Interesting Letter from C. McCrea—His Excuse for shooting Clark.

[From the Chicago Tribune, June 16.]

We publish to-day a letter from McCrea, now confined at Fort Leavenworth on a charge of murder in killing Malcolm Clark, a border ruffian, who participated largely in the Kansas outrages. McCrea writes like a man of pluck. The letter is addressed to Mr. Charles Ratteray, bookseller, Dubuque, Iowa, his father-in-law, and was not intended for publication:—

LEAVENWORTH (KANSAS), May 24, 1855.

DEAR FATHER:—We have received your letter of the 28th ult.; the telegraphic despatch of the 7th instant and the boxes, we have heard, are at the warehouse, for which we are very grateful to all parties donating.

Some eight days after date your despatch came to hand, but was not such as to cheer us much in our time of trouble. Poor E—— was least prepared for the sweeping request to leave her husband in trouble involving his life. She bears up well, but is in a very low state of health.

You have, doubtless, looked for the particulars of the cause of my shooting Clark, which, without taking notice of a rumored affront to my wife, while boarding at the house of said Clark, when we first came to this country, I will give you in detail; and first, to what I suppose to be the real cause of his attack upon me.

Clark was a Missourian bully, and one of those bandits who took our election last spring by force of arms; and I put in the challenge to the only district in which the minions of slavery were defeated, and certificates of election given to free State men; and Phillips, who has since then been attacked, kidnapped from his own house, taken into Missouri, one side of his head shaved, tarred and feathered, rode some three miles upon a rail, and then sold at auction by a negro for two cents, although a lawyer and in every way a gentleman and man of wealth, besides being a man of family, only about eight months from Massachusetts; and that was not all that was intended for me and Phillips.

It was concerted to take both our lives, as I learned, by having a position in a ball room the night after the report of the Governor's desertion arrived, when Phillips entered with his wife. His presence turned the conversation from the Governor to him, and thus to me. It was even then agreed that before the next election a row should be got up in some crowd where we were present, to take our lives. As soon as I could move with safety, I went to Mr. Phillips, informed him, and advised him to go armed; and, though no natural demonstration was given, I could from time to time see evidence of the plot not being abandoned; and it was this which made me take the outside of the crowd when Clark commenced to abuse me, as will appear below.

The meeting at which this affair took place was called under the influence of the Missourians, to extend the time given by mob law for non-residents (Missourians,) for making a personal settlement upon their claims, which they, in reality, never intended to settle, but merely to speculate upon, and keep from free State men and persons from the North, all of whom are looked upon by those ruffians with hate. These meetings had commonly been largely represented by Missourians, but this time the actual squatters had a large majority. Perceiving this, these Missouri ruffians determined to carry their point by storm.

A John Wilson was called to the chair, who, under the pretence of explaining the object of the meeting, delivered an abusive and blackguard harangue against every person who was not from slave States, the Governor coming in for a large share, by way of comparison with his negroes; nor did those who desired to oppose the friends of the last election, by exposing them, escape his notice: he at last concluded. I was called for; but, knowing that a plot was laid for me, and that I could not follow the previous speaker without showing my contempt for him and his cause, which would be the signal for an attack upon me, I refused to go forward, and called upon a man whom I supposed then to possess some qualities of a gentleman, by the name of Easton. He made a speech, not so long, but otherwise much in keeping with his predecessor. He closed, and the crowd would take no denial, but pushed me forward.

As I went forward to the stand (a dry goods box, it being out of doors), I thought there was something wrong in those rowdies crowding to the inside of the circle, and getting our party to the outside; but I went on slowly till near the box. Clark, otherwise called the Platte county bully, met me, and said in a savage manner, "Go back; no G—d d—d abolition son of a b—h shall speak in this meeting." Knowing that the abuse was intended to provoke some remark from me, I went back without saying a word. I then thought that I could perceive that he had been pitted, and was disappointed. I moved to the extreme outside of the crowd, believing that I should not be molested till the business of the meeting was over, and then intending to get out of the way of trouble.

A vote was soon called and taken, which, by the voice, appeared to be against the Missourian interest, but was decided by the chair (a Missourian) for them. A division was then called from many voices; the division showed two to one for the squatters, but was still decided by the chairman against the majority. Then, turning towards Mr. Eames, one of my neighbors, to go off along with him, said, in disgust, "What a rascally fraud!" which being overheard by Clark, he exclaimed, "You are a G—d d—d lying son of a b—h, and I'll kill you;" stooping as if in the act of picking something up, which I could not then see.

I then told Mr. Eames not to get into any trouble, and I should try to do the same, and walked away from him and the crowd about thirty feet, before Clark got through: then he sat upon me at full speed, backed by four others, with pistols and bowie knives, and, before I could get out of his way, he gave me a glancing blow with a piece of two-by-four scantling, which I managed to dodge; but by the time I got started to get away, he gave me a glancing blow, which cut my head and fractured my collar-bone, blinding me for the moment. I then seized my revolver, and as soon as I could recover my balance, turned. Clark raised his stick a third time, and was about to deal me another blow, while another Missourian was nearly in a line with him behind, and trying to fire at me.

I instantly fired at Clark, striking him about the middle of the body—the stick with the pistol turned to run, but I learning by the shouts of Clark, who dropped his stick, "Kill him, G—d d—n him, kill him—I'm shot through and through," he turned, fired at me, his ball passing under my right arm, and another shot was fired, giving me a slight wound. The immediate flight of the first who fired at me, and the great distance of the second, prevented the necessity of my firing another shot before my friends rallied around me, and they being as well armed as my assailants, prevented any further assault upon me.

A warrant was got out by Mr. Eames, my best friend, and I was brought here rather for security than confinement. I have been waiting till after the election, which took place in the rejected districts the day before yesterday.

No trick has been left untried; even two Missouri lawyers volunteered to serve me, in order to encompass my life, and assassinate me. I have been told that my wife was sick and dying, with an offer of a writ of habeas corpus (a forged one) to get me out. A messenger waited upon her, whom (my wife) I had seen an hour before, to inform her that I had directed her to sell her furniture, go to Iowa, and not to trouble herself by trying to see me, as no one was or would be admitted except this favored messenger; but she having been admitted at all times, except the first, detected the villain, and informed him of the fact, with a request for his absence.

There are some twenty-five or thirty persons who can testify to the facts which I have stated as to the nature of my defence.

I shall apply for an examination soon, so as to be admitted to bail, that I may go to work, as I dare not practise my profession at present. Clark, like many other of these border ruffians, had no friends, except such as feared or wished to make a tool of him. He has been the terror of this Territory ever since I came into it. C. McCREA.

Excitement in Bucks County, Pa.—Inquest on the Body of a Young Lady.

For three or four weeks the people of Tinicum township, Bucks county, have been in a state of excitement relative to the death of a young lady of that vicinity, of an interesting character and extraordinary personal attractions, who died in Philadelphia on the 19th or 20th of May, and who was suspected of being foully dealt with. The Doylestown papers give the following account of the affair:—

The examination before the Coroner's jury, relative to the death of Elizabeth Hilpot, of Tinicum township, alluded to in last week's *Intelligencer*, was resumed on Saturday last, at Weaver's Hotel, in Tinicum township. Mr. James, District Attorney, was present to represent the commonwealth. There is much excitement in that locality arising from this affair, and a large crowd of persons collected where the examination was held to hear all they could glean about the death of this young girl. They continued to hang around the spot all day.

A number of witnesses were examined as to their knowledge of facts in reference to the deceased leaving the vicinity to go to Philadelphia, and the return of her lifeless body to Tinicum township; but nothing was elicited to fix suspicion upon any particular person. The father and mother of the deceased were before the jury as witnesses. They testified to the fact that they were aware of their daughter's pregnancy; that she left her home for Philadelphia with their consent, for the purpose of giving birth to her child there in due season; that she was to be carefully nursed and attended to, and that she did not go to Philadelphia with their knowledge for the purpose of having an abortion produced. The girl, before leaving for Philadelphia, told her mother the name of the author of her shame, which was repeated by the witnesses on Saturday. The person named is a married man, and a resident of Bucks county.

A letter was read to the jury by Mr. James, from Wm. B. Reed, of Philadelphia. This letter states that the police had discovered that Elizabeth Hilpot's death took place at Mrs. Hallowell's, a nursing house in that city; that she was brought there by some man whose name is not known, on the 4th of May, at the time in considerable pain and threatened with symptoms of a premature birth. Dr. Longshore, the family physician, was called in and attended to her case. She grew worse and was taken with premature birth, supposed to be the effects of drugs. Her death took place during the week. She did not desire her parents to be sent for—nor would she tell her name or the names of her parents. After her death, by some means, her parents were notified of the event. The whole matter appears to be rather mysterious, and plainly shows that there were foul means used by somebody, and that the guilty person remains to be ferreted out.

The jury rendered a verdict—"That Elizabeth Hilpot died in Philadelphia from the effects of a premature birth."

The excitement in Tinicum continues unabated. All kinds of stories are put in circulation—all of them mere rumors. So great was the excitement on Saturday last, that a touch of Judge Lynch was at one time threatened towards several persons present whom rumor connects with this affair. A chain of circumstances may yet point out the guilty parties.

A destructive fire occurred in Richmond, Va., on the 17th inst. The losses may be thus summed up:—Mr. Harrison, on Shockoe warehouse and shed, $1,500; the State of Virginia, on two hundred hogsheads of tobacco, $4,000; Messrs. Warwick & Barksdale, on servants' house and furniture, $1,500; Mr. Mosby, on stable and provender, $300; Messrs. Turner & Traylor, on ready made work, stock and tools, $1,000; Messrs. O'Neil & Ellis, on stock and tools, $400; Mr. A. Foster, on patterns, $150; Messrs. Eddins & Brannon, on fixtures in foundry, $500; Mr. David W. Sharp, on mill race, $150. No insurance.

Movements of Jefferson Davis.

APOLOGY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION.

[From the Vicksburg Whig, June 9.]

The Hon. Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War, in accordance with public notice, addressed a large concourse of citizens at Apollo Hall, on Wednesday night. He was welcomed and presented to the audience by D. Walker, Esq., and replied in a speech of about an hour and a half in length. It is not our purpose to enter into anything like an analysis of this speech, or to speak at length of its character and tendencies. We shall briefly allude to some of the topics noticed by him, and in doing so we feel it but right to state, in advance, that we are satisfied the distinguished speaker did not, in this effort, come up to the expectations of his friends, or to the anticipations of those who are opposed to him politically. He had an excellent audience from among his old neighbors and friends, and a fine field for the display of ability and eloquence; and we must attribute his falling below the general expectation to the fact that his speech was mainly devoted to the most difficult of all undertakings—the defence of the present administration, and an effort to check the spirit which is spreading throughout the country, and which, in our opinion, not only threatens to loosen and sever party bonds, but which now promises fairly to administer the government in accordance with the spirit of the constitution, to rebuke demagogueism in every shape, and to dispel the dark cloud of fanaticism which has, through the instrumentality of political abolitionists, gathered over our country. We think that all will agree in saying that his undertaking was a Herculean one. We cannot imagine a task more difficult than a defence of the Brigadier's course, and an effort to check the buoyant, hopeful, confident spirit of the new organization. It is, however, just, in this connection, to state that Col. Davis, in his speech, did not use the words "defence of the administration." He only addressed his old friends and neighbors in explanation of some of the acts of the administration since his connection with it. Among these acts, we will refer to his notice of the veto of the bill for the benefit of the indigent insane; the veto of the Internal Improvement bill; the course of the administration in relation to Cuban outrages; the efforts made in the way of effecting a purchase; the successful efforts made by the President to check filibustering, and a rather extended reference to the causes leading to the appointment of Reeder, the Governor of Kansas, &c. These were the prominent acts of the administration to which he referred.

We stated, in the outset, that we should not treat of his speech at length in this article; nor is it necessary, as it was heard by many of our citizens, and will be so distinctly remembered that we, or any who heard it, can refer to it whenever occasion may require it. We cannot, however, omit to say, at this time, that he—in saying that the President was right in vetoing the eleemosynary grant called for by the Indigent Insane bill, because such grants were anti-democratic, and contrary to the spirit of our government—paid but a poor compliment to the humane and benignant spirit of our institutions, or to the democracy of many of the prominent men of the Senate and House who voted for it—among whom was the popular Senator from Mississippi, A. G. Brown.

His explanation of the course of the administration upon the Cuban question was not as full and satisfactory as we could have wished. We have never believed that Col. Davis concurred entirely with the course which has been pursued by the administration, and we should be gratified to hear him very fully upon the subject. But of what he said upon this occasion, as well as what we heard from another distinguished gentleman, we must speak hereafter.

In reference to the appointment of Reeder, Col. Davis stated that it was not known to the administration when he was appointed that he was an abolitionist; he was regarded, from his speeches, as leaning to the other side. He admitted, however, that it was now known that Reeder had fallen on the side of the abolitionists in the contest in Kansas.

He (Col. Davis) has certainly been opposed to Reeder's remaining in office, is opposed to it now, and thinks it probable he has been removed. He ought to have been removed the day after he was appointed. We have not time to speak of his reference to the new organization at present, farther than to say that he seemed to be a thorough "Know Nothing" in relation to the strength, character or purposes of the association. He said he did not believe there could be in Mississippi any great number of the order. His friends will tell him he "Knows Nothing" about the strength of the party in this State. He confesses he knows nothing about the organization except from common report, and yet he stigmatizes it harshly. This he should not do. It is well known by some of his friends here that we do not belong to the organization, but as he knows nothing about the organization, we think he ought not to abuse it. We are always glad to know that the most prominent abolitionists in the land are vehement in the abuse of it, but do not want them to find anybody else agreeing with them. As he knows nothing about the new party, his intense hatred for abolitionists should cause him to look with favor upon whatever they may abuse. But we must close.

During his stay in the city, Col. Davis was called upon by many of the citizens of the city and county, and he was not only warmly welcomed publicly, but during the delivery of his address the audience paid as marked attention as we have ever witnessed.

THE CUBA QUESTION.

[From the Vicksburg (Miss.) Sentinel.]

The visit of our much honored and dearly loved citizen, and able Secretary of War, Jefferson Davis, to our city on Wednesday last, on his way home, constitutes an era in the history of our town. He arrived on the eleven o'clock train of cars, put up at the Washington Hotel, where, during the day, crowds of citizens pressed around to shake him by the hand. At night an immense concourse of people met at Apollo saloon, to give him public reception. D. Walker, Esq., in the name of the democracy of Vicksburg and Warren county, offered him their welcome and greeting in an appropriate address, to which Col. Davis responded in one of his happiest efforts. As the questions upon which he touched are of vast and active interest to the country, we have requested and hope to obtain a fuller synopsis of the same than we are here able to give. Suffice it to say, that it met the high expectations of his friends, and was a complete and unanswerable defence of the administration of President Pierce.

He showed what we have heretofore endeavored to make clear to our readers, that the failure to acquire Cuba, and to repel with proper spirit the insults to our flag by the Spanish authorities in Cuba, is not chargeable upon the President, but upon Congress; that the President had done all in his power to vindicate the honor of our flag; had left nothing undone to acquire Cuba, but Congress had failed to do anything; that upon the Black Warrior affair, his message was more warlike than that of Madison, upon which the Congress of 1812 declared war; but there was not even a vote of confidence, nor anything placed at his disposal that would enable him to act efficiently in the matter. His comments, too, upon the position of the President in relation to State rights, could not fail to satisfy all that in Pierce we had a man who will guard our rights and protect by his veto all assaults upon slavery. His comments upon the Know Nothings were playfully felicitous, and in perfectly good taste.

But we defer further comment until we can lay before our readers at greater length his remarks.

An Alleged Elopement from Jersey City in 1853.—The Parties Recently Arrested.

[From the Pittsburg Post, June 20.]

Several years ago, Captain Francis Parker, the commander of a vessel hailing from New York, was married to a young and handsome female in Jersey City, New Jersey, in which place the newly married couple took up their residence. The match was a love affair, and the wedded pair lived in great happiness until a family of four children was added to their household. The only circumstance which occurred to mar their complete felicity, was the absence of the Captain, who, in the discharge of his duty, was often compelled to be for months away from home. The time consumed in these trips varying greatly, the Captain could not always make the proper provision for his family, and sometimes, when absent unusually long, the wife would run short of funds, and was necessitated to borrow from her friends. Among those who thus assisted her was a tailor named Joseph Halstead, a married man, with three or four children, who, taking advantage of the opportunity presented, soon established an intimacy of a very questionable character with Mrs. Parker. It was not long before the illicit connection was discovered by the friends of the parties, and the guilty couple to avoid the consequences likely to follow, agreed to elope, which they did on the 26th of December, 1853, taking with them in their flight about $500 worth of property belonging to the Captain, and leaving behind all their children.

A few weeks after, Captain Parker arrived home from a voyage to Cuba, and was astonished on discovering what had transpired in his absence. He first set about finding his children, and, after considerable trouble, picked them up in various places where they had been taken after the cruel desertion by their inhuman mother. He then endeavored to ferret out the whereabouts of his wife and the tailor, but before succeeding, received orders from the ship owners to sail again with his vessel. He accordingly departed without accomplishing his purpose, and on returns from subsequent voyages was prevented, by want of time, from tracing up the fugitives.

A few months ago his ship was wrecked on the coast of Cuba, and, being left at liberty by the accident, on his return to Jersey City, although a couple of years had elapsed, determined to devote his whole time in search of the faithless pair. By accident he heard they were in this city; came on, and secured officer Hague to follow up the scent. That officer was not long in "spotting" his prey, and directly ascertained that the persons he was after had resided at the United States Hotel, under the name of Jones, but were then living in Brownsville. To this place he proceeded on Monday, and without difficulty took his man into custody and brought him down to the city yesterday, when Alderman Steel committed him to jail for a further examination to-day.

During their brief residence in Brownsville, hearing that the Captain was shipwrecked and drowned, Halstead and Mrs. Parker were married, thus adding the serious crime of bigamy to the offence previously committed.

Captain Parker is a fine, intelligent looking man, and how his wife could desert him for Halstead, who has proved himself in deed but a "ninth part of a man" for honesty, is inexplicable.

RECRUITS FOR THE CRIMEA.—Thirty recruits for the British army in the Crimea arrived in this city on Saturday, and have since been lodged in the barracks here, where there were already four others. It is as yet undetermined, we believe, whether they will be sent to Laprairie, to be drilled there, or proceed to Quebec. They are made up as follows:—Twenty-one Germans, one Pole, one Hungarian, four Englishmen, three Irishmen, three Canadians, and one Scotchman; two were clerks, two surgeons, twelve mechanics, and eighteen farm laborers, sailors, &c. Four were enlisted in Montreal, six in Upper Canada, and others came from the United States to volunteer.—*Montreal Herald, June 20.*

The number of convicts in Connecticut State prison on the 31st of March last, was 174. Of these 135 were white, and 28 were colored males; 6 white and 5 colored females; 132 born in the United States; 30 in Ireland; 7 in England; 2 in Germany; and one each in Switzerland, Poland, and the Island of St. Jago. There are five confined for life, for the crime of murder. The directors report the earnings of the prison for the eight months ending 31st March last, at $12,252 55. Expenditures $10,299 66. Net revenue, $1,952 87.

Our Shanghae Correspondence.

U. S. STEAMSHIP POWHATAN, SHANGHAE, March 12, 1855.

Further Details of the Earthquake at Simoda—Extracts from the Logbook of the Russian Frigate Diana—Appalling Details of the Catastrophe—Letter of Sympathy from Captain McCluney to the Russian Vice Admiral—His Reply—Further Shocks of Earthquake—The Russian Treaty—Singular Conduct of the Japanese to Some of Their Shipwrecked Countrymen—Ratification of the American Treaty, &c., &c.

I avail myself of a private hand to send you an account of the recent visit made by this ship to Japan, which, if it has not been anticipated from other sources, I hope you will think of interest enough to the friends of the officers and crew of the Powhatan, and your readers generally, to give it a place in your paper. We left Hong Kong on the 16th of January, bound to Simoda, in Japan, carrying up Commander H. A. Adams, of the Navy, who was appointed commissioner for exchanging ratifications of the treaty made by Com. Perry last year, at Kanagawa. The passage was a rough one, and for a great part of the way we had to contend against a strong northeast monsoon and a heavy head sea. But the ship performed well, and we arrived at our port of destination in ten days.

Immediately after anchoring we were boarded by an officer from shore, who informed us that the whole town of Simoda was in ruins, having been destroyed by an earthquake and the overflowing of the sea, on the 23d of December last. Soon after this, we were surprised to see an officer in the Russian naval uniform coming on board. He introduced himself as Lieut. Capt. Fossett, of the Russian Navy, stating that he had belonged to the Diana frigate, the flag ship of Vice Admiral Poutatain, who had come here for the purpose of making a treaty with Japan. They were in the harbor at the time of the earthquake, when the ship had suffered so much that she was subsequently totally lost from the injuries she sustained.

Capt. Fossett informed us that the Japanese had received them very kindly, giving them houses to live in, and providing liberally for their wants. The crew and officers were still at Heads, living upon rice and vegetables, with occasionally a little fish, and without any means of getting away. On hearing this story, Capt. McCluney, who shared fully in the sympathy felt by all his officers for these shipwrecked men, immediately addressed the following letter to Admiral Poutatain:—

U. S. SHIP POWHATAN, SIMODA, Jan. 31, 1855.

I beg leave to express to you the great regret I felt at learning on my arrival at this place, of the loss of your beautiful frigate, by a misfortune which no human prudence could foresee, and against which all human efforts were useless. You must, naturally, be desirous to leave this island, and as I am well aware how almost impossible that is, for the want of suitable vessels, I respectfully offer to yourself, your officers and crew, a passage in the Powhatan to Shanghae, to which place I am under orders to proceed on leaving Simoda.

I can assure you it will be a source of the greatest pleasure to me if I can in this, or any other way, contribute to release you from the unpleasant situation in which you are placed by your recent calamity.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant, WM. J. MCCLUNEY, U. S. Navy.

To Vice Admiral E. POUTATAINE, &c., &c., &c., Russian Imperial Navy.

To this letter the Admiral replied:—

SIMODA, Feb. 1, 1855.

Please to accept my sincere gratitude for the expression of your sympathy at our misfortune, and the kind offer to convey us to Shanghae. Such a proposal was to be expected from the high minded citizens of the United States republic, but in the present state of our war with England and France, it would alter very little our situation. Our desire is to reach, as soon as possible, some of our own ports in the Pacific, but this cannot be effected before the end of April. If you consider it no breach of neutrality, as I suppose it is not, to convey shipwrecked mariners, without means of defence, to the shores of their country, I would request from your commanding officer in this part of the world, to send for us one of your large, fine steam frigates, to take us, at the before mentioned time, to Petropaulowski, in Kamschatka. Such an act of humanity will be greatly appreciated by our government, and would only redound to the honor and credit of your great and noble country. With great consideration and regard, I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

E. POUTATAINE, Vice Admiral Royal Imperial Navy of Russia.

To Capt. WM. J. MCCLUNEY, U. S. steam frigate Powhatan.

Capt. McCluney next made an offer of what provisions he could spare, which was gratefully accepted, and a large supply of bread, beef, pork, &c., was sent to the half famished crew. The officers were supplied with everything that could be spared from the private stores of the different messes, and the wardrobes of the Powhatan's officers. The Russian treaty was concluded while we were there. It was, as we were informed, the same as that made by Commodore Perry for the United States, the Japanese refusing to grant anything further, and the only difference being that they, the Russians, are to have Nangasaki for a port instead of Nata Keang, in Loo Choo. This, of course, opens Nangasaki to us also. It was reported by the Japanese that the earthquake by which Simoda had suffered so much, had caused great injury in other parts of Japan. Jeddo itself was much injured, and Osaka, one of the largest and most populous cities in the empire, was entirely destroyed. Several shocks were felt during our stay at Simoda—some of them quite heavy. During their continuance the ship shook and trembled as if she were running over a bed of coral rocks.

While we were lying here a French whaleship appeared off the harbor, wishing to land two Japanese seamen who had been taken off a wrecked junk at sea, about three years since, by an American ship. The Japanese authorities refused to receive them, or to allow them to land, saying they had no treaty with France, and French ships had no right to come there. Upon the earnest remonstrance, however, of Capt. McCluney, they agreed that if these men were first put on board the Powhatan, they would receive them from her as coming from an American ship. This was done, but the welcome of these lost sheep among their countrymen was not very flattering. Their money was taken away from them, and they were obliged to shave their heads and resume the national costume. After this they were not allowed to go to their homes, but placed under strict surveillance, and in fact kept as prisoners, being told that they should be taken to Jeddo after the New Year's holidays, to give an account of themselves. Five commissioners were appointed by the Japanese government to meet Capt. Adams for the exchange of ratifications. After a great many interviews and discussions, both on board the ship and on shore, which were rendered necessary by their ignorance of such matters and their habitual caution, and after repeated reference to Jeddo for instructions, everything was settled in the most satisfactory manner, and on the 21st of March the ratifications were exchanged with all proper ceremony, the Powhatan firing a salute with the Japanese flag at the fore. The commissioners, with a large retinue, then visited the ship, and were entertained in the cabin and wardroom. The next morning we got under way for Shanghae, and arrived at the mouth of the Yang-tse-Keang after an extremely boisterous passage of nine days. Owing, first to the want of a pilot, and afterwards to thick fogs, we were nearly five days in this dangerous river before we reached the city. The Powhatan will remain here for the present; she relieves the Vandalia, in which vessel Capt. Adams takes passage immediately to Hongkong, on his way home with the ratified treaty. H.

Sebastopol.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, ESQ.—

The neglect of Greek and Roman literature has become sadly apparant among some of our editors. Even infallible Greeley, so particular after Webster in assimilating derivatives as much as possible, to the words from which derived, strangely adopts the barbarous mode of spelling Sebastopol with a v. The public are curious about the etymology of the name, and I have not unfrequently been amused by the perplexity into which some of the *illumanati* of the Empire City are thrown when beset by the question—*Unde derivatur Sebastopol? The Sunday Atlas* cannot tell whether or not it be a Teutonic word (!) and properly written *Sebastopoo-l*; and *The Daily News*, shocked at the ignorance and pretence of the *Atlas*, gives us to know that the word means "The Emperor's City." What Emperor's?

By your permission, since no one else has done it, I would inform such of the public as do not know it already, that there was formerly a Roman emperor called Augustus, which being made Greek becomes *Sebastos;* both signifying *venerable* or *worshipful*; that the Greek for "city" is *polis*, and that *Sebastopolis* or *Sebastopol*, a word compounded of these, means THE CITY OF AUGUSTUS; analogous to which are the compounds Constantinople (City of Constantine), Adrianople (City of Adrian), &c. Several cities were called after Augustus: one in Cilicia, and another in Judea, were both called *Sebasta*. London was called *Augusta* after him. But few would recognize in the modern *Saragossa* the ancient name of *Cæsar Augusta*. J. A. A.

June 19, 1855.

The Chicago *Democrat* says that immense numbers of cattle and hogs are now being shipped from that city for Eastern markets. The cattle have been brought from Texas and wintered, and are now being sent forward over the Michigan Central and Great Western railroads. A day or two since one train left Chicago with 418 cattle and 1,166 hogs.

Our Pottsville Correspondence.

POTTSVILLE, June 19, 1855.

Collieries of Schuylkill County—Capital Required in Coal Mining—Value of Coal in the Ground—Cost to Consumers.

Having recuperated, and again "fresh for the field," you will instruct your coachman to take the northern route to the west branch of the Schuylkill. In this direction you will pass the rolling mill of Messrs. Yardley & Co., almost exclusively employed in making rails for the mines and the sideling connecting them with the main track. Thence you will pass up the West Norwegian to Coalcastle, and along the Minehill ridge to Heckscherville. On the way you will pass many of the most extensive collieries, which find an outlet for their product through the Minehill and Schuylkill Haven Railroad, which, with its branches, penetrates every corner in this district. Already the main stem and branches exceed 100 miles in length, and as the dividends are limited by law to fifteen per cent, the proprietors have not only been enabled to improve and adapt their work to the condition of the trade—to assist the weak and accommodate the strong out of the excess—but make a regular dividend of 14½ per cent to their stockholders. Last year their tonnage was 1,181,723 tons, and as the restriction gives them the means, they wait only the expenditure of capital at the mines to bring out the importance of their work.

But the railroads and the collieries are not at this season of the year the chief attraction. In a commercial view they will command the attention of commercial men. Being higher in perfection, and deriving their importance from a business in which all are interested, you, in common, will obtain your share, and be able, in future, to impart their advantages. On the route the scenery will delight you, and in spite of your Platonic indifference, a feeling bordering on enthusiasm will take possession of your senses. The mountains, which formerly were covered with timber, but now cut off and used in the mines, leaves only the laurel to attract attention, and as this is the season in which they bloom, the scene, as far as the eye can distinguish, presents only a body of flowers. Indeed, the mountains are mountains of roses, and the valleys but the decorative borders, giving variety and life to the scene. Here in the contemplation your mind will stray, in spite of an effort to the contrary, from any of the favorite themes, and will rest, involuntarily, upon the boundless wisdom with which a munificent Creator has arranged for the benefit of his creatures, the comforts and luxuries so indispensable to their condition. In this place he has not spread before you, in the dubious language of human invention, but in works harmonizing with every conception of the human mind, and necessarily the power with which it is controlled. The arrangement exhibits the eternal law—the recognition, the fidelity with which it is obeyed. But, my dear sir, understand me, I am not preaching from the mountains, nor is it my intention to anticipate the variety of sermons you will find in every rock. My object is the outset, was to show that the philosopher, with every condition of society, could live, be amused, and instructed, and if not benefitted in a commercial way, he would at least be fortified against the numerous schemes of the intriguer.

Pursuing, therefore, the original intention, and occupying the exact position in which such intentions can be verified, I now ask you to direct your attention to the gorges in the mountains, and then how admirably the valleys wind their way from the numerous collieries to the outlet. In this you will see the intelligent combination and the adaptation to the object.

The railways, diverging like veins from the artery, and dispersing, as it were, the elements of life to the extremities, are in conformity with the plan; and now, in the present condition of the human family, you may ask why the expenditure? Whence the noise, the whistle of the engine, the bustle and animation everywhere prevailing, if it be not the treasure beneath the surface? Then, from the numerous towns and villages, at every colliery—the indication of an industrious population—you may again ask, "who plans the work, who foots the bill, and who draws the profit from the investment?"

To these questions the answer is partially given in the former letter; but to make the whole subject understood it is necessary to know that the average value of the coal is 30 cents per ton in the ground, and the preparation of the mines—that is, the opening, the machinery, which costs for a business of 40,000 or 50,000 tons a year, some $40,000 or $50,000, exclusive of incidentals, will add 10 per cent, making 40 cents per ton. Then, if you add the freight and the labor you will perceive, from the quantity of coal sent from the region, that, in this instance, (and in no other,) the consumer must foot the bill. The down hill grades, and the difference in the distance, as I have heretofore shown, give advantages fully equal to 30 per cent, and, of course, a profit that cannot be reached from more distant locations, consequently the owners and operators have only to nurse the market and regulate the price to reach the demand. ANTHRACITE.

News by the Mails.

The total amount of funds and property appropriated to the purposes of education in Ohio during the year 1854, is $2,266,457 12. The enumeration of youth of the school age, as certified by the county auditors, furnishes an aggregate of 816,468, or 4,451 more than for 1853. The number of schoolhouses in the State is about 10,300, estimated to be worth $3,704,720. Of these 770 have been constructed during the past year, at a cost of $346,944, being an average of $451. The amount paid to teachers is set down at $1,364,431 21.

The citizens of Parkersburg, Va., held a meeting a few days ago, and after addresses from Gen. Jackson, President Swann, and Mr. Latrobe, adopted resolutions pledging themselves to raise sufficient funds for the construction of the station house, and other improvements there, which will be required on the completion of the Northwestern railroad.

A census of Boston, Massachusetts, has been completed by order of the city authorities. The result has not been published, but the *Traveller* tells us that the aggregate population will probably not much exceed, if it reaches, 150,000. This is by no means as large as has been expected, and shows a very inconsiderable increase over the census of 1850, which was 136,881.

The compositors on a morning paper in Boston had a regatta on Saturday. The Quiver and Arrow were the boats engaged, and the distance rowed one and a half miles. This was accomplished by the Quiver in seven minutes, she coming in about her length ahead of her competitor.

The bark Lamplighter, which arrived at Boston on the 19th inst., from Rotterdam, brought out as a portion of her cargo about thirteen hundred and fifty packages of undoubted "originality." In the lot were five hundred jugs, and three hundred half do.

At the late term of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island there were forty-nine petitions for divorce. Thirty-nine of the applications were granted, and of these twenty-nine were from wives. There must be a terrible state of family affairs in Rhode Island.

Harrison Foster, eldest son of A. Lawrence Foster, of Peach Grove, Va., but formerly member of Congress from Madison county, in this state, was drowned at Oneida Castle on the 16th inst. He was aged seventeen years.

Wm. Franklin Carr, convicted of the murder of his father in Holmesville, Miss., was executed on the 6th instant. He admitted having committed the deed, but said he thought the gun which he fired at his father was empty.

Thursday, the 14th inst., was observed in New Brunswick as a day of humiliation and prayer, for the success of British arms. All business was suspended and the different places of public worship were well attended.

It is computed that the late freshets on the Southern rivers will let out some 200,000 bales of cotton, which have hitherto been kept back by low water, and furnish at least millions of foreign exchange, saving the shipment of that much specie to Europe.

Driscoll, one of the murderers of Fahrenburgh, at Lafayette, Indiana, has been found guilty, and sentenced to be hung. This is the second of the Fahrenburgh murderers who has been convicted. Five others yet remain to be tried.

Father Hannegan, late a Catholic priest at Lambertville, N. J., was arrested for assault and battery a few days ago, and committed to prison. He had left the place and gone to Mauch Chunk, Pa.

The Rutland *Herald* speaking of the roofing slate business in that vicinity, remarks that "Rutland county can furnish all the roofing slate wanted in the United States for fifty years."

In the Circuit Court for Lewis county, Kentucky, last week, a suit of slander—Miss Eliza Barkeley vs. William Giddings—was tried, and a verdict rendered for $10,000 damages.

Mrs Slingerland, a crazy woman, who murdered her child last fall, in Bethlehem, N. Y., has been sentenced to one year's confinement in the Penitentiary, and to a fine of $500.

Griffith Roberts, aged 30 years, an attendant at the Graefenberg Water Cure at Utica, died very suddenly on the 20th instant, from injuries received while wrestling with a patient.

The unmarried lady who exhibits the best horsemanship at the next Crawford county (Pa.) fair is to receive a beautiful silk dress from the young men of Conneautville.

Mrs. Pauline W. Davis and Mrs. Lucy Stone Blackwell officially announce that the next woman's rights convention will be held in Cincinnati on the 17th and 18th days of October next.

The Rev. and Hon. J. J. Strang, High Priest of the Beaver Island Mormons, and democratic member of the Legislature of Michigan, has published a defence of polygamy.

Bears are said to be more plenty in Vermont this year, than they have been before for twenty-five years. They make sad havoc among the sheep on the mountains.

At a Sunday school celebration on Walker's Point, Milwaukie, a few weeks since, fifty-three barrels of lager beer were consumed.

The Mayor of Boston has procured a number of red and gray squirrels from Vermont, and let them loose upon the trees on the Common.

The dry goods store of John Oblen & Son, in the city of Schenectady, was destroyed by fire on the 13th inst. Loss $20,000.

Dr. James G. Maul has recovered four thousand dollars from Hugh Wood, for the seduction of Dr. Maul's daughter, in Columbus, Ga.

The Council Bluffs (Iowa) *Bugle* of the 5th inst. says it is rumored that the emigrants on the Plains have all been met and massacred by the Indians.

A fire occurred in Hudson City, N. J., on the 21st instant, which destroyed the box factory of J. H. Hines, and other property, in all to the value of $20,000.

A convention will be held at Saratoga Springs on the 16th and 17th of August next to discuss woman's right of suffrage.

Emancipation in Cuba.

[From the Charleston Mercury, June 19.]

We have received from a high and perfectly reliable source, intelligence of the most interesting character from the island of Cuba. The pacific turn which the relations between Spain and the United States have recently taken, has thrown complete gloom over the projects and hopes of the Creoles. Despairing of receiving aid from the United States government, and their friends here being prevented by the neutrality laws from going to their assistance, they have, it seems, resolved upon a desperate leap for freedom. They have determined to revive the original idea of Lord Palmerston, of throwing themselves into the arms of England, which was not agreed to at the time, because of the condition of the abolition of slavery. The new Club of Independence now consent to admit of gradual emancipation, in order to obtain from England a guarantee of independence, and they have referred the subject not only to Lord Palmerston, but to the abolition societies of England and France. From the recent rapid and increasing enlistment of the blacks, numbering now six thousand men, and from other indications, the Cubans are convinced that the design of Spain is to Africanize the island, and they are willing to anticipate her in the design, if by it they can secure the protection of England and deliverance from Spanish oppression. The announcement of such a scheme cannot fail to excite attention in all quarters of the country.

MARITIME INTELLIGENCE.

Movements of Ocean Steamers.

NAMES.	LEAVES	FOR	DATE.
Baltic	Liverpool	New York	June 16
Hermann	Southampton	New York	June 20
America	Liverpool	Boston	June 23
Quaker City	New York	Havre	June 23
Cahawba	New York	Hav. and N. O.	June 25
Atlantic	New York	Liverpool	June 27
Pacific	Liverpool	New York	June 30
North Star	Havre	New York	June 30
Ariel	New York	Havre	June 30
Union	New York	Havre	June 30
Asia	Boston	Liverpool	July 4
Arago	Southampton	New York	July 4
Geo. Law	New York	Aspinwall	July 5
Star of the West	New York	San Juan	July 5

ALMANAC FOR NEW YORK—THIS DAY.

SUN RISES	4 29	MOON SETS	morn 0 27
SUN SETS	7 55	HIGH WATER	morn 2 23

Port of New York, June 23, 1855.

CLEARED.

Ship Dreadnought, Samuels, Liverpool—D Ogden.