the arduous labors through which he had passed in his journey from Washington.

The President, in the course of the proceedings in the city of the evening to visit the ladies' drawing-room of the Astor House, escorted by Mr. George Sanders, United States Consul to England. According to another account, he and his cabinet were seated at a table in the ladies' drawing-room, and sat down to an excellent supper at the "ladies' ordinary." So brisk a conclusion rather retarded the dragging day's work; but we cannot help asking, why twenty millions of the clearest people in the world should be so much interested in the wind and limb, able to travel from Washington to New York without knocking up, and able, also, to make a better speech than an average Common Councilman in this city. We beg to ask, further, why the President should be so much interested in being fairly "run into" by his pursuers in the midst of a national ceremony, and before he has time to take breath after finishing a speech.

Perhaps we do not understand the matter; but for a President to be so much interested in a sensible person, nothing could be lauder than this ceremonial. Seven thousand people were got together, and they seem to have filled the building. They had to wait four hours for the commencement of the proceedings, and they had to wait four hours for the commencement of the proceedings, and they had to wait four hours for the commencement of the proceedings.

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As an American, I appeal to the people, as there are thousands of citizens in New York who have boarded at my hotel in Panama, who can testify as to my character and respectability. I have also addressed the President of the United States, who, I hope and trust, will take my unhappy and unfortunate case into his favorable consideration, and use his utmost endeavors to my behalf.

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In the year 1850, when the mobs were, the life of one of our American citizens, named Mr. Summers, of New York, was taken by the natives; and other Americans being missing from Panama at the time, I took an active part with the Americans to quell the mob, and saved the life of one Mr. Turner, a fellow-citizen, who was a partner of the American Consul; at the same time, I also gave up the hotel to the American Consul, as a guard house, for they were greatly alarmed lest the natives would rise that night to take the lives of more of our citizens, and the natives threatened to revenge themselves on me for taking so active a part in behalf of the Americans. For that reason, they showed me no quarter on my trial. Three different times the citizens assembled together purposely to pull down the prison. It would have been so, only the American consul, Mr. McConine, addressed them publicly, and told them I should be honorably acquitted.

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**Impressments of an American in New Granada.**

**STATE PRISON.**  
CARTRAGENA, JUNE 25, 1851.  
JAMES G. BENNETT, Esq.—  
The liberty I now take in addressing you with this, will not cause you, I hope, the least displeasure. Some years have rolled over since I had the pleasure of first meeting and becoming acquainted with you—it was at the Franklin House, New York, either in the years 1841 or 1842 last; and since that time I have travelled considerably through the world, both home and foreign, in the United States Navy. Lastly, I made my residence at Panama, at which place I kept a hotel, well known by the name of the New York Hotel, in the year 1850. I sold the hotel out and out, and to better my position, as I thought, I purchased a number of mules, and ran them between Panama and Cruces. On the 13th September of the said year, 1850, I was taken prisoner on the charge of shooting a native, and was detained in prison nearly one year. At the same time there were some three or four Chilians and an American confined in the same prison for robbing the train on the Isthmus, and to make their escape, they used some foul means—such as giving the guard a sleeping draught of some kind, so as to effect their escape; but no! I knew the charge I was confined for—shooting. At the trial, I was honorably acquitted on that point; but they, the authorities, said I was concerned in the plot of the prisoners making their escape. There were no witnesses for or against me on either charge at the trial, from which case I received a sentence of ten years in the Carthagena prison, in which place I am now confined, and have been ever since. As soon as Commodore McAtley, of the United States frigate Savannah, heard of my case he immediately came down to Panama, when the American Consul told him not to be in any way alarmed, as I should be honorably acquitted. As soon as the Commodore left I received the sentence, and thought I was unjustly dealt with. I made up my mind to make my escape, and effected it on the 4th July, 1851, when I embarked for San Francisco, at which place I was kidnapped and sent back to Panama. Knowing there is no treaty between the States and New Granada for any prisoner to be taken, I appeal to the public for redress. Since I have been in Carthagena, the American Consul, Mr. Sanchez, has done all in his power for me, (knowing I am innocent,) with the Governor of this city. He also communicated with the American Minister, Mr. King, at Bogota, who said, in reply, the demand ought to be made by the President of the United States, as he well knew there was no treaty to detain me.

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**DANIEL WEBSTER FIFTY-TWO YEARS AGO.**

**His First Oration at Dartmouth College.**  
The Initial Point of his Mighty Career.

**VALUABLE HISTORICAL RELIC.**  
AN ORATION.  
ON  
OPINION.  
FOR THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED FRATERNITY.  
A. D. 1851.  
BY DANIEL WEBSTER.

Meaning opinion given with various rays.  
Amid the variety presented at this anniversary, I judge in asking your attention for a moment to the influence of instability of opinion—a subject though not new, yet perhaps as little exhausted as any that falls within the sphere of occasional disquisitions. The world has devoted custom; scarcely does the mind begin to expand before fashion throws her chain over a moiety of its powers, under the name of "taste," "fashion," "prescription," and "authority." Opinion triumphs in the progress of the world, and in the progress of the world, it has investigation, and it has, like the touch of the torpedo, deadens each faculty of the intellect. But opinion is a master no less versatile than imperious—no less capricious than austere; while its discipline is vigor, its aim is change. But, for us to mark all the wanderings of sentiment would be endless, since it would require us to run through the catalogue of human errors. But to point at conspicuous instances in the history of man, perhaps, and dictate to the imperial authority, though not unentertaining on the subject, though not embellished with the flights of genius nor decorated with the effluence of fancy.

Where, now, is a Demosthenes, with eloquence alternately blazing and obscure as the irregular light of the meteor? Where, now, is a Cicero, with the ceaseless light, like the flames of Stromboli? For these we look in vain from the genius of later times. What, then, are the causes which deny to us or any other age, universal science? Shall we continue these old systems, which are the result of custom, and which, as one nation rises to civilization, another sinks into barbarism—as this art, or science finds encouragement or cultivation, that is lost and forgotten. There is no embalming of the ancient Egyptian. Where, now, is the "breathing marble" of Praxiteles? Where, now, is a Demosthenes, with eloquence alternately blazing and obscure as the irregular light of the meteor? Where, now, is a Cicero, with the ceaseless light, like the flames of Stromboli? For these we look in vain from the genius of later times.

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