

UNION AND AMERICAN.

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 1875.

The principal object of Vice President Wilson's trip to the South at this time is said to be to visit the spot at Austin, Texas, where his only son, an officer in the regular army, died.

Presswater, which the telegraph reports as half destroyed by fire, is a city of some 70,000 inhabitants near the northern frontier of Afghanistan. It is a well paved town, furnished with water and occupies an commanding commercial position, being surrounded by a fertile country, which, with the aid of irrigation, produces two crops every year, consisting of wheat, barley, pulse and the finest rice in the world.

The "Declaration of Independence," celebrated at Gettysburg in Westmoreland county, Pa., yesterday, by Simon Cameron, Gov. Hartman, and others, opens with a profession of profound loyalty for King George III, but abuses Parliament and the Colonial Governors without stint. The date of its adoption was May 16, 1775, and was celebrated yesterday doubtless because to-day, the true centennial is Sunday. Like the Mecklenburg Declaration, it was evoked by news of the battle of Lexington, April 19, which naturally reached Pennsylvania some days before North Carolina.

According to Gen. Hazen, the country through which the Northern Pacific Railroad was to have run is parched up by a heat of 105 degrees in summer, while in winter the thermometer falls to 45 degrees below zero, hardly any rain falling at any time during the year.—New York Graphic.

Gen. Hazen is one of the most distinguished officers of the Federal army. He needs a highly honorable record for courage and capacity during the war. Since he has devoted himself to science and literature, though in active duty at a frontier outpost, and has acquired not less fame in the field of letters than he had formerly gained in that of Mars. However, we are forced to the conclusion, notwithstanding his other attainments, that he has not yet learned political strategy, or he never would have said on 24th that might be construed, as Jay Cooke or Presidential circles, as concurring to the Northern Pacific.

Of the 23rd next month a meeting of East Tennessee Patrons of Humaneity will be held at Knoxville, to make such arrangements as may be necessary to place the management of the Eastern Division Fair in the hands of that Order. The Georgia Outlook says of the movement: "We have sent out two hundred circular letters to as many Patrons, asking them to be with us in the season allotted to us. A very large number of them have already replied that they will be present and act as directors. The proposition to take charge of the fair meets with universal approval, as we supposed it would. We remark, once for all, that there is no money involved in the matter. The Patrons will not be required to assume the payment of a single dollar. But all this will be looked into and examined at the meeting in June, when propositions will be made and when they can be accepted or rejected by the directors present, as they may deem wise in the premises."

EDEN IN AMERICA. "Go West, young man, go West." Mr. Benton, in one of his greatest speeches, standing upon the soil of this our, and summarizing the momentous changes of the fast approaching year, pointed westward to our Pacific coast, and comprehending fully the influence which Pacific railroads and Pacific steamships were to have upon our social and commercial life, he said: "Go West, young man, go West." Mr. Benton, in one of his greatest speeches, standing upon the soil of this our, and summarizing the momentous changes of the fast approaching year, pointed westward to our Pacific coast, and comprehending fully the influence which Pacific railroads and Pacific steamships were to have upon our social and commercial life, he said: "Go West, young man, go West."

THE EVANGELISTS AND THEIR WORK. While we do not pretend to edit a religious journal, and have ever carefully abstained from the expression of views favoring in the least of sectarianism, we feel more than a passing interest in all movements calculated to elevate the moral and spiritual tone of our community. Such a movement we consider that inaugurated by the Evangelists who are about closing their labors in this city. The news of the wonderful results accomplished by their mission to Kentucky had reached the ears of our church people, and upon an invitation from many of the ministers of Nashville, Mr. Bliss, accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Brooks, of St. Louis—who he accidentally met on his journey—came first. During the brief stay of Dr. Brooks, those who heard him enjoyed an intellectual treat of rare excellence with displays of splendid oratory. A speaker of noble and commanding presence, deep piety, thorough culture, and convincing power, he went straight to the heart of the listener, and his short, effective illustrations will be long remembered. Of Mr. Bliss it may be said that, while his style is thoroughly finished, he sings with his whole soul, and never fails to touch the tenderest chords of feeling, as well by the pathetic melody of his voice, as by his evident conscientiousness and deep humility.

Mr. Whittle was delayed in reaching Nashville, and when he did arrive he found the city fairly aroused. Going almost directly from the train to the Exposition building, he proceeded at once to work. The audience soon perceived that a man out of the common order was speaking to them, whose powers of argument were commensurate with the work before him. These two laborers in the harvest of souls did not come to us in the interest of any particular church or denomination; they have been simply preaching the Gospel of salvation, in the plainest and most earnest terms, taking for their text that Christ was crucified, that he died on the cross, that he shed his blood for sinners, and that they who believe on him shall be saved and have eternal life. The great mistake made by most ministers is that they are prone to preach elaborate sermons of a merely doctrinal character, in talking about men's heads, they fail to reach their hearts. On the other hand, the Evangelists have appealed to the human nature of the people, who have been won not by eloquence, but by extreme simplicity, directness and a plain, common-sense way of dealing with sinners. First, they selected a central place of worship. The Exposition building answered the purpose admirably. Here, on common, rough benches, gathered the rich and the poor, the educated and the ignorant, the good and the bad; silk skirts came in close contact with the faded calicoes of poverty, and the humble day laborer sat next the prosperous merchant or banker. All distinctions were ignored; the people met on one common level, to hear the Gospel preached as they had never heard it preached before. The attendance increased steadily until even that vast building seemed too small. Christians who had grown rusty for want of interest, church members who were not true to their faith, backsliders, sinners and scoffers felt that an influence was at work which they could not resist. The glad tidings were announced to them in a way that charmed them by its very simplicity. The whole community was aroused, an interest was manifested heretofore unparalleled. All other revivals pale before this great awakening. May its results be as permanent as its manifestations have been extraordinary.

REGULATING THE WEATHER.

It would sound interodox in this age to question the dictum that "knowledge is power." Yet it is precisely in those fields where man has the most exact knowledge that he possesses the least power to influence results. In astronomy for instance his knowledge assumes mathematical accuracy, vindicated by the ability to predict; yet he cannot shift the course of sun, moon or stars one hair breadth. On the other hand, where man's power is greatest, as in the movements of human society, of which man alone is the motor, his knowledge of how to compass desired results, or to predict consequences, reaches its minimum. Between these two extremes lie numerous fields of action, where the adage holds, and increased knowledge gives increased power to effect results. But there is one department of cosmogony, bearing directly on the comfort and necessities of man, in which he has hitherto developed neither knowledge nor power. We allude to that every day topic of perennial interest—the weather.

What is more uncertain than the wind, which, according to the highest authority, blows "whither it listeth?" Can man ever fallow its freaks, direct where it comes or where it goes and anticipate its eccentric courses? The rain falls upon the just and unjust. Will man be ever able to woo and win it to his withering crops at will? Copernicus studied for years a tangling mass of astronomical tables, and ultimately reduced their mystifying myriads of planetary circles and epicycles into circular orbits round a common center. Tycho Brahe devoted his life to noting the eccentricities of Mars, and left an heirloom of perplexing maps filled with lines and arcs, indicating no more system than the millions of separate straws in a haystack. Yet Kepler, by means of the Copernican key solves the riddle and was enabled to evolve the grand principles which have reduced astronomy to a science as exact as Euclid.

The Signal Service Bureau, established a few years ago, is accumulating tables of temperature, atmospheric pressure, rainfall, and storm paths, from the study of which it is not unreasonable to expect that some future Copernicus of Kepler will discover the general laws governing the weather. Already scientists are on the alert, and many isolated coincidences of phenomena have been noted, and principles of limited application discovered. The developments thus far indicate a bewildering complexity of laws, similar to the old astronomy, and we suspect that our sermons are travelling through the same stage of investigation. But when the data and statistics become sufficiently numerous, and the true genius comes to study them, the active principles that control the weather may prove to be as few and simple as the laws of Kepler.

At the recent meeting of the National Academy of Sciences at Washington, Prof. Loomis, of Yale College, read a very interesting paper on the average duration of storm-paths and their velocity of progress. The results of a previous study of 314 cases from the weather maps of 1872 and 1873 were confirmed in a remarkable manner by the 171 storms recorded in 1874, giving an aggregate of 485 cases in the three years from which to deduce resemblances and divergences. The averages of each year were found remarkably uniform as to direction and velocity, the most rapid progress of a storm center occurring Feb. 22, 1874, being 533 miles per hour, and the slowest Aug. 21, being only 95 miles. The movement of the storm-center is to be distinguished from the violence of the wind itself, which is generally if not universally cyclonic, so that a storm which advances very slowly may prove all the more destructive from that very cause.

A second principle established, is that the maximum velocity is always about 8 o'clock P. M., the hour when the temperature of the day is declining most rapidly. Around this point it varies somewhat with the season, being earlier in winter and later in summer, but all the great storms occur from 4.35 to 11 P. M. An attempt to ascertain the relation between the rainfall and the wind's velocity did not prove so satisfactory, although principles were discovered indicating that when over the precise limits can be given, the course of the storm can be accurately predicted.

Still another curious fact elicited is that a storm is always deflected from its course toward the center of a high barometer. As the storm itself is always accompanied by a low barometer, this indicates that the violence of the elements is really an attempt to restore their equilibrium. Practically, this fact is of great importance. When "Old Probs" receives telegraphic information of a storm brewing at some distant point, he can look at his maps, note the various wind currents and the centers of high and low barometer, from which he can predict the approximate course of the coming storm, and forewarn those a hundred or a thousand miles away.

Prof. Loomis thinks that sudden falls of temperature, such as we have frequently experienced during the past winter and spring, should be ascribed to the sudden descent of the upper atmosphere. This point was disputed by other members of the Academy, who upheld the theory of polar waves, meaning by this not blasts from the North only, but also winds from snow-capped mountain ranges. The latter view is partially contended by the statement of Prof. Loomis, that the neighborhood of mountains seems to favor the descent of the upper atmosphere. We think this subject will be better understood when tropical waves, or sudden increases of heat are considered in connection with it. As a rule hot expands and cold contracts, the only recognized exception being water, which expands as steam and also expands as ice. Strictly speaking, air may not constitute a second exception, and yet, owing to its peculiar location between things terrestrial and

AMUSEMENTS.

GRAND PICNIC AT WEITMILLER'S GARDEN, MONDAY EVENING, MAY 18, 1875. For the benefit of the Library of the Jeffersonian Literary Club. Tickets, admitting gentlemen and ladies, 50 cents. Jim Hill's band will be in attendance. Street cars will be expected to attend in full force. There will also be a Prize Bowling Contest, and all tickets being entitled to one chance gratis. my16:21 sun, wed, thu

DON'T FORGET THE STEAMBOAT EXCURSION OF TENNESSEE LODGE NO. 20, KNIGHTS OF HONOR, TO REMITTANCE GROVE, on Tuesday, May 19, 1875. The splendid steamer "The Peerless" will be chartered for the occasion, and all who love anything about dancing will be pleased to hear that the "Band" will be in attendance. The various volunteer military regiments are also expected to attend in full uniform. No lady should fail to lend this noble steamer, as it is a most enjoyable and a great measure for their benefit. Boat leaves the wharf at 9 o'clock. my16:21 sun, wed, thu

THE DEATH OF GEN. POLK. Sherman Tells How the Fatal Blow Was Fled. A writer for the New York Herald reviewing the "Memoirs" of Gen. Sherman has the following to say relative to the death of Gen. Polk, of the Confederate Army: Sherman kept pushing his way down toward Atlanta. It was in this campaign that the rebel General Leonidas Polk, who had been a Major of the Southern Episcopal Church, lost his life. The story of his death is one of the dramatic incidents of the war, reminding us of the death of the famous French General, Moreau, who was killed by a shot from a battery which had been fired by the special order of Napoleon. On June 14 Gen. Sherman, in conversation with Gen. Howard, observed, at a distance of 800 yards, a group of Confederate officers, evidently in communication of some kind, and he had been fired by the special order of Napoleon. On June 14 Gen. Sherman, in conversation with Gen. Howard, observed, at a distance of 800 yards, a group of Confederate officers, evidently in communication of some kind, and he had been fired by the special order of Napoleon.

SEIFRIED'S HALL!! Will take place on 11th, with a Grand Illumination, Picnic and Supper. Street Cars will convey people to and from the Hall on 11th Street. my16:21

MILINERS. The attention of the public is invited to our NEW STOCK OF Millinery & Fancy Goods, Just received from New York and Paris. A full and complete assortment, embracing ALL THE LATEST STYLES, AT MODERATE PRICES. We guarantee Satisfaction in Every instance. my16:21

FOR RENT, A Magnificent Family Residence, No. 23 S. Vine street, recently occupied by the late Mrs. Margaret Barry, containing 8 rooms, besides kitchen, servants' and bath rooms and many other conveniences, and water fixtures, and in fact with all modern improvements for convenience and comfort. Apply to THOS. CALLENDER, Agent. my16:21

NOTICE. ALL PERSONS ARE HEREBY WARNED not to deal with or trust J. W. Barber on account of Kosch & Co., as that firm will not be responsible for his contracts, securities, or debts, and the firm hold itself responsible for any of the above contracts, securities, or debts, since the 11th inst. P. G. BOACH, J. B. BRENNEMAN, my16:21

Ariel's First Lecture, MASONIC HALL, TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 18, 1875. SUBJECT: That it is to the necessities of the human mind, that the sciences, the arts, and the religions, and the book of Genesis, and to the minds of certain Hebrew works for all the attacks on its truth and its value. my16:21

White Sulphur Spring AND FRANKLIN HOUSE. HOTEL BATES: Day board, \$10 to \$12, including lodging and breakfast, 50 cents extra. Room for single men, \$2.50 per week. my16:21

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING CO. Sewing Machine Sales FOR 1874. Below will be found a statement showing the number of Sewing Machines sold by the different Sewing Machine Companies, as compiled from their annual statements for the year 1874. my16:21

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