CRUISE OF THE QUINNEBAUG.

A Three Years' Cruise in Southern Waters—Visits to South American Ports—Their Appearance and Importance—Interviews with an African King—Rum as a Negotiator—Return of the Quinnebaug to the United States—Southern Emigrants Back to Their Homes.

CHARLESTON, S. C., July, 12, 1870.

The United States steamer Quinnebang, which has just arrived from the South Atlantic squadron, is the first of the vessels which has performed the three years' cruise on a foreign station, agreeably with the orders recently promulgated by the Navy Department.

The Quinnebang was put in commission at New York on the 17th July, 1867, and sailed for her station on the 31st August of the same year. During the three years which has elapsed since her departure from the United States, she has visited the following ports:—Madeira, Portogrande, Island of St. Vincent; Rio Janeiro, Montevideo, Buenos Ayres. On the coast of Africa:—Cape Town, Little Fish Bay, Benguela, St. Paul de Loando, Kassemba, Ambriz, Kabenda, Londona, Black Point and Marjumba, Ascension, back to Rio, Montevideo, Buenos Ayres, up the Parana to Rosario, Corrientes, thence to Colonia and again to Montevideo, which port she left on the 5th of April last, homeward bound touching at Bahia, Pernambuco, Para, St. Thomas and this port. In Madeira the Quinnebang was quarantined for three days, owing to the rumored prevalence of cholera in the city of New York.

Madeira is too well known to need description. The only change is in the climate, which has been rendered somewhat unhealthy by the introduction of the sugar cane to replace the vine destroyed by the blight. But as the new growth of vines were producing a wine of an equal if not of a superior quality than that yielded before the grape disease, it is likely that the islanders will again substitute the vine for the cane, to induce the invalid visitors to return to their old haunts, from whence they were driven by the effects of the cane.

St. Vincent was as bleak and barren as ever, though an important coaling depot for the various European steamship lines plying between that continent and the South Atlantic. There, too, there is progress in this, that fresh water can now be supplied on demand, owing to a condensing apparatus. Formerly the islanders of St. Vincent depended for their supply on the island of St. Antonio, or on the bounty of Heaven.

Rio Janeiro has also its improvements in the American tramways, ferries and "Graham's Exchange," where the various drinks so well known to our countrymen are to be had in the latest United States style.

Montevideo was hardly recognizable. Four years of prosperity, the result of the Paraguayan war, and the consequent increase of vessels calling there, and the demand for supplies for the allied armies had thrown in the city such an abundance of capital, which had been well invested in improvements of real estate, that Montevideo can boast at present of some of the prettiest residences, both city and *quintas*, that can be found in any part of the world. Her public markets in particular excel in architectural beauty, cleanliness and ventilation, any that I have ever seen. Here, too, an American governed an "exchange" in the drinking line. An American tramway and water works have been constructed by the indefatigable and go-ahead Don Enrico Fynn, one of the most enterprising men in South America. The latter work was under the direction of Mr. Newman, an English civil engineer, Mr. Pealer, an American, being the contractor.

Buenos Ayres, with its roads obstructed by wrecks, continues the same, but there is an improvement in the government, due to President Sarmiento, who has introduced American reforms engendered while in the United States. The Quinnebang's first visit there was owing to the seizure of the American steamer Zenobia, held in possession of the Brazilians, who ignored several demands to relinquish her, but readily acquiesced to the military and left under protest. The Quinnebang returned to Montevideo to find a revolution in full blast. Some sailors and marines were landed to protect the Custom House. The excitement caused by the alarm of fire in New York on Sundays during the reign of the volunteer firemen will give a correct idea of the scene in the streets of Montevideo during the revolutionary times.

From Montevideo we sailed for Cape Town and tested the safety afforded to its anchorage by the new breakwater. The military and the civil authorities vied with each other in their attentions and hospitalities. To the Governor, Sir P. E. Woodhouse; Mr. Edgar L. Layard, Sir William Hodges, Judge Pringle and Colonel Dunn, of the Ninety-ninth, and numerous other gentlemen, our thanks are due. At the Governor's ball a large bouquet was seen walking off with a United States officer. At Little Fish Bay but little fish were found, though a Yankee schooner caused a "Tartar to be caught" in the shape of a muss with the Portuguese authorities. There we found an innovation—a rum mill, which was successful, due to the high taxes, which have driven the American supplies from the African market.

The short stay in Benguela did not admit of notes being taken. At St. Paul de Loando the American Consul had established trade with the river Conanzo, the produce of which was transmitted to the United States. We then learned that our government contemplated removing the provision depot—a wise measure—else the ants, so numerous and voracious, would have saved the trouble of doing so. We viewed Ambriz and anchored off Kassemba, a trading depot first founded by American merchants and abandoned by them at the breaking out of our war. It now possesses several foreign factories, is an important point for shipping ivory, india rubber, copper and various other African productions. Though the flags of France, England, Portugal and Holland wave over the factories, that of the first founders, the Americans, was *non est*. The Congo drove us seaward, and, on our endeavor to view its coast, risked going ashore on a shoal of late formation.

We visited Kabenda next, and the morning following our arrival we were assailed by Africans of every hue, bearing all kinds of salable animals, birds, &c. These fellows are keen bargain drivers, on several occasions having received the money previous to the delivery of the merchandize, they "vamoosed" to their native shore, leaving the purchaser in the lurch. The King of the district is a big bug. It necessitated, for political reasons unassignable, that an interview should be had with his Majesty. An officer was detailed who, ignoring court etiquette, applied to an Englishman for required information. It became, therefore, necessary to equip the Englishman with a bottle of rum as a passport to the royal presence. His Majesty was but little dressed, yet it did not spoil his appetite for rum, which made the interview satisfactory to all parties. His Majesty pledged that the *entente cordiale* should never be disturbed. From Kabenda we went in search of Malemba, which has disappeared from the coast, though continued to be marked on the chart as a trading post. Twelve miles beyond this we came to an anchorage and trading post called Londano, not marked on the chart, yet possessing a larger trade than any of the previous ports visited except St. Paul de Loando. Three vessels were loading here. From the lunch and drinks partaken of on shore we judged that the supply was plentiful and frequently replenished.

From Londano we proceeded to Black Point, one of the best anchorages on the coast, and where the climate appeared to affect the Europeans the least. It was a busy trading day. The Africans were well and cleanly dressed. They sat outside of the factory, waiting to be called in turn. Each brought out his goods, principally india rubber and malachite. The former was closely inspected, as to quality, by the shrewd dealer, and also cut, for the purpose of discovering whether weight was given to it by the filling in of sand or other material. The Africans are up to all the dodges of free trade. The bargain concluded, payment is made in calicos and cloths, and ends by the bottle being presented for the final bonus rum, without which no bargain is consummated. Hence, formerly, the American superiority in goods, *s. e.*, rum. Black Point has a future importance, which we will not mention at present, for reasons of a political and commercial nature.

Our next port, Mayumba, has but lately assumed commercial nature. Its red and other valuable wood, besides its vicinity to the copper mines, give it importance. We left Mayumba for Ascension, an English island but little known, in latitude eight degrees south, longitude 14.20 degrees west. It is the rendezvous of her British Majesty's African squadron, where they go to recuperate health, for machinery repairs, &c. The island is under naval discipline. It has its tops, forecastle, quarterdeck, &c. The commandant's quarters are on the latter, and a quartermaster, with spyglass, paces up and down the verandah, occasionally glancing to seaward. The island is garrisoned by sailors and marines, principally by the latter. Mechanics are generally selected for this purpose, and in addition to their military pay receive a few shillings. They are both for the defence and repairs. The Quinnebang stopped for provisions, but seventeen dollars and fifty cents for a skeleton sheep was beyond the limited means of the officers. The "Sailing Directions" speak of the abundance of turtles and the facility for obtaining them. We doubtless saw them, but there were none come-at-able. The excuse was—"The Commodore's coming, you know." In other words, the Commodore and followers must have a wonderful appetite to make so great a demand for turtle.

Rio and Montevideo were revisited and a start made for the Parana on a mission to Lopez vs. Washburn. This river reminds one of the Mississippi above Natchez, though less wide and with trees more stunted. For several hundred miles up, to beyond St. Laurence, the cliffs and high lands appeared on the right, above that on the left bank, indicating that, at a remote period, the river was of great width. Rosario was the first place stopped at to coal. Its geographical position is very important and will in a few years be the means of detracting from Buenos Ayres the European and North American trade with the interior. It has already a direct trade, and an English steam line has been established. Its population has more than tripled in the last six or seven years. Corrientes, the next city visited on the Parana, is situated near to the confluence of the Parana and Paraguay, and is, like Rosario, destined to be a great mercantile depot. On the occasion of our arrival the Spanish inhabitants were jubilicing the overthrow of monarchial government in mother country. A dinner was given at the principal hotel, and partaken of by a number of the officers, sympathizers in the cause. We found the inhabitants very affable and very courteous; first families abounding whom, on the eve of sailing, we were sorry to part with.

On the way back to Buenos Ayres we anchored off the city of Parana, the former capital of Entre Rios and late residence of General Urquiza. The place has many elegant mansions, is well laid out and has all the appearance of having been a thriving city. On our visit it appeared deserted, yet we were told that it was improving. Its glory departed with Urquiza when he removed to San José. A short stay in Buenos Ayres and thence we proceeded to Colonia, the most important *locate* of the La Plata, both in a military and commercial point of view. On the completion of the railroad from Montevideo to Buenos Ayres Colonia will be one of the terminii of the river ferry. It possesses the only safe harbor on the La Plata—one protected from gales from every quarter, thanks to its islands. The latest innovation is the American Marine Railway, directed by Captain Manton—a work that has been in constant operation ever since its termination.

On our return to Montevideo, homeward bound, orders were received. On the 5th April, 1870, we made sail, and with the sinking of the Mount beneath the horizon lost the view of Montevideo, where happy hours had been spent and where numerous friends were left. Even a long passage to Bahia did not make it an agreeable sojourn. We left for Pernambuco, where no less than thirty distressed Southerners awaited transportation to the United States. They were taken on board. Their names and the places to which they belong are as follows:—Francois Vantrot, Mrs. F. Vantrot, Louis Vantrot, Joseph Sabilie, Mrs. J. Sabilie, Louis Sabilie, Emilie Sabilie, Victor Hugo Sabilie, Joseph Sabilie, Jr., Josiah Johnson, Mrs. J. Johnson, Louis Johnson, Josiah Johnson, Jr., Leora Johnson, William Johnson, Solomon Johnson, Mrs. Solomon Johnson, Solomon Johnson, Jr., Emilia Johnson, Hilia Johnson, Madame Widow Desire Arnaud, Madame Widow Dr. Drouhin, Anna Drouhin, Mrs. William MacNett, Horace Andrus MacNett, Thurston Andrus MacNett, Hilaire Andrus MacNett, Early Andrus MacNett, Mary Andrus MacNett, from the parish of St. Landry, La.; William MacNett, from the State of Virginia; Margaret Joiner, Mary Jane Joiner, Prescilla Joiner and Jacilla Joiner, from Mobile, Alabama. Para furnished the latter four. The emigrants are now in better health and condition than when they embarked.

The Southern colonists who had settled in the Province of Pernambuco gave it as their opinion that North Americans will never succeed in making their way to prosperity in Brazil. Their ideas of agriculture do not coincide with the South American notion. Labor is scarce and is not to be depended on. Transportation is difficult and the means at hand too dear to admit of planters realizing a per centum on their crops. In the interior provisions of all kinds are scarce. The ordinary food is such that our own plantation hands would shun its contact. Crops were frequently destroyed during the night by the white ant, which carries devastation wherever it goes. The emigrants received at Para have a like tale to tell; but in addition they complain of having been rudely treated by the Brazilian authorities, and who did not keep faith with them. They assert that many American families on the Amazon are desirous of returning to their hearths again, but are prevented from doing so, the government declining to furnish them with passports. There is no doubt that these colonists will, in future, learn to appreciate their own country the more, and never again seek in foreign climes that which the United States offer in abundance to all who honor labor and are willing to work. Besides the crew of the vessel, fifteen invalides and three prisoners from the squadron are passengers.

During the three years cruise the Quinnebang logged 28,089 miles, of which but 7,512 miles were made under steam. Her sanitary condition was such that although the most unhealthy countries were visited, yet we had no sickness other than that which arises from the sailor's ordinary indiscretion, nor did a single death occur during all that time.

The following is a list of her officers:—Commander, E. Barrett, commanding; Lieutenant Commander and Executive officer, H. B. Rumsey; Lieutenant and Navigator, Felix McCarley; Masters, A. J. Iverson and H. C. Wisner; Ensigns, T. C. Terrell, John T. Sullivan, R. E. Carmody, Walton Goodwin, F. W. Nichols, F. W. Greenleaf; Passed Assistant Surgeon, J. B. Ackley; Passed Assistant Paymaster, John Fury; First Assistant Engineer, A. Aston; Second Assistant Engineers, H. L. Pilkington and James G. Littig; Captain's Clerk, A. W. Dunlop.

Assistant Paymaster Henry C. Machette and First Assistant Engineer William H. Harrison are passengers.

The navy yard at which the Quinnebang will be put out of commission is not known.

Arrival of the Quinnebang at Fort Monroe.

FORT MONROE, July 17, 1870.

The United States steamer Quinnebang, Commander Barret, from the South Atlantic squadron, came in to-day and passed up to Norfolk, where she will go out of commission. All on board are well.

NEW YORK'S SATURDAY NIGHT.

The Record of Rum—Attempts at Murder and Criminal Assaults—Stabbing a Policeman.

Daniel Curtin, the party charged with sticking a four-pronged pitchfork into the leg of officer Ward, of the Ninth precinct, at the corner of Thirteenth street and Tenth avenue, on Saturday night, was arraigned before Justice Shandley at Jefferson Market yesterday morning and committed for examination.

A MAN'S NOSE BIT OFF.

Thomas Madden, of 345 East Thirteenth street, on Saturday night became involved in a quarrel with John Logan and several others, during which Logan bit the end of his nose off. He was arrested by officer Moore, of the Fifteenth precinct, and yesterday committed in default of $500 bail by Justice Shandley.

NEARLY KILLED.

Patrick Cronan, a young man, while intoxicated Saturday night fell from the rear platform of a Broadway car, striking the back of his head on the pavement in such a manner as to place him in a precarious condition from the loss of blood. Instead of being sent to the hospital he was detained in the station house all night and yesterday arraigned at Jefferson Market, when he was attended by a police surgeon and removed to the hospital on Blackwell's Island in an ambulance.

STRUCK ON THE HEAD WITH AN AXE.

Michael Lynch, a weaver, twenty-nine years of age, residing on 154 West Eighteenth street, was arraigned at Jefferson Market yetserday by officer Brannick, of the Twenty-ninth precinct, upon complaint of Wm. Galian, of 119 West Nineteenth street, who charges he struck him on the head with an axe Saturday night, inflicting a severe and dangerous wound. Lynch stated the complainant, several women and himself were engaged in a *melee*, during which one of the females dealt the blow. He was committed, in default of $1,000 bail, to answer at the General Sessions.

STABBED IN A FRACAS.

Between twelve and one o'clock yesterday morning, while participating in a Sunday morning fracas corner of Stanton and Attorney streets, Charles Mann, of 125 Ridge street, was stabbed in the back by some unknown party who escaped. After dressing his wounds Surgeon Hutchinson ordered him sent to Bellevue Hospital.

THE BROKERS' SUNDAY OUT.

War and Famine in Europe—Peace and Going for Plenty in America—Buying Gold at Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Last evening, for the first time in five years, New York witnessed those scenes of gold gambling, the result of commercial excitement, with which it was so familiar during the war. We all remember how in those days, when the fearful fever was at its height, and speculation covering fabulous sums went rampant, that week days in Wall street were not long enough to satisfy those who saw visions of fabulous wealth immediately before them, or whose heads had been turned by a sudden elevation from poverty to affluence. Then they used to meet at midnight to buy and sell gold, and after enduring the suspense and sermons of the morning, would congregate in the Fifth Avenue and other hotels for

THE BROKERS' SUNDAY NIGHT SALES.

Often more business was transacted at those "Sabbath meetings" than in the busiest seasons at the Gold Room, and fortunes were made and lost by a turn of the wheel while preachers were praying and the brokers' daughters answering "Amen!"

Last night these old scenes were revived, and the corridors of the Fifth Avenue Hotel were crowded by the prominent financiers of the city, eagerly gesticulating, shouting and perspiring over the questions of

WAR AND GOLD.

Discussions were entered into regarding the prospects of an advance in price and prognostications, rivaling in minuteness of detail the finest efforts of Mr. Seward, were made in regard to the tons of twenties and ten-forties that would be shipped to America in exchange for gold to carry on the Franco-Prussian war. On the other hand, the most minute mathematical calculations were entered into to show the exact state of the crop of cereals, which would draw all the gold back again. Then some one offered to sell and another to buy, and gradually

THE WALL STREET PANDEMONIUM

became produced on a small scale, and to a certain extent the entire party grew rabid—went mad. After the fury had somewhat abated, it was found that some dozen sales had been made by well known and responsible brokers and that among others Messrs. Seligman & Co. were purchasers to the extent of $50,000 at 117¾. As the Seligmans are connected with the Rothschilds a certain amount of weight other than accrues from the transaction itself is attached to it. In the confusion it was impossible to obtain any particulars of the other and smaller sales.

SARATOGA SPRINGS.

What the Birds of Fashion Did on Sunday—The Saturday Evening Hop and the Extravagance in Dress—The Races To-Day and the Betting Thereon.

SARATOGA, July 17, 1870.

It is a very fortunate circumstance for the peace of mind and quietude of the thousands at the Springs that Sunday intervenes during the racing meeting; for were the case otherwise, what with early arrangement of toilets, the buying of pools on favorite horses, the excitement of going to and returning from the races, and the hops and balls at night, Saratoga would, in a limited period, be a pandemonium quite worthy of the original. But this is a comparatively quiet day, and the ladies and their husbands, big brothers and beaux, have gone through with it sensibly and pleasantly. The morning was very hot. The sun, with its golden eye of fabulous fierceness, flamed across hill and meadow, street and grove, causing many cross faces and pursed up mouths and much soiled linen at an early hour; but as the silvery bells from the church towers invited saint and sinner, beauty and fashion, to the portals of religion a cooling, delicious breeze from the northwest sprung up and fanned to contentment the grumbling and peevishly inclined. After church and dinner and a snooze the usual rides to the lake were taken. Every public and private carriage was in use and then the vehicular accommodations were inadequate to the demand. Tommy, Dick and Harry did their devoirs to "dear cweatuaws" and made them happy at the Glen. Commodores, foreign Ministers, Senators, New York Aldermen, army officers who have just exchanged gray coats for blue, army trowsers for cadet tights, and soldiers who, in battle array, had seriously thought their time had come to

Join the army of the blest,
With Benny Havens, oh!

commingled with halfway sports on the roads, but nothing happened to disturb the serenity of the day.

The hop at the Union last night was quite a success, although a disagreeable shower came up when it was not wanted, making some of the pretty girls decidedly vexed at the thought of having their dresses, fixings and furbelows soiled by the nasty rain. The ladies present—and there were many at this popular arrangement—were dressed in all the extravagances of the present fashion. Long since every sensible man dropped the idea of attempting to understand the absurdities of the styles in hair worn by ladies, and now they must stand aghast at the length and lightness of their dresses. Such trains! Few queens ever were larger than are seen at the nightly hops in this summer retreat, and they look at times as though the touch of a single match would send the roomful into the adjoining realm of fire and smoke in a second. A tinder box is nothing to them.

The pool room of the official sellers of the Saratoga Association, Messrs. Underwood & McGowan, was not crowded with such an excited party last night as during the preceding evenings. Several reasons are given, among them that the heavy betters were so sadly demoralized at their reverses on the race for the Saratoga Cup yesterday that they want time for reflection before further large ventures, and that the shrewd turfmen do not want the chances of a whole day to intervene between the disposition of their money and the result of the races; for, say they, a blooded horse is like a blooded man, and you do not know when he will be "off." Yet there was much betting going on. The races announced for the fourth day (Monday) are three—the first, a purse of $300, for all ages, one mile. In this are the nominations, all to to start, viz.:—A. Keene Richards' Flash of Lightning, bay filly, three years; W. R. Babcock's Pompey Paine, b. h., four years; R. W. Walden's Sanford, ch. h., five years; Fisher & Carson's Sir Archibald, br. h., five years; McGrath & Thompson's Harbinger, br. c., three years; John O'Donnell's Judge Curtis (late General Duke), ch. h., five years. The pools sold in this race as given below will be sufficient for the absent turfites to fix the favorite:—

Pompey Paine.....	$705	$425	$150	$100	$150	$100
General Duke.....	605	390	110	100	75	70
Sanford.....	109	60	15	20	15	15
Sir Archibald.....	80	45	10	5	5	5
Flash of Lightning.	165	35	15	5	10	5
Harbinger.....	100	35	15	10	10	15
Total.....	$1,695	$990	$315	$300	$265	$210

The second—the selling race—purse $600, is for all ages, one and a half miles, horses entered to be sold for $3,000 to name their appropriate weights; for $2,000, allowed seven pounds; for $1,500, twelve pounds; for $1,000, fifteen pounds. The nominations, all to start, are:—A. Keene Richards' Charette, gr.c., three years; A. Keene Richards' King's Excuse, ch. g., three years; H. C. Lloyd's Viley, b. h., five years; Charles C. Elkins' Boaster, ch. h., five years; R. W. Walden's Climax, c. h., aged; F. Bremer & Son's Cruskeen, gr. h., aged; J. K. Lawrence's Rapture, b. m., four years; Hunter & Travers' Scathelock, ch. c., three years; C. Littlefield's Edenton, b. h., four years; I. W. Pennock's b. c., three years; Governor Bowie's St. Patrick, gr. h., four years. There was but one pool sold on the race. Its amount was $325, divided as follows:—Scathelock, $150; Climax, $55; Keene Richards' entries, $35; Edenton, $20; Rapture, $35; Cruskeen, $10; St. Patrick, $10; Boaster, $5; Viley, $5.

The third race, purse of $800, is for all ages, two mile dash. Its nominations, all to start, are I. W. Pennock's b. c., three years, by Colossus, dam by Revenue, ninety pounds; George Bowie's Legatee, b. h., four years, 108 pounds; J. J. O'Fallon's The Banshee, b. m., five years, 111 pounds. But one pool was sold on this:—The Banshee, $150; Legatee, $120; Pennock's bay colt, $25—$295.

At the track, however, there will be lively times among the betting men, as the races will be hot ones.

THE CHILD ABDUCTION IN N.W ORLEANS.

[From the New Orleans Times, July 16.]

The kidnapping of Mr. Digby's child, probably better than any case which now comes within our recollection, exemplifies the woful lack of systematic effort on the part of our detectives. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred their discoveries are made either through the confession of an accomplice or others cognizant of the facts (technically called squealing) or the merest accident. To slowly and gradually sift out the circumstances connected with a crime, chain these facts together, and by induction discover to whom they point, is almost, if not altogether, unknown.

In the case in point three persons were in front of Mr. Digby's house about seven o'clock on the evening of the 9th of June, the little child Mollie, a son of Mr. Digby, aged nine, and a young girl of seventeen. The two children were on the door step and the girl standing at the gate. Just at sunset two negro women, one very bright and the other quite dark, stopped in front of the door, and, after a few words, took both children off, the mulattress carrying the child. This is done in the presence of a girl of seventeen, who is acquainted with the negroes, and who knows that in fifteen minutes it will be dark, and yet no expostulation is made. The boy, as every one knows, returned, and the child has not been seen since. Admitting this to be carelessness, admitting that there was no hard feeling between the mother of the girl and Mrs. Digby (which there was), there must necessarily have been a motive in the action of the two women, and to discover this should have been the first step in the investigation. The woman Martha was evidently either revenging herself for some personal injury, fancied or otherwise, had been employed by some one else to steal the child for a like purpose, or was hired by some wealthy person to procure an interesting child for adoption. The last supposition at the present time seems impossible, as the case has had sufficient notoriety to compel any person of heart who had procured a child for that purpose to return it. Martha, however, is an entire stranger to both parents, and the only theory remaining is that she was hired to do the kidnapping. The act involved time, some money and considerable risk, and the motive must necessarily have been a strong one. The mere desire to abduct a child, without regard to who were its parents, or what was its position, could not have been controlled, for scores of children, as the police very well know, are nearly every week sent by unnatural mothers to negro shanties to live or die, as accident or God's providence dictates. One is forced to the conviction that the act originated in a malignant enemy of either Mr. or Mrs. Digby—some one who might at the same time have some regard for the child. It resulted from either a sudden quarrel or a long and bitter hatred, and was accomplished either on the impulse of the moment or after much careful preparation.

A HIGHLY COLORED ROMANCE.

[From the Boston Post, July 16.]

A letter from Niagara Falls gives a singular bit of romance concerning the head waiter of one of the hotels there, who is set down as the handsomest man in that region. He is an octoroon, and in his veins runs some of the proudest blood of "old Kentuck." He relates that his father, a very handsome man, was the groom of Judge ——, of Louisville, who had a very beautiful daughter, between whom and his father there sprung up an affection which in time ripened into a love which took possession of both father and mother. An elopement was the culmination of this passion, which had been concealed from the family of the young lady. They fled to Canada West, and, on arriving at Windsor, were married. Louisville was tremendously excited; the papers were full of all sorts of stories and rumors, while detectives were sent in every direction in pursuit of the fugitives. Finally the Judge gave up the chase as hopeless. After a lapse of twenty-four years the handsome waiter, while on his way to Sunday school in Toronto, was accosted by a distinguished looking man, who inquired his name. Farther interrogation of the young man disclosed that he was the distinguished looking gentleman's grandchild. Judge —— implored him to conduct him to his home, which he did. An interview was held with the long lost daughter, and a reconciliation and forgiveness was the result. The handsome octoroon now has forty-eight waiters under his charge at the hotel in question and is a general favorite with all travelers. Truly, "blood will tell."

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, July 17, 1870.

Personal.

M. Berthemy, ex-Minister from France, will leave Washington to-morrow for home.

An Outrage on Downing.

Downing, the oysterman who had charge of the House restaurant, has received a sudden notice to quit from the Commissioners on Public Buildings. No cause is assigned for this unexpected expulsion of Downing, whose place is to be taken by another darky, one Johnson, who heretofore has done the shaving and hair cutting of Congressmen. The notice orders Downing to quit at the end of thirty days. Downing is exasperated at this summary treatment, and, being chairman of the National Colored Executive Committee, vows vengeance against the administration in consequence.

Press Excursion and Banquet.

At the invitation of Henry D. Cooke nearly all the Washington newspaper correspondents, together with gentlemen of the local press and other invited guests, numbering in all 125 persons, yesterday enjoyed a river excursion and banquet. A band of music accompanied the party and all expressed themselves delighted with the entertainments, which were of a varied and amusing character.

The Wordy Power of the Senate.

The reports of the *Congressional Globe* show that the debates during the last session of Congress, especially in the Senate, occupy more space than heretofore for the same length of time.

General Hancock and the President.

The question as to whether or not General Hancock, when in Washington in 1868, was guilty of rudeness to General Grant, thereby "absolving the President from regarding General Hancock's preferences" as set forth in the letter of General Sherman, published some time since, is likely to be revived by the publication of a correspondence between Hancock and ex-Governor Flanders, Mayor of New Orleans. General Hancock wrote to Mr. Flanders some time ago, enclosing the Associated Press despatch of May 22d giving an account of a street meeting at which General Grant said, in a friendly way, "Good morning, Hancock," and extended his hand, to which Hancock made no reply, but merely touched his hat and walked on. Mr. Flanders was asked as a matter of justice to relate what transpired on the occasion referred to in this despatch. His reply is in effect that he remembers the occasion well; that he was in conversation with General Grant on Louisiana affairs, opposite Jay Cooke's bank, and that General Hancock's passing at the time was a curious coincidence, which impressed the occurrence on his memory; that the greeting on both sides was free, natural and courteous; that neither party came within thirty feet of the other, and consequently there was no attempt to extend the hand; and that, under the circumstances which he knew existed, the impression made on his mind at the time was that the meeting was exceptionally pleasant. Had there been the slightest discourtesy or disrespect he would have noticed it. The Hancock party lay great stress on this denial, from the fact that Flanders and Hancock are political and personal antipodes. Flanders is a strong radical and was removed from the Governorship of Louisiana by Hancock.

ANOTHER BLOODY SABBATH.

The Effect of Jourdan's Resignation—The Saloons Open—Heavy Arrests—Cutting Affrays, &c.—A Bad Sign.

The resignation of Superintendent Jourdan, who has for two weeks caused the Excise law to be rigidly enforced on the Sabbath and thereby saved the city from the disgraceful scenes so common on previous Saturday and Sunday nights, seems to have had its effect upon the dispensers of bad liquors, who disregard the law, and the twenty-four hours ending this morning at half-past twelve shows a heavy record of crime. In many precincts yesterday scores of barrooms were open in full blast, and the rear rooms resounded with the drunken voices of their patrons. The arrests for the twenty-four hours ending yesterday morning at six o'clock were 400—a very large increase over previous weeks.

There were arrested between the hours of six A. M. and nine P. M. yesterday pers ons as follows:—

First precinct, none; Second, none; Third, 1, for being drunk and disorderly; Fourth, 2, for intoxication, 1 for being drunk and disorderly, and 6 for disorderly conduct; Fifth, 2 for being drunk and disorderly; Sixth, 5 for intoxication, 2 for disorderly conduct; Seventh, 3 for intoxication, 4 for being drunk and disorderly, 4 for disorderly conduct and 1 for violation of excise; Eighth, 1 for intoxication, 1 for drunkenness and disorderly conduct and 6 for disorderly conduct; Ninth, none; Tenth, 2 for intoxication and 2 for violation of the excise; Eleventh, 2 for intoxication, 1 for disorderly conduct; Twelfth, 1 for intoxication, 2 for being drunk and disorderly and 2 for violation of excise; Thirteenth, 1 for intoxication, 5 for being drunk and disorderly and 1 for disorderly conduct; Fourteenth, 2 for intoxication and 4 for being drunk and disorderly; Fifteenth, 2 for intoxication, 2 for being drunk and disorderly and 1 for disorderly conduct; Sixteenth, 2 for intoxication; Seventeenth, none; Eighteenth, 1 for intoxication, 2 for being drunk and disorderly and 1 for disorderly conduct; Nineteenth, 1 for intoxication, 2 for being drunk and disorderly and 10 for disorderly conduct; Twentieth, none; Twenty-first, none; Twenty-second, 1 for being drunk and disorderly, 3 for disorderly conduct and 1 for violation of excise; Twenty-third, 1 for being drunk and disorderly; Twenty-fourth, Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh, none; Twenty-eighth, 1 for being drunk and disorderly and 2 for disorderly conduct; Twenty-ninth, 1 for being drunk and disorderly and 1 for disorderly conduct; Thirtieth, none; Thirty-first, 1 for disorderly conduct; Thirty-second, none. Recapitulation—Total for intoxication, 27; for being drunk and disorderly, 32; disorderly conduct, 40; violation of Excise law, 6; grand total of arrests, 105.

The following is the record of affrays:—

FIGHT AT THE FISHING BANKS—TWO MEN STABBED.

Yesterday two brothers, John and William McCafferty, while on the steamer Seth Low at the Fishing Banks, were stabbed—the former in the left side and hand and the latter in the right shoulder and back of the neck—by a ruffian named Thomas Kelly. Kelly and others were conversing on religious topics a few minutes before the affray, and the brothers McCafferty declare they took no part in the argument and gave no cause for the assault. The wounds are slight. Kelly was arrested by officer Cargle, of the Ninth precinct, and locked up in the Charles street police station.

PUTTING HEADS ON DRUNKEN ROWDIES.

In attempting to arrest Edward McCormack and Thomas Garrett, who yesterday engaged in a fight in the hallway of 275 Third avenue, officer Trip was severely assaulted by Garrett. Help arrived from the Eighteenth precinct, and both men were arrested after resisting the officers and being pretty well clubbed.

MATRIMONIAL BLISS OF TEUTONS.

During a fight between Peter Wengdorff and his wife Julia, at No. 113 Division street, last evening, Wengdorff was cut on the head and Julia on the hand. The man was arrested.

ASSAULT WITH A GLASS.

Some unknown man yesterday seriously wounded Barrow Thomas, of 80 North Moore street, by throwing a glass at him.

A MURDEROUS CAR DRIVER.

While riding down on a Second avenue car yesterday (No. 28), and when near Twenty-fifth street, the hat of George McBride, of 599 East Thirteenth street, blew off. The driver refusing to stop he jumped off, fell under the car, the wheels of which passed over him, crushing one of his legs so badly that amputation will be necessary. The driver, Pat. Fogart, was arrested and McBride was sent to Bellevue Hospital.

A LAGER BEER FRACAS.

Yesterday afternoon the proprietor of lager beer saloon 339 Hudson street, Morris Dedricks, and Henry Rowley, of 97 Charlton street, had a fight in the rear of the saloon, in which Rowley was badly beaten on the head with a club.

AFFRAY IN THE FIFTH WARD.

At nine o'clock last night Thomas Carlin and John Tempeny engaged in a fight at No. 3 Worth street, and pummelled each other grandly about their heads. Officer Smith, of the Fifth precinct, arrested them, and they made cross-complaints against each each other of felonious assault.

BITING IN NASSAU STREET.

Edward Sheehan, of No. 34 Cherry street, was last night sent to Bellevue Hospital to be treated for bites sustained in a Sunday morning fight in Nassau street.

ANOTHER EAST RIVER SUICIDE.

At about seven o'clock last evening as the ferry-boat Commodore Perry was entering the slip on the Williamsburg side of the river an unknown man jumped off the after rail into the river and was drowned. Persons on the boat who saw the man in the water say that he wore dark clothes, but as he threw up his arms and sunk almost immediately they are unable to give any further description of him. His hat—a soft felt one—was recovered and given to the police of the Fourth precinct station.

CHESS MATTERS.

War in Europe—Chess in America.

The attention of the whole civilized world is concentrated on the gigantic struggle which has just commenced between two of the most powerful nations in Europe. A grand spectacle will be presented to the world of military tactics on a gigantic scale, in which all the appliances of modern warfare, and many of the discoveries and inventions of the age, will be introduced, and the conflicts between these mighty powers, æsthetically considered, will be magnificent to contemplate. On the other hand, when we consider the cruelty of sacrificing human lives for an idea, an insult, fancied or real, or for the ambition or jealousy of nations or rulers, it is truly to be deplored that cruel war, *horrida bella*, should have to be resorted to to settle differences between nations. The game of chess, an epitome of war, requires perhaps in a minor degree all the qualities which distinguish successful warriors. Staunton says very aptly:—

Comparing small things with large never forget that in chess, as in modern warfare, one of the most important stratagems is the art of gaining time upon the enemy. In this respect, as indeed in many others, the broad principles which are laid down by the highest military authorities as the basis of operations in a campaign, are applicable to the management of your forces on the chess field. With every allowance for the disparity in the importance of the individuals and the magnitude of the objects at stake, there is an analogy observable, too, in the abilities requisite for the command of armies and the perfectly first rate manœuvring of the mimic warriors of the chess board. The commander of the army must possess not less a profound acquaintance with the general principles which regulate a conduct of a long and tedious campaign than with those which are called into requisition in an actual conflict. He must be able equally to arrange the plan of preliminary operations, to act at once and with decision in cases of the most pressing emergency, and on the occurrence of the most unforeseen events; to judge of the importance of a position and of the strength of an intrenchment; to discover from the slightest indications the designs of the enemy, while his own are impenetrable, and at the same time to preside with unshaken self-possession over the tumult of the battle field and the raging fury of an assault. The qualifications of a really finished chess player, however less in degree, are somewhat similar in kind. To a perfect mastery of the difficult art of selecting and occupying with the utmost rapidity a "good position" he must add a thorough knowledge of all the complicated varieties of stratagems and snares which he is called upon alternately to invent and defeat. He must, in short, to some extent, display the same energies on the smaller scale which are so indispensable on the grander one.

The above quotation from the pen of the able chess writer and player previously named will show that chess is not a trivial game, and that it requires a combination of mental endowments to acquire in it a high degree of skill.

In connection with this subject it affords us pleasure to state that a match has been arranged between six of the leading players of New York (all of them visitors to the Café International) and six selected members of the Brooklyn Chess Club.

By the terms of the match each player of one organization will play one game with each champion of the other, making in all thirty-six games.

New York will be represented by Captain Mackenzie, Dr. Barnett, Major Wernich, Dr. Jones, Messrs. E. Delmar and L. von Bilow.

The representatives of the Brooklyn Chess Club are Messrs. F. E. Brenzinger, N. Marache, B. Rice, C. A. Gilberg, M. Munoz and F. Perrin.

As there is considerable rivalry and *esprit de corps* between the contending parties, an interesting and exciting contest may be expected. Both sides will make strenuous efforts to win and it is to be hoped that many of the games played will cause a valuable addition to chess literature.

THE CRICKET PLAGUE.—The black crickets, in a belt one mile wide, and of unknown length, struck the Humboldt river about six miles above Elko, Nev., and crossed it. Its surface was blackened for hours, and fishes gathered from up and down the river to feast upon them. It was found that horses, driven into the column of crickets became frightened and could not be induced to proceed. Some of the individual crickets were of enormous size. In Utah, grasshoppers are said to "subside" somewhat after a flock of sheep is driven rapidly about in a field containing them. Near Stockton, as a railroad train was going up a steep grade in Echo Canon, it was brought to a stop by these insects. Another train came to its assistance, and with a plentiful distribution of sand and use of brooms by men standing on the cowcatcher, the locality so infested was with difficulty passed.

MIDNIGHT MISSION IN PROVIDENCE.—At a house of ill repute on Richmond street, on Tuesday evening last, were gathered some dozen or more ladies and gentlemen, who offered up prayers for the occupants of the premises, and their efforts were apparently productive of some good. Upon leaving the house the party were requested to repeat their visit. We hear that a call similar to the above was to be paid to