Daily Appeal.

MEMPHIS.

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☞ A large amount of interesting matter will be found on our first and fourth pages this morning.

ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE.

Our dispatches from Washington last evening, brought an assurance of the thorough organization of the National House of Representatives, by the election of Jesse W. Forney, (anti-administration,) to the clerkship, and Mr. Horseman, of Maryland, (opposition,) Sergeant-at-Arms. No other business was transacted, and the House adjourned until Monday.

OPPOSITION CONVENTION.

The Oppositionists of Shelby county have a meeting announced to take place at Raleigh to-morrow, and we shall know what they design by this movement when we see their resolutions. They will probably nominate JOHN BELL for President, declare the Democratic party to be corrupt, and the Black-Republicans sectional, laud the glorious Union, and nominate themselves as the only trustworthy, conservative Union party. We do not see the necessity for such an organization, and regard it as an effort to divide the people into factions, just as our Representatives are divided at Washington. We think it clear that the South ought to be united at the present important crisis in our history, in order that the consolidated vote of the Southern States may be cast for a constitutional man. If the Opposition are determined to distract the Southern States, we shall have the drama of the last Presidential election played over again, with probably a more tragical result, in the event the Black-Republican candidate succeeds. Or, to refer to a more recent event, if our councils are distracted and the strength of the South divided, we shall witness another such contest, on a larger and more deplorable scale, as that which has just terminated in the triumph of a Black-Republican Speaker to the House of Representatives. No true and patriotic southern man can be granted with such another scene as this, when the southern much had the mortification of seeing the South scattered on nearly every ballot, while our sectional enemies, the Black-Republicans, came up, in almost a solid mass, voting for a Helperite, nearly in a body, every day for two months. May we be spared such a contest as that on the theater of the whole Union, to shake the fabric of the Government and most probably destroy forever this proud heritage of our fathers.

RAILROADS—TO DO, OR NOT TO DO

The report made to the city council by the engineer, Mr. Mason, employed on the part of the city of Memphis to survey a railroad route from the opposite shore of the river to the Missouri State line, for the purpose of putting Memphis into direct railway communication with St. Louis, merits the profoundest attention of our merchants and citizens. We know there is one truth respecting our railway system, which very many are loth to receive, but which nevertheless must be adopted, or the prosperity of Memphis must suffer, and that is that Memphis must yet exert further energies and expend still more money in extending her railroad system. We know there is a strong disposition to look with a complacent eye upon the Charleston, Mississippi and Tennessee, the Memphis and Ohio, and—though with less complacency—the Memphis and Little Rock railroads; to put the hands in the pockets and say: "Memphis has done enough." If Memphis has done enough to secure to herself the position of which she is ambitious—that of "commercial metropolis" of the country lying between the ranges of St. Louis and New Orleans; if what she has secured by railroad is safe, and no other road built or likely to be built can take from her, or materially diminish, the advantages her railroads have secured to her, then her capitalists, merchants and citizens are justified in lying down at their ease, and proclaiming, "Memphis has done enough." If, on the contrary, further advantages may be secured by yet further pushing out the iron arms, or if new enterprise is necessary to make safe and permanent the advantages we have attained, then, emphatically, Memphis has not done enough.

We undertook to show that Memphis has not yet done enough, that the railroad advantages she has obtained by her labors and sacrifices are now being taken from her, and that further advantages not now possessed may, by additional exertion, be added to the facilities she at present possesses. Before doing so, however, it may be worth while to ask—with a portion of those whom we have heard discussing this question—is it worth while for us to trouble ourselves further, or to spend more money upon railroads? have we not yet all from them we are ever likely to do? and may we not be at rest on the question, leaving to private enterprise the construction of such roads as may be thought likely to pay a good return on the investment made? Of these persons we would ask—was it ever worth while for Memphis to engage in railroad enterprise? Has that enterprise brought a rich return of prosperity, dignity, and wealth? If it has done so—if it has transformed a village into the busy city we now see it—if it has made the laborer an employer, the store-keeper a merchant, and the merchant a man of wealth, position, and influence—unless we are tired of prosperity and satisfied with wealth, let us go on as we have begun, and let the enterprise that has done so much for us be pursued until all that can be obtained from railroad extension has been obtained, then—and not till then—we may fold our arms, lie comfortably at our store doors, and say: "Memphis has done enough." We must go on, and on, until our city becomes the center of a network of railroads, or the interests of Memphis toward a lofty future will be clogged at the very outset of her promising career.

We have undertaken to show that, in reference to railroad building, much as Memphis has done, she has not yet done enough, and we shall have shown this if we prove that she has, by supineness, aided the schemes of competing and rival lines, and failed to avail herself of advantages clearly and easily to be obtained. Last week the Mississippi Central railroad was completed, and passengers can now step on the cars of that road at New Orleans and pass on to Columbus, Kentucky, thence to Cairo, where the gates of the East and North stand open before them. This takes a large amount of travel that used to be ours east of us, and keeps it quite away from our city. This is, of course, fair competition, with which no sensible person would find fault; the fault is that Memphis was not prepared for the change so she might to have been; the means whereby to soften the blow were not used. The Mississippi and Tennessee road runs from this city to Grenada, where it connects with the Mississippi Central, thus giving opportunity for all passengers on that road to reach Memphis by a line that is almost a part of the route they are running on—the Central. This road, however, though long enough in hand, and though its position was made known to our city council and others, was and is left incomplete. Had that road been ready for use by the time the Central was fully opened—which it easily might have been—passengers by the latter road would have understood, from the very first, the facilities there were for traveling by way of Memphis; as the matter now stands, when the Mississippi and Tennessee road connection with the Central is made, travelers will have become accustomed to traveling on to Columbus, giving Memphis the go-by. The completion of this road, so as to be in readiness for the opening of the Central, was a mere matter of time, and a little exertion in Memphis would have insured its completion at the right time. Here is a palpable advantage lost by the let-alone policy of those whose cry is, "Memphis has done enough."

We undertook to show that advantages now possessed by this city may be secured by proper action, and these advantages are as important and as great as any we have already gained. We now allude to the building of a railroad from the opposite shore of the river, so as to make a direct connection with the city of St. Louis, and to place Memphis on the main trunk line of travel between the cities of New Orleans, St. Louis and Chicago. At present a passenger leaving New Orleans for St. Louis, or Chicago, or adjacent country, will get on a car at New Orleans, be conveyed to Columbus and Cairo, and thence via the Illinois Central, to St. Louis or to Chicago. If Memphis puts on her old railway energy, and builds a road to connect with the Pilot Knob railway, and thus with St. Louis, the passenger leaving New Orleans as above, would—as the shortest route—be conveyed on the Mississippi Central to Grenada, Mississippi, where he would get on the Mississippi and Tennessee road, which would bring him to Memphis, where he would cross the river and proceed by the iron Mountain road to St. Louis, and from thence to Chicago and the East, or elsewhere. By this means, it will be seen, the Mississippi Central road, which is now a rival, taking travel and traffic from us, would become a tributary, pouring business and prosperity into our lap. Does this seem to be "too good to be true?" We ask the doubter simply to take up a map and stretch a string upon it from the city of New Orleans to that of St. Louis, and observe how directly Memphis lies in the direct line between the two; then extend the string to Chicago, and observe the position of Memphis and St. Louis with reference to a direct route between New Orleans and Chicago, and then form his conclusions. Our cry is, "to the road and to the testimony," to the map and the line—these tell no falsehoods and color no facts.

Have we not performed what we have undertaken? has not Memphis, in the case of the Mississippi and Tennessee road, neglected to avail herself of opportunities fully within her reach? and has she not in the case of the iron Mountain road an admirable chance of securing advantages—commerce, wealth, and popularity—as great as any that have hitherto been placed within her reach? Let it be remembered, however, that the St. Louis connection is not to be had for asking. The Missouri legislature convenes soon, and powerful influences will be brought to bear to have the road terminate at some other place than Memphis; and Memphis must be up and doing, and must exercise her insinuation doubtedly to secure for herself the grand prize now within her grasp, or the legislature of Missouri may take action that will render it difficult for her to make this most desirable addition to her railroad facilities. This subject should command the attention of every resident of the city of Memphis. It is intimately blended with the future prosperity of the place.

MEETING OF MERCHANTS.—We publish, with pleasure, the following proceedings of a meeting of leading merchants, held in this city last evening:

At a meeting of the merchants of Memphis, held last evening, at the office of Messrs. Brown, Owen & Co., pursuant to a call for the purpose of taking action upon the sudden death of J. S. Webb, one of their number, Wardlaw Howard was called to the chair, and W. Williams appointed secretary.

Upon motion of R. Rockett, the undersigned were selected as a committee, to give notice to, and request the merchants of Memphis generally to attend the funeral of the deceased, and a body form at his late residence on Union street, at half past two o'clock this evening.

JAMES BUNN,
R. A. PARKER, Jr.,
HENDERSON OWEN,
W. R. CARGILE,
T. W. HAMILTON,
R. POCKETT.

Afterward, upon motion of T. A. Hamilton, a committee of six were appointed to draft suitable resolutions, and report to an adjourned meeting, to be held on Tuesday evening next, at the office of Gates, Wood & Mr. Knight.

The chair appointed as follows: J. Tim. W. B. Mills, Miles Owen, R. Graham, S. M. Gates, W. Howard.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, February 1.—The Harper's Ferry Investigating committee discharged itself to-day. He will leave immediately for New York. Thaddeus Hyatt arrived here to-day, and will appear before the committee to-morrow.

Senator Wilson was before the committee to-day. He stated that early in May, 1858, Mr. Forbes came to his seat in the Senate chamber, and introduced himself, and informed him that he (Forbes) had been employed by Brown to go to Kansas to drill some men; that in 1857; that Brown had not paid him for his trouble; that his (Forbes') family was starving in Europe. He said that the men in the Fort whom he contributed for the defense of Kansas ought to pay him.

He was much excited, and denounced Brown and others. He said that some of the arms which were sent to Kansas had passed into Brown's hands, and were stored in Iowa. He wrote to Dr. Howe, suggesting to him to go over of the men who had contributed arms for the defense of Kansas, to get these arms out of Brown's hands, and place them in the control of reliable men in that Territory, who would see that they were not used for illegal purposes, or it would involve the men who had contributed them in trouble. Dr. Howe immediately wrote back that the arms had been sent to Brown to deliver up those arms. The matter passed out of his mind, and he supposed all was right. He had never heard a word about the organization of forces for the invasion of Harper's Ferry in 1858 or afterward, and did not know that Howe had sent his letter to Brown.

The resident Democratic National committee several days ago instructed their chairman to call on Senator Mason to inquire into the authority of the newspaper dispatches in relation to the proceedings before the Harper's Ferry committee. He was assured that information had not been furnished by any member of the committee or clerk for publication, and that the statements sent abroad were no part of the testimony, but they may have been furnished by witnesses or their friends.

All the members of the House who voted for Mr. Pennington have been notified to meet at the capitol to-morrow afternoon. The place of meeting is known for all other elective officers of that body.

The Senate to-day decided to act in executive session to-morrow, on the motion to reconsider the vote confirming Francis J. Grund was rejected as consul to Havre.

Mr. Smith, of North Carolina, in justice to the Democrats who voted for him, has received some of them, or all, by proof, that he never was a Know-Nothing.

The Charleston Convention—Names of Delegates—Presidential Preference.

It is now less than three months to the meeting of the Charleston convention, which convenes on the 23d of April next. The delegates from twelve or thirteen States have already been appointed, and their preferences of the delegates on the first ballot, as far as they are appointed, are as follows:

STATES.	Douglas.	Hunter.	Guthrie.	Johnson.	Davis.	Cushing.
Ohio	43					
Illinois	11					
California	4					
New Hampshire	5					
Maine	8					
New York	35	10				
Georgia		9				
Pennsylvania		15				
Virginia		15				
Kentucky			12			
Tennessee				15		
Maryland					8	
Missouri						9
	106	9	12	15	8	9

In these thirteen States—a majority of whom are under instructions—the result will be thus:

Douglas	106
Hunter	9
Guthrie	12
Johnson	15
Davis	8
Cushing	9

The second choice of many of the Southern States, who are put down for the candidates of their own States, is Mr. Douglas.—Charleston Mercury.

From Washington.—Republican Caucus.—Nominations for Clerk, etc.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The Republican Caucus made no nominations to-day, but there was a general discussion of candidates for the office of Clerk, and an understanding was had as to the course of the Republicans. The Republicans in the House would cast the votes for Forney for Clerk, and Hoffman, South American, of Maryland, for Sergeant-at-Arms. The subject of doorkeeper was discussed, there being some six candidates, but no conclusion was reached as yet, and the caucus adjourned, without discussion the question of post master or stating.

Mr. Lacon, of Illinois, is the most prominent candidate for postmaster. Committees will not be announced until next week. Mail contractors are making great pressure in behalf of their claims, but the fact that they did what they could to defeat Speaker Sherman's candidacy for Speaker deprives them of much sympathy they would otherwise have.

Grund was to-day confirmed by vote of 35 to 13.

THE WHITE SLAVES OF THE NORTH.—A young girl, named Susan Lee, complains bitterly through the columns of a New York papers, of the injustice and fraud practiced by the employers of the sewing girls. The miserable pittance they earn weekly is lessened by down right cheating, and if a girl complains, she is told to find work somewhere else. She thus describes the condition of her class:

We, as every one knows, be thousands, in cold or heat, rain, snow or sleet, walk the streets early in the morning, with our bundles, carrying, perhaps, in an old newspaper, what we call our dinner, often only bread, or, at best, a little cold meat, with bread and potatoes, and from eight in the morning until dark and sometimes six o'clock in the evening (stopping only at noon to eat our cold lunch), for those who have been so fortunate as to secure fortunes from our labors; and who, besides stintingly paying us, talk to us as though we were all many of them took to be, brutes in human shape.

And here let me say that our slavery, and that of tens of thousands North, is far more miserable than that of the well-fed, well clothed, and well cared for colored slaves of the South, whose condition we hear so much sympathy expressed for, even from the pulpits, and no doubt often, too, by the very men who oppress us, and even cheat us out of our hard earned shillings.

SMOKING EFFECTS OF BEATING.—A young lady who indulged in an afternoon's exercise on the skates on Lake Jamaica pond, during the cold snap, very improvidently tied her skate-straps so tightened as to prevent any circulation of the blood in the feet below the ankles. The consequence was that upon taking them off, to return home, her feet were both found to be frozen. Although every effort was made by physicians to restore them to a normal state, one of them had to be amputated, and the other so render amputation necessary to prevent mortification ensuing. The young lady is a resident of Jamaica, but visiting this city, is about 19 years of age, and her misfortune is felt very keenly by herself and friends.—Boston Herald.

DELEGATES TO CHARLESTON.—At the Democratic Convention for the first district, holden in Biddeford, Maine, February 1, S. R. Lynch and Augustus Hanes were chosen delegates to Charleston. Gen. Lane is a Douglas and the other an Administration man. The Douglas resolutions were voted down.

☞ Not long since a premium was offered by an agricultural society for the best method of irrigation, and the latter word, by mistake of the printer, having been changed to "irritation," a farmer sent his wife to gain the prize.

JERUSALEM AND THE HOLY LAND.

We publish below a very interesting correspondence from a United States officer on the Mediterranean station, received by his relations in this city. It will be read with interest, not only for its description of places in which every Christian feels a deep interest, but for the pious and reverent spirit which pervades the narrative:

JERUSALEM, September 21, 1859.

MY DEAR MOTHER:—* * * Only think! I am in Jerusalem, the Holy City. I arrived yesterday, after being fourteen hours in the saddle, over a terrible road, and much fatigued. I have yet been to but one spot—the Holy Sepulchre—the tomb of our blessed Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. At this holy sanctuary I have knelt, and I thank God for the opportunity that is mine of visiting so many sacred spots. I have not a moment to spare, as our horses are at the door for us, and we are going to Bethlehem. I have only begun this letter because I was determined to date one letter to you, dear mother, from Jerusalem; I will have to finish it when I return aboard ship, so good bye for the present.

AT SEA, October 15, 1859.—Nearly a month has slipped away, and yet my letter to you is still unwritten, and I have written but one short letter to my wife, which I began, as I did this, in Jerusalem; my time is so broken in upon by my watch-keeping, and by my divisional routine, drilling my men at small arms and small arms, broad sword, etc., that I have but little time for writing or study. At present, too, one of our lieutenants is sick, and another one suspended from duty, which makes the work come harder on the rest of us. But I must begin and tell you what I have seen since I last wrote to you, which was on the 14th of August, from Naples. We left there on the 19th of August, on our eastern cruise—had fair winds, with occasional squalls of wind and rain; passed by Stromboli at night; it was in active eruption, throwing up hot stones, red hot lava and ashes, and was a grand sight; touched at Messina, then sailed round into the Grecian Archipelago, and up to Athens. Here I saw the most renowned temples of the ancient world: Theseus, Jupiter, Olympus and the Parthenon, or Temple of Minerva—all built of white marble, and of rare beauty. Here I stood on "Mars Hill," where St. Paul preached his celebrated sermon to the "men of Athens," against superstition, (17th chapter of Acts.) Meeting our chaplain there, who had a pocket Bible with him, I took the sacred book and read, the chapter myself, and felt the force of the great Apostle's words, when looking up toward the Acropolis and pointing to the finest temples ever reared by the hands of man, he said: "Ye men of Athens, God dwelleth not in temples made with hands." etc. I felt a peculiar interest in this spot, and broke off a piece of the stone to take home for you. Visited Plato's grave; went to see King Otho and his queen; went over the palace and was treated very civilly; visited the Maid of Athens, whom Byron has made famous by the lines he wrote upon her, beginning with—

"Maid of Athens, ere we part,
Give, oh, give me back my heart."

She is now an old lady, draped in grave-colored clothes, but must have been very beautiful when young, if like her picture, which I saw. Left Athens and passed the island of Scio, which was desolated in 1822, during the Greek revolution. Out of one hundred and twenty thousand inhabitants none were left; many were hung, all the men and male children were killed, and the women sold as slaves; horrible to think of. How happy we ought to think ourselves in our beloved country, free from wars as we have been. I am afraid we are not always sufficiently thankful for the blessings that are ours.

Arrived at Smyrna, a large and flourishing Turkish town, where our fleet came from. It was the fruit season, and I saw large trains of camels bringing in figs, and American ships in the harbor loading for the United States. Smyrna is the birth place of Homer, and near it was located one of the seven churches of Asia. I had but a few hours on shore, and it was not possible for me to visit the ruins of this old church. From Smyrna we sailed for Rhodes, but abandoned the idea of going there. Passed in sight of Patmos, where the book of John, in the New Testament, was written while he was confined on that island. Reached Jerusalem. Cast anchor off the Island of Cyprus, where I went on shore to pay the official visits for the ship. I called on the authorities of the place, also the American and French consuls. I was in full dress, cocked hat, epaulettes and sword, and was preceded through the narrow streets by two janizaries, dressed in Turkish costume, red caps, linsey jacket and big trousers, armed with large old-fashioned, silver-mounted pistols in their belts, and a large staff in their hands, mounted at the upper end with silver and at the lower end with an iron pike. With these they beat the poor Turks over the head and shins whenever they were the least slow in getting out of the way of his mighty highness Lieutenant——. It was too absurd, and I felt tempted to laugh at the whole thing, but this would not do among the crawling Turks. I wish you could have seen the performances.

OCTOBER, 15th.—From Cyprus we soon came in sight of the holy land, and cast anchor at Tripoli, where I did not go on shore, as our stay was limited. One of my men was taken kindly brought me off a large bur from the borders of Lebanon. They are about 40 miles distant from Tripoli, and the mountains where they are are plainly in sight. Leaving this we came to Beirout, where my commanding officer, with a number of the officers of the ship, among whom I was one, had a formal interview with the Pashaw in regard to an outrage that was committed about a year ago, at Joppa, on the persons of some American missionaries. We landed and were received by files of Turkish soldiers and sabered into the presence of the Pashaw, whom we found seated on a divan, crossed legs, in true oriental style; he rose and waved us to seats beside him, which we took according to rank, our commanding officer next to the Pashaw, our consul next to him, myself and one or eight below me, with our interpreter sitting by the side of the Pashaw's interpreter and opposite to us. We took seats in silence, and after a little pause, chibouks, or long stemmed pipes, were brought in; about ten pipes, borne by ten servants who marched in gravely, presented us with the pipes and retired, then returned, each with a little brass dish to put the bowl of the pipes in; each pipe rested on the floor several yards from the person who was smoking it. After a few whiffs at our pipes a little dish of something sweet came in, in a silver bowl, of which we all took a teaspoonful; next came coffee in little cups, about the size of half an egg-shell, and after these refreshments our pow-wow or war talk began. All that was said was first told to our interpreter, who repeated it to the Pashaw's interpreter and by him to the Pashaw himself. His reply was then delivered to his interpreter who repeated it to our interpreter and repeated by him again to us. We told him that the criminals who murdered our missionaries at Joppa had been delivered up and hung; that nothing short of this would satisfy our Government, and that we had ships, guns and men, and were ready to use them, if necessary, to avenge this insult. (By the by there was some "bunkum" in this I fear; for Congress is the war making power, and they are too busy wrangling to attend to the proper legislation of the country, and the result is that our citizens abroad get just no protection at all.) However, after getting fair promises from the Turk we sailed for Joppa or Jaffa, as it is now called; passed by down the coast of Galilee we passed in sight of Tyre and Sidon, so often mentioned in both the Old and New Testaments, and against which the prophecies of the Bible have been so literally carried out. Anchored off Joppa on the 18th of September, 1859. Joppa is pretty situated on a high rock on the sea shore, but a dirty looking place, and like all towns in the Holy Land that I have seen, (except Bethlehem,) very dirty. Jerusalem is forty miles in the interior from Joppa.

SUNDAY, October 16.—I must write my letter little by little, dear mother, as I can steal the mid-watch—that is from midnight to four in the morning—a very fatiguing watch. This is a bright, beautiful day, and we have had a most excellent sermon from the Rev. Mr. Bitte, our chaplain.

Well, to continue my description—Joppa is supposed to be the place where Noah built the Ark. It was along this coast that Hiram rafted the cedar timber to build the temple of Solomon. He landed it at Joppa, and it was thence taken forty-five miles interior to Jerusalem, though how they ever got them along such wretched roads or over such a hilly country, I am at a loss to know. Arale, it was off Joppa that Jonah was swallowed by the whale. Here I went to see the house of "Simon the Tanner," where Peter had the vision, mentioned in the 10th chapter of the Acts. This was also the residence of Tabitha, from whom our Dorcas societies take their name, mentioned in the 9th chapter of Acts.

Now, I must tell you how we traveled. At Beirout we engaged an experienced dragoman to go with us, to supply us with horses, saddles, food and all we wanted during our trip. This is the usual way of doing in this country, and for his services and supplying everything during the trip, we agreed to pay him one Napoleon, or four French dollars each per day, (about $3 80.) We had tents and everything prepared for a trip to the Dead Sea and river Jordan.

We brought our dragoman down to Joppa with us, and a fine looking fellow he was, in his picturesque Turkish costume. We had to wait two days for our tents, one to remain and take care of the ship while the other went up, and as it is a dangerous coast to anchor on we had to hurry all we could. My party had six days' leave, and we made the most of them, I assure you. There were seven officers, our dragoman, and two muleteers to pack our things—he to attend to us and we elected captain of our party. On the 19th, at four in the afternoon, we set out, riding through the bazaars of Joppa, and threading our way through trains of camels, donkeys, Arabs and dogs. The sun in Syria is so hot that every one travels at night, and this is the reason why we started so late. We all had straw hats, with quantities of muslin wound round the crown, to protect us from the sun. After getting fairly out of Joppa, we entered at once upon the great "Plain of Sharon," and travels for miles across it toward the mountains.

OCTOBER 18, 1859.—We have had an objective wind ever since we left Alexandria on the 11th inst., and have had to fight hard for every inch we have made. We are now in sight of the island of Crete, where we are bound. Where were we last? oh, on the plains of Sharon, to nothing in crossing it but some tribes of wild Bedouins, who lead a roving life, living always in tents. After three and a half hours travel from Joppa, we came to the village of Ramleh, which is the Arimathea of scripture, where Joseph lived, who begged the body of our Savior from Pilate. Here we went to the monastery, kept by the Roman Catholic priesthood, and received a smiling welcome. We rested an hour and took supper, which our dragoman had prepared for us. We were waited upon by the monks, who gave us an excellent cup of coffee; they keep open house for all travelers, charging nothing; but of course those who can afford it always give something; after spending an hour for rest and supper we started again, and rode on toward the mountains of Aba Gosh, passed the village which was the home of the penitent thief who was crucified at the same time that our Savior was; also passed the village where was kept for three months the "Ark of the Covenant." At two o'clock at night we reached a deep gorge of the mountains, and here made a halt and struck a fire to boil some coffee. Our dragoman spread down a fine Turkish carpet for us to sit upon, and soon made us a pot of good coffee, which refreshed us very much; soon mounted our jaded animals and rode through a scene of wild solitude and desolation, the mountains seeming a mishapen mass of rocky and inaccessible heights, broken and rifted by the convulsions of nature. But I find I am spinning out my letters too long; I will merely write down the places I saw, and you can make them up into a sort of a journal. I should be too time now for reading anything but the Bible, but I read that with ten fold more interest than I did before I visited the Holy Land. About daylight the morning after we left the brook where David gathered the five smooth pebbles, with one of which he slew Goliah. I picked up several pebbles from it—17th chapter of Samuel.

I will here say that no route in the world are half so bad as in this chilly country of Judeah," frightful precipices, heaps of rolling stones in the road, horses plunging in a way to fatigue themselves and their riders; however, we were riding hard to see the sun rise over the Holy City; troops of Pilgrims, Indian caravans, and donkeys passed us in the narrow path. As the sun got fairly up, we came in sight of Jerusalem. I felt relieved from the burning sun under a fig tree, and waited for our companions to come up, when we all rode in through the walls of the city, at the Jaffa gate, and wound upon Mount Zion, street of David, Jerusalem. We dismounted and led our horses, as the streets are very slippery and narrow. Filled with Turks smoking their long chibouks, camels, donkeys, dogs and Arabs. We turned into the street of the Christians, where we found our hotel at seven o'clock, all tired and worn out, after our fourteen hours travel.

The church of the Holy Sepulchre is only open at certain hours for strangers and the public generally. The keys of the church are in the hands of the Greek, Armenian, and Latin sects of Christians, who have quarrelled so about it that the vile Turks have to act as between them. The church is open from five to seven in the morning and evening. As soon as it was open after our arrival we went there.

I ascended Mount Calvary—the very spot where our Savior was crucified, I saw where the cross stood; I saw where the tomb was rent; I knelt at and kissed the Holy Sepulchre. The hallowed associations of the place, the sacredness of the sepulchre of God, the goodness of Christ, my own unworthiness, all rushed upon me with a degree of intensity that I never experienced before, and which I never can feel again, I fear, for I have forgotten the deeply interesting spot, and offered prayers to God for pardon, and grace. I made it a point to visit the Holy Sepulchre in company with the Rebbi Raphael, and adopt as the last day there I knelt and prayed for my child, my wife, my dear mother, and each one of my brothers and sisters separately.

It would be impossible, dear mother, for me to give you a description of even the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in a letter, but I will refer you to Robinson's Biblical Researches in Travels in Greece and Palestine.

"The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, commonly called the Church of Constantine, occupies an unequal surface, filled with a variety of lamps, in singular materials; a sombre light pervades it, favorable to piety and profound devotion. Christian priests of various sects, inhabit different parts of the edifice. From the arches above, where they nestle like pigeons, from the chapels below, and subterranean caverns, their voices are heard at all hours of both the day and night. The ocean of the Latin monks, the symbols of the Abyssinian priest, the voice of the Greek caloyer, in the period of the Latin Kingdom, the distinctive accents of the Coptic friar, alternately, as all at once assail your ear. You know not whether to attend to concerts present; you inhale the perfume of incense, while you celebrate the hand that burns it; you merely perceive the pontiff, who is going to celebrate mass, and are awfully reminded of the place where they were accomplished, not quickly, yields behind the columns and vanishes in the gloom of the temple."

Joseph of Arimathea is buried very near the Holy Sepulchre, so that his grave is just under the edge of the dome of the church.

Jerusalem was founded by Melchisedec, which was Shem, the son of Noah, the day after the flood.

NOVEMBER 5th, 1859.—On the morning of the 19th we left our encampment, drank a cup of coffee and started for Bethlehem, the place of the nativity; passed out at the Joppa gate, Aceldama the gallows, Gihon and Hinnom, Mount Zion, the place where the tomb of David, by Rachel, by Isaiah, and by the family of our Savior, and by our Savior himself. Bethlehem is eight miles from Jerusalem; half way to Bethlehem we passed the tomb of Rachel, shaped like a small house, which is the tomb of Rachel, the same mentioned in Genesis, 35th chapter, 19th verse, "and Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Bethlehem, and Jacob set a pillar upon her grave, that is the pillar of Rachel's grave unto this day." A convent has been built around it, and it is kept by holy places at Bethlehem; the spot where the mother and child lay, is now marked by a silver star, with a circle spot of earth in marked by a silver star, with the following inscription: the spot on which stands the place of our Savior. A distance of a few yards, is the same chapel, beautifully decorated, and by which is now the place where was the manger. We knelt at the holy places, and embraced the sacred spots with a feeling of awe and earnestness one can feel but once in his life. We celebrated in the convent while the services were going on at the place of the nativity. Leaving Bethlehem, we passed David's well, where Hebrew women were drawing water, and which the people of Solomon, which are quite perfect yet; now the aqueduct which formerly supplied Jerusalem with water, is now in part yet. The setting at these pools was the greatest water I ever drank. Returned to Jerusalem and visited the Jews' quarter, where was nothing but misery and filth and wretchedness. About sun down we went to the top of the Governor's house to have a good look at the Mosque of Omar, which stands on the site of Solomon's Temple; and, just as we had planned it, our friends would vote for Mr. McClernand or not.

Mr. Barksdale replied that by a concentration of the Democratic votes he might be defeated. If Mr. Pennington should be elected on this ballot, the gentleman, and those who refuse to vote for Mr. McClernand, will be responsible for Mr. Pennington's election.

Mr. Skinner objected to the gentleman's proceeding.

Mr. Barksdale said he was not violating any rule of order in speaking. The vote had already been taken.

The Clerk remarked that Mr. Barksdale had a perfect right to be heard, by unanimous consent to make his explanations.

Mr. Barksdale concluded, saying if Mr. McClernand's vote was not increased in the manner he stated, Mr. Pennington would be elected, as one gentleman (Brisco) had been in duty bound, in a certain contingency, vote for him.

Mr. Mallory asked whether he understood Mr. Barksdale to say that Mr. McClernand could be elected by a combination of the Democrats and the South American vote.

Mr. Barksdale. I say he spoke a union Mr. Pennington can be defeated.

Mr. Sherman made the point that all this discussion was out of order.

Mr. Hill said that Mr. Keitt had made a favorable show of Mr. Pennington.

Mr. Stevens said if Mr. Pennington was elected, the representative of slaveholding territory would be responsible for it. But for the vote of Mr. Davis, of Maryland, Mr. Pennington would not be elected. A gentleman, too, was a member of the American party.

Mr. Sherman again called Barksdale to order.

Mr. Thayer made much confusion throughout the hall of the House.

Mr. Moore, of Alabama, began to speak.

Mr. Sherman. Does the gentleman propose to continue this debate?

Mr. Moore. You have no right to ask that question.

Mr. Sherman. I enter my solemn protest against the gentleman's making a speech.

Mr. Moore. I don't acknowledge the right of the gentleman to interrupt me.

Mr. Sherman. I insist upon my point. I will not, so help me God, stand it.

Mr. Moore. The gentleman has no right to be snarling here.

The Clerk said the gentleman has a right to object.

Mr. Gov. I ask my colleague to withdraw his objection, as it will facilitate the ballot.

Mr. Moore. I ask no favor; I will not be indebted to him.

The Clerk said he could assign reasons for changing his vote.

Mr. Keitt. With that understanding, withdrew his objections.

Mr. Moore if changed time, who had acted with him who had in any degree contributed to the result of the previous ballots. If others would agree, he would stay here until the 4th of March, 1861, before he would let a Republican be elected Speaker. But he was sure that that could not be accomplished. He had the highest personal respect for Mr. McClernand, but differed with him on an important question. He therefore could not vote for Mr. Boyce.

Mr. Davis, of Miss., had not voted for the man McClernand, but for the country.

Mr. Florence had been governed by patriotic motives in rolling for Mr. McClernand.

Mr. Briggs, who was one of the tellers, said just before the result of the vote was announced, I rise for the purpose of changing my vote, I made a statement as to what I might do in a certain contingency. That contingency has now arrived, and it becomes my duty to state my reasons for voting as I am about to vote. The time has come when my vote will elect a Speaker. I have sold on several occasions, that I could not say vote for any conservative gentleman, to be elected Speaker. Mr. Clawin, Mr. Pennington now has 116 votes and 117 will elect him. I give my vote to a gentleman whom I am assured will act fairly and impartially in all matters of the country. Aware of the responsibility which I assume in so doing, Mr. Clerk, I now withdraw my vote for Mr. Pennington, of Illinois, and cast it for Mr. Pennington, of New Jersey. [Prolonged applause.]

Mr. Douglas stood at the desk watching Mr. Briggs during the whole of his remarks. Impatient cries of "Proclaim the vote!" The vote was then announced:

Whole number of votes	233
Necessary to a choice	117
Pennington	117
Boyce	116
Gilmer	1

The announcement of the result was followed by applause.

The Clerk declared Mr. Pennington elected Speaker of the House.

Mr. Hindman rose to call the attention of the country to some fact connected with the election, but there was long and prolonged cries of order.

Mr. Grow elevating his voice to the highest pitch, said a Speaker having been elected, nothing is in order until he is conducted to the chair, amid cries of "that's so." "Let him take his place."

The Clerk sustained the suggestion, and appointed Messrs Bocock and Sherman to conduct Mr. Pennington to the chair. These gentlemen at once entered upon the performance of that duty, and escorted him to the chair.

The Speaker, amid a quiet which strongly contrasted with the excited and disorderly proceedings which previously prevailed, spoke as follows:

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives: I return you my grateful acknowledgments for the distinguished honor you have been pleased to confer upon me in electing me Speaker of this House. Coming here for the first time at the present session to be associated with you as a member, my friends could have been more unknown for than that I could be called upon to preside over your deliberations, and my friends will do me the justice to say that I have not sought the position, as I certainly never desired it.

I am, nevertheless, as conscious of the dignity and importance of the high office as any gentleman can be, but should have far better pleased could its duties have been intrusted to abler and more experienced hands. After almost insurmountable obstacle in the way of an organization of this House, I come to the conclusion that any gentleman, of any party, who could command a majority of the votes for Speaker, would be delinquent to public exigencies, to accept the responsibility, as an act of patriotic duty, whether it was agreeable to his personal feelings or not. As that choice has unexpectedly fallen on me, I have no hesitation to accept it. In the execution of this high trust, my object will be to do my whole duty with impartiality and justice to all.

I shall have great necessity, gentlemen, for your indulgence in the new position in which I am placed, and I feel entire confidence that I shall receive it at your hands as a Representative from the State of New Jersey, upon whose soil so many brilliant achievements were accomplished in the Revolutionary war, and whose people have ever been distinguished for their devotion to the Union and Constitution. I pray to the Great Arbiter of our destinies, that I may do no act to impair the integrity of either, but that by wise and prudent counsels, peace and order may yet remain in great states, and our free institutions may be perpetuated to our descendants. I feel that I have a national heart, embracing all parts of our blessed Union. Again thanking you for your kindness, I now enter upon the duties of that arduous and complicated station.

Mr. Phelps being the oldest conservative member, administered the oath to the Speaker, by request of the Clerk.

The members were sworn in by delegations.

Mr. Washburne offered a resolution that the order of the 35th Congress be adopted for the government of this, and that a committee of five, consisting of the Speaker and four others, report such amendments from time to time as they are proper. After a running debate it was adopted.

Mr. Phelps here asked leave to introduce a bill making appropriations to supply the deficiency of the Post Office Department.

Mr. Stephens objected.

The Speaker said that no legislative business could be transacted until the Clerk was elected.

Mr. Fenton offered a resolution to inform the Senate that the House had elected a Speaker and was ready to proceed to business.

Mr. Washburne said before that could be done, there must elect a Clerk.

Mr. Smith, of Va., moved that John C. Allen, the late Clerk of the House, be declared the Clerk of the present House, and moved the previous question.

The Speaker said as Mr. Fenton's resolution was pending, he could not entertain the question.

Mr. Grow remarked that, under the rules adopted to-day, Mr. Allen would continue until a Clerk was elected.

Mr. Houston—The law says what we shall do.

Mr. Sherman moved that when the House adjourn, it be till Friday.

Mr. Burnett—Let us pass the post office Appropriation Bill before we adjourn.

The Speaker announced that Mr. Fenton's resolution was in order.

Various gentlemen on the Democratic side had something to say, and the proceedings were generally disorderly.

Mr. Barksdale said that Dr. Fenton's resolution ought to be passed. He appealed to his Democratic friends to withdraw their objections.

Mr. Farnsworth moved that the House adjourn till Friday.

Mr. Keitt, in a tone that could not fail to be heard, "What's your reason for that motion?"

Mr. Farnsworth—I'll not give my reason.

Mr. Hill. I want to get rents out of difficulty. What else he said was mingled with cries of order.

Mr. Farnsworth withdrew his motion.