



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA: SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 27, 1858.

The bill providing for the admission of Minnesota, is discussed in the Senate principally with reference to the number of Representatives to which the new State should be entitled. The enabling act under which Minnesota has organized her present constitution, authorized her to elect one Representative, with such additional Representatives as a census of her population might be found to justify, according to the existing ratio of Federal representation. The census, being very imperfectly taken, shows a population of only about one hundred and fifty thousand. It appears, however, that the people have, by general ticket, chosen their Representatives, and the question consequently arises whether they shall all be admitted on the ground of a sufficiency of population, which may be inferred from unofficial sources of information, or whether Congress should restrict her to a single member in the popular branch of Congress, which is all she would be entitled to according to the actual records of the census.

In the course of the proceedings of the House of Representatives, on Thursday afternoon, it was announced, as the result of a conference between Messrs. Stephens, of Georgia, Campbell, of Ohio, Montgomery, of Pennsylvania, and others, that the Senate bill for the admission of Kansas shall be taken up on Thursday next, at one o'clock, with a view to coming to a vote upon it. The House remained in session (nominally) on Thursday, until 9 o'clock, P. M. The Union says: "About eight o'clock, our messenger returned from the Capitol, and reported that four members were in their seats, making an audience for the last reader of the day. It is just as well, however, for, will they not all appear in the Congressional Globe?" But, then, what an unnecessary waste of gas, in more ways than one?

The Charlestown Free Press says: "The place of Superintendent of the Harper's Ferry Armory was, we learn, tendered to Judge Richard Parker, of this Judicial District, but that gentleman declined the honor intended him. It is reported, however, that this tender was made without the knowledge of the Secretary of War, by Mr. Faulkner and the Ordnance department, and that the present incumbent, Major Henry W. Clowe, will be continued. There is something mysterious in the matter. It is also intimated that Judge Parker's claims will be urged for a seat in Congress from our district. Mr. Faulkner's friends intending to press him for gubernatorial honors. Should Judge P. consent to be a candidate for Congress, which seems to be a fixed fact, it will interfere with the aspirations of another gentleman."

In spite of all the theories to the contrary, it is certain that the impression gains ground daily that the "epidemic" which occurred a year ago, at the National Hotel, in Washington, was caused by some malignant mineral poison. A gentleman in New York, who has felt the effects of the disease ever since, had recently the treatment for his disease changed, substituting an antidote for arsenic, and has improved rapidly.

South of Maryland, the principal copper mining districts are in Southwestern Virginia and Southeastern Tennessee. The deposits in these two regions closely resemble each other, consisting of ores which have been altered by the action of the atmosphere. They are mined with great facility, no blasting being required. This deposit must be of course of a limited extent, and cannot be worked as a permanent mine. The ultimate value of these mines must depend upon the underlying sulphurets.

Catharine Cooper, has been appointed postmaster at Brentsville, Prince William county, Va., vice John Camper, resigned. Established.—Whaley's Store, Loudoun county, Va., James Whaley postmaster; between the offices of Dranesville and Broad Run. Benj. F. Sheetz, has been appointed Post-Master at Leesburg, in the place of R. G. Saunders, resigned.

A slip from the Suffolk (Va.) Sun office says, a terrible accident, resulting in the loss of 15 cars loaded with goods, merchandise, &c., and the bridge across Smith's creek, on the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad, one mile about Suffolk, occurred on Wednesday.

The Senate refused on Thursday to take up the Army bill from the House, but the prevailing impression is that the House Volunteer bill will be passed, without material amendment.

Mr. Mason significantly intimated in the Senate on Wednesday, that Minnesota would not be allowed to pass into the Union till the fate of Kansas should have been decided in the House.

Mr. Harris, of Illinois, whose illness has been mentioned, is reported to be far gone in consumption. He is about to be removed to the hospitable residence of Senator Douglas, as more comfortable than his lodgings.

Jesse Crockett, who has been convicted of the murder of Wm. Griffin, at Aquia Creek, on Christmas eve last, has been sentenced to be hung on the 30th of April next.

The three students of the Junior Class who were concerned in the affray with the freshmen last February, are to be dismissed from Yale College.

The critics in Philadelphia speak in high terms of Miss Juliana May's singing in that city—although she labored under many disadvantages.

Five prisoners made their escape from the jail at Raleigh, N. C., last Monday. Two of them were captured and brought back.

The New York canals will be opened for navigation on or before the 20th of April.

George H. Lamb, a hotel keeper at Mendota, La Salle county, Illinois, has been arrested on suspicion of having murdered his first wife—Sarah Stafford, of Hamilton, Hancock county, Ill. Since the alleged murder, he has married Sarah L. Shortlift, of Mendota. The prisoner is to be taken for trial to St. Louis, where he is alleged to have committed the murder.

A man named Finley and his wife, have been brought back to New York, by the police from Ellicott's Mills, where they were traced, after having kidnapped and offered for sale in Washington, a free colored girl of New York. [This incident was erroneously reported in yesterday's Gazette, as having occurred in New Orleans.]

The New Bedford Mercury, in an article on the prices of oil, remarks: "Of the cargoes to be received at this port the present season, we are within bounds in stating that fully one half of them will at present prices be attended with loss to the importers, while the aggregate, on an average, will scarcely remunerate the actual expense of importation."

A destructive fire occurred in Baltimore, on Thursday morning, commencing in Cook & Johnson's soap factory on Frederick street, near Market street. A number of houses were burned. The whole damage by the fire will reach nearly up to \$30,000, the whole of which is covered by insurance except about \$4,000.

The Newark Mercury, in an article on the revival of business in that city, says that a saddle and harness manufactory in that place, has recently received an order from the Government for the equipment of 800 horses for the Utah army, which will give employment to a large number of hands.

The President has directed the Secretary of the Navy to place on file all applications from naval officers affected by the action of the Retiring Board, for reinstatement. These applications will be considered in order as received, for six weeks or two months to come.

The late religious excitement seems to have moved the consciences of the alms-house Governors, in New York. Heretofore they have cared sumptuously. It is now resolved to abolish the customary reglement of the Governors by wines, liquors, and cigars, at the public institutions, at the expense of the city.

The Strasburg Connection. The bill granting a charter for a railroad from Strasburg to Winchester on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, passed the House of Delegates, by a small majority, on Tuesday. This scheme has been before the Legislature repeatedly, but has always been defeated, and justly defeated, because it is essentially and exclusively a scheme, for the special benefit of the city of Baltimore. While continually prating of the importance of building up Virginia cities and towns, and while, to large appropriations have been made towards that end, the present House of Delegates, without examination and without reflection, are sure to grant a charter for a railroad connection which is destined to divert the whole trade and travel of the valley of Virginia to Baltimore; and, at the same time, cripple and impair the value of a great number of the roads for which appropriations were made on Saturday last. We cannot withhold the expression of our profound astonishment at some of the votes, which were cast for this scheme—the votes of men whose constituents are deeply and largely interested in the Canal, in the Virginia and Tennessee road, in the Central Side road, in the Covington and, and the Manassas Gap Road, and the Loudoun and Hampshire road, will be inconceivably injured by the Strasburg connection, every one can see for himself, who will take a glance at the map. Alexandria, too, a Virginia city, will be infinitely damaged, and all for the purpose of enriching Baltimore—at the expense altogether of Virginia interests and Virginia prosperity.

For one we should prefer that every appropriation to improvements the present session should fail, than that this cut-throat scheme should succeed. We look to the Senate, therefore, either to reject this scheme or to arrest all the appropriation bills, if the latter course be necessary, to defeat the bill for the Strasburg connection. We entreat Senators to look this matter calmly in the face, and promptly reverse the thoughtless and injudicious action of the House of Delegates.—Rich. Whig.

Produce in the West. The Cincinnati Gazette says: "There is a large supply of all kinds of produce in the country, and as this is realized upon, the debts of interior markets will be liquidated, and mercantile classes in credit districts will be relieved from the embarrassments under which they have been laboring. A series of communications recently published in the Gazette, from farmers, regarding the crops, agreed in representing that over one-half the wheat crop of 1857 was in the hands of producers about the 1st of February. Several gentlemen who have the best opportunities for obtaining reliable information on the subject, place even higher estimates upon the stocks, and it is their opinion that fully two-thirds of the crop was on hand on the 1st of March. As to the corn, it is almost beyond computation, but much of it, of course, is not suitable for shipment—barley, oats and potatoes are also in large supply, and of bog products there is considerably more in the country than now, than at the corresponding date last year. Thus it is seen, that the mercantile community have a broad and most substantial foundation to base present and prospective operations upon. The Great West is not deficient in real wealth, and as this is converted, debts will be wiped out, and merchants' ledgers satisfactorily balanced.

Next in importance to the ample supplies of produce, are the prospects for the next harvest. The growing wheat crop covers more land than was similarly occupied in any former year, and the plants present a most healthy and promising appearance.—So far as we can judge from the character of the weather, and the appearance of the growing crop, the largest yield of wheat ever produced in the United States, may be anticipated from the harvest of 1858. The signs, therefore, are encouraging."

Liberia National Fair. The following extract from a letter written by John B. Jordan contains an account of practical interest to Liberia and of encouragement to the friends of Colonization:—"Accompanying this I send a printed report of the first fair of this republic, which I hope will interest you on the part of the people evidence of a wish on the part of the people of Liberia to develop their resources. I am further pleased to say that the recent Legislature has passed a bill making the fair annual, to be held in Monrovia in December next, and at Buchanan, Sinou, and Cape Palmas respectively and consecutively each year thereafter, appropriating \$800 for each article and premiums, to be awarded for medals exhibited in the several counties and as the fair, and for essays on agriculture and domestic and political economy. The fair gave great satisfaction."

CHINA GLASS, &c.—R. H. MILLER, SON & CO., are now receiving per Ship Neptune, from Liverpool, their SPRING SUPPLIES OF EARTHENWARE, consisting of Blue Edge, Painted, and White Granite of the best make.

Their stock of GLASSWARE is very complete, being selected with great care, and of the best terms, from the Eastern and Western manufacturers.

FRENCH CHINA DINNER and TEA SETS, in White Gold Band and Decorated, in great variety; also, Vases, Card Baskets, &c.

Country Merchants and others are respectfully requested to call and examine our stock, before purchasing elsewhere, as we are determined to sell GOODS as low as any regular importing House in the country.

ICE! ICE!—Mr. Gottlieb Apich having retired from the Ice business, I take this method of informing the public that I have the Cellar formerly occupied by him, an ICE DEPOT, and shall be prepared throughout the season to favor me with their patronage. A portion of the business is solicited.

Fauquier County, Va. Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette. THE PLAINS, March 25.—I have lately had occasion to travel through many parts of this fine county, and feel disposed to write you a few lines "anent." I find the wheat, generally, looking remarkably well, and the prospects considered favorable. Fauquier, like most other parts of the county, has felt and suffered from the financial crisis, and money matters have been tight enough in all conscience. This is proved by the quantity of Court business, to say nothing of the amount of "collections" or "arrangements" to be made, placed in the hands of lawyers, and others whose vocation it is to see things "settled up." But, after all, with the stamina here, it is impossible that this state of things can last long, or that many will long remain oppressed with debt. Whoever looks upon the broad fields, the fertile lands, the fat cattle, the improved agriculture, and the thrift and industry of the people of Fauquier, will be satisfied, that it is a county which must prosper. No finer climate, and no better soil, can be found in Virginia. The raising of Cattle and Sheep, already a source of income, is destined to be largely increased—and some of the best breeds of both, I have seen here, under care of those who take a pride and interest in such matters.

Speaking of Courts, reminds me to say, that one of the richest and most interesting I ever witnessed, came off last Court day, at Warrenton—and "would that you had been there to see!" There was a very good attendance at Court—and after the usual business of the Court had been disposed of, the candidates for the office of County Clerk, Mr. Anbler and Mr. Jennings, both made excellent addresses. Mr. Norris, the other candidate, was confined at home by sickness. After this had finished, however, the real fun commenced—all good humored—sometimes sharp enough—but received, for the most part, in a kind spirit by the candidates and the people. For the office of Commissioner of the Revenue, there are several competitors, and one of these, Mr. McCormick, fairly "woke up" the Court House, with an original, and humorous exposition of his claims; not the less relished, because to most of us, it was entirely unexpected. Mr. McCormick, in his remarks, was not a whit behind hand, in their replications and such a succession of anecdotes and hits, as we had! For better than two hours, the spectators enjoyed this discussion with a zest. I don't think I ever heard heartier laughter. If this kind of "discussion" can be repeated, it will draw more visitors to Warrenton, than Douglas's speech drew to the Senate in Washington.

Later in the day, I saw John Barleycorn, in the crowd, making a disturbance with some of his friends—but they say he is a troublesome fellow wherever he appears, and is sure to hurt somebody, before he goes to sleep.

Both the Warren Green, and the Warrenton House are excellent hotels, the landlords kind and accommodating, and their tables well supplied. Strangers will find as good entertainment at these establishments as any Hotels in the state. The village of Warrenton, is, itself, a thriving and handsome place—with churches for several denominations of Christians, school and academies, well filled stores, and beautiful private residences. In the summer months, it must be a pleasant resort—especially for those who do not care to go the Springs. The farms in the neighborhood are in a high state of cultivation, and the lands are profitable—consequently sold only at a tolerably high figure. The villages of the Plains, Salem, Upper Falls, &c., are all situated in a country where the air and scenery invite and attract the traveller. The Manassas Gap and Orange roads both pass through portions of Fauquier, and both are, therefore, justly considered of importance by the people here.—The Manassas Road, which has experienced, from causes which could not be obviated, much trouble, I hope will be enabled to take advantage of the new appropriation about to be made by the Legislature, to push forward to Harrisonburg. It is, as a freight road, certainly, a most valuable one to Alexandria, and farmers and merchants must be alike interested in its success. If all the rich portions of the Valley can be brought down this road to your doors, the day will not be distant, when its expense will be repaid to you.

I cannot conclude without mentioning the kindness and hospitality I have received during my two weeks' sojourn in Fauquier, from the inhabitants. They are true Virginians, and, therefore, true men. But if the men are as I have described, what shall I say of the ladies of the country? That they are beautiful, and accomplished, cannot be denied, because they are, in general, married to men who are not a lady over sixteen, in Fauquier, who has not been courted; and for a smile from whom there are not at least a dozen men who would not scruple to jump into the Rappahannock in mid winter—and not go near a fire for two hours afterwards! "Come then—expressive silence!"

A TRAVELLER.

Speed on the Ocean. The following extract of a letter received by E. K. Collins, esq., showing the great benefit of adopting the method of Messrs. Withered Bro., of Baltimore, for using steam, is of some importance in the present age:—"Mr. Mills, the Engineer-in-Chief of the West Indian and Brazil Royal Mail Steamship Company, writes under date of the 12th ult., that the mail steamship Avon has just returned from a voyage from Southampton to Rio Janeiro and back, gaining three days on her passage each way, and with twenty per cent, less coal. By Dr. Baume's tables, in the "Ocean Pilot," page 78, it will be seen that to have gained one knot—the Avon did—would have required one-third more fuel; or in other words, requiring fifty per cent, more fuel, with ordinary steamer to have gained the same result."

The same method applied to the Collins steamers would shorten their trips across the Atlantic at least twelve hours. It would enable the Adriatic, for instance, to make the passage to Liverpool in eight days, with ease.

WARRENTON HOUSE.—The undersigned takes great pleasure in informing his many friends and acquaintances both far and near that he has taken sole charge of this well known HOTEL and is now prepared to give to every one who may choose to call, accommodations of the very best kind. He has engaged a gentleman who is known to the community as a gentleman admirably qualified for the position, and most excellent and convenient Bar is attached to the House, where superior LIQUORS and SWEETS will be kept at all times. The Warrenton House is situated in the centre of the town, on main street, and thereby entirely convenient to all. Porters will be at the cars morning and evening to escort passengers up. The Proprietor hopes that his friends will not forget him and feel confident that he can give satisfaction to all who may sojourn with him.

JAMES DESHIELDS, Agent for E. R. Deshields, Warrenton, Va., mh 19—eodm

NEW STORE NEAR THE DEPOT.—The undersigned have this day (March 15, 1858) associated themselves under the name and style of PAYNE, NEWBY & CO. for the purpose of conducting a general GROCERY, HARDWARE, DRY-GOODS, AND PRODUCE BUSINESS, and are prepared to furnish dealers at moderate prices, for cash or Produce, and to buy Produce for the A. A. &c.

With a Railroad to our door, and ample Warehouse, Wagon yard, Platforms, &c., we invite a call from buyers and sellers.

INMAN H. PAYNE, ROBT. C. NEWBY, W. M. RICKETTS, Warrenton, Va., mh 18—eodm

JOHN MURPHY, ATTORNEY AT LAW, will practice in the Courts of Westmoreland, Richmond, and Northumberland Counties, Va. Post Office, Rice's Store, Westmoreland County, Va. mh 23—eodm

400 SACKS Ashton and Ground Alum Salt, in store, and for sale by PERRY & PENNYBACKER, mh 23

Honor to the Brave. THE LATE GEN. CHILDS.—While all Europe and America are resounding with the name and fame of Havelock, the brave warrior and successful deliverer of the imperiled and the defenceless; while the world is showering chaplets on his grave, let us inquire whether there have been none of like spirit and temper, among ourselves. A camp is not, indeed, ordinarily, the place towards which we would look for brilliant developments of piety, but as the living fire of Christianity is made and intended to burn anywhere in this wicked world; as, in point of fact, it has shed its light and warmth in the darkest, coldest and most polluted places, so should we mark it, rejoice over it, record it, and honor God for it. Among the bright features of our Revolution were the ardent piety of not a few of its heroic defenders. Well did our venerable minister of Massachusetts—his white locks and earnest face arid delineated in the reminiscences of my childhood, for he was my pastor—who summoned his people to one of the battle fields of the revolution, and distinguished himself for courage and conduct in the action; then gave thanks to God for the victory. A brother of the same, in the flesh and in the ministry, died in the service of his country, after having been immured in a British prisonship. Just now, also, the biography of Heady Vicars, the Christian soldier, is delighting the public. We, too, have pious and excellent men in our Army and Navy. With the same spirit, and the same pleasure of an acquaintance, and that there is a decision and frankness in their piety, which seem almost peculiar to their profession. With the late General Childs, once Colonel of Artillery, I was familiar from his boyhood. He was of a revolutionary stock, the youngest son of the late eminent Dr. Timothy Childs, of Pittsfield, and of a venerated mother in Israel who transcended ninety years, before her evening sunset—years of faith and prayer—merged at length with joy in the endless life of heaven. Thomas—the future soldier of the Cross, so mightily, and alas! so brief in the pulpit—possessed the natural elements of character which fit a man for the hardest sort of work in the strife of life. Difficulties were to him motives, the energy of which was in proportion to the formidableness of the difficulties. He had no speaking eloquence, like Larned. He relied upon the strength of a quiet, determined action—Each presented a striking exemplification of a certain phase of Young American life. The one would ravish his auditors with strains of matchless eloquence. The other could set a squadron in the field with irresistible skill and force. It is remarkable that they both died of yellow fever, Northern men laying down their lives in the service of the South. The tenderest relations of their lives, too, were formed at the South. May there be many such happy unions among the newly risen generation in our youth. Childs was graduated at West Point Academy. Thence he was transferred to the army, in which he distinguished himself during the war of 1812-15. Vigilance and cool bravery were marked traits, habitually developed. It was at one of the forts he was converted, while Major commanding, for he rose steadily through the gradations, adorning each with indefeasible duty. That, not glory, was his "guiding star." He did not hunt after honors, but they met him in the path of duty. He sought the good of his soldiers, not treating them as military machines, but as men having rational and immortal souls. He preached to them, prayed with them, distributed tracts among them, visited and consoled the sick. At Puebla in Mexico, which he was military governor, he had 18000 sick in the hospital, pining, hum-sick, and heart-sick, dying patients, the victims of war. Santa Anna was thundering at the gates of his camp, demanding a surrender, while the bullets of the enemy were whistling around his person. For forty days and nights he did not take off his clothes. Now, an open and bloody fight with all his high-strung excitement, was nothing to this. He pronounced the depression of the army, and the loss of the heart-sick, dying patients, the victims of war. He preached to them, prayed with them, distributed tracts among them, visited and consoled the sick. At Puebla in Mexico, which he was military governor, he had 18000 sick in the hospital, pining, hum-sick, and heart-sick, dying patients, the victims of war. Santa Anna was thundering at the gates of his camp, demanding a surrender, while the bullets of the enemy were whistling around his person. 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