

The Weekly Comet

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 26, 1853.

☞ We are obliged to Capt. Dick Markham for river papers, also to Mr. James Allen of the Telegraph office for late items of interest.

☞ Though we have not the official vote for District Attorney for this District—sufficient is known for us to say that R. G. BEALE has been elected by a very large majority.

☞ From a card in Tuesday evening's Picayune we see that Mr. D. Martin declines the honorable and lucrative position offered him in the Custom House.

☞ Mr. Burthe, who was appointed Surveyor General of Louisiana, declines the appointment, St. Martin ex-member of Congress it is believed will obtain the place.

☞ The Picayune says that Gov. Hebert will attend the Memphis Convention in person.

☞ The mandamus case of STEVEN S. CRENSHAW, for possession of the Land Office was to have been tried yesterday: the Judge appeared ready for the trial of the case. Mr. Crenshaw, and his Attorneys were also present.—Mr. Sigur did not appear—no order whatever was taken in the matter—but it is understood that the case will be taken up on the first day of the special term of the Court, on the 6th proximo.

☞ We see that the Hon. G. W. WATTERSTON has been elected Judge of the 8th Judicial District composed of the Parishes of Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tamary and Washington. Mr. Watterston is every way qualified both by talent and business tact to fill the important and responsible position of Judge.

☞ From the Bayou Sara Ledger, we notice the death of Mrs. ANNIE D. WICKLIFFE, of West Feliciana, La. She died at St. Augustine Florida. Her remains were interred at Wyoming on the 18th inst. Mrs. Wickliffe was the niece of the lamented Isaac Johnson, whose manly form has been so recently consigned to the tomb. She was beloved and esteemed by a large circle of friends, for her accomplished mind and gentleness of heart.

☞ Over 400 workman are employed on the New York Crystal Palace.—The building will be completed by the first of June.

☞ The Masonic fraternity of New York held a meeting on the 9th inst., to appoint a committee to draw up a farewell address to Messrs. Brooks and Kane members of the fraternity who will leave New York some time this month, in search of sir John Franklin.

☞ On the 17th inst., a row took place on the Levee at St. Louis between the clerks of the steamers St. Paul and Shenandoeh. The row originated during a contention for space on the levee. Colt's were used but without any serious damage.

☞ It is said that during the latter part of the last century Talleyrand resided in the small attic of a house in "Goddard court," Philadelphia. During the time he lived there he was in the very last degree of poverty. One cold winter he was bound to dispose of his watch to prevent his starving—or freezing for the want of fire. This was the Prime minister of the Great Napoleon, to whom Kings paid homage!

☞ During the month of April, there were 102 deaths in the city of Washington.

☞ The anti-gambling association of New York held its anniversary a few days ago at the Broadway Tabernacle.

Correspondence.

HOLYWOOD, May 26, 1853.

Dear Mr. Comet:—Inquiries after happiness and the rules of obtaining it, are not so necessary and useful to man or womanhood as the arts of consolation and the supporting one's self under affliction. The utmost we can hope for in this world is contentment; if we aim at anything higher, we shall meet with nothing but grief and disappointment. A woman should direct all her studies and endeavors, at making herself easy now and happy hereafter. The truth of it is, if all happiness that is dispersed through all the human race in this world were drawn together and put into the possession of any single woman it would not make a very happy being, though on the contrary if the miseries of the whole species were fixed in a single person they would make her a very miserable one indeed. My dear Comet in my last letter to you I told you of my grievances and asked you for advice. You have been kind enough to give it in your interesting paper, but my dear friend it comes too late. The very next day after I wrote you, my mother ordered Sally, our wash-woman to bring a large tub containing dirty clothes, accompanied with a huge soap-gourd full of that delectable article known as SOFT SOAP—I was then most peremptorily ordered, required and commanded, to take off my silk dress, put away my gloves and under-sleeves and bend my poor back over that hateful tub. I begged and entreated and prayed and protested—it all did no good—my mother declared that unless I submitted she would lock me up in a dark room, where the boogymen should haunt me and that I should have nothing but bread and water. In a fit of despair, I soused into the tub, seized the first garment, it happened to be a calico frock of my mother's, I belabored it with soap-suds, and then tried my very best to rub the very life out of it—in very spite I tried my very best to tear the dress into a thousand pieces. But oh! Mr. Comet what do you think, in a few moments I found my hands all blistered and bleeding and smarting with intense pain from the effects of the soap. I threw down the abominable dress and screamed with all my might. My mother ran to me much alarmed, I had fallen down and was in a fit of hysterics, which I am told is very fashionable with some ladies. My mother was much frightened, she brought camphor and cologne and volatile salts—I held out until I saw she was thoroughly conquered and then I came to, with many a long drawn sigh of feeble unconsciousness. My poor mother cried, she was deeply affected—she kissed me and asked me to forgive her, and I most kind hearted, willing soul, did forgive her. She bathed my hands in rum-water, dressed them with cold cream and sent off for a doctor. The doctor came, found I wasn't much hurt and gave me a few small pills of camomilla and 1-3 of a drop of paregoric, and told me to go to sleep. Now Mr. Comet, I think my mother is fairly satisfied and will never again ask me to the wash tub; but then I'm disgraced—to think that I, the daughter of a gentleman, and a wealthy man, should ever have submitted to such degradation—oh! I can see the hateful wash-tub now, it haunts me—I can smell the filthy soap, it offends my nostrils.

"For you may break, you may ruin the tub if you will. But the scent of the soap-suds will hang round it still."

Will you, my dear Comet offer me some consolation and entreat the girls and young men not to think any the less of me for having at one time tried to wash a calico dress. There is Adaline Mayflower, I know her mother would not make her do such a thing—her mother makes her wear thick gloves all the time, and she never leaves the house without her veil, and never eats anything but pickles and pine apples, and then there is Roberta Primrose and Clarinda Sunflower, and Ann Maria Junebug. But I don't like her she is decidedly vulgar—for her mother eats garlic and she eats gumbo and onions. Mr. Comet I beg of you to say in a positive and authoritative manner, that I ought not to be slighted, and that when I go to Church next Sabbath, you will not allow any of the aforesaid girls to point at me and say "there goes the gal that washes—I wonder if she can do up well. Don't she look like a laundress." Oh! Mr. Comet these remarks would kill me.

"And then cankers sorrow would eat my bud And I would pine and die."

Adieu Mr. Comet—I am not happy—I am far from it—I am perhaps

too sensitive, too proud, but I can't help it—I have been raised so and educated to think as I think, to act as I act. If you have compassion, sympathize with me—if you are ever given to the "melting mood"—drop a tear for me.

And I must weep o'er hours that flew, More idly than the Summer wind, And while they passed, a fragrance flew, Of dirty soap-suds left behind.

Your disconsolate,
ANGELINA SINGLETON.
P. S. I have just received an invitation to a Fish-fry—ought a young lady to wear a silk dress to such a place?
Yours, ANGELINA.

THE WEATHER.—On Wednesday morning last it was cold enough in this vicinity to make a fire comfortable. Strange to say as the sun came up, the atmosphere became colder, and it was not until about 10 o'clock that a reaction took place. What cause can be assigned for such strange freaks? It is not customary. The brief span of a single life cannot note the changes, the earth is daily changing her relations with the sun—in a brief circle of time the tropics become the poles, and the poles supposed to be "fixed" are ever varying—The sun moves, and the earth has some other motion than that of turning over in twenty-four hours, and performing a revolution about the sun. Yes the very fixed stars themselves, are perpetually changing their relation to one another and all beating time, in unison to the harmony of Heavens music.

DE SOTO.—Mr. Miles, of Baltimore has written a play for Murdoch the Tragedian, entitled, "DE SOTO." It is spoken of in high terms as being not only remarkable for great scenic effect, but for sterling, literary merits, which entitles it to a place in the front rank of the Dramatic literature of America.

There is all the bold daring and romance in the life of De Soto, which characterized the heroes of the Mexican conquest. In 1539 he landed with his followers on the coast of Florida, and fought his way by a circuitous route to the Mississippi river, near the Chickasaw Bluffs. He died in 1542, near where the city of Natchez now stands; and, in obedience to his own request, made when he felt the hand of death upon him, his body was wrapped in his military cloak, and dropped silently into the bosom of the Father of waters.

EARTHQUAKE AT NAPLES.—On the 9th of April three very severe shocks of an earthquake were experienced at Naples. People were compelled to abandon their houses and sleep in the open fields and streets. The seat of the earthquake was at some distance perhaps in the Calabrias, volcanic mountains about 100 miles South of Naples. It is not ascertained yet whether any other damage has been done than the cracking of the walls of houses.

☞ We publish below a call from his Honor the Mayor of New Orleans on the Delegates of the Memphis Convention to meet in that city on the 26th inst.

Mayorality of New Orleans, May 24, '53. The undersigned believing it to be highly desirable that some preliminary action should be taken on the part of the delegates from this city to the Memphis Convention, with the view that in the consideration and discussion of the vitally important questions that will be submitted to that body, the city of New Orleans may be prepared to present a united stand in furtherance of those projects so intimately associated with her future prosperity, herewith respectfully invites the delegates appointed by His Excellency the Governor, to meet on Tuesday evening, the 26th inst. at half past 7 o'clock, at the chamber of the Board of Assistant Aldermen, City Hall, in order to determine upon such a course of action as may be deemed advisable.

A. D. CROSSMAN, Mayor.
KILLED.—The Lexington, Mass., Advertiser, of the 26th ult., says that Col. James Torry was shot by his son-in-law, Fletcher Harrington, who interfered to prevent Torry from stabbing his own wife, with whom he was quarreling. Harrington was arrested, tried and acquitted.
Very few people are truly wise, but a great many, an immense majority, are other-wise.

RACING BOATS.—The Natchez Courier of the 18th inst., says:

Capt. Thomasson, of the fine packet Magnolia, was telegraphed by one of our citizens, relative to rumors afloat in regard to his next trip to Louisville. To the question whether he intended to make a "racing trip," Capt. Thomasson promptly replies as follows:

NEW ORLEANS, May 16, '53.
Dear Sir—I do not intend to race, nor will I ever do so, unless I lose my senses. Do not believe any reports.
THOMASSON.

The Captain thinks the river is wide enough for other boats and his to get on without injuring each other.

☞ The London Times states that 900 British exhibitors, comprising the leading houses in important departments of British national industry, have sent contributions to the New York Exhibition. The packet ship Liverpool arrived at New York on the 13th inst., from Liverpool, with sixteen packages of goods for the Crystal Palace.

A Boston man, who has lately removed to his suburban retreat in Norfolk county, a few weeks since ordered some guano from Baltimore. In due time it arrived, and he used it last week in planting an acre of potatoes. A painter ordered some barrels of Zinc Paint from Baltimore also, and, by some loose poens, the guano was sent to the painter, and the paint to the farmer. An investigation took place, when it was found that the amateur city farmer had manured an acre of potatoes with the paint, and had complained that "it poisoned his hands dreadfully."

BALTIMORE, May 20.—A company has been chartered by the Legislature of Maryland, and is now organizing in this city, to establish a line of four steamships between Baltimore and Liverpool.

The capital is \$1,000,000, with the privilege of increasing it to \$2,000,000.

The steamers are to be each of 2,000 tons burden and are to be placed under immediate contract.

The Catholic Church in Talcott street, Hartford, Ct., was burned on the morning of the 11th inst., together with the priest's house adjoining. Insured \$5,000, which covers the loss.

A monument is to be erected to the memory of Paulding, Williams and Van Writ, the captors of Andre, on the spot where it occurred in Tarrytown, N. Y. The inspectors of the State Prison furnish the marble.

IMPORTANT INVENTION OR DISCOVERY.—At a late sitting of the Austrian Academy of Science at Vienna, Herr Von Auer read a paper upon a newly-discovered process of printing—we hardly see how this term applies—from all sorts of objects with comparatively plain surface. Among the articles mentioned, which have been copied by the new process, are plants, some of them in flower, embroidery, etched agate, insects, fish scales &c. The speaker calls this "Naturselfdruck"—printing from nature—and said that this discovery forms a new era in the pictorial illustration of works on science and art. The objects copied were given with singular fidelity to the originals. No hint was given as to the process.—N. Y. Tribune.

The first Prussian Chamber lately voted the exclusion of Jews from all public employments. On the 26th ult., a petition on the subject, bearing the names of a thousand influential citizens, was presented to the Second Chamber. The petitioners, conspicuous among whom was the veteran philosopher, Alexander Von Humboldt, demand full freedom of religious opinion and the admission of Jews to civil offices. The reading of the petition was strenuously opposed by the Cavalier party, but the majority of the Chamber decided that it should be entertained.

☞ A live alligator, fourteen feet long, and weighing in his box 750 pounds, has been taken by Adams & Co's express train from Louisiana to New York, where it is to be exhibited in the Crystal Palace as a specimen of 'American industry.'

☞ How beautiful are these words of Longfellow: "One by one, the objects of our affection depart from us. But our affections remain, and like vines stretch forth their broken, wounded tendrils for support. The bleeding heart needs a balm to heal; and there is none but the love of its kind—none but the affections of the human heart.

VALUE OF A KISS.—A French girl, at a store, being solicited to give a kiss, declined except at the price of a little bag which lay on an enamored cavalier's counter, and when he said, was filled with contentment. The bargain was struck, but the prize of our Duleian, and to her satisfaction, on opening the bag it found to contain florins. The German claimed the bag, but the was unyielding. Thereupon she was had to the tribunal, the plaintiff alleging that there was evident mistake, and that a simple kiss could not by far be appraised at such a sum. The tribunal, however, in the case of the girl—1st, because what is given is given; and 2d, because the value of a kiss cannot be estimated.

Singular Presentation.—This heading the N. Y. Courier Enquirer has the following paragraph:

Dr. Josiah Bartlett, of New Haven, one of the victims of the recent accident on the New Haven Railroad, was visited a few weeks at his residence by a friend from the city, who invited him to spend a few days in New York, at the then approaching Medical Convention. B. replied that it would afford much pleasure to spend some time in our city, but that he had great apprehension of danger in traveling to New York, augmented by the fact that he had last visited New York he had gaged his passage in the steamer Lexington, for the fatal trip in which she perished, but did not reach the wharf in season to get on board. He subsequently overcame his reluctance to travel, attended the convention in this city, and met the fate which dreading in the New Haven cars.

Mrs. Partington Again.—We said Mrs Partington, as the reader will remember from the last, that the operators were at work in the tower of the Crystal Palace. She passed "well" before she went further, and she stopped reading to her what she had to say, and chewed part of the paper into spit balls which he amused himself with, by throwing at the old white pine dresser in the corner. "Well," said she—"the same well we left some time ago"—"I am glad they are taking time to the firelock and looking arter knaves in the Christ Church parish, indeed! But they will get the best that can be done. The many a one, I dessey in all parts that has a sanctury in his face, with the cloak of hypocrisy in his hand. Read on Isaac. And the old looked up at the black framed and picture of Susannah and the old and patted her box reflectively.

The Lunatic Asylum, at Columbus, Ohio, is now full, containing upwards of five hundred patients. In four years there have been admitted 2 patients, of which 1038 were discharged recovered. Of the number admitted, 505 were farmers, being more than twelve times the number of any other occupation, except laborers, of which class there were 2. The next highest on the list is teachers, being 40. There were 24 civil 22 preachers, 21 tailors, 9 lawyers, 6 printers, 3 sea captains, 2 mechanics, 2 medical students, &c. Also the causes, spirit rappings is now most frequent.

☞ The distress in the manufacturing suburbs of Vienna is becoming a very serious matter. In Gundorf, Scottenfield and Neubrand shawl and riband manufacturers worked with borrowed capital, and entirely left off work, while the firms have dismissed half their workmen. Men in business, whose city cannot be doubted, say that matters are much worse in some parts of the country.

STATISTICS OF DANCING.—A ingenious French arithmetician has calculated that the space which a Parisian belle, who is fond of the salutary exercise of dancing traverses in the gay salons of Paris, amounts to the course of one dancing season, four hundred miles and a half. He has also estimated that a French lad fond of performing the function of ice-totum, will spin round in a wheel in one night as many times as the wheels of a steamboat revolve while running the distance between Dover and Calais!

A desperate attempt at insurrection has been made at Friburg, Switzerland, by an armed assembly. Many were killed and wounded before the movement was put down. The leaders of the insurgents were captured.