DAILY APPEAL.

MEMPHIS.

SATURDAY MORNING.....JAN. 31, 1857.

☞ The APPEAL is regularly discontinued at the end of the time subscribed for, unless renewed in advance.☜

DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL CONVENTION

The *Madisonian*, at Jackson, calls for an expression of opinion as to the time for the assembling of the next Congressional Convention for the 10th District. We agree with the *Madisonian* in suggesting that it is time for the Democracy to be preparing for the next contest. We learn from the Bolivar *Democrat* that the Democracy of Hardeman will hold a county meeting the first Monday in March. Every county in the District ought to hold a meeting at least as early as the Hardeman meeting. Delegates are to be appointed to the State Convention, which will assemble on the 15th of April, and we might at the same time settle on the time for the meeting of the Congressional Convention, which ought to be held as early as the first Monday of May. Let our friends think about it.

THE CUSTOM-HOUSE.

The *Evening News* ought to know, if it does not, that the building of a Custom-House will not cost the city of Memphis one cent. The Government of the United States generally undertakes the erection of its own Custom-Houses. We can not see upon what ground the *News* can object to the erection of a Custom-House in Memphis. Its ground of objection, on account of the city of Memphis, is certainly untenable. We will venture to assert that the editor of the *News* is the only man in the city who is willing to be heard carping at the proposition. We suppose the *News* wishes to be considered the "bull-dog of the city treasury," but it will not save much to the city by *barking* at such projects as this.

GEN. ISHAM G. HARRIS.

The last Nashville *Patriot* says: "The *Union and American*, of Wednesday last, gives place to an ably written communication proposing the Hon. Andrew Ewing for the Democratic nomination for Governor. If it be true, as rumored, that Gen. I. G. Harris is disinclined to accept the nomination, we presume there will be no serious opposition to the nomination of Mr. Ewing; and our friends may as well make their arrangements with this probability in view. They have heretofore found Mr. Ewing a 'foeman worthy of their steel,' and so skilled in the use of the lance and battle-axe as to be almost invincible."

Lest the foregoing statement of the Nashville *Patriot* may have the tendency to produce the impression that Gen. HARRIS will decline the candidacy for Governor, if offered to him by the Democratic party, we feel authorized in saying that, though he has not 'sought the position' and by no agency of his has he brought his name before the public in this connection, yet he is at the service of the Democratic party, and will shrink from no post which they may assign him.

The friends of Gen. HARRIS are alone responsible for having made his name prominent for the Governorship—and these are the people—the Democratic masses. But Gen. HARRIS will not eschew their nomination, if they should entrust to him the standard of the party. In our opinion no man ought to receive the nomination who *makes himself prominent* for it, and the best reason that Gen. HARRIS' friends can urge in his favor is his modesty mingled with his high merit and the strength he can bring to the cause. The Democracy of West Tennessee are for him unanimously, as far as we have heard.

☞ At a sale last week in Clarksville thirty-one negroes—men, women, and children—sold for $37,544. One man sold for $2,550.

☞ The value of property lost by fire in Buffalo, in 1856, was $339,200. There were forty-seven fires.

☞ The Connecticut State Agricultural Society, at its annual session, appointed a chemist for the purpose of analyzing manures at a salary of $400.

☞ There are now twenty Indian treaties, it is said, before the Senate, involving the cession of 122,000,000 acres of land, for a consideration of about $14,000,000.

☞ A bill has been introduced into the Legislature of North Carolina to admit negro testimony in cases where persons are tried for exciting insurrection.

☞ The London *Lancet* recommends ipecac to those who are breaking off habits of intemperance in drink. It possesses stimulating qualities, but is not at all dangerous.

☞ A young woman, who was brought before the Boston police, alleged in defense of her respectability that she was acquainted with all the lawyers in New York! She was committed for six months.

COUNTERFEIT TWENTY DOLLAR BILL ON THE CANAL BANK.—The Clarksville (Texas) *Messenger*, of the 8th inst., says:

We have just been shown a twenty dollar bill on the Canal Bank of New Orleans, which is pronounced a countrefeit. The bill is well executed, lettered A, and dated November 21, 1855. It has quite a new appearance, and seems to have been but little used. We are inclined to think the scamp who has them in possession is not far off.

TO KEEP THE FEET WARM IN RAILROAD CARS.—BAYARD TAYLOR in a late letter to the New York *Tribune* says:

"We left Berlin on the 28th, and came directly hither, a distance of one hundred and eighty miles, by railroad. I noticed in the cars a new contrivance for warming the feet, which in our case was wholly successful. Long, flat boxes of tin or zinc, covered with carpeting and filled with hot sand, are placed upon the floor, between the seats, so that the passengers on both sides can make use of them. These boxes were mildly warm when we started, and not quite cold when we arrived at Hamburg, eight hours afterward."

SENATORIAL CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF THE GLOBE.—The Washington correspondent of the New York *Post* says:

"I am informed that Senators Seward of New York and Rusk of Texas will, on the expiration of the session, start on a nine months' tour round the globe. They will pass across the Isthmus by Nicaragua, thence to California, thence to the Sandwich Islands (where Senator Seward will deliver an agricultural address,) thence to China, and, after passing through India and Asia Minor, Egypt, and possibly Southern Europe, will sail through the Straits of Gibraltar to the United States, so as to attend Congress in the early part of next session. A glorious programme of travel. May each of them bring back the wisdom of Ulysses!

☞ We copy the following from the New Orleans *Picayune*, of the 23d inst.:

The subject of the impeachment of Judge Watrous, of Texas, is again before Congress, and the opinion prevails at Washington that the impeachment will be ordered. He is the District Judge for Texas, with the powers of a Circuit Judge which gives him a great scope of authority and power, and for years there have been memorials upon memorials to Congress, from individuals, complaining of great personal wrongs from him, backed up by an application by the Legislature of the State, seeking for his removal from office by impeachment or resignation. It is now said that the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives will report in favor of impeachment, unless a re-arrangement of the district system, and the formation of new circuits, should abolish his court, and thus throw him out of office by legislation. There are some substantial objections to the getting rid of an accused Judge in this way. If guilty of the offenses charged, and they are many and weighty, he should not be permitted to go entirely unscathed by a public condemnation; and if innocent, neither he nor his friends would desire thus to be discharged without trial, with the stigma of a charge of heavy crimes resting upon him. The case has been so much discussed, to the great agitation of the public mind in Texas, that it ought to be disposed of some way, soon.

ARKANSAS INTELLIGENCE.

We copy the following from the Little Rock *True Democrat*, of the 20th inst.:

SOLICITOR GENERAL OF ARKANSAS.—The Governor, Wednesday last, appointed Samuel H. Hempstead, Solicitor General of the State, and the appointment was, on the same day, unanimously advised and consented to by the Senate. The appointment is universally approved as a most excellent one.

The same paper thus refers to the inauguration of Gov. CONWAY:

Gov. Conway, on last evening, appeared in the hall of the House of Representatives, and in the presence of the Senate and the House, took the official oath; after which he handed the clerk his inaugural address, being too unwell to read it himself, and withdrew. Judge Hanly, Justice of the Supreme Court, administered the oath to the Governor. There was no formality about the proceeding and it occupied but a moment of the time of the General Assembly.

To the *True Democrat* we are also indebted for the annexed:

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.—The following was passed by the General Assembly. It is a wise and just move:

Amendment to the Constitution proposed by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas, at its session, begun on the first Monday of November, eighteen hundred and fifty-six. The twenty-second section of the fourth article of the Constitution of this State is hereby stricken out, and repealed, and instead thereof, the following shall be inserted as an amendment to, and part of the Constitution:

The State of Arkansas shall not be sued in any of its courts.

Approved 15th January, 1857.

Says the Little Rock *Gazette* of the 17th inst.:

The Legislature adjourned on Thursday night, at nine o'clock, we believe. It might have adjourned a month ago, with great advantage to the country.

The Hempstead *Democrat* of the 20th, says:

The weather has been very cold and disagreeable during the last week—a heavy sleet has clothed the ground with whiteness. That it is slippery *some* and easily, very, to embrace, many a bruised head can testify. Whilst we were in Little Rock, snow fell to the depth of three or four inches. Verily, old winter is upon us.

☞ The Annual Grand Charity Ball in New York came off at the Academy on Thursday night week. It met with great success. Nearly five thousand tickets were sold at two dollars each; and the expenses not exceeding two thousand dollars, will leave a handsome sum for the charitable institution it is designed to favor.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, January 22.—*House.*—The pending question was on motion to reconsider the vote by which was passed the resolution directing the Sergeant-at-Arms to keep Mr. Simonton in custody, and lay that question on the table.

Hon. Humphrey Marshall asked where was Mr. Simonton, whether he was now in custody, and if so by what authority.

The Speaker replied, that was a question properly before the House.

Mr. Marshall maintained that it was pertinent to know the facts.

Mr. Orr said Mr. Simonton could not be confined until the final disposition of the resolution.

The Speaker remarked that the Sergeant-at-Arms had informed him that Simonton was in his custody and present.

Voice "Where is he?

Other voices responded—"There he is at his desk."

The pending question was decided in the affirmative. Yeas 110—nays 77.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill, reported from the select committee, more effectually to enforce the attendance of witnesses on summons of either House of Congress and to compel them to discover testimony.

Senate.—The consideration of the Submarine Telegraph bill was resumed.

Mr. Pugh moved to amend by adding a proviso that no money shall be paid under the authority of this act until a convention shall have been concluded between the United States and Great Britain, whereby such portions of the British Provinces in North America as command the western terminus of the telegraph shall have been subjected to the principle of naturalization, as adopted in the Central American treaty of 1850.

Mr. Seward said the discretion was lodged in the President, and, if he deemed the interest of this country required such treaty, he would doubtless take proper measures for that object.

Messrs. Hunter, Thompson, of Ky., Pearce, and Geyer opposed the bill for various reasons.

Mr. Weller was not willing that $70,000 a year should be expended by this telegraph while a similar connection with the Pacific, which was vastly more important, was rejected.

Mr. Butler was not willing to trust the destinies of this country to a wire controlled by Great Britain, and urged other objections to the bill.

Messrs Rusk, Douglas, Seward, and Mallory pressed its passage.

Mr. Bayard remarked that it was certain that, if practicable, a line will be established, as we cannot prevent its construction by our refusal to participate in the enterprise. He offered an amendment, which was adopted, providing for such arrangements as may be necessary to secure to each Government the transmission of its own messages by its own agents.

Mr. Pugh withdrew his amendment.

Several amendments of a verbal character were made when the bill passed—yeas 29, nays 18:

Yeas—Allen, Bell of N. H., Bell of Tenn., Benjamin, Brown, Callamer, Dodge, Douglas, Durkee, Fessenden, Fish, Foot, Foster, Hale, Houston, James, Jones of Tenn., Mallory, Pratt, Rusk, Seward, Stuart, Thompson of N. J., Toucey, Wade, Wilson, Wright and Yulce—29.

Nays—Messrs. Riggs, Clay, Crittenden, Evans, Fitzpatrick, Geyer, Green, Hunter, Iverson, Mason, Pearce, Pugh, Reed, Slidel, Thompson of Ky., Toombs, Trumbull, and Weller—18.

Mr. Wilson introduced a bill to procure a bust in marble of the late Chief Justice Mr. Cushing of Massachusetts.

The House bill to enforce the attendance of witnesses was read and by unanimous consent referred to the Judiciary committee, who forthwith called a meeting, and in the course of a few minutes reported it without amendment, and asked its immediate consideration. Mr. Wilson objected. Adjourned.

House.—Mr. Davis of Maryland, from a select committee, reported a substitute providing pains and penalties in addition to those now authorized. He explained that it contemplated definite and efficient punishment. No witness is to be hereafter allowed to willfully refuse to give testimony or produce any papers, and if he do so he shall be liable to indictment for misdemeanor, and on conviction shall pay a fine of not more than $1,000 nor less than $100, and he imprisoned in the penitentiary not more than twelve months nor less than one month, the witness to be protected from criminal prosecution for any testimony he may give before a Congressional committee, but not relived from prosecution for perjury.

Mr. Davis called on the House to relieve the committee from the difficulties which stand at the threshol dof their investigations.

Mr. Wilson wished to substitute imprisonment in jail instead of the penitentiary, as the latter was used only for felonious offenses, and to this the select committee agreed.

Mr. Washburn, of Me., wanted some effective bill to compel witnesses to give their testimony; the purity of Congress demanded it, but the committee of the judiciary should examine the bill to ascertain whether its provisions were not inconsistent with the rights of citizens as secured by the constitution.

After further debate the bill passed—yeas 183, nays Messrs. Bennett of N. Y., Billinghurst, Bliss, Burligame, Colfax, Edwards, Houston, H. Marshall, Mace, Quitman, Walbridge, and Watson—12.

The House passed a bill to establish the office of Surveyor General in Nebraska and for other purposes. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Mr. Siminton is in close custody of a deputy of the Sergeant-at-Arms at a private boarding house, where his friends have free access to him. He has engaged Reverdy Johnson as counsel, and intends to bring his case before the Circuit Court on a writ of *habeas corpus*, to test the rights of a citizen and of the press under the action of the House as affecting the personal liberty of which he has been deprived.

AN INTERESTING MEMENTO.—H. Clay Trumbull, Esq., has presented to St. John's Lodge of Free Masons, at Hartford, a "key stone," made from a fragment of a rock taken from the ruins of King Solomon's Temple at Jerusalem. The *Times* says: "The stone is suspended by a link of gold, representing an arch, attached to a wedge of the same material, made in imitation of those used by operative masons in raising ponderous pieces of stone. Mr. T. made some very happy remarks on presenting this stone, and gave an interesting account of the manner in which the ruins from which it is taken were discovered. He gave many other facts connected with the history of the Temple, all interesting to "the craft."—*New Haven Journal, Jan. 13.*

THE STEAMSHIP LYONNAISE.

ACCOUNT OF THE DISASTER BY MR. G. SCHEDELL, ONE OF THE PASSENGERS—ADVENTURES IN THE BOAT COMMANDED BY THE THIRD OFFICER.

[Correspondence of the Weser Zeitung, of Bremen.]

ON BOARD THE BREMEN SHIP ELIZE,
AT SEA, Friday, November 28, 1856.

As you are acquainted with the fact of the loss of the *Lyonnaise*, I limit myself to telling you of the adventures of the life-boat in which I found myself with my wife, under the management of the third officer, from the time we left the vessel until we were received, after six days of great sufferings, on board the Bremen ship *Elize*, Captain Nordenholt, bound from Balimore to Bremen.

The collision of the steamer *Lyonnaise* with the other ship occurred on the first day after our departure from New York, at half-past eleven o'clock in the night. During this whole night and the following day (November 3) the crew and passengers were incessantly occupied in endeavoring to save the ship by throwing overboard her freight and by pumping out the water which had penetrated into the engine room.

At two o'clock in the afternoon, the passengers were ordered to go to the quarter deck, and were distributed into the several boats. Unfortunately, the boats were not, as I had expected, completely fitted out and furnished with provisions, which caused not a little confusion. The boat which we were ordered to step into was over crowded. I suppose there were twenty-eight passengers. While we were waiting for the officer and his crew, we heard the Captain of the steamer say that there were in our boat too many ladies, some of whom ought to be carried to the other boats. At the same moment, the sailors putting the oars in motion, our boat started, and we found ourselves near to the one which was under the command of the third Lieutenant, till then a simple sailor, who gave his orders in a violent tone. When he saw us standing in our boat, and I not caring to do so, he repeated his orders with more energy and ordered his men to bring us by force into his boat.

On my objecting that his lifeboat was not safe, he answered, swearing it was so, adding, at the same time, that if I came not willingly I would be forced to go. After inquiring from one of the cabin boys of our boat, whether this gentleman was an able mariner, and being answered in the affirmative, I went with my wife over to the other boat. But I had soon to regret that step; the boat had a considerable leak, and, although a life-boat, it could be kept afloat only by continually bailing out the water. Therefore I attempted to go back to my former place, but was prevented by force from doing so; and on asking for my wife to let her return to the other boat, as a favor, I was refused in the coarsest manner.

The boat then left the steamer. It had grown very dark; the sky was covered with clouds; from time to time there was a heavy shower, and the water in our boat rose sometimes higher than our ankles. During the night we were at one time driven very far from the steamer; at another time we came so near her that I was in fear of a collision, so much the more as, except my wife and myself, all the rest had fallen into a deep sleep. Once I reminded the Lieutenant of the danger we were in; he answered, in an abusive tone, that "that was not my business," but, nevertheless, he ordered the crew to stand by the oars.

Formerly, I had regretted that my wife did neither speak French nor well understand the French language, but now I was very glad of it; for our Lieutenant and his crew, both in their language and behavior, were revoltingly indecent, and the Lieutenant in particular conducted himself very meanly toward a servant girl who was with us.

Twice during the night a ray of hope lighted up the obscurity around us, but only to render it still darker by sad disappointment. We were just floating at some distance from the steamer when her cannon was fired, rockets rose into the air, and the boats, which lay nearer, answered with loud shouts to these signals. To our question, "what was the meaning of all that?" the Lieutenant answered that a ship was in sight which would come to relieve us. Joyfully we rose, but the Lieutenant went on laughing to tell us that this was but a joke of his. Later, they cried to us from one of the other boats that all hands on board the steamer were ordered to work. But this likewise proved to be an error, for when we came to the hatch the Captain ordered us to go again aboard, the order referring only to those who were on a raft which was on the point of going to pieces.

Thus, the last hope of leaving the boat into which we had been forced to go, vanished.

We again put off and were drifting. A little later we were ordered to come nearer the steamer to receive some more people, as two of the other boats had been driven against the raft, but we were ourselves in a sufficiently miserable condition and kept away. Again, we were ordered to take one of the foundering boats in tow. We did so for some time; then we let it drift; I do not know for what reason. At daybreak a boat came near us, and the officer who was in command of her told us that he was to carry somebody to our boat who had already been with us, and ought to be there. To our question, "Who was he?" the Lieutenant answered, "It is Choupot." "I am glad of it," said our Lieutenant, "he is a clever man." And, indeed, he was a clever man; without him all of us were buried long ago in the ocean. Choupot, I declare it with all emphasis, saved our lives. During the days and nights when we were struggling for existence against the waves which raged around our weak boat, next to God he as a clever pilot, saved us from sinking.

At last day dawned; the steamer was still in the same position, and apparently not deeper in the water than when we left her. The other boats were spread round her. At this moment we saw the boat of the Captain leave the unfortunate *Lyonnaise*. The other boats did not wait longer for orders. We also got to sea. My heart bled within me at the sight of the unhappy ones we left behind on the raft. Seen from afar the thick mass proved how numerous they were. When we set sail they set up a loud cry, whether for help or not I cannot tell. During the whole morning we were sailing in company with the other boats. Choupot had replaced the failing helm by an oar, as he told me his intention was to keep close to the other boats, as we had no compass; but when exhausted by fatigue, in the afternoon, he lay down to sleep, his orders were not followed out, and our boat fell to the leeward. At last the man at the helm was aware of it; Choupot was awakened, but before he was able to get sight of one of the other boats a thick fog arose. Thus, we were left alone and drifting before the wind.

When night drew on, Choupot gave the helm to the Lieutenant and went to sleep. After five minutes, the latter put one of the cabin boys in his place. Till then, the night was clear and calm; but, when the moon set, wind and waves rose. Then the Lieutenant called Choupot to the helm, but he wanted to sleep, and said he was sick. The Lieutenant insisted on him in the most earnest manner, as he was the only man who was able to steer the boat; but he still refused. Now I joined my prayers to those of the officer. At last he looked up to us. The sea rose still higher and higher, and it was easy to see that, without a very able hand, the boat could not be kept above water. Choupot now took hold of the helm.

Never shall I forget that night. Round us the roaring of the waves, above us the dark sky, which seemed to sink down upon the water, and besides, from time to time, sudden and violent showers of rain. We were soon drenched to the skin by sea-water and rain. A huge wave, which had escaped the watch of the pilots, for now a second man (the only capable steersman in the boat next Choupot) was with him at the helm, struck against our boat. Fortunately for us, only the top of it went over the edge of the boat, which was half filled with water, and we were thrown from our seats. We scarcely expected to live to the dawn of the next day.

On that day also the sea was stormy, the waves rose high, and a hail and rain storm lashed the air. Toward evening, we got sight of two ships, but soon we gave up the idea of giving them chase. The night was cold and stormy. In the morning the storm ceased, but the sea was still high.

On that day two men died, and in the evening the bodies were let down into the sea. They were elderly men, and rather badly clothed, and cold and exhaustion had killed them.

On the fourth day the sun rose over a sea as calm and smooth as an inland lake ever can be on a summer's morning; above us a cloudless azure sky was spread. I dipped my hand in the water; it was warm. We had been driven far into the gulf stream. Now, we established some order in our boat; we dried our clothes in the sun and mustered our provisions, and found that there were on board one large bag of ship biscuit, which had become a paste in consequence of sea water; two boxes of meat preserves; several boxes of vegetable preserves; a saucisson of Lyons; several boxes of mushroom and sweet jellies; half a dozen bottles of wine; two bottles of Curacoa, and no water. The calm lasted for the whole day.

This night, for the first time since we left the steamer, I was able to prepare on the side bench a couch for my wife, who till then was obliged to lie in one and the same uncomfortable position, reclined against my arm which held her embraced. The men lay down on the benches. I was sitting close to the helm and talking with Choupot, who was absorbed in remembrance of the past. Suddenly he arose and looked attentively into the horizon. I followed his eyes and perceived a clear, red light, which, brightening, grew by and by dimmer and then disappeared. Soon a similar light was discovered on the same spot. Now, all become life and movement in the boat. Choupot tried to send up some rockets we had on board, but they were too wet to catch fire. During the whole night we rowed and sailed in the same direction, but we did not see either a ship or light any more.

Next morning we perceived a ship but a few miles from us; we were able to discern her distinctly. The men now rowed with all their strength; they made merry and laughed according to their French temper, as though they were already on the deck of the ship. The Lieutenant inquired "how many bottles of wine were still to be had," and, as there were four left, he proposed to drink them all out. On my proposition, two of them were reserved for the afternoon in case the ship should not have taken us up. We were now so near that we could distinguish her hull. As her course lay across ours, we saw her in full breadth. Suddenly she made sail, changed her course and disappeared from our sight.

For more than an hour nobody among us spoke a word. In the deepest despair people had thrown themselves down on their faces. During that whole day we saw no more sail.

It was a terrible night which closed that day. Again calm reigned around us. A heavy dew soaked our clothes, which were already wet, and we began to suffer from thirst. My voice grew heavy; I lay on the bottom of the boat, gasping for breath, and when my wife, with her hat on, reclined over me, I thought of the monk who tenders the last consolation to the dying sinner.

At last, morning rose, and we perceived another ship, but at a very considerable distance from us. A white shirt was hoisted (on the foregoing afternoon we lost our red flag) and we tried to come near. In the afternoon another ship came in sight, and as Choupot, according to what he was able to see of her, believed that she sailed toward us, we gave up the first and steered for the latter one. It was our last hope; we had drank the last drop of wine, several had already began to drink sea-water, and, in particular, the best seamen, after Choupot, had taken so much of it that he was very near to becoming mad.

With what anxiety we now hastened to the ship! She grew big and bigger, and at last hoisted her flag. We were saved!

Next to God, we have to thank the good Mr. George Nordenholt, Captain of the *Elize*, of Bremen. When we were scarcely visible, he distinguished by our movements that we must be in a bad condition, and went immediately to our relief.

At four o'clock in the afternoon, on Sunday, 9th November, after six days and nights of danger and suffering, and when the eleventh hour had sounded, and an apparently unavoidable death stared in our face, we were saved, and stepped upon the deck of the *Elize*.

And here I must add that Captain George Nordenholt, resembling the knights of olden times in kindness and courtesy toward the ladies, gave his own state-room to my wife; and not only has he saved our lives, but, by his kindness and care, he has re-established our health. I joyfully profit by this opportunity to offer him publicly my most heartfelt thanks.

On the next day after our rescue we met with the *Eliza*, of Hamburg; which was bound for New York, and our companions in adversity returned with her, whilst my wife and myself preferred to stay where we were.

GEORGE SCHEDELL.

MINNESOTA FUR TRADE.—Four or five years ago the Fur trade was the paramount commercial and industrial interest of the Territory. Two or three years further back, and it was not only the paramount but the sole business interest. The population of the Territory was composed almost entirely of its employers and attaches. St. Paul derives its whole importance (a small importance then) from being the depot of the Winnebago and Chippewa outfits—while Mendota, the seat of the Sioux outfit, gave laws to the immense region occupied by the Dakotas, and chains of trading posts as far as Lacqui Parle on the Minnesota, and Pembina, on the Red river, held the whole country, like a dependent child, at the feet of the magnates of the principal agencies of Pierre Choteau, Jr., & Co. The profits of the Fur trade even then had begun to decline. The influx of a white population consequent upon the establishment of a Territorial Government—the increase of competition in the Indian trade, concurring with the gradual decrease of its products, and causes that lay beyond these, and that have been gradually but surely promoting the decline of the Western Fur trade in general—all contributed to weaken the efficiency of the Fur Company's organization in our Territory, and to render it undesirable to maintain its expensive establishments any longer than was sufficent for settling its affairs. It has, accordingly, had no practical existence since the consummation of the Sioux treaty in 1852, from which the traders received a parting token of several hundred thousand dollars in payment of the accumulated back debts of some thirty years. Since then the trade has been carried on entirely by private individuals, foremost among whom, however, are some of the old traders. Two houses alone, Messrs. Forbes & Kittson, and Messrs. Culver & Farrington, are connected at this time with the Fur trade in this city. The disorganization of the Indian trade on the Minnesota river, and the diversion of the Indians from hunting by the pernicious system of annuities, has vastly diminished the productiveness of the Fur trade on the Minnesota river.

The trade is almost entirely limited at present to the Pembina or Red River regions, and are around the head waters of the Mississippi. The buffalo robes come almost entirely from this source, the buffalo ranges being restricted to the region North of the Cheyenne, and West of the James river. The Minnesota River country has fallen off in buffaloes very considerably—the whole receipts for export from that region not amounting to more than 1,200 robes. This does not exclude, however, the large numbers reserved for home consumption. The table given below, for which we are indebted to N. W. Kittson, Esq., exhibits the total exports of furs from St. Paul for the present year: 64,299 rats, $11,572 56; 8,276 minks, $18,621; 1,428 martins, $5,570; 1,045 fishers, $4,702 50; 876 red foxes, $1,095; 3,400 coons, $2,550; 10 Wolverines $25; 364 badgers, $91; 2,032 wolves, $3,048; 405 otter, $1,417 56; 586 beavers, (lbs.) $882; 2,549 kitfoxes, $1,471; 610 bearskins, $6,700; 20 cross fox, $100; 8 silver fox, $400 50 lynx, $125; 7,500 robes, $11,200. Total, $96,750 50.

A notable feature of the fur trade for the several years past, is the gradual but sure decline of its productiveness—corresponding with a growing demand in Europe and our own country for furs. Each of these causes has assisted the other to enhance the price of furs—and they have grown expensive—and all these causes concurred to lift to a figure last year they never before reached in the American market. Nevertheless, it will not do to calculate too surely on last year's prices for the products of the present year, as the consumption of furs is, after all, entirely dependent on the evanescent caprices of fashion.

The Bombardment of Canton.

[From the London Post, Dec. 31.]

Advices from Alexandria render it possible to obtain a complete and connected view of the recent occurrences at Canton.

It has more than once been mentioned by our correspondent at Hong Kong that the intercourse between the British authorities and the Governor of Canton has been for some time embarrassed with growing difficulties, the results of the unredressed grievances of British merchants. On the 8th of October, the Chinese authorities consummated their career of arbitrary violence by seizing a lorcha under British colors, and making prisoners of the crew. It is stated on good authority that they cut off the heads of four of the crew. The consul, Mr. Parkes, the British agent on the spot, proceeded first on board the lorcha, and afterwards endeavored to obtain an interview with the mandarins. On board the lorcha he was menaced, and the mandarins refused to give any explanation of the proceeding.

The consul immediately dispatched intelligence of these events to Sir John Bowring, at Hong Kong, and also to Sir Michael Seymour, who was on the spot, and reprisals were commenced in a mild form by the seizure of a mandarin junk, which Commodore the Hon. C. G. J. B. Elliott, of the *Sybille*, took and sent to Hong Kong. Meanwhile, the consul sent in a strong remonstrance to Yeh, the governor of the city, to which no answer was returned. Finding all his efforts vain, Consul Parkes renounced further attempts at reconciliation, and a naval force soon appeared on the scene.

On the 18th of October, Sir Michael Seymour dispatched from Hong Kong the screw corvette *Encounter*, 14 guns, and the steam sloop *Sampson*, 7, for Whampoa, in the first instance, with a large force of marines and blue jackets; and the steam sloop *Barracouta* followed with further detachments. Admiral Seymour himself then proceeded to Canton, and undertook the direction of the operations. The British and other traders were officially warned of the posture of affairs, and commercial transactions, which for a week had been little more than nominal, were suspended.

The river in front of Canton is rather broader than the Thames at London Bridge, but the depth of water does not exceed two fathoms, while the narrow passages, by which access is gained to it on the eastern side of the Island of Whampoa, have a depth not exceeding a fathom and a half. The city is externally guarded by five forts, of which two are on the land side and two on the Pearl river. These were attacked and taken by our countrymen, on the 24th of October. An attempt was then made by Admiral Seymour to terminate the difficulty without further hostilities, but the Chinese Governor would neither give satisfaction nor grant an interview to the British commander.

Admiral Seymour then determined to attack the city itself. A wall, composed partly of sandstone and partly of brick, surrounds Canton; it is about 30 feet high and 25 feet thick, and is mounted with cannon. Against this wall a fire was opened on the 27th October, and by the 29th a practical breach had been opened, through which the troops entered. The Governor's palace, situate in the southwest part of the new city, was gained, but appears not to have proved a position worth holding, for the troops were withdrawn in the evening, with a loss of only three killed and twelve wounded.

A further attempt which was now made to negotiate proved vain, and it was then resolved to attack the old, inner or Mantchou portion of the city, divided from the Southern by a high massive stone wall, and containing the garrison of Canton. This part of the city was bombarded on the 3d and 4th of November, on the 6th the *Barracouta* destroyed twenty-three war junks. Another interval of reflection was then granted to the Chinese Governor, but at the date of the last accounts from Canton which had reached Hong Kong, no signs of an accommodation were discernible.

The Imperial garrison of Canton was in a very weakened state. The Governor has raised the pay of common soldiers from six to eight dollars a month. Kaweilian-foo, the capital of the adjoining province of Kwangsi was closely invested by the insurgents, who, it was thought, would probably attack the Mantchou Governor as soon as the new embarrassments became known.

Our fleet of war ships in the Chinese seas is at this particular time large, consisting of ten ships and three steamers.

The *Daily News* says the screw corvette, *Encounter*, and the steam sloops *Sampson* and *Barracouta* were engaged in the naval attack on Canton.

The *Times*, in a leader, says that in a city thickly populated as Canton, the loss of lives from a bombardment must have been enormous. Assuming the collision to be inevitable, stoppage of commerce at this moment is peculiarly unfortunate. The failure of the silk in southern Europe rendered the Chinese exports especially valuable, and anything which tends to raise the price of tea is a matter of importance to every family. Canton is the third port in rank for the export of tea.

SEVERE SUFFERINGS IN THE SNOW.—A letter from Salt Lake City to the Baltimore *Sun*, says:

We have dreadful accounts of sufferings among the Mormon emigrants by the hand cart train, which is now in the mountains. The train contained three hundred and fifty souls; one seventh have already died, and they are dying at the rate of fifteen per day. There are some six hundred more behind, of which we have heard nothing. We hope that they stopped at Laramie. It is impossible for them to get through this fall. The Mormons estimate that there are not less than 1,500 of their brethren yet to come in, and the snow is reported to be not less than a foot deep in the mountains.

The terrible severity of the winter at the Northwest is illustrated by the following adventure which befel a party of surveyors in Iowa last week, who took shelter from a snow storm in a ravine which seamed the prairie:

They pitched their tent upon three feet of snow—rigged a stove whose pipe ran up through the top of the tent—ate and went to sleep. A difficulty of breathing aroused the party early, and it was discovered that the ravine had drifted chock full, and that the snow was three feet above the top of the tent and the top of the pipe. Out of the entire surveying party of which they were a part, two men froze to death, two waded the prairie snows in stocking feet, unable to draw on their stiff boots, and all were disabled, permanently or temporarily, by the freezing of the extremities.

A letter from Rev. J. Knibbs, a Methodist missionary in Wisconsin, gives the following details of terrible suffering:

I started on Tuesday morning, December 23, from the Lathrop settlement for Haney Valley, to attend service there on Wednesday. But I had not proceeded far before my horse's legs were covered with blood from going through the crust on the snow. I tried every possible means to induce him to keep on, both by walking before him and breaking the crust, and by driving, without avail; so I had to tie him to a tree and go in search of a house—Mr. Brown's; but it was near night and I could not find it, though I knew it was not far off. In this lost and bewildered state I wandered about for five nights and four days without being or hearing a living being or habitation, and with nothing to eat or drink, until I got here on Saturday night with just enough of life left to be numbered with the living. I don't know how to speak of the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Smith; it is beyond expression. If you, reverend sir, would write and thank them I should feel somewhat relieved, because they think so highly of you.

I am now, by good nursing and unwearied attention, doing well. My feet are dreadfully frozen, my hands a little, and I am very deaf; but I hope to be able to attend to my duties again before long. I want to go to Lynxville to-morrow, if I can.

Mr. Brunson says that at Prairie du Chien immense snow storms have fallen, and that the present winter is the most severe he has experienced on the frontier during his residence there, which has been for twenty-one years.

Speaking of the sufferings of Mr. Knibbs, he says they have been very great, and that he fears he will lose one or both his feet. He adds that Mr. K. was within two miles of several houses, but was so bewildered by the severe snow storm and cold, that he could not move straight in any direction.

SAD OCCURRENCE.—We copy the following from the Mobile *Tribune*, of the 21st inst.:

On Saturday last a lad named Geo. Walton, fourteen years of age, was killed in Jacksonville, about four miles west of the city, under the following circumstances:

He accompanied a negro belonging to Col. Dunn, to Jacksonville, where the negro went to get a load of wood, which was obtained, and while they were returning to the city the horses attached to the load became frightened and ran away. The negro succeeded in stopping them after they had run a short distance. He then called Walton, who did not answer, and supposing that he had gone ahead, he proceeded to the city, making inquiries for the boy till he reached home. The circumstance was then made known to Col. Dunn, who went back with the negro in search for young Walton, who they found lying near the road dead. His body was considerably bruised. The negro states that he saw him walking alongside of the wagon when the horses became frightened, and that he did not see him afterwards.

☞ We copy the following items from the Trenton *Journal* of the 15th inst.:

The dwelling house of Mr. Pursly in Obion county, was detroyed by fire Sunday night, 13th, together with all his furniture, bed-clothing, clothes, &c. Mr. P. and his wife, barely escaped with their lives and we regret to learn, owing to thin clothing which they had on and the inclemency of the weather, were severely frost bitten. When we remember how cold Sunday night was, by far the coldest weather we have experienced for years, we can very readily imagine the intense suffering of those who thus suddenly exposed to its inclemencies.

SUDDEN DEATH.—We learn from the mail carrier that Mr. Durden, who resided near Lexington, and is represented as being the largest man in Henderson county, died suddenly on last Saturday evening in Lexington while sitting in a chair. It was supposed that his death was produced from being chilled, which probably brought on apoplexy. His weight is said to have been 500 *pounds*.

DREADFUL SUFFERING AT CINCINNATI.—The Cincinnati papers are filled with details of the suffering poor—who are freezing for want of fuel. Says the Cincinnati *Gazette* of the 13th says:

THE FUEL FAMINE.—We have heard related several painful instances of the distress now existing. One night last week, one of our city officials saw a man come out of an alley with a load of wood on his shoulders, and charged him with stealing it.

The reply was—"I have stolen it. My children are freezing with cold. I have no wood, and no money. The man from whom I have taken this has plenty of wood. When better times come, I will go and tell him what I have done, and pay him. If you wish to put me in jail, I will go to the station house with you without a word, but, sir, for God's sake, let me take this wood home first!"

The other instance was of a family near the intersection of George and Mound streets, who from Friday last until Sunday were without fuel and food. The consequence of their privation was, that on awaking on Sunday morning, they found their little infant of five months old, lying stretched out dead from privation and cold!

THE FOUR B's.—We clip the following from the Delaware *Gazette*:

In the November election, Delaware gave her vote in favor of Buchanan, Breckinridge, Bayard, and Bates. Four B's better calculated to secure harmony in the political hive could nowhere be found."

WASHINGTON PIETY.

We find the following comical specimen of "Washington Correspondence" in the Philadelphia *Ledger*: Washington correspondents are hard put to it for matter in these dull times. The telegraph anticipates them and they can hardly find a topic that is interesting and not old, or new and not dull. The *Ledger's* correspondent thus writes of Sunday and churches:

St. John's Church, G street, opposite or in a line with the mansion of the President, is a church of considerable notoriety, because of the fame of its pastor and the elegant decorum of its congregation. The church of itself is a small edifice; the congregation is large and wealthy. The Pastor, Mr. Pyne, is, without question, one of the most fervent of readers. His enunciation of the Episcopal prayers is beyond all conception, piously energetic and powerfully impressive; he does not read the prayers merely—he speaks them, laying the stress or emphasis with a beauty and feeling replete with devotional pathos and eloquence. His prayer for "one in a weak and low condition" can be heard by few persons without experiencing a sympathy which, if not afflicting, is at least affecting. The proof of this is, on such occasions, in the free use of the handkerchief. The organ of the church is small; and better because it is so—it does not swell beyond and drown, but leads the singing of the choir and congregation. The church is seasonably decorated with Christmas evergreens. *Six fine pippin apples* (something new this) crown the balustrade of the choir loft, and over the reading desk and pulpit are the words, in misletoe lettering, "unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given." The scope of the discourse to-day went to show that all Christian churches and individuality perform a certain amount, more or less, of duty acceptable to the Deity, and that no man should find fault with any one but himself, as all can know their own, but none can know what is in the heart of a neighbor. A very charitable doctrine.

Passing out of St. John's, a few paces brought the step to the church, corner of G and Fifteenth streets (Catholic). The service was about to close—an anthem was pealing. All nature has its base in harmony, therefore it is that harmony so captivates the human soul. "Music of the spheres" is not a poetic phrase merely—it is the music upon which is grafted the immortal sensibility of man, and the true secret of the past and present success of the Catholic Church is in their enrapturing chaunt and the gift of personal salvation by the clergy, without a need of personal reflection.

The new Wesley Chapel, corner of E and Fifth streets, is a neat, square and rather spacious building. The pews of the basement, or school room, can be converted into double pews throughout, the back of every third seat being moveable like the backs of the seats of the railroad cars. This is also "something new under the sun." The ceiling of this room is the floor of the church above, and it strikes my idea that the iron pillars are too small for the proper security of the edifice, and safety of the congregation. The little children, girls and boys, were assembled in the school room, rehearsing a musical anniversary to come off on Tuesday evening, the 6th, Christmas day, old style, of the calendar.

The most celebrated of the Divines of Washington City is Mr. Cummings, of Trinity Church, Third street. This gentleman is evidently a man of profound intellect, and he makes the most of it by a very earnest intonation of voice, added to great personal energy and occasional picturesque and very graceful attitudes. There are two defects in his declamation, however, which all strangers will not fail to notice, and which none of his friends, perhaps, have made him personally conscious of. One of his defects is in speaking to the ceiling of the church, instead of his auditory. The other defect is in the becoming warm in his discourse, and using his handkerchief freely. The inelegance, however, is not in the use of the handkerchief, but in his not putting it under the pulpit cushion, instead of in his gown where he gropes for it with difficulty, as if it were a dagger—occasionally making himself appear to the lover of elegance, quite the reverse of perfectly graceful.

Elder Knapp has been holding a protracted meeting for four weeks in the Baptist Church, Thirteenth, between G and H streets. To-night he preaches his final discourse there, for the present. The Church is a very spacious one, and it was full of the elite of the city. The style of preaching of Elder Knapp is well known all over the country, not excepting the city of Philadelphia. His discourse on the present occasion was very effective; now and then highly amusing; at times exceedingly interesting. The use of very plain language is sometimes very telling on the feelings of people, hence Mr. Knapp's discourses reach those who would never be reached by any other instrumentality. His discourse verified the saying of Mr. Pyne in the morning, that in order to the success of the Gospel, various instrumentalities are necessary and acceptable. Once or twice the congregation of Elder Knapp were audibly amused, especially when he enunciated the hope that his discourse would not be like water thrown on a duck's back—all run off.

SENATUS.

REVOLT OF CONVICTS IN THE AUBURN (N. Y.) STATE PRISON.—The Rochester *Union*, of the evening of the 14th inst., says:

A gentleman from Auburn informs us that a revolt has occurred in the State Prison, in that city, which has caused great excitement, and though suppressed for the present, is likely to cause much future trouble. The difficulty occurred in the machine shop, where the work of the convicts is contracted. Mr. Curtis, a contractor, on Saturday, directed a convict to do a piece of work. The convict replied that "he would see Mr. C. d——l first." The disobedient man was arrested and put into a dungeon, where he remained over Sunday. On Monday morning, some sixty convicts in the machine shop gathered hammers and other tools, and formed a circle ready for fight. The contractor came in and inquired what was going on. Some of the prisoners replied that they were holding a town meeting, and wanted to know how he would vote. He withdrew without further parley. A committee of prisoners was then sent to demand the instant release of the man confined in the dungeon. The committee did not return as soon as was expected, so the whole body armed themselves with what tools they could get and marched to the hospital.

The prisoner was released, and his fellow convicts resumed labor. Yesterday things were quiet, but the Auburn Guards were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to come to the rescue at a moment's notice, as further trouble was anticipated. This yielding by the prison officers will give the convicts new courage, and we may expect to hear of further trouble. Perhaps the bloody scenes which have recently been enacted in the Massachusetts prison at Charlestown may be expected at Auburn.

It was thought that it would not be safe for the offensive contractor, Mr. Curtis, to visit the workshops. Thus far the prisoners have triumphed, and if we rightly esteem the extent of their depravity, we cannot suppose that they will ever be content to submit to the discipline of the prison until they have been thoroughly subdued and humiliated. Despotism, tempered by humanity, is the only form of government adapted to a prison. Anarchy, however, has sway in one department of the Auburn institution, just now, if we are rightly informed.

SINGULAR INCIDENT.—So great was the pressure of women to purchase orders for coal yesterday morning, that several fainted, and had to be removed from the Council Chamber into the Clerk's room for recovery. One of the cases, however, proved to be beyond the reach of Clerk Hulse's remedies, and he had her put into a carriage and conveyed home. Before reaching her house on Hamilton Road, she had become a mother. The rule adopted by the committee of giving the female applicants the priority in dealing out the orders, though intended kindly, leads in some cases to the opposite result, as the women are induced to make the applications, instead of their brothers, fathers, or husbands, hence follow fainting and worse. The mother in the above case is a respectable German woman.—*Cincinnati Gazette, 21st.*

TENNESSEE AND ALABAMA RAILROAD COMPANY.—This company have elected John Marshall, Esq., President, and W. O'N. Perkins, Esq., Superintendent, and no road in the country can now boast of better officers than the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad. The company is now ready to receive contracts for extending the road to Columbia, fourteen miles from its present terminus, where it intersects the road from Pulaski. This is an important work and we hope our citizens will extend to it all the aid possible, and hasten its completion.—*Franklin Review.*