

The Athens Post.

CALL AND WINTER

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

ATHENS, TENNESSEE, FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1869.

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TERMS:

THE POST IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY, AT TWO DOLLARS A YEAR, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

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The Post.

Athens, Friday, August 13, 1869.

Louisiana.

In Louisiana the excitement and bitterness of past years has subsided, and the people are devoting themselves to commerce and industrial pursuits. The cotton and sugar crops are the largest and best ever produced there. And thus another proof is added that the way of peace is the straight path to prosperity.

A Word for Smokers.

Children should never be allowed to remain in a room where people are smoking. We have known many children ruined by breathing the vile smoke of the father's cigar, and sometimes the mother's pipe. If a parent is so very ignorant of the laws of life as to smoke where young children live, he is a barbarian indeed.

Tenant Wanted.

A pretty good joke was played on the people at the Presidential mansion last week. Some wag, up to mischief, stuck on one of the pillars of the portico a large placard containing in big letters the words, "To let for four years to a permanent tenant." The word "tenant" was capitalized. The placard occasioned great merriment to all who remained undiscovered for an hour.

A New Departure.

A few days ago an order was issued by the President, through the Secretary of State, to seize all the gun-boats or other war vessels now being constructed for Spain in this country. This is putting Spain on the same footing as the Cubans, and in an indirect way recognizing the latter as belligerents. It is evident that the administration is taking a new start on the Cuban question, and that it has flunked the Democrats on this political issue.

A Mine Pit Horror.

From Central Europe comes intelligence of a mining disaster, attended with such appalling fatality and lamentable consequence as to throw all our more recent accounts of railroad casualties and such like occurrences in a still more dreary shade. In the mountain district of Saxony, near to the city of Dresden, three hundred and twenty persons employed in a coal mine were instantly killed last week by an accident, the exact nature of which is not stated. The cause says that the consequences are attributable to "stormy weather."

The Radical Spirit.

The programme of Wells, of Virginia, indicates the peculiar direction in which Radical fancy ever runs. He has been beaten at the polls, and is nowhere before the people. No matter; he must have the results of victory just the same as if he had the victory. Canby must not announce the result till Congress meets, and Congress must hold the matter in suspense till the session goes over and thus continue in office the present powers, defeating the whole purpose of the election. This highwayman's plan comes from the present Governor himself.

Virginia--The Test Oath.

It seems to be pretty generally understood at Washington that President Grant will not permit his Cabinet to practically nullify the results of the late Virginia election by exacting the obnoxious test oath, and that the President is fully resolved to abide by the popular verdict, and that, too, against the advice of some of his constitutional advisers, who are well known to be diametrically the opposite opinion. This information is strengthened by an article in the Richmond Inquirer which says: "We have it in a most direct manner that the test oath will not be exacted." The words are italicized and seem to bear the impress of authority.

The cellophane appeared on time.

Counterfeit Ten Dollar Notes.

The new counterfeit ten dollar bills which have created so great an excitement among bankers and United States treasurers, it is said, are the finest executed counterfeits ever thrown upon the community. A description of the counterfeit from Washington says:

"At first glance they seem to be a perfect imitation of the \$10 greenback, and the printing seems to have been done from the original plate, but there are points of difference which are thus noted: In the original the shading around the 10 in the medallion appears like a fine network, and runs close up to the figures. In the counterfeit this shading is 'picked up,' and becomes coarse as it reaches the figures, forming a light streak or a circular haze similar to that about the moon before rain. There is no haze in the genuine note. This is a slight point for detection. A clearer one is the fact that in the original note is the fact that in the original notes, within the light circle running under the figures 10, there are three and a third dots on the left of the figure 1. In the counterfeit bill the one-third dot is missing. But an infallible mark of distinction is found under the left wing of the eagle. In the genuine notes are four distinct rows of feathers under the wing. In the counterfeits these rows of feathers are undefined and this seems to be the only weak spot in the whole engraving."

Hint to Business Men.

The New York Sun throws out the following hint to interior dealers: "Everybody is complaining of a great dearth of business. Stores are glutted with goods, and merchants are ready to sell on time to save purchasers on their own terms, yet the customers do not come. Whether they are deterred by the torrid heats, want of confidence, or the lack of cash, we can't say; but it strikes us, as things stand, they are rather short-sighted. In this season of stagnation the forehand man might well lay in his fall and winter stock at the discount which he can always command at such a time. In addition to low prices ruling in mercantile circles, the railway companies now, for want of freight, are putting their rates down to the very lowest figures. All of them take whatever offers, and so great is the scramble for the little business doing that shippers can send off their goods at less than a quarter of the cost of transportation in ordinary seasons. Such opportunities ought to stimulate country buyers to make their purchases now, while bargains can be had and freights are at the lowest ebb. A word to the wise is sufficient."

Andy Redivivus.

The New York Herald, which occasionally indulges in a little quiet humor, says: "The last from Tennessee says that Andy Johnson will undoubtedly make a vigorous effort to secure the privilege of presently representing that State in the United States Senate. This ought to be true, and we hope it is. If Andy makes any effort it will be a vigorous one, and we therefore hope he will follow the advice so vainly given to Mrs. Donbey and 'make an effort.' Partly this hope is selfish. Times are dull now. Invidious reigns even at the watering places. There will be spice in the world once more in a moderate way if Andy makes an effort. But partly, also, the hope is patriotic, for Andy, in all soberness, ought to be in the Senate. No man in the United States could be of more use there, and there is no man whom the Radical faction would less like to see there."

Universal Suffrage.

Our readers know--some of them at least--that Universal Suffrage prevails in France, and that the Emperor generally directs the voting, just as a few Radical leaders direct the negro vote in this country. A New York paper, discussing the probability of a conflict between the legislative power and Louis Napoleon, says: "Is it impossible that on the occasion of the first appeal to the people the people should go against the Emperor? In France the moneyed classes rule, as they rule all the world over. If the moneyed classes go against the Emperor universal suffrage will not save him. We require but some such illustration to convince the world that universal suffrage is a mockery, a delusion and a snare."

Hard to Catch.

The St. Louis Republican learns from a gentleman just arrived from the front, that the campaign against Hildebrand is being prosecuted with great vigor. A force of one hundred and fifty men are in the field, and scouring the country in all directions--exploring caves, glens and hollow logs in search of the outlaw, who seems so successfully to defy the power and dignity of the State of Missouri. Some fears are expressed that Hildebrand may surround his opponents, and either capture them or cut off their supplies, but we presume the officers in command will be on the watch for all such flank movements.

Method in Madness.

A Paris letter says a fast actress visited the Charenton mad house a few days ago. She asked one of the patients, "What brought you here?" He replied, "An infernal woman, like you!" She exclaimed, "Why, really, that man is not so mad as people pretend he is!"

The Future Status.

It is the business of an honest journalist to keep his readers up with all movements of a political nature, and though but very few of the many speculations which come beneath his eye are really worth the paper they are printed on, some of them at least are interesting for their novelty, if for nothing more solid. With this introduction we copy the following from a letter of ex-Supervisor Noah, of this State, to the New York Times, written a few days before the election. He is speaking of the Legislature, and the prospective contest for United States Senator:

"The fight for the Senatorship will be quite lively, and at this date it is impossible to more than guess at the result. Mr. Noah thinks a Republican will be elected, and that Andrew Johnson has no chance whatever. He will be opposed by such men as Neal S. Brown, Emerson Etheridge, who is certain to be elected to the State Senate, will also be a prominent candidate, but the Republicans will hold the balance of power. Edmund Cooper, who was ad interim Secretary of the Treasury under Johnson, will also be elected to the Senate, but he will not support his former patron. Mr. Johnson is very anxious to come back to Congress for very obvious reasons, but the opposition to him will prove too strong. The Old Line Whigs and the Democrats can never agree, and in the discussion between them the Republicans will stand a good chance of being able to elect their candidate. It may not be generally known that Senator is the son of the Mr. Senter who was formerly a member of Congress from East Tennessee, an Old Line Whig and a violent opponent of the pro-slavery State Constitution of 1835. Senter himself is very popular, and was one of the electors at large of the State at the Chicago Convention, having voted there for Grant and Colfax. It is also stated that previous to the nomination, Stokes was asked to withdraw, and was offered the Senatorship on that condition, but that he declined, and thus was mainly instrumental in bringing about the present disorganization. It is charged against him that during the present canvass he has declared himself opposed to extending the suffrage in East Tennessee, while in the middle counties he avows himself in favor of enfranchising all who ask for it. In regard to the future of the State, Mr. Noah says that when the noise and confusion of the present election are at an end, the Old Line Whigs, who cannot go with the Democrats, will of necessity fall into the Republican ranks, and a liberal Republican Administration can hold the entire State."

Taxing Bonds Held Abroad.

The proposal to deduct a tax from the coupons of all bonds that are held abroad is likely to come under the consideration of Congress next session. The present state of the law unquestionably tends to make foreigners our principal bondholders--the worst we could have, as they yearly drain the country of its gold. We don't see why they who reap the profits should altogether escape the burdens because they chance to be foreigners; and since the holders of bonds in this country pay a tax on the interest, it is neither just nor reasonable that the others should be exempted. Congress, we hold, has a right to impose such a tax, and there are few who will question its expediency as a measure tending to keep our bonds and our gold out of the hands of foreign speculators.

Land Jobs and Pacific Railroads.

A Washington correspondent has given an exposition of a big land job connected with the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, and we have little doubt there is something in it. But has there not been the biggest sort of land jobs with all the Pacific railroads, and for that matter, with many other railroads? It is quite possible there may be a job even in this apparent hostility to the Southern route and company on the part of the other great Pacific Railroad land jobbers. We are against all land jobs, but think the Southern Pacific is the best route and entitled to as much consideration from the government as the others.

Horace Greeley Utters the Truth.

After all, Horace Greeley has said the best thing of any of the Northern speakers who have visited Virginia. In Lynchburg he said: "What the people of Virginia needed was not so much Northern capital or immigration from abroad as unity and determination among her own people to develop their own resources." This is conspicuously exact in point of truth, and will apply as well to some other States as it does to Virginia.

The Missing Link Found.

A Calcutta *sanat* named Cameron has started India by the affirmation that a race of tailed men and women are to be found in the forests of Borneo. He says that his information comes from Saravak traders, who state that this "missing link" race live in the trees, have bows and arrows and other rude implements, and subsist entirely by hunting.

The Hog may not be thoroughly posted in arithmetic; but when you come to the square root he is there--the hog is.

The Chinese Radical Dilemma.

The New York Herald is lashing the Radicals for coddling the Negro, and turning their back on the "man and a brother" from China:

"The Republican State Convention of California in its platform of resolutions emphatically opposes Chinese suffrage in any form. Like the radicals of other States of the North they magnanimously give the suffrage to the ignorant and brutal negro--to the lowest race of mankind--because they have scarcely any negroes among them; but it is quite another thing when the Chinese are in question. How illogical and inconsistent are these Republicans! Every one acquainted with history, as well as every physiologist, knows that the Chinese are a far superior and more intellectual race than the negroes. They were a civilized people when the nations of Europe were barbarians, and in many things we may yet learn from them. In some arts they are yet superior; in agriculture they have attained a high point of excellence, and in the social or domestic virtues they will compare with the most civilized people, and they have maintained an organized government and system of society from the earliest times to the present day, while the negroes have never emerged from barbarism, except where some degree of civilization has been forced upon them by the white man. We tell these California republicans they must be logical in this matter. They cannot escape from the consequences of their own acts and the acts of their party. If the suffrage is not to be held exclusively by the white race of European stock, and if the negroes are to be put on an equality with our own intellectual race, the Chinese cannot be excluded. If we are to try the experiment of a mongrel republicanism empire that race which stands next to the Caucasian cannot be placed beneath the negro, the lowest of all."

The Boston Murder.

A dispatch from Boston gives the following account of a recent murder in that city:

Mrs. Dr. Hobbs was shot dead last evening in her parlor, in the presence of her husband and child, by Thomas L. White, one of her husband's patients. White was arrested.

An inquest is to be held to-morrow relative to the murder. The murderer, Major White, came from Nova Scotia. He studied law in this city, and was admitted to practice. When the war commenced he enlisted in the 9th Massachusetts regiment as a private, and served with distinction. He was severely wounded at Fredericksburg, and subsequently promoted to the rank of Major in gallantry. Of late he has resided in Mississippi, and was a delegate from that State to the Chicago Convention of 1868, and since has acted as a registering officer, a position secured for him by his friend Gen. Dent. He came to Boston about two weeks ago from Mississippi, suffering from pulmonary complaint, and having been an intimate friend of Dr. Hobbs and wife, was taken into their family for medical treatment. It is asserted that he was in love with Mrs. Hobbs, and in fact a monomaniac in his devotion.

Journalism--Its Duties.

The New York Times has the following paragraph on the uses and abuses of journalism:

"There is a method of advocating a cause by denouncing its enemies, which may be, and often is, carried to excess, especially by youthful partisans. It is not by harshness nor by persistent detraction that men are persuaded to abandon their opinions, and those who ply that sort of warfare are usually less intent on gaining proselytes than in making a public or partisan merit of their zeal. No one is fit to be a guide to public opinion, who has not learned that the bad men are not generally quite so bad, nor the good men quite so good as the intemperate partisan is disposed to believe him, and soft words often dissolve prejudices and errors in our adversaries which violence and detraction render solid and imperishable."

Oats--Good Yield.

Arthur P. Wright, Esq., says the Thomasville *Enterprise*, planted last fall 100 acres of land in oats. The cold, he thinks, killed one half the stand, and six acres of the field were old worn out soil covered with broomsedge, and Mr. Wright considers 65 acres of the land very fair. He has now harvested the crop and informs us he has housed 12,000 bundles, averaging in weight 34 pounds or 42,000 pounds in round numbers. Multiply this by 75 cents, the value of oats per hundred in this market, and Mr. Wright made \$3,150.00 on oats, with an expense of less than \$150.00.

Girl-Boys.

A new style of head dress for gentlemen is said to be coming in fashion for the fall and winter. As near as we can form an opinion from the verbal description we have heard, it will harmonize well with a verse of a song which the late W. E. Burton used to sing at the Bowery:

"There was a young man, and his name was Brown,
And he wore two dangling curls,
And the hair on his head was plastered down,
And hung down his back like a girl's."

Josh Billings writes that philosophers all agree that the milk is put into the koker nut, and the hole is neatly plugged up, but who the fellow is who daz it--the philosophers are honest for a wonder--to admit that they can't tell.

Political Drumfish.

(From the Imperialist, of the 21st.)

The oystermen of the shores of Long Island Sound and the New England States have been afflicted this year by a visitation of those looters of the sea, the drumfish. They have come in huge shoals, devouring, devastating, and have ruined the fair prospects of many a submarine plantation. Vain alike have been look and seine--the one is indifferently too slow, and the other breaks its little meshes with the mere weight and strain.

"The drumfish is the hereditary enemy of the oyster. He is by no means large but he is provided by nature with a strength of jaw which prepares him for his destiny. He picks up an oyster, cracks him at the edges, sucks him out and spews away the shell. He has no sentimental affection for shells from which he has sucked all the nutritious contents.

"The 'drum' is the typical and representative fish of America; in human form he directs our cancesses and leads our parties, not to speak of his minor agencies in the 'plantations' of American society. He takes an office, and it is his oyster. Trust him to leave nothing but the shell when the time comes for him to throw it away. He seizes upon a party issue to carry him into power, and when once he has extracted 'all the good of it,' it is henceforth a meatless shell to him. To-day he is an abolitionist and the champion of a 'great moral idea,' but to-morrow his instincts tell him that there remains other and yet unsuspected oysters in the same bed, and he behaves like a wise drumfish.

"That everlasting and all but inexhaustible bed, the 'Treasury,' has been from the first surrounded by a countless school of these devourers, all provided by nature with the necessary cranking and sucking apparatus, and it is all in vain to plant fresh oysters in their presence, as they prefer to work while the shells are still soft.

To their honor, almost, be it said, we cannot class as legitimate drumfish the crackers and suckers of the Wendell Phillips school, who persist in continuing to mouth and munch over and over again the empty shell of their one particular oyster; it was large, it was fat, and it was well flavored, and they refuse to believe that it can have been exhausted even by their preferential power of jaw. But, perhaps, their self-satisfied delusion is a saving to the national plantation--who knows?

The drumfish is not specially available for food, for oil, for his bones, and but indirectly for an editorial illustration. He may serve to point a moral, but otherwise his best adaptability is in a political state and as a manure--he serves by his decay to stimulate the growing crops of the future, but to that end he must be captured by the cartload and hauled on shore.

Mistakes of Government Agents.

A large amount of sugar has been seized in Chicago and New Orleans by government agents for alleged infractions of the revenue laws. It seems from the recent testimony of a sugar expert in New Orleans that it is difficult for an inspector to tell whether certain grades of sugars are imported or are of domestic manufacture. Therefore the subject should be handled with care. The internal revenue laws are sufficiently rigid and burdensome without having them unjustly and improperly enforced, especially upon an article that enters so extensively into family consumption as sugar.

The Man Boutwell.

A Washington dispatch says: Mr. Boutwell, since his appointment has been quite active in the reorganization of the Secretary's office proper as his assistants have been in reducing the Conservative strength in the other bureaus of the department. Boutwell's intention, now nearly completed, is to have in immediate official connection with himself only men after his own heart. It looks somewhat as if a Presidential ring is being organized, with matters so arranged that everything of an official character comes under the supervision of Mr. Boutwell himself, or one of his interested friends. No outsiders are to know aught of matters manifested in the Secretary's office.

Virginia.

The New York Tribune says in regard to the test oath: "We protest against the exaction of the test oath as mediated by Gen. Canby. We want the leading Conservatives to take their seats in the new Legislature; swear fidelity to the new Constitution and ratify the 15th amendment, and we want the State admitted thereupon to representation in Congress and to all the rights of self-government, and so we are confident do a very large majority of the Northern people."

Owens Up.

Morgan Hamilton, of Texas, owns up. He says: "The Republican party is as dead today in Texas, as it is in Kentucky. It had, in the face of the formidable combination organized against it, but a sorry prospect in the immediate future; but then it had a future, which now it has not. I have no stomach for further work in the contest. It has been from the start, a hopeless contest."

Five-tenths are likely to increase in value with so good a customer in the market as Uncle Sam promises to be. Six millions are to be bought in this month.

Is the Solar System in Danger?

The London Spectator has a curious speculation upon "The Solar Mutability," the scientific basis of which is in the following facts:

The sun has been shown to be subject to variations in brightness and heat, which entitle it to be called a variable star. These changes are periodical, and are pretty certainly connected with "magnetic storms" on earth, which take place when the spots on the surface of the sun are agitated. On September 1, 1859, the most remarkable of these storms that has been observed took place, and all the telegraphic wires of both hemispheres were disturbed. In some places severe shocks were felt by operators, and even flames appeared in the instruments; at night magnificent auroras were seen. Another similar storm is expected in 1870, astronomers believing that it will recur every eleven years.

The Spectator believes that men's minds are greatly influenced by the agitations going on in the sun. It says:

And we know that these appearances are not merely matters for the curious, with which, as they happen at a distance of about ninety millions of miles, practical men need not concern themselves. In point of fact, it is by no means impossible that the issues of peace or war, of a financial crisis or a religious agitation, may be closely bound up with these phenomena; if not, indeed--which is also quite possible--the sudden disappearance of our whole system, after the fashion of other solar systems which have thus disappeared.

This much, at least, is certain, that the vast changes now going on in the physical constitution of the sun are changes which do most powerfully affect the electric condition of our earth, which have in former years caused the most violent disturbances in the various artificial as well as natural electric apparatuses of the world we live in, which, to speak of the least of all its possible effects, might just as well as not happen some day to throw the electric condition of ever telegraphic cable on our planet, under the sea or above it, into the most dire confusion, and send down telegraph companies' shares to zero in a lump, even if they did not contribute to us, after some strange inarticulate fashion, that shares in all public companies, even in that very limited public company, the human race, are in a physical point of view, of very doubtful value indeed.

Some of the British writers try to make a first-class "sensation" of the matter. A few years ago, a small star suddenly blazed into great brightness and burned out, and the spectroscopic showed that the flame was burning hydrogen. Now, it is certain that the sun contains an immense amount of hydrogen, and at times sends up flames of it many thousands of miles. What would be the result if the sun should suddenly develop a blaze like that of the star so recently lost? "The earth would be turned into vapor," says a leading man of science, "as quickly as a drop of water thrown into a furnace."

A Two Minute Sermon to Girls.

"Ladies--aged birds of beautiful plumage but sickly looks--pale pets of the parlor, who vegetate in an unhealthy atmosphere like the potato germinating in a dark cellar, why do you not go out into the open air and warm sunshine, and add lustre to your eyes, bloom to your cheeks, and elasticity to your steps, and vigor to your frames? Take exercise, run up the hill on a wafer, and down again for fun; roam the fields, climb the fences, leap the ditches, wade the brooks, and after a day of exhilarating exercise and unrestrained liberty, go home with an appetite acquired by healthy enjoyment. The beautiful and blooming young lady--who checked and bright eyes--who can darn a stocking, mend her own frocks, command a regiment of pots and kettles, feed the pigs, milk the cows, and be a lady when required, is the girl that young men are in quest of for a wife. But you, pinched, screwed up, wasp-waisted, old-dressed, consumption-mortgaged, music-murdering, and novel-devouring daughters of fashion and idleness, you are no more fit for matrimony than a pilllet is to look after a brood of fourteen chickens. The truth is, my dear girls, you want less fashionable restraint and more liberty of action; more kitchen and less parlor; more leg exercise and less sofa; more pudding and less piano; more frankness and less mock modesty. Loosen your waist strings and breathe pure atmosphere, and become something as good and beautiful as nature designed."

A Novel Pulpit.

Last Sunday a pulpit made of Lebanon and olive wood, 2,000 years old, was dedicated in a Congregational church at Amherst, Massachusetts. Such a pulpit is a 'fiece thing to have, but it would be more properly placed if it were certainly not by any more effective than if it took place from a pine pulpit.

Two gentlemen left Selma, Ala., a few days since for San Francisco for a shipment of Chinese. They had orders for five hundred laborers.

A fire occurred in the United States Bonded Warehouse at Philadelphia on the 4th, which destroyed property to the amount of \$2,500,000.

The last story spoken of in California is the "Pay-nothing!" It is said to be alarmingly prosperous. The password is, "Lend me a dollar!" The response, "Broke."