Interesting from Turks Island.

OUR GRAND TURK CORRESPONDENCE.

GRAND TURK, May 25, 1854.

Outrage on the American Consul—His Imprisonment in the Common Jail—History of the Case—Appeal to the United States Government.

Having been for the last seven years a constant reader and admirer of your paper, and having seen both the feeling and ability with which you have vindicated both your country and its subjects in time of need, I came at once to the conclusion of addressing to you a few lines on a very important subject that has just transpired concerning no less a personage than the United States Consul, John L. Nelson, Esq. As the same vessel that brings this, brings official documents, you may perhaps hear something of it from the State Department at Washington. Mr. Nelson himself intends to lay the matter before you in detail, but at present is too much occupied with papers to lay before his government; and being a sincere admirer of America and her form of government, is my only excuse for addressing you on this subject.

To-day has witnessed here one of the greatest insults ever offered to the American flag by any nation. The Black Warrior case is not a circumstance to it.

To-day has witnessed the imprisonment, in the common jail, of John L. Nelson, Esq., the United States Consul. And for what, you would ask? It is a question that is impossible to be answered by any except those who did it. The only way I can at all clear up the matter is, that having been brought before the Supreme Court from the Police office, for an alleged assault on one of our magistrates, (for which offence he was punished at the Police office, by paying a fine of £2); but in order to carry out the designs of a few persons, who have the law in their hands, they have stretched it to the greatest extent, and after having punished him once, by some means or other—no one knows how—they got him before the Supreme Court, and without even trying him by jury, condemned him to pay £27 13s. 6d., which he at once refused to do, considering it an imposition, as so does every one else here except a few—say seven or eight—who belong to the clique.

This same man, whom Mr. Nelson was brought up for assaulting, a few weeks ago flogged a man until the blood ran down to his heels, and it was with the greatest difficulty that the poor man could get satisfaction; and after all, the defendant only had to pay 12 shillings; and now this same man brings Mr. Nelson into court, and makes him pay £27 13s. 6d. for only an alleged assault, not one single word of it proven. We have no lawyers here, but one or two clever men say the whole proceedings are illegal. In the first place, they have committed him to jail forever. That is, the committal says until the fine is paid, and he says he considers it such a downright imposition that he never will pay it, and, of course, must remain in jail forever.

As another instance of the manner in which justice is administered here, immediately after Mr. Nelson's sentence was passed, an appeal case came up from the Police court. The defendant, R. W. Darrell, said the reason he appealed was because he considered the fine too heavy. The offence he committed was to take up a stone and strike a constable in the discharge of his duty; and it was proved by four witnesses that he did so. And what do you think he had to pay? Six shillings sterling and costs, amounting in all to £1! This is a sample of the way justice is administered by as censurable a set of officers as ever administered law.

The reason they have such a spite against him, (Mr. N.) is because the other day the schooner Balanco was wrecked here, Capt. Mathas, and they attempted to swindle the captain out of $300 salvage, and the ex-Consul, B. Everett Smith, rather than pay it let it go before the court, and, of course, lost it. On Mr. Nelson's arrival here, he saw the imposition and attempted to set his countryman right. To this they took umbrage, and ever since have been endeavoring to ruin him. If you could only be on the spot and see things as they are, and represent them, you would do a service that the Turk's Islander's would never forget you for. Every one is greatly enraged at these persons' conduct to Mr. Nelson, as he is considered here as gentlemanly a man as ever was consul for the United States, and belongs to one of the oldest families in America. The vessel that brings this goes to Boston with salt; the captain has to go without his papers. Mr. Nelson writes the State Department by her, and also to his father; and if you any way doubt this statement, get your Washington correspondent to apply either at the department, or to his father, for the necessary information.

I have seen him this morning; he says if the vessel will wait he intends to write you himself, but shall ask his friends to do so, at any rate. I shall take the liberty to send you another letter, to keep you correctly advised on the subject. I see nothing at present to prevent your government from demanding both damages and the dismissal of the Judge for false imprisonment, as he has condemned him for an indefinite period of time, so anxious were they to get him fast. And now, my dear sir, let me beg of you to do the case justice. It is a most villanous piece of business. In the opinion of every one here it is worse than the Black Warrior case, and nothing has prevented the inhabitants from taking him out by force, but the hope that your government will see the case righted, both by fine and the dismissal of the Judge. His name is Alfred John Duncomb, the Queen's advocate is Francis Ellis, and the police magistrate William Hamilton.

Things to-day (May 29), are as bad as ever; the schooner Abbie Forrest is waiting for Mr. Nelson's despatches. She goes to Boston. Last night we were near having an insurrection, in order to pull down the jail and take out Mr. Nelson; but it was stopped by their being assured that the American government would revenge the insult. The people of Turk's Islands are as loyal a people as any the flag of England waves over, but they hate oppression, and knowing that their principle dependence is in the United States, they do not like to see their consul thus treated by these myrmidons of the law. If your government will not give satisfaction, let a party of filibusteros come over, and the Turks Islanders will receive them well, and show them on whom to be avenged.

As another instance of their being bent on oppression, I will state a case that happened at the last court. A young man was brought up for assault and battery on the high seas, which he admitted, or pleaded guilty to it. The case was an aggravated one (it was for flogging a man sick with the Chagres fever); he was fined £2 10s., with costs of court, and allowed his own time to pay it. But Mr. Nelson's sentence was to pay it immediately, or go to the common jail; and of course he was imprisoned forthwith.

If your government does not revenge this insult, then we shall come to the conclusion that you are afraid, for the case seems as clear as possible that an action can be brought for false imprisonment, and not only that, but is considered a villanous outrage.

AN ENGLISHMAN.

LETTER FROM MR. NELSON.

COMMON JAIL, Turks Island, May 25, 1854.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, Esq.,

EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK HERALD:—

MY DEAR SIR—I was in hopes of being able to furnish you in detail an account of the persecutions, &c. of our citizens at this place, by a gang of villains, and which have led to my being imprisoned; but I find I have not time, as the American schooner Abbe Forest sails in a few moments. I will, by the next vessel, send you the particulars. I have been persecuted to the utmost. The immediate cause of my imprisonment is for an illegal fine imposed upon me against law and justice—it is nothing more than persecution. As you will doubtless hear of this matter, I hope you will do me justice. Things in this quarter must be changed. Our master mariners are robbed under the garb of law, consular functions set at naught, and no redress can be had. Affairs are horrible. You shall hear from me soon.

Yours, very respectfully, JOHN L. NELSON.

Our Virginia Correspondence.

BUCKINGHAM MINE (Va.), June 1, 1854.

State of the Weather at Buckingham Mine—Injury to the Wheat Crop—A Short Yield Expected—Scarcity of Tobacco Plants.

We have had a long spell of dry weather in this neighborhood. On Tuesday a thunder storm, and on the whole of Wednesday a fine rain which was much required for vegetation.

The wheat, where well managed, has been looking well, but now is attacked by the bug and joint-worm, which is doing much damage.

The complaint is very general, and the crop for miles round will be a bad one.

Tobacco plants and cabbage plants are scarce, having been injured by frost in the spring. M. E. S.

SICKNESS ON THE WESTERN RIVERS.—We learn that among the deck passengers, emigrants chiefly, from New Orleans, a great deal of sickness prevails, particularly on the boats bound for St. Louis. The disease is a species of ship fever and cholera combined, which is very fatal. In St. Louis there is also a great deal of fatal sickness prevailing. On the Lexington, that arrived from New Orleans yesterday, there were many emigrant deck passengers among whom such sickness prevailed, and nine of them died during the trip. Among the deaths were a family of Swiss, the parents and three children, leaving one little child, which was sent to an orphan asylum. At Hickman and other points on the Mississippi, there is said to be much sickness prevailing, though not very fatal. The sickness on the river, thus far, is confined to emigrants who have the seeds of disease in their systems on their arrival at New Orleans, and are generally shipped off up the river in droves, at cheap rates, and are crowded together like sheep.—*Louisville Courier, June 8.*

The Rock Island Excursion.

OUR SPECIAL EXCURSION CORRESPONDENCE.

GALENA, ILL., June 6, 1854.

One Thousand People on Trip to St. Anthony's Falls.

The great excursion fleet left Rock Island last evening at eight o'clock, amid the illumination of rockets, roman candles and other demonstrations of rejoicing. The steamers chartered are the War Eagle, Lady Franklin, Sparhawk, Galena and Golden Era. They crossed the river to Davenport, in Iowa, a beautiful and thriving village, opposite Rock Island. The guests amount to about a thousand in number, one half of whom are from the city of New York, and among them many ladies of the "upper ten" from Broadway, Fifth avenue, and other residences of the merchant princes. Ample accommodations were provided, though a number of exceedingly particular gentlemen, very reluctantly surrendered their quarters in staterooms for the accommodation of ladies who were unprovided. Supper tables were spread on all the boats, and in the course of an hour the whole party replenished the inner man to their great comfort, having mostly fasted since seven o'clock in the morning. Though all the boats were greatly crowded, and one-third were unprovided with staterooms, still the officers of the boats, with the aid of settees and mattresses, very soon provided couches for all. The water in the Mississippi is plentiful, and the prospects are that we shall be able to reach within a short distance of the Falls of St. Anthony to-morrow. About nine o'clock this morning the fleet left the main waters, and entered the Fevre river, and in one hour we landed at Galena, the steamers coming in near each other. Upon the hill the Galeneans had mounted a six pounder, which, upon our approach, blazed away in thunder tones; while the house tops, balconies, hills, streets and wharves were filled with thousands of resident citizens, welcoming us with huzzas, waving of handkerchiefs in fair hands, and various other joyous demonstrations, while the bands upon the various steamers pleased the people with their musical strains. A delegation from the city made their appearance, with invitations to our whole party to step ashore and partake of hospitalities. Many availed themselves of the kind offer, and others took carriages and took a circuit among the lead mines which are here so bountifully provided by nature. While the boats were lying here, parties who had unavoidably become separated at Rock Island, had a mutual greeting, and by making exchanges, many who had travelled together from New York to Rock Island became re-united at Galena. After remaining there three hours and giving all time and opportunity to view the city, the fleet returned down the Fevre river to resume its course up the Mississippi. A more magnificent excursion than this is contemplated to be has never been undertaken. The expenses are equally borne by Messrs. Farnham & Co., the constructors of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad, and the Company. The road is still in the hands of the contractors, who will realize a fortune before the directors are entitled to possession.

The directors, stockholders and others interested in the Rock Island road, proceeded under escort of a committee to the court house, where the visiters were formally received and congratulated by one of the officers of the city, and responses made by ex-President Fillmore, Gen. Dix, and others of our party. Several gentlemen from New York City, stockholders in the Galena mines, visited this city and their property for the first time, and so gratified are they with a personal inspection that they have determined to increase their stock and enlarge their mining operations. W.

Our San Francisco Correspondence.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., May 15, 1854.

The Value of Real Estate in the City—Immense Impetus to Trade Expected.

I have obtained the following accurate and comprehensive report of the value of real estate in this city from Mr. M. A. Sarles, real estate broker, of No. 161 Montgomery street. As it is reliable, I send it to the HERALD:—

Notwithstanding the present dulness of trade, property in certain localities has steadily advanced at a ratio equal to 5 per cent per month, unless upon forced sales, which are invariably unfavorable to the holder.

A 50 vara lot on Folsom street, between Second and Third streets	$10,000
2 100 vara lots on Folsom street, opposite Russ' Garden, Nos. 229 and 238	20,000
100 vara lot, 283, on Market street	10,500
1 lot corner of Second and Minna streets, 40 by 57½	3,500
1 lot on Second street, next to Mission, 30 by 80	2,800
1 lot on Mission street, between Second and Third streets, 20 by 80	2,500
1 lot corner of Mission and Johnston, 55 by 60	900
50 vara lot corner of Harris and Mission	2,500
The portion of 50 vara, 959, on Market street 68 feet, and on Eddy street 78 feet	5,500

This will give a fair idea of the ruling prices in various sections of the city. Market street being the only 120 feet wide avenue, is owned by those who bought for permanent investment, and is easily disposed of when offered.

Real estate in the vicinity of Folsom, Mission, Third, and Second streets, is regarded with more favor than in any other locality, as the cost of grading will be comparatively trifling, and buyers can estimate with tolerable correctness the exact expenses which they will be called upon to incur.

North Beach property will undoubtedly advance, but the grading renders it difficult to effect sales. The Engineer's office is open to all who "look before they leap," and it is easy for any person to become acquainted with the enormous expenses which are assessed upon land in this vicinity.

The improvements that have been made the past six months have brought very desirable property in market, and from the present preparations the next six months will be one of unparalleled activity among contractors and builders. S.

News from the Bahamas.

By the arrival of the brig Pedrazza, Captain Dorritie, we have files of Nassau (N. P.) journals dated to the 31st of May.

A very alarming fire occurred in Nassau on Monday the 29th ultimo, by which a large house in Bay street, opposite the Ordinance stores, was consumed.

On Sunday morning, May 28th, the Lighthouse on Hog Island Point was struck by lightning. The fluid appears to have first shivered the ventilator to pieces, some parts of which were found lying at a considerable distance from the building. It then appears to have passed out of the west window, injuring the stone wall, and slightly damaging its outer face to the foundation. By the concussion, fifty-two panes of glass on the southern side of the lantern were broken.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Nesbitt gave a ball on the evening of Her Majesty Queen Victoria's birth-day, at their private residence in George street. A brilliant display of rockets took place at 10 o'clock P. M., under the direction of Brevet-Major Bode, N. P. Artillery, and a gun was fired after every five rockets from the American ship Sterling.

At the Governor's Ball, after supper, the following toasts were given amongst others: Major Munnings proposed the Emperor of the French, which was well received, and most felicitously responded to by Gustave Renouard, Esq., Consular Agent for France.

The Queen of Spain. [Three times three.] Acknowledged by J. Maura, Jun., Esq., Vice-Consul for Spain.

The President of the United States. [Loud cheers.] This toast was acknowledged (in the absence of the United States Consul) by Lieut. Lightbourn, N. P. Militia.

The Nassau *Guardian* of May 24th, says—We are happy to learn that Deputy Assistant Commissary General Coxworthy has been authorized by his Grace, the Duke of Newcastle, to pay over to the owners, masters and crew of the wrecking schrs. Oracle and Contest, six dollars per day for each schooner, and six shillings per day for each of the men during the eighteen days they were engaged in conveying the passengers and crew of the unfortunate American ship William and Mary to this port.

Mr. James Sanderson Garland was tried in the General Court (Nassau), for the murder of Joseph Patten, whom the prisoner was alleged to have killed during an affray. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter.

Nassau papers of the 26th ultimo say:—The accounts received last evening from Rum Cay state that an abundance of rain had very recently fallen there, and that there was little or no salt on hand.

The Nassau *Guardian* of May 24th has the following:—A sample of pickle sent from Inagua, with the view of showing the strength and purity of the pickle in the salina at Mathew Town, has since its arrival, deposited a considerable quantity of green mucus matter, hitherto held in suspension unsuspected; and which impurity, though not apparent to the naked eye while the pickle is at all agitated, must, doubtless, very much retard the granulation of salt, even when the pickle has attained adequate strength.

SUICIDE OF A SHIP CAPTAIN AT NEW ORLEANS.—Captain Samuel B. Mitchell, of the ship Rialto, lying at Algiers, committed suicide by hanging himself to the rigging of his vessel yesterday morning, with a neck cloth. The captain was a native of Yarmouth, Me. The coroner held an inquest on the body, and a verdict of "suicide by hanging" was returned. No reason is assigned for the rash act.—*New Orleans Delta, June 4.*

Sickness in Emigrant Ships.

SHIP CHARLES CROOKER, }
OFF LONG ISLAND, June 6, 1854. }

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK HERALD.

SIR—Having, with much surprise to myself and fellow passengers, seen in your paper of the 4th inst. the announcement of the arrival of the above named ship, in which it is stated that we have had thirty-one deaths during our passage, and those deaths caused by that worst of all scourges, cholera, induces me to write this letter, trusting, should you consider it worth insertion in your highly and very justly appreciated journal, it may serve to allay in some degree the very natural alarm such a statement published by you will create. In order to avoid occupying much of your valuable space, I will endeavor to give you an outline of our voyage, in order that you may judge of the nature and cause of such a number of deaths taking place.

The ship was advertised and appointed to sail from Liverpool on the 24th of April, at which time numbers of the passengers were on board. She did not leave dock until the 27th, and went into the river, where she remained until the 3d day of May, on which day at two o'clock we were towed out into the Irish channel. We had a very tardy passage through the channel, having to encounter contrary winds, and were on the tack all the way through. The ship rolled very much, which caused the majority of the passengers to become seasick. On the 12th the first death occurred—a young man who had been sick from the first; and it was stated by the person who slept with him that he had not been able to taste food for four days. Upon this young man being taken alarmingly ill, it was found out much to the surprise and indignation of the passengers, that there was no appointed surgeon on board to render assistance to any person who might require medical aid. It happened that a passenger (a Dutchman) came forward and represented himself as a medical man, and was allowed to take the young man in charge, but did not save him. Each subsequent day numbered more deaths up to the 28th May until they reached 37, and not 31, as stated in your paragraph. This number in the period of time stated may appear somewhat large, and appear to many as bearing out the presence of cholera, but I think, by giving you the following particulars, it will in some degree show, if not positively refute, the idea that those deaths were the result of that disease. In the first place we had 450 passengers on board, the allowance to whom by the ship was, each adult 2½ lbs. navy biscuit, 5 lbs. oatmeal, 1 lb. flour, 2 lbs. rice, ½ lb. sugar, 2 oz. of tea, 2 oz. of salt, per week, and 3 quarts of water daily.

Now, this appears a very liberal and good allowance of provisions, and so it is, in oatmeal particularly, but not in others, such as sugar and flour, which are the most essential as they assist in rendering the other articles of use. These articles were delivered out regularly, weekly, for four weeks, when the flour and sugar was found to be consumed, and none was given out. Independent of this there was no salt put on board at the time of sailing; the delay at the onset of eight days had swallowed up the private sea stores of nearly all the passengers, and consequently they were thrown upon the ship's provisions, which, judging from the quantity of waste in biscuits, oatmeal, rice, &c., and the grumbling and dissatisfaction expressed by the very humblest of the steerage passengers, were not of the best or even average description. These provisions, be they what they might, had to be cooked; and when I tell you that 450 persons had to cook their victuals in a close galley, fifteen feet long, two feet wide, with two stoves, one four and a half feet, and the other three and a half feet long, you will see that many had to wait a long time for their breakfast, dinner or tea, in fact, many were glad if they could obtain one cooked meal daily. Such was the provision made for cooking, and no wonder that sickness should take place where persons, used to proper food and proper cooking, were obliged to submit to their food being half cooked or not cooked at all. This was the case owing to eating raw or half cooked oatmeal and rice, with biscuits as coarse as the oatmeal, which brought on dysentery and weakness of bowels, and terminated fatally, as such were the symptons of all that died.

Indeed, as a proof that it was not a contagious disease, there was not one person affected by the disorder that had slept with, or been in constant attendance upon any of the individuals who have died during any part of the voyage, and the whole of the passengers now on board will say that they never had any apprehensions of the disorder being contagious, but treated the whole as the result of the want of proper food, care, and attention, so necessary on board ship, particularly with such as were ailing and delicate when coming on board.

We have been kept here on board since Saturday last, and were inspected by the medical officer, who selected eight persons only as fit for hospital, and they were immediately sent there; the rest of the passengers remaining on board all full of health, activity, and appetite, the last of which they cannot satisfy, having no provisions, and cannot obtain anything from the ship but biscuit, oatmeal, rice, and tea; and was it not for the good and sympathizing feeling which prevails with the passengers who have friends to bring them provisions, by sharing their provisions, many deaths would be added to our previous list through starvation. I can assure you, sir, in conclusion, that so far as apprehension of danger may appear to the inhabitants of New York, I can only say, if I had the nearest or the dearest friend or relative, I should not fear their passing a week on board, so far I am from apprehending the least danger.

I am, sir, yours most obediently, and in haste,

JAMES GOUGH.

SINGULAR CASE OF ABDUCTION IN NEWARK.—A curious case of abduction occurred in this city yesterday morning. The circumstances of the case, as far as we have ascertained them, are as follows:—Some six years ago, an Irish woman named Ann Welch, residing in Academy street, maltreated a grand-daughter, living with her, in such a shameful and brutal manner that the child, then but six years of age, conceived and effected her escape from the hands of the cruel tyrant. Search was immediately instituted, and every means were resorted to in order to discover the wanderer, but without avail; and she was finally given up as lost, by all concerned. Within the last three years, however, the Irish woman, animated by some inexplicable purpose, has frequently laid claim to a little daughter of Mr. John H. Fenton, No. 103 Academy street, as her grand-daughter who was missed, and on one or two occasions has attempted forcibly to abduct her. On one occasion, the husband of the woman called at the residence of Mr. Fenton, and claiming the child as his, threatened forcible measures if she were not delivered into his charge; but knowing the entire injustice of the claim, the family paid no attention whatever to the threats, except to warn the intruder against persisting in his atrocious proceedings. The affair passed off thus, and the family of Mr. Fenton had almost forgotten the absurd claims which had been asserted to one of their number, when, yesterday morning, the woman Welch, meeting the little girl, (about twelve years of age,) in the street, seized and forcibly carried her to her residence, where for a time she detained her. The father, however, the moment he heard of the abduction, had a warrant issued for the woman, and she was shortly apprehended and taken before Justice Wilcox, who committed her to prision, after examination. She was subsequently released on giving bail in the sum of $1,000. The girl was of course recovered. The case is one which excites considerable remark, and is certainly somewhat curious. There can be no doubt, however, of the total injustice and falsity of the claim set up by the woman Welch, Mr. Fenton's affidavit being positive on all the points involved. He swears to the precise age of the child—that she has always lived at home, and never been separated for any period of time from the family; and the girl herself denies all knowledge of the claimants, except as they have appeared to her in their attempts at kidnapping. What could have induced them to proceed as they have done is and must remain a mystery.—*Newark Mercury, June 10.*

ANOTHER DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT CROW WING.—On Saturday night last the government warehouse at the Chippewa agency, on Crow Wing river, was consumed by fire. With it was consumed about $20,000 worth of annuity goods belonging to the Chippewas. The fire occurred about midnight, and is supposed to have been the work of an Indian incendiary. We are not in possession of the full particulars, but Mr. George Morrison, to whom we are indebted for the news, informs us that Major Herriman, the Chippewa agent, has written to Capt. Todel, the commandant of Fort Ripley, that he has sufficient evidence to fasten the crime upon Hole-in-the-Day, the chief of the Chippewas, and that he had accordingly been arrested and incarcerated in the guard house of Fort Ripley. The vicinity of Crow Wing is becoming famous for incendiarism. This is the fourth building containing government property which has been consumed there since January, 1851, and the second time that the Chippewa warehouse has been destroyed within two years.—*St. Paul (Minnesota) Democrat, May 31.*

THE PAN HANDLE RAILROAD.—This road, the right of way for which has been more than once asked and refused by the Legislature of Virginia, has been made, independent of permission from the Legislature. The last Wellsburgh *Herald* says:—"The rails are now down for the entire length of the Pan Handle Railroad in Virginia, extending from the Ohio river to the Pensylvania line, and the locomotive daily traverses it, without let or hindrance. On the Pensylvania portion, operations are in a state of forwardness."

Our Boston Correspondence.

BOSTON, June 10, 1854.

Illegality of Mayor Smith's Conduct Demonstrated—Trials for Sedition—The Riot Cases—The Cochituate Bank Closed—Weekly Statement of the Condition of the Boston Banks—India Buildings—Country and Sea-side Hotels—The Mansion House at Hull—The Long Island House—Nahant—Middlesex Hotel, Concord—Cholera—Senator Rockwell—The Franklin Statue—New Publications, &c.

The Daily *Advertiser* of yesterday contains a communication on the conduct of the Mayor of Boston during the recent slave catching affair here, which, from its signature, is known to have been written by P. W. Chandler, Esq., until lately City Solicitor for Boston, and one of the first legal authorities in New England. Mr. Chandler shows that the Mayor's conduct throughout evinced a total ignorance of his duties and powers. This exposition of the unfitness of our municipal chief magistrate for the office which he holds, will "crush out" whatever was left of his Honor's popularity. It does really seem as if, in these days, a man has only to get into high office to show that he is an aspiring ignoramus. Presidents, Governors, Mayors, and even constables—it is all the same.

Judge Curtis's charge to the Grand Jury, in the United States Court, points, it is thought, to the indictment of such gentlemen as Wendell Phillips, Theodore Parker, and others of the high abolition faith; and the talk on the street is, that there will be a formidable presentation of bills against this class of persons. It would be a very foolish piece of business. I havn't any doubt that our abolitionists would come down with something handsome to get themselves indicted. They have made so much out of the Nebraska bill and the arrest of Burns, that they would hail indictments against their most distinguished leaders as something in the nature of exalted favors. It may be doubted if there ever would be obtained a verdict against any such men, no matter what the evidence brought forward in support of the crimes charged in the indictment. If any one should stumble upon a conviction, he would become a martyr at once and live for a long time in a state of absolute beatitude. No greater blunder can be committed by a government than to go into the manufacture of martyrs. William of Orange once said of one of his most vindictive enemies, "He has set his heart on being a martyr, and I have set mine on disappointing him." The President is, perhaps, incapable of comprehending the calm wisdom of this sentence, but to the Attorney General, who is capable of it, these words ought to carry conviction.

All but two of the persons arrested on the charge of having been concerned in the affair that caused the death of the unfortunate Batchelder, have either been discharged or held in the minor matter of riot. They will all escape. We shall see the same farces played over here that we witnessed on the occasion of the famous "rescue trials." There was then not a man in Boston but knew that some of the parties were guilty, and everybody laughed at the idea of a conviction being obtained; and the result showed that every body was right. This, you may say, is a very improper state of things. Granted; but it might be paralleled by fifty cases from the history of public excitement. Neither law, nor gospel, nor any thing else has ever been able to stand before the tide of popular feeling; and that tide is pretty well up here, just now.

The Cochituate bank has been perpetually shut up so far as the transaction of banking business is concerned, and for the brief remainder of its existence it must confine itself to exertions having for their end the payment of its debts, if it can. The perpetual injunction, granted by the Supreme Court, is universally admitted to be just. The concern, even before it went into operation, was in a bad way, and was rotten at the heart long before it suspended payment. No bank that can make a respectable show of assets, ever need to fail here. All these institutions are so bound up together, and the whole business public is so deeply interested in maintaining them in good condition, that funds never can be wanting to carry them through any crisis in their affairs, not caused by their own wilful misconduct. The Cochituate was not given up by the other banks until it was found that the concern was hopelessly insolvent.

Our banks have been brought under a wholesome rule, such as, I believe, has long prevailed in your city. The Legislature, at its last session, passed a law requiring the banks to make, through their officers, a weekly return of their assets and liabilities. These returns are to be made to the Secretary of State, every Monday, and are to show what was the condition of the banks on the preceding Saturday. The first of these returns was published last Wednesday, from which it appears that, including the new banks, and omitting the Cochituate, we have thirty-six (36) banks in Boston, with an aggregate capital of $30,388,000. Their loans and discounts amount to $48,369,492; their specie $2,860,277; their deposits $13,270,002; their circulation $8,277,019. The Merchants has the largest capital, amounting to more than one-eighth of the aggregate capitals, and also the largest circulation. The capital stock of our banks is larger than it was in October, 1853, when the last returns were made, by $3,317,000. The increase has been mostly made by additions to the stock of old institutions. The loans and discounts have been increased only in the amount of $170,497. These returns will be published, officially, every Wednesday morning, in the *Daily Advertiser*, and will doubtless command the attention of your enlightened financial editor.

"Judea Building" is to be the name of a splendid edifice to be erected on the site of Nos. 80 and 82 State street, just above Merchant's row, on your left hand going down the street. The building will be of five stories, forty-two feet in front, and sixty-nine deep, and will be highly ornamental. The front will be entirely of Connecticut free stone. Mr. James Sturgis, who owns the property, will erect the building, and Mr. Groom, who occupies the present building as a bookstore, will rent the cellar, the store, and the attic in the new one. The other parts of it will be let for banks, offices, &c.

The country and sea-shore hotels are fast opening in this part of the world. Mr. Bailey, of Union Hall, in this city, has taken the Mansion House, at Hull, where he has been so popular and successful in former years. Hull is a fine place to spend the hot weather. Mr. Morgan has taken the Long Island House, where he will make the experience he acquired at Gloucester tell in favor of those who shall seek for health or pleasure "down the harbor." The new hotel at Nahant, which will be a sort of transportation of the Tremont or Revere to that celebrated locality, (Mr. Stevens having, I suppose, specially engaged that celebrated palace mover, the Genii of the Lamp, for this season,) will be frequented by all who can get there, fashionable or unfashionable, whose purses are long enough to admit of their paying heavy bills.

The Middlesex Hotel, at Concord, Mass., was sold, a short time since, by Col. Wesson, who had owned it for many years, for $10,000. The purchasers are Messrs. Newton and King. The former gentleman at one time kept the house, and is an experienced man at the business; and his partner is a young man, son of the late Hon. D. C. King, who succeeded Mr. Saltonstall as representative of the Salem district in Congress. They are now engaged in making extensive alterations and enlargements of their hotel. Concord generally takes her full share of summer residents from the city, and it remains to be seen whether the recent increase of fare on the railroad will this year operate against her claims. Season tickets have been advanced from $16 to $21 per quarter, and an addition of twenty per cent made to the ordinary charges. It is understood that these changes have thus far worked well for the interest of the railroad company.

It is said that we have had one or two cases of cholera, and it is certain that some have occurred in other parts of the State. People, however, are far from being alarmed, and what would have terrified them a few years ago, now fails to excite even a languid interest.

On dit, that Mr. Rockwell was appointed to the Senate on condition that he should not be a candidate before the Legislature for the place to which he has been temporarily appointed, and that it is to be reserved for Mr. Winthrop. There is nothing improbable in the story, but it is likely that the details were understood rather than expressed. By giving the western part of the State a sop now, the election of another Boston man might be made more easy next winter. It would be interesting to have Mr. Winthrop elected, in one respect. He hates Mr. Sumner with that calm, deadly, unchangeable sentiment which no one but your respectable citizen and good Christian can get up and maintain. The only thing that I can compare such a feeling with is that poisonous water, so deadly cold, and yet so acrid, which Greek scandal said was employed to cause the death of Alexander. Now, if Mr. Winthrop could contrive to get into the Senate, he and Mr. Sumner might get into some dignified quarrels, for the divertisement of the nation, which is becoming weary of vulgar brawls and bloodless duels.

Mr. Rockwell is the western gentleman, name unknown, of whom I spoke, in my letter of May 27, as being on the list of those from among whom a senator was to be selected. I was told, by a prominent whig, that the appointment would be made from the extreme western part of the State, but he would give no name; and I must confess that I never once thought of Mr. Rockwell, while I did think of Governor Briggs, Mr. Kellogg, Mr. Ashmun, and others of less note, in the western quarter. One of our whig city papers rather sneeringly remarks that Mr. Rockwell is not much known in the eastern part of the State. This is unkind. Mr. Rockwell was Speaker of our House of Representatives in 1835, when the Boston whigs were seeking to flood the State with an irredeemable paper currency; and he was accused of aiding them in a manner that reflected little credit on either his integrity as a public man, or his impartiality as a presiding officer. And now, for the Boston whigs to pretend that they do not know him? It is too bad. He was among the most prominent of our young whigs when he first entered public life in 1834; but, somehow or other, he disappointed the expectations that had been formed of him. In Congress he made hardly a respectable figure, and in the Constitutional Convention he was nobody, devolving upon Governor Briggs the task of upholding the honor of Pittsfield. Mr. Rockwell is a native of Connecticut, having been born at Colebrook, in that State, on the 26th of April, 1805.

Governor Washburn is said to have concluded not to appoint Mr. Lord, because he is not sufficiently dignified for a Senator; while he objected to Mr. Ashmun because of his attachment to some of the vanities of this our mortal state, where, as the poet hath it—

The flesh is frail, and so the soul undone.

Mr. Richard S. Greenough has been employed to make the statue of Franklin for this city. Franklin is to be represented in the dress that he wore when he signed the treaty of Paris in 1783, and which, it has been stated, was the same that he wore on the occasion of the attack that was made upon him by Wedderburn, before the English Privy Council. There was malice in the coincidence, it may be easily believed, for the great philosopher loved a practical jest, especially if it told. The money necessary for the statue's execution has been raised, but more is yet required to pay for the base and pedestal upon which the statue is to stand. There are to be four bas-reliefs in the pedestal, to represent, 1. Franklin working at his press; 2. Experiment in electricity; 3. Signing the Declaration of Independence; and, 4. Concluding the Treaty of Paris. When finished, this monument will be worthy of Franklin and of his native city.

Mr. Loring's "Hundred Boston Orators" has arrived at a third edition, an honor which it well deserves. Few books can be consulted with more profit and advantage by those who would become familiar with the history of Boston and prominent Boston men during the last eighty odd years. The new edition contains much new matter.

Mr. Banks came home on Sunday last, and will return to Washington early next week. His constituents are very generally satisfied with his course in Congress, and the prospect is that he will be reelected by a large majority. At the request of several gentlemen, members of different parties, he addressed a public meeting last evening at Waltham, on the Nebraska question. The meeting, I am told, was very large, and his speech was eloquent and well received.

The postponement of the choice of Senators until Friday next, by the New Hampshire Legislature, is thought by most people to indicate that the democrats are likely to have a hard time in making choice of their candidates. ALGOMA.

Temperance and Maine Liquor Law Items.

THE PENNSYLVANIA PROHIBITORY STATE CONVENTION.

The Prohibitory State Convention assembled at Harrisburg on the 7th instant, and organized by the election of the Hon. Eli Slifer, of Union, as President, with a number of Vice Presidents and Secretaries. The interrogating committee submitted a number of letters, and among others, letters from Gov. Bigler, Judge Pollock and others. The following are the interrogatories of the committee and the replies of Governor Bigler and Mr. Pollock, the whig candidate for Governor:—

INTERROGATORIES BY THE PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW COMMITTEE.

1. Do you believe a law, prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, except for sacramental, medicinal, mechanical or artistical purposes, to be constitutional? and would its constitutionality, in your opinion, be affected by a submission of its repeal to a vote of the people, provided a majority voted in favor of the law?

2. In the event of your election, should the legislature enact such a law, will it receive your executive sanction?

GOVERNOR BIGLER'S LETTER.

HARRISBURG, June 6, 1854.

Gentlemen:—I have been honored by the receipt of your communication of the 18th ultimo, propounding to me certain questions touching the subject of a prohibitory liquor law.

To your first inquiry, I reply, that the Supreme Court of the State have repeatedly held, and I concur in the doctrine, that the Legislature can exercise all law-making power not expressly forbidden by the state or federal constitution. Under this construction, I believe the Legislature have authority to control the manufacture and sale of spiritous liquors; but in the use of that power, it must be obvious that a law might be passed, which, in its details, would be a manifest violation of the constitution, and hence the impossibility of answering your question distinctly, without seeing the exact terms of the proposed law.

As to the second point in the inquiry, it must be very clear that a law, constitutional in itself, would not be rendered otherwise by allowing the people to decide by vote whether the Legislature should repeal it or not, no matter what that vote might be.

To your second inquiry I answer that I sincerely deplore the evils of intemperance, and am now willing, as I have always been, to sanction any measure to mitigate, and, if possible, entirely remove the vice; but I cannot pledge myself to sanction a law the details of which I have not seen. The terms of the constitution and oath of office would seem to forbid this course on the part of an Executive. He should be free to judge of the constitutionality and wisdom of a proposed law after having fully examined and considered its provisions.

Very respectfully, your obedient, WM. BIGLER.

To Stephen Miller, Jas. Black, Jas. Piper, John Jones, Geo. W. Stanton, Esqs., Committee.

JUDGE POLLOCK'S LETTER.

MILTON, May 30, 1854.

Gentlemen—Your communication in reference to a prohibitory law has been received, and in reply I say that the constitutionality of a prohibitory law, similar in its essential features to the one referred to in your interrogatories, having received a judicial determination by the highest courts of several of our sister States, and the principle having been recognized by the Supreme Court of the United States, I am relieved from the responsibility of a first decision. These courts having affirmed the constitutionality of a prohibitory law, and being of the highest authority, I believe, upon principle and authority, such a law to be constitutional; and its constitutionality, in my opinion, would not be affected by a submission of its repeal to a vote of the people.

Every measure of moral or political reform, sanctioned by the representatives of the people, within the limits of the constitution, should receive my official sanction. The expediency and propriety of such laws are for the people, through their representatives; and their will, constitutionally declared, should be respected by the Executive. If the people demand, and their representatives enact such a law, their will should not be resisted by the exercise of the veto power—a power purely conservative, and only to be exercised in cases clearly unconstitutional, or exhibiting indubitable evidence of hasty, injurious and imperfect legislation. Such being my views of official duty in the premises, should the Legislature, the constitutional exponents of popular will, enact such a law, it would, in the event of my election, receive the Executive sanction.

Yours, very respectfully,

JAMES POLLOCK.

The business committee in the afternoon reported a series of resolutions, approving of the letters of the whig and native candidates for Governor, and declaring it inexpedient to nominate a candidate. They deem the letter of Gov. Bigler unsatisfactory.

The resolutions were, after a long discussion, adopted, and the Convention, at 11 P. M., adjourned *sine die*.

TEMPERANCE CONVENTION IN LOWELL.—The Lowell *Courier* says:—Our temperance friends are making the most extensive arrangements for the grand State Temperance Convention to be held in this city, commencing on the evening of the 20th of this month, and continuing through the 21st day and evening. Eminent speakers will be present. It will probably be a monster meeting. The cars from Boston, and nearly all the trains leading into Lowell, will run for half fare. Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, Rev. Dr. Cleveland, of Northampton, Rev. Dr. Gannett, Rev. A. A. Miner, Rev. Rufus W. Clark, Rev. Dr. Edward Beecher, Rev. Dr. Lyman Beecher, and Deacon Moses Grant, of Boston