Daily Appeal.

ELEGY ON THE BUSHES.

For the Memphis Appeal.]

Mr. Rush and Mrs. Bush,
Together Yoked for life,
And many little Bushes made,
While they were man and wife.

But Mr. Bush, 'tis said, in death,
Roamed from his loving wife,
And left her all alone to bask
Her sorrow, care and strife.

Yet still she onward Bush'd ahead,
And Bush'd for years forlorn,
Until she made her last long Bush
To where our Bush had gone.

And she! on earth they'll Bush no more—
In other worlds I ween,
By a brighter than a Bush-light
These Bushes may be seen.

RICHARD RACY, Jr.

EARTHQUAKE IN PORTUGAL.

GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF A RECENT EARTHQUAKE.

A private letter just received in New York from Portugal contains the following graphic description of an earthquake:

LISBON, Thursday, Nov. 11, 1858.

My Dear ——: It is God's great mercy that this steamer does not carry you the news of the sudden destruction of all you hold dear on this side the Atlantic. At ten minutes past seven this morning a fearful earthquake shook Lisbon to its very centre. It lasted a minute and some seconds and was vertical. T. and I were asleep; we awoke, of course, and sat quite motionless, holding each other by the hand, feeling the house shaking violently, and expecting instant death by the giving way of everything. The sound that accompanied it was very awful—awe predominated in our minds. I tells me that I said softly, "God have mercy upon us," but I was not conscious of speaking. He says that the most fearful part of it all, to him, was the increasing violence of sound and motion—the rapid crescendo. Each instant we expected the roof and wall to fall in upon us; then the sound diminished sensibly, and again increased in violence. A minute seems a short time, but it was a lifetime then.

T. says he never before felt himself in the immediate presence of destruction, and his thought was, "Death is immediate and inevitable; now it shall learn the great mystery." When it was over, he said, "K., that was very awful," I jumped up and ran to M——; T. followed; we met calm, but ghastly with a solemn awe—one dined so directly from the hand of God that tears and lamentations could find no place. We know that we were on the brink of the grave—a few seconds only between us and a sudden death. The partition walls of M.'s dressing-rooms, bed-room, her maid's chamber, the two water-rooms and the dining-room—in fact, all that support the walls of that side of the house, are cracked from top to bottom with rents in some places two inches in your hand. A few records more and the whole would have come down with a mighty crash!

[N. B.—To understand the mightiness of the shock, you must remember that the walls of the Lisbon houses are not like those of the Fifth avenue card-paper palaces, but solid masses of masonry, some three and four feet thick.]

After breakfast I went to the Viscountess A.'s, to see how she fared, and if any accidents had happened to her house. Part of Mlle. de ——'s room had fallen in, and is now quite uninhabitable, but nobody was injured. People were fly—ing to and fro, thinking and talking of nothing else. Many persons were killed by the falling of walls; many houses have been shaken down entirely. On ——of the columns of the beautiful Estrella Church has fallen, as well as several of the Saints from their niches within. Two columns of the Theatre Dona Maria Segunda have also toppled down. We feel in our hearts that the house building is so injured that it must be rebuilt.

It is believed that if the earthquake had lasted a few seconds longer, it would have been as fatal as that of November 1, 1755. At 8½ there was another shock, much slighter, and yet far by, well anything you have experienced in portugal. When one met friends to-day, it was with much emotion, a grasp of the hand, and "thank God, we are still alive. The shock was felt very distinctly in the fleet. On the Colbert the commander rushed on deck, believing that another had dashed into him and carried away part of the stern.

November 12.—We can still talk of nothing but the fearful earthquake. The damage done to this rambling old house is greater than we first thought it at first. The whole northern wall is torn from its foundings, and T.'s dressing-room has a huge rent, four inches wide; in the corner of your room, the wall is cracked from top to bottom. In the kitchen the walls are badly broken, and a great mass of brick and mortar fell from the top of the chimney, crushing in the range; had the cook been there, he would have been killed on the spot. As for the breakage of crockery, and the tumbling of things from the etageres, that is not to be considered. T. says the house has suffered so severely that he considers the northern side not only unsafe, but dangerous, in case of another shock. May God avert it!

The night before, being sleepless, I heard the sentinel's "alerta!" and the distant answer—"alerta!" and the last came into my mind—"except the Lord keep the city, the watchman loketh but in vain." How a few hours brought home the Day previous Dr. Pezade, chief of the observatory of the polytechnic school, had announced that it was almost certain that an earthquake would take place within twenty-four hours; he judged from the variations of the magic needle. He timed it, and found its duration one minute and two seconds. If this seem short, take your watch, and try to think the house is falling for that space of time. I can give you no idea of the sound, besides the creaking and groaning of all the timbers, that was a rattling, beyond the noise of any machinery I have ever heard, and through the air the voice of a mighty rushing wind, thought not a breath stirring. In the different towns near Lisbon it has been very bad. At Villa Franca many houses fell, and some persons were killed.

November 13.—The news to-day from Oporto is very sad. The shock was felt there most severely; several public buildings were destroyed and sixty persons killed. At Torres a new church fell. The barracks at Val de Perreiro are greatly damaged, and will have to be rebuilt. A curious thing took place at a Brazilian steamer, sailing from Southampton, on the 9th, she was in the Bay of Biscay on the 11th. That morning the needle of the compass suddenly went round and round, in a manner most inexplicable and alarming. The captain scarcely knew where he was, and dreaded to be passengers that something remarkable was taking place on land—I cannot yet say *terra firma*, my confidence in its stability has been shaken! T. and I are discussing very seriously whether we shall remove to another house. It is one thing not to be overtimid, and another not to be foolhardy. There is no real security in heaving on earth! My nerves are considerably shaken, even *de morulist*, as the French would say, and the rattle of a door or window sounds to my ear like the precursor of another fearful visitor, and makes my heart beat with a quicker pulse. And so I will follow the Viscountess' example, and resolve "not to talk any more of the earthquake."

SMALL PAY.—A seven-eighteenth were passing down one of our Southern rivers a short time since, on board one of the thousand steamers which ply on their waters, one of them was struck of an elegant form and fine bearing, which was then in sight, and addressing a plain, rustic looking gentleman, who stood at his elbow, asked him who that elegant place belonged to.

"Mr. Johnson is the owner," was the reply.

"Well, Mr. Johnson has a splendid farm," replied the gentleman.

Presently, another plantation attracted the attention of these gentlemen, and the rough looking man was again applied to for the name of the proprietor.

"Mr. Johnson is the owner," said the man.

"Indeed—the same man that owns other?"

"Yes, the same man."

"What a fortunate man this Mr. Johnson must be, to have two such establishments as these."

A third, and a fourth, and a fifth plantation, fell under the notice of the gentlemen, and in reply their questions they were informed that they also belonged to Mr. Johnson.

"And who takes care of all these farms for Mr. Johnson?"

"I take care of them," answered the plain looking gentleman.

"Well, it must be a great deal of trouble, and he ought to pay you well for it?"

"He does not, if he ought, said the man.

"What does he give?" asked the gentleman.

"He only gives me my victuals and clothes," said the gentleman, who happened to be Mr. Johnson himself.

"Only your victuals and clothes for doing all that? Why, he must be too mean a man to live!"

ROBERT BURNS' BIRTHDAY.—We understand that the Hon. J. A. Pearce, United States Senator, and the Hon. James L. Orr, Speaker of the House of Representatives, have been solicited, and have accepted, the invitation of the Burns Club, in this city, to preside at the centennial celebration of the birthday of Robert Burns, on the 25th of January next. We believe Mr. Pearce is a lineal descendant of the house of Ramsay, represented by Lords Dalhousie and Panmure, two eminent British statesmen. Mr. Orr is Scotch and Irish in descent, and fully appreciates the poetical genius of Scotland's great bard.

Sir Archibald Alison, the historian of Europe, is to preside at a similar celebrating in Glasgow and Lord Macaulay, the historian of England will preside in London. The versatile Lord Brougham does honor to Scotia's peasant bard, and will preside at the Edinburgh festival.

No one who participates in this festivity can expect ever again to witness another. Preparations are making wherever the English language is spoken to do honor to the author of "Tam O'Shanter," "Man was made to Mourn," and "A man's a man for a' that."

Cole, William and James Burns, sons of the poet, are to be present at the Dumfries celebration.

Burns' genius belongs not alone to Scotchmen, but to humanity; then let all unite to do him reverence.—*National Intelligencer.*

SIMPLE MODE OF ASCERTAINING INTEREST. The Detroit *Advertiser* gives a new method of computing interest on any number of dollars, at six per cent, which appears simple:

Separate the right hand figure by a point, and the figure on the left hand of this separating point will be the interest in cents for six days—the figure on the right of the point, decimals of a cent. Multiply the whole amount by five, to find the interest for thirty days, and this sum by two for sixty days, three for ninety days, &c. For any number of days less than six, take the fractional part of the interest for six. Care must be taken to separate the right hand figures of the dollars, whether there be cents or mills in the given sum or not.

This is all very well, but a simpler and shorter way, remains the Philadelphia Ledger, is to multiply any given number of dollars by the number of days of interest desired, separating the right hand figure, and dividing by six; the result is the line interest of such sum for such number of days at six per cent. This rule is so simple and so true, according to all fractions in it, that everybody, from a financial to a clerk, should prove it up for reference and use. There being no such thing as a financial in it, there is scarcely any liability to error or mistake. By no other arithmetical process can

The Fur Trade of St. Paul.

The aggregate value of furs exported from Saint Paul, Minnesota, this year, is $161,622. In 1857 it was $152,691. In 1856 it was $96,750. The apparent decrease this year is not in quantity, but is occasioned by the decreased value of the furs. Saint Paul is becoming a great depot and outlet for the fur trade. Prior to 1844, the entire fur product of the Red river valley, north and south of the British boundary, was collected by the agents of the Hudson's Bay Company, and sought the seaboard through Nelson's river and Hudson's bay. In 1844 an effort was made from Saint Paul to get the furs of the Red river valley. The first year only $1,400 worth came by that way. In 1846 the value amounted to $70,000. From Pembina, in 1857, there were received at Saint Paul $120,000 worth of furs. This year, owing to a failure and scarcity in the "buffalo crop," the amount is considerably less from that source.

The large overland traffic which has sprung up between St. Paul and the Red river demands new facilities of communication. The immense annual caravans which come from those settlements laden with the products of the chase, and returning with the peculiar wants of their hunters, are an interesting characteristic of trade. In 1858, the aggregate arrivals of Red river carts—those ships of the wilderness—is stated at 600. In 1856, the number was 1,200. In that year, which sought American channels, was conveyed in six carts.

The superiority of the outlet at St. Paul for the Red river region, over the multitudinous portages of Nelson's river, has been abundantly proven. It only wants a railroad communication with the Red river valley, and the whole trade of the Hudson's Bay Company would seek the avenue of exportation through St. Paul. What the aggregate of this trade may be, when fully developed, it is not easy to conjecture. The fact that the average value of the export of furs by the Hudson's Bay Company is about $150,000. At their last half-yearly sale at London, in April of last year, the proceeds were $1,150,000. The annual export of the trade of Winnipeg, directly tributary to St. Paul, is about $1,000,000.

THE RESULT OF THE SLAVE TRIAL IN KEY WEST.—At a special term of the United States District Court, convened at Key West on Monday, the 13th instant, a grand jury was empanelled to inquire into all violations of the laws of the United States, and during their inquiry a true bill was found against Peter W. Front, first mate of the brigg Zyra, which vessel was condemned as forfeited on the 23d of November last, for being engaged in the slave trade. The indictment against Front was for a violation of the said slave laws. The *Key of the Gulf*, of Saturday last, says, the case was tried on the 20th instant, when it was "soon disposed of, the prisoner acquitted and discharged—and the ready 'interesting' part being the remark of the defending attorney, that he did not 'want to hear Williams so abused!' Williams was on the brick kiln!"—*Savannah Morning News, Dec. 29.*

A LOCAL TELEGRAPH IN WASHINGTON.—It is stated in the Union that an arrangement has now been perfected for connecting the Executive mansion, the different Departments, the Capitol, and Willard's, Brown's and the National Hotels, by telegraph with an office in each building. A message of less than ten words, to be sent from any one station to another station for twenty-five cents, and to each and every one of the stations for one dollar. If this arrangement can be carried into practical operation, it will save a great many steps, and be a great public convenience in this city of "magnificent distances."

MISSISSIPPI CENTRAL RAILROAD.—The cars will not be in Coffeeville Christmas week. For several days they have been running to a point within three miles, and possibly by the time we go to press they will be running within a mile of the depot in this place. Cannot an arrangement be made with the Memphis and Charleston road, by which the transportation of freight to this region of country will be facilitated? We hope the Central Railroad will at an early day send freights into the Yazoo Valley.—*Coffeeville (Miss.) Intelligencer, Dec. 25.*

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