Daily Appeal.

MEMPHIS.

SATURDAY.....FEBRUARY 26, 1859.

Largest Circulation in the City.

Reading Matter on Every Page.

The Official Journal of the City.

Democratic County Convention.

The Democratic County Convention will be held at RALEIGH on MONDAY, the 7th day of March.

Democratic Meeting in Haywood.

We are requested to state that the Democracy of Haywood county will meet in Convention at Brownsville, on MONDAY, the 7th day of March, to appoint delegates to the State Convention at Nashville on the 17th of March; also delegates to the Congressional Convention to convene at Somerville, and to fix some definite time to hold a Convention to nominate candidates to represent them in the State Legislature. All who are interested in the success of the principles of the Democratic party are requested to attend. We are assured that proper organization will ensure to the triumph of Democratic principles in the gold set county of Haywood.

State Convention.

In accordance with usage, and as a necessary means of perfecting the organization and securing the success of our party at the next August elections, the undersigned, as members of the Democratic State Central Committee, would urge upon the Democracy of every district of the State, the necessity of holding primary meetings in their respective counties, and appointing delegates to the Convention, to be held at Nashville, to nominate a candidate for Governor. As there are questions connected with our federal policy, as also with our State legislation, that will probably be brought before the Convention, it is important that every county should be represented, and it is suggested that each meeting appoint proxies to cast their votes, in case of inability or failure on the part of their delegates to attend.

We suggest the 17th day of March, 1859, as a suitable time for the holding of the Convention, and would respectfully request the Democratic papers of the State to give publicity to this notice.

A. S. COLEMAN,
P. C. PUNNIGOTOS,
S. L. FINLEY,
State Central Committee.

THE APPEAL—Is regularly discontinued at the end of the time paid for, unless renewed in advance.

☞ With the view of giving our readers an insight into the state and progress of affairs in Mexico, we draw liberally upon the Vera Cruz and City of Mexico correspondence of the New York *Herald*, which will be found on our first and fourth pages.

INUNDATIONS OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

Our able correspondent, Col. J. M. WILLIAMSON, furnishes us with another communication on the subject of the Floods of the Mississippi, and the necessity for general observations to ascertain and predict their return, which will be examined with the deepest interest by all who are interested in the subject.

The general laws to which are ascribed these fearful floods are clearly and accurately traced, and the whole subject is treated in such a philosophical manner as to elicit the researches and investigations of the best minds and soundest thinkers in the country. We trust that these communications will awaken that inquiry which they so well deserve. Meanwhile, let this article be candidly and fairly scrutinized by all who feel an interest in the subject.

RIVER FACTS.

Hewson's "Principles and Practice of River Embankments, as applied to the Mississippi," contains a mass of interesting facts. Though familiar, doubtless, to all engineers who have had a regular professional experience in that peculiar branch of their practice, these facts are new to the general public. We therefore summarize a few of the most striking:

The rate of incline in the bed and in the surface of a stream, is least at the mouth and greatest at the source, the increase of rate going on continually up stream.

The rate of surface-incline going on continually increasing up stream, is greatest in times of flood, the increase of this incline in floods being higher at every successive point up stream. At Cairo, one hundred and twenty miles from the mouth of the Nile, the flood-level is twenty-five feet above low water; at Thebes, five hundred miles from the mouth of the Nile, the flood-level is thirty-six feet; and at the first cataract, six hundred miles from the mouth, the flood swell is so high as forty feet. At New Orleans, one hundred miles from the mouth of the Mississippi, the flood rise is twelve feet; at Friar's Point, seven hundred miles from the mouth, is forty-two feet and six inches; and at Cairo, one thousand miles from the mouth, the swell of floods is no much as fifty feet.

The bed of a river undergoes a constant elevation, this elevation going on at every point in a stream in an increasing rate. In the case of the Nile, the bed elevation has averaged for eighteen hundred years a rate of four feet and six inches per century. At Cairo the rise in the bed since the Christian era has been five feet and ten inches; at Thebes, three hundred and eighty miles higher up, it has been seven feet, and one hundred miles still further up stream, the bed elevation has gone on to the height of nine feet.

The rate of bed-rise at any point in a river seems to bear a regular relation to the flood-rise at that point. At Damietta, situated at the mouth of the Nile, the bed-elevation of flood is nothing, and the bed-elevation at that point is nothing; at Cairo, where the flood rise is twenty-five feet, the bed-rise per cent. is 2.8 inches; at Thebes, where the flood-rise is thirty-six feet, the bed-rise per century is 2.3 inches; and at the first cataract, where the flood-rise is forty feet, the bed-rise is 4.70 inches per century.

The "bottoms" of overflow rivers are being constantly elevated by deposit. The rate of additions to the river bottoms is the same as that of the bed-rise. In the case of the Nile, while the bed has, since the Christian era, been elevated, on an average, seven feet three inches, the whole plain of Egypt has, on an average, undergone the same elevation.

The channel of a river narrows as it advances down stream. At Cairo, the width of the Mississippi is about a mile; at New Orleans, about half a mile.

The depth of an outflow goes on increasing from the source to the mouth. At Friar's Point the low water depth does not exceed twenty feet; at New Orleans it is one hundred and sixty-eight feet.

The average velocity of river-discharge increases continually down stream. This average velocity of discharge is much greater at New Orleans than at Cairo.

The accumulation of water in a channel deepens that channel. This is seen generally in the fact that the accessions of down-stream tributaries go on *pari passu* with the accessions of down-stream depths. Counting from and including the water sections of the Mississippi and of the Ohio at Cairo, the aggregate of water sections discharging through the Mississippi may be set down at eight hundred thousand square feet; whereas this immense volume is discharged at New Orleans through a single water way of but four hundred and eighty thousand square feet.

The advance of deltas into the sea is greater after, than before, the construction of levees. The levees of the Po-Adige river-system in Italy, had been in progress from the thirteenth to the seventeenth century, but in the seventeenth century they were completed. The delta of this river system advanced with the sea from the first to the thirteenth century, at the rate per year of twenty-two feet; from the thirteenth to the seventeenth century, at the rate, per year, of eighty-two feet, and from the seventeenth to the present century, at the rate of two hundred and twenty-nine and a half feet. Least, when those rivers were unlevee, the advance of those Po-Adige Delta increased during the progress of their levee on it, on the completion of those levees, it had undergone a rapid acceleration.

The direct advance of deltas meets its limit in the distributing energy of an ocean current. The progress of the Delta of the Nile, since the birth of history, gives an average of but four feet a year, but this progress has now altogether ceased. From 1824 to 1834, the Mississippi Delta has progressed at the rate of ninety-six feet a year; but a still further advance bringing it finally into that great current of the ocean, this progression will be checked, and finally stopped by the distributing energy of the Gulf Stream.

River engineering seems, from an examination of Mr. HEWSON'S book, to be quite a peculiar branch of modern science; and from the profoundness of its principles, the extent of its facts, and the delicate subtlety of its deductions, is clearly the most difficult practice of civil engineering. Mr. HEWSON treats his subject like a man perfectly familiar with the scientific laws, the professional facts, and the practical exercise of the improvement of rivers. His book has satisfied us thoroughly, that whatever may be the merit of a majority of our railroad engineers, measured by the lights of so masterly a treatment of the subject as that of this "Principles and Practice of Leveeing," we have, in works of river improvement, very few really competent engineers.

MURDER IN LITTLE ROCK.

We understand verbally that great excitement existed at Little Rock last Sunday, occasioned by the discovery of a murder whose means we could not learn. From all the facts we could gather, it seems that a young man was sometime since sent to the Penitentiary from Phillips county, for horse stealing. His relatives and friends in Georgia hearing of the fact, sent a relative of his, a young man of some eighteen or twenty years of age, to Helena with testimonials as to the character and standing of the person convicted of horse stealing, showing that he was of excellent family, well off, and that he could possibly have no motive for the theft.

Upon the exhibition of these, a petition for a reprieve was gotten up by the citizens of Helena and Phillips county, upon the young man carried to Little Rock. While there, his society was cultivated by an individual who had been a guard or policeman about the penitentiary. One night last week, it seems they took a walk out of the city, near the river, when cries of murder were heard by some women, but the night being dark, nothing was done until next morning, when they repaired to the place from whence the cries proceeded and signs of a struggle were discovered. The affair rested as a mystery until Sunday last, when a man, with cloths stained with blood, was approached in church, and who is believed to be the murderer. The community was greatly exasperated, and it was apprehended that summary punishment would be inflicted upon him. We could learn the names of none of the parties, and our account of the affair may be inaccurate in many respects. We shall, in all probability, be in receipt of further particulars in a few days. It was supposed, no doubt, that the young man from Georgia had money about him, which led to his murder.

MISSISSIPPI NEWS.

FIRE IN CLINTON.—The Clinton depot building, on the Southern Railroad, was partly burned on Sunday night last. The fire occurred about 10 o'clock, and by extraordinary efforts was arrested before the flames extended beyond about one-fourth of the building. Fifteen bales of cotton and a small amount of freight were destroyed. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

OPPOSITION CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS.—The Brandon *Republican* suggests the name of Gen. Patrick Henry, of Rankin county, as the Opposition candidate for Congress in that district.

It is proposed in the same paper, that an Opposition Convention be held at Jackson on the third Monday in June, for the purpose of nominating a State ticket.

ALUMNI ADDRESS.—We have been informed that F. W. KEYES, of Carrollton, has been selected by the Alumni Association of the University of Mississippi, to deliver the annual address at the Commencement. Mr. Keyes is a young lawyer, lately located at Carrollton, and is possessed of fine talents. If we mistake not, he graduated in the University Department of the University a few years since. He will, doubtless, deliver an excellent address.—*Panola Star.*

SEVERE SNOWS IN CLAIBORNE.—The Port Gibson *Reveille*, of last Friday, has the following:

On Wednesday morning, about we think, we were visited by the heaviest rain we ever remember to have witnessed. It was so dense as to be difficult to see through. About the same hour of the same morning, a tornado swept over the country about eight miles east of this, and made terrible havoc of the forest for many miles, and we are sorry to say that it damaged the plantation of S. E. Calhoun, Esq., blowing down a part of his quarters, and injuring one of his negroes. It swept with great fury over which is known as the "Jane settlement," a neighborhood of free negroes, leveling to the ground all the dwellings and almost every house on the plantations of Turner Hartle, the Hardy's, Jones', and the Jacobs' before. Several persons were injured, but none, as far as we know, fatally. We have not heard all the particulars, but are apprehensive of hearing much more disastrous accounts.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.—Gen. H. D. McIntosh, elected Brigadier General of the Second Brigade of the Fifth Division of Mississippi Militia, composed of the counties of DeSoto, Tunica, Coahoma, Panola and Lafayette, has selected the following officers to compose his staff:

Wm. Delay, of Oxford, Brigade Inspector with rank of Major.

R. W. Phipps, of Oxford, Brigade Judge Advocate, with rank of Major.

L. P. Cooper, of Panola, Brigade Quartermaster, with rank of Major.

F. Herndon, of Lafayette, Aide-de-Camp, with rank of Captain.

HEAVY RAIN.—Last night we had another heavy rain, which continued without intermission for about eight hours. The rain was accompanied by loud thunder and vivid flashes of lightning. The Tallahatchie was running over its banks, yesterday. This morning, it is rising rapidly, and spreading far into the interior. The clouds are low and thick, and we fear we shall have another *northter*.—*Panola Star, February 23.*

ALABAMA NEWS.

CANDIDATES FOR JUDICIAL STATION.—Reed D. Gayle and Sam'l R. Hicks, both of Dallas, are candidates for Judge in the Selma circuit.

NEGRO SALE.—Twenty-four negroes, old and young, sound and unsound, were sold in Bibb county, Alabama, the other day, at an average of near $1000—half cash and six months with interest. Twenty-seven estate negroes were recently sold in Greene county, for $27,200. Seven were under six years old, and seven were from forty-five to seventy years old.

KILLED.—In Tuscaloosa county, Alabama, on the 14th inst., Daniel Hughes and A. Dennevant were racing their horses on the public road, when the former was thrown against a tree and instantly killed.

NEGROES DISTRESSING.—The Montgomery (Ala.) *Mail* of the 18th says: We understand that negroes sold very low in this city, last Monday. Further, it is said that they can be bought here and sold at a profit in neighboring Georgia towns.

TENNESSEE AND ALABAMA RAILROAD.—The Columbia *Mirror* learns that the cars come within three miles of that city, and will soon be to Duck river. The bridge over Duck at Pulaski is almost finished, and the engineers are only waiting for their iron.

DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTE.—The Talladega *Watchman* speaks in terms of highest commendation of the management of the Deaf and Dumb institute, at that place, and the progress of the pupils, under the charge of Dr. Johnson. The number of pupils is about twenty. The *Watchman* thinks, the State has been exceedingly fortunate in the location, and hopes the next legislature will authorize the purchase of the very handsome and superb building leased by the State, and thereby make the location permanent.

SECESSIONISTS IN TEXAS.—Several gentlemen are mentioned as proper persons to succeed Mr. Dowdell in Congress. Among the number Messrs. Yancy and Hilliard, Rolling Hall and N. Smith Graham. Mr. Y. will not under any circumstances, the Chambers *Tribune* learns, and it therefore declares its preference for Mr. Hilliard. The Opposition will probably run Mr. Judge again.

SOUTH AND NORTH ALABAMA RAILROAD.—The contract for constructing the road bed of the first thirty miles of the South and North Alabama Railroad from Montgomery to Selma, has been let to Messrs. Boyle & Co., old and well known contractors. They will break ground early in the Spring. Hon. Samuel F. Rice has been elected a Director to place of Col. Belser, deceased.

KENTUCKY.—THE OPPOSITION NOMINATIONS.—The Louisville *Courier*, of the 22d, says:

The Opposition pow-wow made the following nominations for the State officers, thereby putting up some pretty good Johns to be shot down by the Democracy:

For Governor, Hon. J. F. Bell, of Boyle; for Lieutenant-Governor, Alfred H. Allen, of Breckinridge; for Secretary of State, Hon. Harlan, of Frankfort; for Auditor, Thomas S. Page, of Frankfort; for Register of the Land Office, John B. Thompson, of Mason; for Superintendent of Public Instruction, W. F. Pirtle, of Barren; for President of the Board of Internal Improvements, Dr. R. R. Haggard, of Cumberland; for Treasurer, Dougherty White, of Clay.

THE FLOODS OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

The floods now coming out from the upper tributaries must invest my discussion connected with the periodical inundations of the Mississippi with peculiar interest.

It has been frequently remarked by old settlers along the Mississippi, that the highest overflows have been preceded by a mild and open winter. This is true, and is as susceptible of demonstration as any other fact known to physical science.

The great freshet and overflow of 1828, it is well known, was preceded by an unusually mild winter. The cotton plant continued green throughout the winter, and was not destroyed by the frost. The character of the winter which preceded the overflow of 1858 is well known. [illegible]

It has been well settled by meteorological observations made by the Smithsonian institute, that we get our rains and fertilizing showers in the valley of the Mississippi, from the Gulf of Mexico.

All the humidity present in our westerly winds is appropriated in their passage over the chain of the Rocky Mountains. Our east winds which have sweptover enormous tracts of land in their transit over the Atlantic. The north winds are generally dry, except when they come in with a distinct depth of water, the moisture of the carrantas from the south and southwest. This is a general view of the effect of our prevailing winds.

It is the prevalence of south and southwest winds coming from the Gulf that brings rain. If a broad and continuous continent stretched off from our southern shores beyond the equator, the valley of the Mississippi would be, perhaps, as arid as that of the Nile, and instead of having floods that come over its banks in a regular manner, and bringing health and fertility, we would be cursed with the deadly sirocco.

In proceeding west to the ninety-eighth parallel of longitude, we arrive at the first dry plain extending to the foot of the Rocky Mountains, where rain is never seen and where the face of the country seems to be blighted with sterility, and rendered unfit for the habitation of the agriculturist. This plain is properly called the American Desert. The peculiar normal condition of this vast area, is attributed by the fact, that the winds which come over the Gulf charged with humidity, never traverse this region, and the west winds have parted with their moisture in passing over the Rocky Mountains.

Our rains, therefore, coming almost entirely from the Gulf, and a mild winter being necessary to produce a prevailing southerly winds, it must follow as a consequence that a mild and open winter must cause unusual humidity of the atmosphere and rain fall, and a consequent rise of the Mississippi. [illegible]

These floods, that necessarily follow a warm winter, as cause and effect, are greatly increased in bight from the fact, that the moisture with which these winds are charged is condensed, and falls in the shape of rain, throughout the northern portion of the valley, instead of being, as in colder winters, absorbed and used by all the tributaries into the Mississippi, whereas, in ordinary winters, when other winds prevail in those regions besides the south, nearly the rain falling in the northern half of the valley is congealed into snow and ice, and remains arrest until the water that falls in the lower valley runs out. Hence, when we have south winds, we have an extreme high water in the Mississippi; there can not be a concurrence of floods in all the tributaries at one and the same time.

We see, therefore, that cold weather in the winter being the normal condition of our climate in that season of the year, and a warm winter being the exception, it is evident that the extreme high water of the last season was an exception to the usual and natural floods of the river.

We may, likewise, from the reasoning laid down above, confidently expect a high tide in the Mississippi this spring, the winter having been generally mild—not as high as last year, because that was the highest known to the memory of man. It will be seen, also, that the extreme floods of this mighty stream are not the result of accident, but they are not regulated by fixed laws.

The causes which produce a mild winter, to wit: the prevalence of southerly winds, are, of course, beyond our control, but they enable us to predict with certainty the probable effect upon the rain falling and the consequent rise of the river, from a sagacious and the strange flood tide. The Agriculturist, therefore, on the contrary, who well observes these laws, will be on the lookout, and prepare for the consequences, either by a timely retreat or by a brave resolution to contend against the "evil of troubles;" in that case, his anxiety will be most intense to know the worst, and prepare for it. Which would be not then give for a system of rain-gauge observations, taken throughout the valley and telegraphed to some central point, which would predict the height of the flood, [illegible] would be safe to say, within six inches of its maximum. W.

THE ESCAPE OF SILAS ST. JOHN.

(From the Charleston Press.)

In yesterday's issue, we spoke at length of the necessity for the organization of Arizona. The story hold below is a strong commentary upon our remarks.

Mr. St. John, the named hero of this escape, is young this city, and the great outrage he displayed under the horrible situation on to which he was placed, entitles him to much sympathy. It is understood that Mr. St. John brings letters of commendation from distinguished sources to many prominent men in Congress; and should the territorial bill for Arizona become a law, an application—which we trust will be successful—will be made for him for a subordinate appointment in the Territory, where he has been, by the loss of his arm, disabled for life.

THE ESCAPE OF SILAS ST. JOHN.

Mr. Silas St. John, the only survivor of the party in charge of the United States mail station at Dragoon Springs, Arizona, in September last, has reached this city from San Francisco, by the sea passage, and is on his way to Washington, with letters commending him to the attention of the Government. He called at the office of the Century, on Thursday last, and gave us the following particulars of the murder of his associates, and of his own remarkable escape and sufferings. He were an overcoat of the national blue, one sleeve of which hung loose and empty at his side. He was born in the city of New York, and is now only twenty-four years of age; but his features are already strongly marked by the resolution that is required by exposure to the toil and accidents of pioneer life.

Dragoon Springs is the Gadsden purchase, eighty-three miles east of Tucson, and sixty-five miles from the Rio Grande. The mail station, a rectangular inclosure, twenty-five by thirty-five feet, protected by a stone wall two and a half feet thick, at the base, and eight feet high. One-third of the space is occupied by the storehouse and the sleeping apartment of the station-master. The mules are kept in the other part, ready for change on the arrival of the mail. A heavy wooden gate defends the entrance.

Three Mexicans, named Guadalupe, Bonifacio and Pablo, and three Americans, constituted Mr. St. John's guard at the time of the attack. On the night of the 5th of September, one of the Mexicans took turn on the sentry, while the other two were supposed to be sleeping outside of the corral. James Burr, formerly of Watertown, New York, also slept on the outside on a bench. The Station-keeper, Peyton Cunningham, of California, and James Long, of Kentucky, were sleeping in the storeroom, which communicated by a door with Mr. St. John's apartment. The first notice to Mr. St. John that of any unusual movement, was the passage of the two Mexicans from the outside into the storeroom, and immediately after he heard blows struck. He called to Burr to arouse him outside, but at that instant the poor fellow was killed by the third Mexican. The two rushed into Mr. St. John's apartment. Guadalupe made a stroke at him with a carpenter's axe, which cut him severely in the hip. Bonifacio struck at him with a chopping axe, and he received the blow on his left arm, which was instantly disabled; he was fortunate enough to knock him down with his foot before he could aim a second. When he treated, still warding off blows, to the head of his mattress, for his gun, when the two assassins barked out; but because the gun fall, they judged that St. John was mortally wounded, and returned to the assassins accompanied by the boy who had killed Burr. St. John met them with a revolver and fired, when they ran all fled. The shot struck Pablo, and his bones were found, some days after, picked by the wolves.

St. John took up a position where he could see around the corral, and commanding the door with revolver, when he fell over from the loss of blood. His left arm was broken and cut through, excepting only the flesh which covered the main artery. He was alone all the next day, which was Thursday. Cunningham died twenty-four hours after he received his wound. Long staggered about, hardly sense of life, the brain oozing from his skull. They attempted to drink some water which the Mexicans had placed there in buckets, but it caused vomiting immediately, and St. John preferred on the ground, fearing that excessive weakness from the loss of blood might tempt him to try it again. Long died six days after he received his wound. The mules were suffering for food and water, and several had broken loose. St. John crept a distance of fifteen feet, and opened a gate to let them out, and returned to his watching place. This exertion cost him two hours of time, on account of his extreme weakness. The wounds began to mortify on the second day, and on Sil with maggots. His only unfeeling and absolute sovereign to endure the extremity of human anguish, and this because they had taken pity on the poor dumb brutes, ment which the savage has himself had adopted, and to which he had lent the sanction of his own experience.

Many years have now elapsed since Mr. Gladstone first drew attention to the terrible condition in which he found the unfortunate Poand his companions. From that time to the present, the knowledge that such a tragedy was in the course of perpetration, has been felt by the civilized world as a reproach to humanity.

We would recommend these victims of a most cruel oppression to the kind sympathies of the New World. They may venture there to take our word for it that their poor men are no charlatans. Had matters turned out so that they had been liberated on English soil, they would have been feted and honored, and all that a generous sympathy could have accomplished to alleviate the rigor of their destiny, would gladly and cordially have been done. Garibaldi, however, is too close to Italy. An ovation in London to his prisoners would not have been acceptable to their late jailer at Naples. His jealousy would be aroused, and when the waters of the Atlantic roll between him and the men whom he has unrighteously detained in such protracted agony, and whom he has now cast out upon the world, mere shatterd in mind and body, penniless and paupers—[illegible] wrecks of humanity, our men. These poor men, we should imagine, have but little about them to remove the wrongs and the recollection of the cause in which these wrongs were endured, to recommend them to the sympathy of the Republic. They are not gifted with eloquence, nor can they boast of being able to handle the sword to defend the cause of freedom; they are but men who have suffered ten years of drudgery in the cause of freedom; that is all, but we hope that is all enough.

☞ The Washington *Union* published a letter from a German, now eighty years old, who, it says, is perhaps "the only individual living in either hemisphere who enjoyed the pleasure of the table, seated on the right hand of Washington."

☞ Voltaire had a perfect horror of inquisitive persons. He said to one of these: "Sir, I am glad to see you, but give you fair warning—I know nothing about that which you are going to ask me."

LATER FROM THE ISTHMUS.

Two Weeks Later from California—Another Battle with Indians—Highly Important from Mexico—Mysterious Morning on Fire—Overflow of Water—The City and State in Arms.

(From the N. O. Picayune.)

SOUTHWEST PASS, February 21.—The United States mail steamship, *Quaker City*, Captain R. W. Shufeldt, commanding, crossed the Bar at six o'clock this evening, and has passed up the river.

The Quaker City left Manzanillos at 10 o'clock the evening of Friday, the 18th, up to which date we have advices from the Isthmus.

She brings 100 passengers from California, all well—and the usual Pacific mails, with dates to the 5th inst. from San Francisco.

Among the Quaker City's passengers from the Isthmus are Mr. *John Mehrel Murphy* and J. W. Hargous, Esq., of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company who return home on a short leave of absence.

DISCOVERIES ON THE ISTHMUS.—Very rich and important gold discoveries have been made on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

The mines proper, as yet discovered, are two in number, both in or near Chivela Mountains and Panaca.

One is on this side, the other is on the southern slope, near the Rio Verde, where the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company's great transit route leads down into the Pacific plains.

The Panaca mine, or that of the Rio Grande, "The Jake L. Simons was the steamer that connected with the Oregon at Acapulco on the other side, on the 5th inst.

She had on board 200 passengers for Panama, besides the 165 on the Tehuantepec route, and $1,700,000 in treasure.

THE PARAGUAY DIFFICULTIES.—Advices from San Francisco, by the Quaker City, are two weeks later and to the 5th inst.

The vote on the resolutions, in the California Legislature, requesting the Hon. David C. Broderick to resign his seat in the U. S. Senate was nearly unanimous. It stood yeas fifty, nays two.

The resolutions reflect freely yet severely upon the senator's course. There is nothing further of special interest or importance by this mail, either from the city of San Francisco or interior of the State.

BATTLE WITH THE COLORADO INDIANS.—The Quaker City brings news of another fierce battle with Colorado Indians, in which the United State troops were compelled to retire. The Indians belonged to the Mohave tribe, and the engagement took place near the Colorado river. The United States troops were commanded by Lieut. Chapman, of the dragoons. He had a force of but about fifty men with him. The Indians numbered in the number of 800 warriors.

(The result of this conflict is completely the reverse of previous news on the same point. *Ed. Ap.*)

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

The Quaker City brings several days later Mexican news than was taken out by the Tennessee—to the 18th instant, from Minatitlan, and to the 12th from Vera Cruz. It is of a highly exciting and important character.

Miramon is on his way to Vera Cruz, at the head of a large army, to overthrow the Juarez government.

All the accounts he was at Orizaba with 6000 men, 4000 of whom are said to be cavalry, and well mounted.

He was hastening with all speed in his march, and, unless intercepted by Liberalist troops in the Sierras, would be in less than ten days before Vera Cruz.

Very grave apprehensions are everywhere felt in the Southern part of the Republic as to the result.

The revolutionary or church party are everywhere gaining ground throughout the country.

It is believed that if Vera Cruz falls, the liberal party must succumb.

They have still, however, strong foothold on the other side, whither the Juarez Government will at once proceed, to establish a new capital, in case of defeat on land.

The whole country is around, and Vera Cruz is in a state of great excitement. The troops are being called in, and the city put in the best state of defence.

The garrison at Minatitlan has also been withdrawn to take part in the defense.

A NEW ARGUMENT ON THE TARIFF QUESTION.

We call the particular attention of our readers to the following paragraph in a speech of Hon. J. F. Dowdell, Alabama, delivered in the House of Representative, on the 2d inst.:

Mr. Chairman: I do not intend to discuss, at this time, the subject of the tariff, nor to reply at length to the arguments and sale-argument of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, [Mr. Morris] who has just taken his seat. I deny the constitutional power of this Government to impose any duty for protection. He takes the ground that it is competent for congress to impose an able review of the past policy of this and other countries, that a tariff for protection is highly expedient; and that it not only benefits the manufacturer, but, after a series of years, will cheapen the price of the protected articles to the consumer. Is the course of Massachusetts, he says

"I challenge the advocates of free trade to produce a single article which has had the benefit of protection for a series of years, that has not fallen greatly in price. Instead of protective duties enhancing the cost of the fabrics, they have everywhere, in the United States, and in Great Britain, been the most only reliable means of insuring its abatement."

Now, Mr. Chairman, is it not a little strange that the great agricultural and laboring classes of this country, who consume the greater part of these protected articles, have not before this time discovered the truth of this proposition, and been before Congress with petitions for higher duties? It is not still more strange that the protected classes, whose manufactures are thus reduced in price, have been the only people who clamor for higher tariffs? But, in answer to the challenge to the friends of free trade, I can give him a class of property of no little value, which has for a "series of years"—yea, for a series fifty years—been protected against foreign competition in the point of prohibition, and has all the time, aside from temporary Bachanites caused by disagreements in the Democratic party, fallen in price hundreds per cent. I allude to the slave property of the South, now worth $2,000,000,000. Is not this a case in point?

This is what we call a palpable hit—and a center shot at that. It is an *ex cathedra* stroke. It bears full investigation, and challenge discussion. Moreover, the argument is even stronger than would appear on the first glance. If there is any reason, whatever, for the doctrine that protection operates to cheapen a product, it would apply, practically and theoretically, with much greater force to slave property than to manufactured articles.

There is no limit to the production of the supply of slaves. Not is there the rapid recurrence of demand, necessarily incident to articles of consumption. There is nothing precarious in the production of slaves. The river boatmen's precious lists for a lifetime. And there is no uncertainty, in cases of sale, to make a margin of profit, ready for change on the street or the mail. A heavy wooden gate defends the entrance.

Three Mexicans, named Guadalupe, Bonifacio and Pablo, and three Americans, constituted Mr. St. John's guard at the time of the attack. On the night of the 5th of September, one of the Mexicans took turn on the sentry, while the other two were supposed to be sleeping outside of the corral. James Burr, formerly of Watertown, New York, also slept on the outside on a bench. The Station-keeper, Peyton Cunningham, of California, and James Long, of Kentucky, were sleeping in the storeroom, which communicated by a door with Mr. St. John's apartment. The first notice to Mr. St. John that of any unusual movement, was the passage of the two Mexicans from the outside into the storeroom, and immediately after he heard blows struck. He called to Burr to arouse him outside, but at that instant the poor fellow was killed by the third Mexican. The two rushed into Mr. St. John's apartment. Guadalupe made a stroke at him with a carpenter's axe, which cut him severely in the hip. Bonifacio struck at him with a chopping axe, and he received the blow on his left arm, which was instantly disabled; he was fortunate enough to knock him down with his foot before he could aim a second. When he treated, still warding off blows, to the head of his mattress, for his gun, when the two assassins barked out; but because the gun fall, they judged that St. John was mortally wounded, and returned to the assassins accompanied by the boy who had killed Burr. St. John met them with a revolver and fired, when they ran all fled. The shot struck Pablo, and his bones were found, some days after, picked by the wolves.

St. John took up a position where he could see around the corral, and commanding the door with revolver, when he fell over from the loss of blood. His left arm was broken and cut through, excepting only the flesh which covered the main artery. He was alone all the next day, which was Thursday. Cunningham died twenty-four hours after he received his wound. Long staggered about, hardly sense of life, the brain oozing from his skull. They attempted to drink some water which the Mexicans had placed there in buckets, but it caused vomiting immediately, and St. John preferred on the ground, fearing that excessive weakness from the loss of blood might tempt him to try it again. Long died six days after he received his wound. The mules were suffering for food and water, and several had broken loose. St. John crept a distance of fifteen feet, and opened a gate to let them out, and returned to his watching place. This exertion cost him two hours of time, on account of his extreme weakness. The wounds began to mortify on the second day, and to fill with maggots. His only unfeeling and absolute sovereign to endure the extremity of human anguish, and this because they had taken pity on the poor dumb brutes, ment which the savage has himself had adopted, and to which he had lent the sanction of his own experience.

Many years have now elapsed since Mr. Gladstone first drew attention to the terrible condition in which he found the unfortunate Poand his companions. From that time to the present, the knowledge that such a tragedy was in the course of perpetration, has been felt by the civilized world as a reproach to humanity.

We would recommend these victims of a most cruel oppression to the kind sympathies of the New World. They may venture there to take our word for it that their poor men are no charlatans. Had matters turned out so that they had been liberated on English soil, they would have been feted and honored, and all that a generous sympathy could have accomplished to alleviate the rigor of their destiny, would gladly and cordially have been done. Garibaldi, however, is too close to Italy. An ovation in London to his prisoners would not have been acceptable to their late jailer at Naples. His jealousy would be aroused, and when the waters of the Atlantic roll between him and the men whom he has unrighteously detained in such protracted agony, and whom he has now cast out upon the world, mere shatterd in mind and body, penniless and paupers—[illegible] wrecks of humanity, our men. These poor men, we should imagine, have but little about them to remove the wrongs and the recollection of the cause in which these wrongs were endured, to recommend them to the sympathy of the Republic. They are not gifted with eloquence, nor can they boast of being able to handle the sword to defend the cause of freedom; they are but men who have suffered ten years of drudgery in the cause of freedom; that is all, but we hope that is all enough.

☞ The Washington *Union* published a letter from a German, now eighty years old, who, it says, is perhaps "the only individual living in either hemisphere who enjoyed the pleasure of the table, seated on the right hand of Washington."

☞ Voltaire had a perfect horror of inquisitive persons. He said to one of these: "Sir, I am glad to see you, but give you fair warning—I know nothing about that which you are going to ask me."

CALIFORNIA TOPICS OF THE DAY.

From the San Francisco Herald.

Of the most important articles of news furnished us by the arrival of the *John L. Stephens*, is that the Argentine Confederacy had entered into an alliance with the United States, by which the Panama *Star and Herald*, Buenos Ayres agrees "to carry the United States's a place of deposit in the cities of war with Paraguay. She will allow the troops of the United States free transit, both by land and water, and she will lend her ally every aid in her power to conquer Paraguay." Although the news is not authenticated, we see no reason to discredit it entirely, but rather hold the opinion that something of the sort has transpired. The geographical position of Buenos Ayres, and the very many facilities afforded by the Argentine provinces, will be of immense service to our fleets in those waters. Paraguay is called the Paraná. The Paraná, from its junction with the Paraná River proper, and during its course through the province of Paraná, which is one of the Argentine Provinces; but on reaching Buenos Ayres it again changes its name, and is known as the River La Plata. The Uruguay River is a large branch of the La Plata, and separates the Argentine Confederacy from Uruguay and Paraná, emptying into the La Plata a short distance from Buenos Ayres. The La Plata is forty-seven miles wide at Buenos Ayres, and is navigable for the largest ships of the navy. The Paraná is navigable for vessels of large size. The city of Buenos Ayres is of considerable importance, with a population of 90,000 souls, and one of the principal commercial ports of South America. Ships drawing over sixteen feet of water are, however, obliged to anchor at a distance of seven or eight miles from shore. But it will be seen that without an alliance with Buenos Ayres, the United States squadron would be powerless in Paraguay, unless, by violating existing treaties of Buenos Ayres, and if the fleet be allowed free transit through the waters of Buenos Ayres, it can scarcely be supposed that any blame from the United States may see fit to employ, will also be permitted to march through that country. Nevertheless, the concluding clause of the extract from the *Star and Herald*, indicates a desire on the part of the United States to conquer Paraguay, and a corresponding desire on the part of Buenos Ayres that Paraguay should be conquered. The United States have expressed no wish to engage in hostilities with Paraguay. They only demand that American citizens, and American property, shall be respected in Paraguay, and a strict observance of the existing treaties between the two governments, together with ample amends for past grievances. It is for Paraguay to elect whether she will grant these demands with force of arms, or whether she will adopt a more tolerable method. The United States fleet will not enter the waters of Paraguay until peaceful measures have been resorted to and exhausted. It is left to the dictator, Lopez, to choose, and he alone will be responsible for the result. It is not for conquest, but concession to just demands that is desired by the United States. Buenos Ayres being the great outlet for the commerce of Paraguay, and a great deal greater than the suit, and that the laws of Hindoo and Indian were a unconstitutional as the constitution of Oregon. But he held that there was an apology in both cases.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH ONCE MORE.—We learn from St. John's that Cyrus Field, Chief Electrician of the Atlantic Cable Company, has arrived there with batteries and instruments, and will commence operations on the cable at this end of the line. The cable, it will be remembered, transmitted from Valentia the last semi-intelligible "wave" of electricity, which the company received this ago. We hope he has come here with some confidence in his instruments, and that he has left proper persons in Ireland to attend to his batteries there. When spring comes, the undertaking at Valentia will be commenced again, and it is possible that we may be able to make some use of the cable during the summer. If the great Atlantic cable cannot be made to work for some time, it will be looked upon like the great sea serpent—long talked of, sometimes seen, but never becoming a reality.—*N. Y. Herald.*

A LOYAL BANISHMENT.—John Berry, who was a Lieutenant in the patriots, and condemned by the British authorities during the Canadian rebellion of 1837, and was banished to Van Diemen's land, has just returned to Detroit, Michigan, from the British penal settlement. He was 42 years of age when banished, and is now nearly 64.

☞ The Baltimore Sun has a dispatch from Boston dated the 22d, which says: "The judiciary committee of the House of Representatives has reported a resolution granting one thousand five hundred dollars to enable Levi Bisson to bring a suit against the State of Virginia for levying a tax upon existing vessels.

☞ A new pass in the Rocky mountains has been discovered by Capt. Pelliser, commander of a British surveying party. It lies near the 21st degree of longitude, between the head of Kokinashi river—a fork of the southern branch of Saskatchewan—the Blow river.

A GOLDEN WEDDING.—G. Zahn, Esq., and wife, of Lancaster, Pa., celebrated, on Saturday last, the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding, by a great family reunion.

☞ The Massachusetts Legislature have failed to abolish capital punishment—an indication that radicalism in that State is dying out.

☞ Mr. William Curran, son of Lawrence, the brother of John Philpot Curran, the great Irish orator, is now an inmate in a poorhouse in Kanturk.

☞ Russia is forty-one times the size of France, and thirty-eight times that of England.

☞ Forsyth, the inventor of the percussion lock for fire-arms, was a clergyman.

☞ The Queen of England is a grandmother for the last forty years old.

TRIBUTE TO LITTLE WILLIE P***Y.**

I saw a mother sitting
With an infant on her lap,
Gently, and she was singing,
While he, her innocent, took a nap.

And as he lay and slept,
I saw a pleasant smile
Across his cherub face it crept
Where love reigned and fond guile.

Like an angel above