

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BERRY, PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR. TERMS: \$10 per annum in advance...

New York, Sunday, February 24, 1856.

The News.

The steamship Atlantic, from Liverpool, arrived below last night. She brings advices to the 9th inst. There is no intelligence of the Pacific.

We give on the first page full and graphic reports of yesterday's proceedings of the Presidential candidates at Philadelphia and Pittsburg.

The Know Nothing Convention of Philadelphia, and its transparent manoeuvres to trim its sails to the popular breeze—to construct a platform to suit the sections, instead of the constitution—to steer by the capricious demands of geographical parties, rather than by the chart of the federal Union—is another evidence of the chronic evils of the whole convention system.

The project of nominating Presidential candidates by Congressional caucus, which first assumed a definite form in 1808, expired, in fact, by a meeting of sixty-six democratic members and Senators out of about three times that number in Congress, on the 14th of February, 1824, by whom William H. Crawford was nominated for President and Albert Gallatin for Vice President.

All persons interested in property and the Presidential election will be charmed with the particular account of the great Las Mariposas estate, recently confirmed to Col. John Charles Fremont, which is given by one of our Washington correspondents.

The Société La Montagne celebrated their eighth anniversary of the French Revolution of 1848 last night, at No. 210 William street. Speeches in French and English, of a most radical nature, were made, Revolutionary songs sung, and much enthusiasm was manifested.

The new steam frigate Niagara was launched from the Navy Yard about noon yesterday, amid salvos of artillery and the cheers of an immense throng of delighted spectators.

The committee appointed at a late meeting of four dealers at the Corn Exchange, to investigate the subject and report upon a plan for raising the standard of inspection, were expected to report yesterday at 12 o'clock. When the hour arrived it appeared that they were not ready to report.

The sales of cotton yesterday reached about 2,000 a 2,500 bales, the market closing steady. Flour was unchanged, while the sales were to a moderate extent. Exporters were disposed to await the receipt of later foreign news.

According to the official report of the City Inspector there were 287 deaths in this city during the last week, namely: 68 men, 64 women, 138 boys and 116 girls—an increase of 10 on the mortality of the week previous. There were 8 deaths of apoplexy, 12 of bronchitis, 55 of consumption, 7 of congestion of the lungs, 14 of inflammation of the lungs, 4 of congestion of the brain, 25 of dropsy in the head, 6 of inflammation of the brain, 9 of inflammation of the bowels, 34 of scarlet fever, 5 of typhus fever, 4 of disease of the heart, 7 of smallpox, 30 of convulsions (infantile), 14 of croup, 6 of debility (infantile), 18 of marasmus (infantile), 5 of measles and 3 of hooping cough. There were also 5 premature births, 28 cases of stillborn, and 5 deaths from violent causes. Of the whole number 250 were under ten years of age, and 37 inmates of the public institutions. The following is the classification of diseases:—Bones, joints, &c., 1; brain and nerves, 91; generative organs, 3; heart and blood vessels, 12; lungs, throat, &c., 169; skin, &c., and eruptive fevers, 51; strabismus and premature births, 35; stomach, bowels, and other digestive organs, 46; uterine and general fevers, 35; urinary organs, 3; old age, 3. The mortality table gives 292 deaths of the United States, 47 of Ireland, 24 of Germany, 11 of England and the balance of various foreign countries.

The Hartford, Philadelphia and Pittsburg Conventions—Reaction of the Caucus System.

We are now receiving evidence of the supreme folly of the whole convention system. The NIGGER WORSHIPPERS are in convulse at Pittsburg—a band of traitors, sowing the seeds of dissolution, striving to weaken the bonds of the federal Union, to array the North against the South, to build up sectional prejudices, to organize a sectional party, and to show to all the world to what extent of folly portions of our people are willing to go.

The Hartford Convention, compared with this Pittsburg hotbed of treason, was a patriotic council; the Pittsburg gathering is but a mass of unlearned human passions and follies. It is an aggregation of all that is troublesome and wicked in our system; the disturbers of the peace and harmony of the Union, and, possibly, the test of its ability to "execute justice and maintain truth." It is the soul of anarchy, because it seeks to undermine the constitution itself, which it avows to be "an immoral compact." It is infernal, because it strives to array brother against brother, and to secure permanent estrangement between the States.

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means employed by the hucksters in securing the inauguration of the convention system. That popularity was Mr. Van Buren's capital which he squandered in the two first years of his administration. Meanwhile, party spirit had risen so high and had created such bitter animosity, that it is not to be wondered at if the machinery of party was mistaken by the people for the principles of democracy.

When the snow first fell, the Mayor would not allow the city railroads to clear their tracks by shovelling the snow into heaps; they were obliged to cart away the snow, and the Third Avenue road alone paid over \$2,000 for this item. How comes it that the Mayor allows the ice from the gutters and sidewalks to be piled up in the middle of the street? If it was unjustifiable for the railroads to pile up snow banks in the streets in January, it is much more unjustifiable for the Street Commissioner to pile them up in the very middle of Broadway during the present thaw.

No ordinance of the city is better understood than the one ordering people to clean away snow and ice from before their doors. The policemen are especially charged with the execution of this ordinance. Yet it is a fact that many persons have wholly neglected to clear away the snow and ice from before their doors—have never been punished therefor—and at this moment incommode their neighbors by the melting of the snow.

Francis P. Blair at the head of the Nigger worshippers.—The election of Francis P. Blair, of Maryland, as President of the Nigger worshippers general Convention at Pittsburg, is one of the most remarkable political events of these remarkable times. Can this be the same Blair who wielded the trenchant battleaxe of Old Hickory, and whose word, as the head of the Washington organ of Jackson and Van Buren, for three administrations, was the law to the universal democracy from the St. Lawrence to the Balise?

There is much talk just now about the Roman empire, and the Consul Didius Julianus who bought the imperial throne of the Pretorians. Some people think we are coming to that, or at least say so. But they need not travel so far for illustrations of the fatal effects of dishonesty and want of principle. All the Spanish republics are at our doors, teaching us how infallibly civil war, ruin, and national decrepitude must follow from a general laxity of principle, and disregard of moral obligation among politicians.

The Streets.—The Streets!—The Streets!!! Will no one do something for the streets? Will no one relieve New York from the disgrace of being the filthiest city in America, and Broadway the filthiest street in New York? Is there no man here who pays taxes enough to take the trouble of trying whether the law cannot be brought to bear upon some one for the hideous mismanagement of which Broadway presents so complete a case?

Notwithstanding the crushing defeat before the people of Van Buren in 1840, the kitchen and confidential clique who surrounded him, holding, like the Bourbons, that they held the only legitimate right to the crown and the succession, made his nomination again, in 1844, in a qua non. Defeated of this object, however, upon the Texas question they hoped yet to repair the disaster with "the sober second thought" of the party in 1848. Again defeated, headed by Van Buren himself, they formed against the democratic nominee the first holy alliance of the Nigger worshippers, and thus opened the way to the election of Gen. Taylor. But since 1844 there are many of the Van Buren Bourbons who have believed, and still believe, that the real Simon Pure Jackson-Van Buren democratic party has been displaced by a spurious democracy, which should not be tolerated.

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democratic party, upon the new issue of the Kansas-Nebraska bill. Thus we find Francis P. Blair, who, under Jackson, was a sort of "Warwick, the King Maker," seated among the abolition conspirators at Pittsburg, and at the head of the table. His is but another example illustrating how far the promptings of disappointed pride and ambition may overrule the dictates of gratitude, prudence, patriotism and common sense. That's all.

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NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

Splendid Launch of the Steam Frigate Niagara. The United States steam frigate Niagara, launched from the Brooklyn Navy Yard, at eleven o'clock yesterday forenoon. The readers of the Herald being correctly informed of the time the launch would take place, those of them who desired to witness the spectacle were accordingly on hand; but we are sorry to say that most of our contemporaries were, as usual, about an hour and a half behind time, and the consequence was, their patience was sorely tried.

At precisely ten minutes past eleven o'clock she broke loose from her fastenings, and began slowly to slide down the ways. Guns were immediately fired from the North Carolina, near by—the band on board the same vessel struck up a lively air—the thousands of spectators in the vicinity rent the air with cheers, and amidst all these sounds of rejoicing, the majestic vessel, like a "thing of beauty" as well as a "thing of life," entered her destined element and rode triumphantly upon the waves. Her progress was very slow, scarcely faster than an ordinary walk, owing to her not getting loose from her cradle, (the whole of which she took with her), and as she dipped gradually into the water and separated the floating ice which clung about her sides, she seemed like a huge Leviathan reluctantly and shiveringly entering a bath. The impetus was so slight that she only ran about three times her length into the stream.

There were about seventy five ladies and gentlemen on board of her at the time of the launch; and after she had been drawn up to the dock, a bottle of the Commodore's best sherry was broken upon her bow, and she was duly baptized and christened by Miss Annie C. O'Donnell, of New York.

At the close of this ceremony a few invited guests went to the house of Mr. George Steers and partook of a collation. A collation was also given at the house of Commodore Smith to a number of distinguished gentlemen who had attended the launch, in charge of the committee of the Democratic Union Club. Among them were Gen. Quitman, Col. James L. Orr, of South Carolina; Hon. Thomas T. Davidson, of Louisiana, and others. There was also a large attendance of beautiful ladies, and all seemed delighted with the spectacle of the launch, as well as gratified for the hospitality of the Commodore.

The Niagara is one of the five steam frigates now in process of construction for the United States Navy. Her main dimensions are:—Tonnage, 5,200; extreme length on deck, 345 feet; load line, 323 feet. She is to be ship-rigged; mainmast 111 feet long, and 3 feet 4 inches in diameter; mainyard 65 feet long, and main spkerboom 65 feet. Full complement of men 400. Some idea of her immense capacity may be formed from the following schedule of her masts and spars, which are now being built:—

Table with columns: Mast, Length, Dia., Tonnage, Dia., etc. Lists various masts and spars with their dimensions and weights.

THE LATEST NEWS.

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

Interesting from Washington. THE TEXAS DEBT BILL.—PEACE PROSPECTS IN EUROPE.—SENATOR DOUGLASS' PORTFOLIO REPORT ON KANSAS AFFAIRS. WASHINGTON, Feb. 23, 1856.

Major Holdman arrived here this evening, direct from Texas, with a certified copy of the act of the Texas Legislature accepting the act of Congress in relation to the Texas claims. The following is the section of the act abandoning the claims of Texas upon the United States and the proviso to it:—

Be it further enacted, &c. That the State of Texas hereby withdraws and abandons all claims and demands against the United States growing out of Indian depredations, or otherwise, which originated on or before the 23rd day of February, 1855; provided such abandonment shall not extend to individuals who have lost property by the enemy.

Letters received by the last foreign mail in diplomatic circles here, state that the prospects of peace are highly probable. Senator Douglas is now engaged, as chairman of the Committee on Territories, in a lengthy report on the Kansas imbroglio. It is said he will be very severe on the free State men in that Territory.

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Enthusiastic Democratic Meeting in Vermont. BELLINGS FALLS, Feb. 23, 1856. A very large and enthusiastic meeting of the democrats of the Second Congressional district in Vermont, was held at Windsor yesterday. A large number were present from New Hampshire. Addresses were delivered by Hon. C. M. Ingersoll, of Connecticut, and ex-Governor Hubbard, of New Hampshire. National resolutions, strongly endorsing the administration and the Kansas bill, were passed. The Court House being too small, the meeting adjourned to the Baptist church, filling it to its utmost capacity. Two bands of music were in attendance. After the speeches and the adoption of the resolutions, the meeting adjourned, with nine cheers. H. E. Stoughton and R. Harvey were appointed delegates to the Cincinnati Nominating Convention.

Marine Disaster at the Eastward. BOSTON, Feb. 23, 1856. The brig Nantuxet, of and for New York, from St. Jago de Cuba, put into New Bedford yesterday, in distress, short of provisions, &c.

The propeller Osprey, from New York for Providence, was cut through by the ice yesterday, off Gaspee Point, near Bristol, R. I., and was thrown overboard her deck load of coals.

The steamer Island Home arrived at Hyannis this day in 24 hours from Nantucket. The ice has broken up, and in some places is from three to five feet in thickness, through which the steamer forced her way.

The schooner Gen. Clinch, from Boston for New York, went ashore in Chatham Bay this morning. She will probably get off at high water.

Markets. PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD. PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 23, 1856. Stocks dull. Pennsylvania State five, 85; Reading, 45%; Long Island, 17%; Morris Canal, 15%; Pennsylvania Railroad, 44%.

The cotton market is dull, but quotations are unchanged. Sales to-day 8,500 bales, and for the week 52,000 bales. The receipts of the week have been 70,000 bales, against 26,000 last year. The increase in the receipts at this port amounts to 225,700 bales above the same date last year. The stock on hand is 243,000 bales. Cotton freights to Liverpool, 5d.

Obituary. Died, at Chillicothe, Ohio, on the 15th inst., Hon. THOMAS SCOTT, in the 82d year of his age. Judge Scott has been a resident of Chillicothe ever since the formation of the State government, and was secretary to the convention that framed the original constitution.

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