Daily Appeal.

MEMPHIS.

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The Official Journal of the City.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR,

ISHAM G. HARRIS.

EMANCIPATION OF THE SERFS IN RUSSIA.

We have pleasure in laying before our readers the portion of Dr. Raynor's lecture Monday night that treated of the Emancipation of the Serfs in Russia. At our request the Doctor has written out and greatly enlarged the remarks which he made on the subject.

Serfage in Russia commenced at an early day. Russia and his Northmen, in the ninth century, did much to reduce the inhabitants of the most northern of the three Slavonic kingdoms, (that of Novogorod, which they subdued,) into the condition of serfs. In this they only did what all the Northmen—Goths, Vandals, Anglians, Danes, Norwegians—did in all the countries which they conquered. WILLIAM the Conqueror divided the lands of England among his 60,000 officers and men, and reduced the Anglo-Saxons of that country to the condition of slavery. As to Russia, the Tartar invasion and the civil wars which preceded, did much to make the poor peasant submit to the more powerful nobles—agreeing to render "service" in consideration of receiving "protection." In some parts of Russia the masters were reduced to serfage for crimes, especially for rebellion against the government, general or provincial.

It was in this way, and by natural increase, that the number of serfs became, in process of time, very great. Including the women and children, the entire number more than fifteen years ago was quite 48,000,000. The statistics on the subject Dr. R. received from COUNT KISSELEFF, then Minister of Public Domain, but now the Russian Ambassador at Paris. Of these 48,000,000 serfs, 20,000,000 belonged to the Emperor (in other words to the crown or government;) 1,800,000 were appanages of the crown (that is, they lived on the public lands from which the members of the imperial family derived their revenues,) and 26,500,000 belonged to the nobles and other rich proprietors. The number belonging to the crown has augmented very much within the last twenty years, while that of the serfs of the nobles has considerably diminished, for reasons which will presently appear. A few years ago a distinguished Senator from the North asserted in Congress that the population of Russia was 25,000,000, of which 24,250,000 were serfs, leaving only three-quarters of a million of freemen. He was mistaken; the entire population of Russia is not less than 70,000,000, and the number of freemen 22,000,000.

There are no serfs in Finland, nor in the Baltic Provinces, nor in the Grand Duchy of Warsaw, (which the Congress of Vienna gave to Russia,) commonly called the *Modern Kingdom of Poland*, nor in Bessarabia. That is to say, there are on the western side of Russia no less than eight millions of people, dating when there are no serfs. As to Finland, that country has been free for a long time before it was torn from Sweden and annexed to Russia. In the Baltic Provinces, serfage once existed, but its abolishment was commenced in the reign of ALEXANDER I, and was completed in that of NICHOLAS. It was abolished in three districts or periods of ten years each. In the little kingdom of Poland, or Duchy of Warsaw, serfage was abolished about the time of the second partition of what was the ancient large Kingdom of Poland. There are but few serfs in the Asiatic portion of the Russian Empire. The serfs are chiefly convicts and their descendants who are in Siberia.

The serfs in Russia in these days, and for many years, are truly ascript glebæ, and cannot be sold separately from the estates to which they belong and on which they were born. They are all of the white race—Slavonic, so much as their proprietors. The greater number of them are farmers or cultivators of the ground. There are many, however, who are mechanics—carpenters, shoemakers, tailors, etc. They are even remarkable for their mechanical ingenuity, and in many cases they are very expert artisans.

As to the serfs, who are cultivators of the soil, they are more like permanent tenants than any thing else. Each family is allowed by the proprietors for his agent, in case the estate belongs to a rich nobleman,) fifty or eighty, or one hundred acres of ground, to cultivate, according to their ability, (as to the number of hands and quantity of stock). Where the serf has ample means of his own to furnish the live stock and agricultural implements necessary, he renders to his proprietor one-third part of all that he raises on the farm—wheat, rye, buckwheat, oats, flax, hemp, potatoes, etc. But where the serf, as is often the case with young people just setting up for themselves, has almost nothing to begin with, the proprietor helps him to stock his farm and furnishes the necessary implements of agriculture, and requires him to render him one-half of all that he raises for a few years. In many cases the proprietor prefers to receive in money, instead of kind, his share of the profits of the farm. It saves him a vast deal of trouble to collecting his share of the grain, vegetables, etc., and turns it into money. In this case, as far as Dr. BAYNE could learn, the serf pays something like four dollars a piece for himself and his family, excepting the children under four years, for they are not counted. In some parts of the empire the sum is probably more; in some less. Dr. R. knew a nobleman who had seven thousand serfs, and whose receipts amounted to nearly $20,000 per annum.

The serfs of the poorer proprietors in Russia are tenantably the worst treated, being often worked too hard. It is found that where a proprietor does not own more than one hundred serfs, his position is not well, both for himself and his serfs. On this account, the government, some eighteen months ago, came to the resolution that all proprietors of less than one hundred serfs should sell them and of course the estate which they hold, and go into some profitable business which they would probably be entitled to do. "But just at that moment the question of general emancipation came up in a way that seemed too favorable to be neglected. We may say at this point, that the serfs who belong to the Emperor are the best cared for of all, and are proud of the relation which they sustain to him, when they call their "father." Dr. R. stated that he once gave very considerable offense to one of these crown serfs, by asking if whether he was a serf. "I a serf?" he replied, "No; I am no serf; I am a freeman, for I belong to the Emperor."

As to the serfs who are mechanics, if married their proprietors furnish them with a house and garden, and they make what they can, paying to the proprietor a stipulated portion of their gains. And all the serfs of the crown, or nearly all, do the same thing—pay in money. So do those who go out to service, and are hired by Russians or foreigners, as coachmen, cooks, master workmen, or common servants about a house.

Some of the serfs are poor, most are rude and semi-Asiatic in their appearances, and live very rudely in their log houses. Others are well off, and buy their freedom if they can obtain it.

DR. R. spoke of a nobleman in Moscow who had, not a few years ago, asked what is for richer than he, and who will not sell him his liberty, because he wished to be able to say, that when he gives a dinner party, and the serf is required to wait on the table, he has the richest servant of all wait in Russia! He also stated that many serfs have money laid up in institutions and associations of benevolence and for savings, and that it has sometimes happened that when an insolvent proprietor dies, his serfs send a committee to engage a proprietor distinguished for his good character, even if he is at a great distance, to come and buy the estate, and if the should say he is not able, they will tell him that the serfs on the estate will lend him the money needed! As to the money received by the Emperor from his twenty millions of serf, it is mostly laid out in improving the estates on which these people live. Little or none of it goes into the public treasury—at least this was the state of things, as Dr. R. was assured in the reign of NICHOLAS, who was in the habit of buying the lands of insolvent proprietors when they failed to repay the money loaned to them by the government on their lands.

The Emperor DIMITRIAN was very popular in the early period of his reign of abolishing serfage throughout the Empire, and in a conversation which he had with Prince REPNIN, he stated his determination to do so. The Prince remonstrated, and told him that the time had not come for so important a measure, stating that the serfs were not sufficiently elevated in their civilization to receive their liberty with advantage. "I know it," said NICHOLAS, "the time has not come; it ought to be done in the life-time of my son, but I foresee that he will not have the energy to do it. My brother ALEXANDER desired to do it, but he had not the energy; but, Prince, God has given me the energy to do it, and I will do it, let it come what it may!" But he did it not. He issued three chases on the subject, in the third of which he took the only practicable ground for that day (about 1838 and '40,) namely that of recommending to the nobles to liberate their serfs whenever they could by selling them at a fair valuation, and the lands which they cultivated. Dr. R. stated that the noble man of whom he had spoken (M. de BRUNES) who had 7,000 serfs liberated them in this way, and received a large sum for his lands.

The present movement commenced in the following manner: Some noblemen in the three governments, Wilna, Grodno and Kovno—all lying in what was once called Lithuania—in the western part of the Empire, applied to the Emperor for permission to hold a conference on the subject of liberating their serfs, stating their reasons for believing that it would be better for the country to be freed from what they considered a great evil and drawback. The government immediately replied that such permission they should have, and appointed to be part a commission to co-operate with such a one as they might appoint. This has been done, and the whole subject is now under the most careful consideration.

In the meanwhile, there is much agitation throughout the Empire. In the eastern part the serfs having gotten the idea that their proprietors are opposed to the measure, resorted to acts of violence, burning and destroying everything. The nobles fled to the cities and strong places for protection; but the government interfered promptly, and suppressed that movement, and ordered the serfs to be quiet and obey—saying that if would look after and manage the whole affair. The serfs obeyed the voice of the Emperor, and are quiet.

Dr. BAYNE stated, that so far as he can learn from his friends in Russia, the plan which will probably be adopted contemplates three periods of time. The first will be sufficiently long to allow the proprietors time to arrange, if possible, with their serfs as to terms and time—some serfs being able to pay at once for their lands, or freedom without lands, in case of mechanics, and some needing years to do it. The second period will embrace the time in which the government will cope to as a master, in cases where the proprietors and serfs cannot agree. And the third period, of several years, will be that in which all parties will become accustomed to the new state of things, during which the serfs, though emancipated and free, may not remove from their present abodes. Ten or fifteen years will probably be needed to carry the country through this great change. The Emperor, if he should live, will see it through. Nor is it likely that he will have very great difficulty. He is best on get, and no sign of ever having used spectacles. As the notorious Col. Hines had recently successfully passed himself off as a Congressman, some thought he was now playing a bold game, and was endeavoring to palm himself off as ex-Governor Foote of Miss. But the illusion was soon dispelled, for they soon perceived, as he progressed in his speech, that he possessed all the gaiety of old age, with all the egotism peculiar to Henry S. Foote. He spent several hours in disgusting self-laudation; his compromise measures of '50 had saved the Union; the most glorious period of the existence of the Government was when he was in the senate, and Fillmore was President. But since he has been out of the Senate, and during his peripatetic tour in search of office, the country has trodden rapidly to ruin, and is now on the great dissolution.

When Foote's mind was somewhat exhausted, M. Quarles, the man who has always believed he was born to go to Congress, and who happened to change his politics according as the lines of his Congressional district were changed, got up to make a talk. He confined himself principally to the currency question, and as he is one of the stockholders of the Bank of America, whose notes are at forty per cent. discount, we suppose he understands the question pretty well. He said he was for giving the people what they have lost nothing by getting—only sixty cents for what cost them one hundred cents, and that the bank was no gainer by such a transaction. But we will say no more of their orators.

The convention was more spiritless than the one two years ago, that nominated the "orphan boy;" but this was owing, in a measure, to the absence of the "orphan boy's" godfather, Col. Joseph Peck.

It is by no means disadvantageous to the Democratic party, that they should have the honor of a healthy campaign. The preparations of the Opposition party for the coming contest are not, to think, of a cheerful character. No thoughts of conquest seem to enter their breast. They appear to be resolving "to die with dignity and courage." The dis of preparation will soon be heard in every section of the State, and there will be a general clashing of matchlocks and clashing up of swords. The same spirit induced Priam, when the destruction of Troy was announced to him, to "buckle on a suit of antique armor and oppose a valorous but harmless sword to the progress of the impetuous Pyrrhus. And who can doubt the result of the coming contest?

MERCURY.

OPPOSITION STATE CONVENTION.

(From the Nashville Gazette.)

The State Opposition Convention, made up of a large number of delegates from the various counties of the State, assembled yesterday morning in the Representative Hall of the State Capitol.

The convention was called to order at a quarter past eleven o'clock, by Hon. W. H. Wisener, of Bedford, who stated that a committee, appointed by a preliminary meeting, recommended the following for permanent officers of the convention:

President—Ex-Governor N. S. Brown, of Davidson.

Vice-Presidents—A. M. Looney, of Maury; George I. Holmes, of Shelby; and Thomas J. Campbell, of Bedford.

Secretaries—H. C. Walker, W. Hy. Smith, E. A. Parham, R. S. Northcott, N. R. Walker, W. Z. Neal and J. S. Nebbett.

On taking the Chair, Gov. Brown addressed the convention briefly and eloquently.

Gen. Zollicoffer moved the appointment of a committee of nine—three from each division of the State—to nominate a strong ticket, and recommend a platform. Carried.

The chairman announced the following as the committee:

F. K. Zollicoffer, Dr. J. W. Richardson, John J. Polk, W. H. Wisener, J. M. Quarles, Jere. Clemens, J. H. McMahon, J. M. Morrill, Thos. Rivers, D. R. Ingram, J. E. Cooke, R. B. Hudson, John M. Fleming, W. B. Reese, Jr. and W. C. Kyle.

On motion of Mr. Cooper, of Bedford, each Senator represented furnished the Secretaries with a list of his delegates. (Want of space is our reason for not publishing the names of the delegates.)

During the retirement of the Committee on Resolutions, Col. Jere Clemens, the distinguished editor of the Memphis *Eagle and Enquirer*, being called upon to address the Convention, responded to a speech of much eloquence and force.

At the conclusion of Col. Clemens' remarks, on motion, the convention adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention came up at 2 p. m., when Gen. Zollicoffer, in behalf of the Committee on Resolutions, reported the following:

The people of Tennessee, opposed to the Democratic party, declare:

1. That the Union, as established by the Federal Constitution, is the surest guaranty of the rights and interests of all sections of the country, and should be preserved.

2. That while we will maintain with unwavering firmness for Constitutional rights in relation to slavery, we believe that the further agitation of the question tends to no practical good to any portion of the country, and should, therefore, cease; regarding the principles as settled that the people of the Territories when they come to form a constitution and establish a State government, shall decide the question for themselves.

3. That we are opposed to direct taxation and in favor of the adoption of a tariff adequate to the expenses of an economical administration of the General Government, with specific duties, which will afford discrimination in favor of American industry.

4. That the United States should accept the Island of Cuba at any time when it can be acquired consistently with the national honor, and should resist, to the last extremity, its transfer to any foreign power.

5. That we favor the construction of the public land otherwise than for governmental purposes, Tennessee and the old States are equally entitled to receive a proportion with the States and Territories where they are located.

6. That we are in favor of a reasonable extension of the period of probation now prescribed for the naturalization of foreigners, and of a more rigid enforcement of the law upon that subject; the prohibition of the immigration of foreign paupers and criminals, and the prevention of all foreigners not naturalized from voting in elections.

7. That the recommendation of the President that Congress shall confer upon him the war-making power, and subject the military and navy to his control, with the demand for enormous appropriations out of the public treasury to carry such a scheme, (meaning the reckless extravagance and waste of the public money, and corrupting practices under the present Administration, deserve the unqualified condemnation and rebuke of the whole country.

8. That we are in favor of a sound and well-regulated banking system; the issues thereof, not by being payable on their face, at the place of issue, should be invertible, at the will of the holder, into the precious metals.

9. That we favor the maintenance, inviolate, of the public faith, by the prompt payment, at the proper time, of the interest on public debt, and no further increase of it, unless for some object of indispensable public necessity.

10th. That we hereby pledge ourselves to use our utmost exertions and united influence to wrest our third party which, having brought the Government to bankruptcy, and filled the whole land with fraud, have now thrown themselves upon the contagious, and agree in nothing but a desire for dominion, and are bound together by an oath to accept the exclusive power of public plunder; and we hereby pledge ourselves, the one to the other, and to our common country, to use our best exertions to restore the administration of the government to its original purity, and to effect these laudable objects, we earnestly invite the opposition to the present Democratic party, to organize in every county of the State, and prepare for the work of extrinsment and rally m.

These resolutions were received with acclamation and passed unanimously and enthusiastically. The

Colonel J. H. McMahon then offered the following:

Resolved, That we recognize the unmistakable preference of the Opposition party all over the State for John Netherland, and hereby ratify that preference by nominating him as our candidate for Governor of Tennessee.

The above resolution were received and adopted amidst the utmost enthusiasm. When the enthusiasm had subsided there was a call upon Thomas J. Campbell, of Bradley, who responded in a short speech, in which he pledged Mr. Netherland to accept the nomination which had just been made. He also pledged East Tennessee to do her whole duty in the coming campaign.

The convention was then addressed by ex-Governor H. S. Foote, of Mississippi, in which he reviewed with great clearness and power the condition of the country, and the necessity for the administration of the affairs. His speech was some two hours in length, and was marked with great energy and force.

Gen. Quarles offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President of this convention be, and he is hereby authorized to appoint an Executive Committee for each grand Division of the State, consisting of three from each fire, as he may deem best, with the power to appoint county committees in each county in their respective divisions.

Dr. John W. Richardson moved the appointment of a committee of five to inform Mr. Netherland of his nomination and ask his acceptance. The chair appointed the following: J. W. Richardson, A. M. Looney, I. B. Cook, W. G. Brownlow and George I. Holmes.

Gen. James M. Quarles next addressed the Convention, and was followed by John P. House, Esq., both gentlemen making terse and effective speeches.

The convention then adjourned until 7 o'clock, P. M.

MEMPHIS, BYHALIA AND HOLLY SPRINGS RAILROAD.

DESOTO COUNTY, MISS., April 2, 1859.

EDITORS APPEAL: Being at Memphis and formerly a Mississippian, I take a great interest in this important enterprise. Having been engaged in engineering in various many places and in different latitudes, in removing preliminary lines and establishing and locating lines, and in making out estimates of the cost of construction, etc., and also having been over and examined a portion of the country, and seeing the great extension of the people's funds, which, if this road, I think, and am confident that I speak advisedly, when say that it is a practical and an advantageous undertaking in almost every light, can be viewed. At first sight, to me, and that to many others, the project seemed impracticable and unprofitable to the stockholders; but upon the second thought, from mature deliberation and correct examination, the enterprise looks more and more favorable. It is the settled belief and conviction of our greatest railroad men that it is a grand, growing country, a big, big country, and we must go ahead, or we will be left behind. Our country is rapidly filling up, and we are certainly exploded, lodging the entire contents in the back of Mr. Polkes, between the ribs, and we have no time to lose. Time and tide wait for no man. Mr. F. was in the prime of life, highly respected, and leaves three children, one doubly orphaned, they have neither father nor mother living.—Vicksburg Southern, March 27.

INTERESTING CONTRACT.—Our readers will remember that we published from the Port Gibson Reveille, which the last few days, an account of the burning of the house of Mr. Sheffield, at Linden, Copiah county. We also noted from the same paper, an offer which the trustees of the property, in which Mr. Gibson, in which a young man named Dunbar was shot. The wounded man, believing he was dying, contract, $1,000,000—that he would be healed in time and values what it had taken Mr. Sheffield years to acquire. Our correspondent does not say whether Dunbar embraced a number of the offers made during the time. He only is the saying exemplified in this case, that "a conqueror makes cowards of us all."—Ib.

CLIPPINGS.

Some Republican papers in Illinois are suggesting the nomination of a southern man for the Presidency by their party, with Abe Lincoln as a candidate for the Vice President.

The Mobile Register learns that parties are organizing in that city for the purpose of forming a line of steamships with a view of competing with in favor of Mrs. Gen. Gaines, for twelve hundred acres of land, bounding on the lake, and about a quarter of a mile below the site of old Fort Charlotte.

The Lower House of the Ohio Legislature has passed a bill taxation all railroad companies in that State to fence their railroads, and to pay all damages, also, that all forces dividing the railroad from farms adjoining, shall be regarded as partition fences, and the owners of adjoining farms shall be compelled to pay one-half the cost of constructing the same.

THE YELLOW JESSAMINE POISON.—We have on two occasions recently spoken of the poisonous character of this beautiful vine, and we now add another illustration. We have now, with regret, to add a third warning, which we hope will be heeded by all.

On Sunday evening last, a child of Mr. McKinney, of this city, about seven years of age, ate some of the flowers; and although the child was immediately relieved, it was for some time considered, by the child died in a very short time.

We do not wish to repeat it, that parents and others who have charge of children, cannot be too cautious in this respect, as the words are now filled with this plant, which is in full bloom.—Jacksonville (Ala.) Republican.

REMINISCENCES OF COL. BURR.—The Jersey City Courier is indebted to an intelligent correspondent for an interesting reminiscence of Aaron Burr. The authority is the Rev. Col. Dunlap, who related the statement from the lips of the late Peter Jay Monroe, a distinguished lawyer, who studied his profession with Burr. Mr. Monroe died which he testimated in the death of Gen. Hamilton, while Mr. Monroe was seated, on a dark, stormy night, in his library, he was informed by a servant that a man in disguise earnestly desired to see him. Upon being shown in, and the disguise removed, Colonel Burr stood before him, saying that his life was in danger; that he had to skulk in the woods, and that he had to meet his life escape secretly; and that he was entirely destitute of funds. Mr. Monroe, from whom Colonel Burr had no reason to expect assistance for of two hundred and fifty dollars, on his strong personal interest on that amount, from the time he entered the office till the time of his death, amounting to two hundred dollars, with which the fugitive made his escape.

A LIVE ARABIAN IN TOWN.—Some of our citizens have seen a Turkish Arab on Saturday, by the appearance in our streets of a lone fair Arabian, who occupied a seat in the buggy of a friend, and who, from his dark and sunburnt features, and his dress, and his manner, and the attention which he attracted. Our citizens were prepared, by an article in the Republican of the morning, for the sight, and yet, from the little raised in intelligence above the brute, and without a solitary feeling of personal attachment, or sense of duty." Judge, then, of their surprise when they saw in the person of this distinguished stranger, a bright, intelligent boy, somewhat abashed in the presence of so many people, but still possessed of sufficient self-control with true African politeness, when replying to anything said to him, and repeating many things with wonderful accuracy, when he was called upon.

He seemed much attached to "Mass' Charlie," as he called his owner, much to the astonishment of certain constant readers of the Republican who were surprised to find that possessed of "a solitary feeling of personal attachment." He was introduced to many of our citizens, among others, Mr. Collector Rozier, who was the friend of his had in a most accomplished manner.

The rapidity with which this boy and his companions have learned the rudiments of civilization, plainly prove their native docility and amiability, and their entire capacity and willingness to acquire all that is necessary to render them valuable additions to our slave population.—Savannah News, March 28.

NEW ROBBERY.—We learn from a official source, that Rev. James Hamilton has been appointed Bishop of Chicago; Rev. Father Thomas Grace, D. D., of Memphis, has been promoted to the Bishopric of St. Paul, Minnesota; Rev. Father James Whelan, O. P., of Somerset, Ohio, has been appointed Coadjutor to the Bishop of Nashville. He was recently Provincial of the Order of Preachers for Ireland. O'Gorman, Prior of the Trappist Monastery, near Dubuque, is created Vicar Apostolic of Nebraska.—*Catholic Mirror.*

It appears that 5,000 emigrants have arrived at New York since the first of January.

THE ANNEXATION OF CANADA.—A gentleman named King has issued a circular to Upper Canada, recommending the Parliament, on the ground of the great expense of the Provinces, to pass resolutions, and, in fact, to take measures for the severance of the two provinces from the British dominion, and the immediate annexation of Canada West to the United States.

THE WHEAT CROP.—Reports of the wheat crop from the Chickasaw Bluffs to Pontotoc are favorable. There are some objections, of course, but generally the prospects are quite encouraging. The Illinois papers agree that there is a probability of more than an average harvest in the South. In Michigan the prospects are equally favorable. These remarks also apply to Ohio and Western New York. From Texas the accounts are exceedingly flattering. Wheat is in fine condition. Corn is also looking well. It is few weeks behind and has mostly escaped the late plowing. The wheat in that State is three weeks earlier than west. The forests have assumed a green hue, and the fruit trees are covered with young fruit. In Louisiana, wheat is in good condition and promises well.

☞ The Pennsylvania Legislature has passed a bill granting a charter for a passenger railway on Chestnut and Walnut streets, Philadelphia, by the provisions of which the city is to get one hundred thousand dollars toward bridging the Schuylkill at Chestnut or Walnut street. The fare is placed at five cents. This is precisely the principle adopted by New York, Boston, and Baltimore, in regard to the street railway system.

STEAMBOAT COLLISION AND LOSS OF LIFE.—CINCINNATI, March 29.—The steamer *Nat. Holmes*, bound from Pittsburg to St. Louis, with one hundred and fifty passengers, mostly emigrants for Platte Purchase, collided with the *David Gibson*, bound from New Orleans for Cincinnati, with a cargo of sugar and molasses opposite Ripley, Indiana, last night, and both sunk. Their cabin floated off, and from fifteen to twenty lives are supposed to have been lost on the *Holmes*. Our account says that other lives are lost, but none were saved.

The *Gibson* had but few passengers on board, all of whom are supposed to have been saved, but two or three of the crew are missing.

The *Gibson* was owned here, and was valued at $125,000; and was insured for two-thirds of her value in Philadelphia and Pittsburg, and valued at $10,000.

MISSISSIPPI NEWS.

TALLAHATCHIE DEMOCRACY.—The Democracy of Tallahatchie county held a meeting at Charleston on the second Monday of April, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the State and District Conventions.

TALLAHOMA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—At a late meeting of the Agricultural Society of Tallahoma county, Dr. A. W. Bartlett was elected President, and G. W. Aldridge, Secretary.

JUDICIAL ELECTION IN SOUTH MISSISSIPPI.—The Natchez Courier, of the 25th March, says:

We received a telegraphic dispatch from Woodville yesterday, stating that Judge Chalmers's majority in Amite county, over Mr. Duncan, was about 300. The exact vote not known.

This, with the reported majority in Franklin, would elect him by about 250 majority in the district.

The same paper of the 28 inst. has the following:

EXTRAORDINARY HAIL STORM.—The several hail storm ever known in this vicinity, passed over Natchez yesterday evening, between five and six o'clock. Fortunately, it was unaccompanied with wind, and was but of short duration. Nevertheless, during that time it resembled more a pelting of ice balls, than a fall of hail. The ice literally came in solid chunks, sometimes oval in shape, and sometimes irregular. But few pieces fell that were not the size of a hen's egg, while many were picked up as large as a goose or turkey egg. We saw a piece half foot long, that had fallen, during part of which time they had been handled, measured six inches in circumference. We saw several, of about five inches in diameter, the largest very nearly round, and two and three quarter inches the shorter axis. It was certainly the most extraordinary fall of hail ever witnessed, and must have done considerable damage to tender fruit and vegetables in the environs over our city. The hail was preceded by a shower of rain, but, without any other indication of a severe storm.

We have since heard that in other parts of the city, especially near the river, hail of still larger dimensions fell. Pieces are spoken of as over six inches in length, four in width, and three in thickness—much larger because longer, than a large orange. Some were gathered weighing six and eight ounces each.

The storm came from the south-east, and in the neighborhood of Natchez Island, a few miles below the city, must have been very destructive. The timber of the island is heard all over the city, resembling a distant steamer blowing off, and reminded all who heard it of the great tornado of 1840.

VOLUNTEER FIRE.—We regret to record a sad accident which occurred in this county on Friday evening, and which has resulted in the death of a young man of this city, named Dunbar, which Friday evening, Mr. James A. Folkes, and his nephew, Warren Bolls, a young man aged about nineteen, were about starting off on a hunting excursion, when Mr. Folkes's musket accidentally discharged, and was in the act of riding off. At this moment, young Bolls, who was a few paces behind his uncle, sprang up into his saddle, and as he was in the act of his gun up, it was accidentally exploded, lodging the entire contents in the back of Mr. Folkes, between the ribs, and passing through his lungs, and ranged upward, when he expired. Mr. F. was in the prime of life, highly respected, and leaves three children, one doubly orphaned, they have neither father nor mother living.—Vicksburg Southern, March 27.

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Some Republican papers in Illinois are suggesting the nomination of a southern man for the Presidency by their party, with Abe Lincoln as a candidate for the Vice President.

The Mobile Register learns that parties are organizing in that city for the purpose of forming a line of steamships with a view of competing with in favor of Mrs. Gen. Gaines, for twelve hundred acres of land, bounding on the lake, and about a quarter of a mile below the site of old Fort Charlotte.

The Lower House of the Ohio Legislature has passed a bill taxation all railroad companies in that State to fence their railroads, and to pay all damages, also, that all forces dividing the railroad from farms adjoining, shall be regarded as partition fences, and the owners of adjoining farms shall be compelled to pay one-half the cost of constructing the same.

THE YELLOW JESSAMINE POISON.—We have on two occasions recently spoken of the poisonous character of this beautiful vine, and we now add another illustration. We have now, with regret, to add a third warning, which we hope will be heeded by all.

On Sunday evening last, a child of Mr. McKinney, of this city, about seven years of age, ate some of the flowers; and although the child was immediately relieved, it was for some time considered, by the child died in a very short time.

We do not wish to repeat it, that parents and others who have charge of children, cannot be too cautious in this respect, as the words are now filled with this plant, which is in full bloom.—Jacksonville (Ala.) Republican.

REMINISCENCES OF COL. BURR.—The Jersey City Courier is indebted to an intelligent correspondent for an interesting reminiscence of Aaron Burr. The authority is the late Col. Dunlap, who related the statement from the lips of the late Peter Jay Monroe, a distinguished lawyer, who studied his profession with Burr. Mr. Monroe died which he testimated in the death of Gen. Hamilton, while Mr. Monroe was seated, on a dark, stormy night, in his library, he was informed by a servant that a man in disguise earnestly desired to see him. Upon being shown in, and the disguise removed, Colonel Burr stood before him, saying that his life was in danger; that he had to skulk in the woods, and that he had to meet his life escape secretly; and that he was entirely destitute of funds. Mr. Monroe, from whom Colonel Burr had no reason to expect assistance for of two hundred and fifty dollars, on his strong personal interest on that amount, from the time he entered the office till the time of his death, amounting to two hundred dollars, with which the fugitive made his escape.

A LIVE ARABIAN IN TOWN.—Some of our citizens have seen a Turkish Arab on Saturday, by the appearance in our streets of a lone fair Arabian, who occupied a seat in the buggy of a friend, and who, from his dark and sunburnt features, and his dress, and his manner, and the attention which he attracted. Our citizens were prepared, by an article in the Republican of the morning, for the sight, and yet, from the little raised in intelligence above the brute, and without a solitary feeling of personal attachment, or sense of duty." Judge, then, of their surprise when they saw in the person of this distinguished stranger, a bright, intelligent boy, somewhat abashed in the presence of so many people, but still possessed of sufficient self-control with true African politeness, when replying to anything said to him, and repeating many things with wonderful accuracy, when he was called upon.

He seemed much attached to "Mass' Charlie," as he called his owner, much to the astonishment of certain constant readers of the Republican who were surprised to find that possessed of "a solitary feeling of personal attachment." He was introduced to many of our citizens, among others, Mr. Collector Rozier, who was the friend of his had in a most accomplished manner.

The rapidity with which this boy and his companions have learned the rudiments of civilization, plainly prove their native docility and amiability, and their entire capacity and willingness to acquire all that is necessary to render them valuable additions to our slave population.—Savannah News, March 28.

NEW ROBBERY.—We learn from a official source, that Rev. James Hamilton has been appointed Bishop of Chicago; Rev. Father Thomas Grace, D. D., of Memphis, has been promoted to the Bishopric of St. Paul, Minnesota; Rev. Father James Whelan, O. P., of Somerset, Ohio, has been appointed Coadjutor to the Bishop of Nashville. He was recently Provincial of the Order of Preachers for Ireland. O'Gorman, Prior of the Trappist Monastery, near Dubuque, is created Vicar Apostolic of Nebraska.—*Catholic Mirror.*

It appears that 5,000 emigrants have arrived at New York since the first of January.

THE ANNEXATION OF CANADA.—A gentleman named King has issued a circular to Upper Canada, recommending the Parliament, on the ground of the great expense of the Provinces, to pass resolutions, and, in fact, to take measures for the severance of the two provinces from the British dominion, and the immediate annexation of Canada West to the United States.

THE WHEAT CROP.—Reports of the wheat crop from the Chickasaw Bluffs to Pontotoc are favorable. There are some objections, of course, but generally the prospects are quite encouraging. The Illinois papers agree that there is a probability of more than average harvest in the South. In Michigan the prospects are equally favorable. These remarks also apply to Ohio and Western New York. From Texas the accounts are exceedingly flattering. Wheat is in fine condition. Corn is also looking well. It is few weeks behind and has mostly escaped the late plowing. The wheat in that State is three weeks earlier than west. The forests have assumed a green hue, and the fruit trees are covered with young fruit. In Louisiana, wheat is in good condition and promises well.

☞ The Pennsylvania Legislature has passed a bill granting a charter for a passenger railway on Chestnut and Walnut streets, Philadelphia, by the provisions of which the city is to get one hundred thousand dollars toward bridging the Schuylkill at Chestnut or Walnut street. The fare is placed at five cents. This is precisely the principle adopted by New York, Boston, and Baltimore, in regard to the street railway system.

STEAMBOAT COLLISION AND LOSS OF LIFE.—CINCINNATI, March 29.—The steamer *Nat. Holmes*, bound from Pittsburg to St. Louis, with one hundred and fifty passengers, mostly emigrants for Platte Purchase, collided with the *David Gibson*, bound from New Orleans for Cincinnati, with a cargo of sugar and molasses opposite Ripley, Indiana, last night, and both sunk. Their cabin floated off, and from fifteen to twenty lives are supposed to have been lost on the *Holmes*. Our account says that other lives are lost, but none were saved.

The *Gibson* had but few passengers on board, all of whom are supposed to have been saved, but two or three of the crew are missing.

The *Gibson* was owned here, and was valued at $125,000; and was insured for two-thirds of her value in Philadelphia and Pittsburg, and valued at $10,000.

LATEST FROM KANSAS.

LEAVENWORTH, March 28.

An arrival on Saturday from Denver City brings dates to February 14th. Everything in that country is represented as progressing favorably. The season is not yet for much advances to admit of mining being carried on, except at irregular intervals. From four to ten dollars is the average yield per day with a rocker. Dutch companies are being formed to carry water from the Platte river to Cherry creek, a distance of twenty miles. The city is beyond all precedent. Upwards of a thousand people have arrived here since Friday last, and the suburbs of the city are covered with companies in camp. Jones & Russell dispatched their first train on Saturday, and another will leave to-day.

The jury in the case of John Dey, now being tried in St. Joseph, have disagreed.

Judge Lecompte granted a change of venue on Saturday, in the case of Tattle, who killed McEwen last fall.

The people vote to-day for or against the formation of a State Constitution. Also, on the local question prohibiting the keeping of liquor saloons open on Sunday.

LEAVENWORTH, Kansas, March 29.

The Sunday law has been sustained by 400 majority. The whole vote cast was 1,700. There was little or no opposition to the constitutional question, which was carried by a small but decided majority.

A mule pressed was entered in the case of Chas. Doty, and he was released from custody on Sunday, and is now in this city. Dr. Dey has been held to bail in the sum of $5,000, for trial at the next term of the court.

Advices from the mines to February 26th, two weeks later, have been received here. Near Arrapahoe City the miners express themselves confident of making large wages with sluices and hydraulic hose. Prospects tried yielded as high as fifty cents to the pan, but four cents was about the average. The weather and water were still too cold to admit of any extensive outdoor operations.

ANOTHER BODY FOUND.—The Baton Rouge *Advocate* informs us that another body, probably one of the victims of the *Prisoner*, has been found at the mouth of the Pirquemine. Upon examination, it was believed to be the body of T. Parkhurst, and supposed, from letters about the person, to be from New Orleans. A gold watch bore that name, a letter from his father at New York, addressed to that name, and sundry other letters, with similar subscription, all indicate the same. The body was decently interred in a metallic case, by Jacob Schlitter, Esq., and the papers, etc., are in the possession of that gentleman.

THE MILITARY FORCE OF EUROPE.—The present military force of Europe number nearly five millions of men, and the naval force over a quarter of a million. This fact will give some idea of the immense cost of maintaining the present direct arrangements in that quarter of the globe.

MARRIED.

In this city, on the evening of the 30th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. J. W. Kneeland, Mr. R. J. LAWRENCE to Miss JANNY A. SPRINGER, all of this city.

The happy couple set out on Monday morning for a tour of pleasure, and we hope they may meet with no more than the usual share of the ills of life, in the pursuit of happiness and pleasure, and return to their home and friends in health and strength.

The bride is one of the most accomplished and lovely young ladies of this city, and the bride's father is one of our most worthy citizens, and a gentleman of the first order of business talent, and a man of the most unimpeachable integrity and honor.

The groom is a young man of the most amiable character and disposition, and a young man of the most promising business talent, and a young man of the most unimpeachable integrity and honor.

The bride's father is one of our most worthy citizens, and a gentleman of the first order of business talent, and a man of the most unimpeachable integrity and honor.

The groom is a young man of the most amiable character and disposition, and a young man of the most promising business talent, and a young man of the most unimpeachable integrity and honor.

Tribute of Respect.

At a meeting of the citizens of Raleigh and vicinity, assembled at the house of the late Mrs. Mary Mills, this the 29th day of March, 1859, for the purpose of paying a tribute of respect to the memory of JAS. R. THOMAS, the Editor Greely of Greene County, Ala.

On motion, Dr. W. H. Mills was called to the Chair, and Mr. Henry Lake appointed Secretary.

The object of the meeting being stated by the Chair, on motion, a committee was appointed to prepare resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting, and report the following, which were unanimously adopted, viz:

WHEREAS, Death has, of our late fellow-citizen, Jas. R. Thomas, who departed on the 10th instant, at the age of twenty-two years, and, in the prime of his manhood, and at the very outset of his career, in the world, and before he had had time to achieve any thing worthy of the world, and before he had had time to make public the talents with which he was endowed, and which he was so well prepared to use, and which he was so anxious to use, for the benef