

FOREIGN NEWS.—The steamer *City of Washington*, from Europe, has arrived, with dates to the 8th inst.

McHenry & Co. quote a decline of 6d @ 1s in flour.

A dispatch from Madrid says that the government of Mexico recognizes the justice of the Spanish demand.

The diplomatic rupture between Austria and Sardinia is not likely to be adjusted, but neither contemplates hostilities.

Commercial advices from Australia are unfavorable.

In consequence of the spread of murrain in the north of Europe, England has prohibited the importation of cattle, skins, &c., which, it is thought, will affect the provision trade. Murrain had also appeared among the cattle in Austria.

Gen. Ashburnham will command the military force going to China.

The Neuchâtel conference has been indefinitely adjourned, as is said on account of the impractical demands of Prussia.

Baltimore, April 21.

The steamer *Fulton*, with dates to the 8th inst., arrived at New York this morning.

Breadstuffs dull.

Money decidedly stringent. Bank rates advanced to 7 for loans of stocks. The Bank of England had raised its rate of interest for loans on stocks to 7 per cent, which caused a general decline in prices. English funds declined in consequence of the tightness of the money market.

The *Times*' Paris correspondent says that an unexpected increase in the Bank of England's rate of interest had an unfavorable effect upon the French trade; on the other hand, the new American tariff had encouraged manufacturers who were anticipating a profitable business with the United States.

The corn market throughout France was declining.

The accouchement of Queen Victoria was daily expected.

The English elections were over, with but few exceptions. There will be a large liberal majority in the new House of Commons.

The amount of gold on the way to England from Australia, the greater portion of which could not be far distant, was estimated at £2,500,000.

The closing of the five Chinese ports against European commerce, was considered imminent.

A FACT FOR OUR REPUBLICAN FRIENDS.—

The Republicans continue to be terribly exercised about the late decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, which has decided that negroes are not constitutional citizens of the Union. Now, we would ask these gentlemen, if negroes are "citizens," why is it that the Topeka Constitution—which was made by them in Kansas, and which they obstinately persist shall be the one under which she shall be admitted into the Union—contains a clause that free men of color shall not be allowed to settle in the State? This clause was referred separately to the Republican Free State electors, no body else voted on the question, and it was carried by a large majority. The "Topeka Constitution," with this stringent clause against negroes, is the shibboleth and policy of the Republican faction, it is their panacea for the Kansas difficulties—was voted for by all the Republican members of Congress, and has been adopted and approved by them in every possible way. We would ask, in all sincerity, where and what is the Republican consistency which denies to negroes the right of ever living in Kansas, and drives them from the State as criminals, and then finds fault with the United States Supreme Court because it decided that they are not citizens of the United States?

[Grand Rapids Daily Enquirer.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES.—It has been the good pleasure of the Republican journals to represent Chief Justice Taney as a large slaveholder and a man of ultra Southern views. In allusion to this fact the Cincinnati *Enquirer* has the following:

"Let the decision speak for itself; but Mr. Taney, personally, is opposed to slavery, in principle and practice. Many years ago, although never wealthy, he freed every negro in his possession, and has paid servants wages ever since.

"They were all valuable, and one, his body servant, has been the head waiter of the largest hotel in Baltimore for many years.

"Judge Taney has always been the truest friend of the black man, and it is related by a cotemporary that the most eloquent speech he ever made was at the Frederick County bar, in defence of a little negro girl, in which he thrilled auditors by exalting the happy construction of our court, and the justice of the laws, in allowing the business of the circuit to be stopped in order to give that poor little negro girl her rights and her lawful protection. And although the little creature had most likely committed crime, Mr. Taney's eloquent appeal rescued her from the vengeance of the law. Thus have all his acts, public and private, been characterized by justice and generosity."

SUICIDE.—The following is an anecdote of Dr. Johnson: Boswell once asked Johnson if there was no possible circumstance under which suicide would be justifiable? "No," was the reply. "Well," says Boswell, "suppose a man had been guilty of some fraud that he was certain would be found out."—"Why, then," says Johnson, "in that case let him go to some country where he is not known, and not to the devil where he is known."

## THE GRAND RIVER TIMES

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 20, 1857.

CHINESE SUGAR CANE—ITS CULTIVATION.

—We understand that Judge HATHAWAY, of Crocker, purposes to plant this season a half acre with the seed of the Chinese Sugar Cane, in order to test the practicability of its culture in our northern latitudes. Various opinions prevail among those who have given some attention to the subject, as to the effect produced by our comparatively cold summers upon the quantity and quality of the saccharine substance yielded by the cane, some affirming that no unfavorable results are experienced by a transfer to more northern latitudes, and others, that experiments made in its culture so far north as this will prove unprofitable, so that our citizens will look forward with some interest to any facts respecting its cultivation that may be elicited upon trial.

Dr. Jackson, at a recent meeting of the Boston Horticultural Society, stated that the Chinese Sugar Cane raised in the vicinity of Boston would not yield crystalline sugar in quantities to warrant its cultivation. A small quantity could be obtained from the plant, but a syrup which was suitable for food or distillation was readily obtained. The further South the cane is raised the more sugar it yields.

Professor Bacon, of Boston, in a recent lecture at the medical college, spoke briefly of this new plant. He says it contains much less sugar than the common sugar cane; that the sugar obtained from it is not the same as obtained from the cane of the South, the maple, Indian corn, &c., but in "grape sugar," or "glucose," such as is obtained by boiling starch in diluted sulphuric acid.

One part of the sugar cane is worth two and a half parts of glucose in its sweetening properties. But if the cane cannot be raised with profit, by the farmers, for sugar, it may, nevertheless, be found quite profitable for fodder.

We trust our farmers will be alive, during the coming season, to the necessity of planting and sowing as many acres as circumstances will possibly allow. At the present extraordinary high price of everything eatable, the employment of the Agriculturalist must be in the highest degree remunerative, and they will find it greatly to their interest to plant and sow that "extra acre."

We know of none in our county who have as yet been compelled to pledge their farms for provisions, but we know those who are certainly in straitened circumstances, caused by the unprecedented high prices of the necessities of life, which circumstances compel them at present to purchase. So, farmers, let not a foot of land go to waste, if it is possible to plant or sow some kind of a crop thereon.

MAPLE SUGAR.—The season just closed has been one of great profit to those engaged in the manufacture of Maple Sugar, and a greater amount has probably been produced in this county than ever before, induced by the remarkable high and still increasing prices demanded for Muscovado and other sugars. The yield in proportion to the number of trees tapped, is unusually large—as for instance, the Messrs. MURRAY, Mr. SEYMOUR, and others in the town of Crocker, we learn have manufactured at an average rate of some 8lbs to the tree, and those trees taken in course through the bush. Many dollars will thus be saved to citizens in the item of "sweetening."

We learn from the Grand Rapids Daily *Enquirer* that the Steamer *Forest Queen* has undergone thorough repairs since discontinuing her trips on the river, has received a new upper cabin, and is to come out in a few days, a first class passenger boat. If her owner, Mayor POWERS, will just put the fare for passengers, and the rates of freight to the old standard prices, we will warrant the *Queen* an extensive, paying business.

Judge DOUGLASS has announced his intention of resigning his position as Circuit Judge. Such resignation to take effect on the 10th of May. He intends to resume the practice of law. It is expected the Governor will appoint Judge WITHERWELL to fill the vacancy. So intimates the Detroit *Free Press*.

The Government has ordered Col. SUMNER, with 1000 men, to proceed to the North Western portions of Iowa, an there punish the Indians for their recent outrages, then proceed to Utah and bring the captious Mormons into subjection to the laws of the United States.

For the Grand River Times.

GRAND HAVEN, April 24, 1857.

MR. BARNES: To the great surprise of myself, and not less I think of others present, I see that a simple sugar party, engaged in by all as a means of enjoying a Friday afternoon pleasantly, has been seized upon by the *Clarion* as an "item," and in it I find myself, with others, presented to the eyes of its readers with a prominence not at all coveted, and entirely repugnant to those feelings of delicacy which should find a place in every female mind.

I should not be true to myself were I to remain silent and not protest against the publication of an article of this character, wherein private names, and those of ladies at that, are held up to the public gaze. Thus, though a lady, I avail myself of the medium of your paper to express my sentiments.

Is it so, that we can have no innocent amusements, no recreative parties, but that some "bachelor friend" must take notes to show his talents, and a soft-headed editor must give him a place in his columns?

To the author of the "personalities" in the late issue of the *Clarion*, we (the ladies) say: We despise a man who has such a scarcity of ideas that when he discovers the ingress of one in his cranium he forthwith proceeds to announce the unexpected discovery by holding it up for our admiration; and a man whose brain is so shallow that impressions sink no deeper than his tongue, meets with our thorough contempt. Neither can he expect to remain hidden by the "non de plume" of "our young bachelor friend," for who can fail to trace in the delicate descriptions, gentlemanly allusions, and refined comments therein contained, the forcible style of a late effusion in the *Times*, wherein Webster, Walker and Johnson are exhausted to furnish expletives, adjectives, and intensifiers to acidulate and mustardize a harmless dose.

To the Editor who has arrogated to himself equality with the Supreme Being, and uttered the fiat, "Let there be Light," we would merely suggest that before he again attempts "Creation out of nothing" he re-examine the result of his late "six days labor" and see if he can himself pronounce it "Very good."

We beg, Mr. BARNES, that you will not hesitate to give this short article a place in your paper, as it is written by the request of "the ladies."

A LADY PRESENT.

EDGE TOOL MANUFACTORY AT GRAND RAPIDS.—Our friend and former fellow-citizen, F. T. RANNEY, Esq., has recently purchased the property at Grand Rapids, formerly known as the "Grand Rapids Axe Factory," for the purpose of manufacturing Edge Tools—a branch of business much needed in the Grand River Valley.

Mr. R. is well known to our citizens as a man of good business capacity, possessed of a liberal share of enterprise, energy and Yankee go-a-head-a-tiveness, and we have no doubt the undertaking will prosper in his hands.

We learn from the *Enquirer* that Mr. RANNEY has engaged Mr. HATHAWAY for his Foreman, a gentleman possessed of large experience in the business, and fully competent for that responsible station. We wish Mr. R. abundant success in this new branch of business.

The Grand Rapids *Enquirer*, of the 24th, states that a rape was committed on Wednesday preceding, by Martin Huff, on the person of a Mrs. LEWIS, a cripple, aged 65 years, residing some two and a half miles from the city, on the Ada road.

It appears Mrs. L. had been out to visit a sick neighbor and was returning home, about 7 1/2 o'clock in the evening, and while passing a clump of bushes, Huff sprung out, seized her, threw her to the ground, and accomplished his foul purpose. Mrs. L., on being released, immediately gave the alarm to workmen in a brick-yard, near by, and in company of police officer Baker, succeeded in capturing the demon, near Fisk's hotel, took him to the house of Mrs. L., who recognized him as the brutal offender, thence he was taken before Justice Sinclair and committed to await trial. The *Enquirer* thinks this is one of a crowd of villains who are beginning to infest that city, calling for great vigilance on the part of the police.

A FAMINE IN OUR MIDST.—The Saginaw *Enterprise*, of recent date, states that great scarcity of provisions prevail in Genesee and Tuscola counties, and perhaps to a considerable extent in that county (the article referred to may be seen in another column), so much so that several farmers have been obliged to mortgage their farms to obtain the necessities of life.

EXTENSIVE CLOTHING HOUSE.—As we have before said, the new store of Messrs. PORTERS & MATHISON, is doubtless the most elegantly furnished mercantile house in the State. The splendid mouldings which adorn the walls were produced by those excellent master-mechanics, Messrs. DODGE & MOREHOUSE, of whose taste and skill, thus evidenced, our citizens are and may well be proud. The work commands the admiration of all.

The enterprising firm for whose use this store was prepared—Messrs. PORTERS & MATHISON—have just opened therein the most extensive stock of Goods, belonging to the clothing trade, which has ever been brought into this State, west of Detroit. Of their quality and suitability for this market, it is enough to say, they were carefully selected by the senior member of the firm, who has been engaged in the business for the past eighteen years, and under whose principal management, from a small beginning, has grown up in our city one of the most popular and extensive Clothing Establishments in the West.

JOHN MATHISON, the junior of the present firm has charge of the manufacturing department, whose capacity has been proven to the satisfaction of our citizens by a steady service of twelve years in "Irving Hall." Little "BEN," the brother of LEWIS, the senior, is another "chip of the same block"—trained to the same correct business habits, and an active and expert salesman.

Mr. W. W. GANTINE is a clerk of gentlemanly address, and has been so long engaged in this establishment that he may be regarded as a fixture—one of its component parts. Mr. C. C. MILLER is also engaged with Mr. MATHISON in the cutting department; and it is enough to say that he is deemed worthy of the place which he fills.

Altogether, this elegant store—so completely stocked, and so well managed—is truly worthy of the extensive patronage which it is receiving. "Long may it wave."

[Grand Rapids Daily Eagle.

[We heartily endorse the *Eagle's* comments, as presented above, and hesitate not to recommend to our numerous readers the firm and goods of Messrs. PORTERS & MATHISON.]

We learn from the *Welland Herald* (C. W.) that an act has recently passed both Houses of the Canadian Parliament requiring the public accounts to be kept in dollars and cents, on and after the first of January, 1858, thus dispensing entirely with the old system of pounds, shillings, pence, &c.

HON. ROBERT J. WALKER, the new Governor of Kansas, is now in the city of New York, and expects to leave that city, for Kansas, on the 11th of May.

It is stated that over 90 persons have fallen victims to the railroad accident at the Desjardins bridge near Hamblinton (C. W.)

The friends of Gov. GEARY, are urging upon the President, his appointment as Governor of Utah.

We are indebted to our friend, J. A. LEGGAT, for late Chicago and New York papers.

The Detroit and Milwaukee Railway is considered a work of vast importance to railroad interests West of the Lake, and citizens of the different lake ports are looking forward to its speedy completion with great interest. The opinion seems to prevail, universally, with railroad men, that this road will be one of the most important and best paying roads in the United States. The *Racine Advocate*, of the 20th, says:

"STEAM FERRY FROM RACINE TO GRAND HAVEN.—The vigorous prosecution of the Detroit and Grand Haven Railroad, with the now certain prospect of its completion the present season, has induced H. S. Durand, Esq., the President of the Racine & Mississippi Railroad, to confer with parties in New York, upon the establishment of a regular line of Steamers between Grand Haven and this city. In a letter from Mr. Durand, dated New York, April 15th, he says, "I have received formal propositions from parties of the fullest responsibility, and long experience in the steamboat business on the Lakes, for placing on the route between Racine and Grand Haven, two of the finest passenger steamers on our inland waters, the moment the Grand Haven Railroad is completed.—The terms and conditions are approved by the Detroit and Grand Haven Company, and will undoubtedly be confirmed by the Racine and Mississippi Railroad Company."

It is well known by those familiar with railroad matters in the West, that no line has been commenced which commands more attention or is invested with so much importance to Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa, as the one starting from Detroit, thence to Grand Haven, Racine, Sabula on the Mississippi, and through the very heart of Iowa to the Missouri River. Of the practicability of

running a line of boats the whole season, there can be no doubt; occasionally interruptions might occur, but it is confidently asserted by practical men that the communication may be kept open with sufficient regularity to keep the travel unembarrassed.

"The progress of our road, which for a short time back has been somewhat impeded by the awful weather, is now being pushed on most nobly. Freeport will soon be reached, when connecting with the Illinois Central Railroad, running to Dunleith, and opening a direct route to Central Illinois and the Illinois river, with the vast coal regions and her well-tilled, fertile prairies; who will say, the anticipations of those who have sacrificed and worked to accomplish this noble object have not been fully realized.

"Between Freeport and Savannah the work is so far done as to make sure of its completion the present season; the iron is purchased and paid for. The connection with the very best railroad yet projected in Iowa, has given an importance and strength to the Racine & Mississippi Railroad most flattering to our citizens, for beyond doubt, in New York and Europe, men well posted in Railroad matters regard the project as one in which investments can be made with safety. Our Iowa neighbors are fully alive to the matter, and are working with a determination which must meet with success."

SCARCITY OF PROVISIONS.—We learn that in some portions of Genesee and Tuscola, and probably in this county also, there is much suffering for want of provisions. All kinds of provisions, except flour, are unusually high, and very scarce throughout this Northern region. In the newly settled townships, where most of the lands are but little improved, and the past season unfavorable, the supply of provisions is short, and few of the inhabitants able to buy them at present high prices. We have heard of instances of great suffering and almost starvation, in particular neighborhoods. In some cases we have heard of property being sacrificed at ruinous prices, and of men mortgaging their farms to obtain means for the support of their families, while those who have no such resources to draw upon, must receive aid or suffer actual starvation. Even in our own village, the demand for provisions is very lively; though we are sure of at least one case where the sales are materially lessened in consequence of the emptiness of the purchaser's pockets, and it is quite likely there may be others in a similar condition. [Saginaw Enterprise.

Albion, Mich., April 21.

FALL OF A BUILDING.—A three-story brick building, owned by Mr. H. McGee, of this place, fell this afternoon at about 3 o'clock, burying five persons in the ruins. Only one of the number—Mrs. Hollingsworth, a daughter of Mr. Gale—is thought to be dangerously injured, the others having escaped without serious injury. The building was occupied by Mr. G. Gale, Hardware Dealer, and Messrs. Pratt & Odell, jewelers.

Cleveland, April 21.

The schooner *Nonpareil*, from Oswego, arrived here this morning, via the feeder of the Welland Canal.

"Mr. Speaker," said a member of the Jamaica Legislature, discussing a bill for the regulation of the lumber trade—"I know these timber merchants to be the most egregious rascals—I was in the timber line myself twelve years!"

The new Governor of Kansas, Hon. Robert J. Walker, is now at the New York Hotel, intending to remain in this city until May 11th, when he will accept his commission, take the oath of office, and leave for the famous Territory. On Thursday evening Mr. Walker received a visit from a committee of young men from the Clionian Society of the Free Academy, and was addressed by the Chairman. Mr. Walker made a brief but felicitous reply, expressing his earnest desire to promote the peace and prosperity of Kansas and the Union.

[Journal of Commerce, 18th.

Happiness is a pig with a slippery tail which every one runs after, but nobody can hold.

## New Advertisements.

### DETROIT & MILWAUKEE RAILWAY.

NOTICE is hereby given to the subscribers to the Capital Stock of the Detroit and Milwaukee Railway, in Ottawa County, that their subscriptions are due and payable at the Company's Office at Grand Rapids and Crocker Creek, as follows:

Five per cent on the first day of May, 1857, and five per cent on the first day of each succeeding month, until the full amount shall be paid in. W. P. INNES, Resident Engineer Fourth Division of the D. & M. Railway. [285 tf.

### SANDS XXX ALE.

THE undersigned have the Agency for the sale of this celebrated CREAM, PALE and AMBER ALE, and are prepared to fill orders promptly, and satisfactorily. Those wishing a fine article of ale, will find (on trial) this ale to be superior to any draught ale ever before introduced into the Grand River Valley.

Orders for the above ale is respectfully solicited. WASHINGTON HOUSE, Grand Haven, LEGGAT BROTHERS, Agents. [285 tf.

### JAMES PATTERSON, House, Boat and Sign Painter, Grainer, Paper Hanger, Glazier and Gilder.

HAVING just arrived at this place, for the purpose of opening a shop and making a permanent business, in the various departments of the trade, I would announce that I am now prepared to attend promptly to the calls of as many as may make application. JAMES PATTERSON.

Grand Haven, April 21, 1857. [16