

# The Chitabour Mierina.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAYS, BY  
**JONA. C. WHITE & L. F. ANDERSON,**  
CORNER OF MARKET AND PATRIOT STREETS.

Mr. WALTER CARROLL, No. 165 St. Charles Street, is our duly authorized Agent, for New Orleans.

## WHIG STATE TICKET.

FOR AUDITOR,  
**JOHN E. KING,** of St. Landry.

FOR TREASURER,  
**HARRY T. HAYS,** of New Orleans.

FOR SUPERINTENDENT,  
**A. H. LAMON,** of West Baton Rouge.

For Congress,  
**THEODORE G. HUNT,**  
OF NEW ORLEANS.

## THIBODAUX:

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1853.

The little steamer Mary Jane, our new mail boat, arrived here on Thursday last. She intends plying regularly between our port and Donaldsonville, leaving as per advertisement in another column.

There were 290 interments, of persons who died from yellow fever, in the different Cemeteries of New Orleans, for the 24 hours ending at 6 o'clock P. M., on Sunday the 7th inst.

A. B. Ragan & Co. are now in receipt of a large and select stock of family groceries and Western produce. Give them a call—Prices low and terms accommodating.

Since Saturday last, the weather has been much more favorable, than for several weeks past; though we cannot yet say that the rainy season is at an end. The health of both town and country remains *status quo*, i. e. outrageously healthy and, which condition may it ever remain.

TALL CASE.—Wm. A. Shafer of Bayou Black, parish of Terrebonne, has sent us a sugar case measuring six feet two inches in height, numbering fourteen red joints. Hon. H. C. Thibodaux, of St. Brigitte, same parish, sends us two of nearly the same dimensions as the above, all of which we pronounce very good, and extremely sweet for the season.

SENATORIAL MEETING.—It is to day that the Whigs of the parish meet to choose delegates to elect a Senatorial candidate to represent this district in the State Senate. The names of the Hon. H. C. Thibodaux, Col. P. B. Key and Jos. S. Williams, Esq., are favorably spoken of in connection with the vacancy. Gen. R. C. Martin, of Assumption, has many friends here, desirous to see him re-nominated. Let the people decide who shall represent them, and their choice shall be ours. We will not take advantage of our position as editor, in pressing our choice through the medium of our columns.

PROPHYLACTIC.—We notice with pleasure that his honor, V. D. Terrebonne, our worthy Mayor, is making use of every means in his power to prevent the creation of sickness. He has had the gutters of all our principal streets thoroughly cleaned and sprinkled with lime as a disinfecting agent. This is a wise precaution. Should not our city fathers also take some action in regard to quarantine regulations during the prevalence of the yellow fever in New Orleans? This is a matter that needs some reflection, and we would urge that something be done in the premises.

BACK AGAIN.—During the week we were made happy in shaking by the hand our fellow citizen S. T. Dannis, Esq., of the firm of S. T. Dannis & Bros. merchants of this place. Mr. D. has just returned from the North, whither he had gone to lay in supplies for the Fall and Winter trade. He came passenger on the steamer Cherokee, on her last passage from New York. He has laid in a most complete and magnificent stock, purchased principally in the cities of New York, Philadelphia and Boston, amounting nearly to twenty thousand dollars. A portion of his purchases have arrived, and more is expected to come to hand on Monday, when he will be happy to supply his customers on the usual terms. Ladies make ready; for we have been permitted to scan over his invoices, and could not but notice how attentive he has been in making selections to suit your taste.

AND YET ANOTHER.—Our "down east" friend Winslow Hatch, Esq., of the parish of Terrebonne, who has been spending a few weeks in viewing the "scenes of his childhood," near Richmond, in the State of Maine—after an absence of nearly twenty years—arrived here on Monday last, having come passenger on the steamer Cherokee from New York. Mr. H. expressed himself highly delighted in having again been permitted to gaze upon his native hills—but was infinitely more so, when upon entering the mighty Mississippi, he again beheld the green savannas of his Southern Home.

WHIG NOMINEES.—The Whig State Convention which convened at Baton Rouge, on Monday last, made the following nominations, viz: For State Auditor, JOHN E. KING of St. Landry; for State Treasurer, HARRY T. HAYS, of New Orleans; for State Superintendent of Public Education, A. H. LAMON, of West Baton Rouge. Better selections, it is needless to say, could not have been made. Mr. King, of St. Landry, is a gentleman of a high order of talents, and was speaker of the House of Representatives at the session of the General Assembly in 1852. Mr. Hays, we believe, is a nephew of the Messrs. Cags, of the parish of Terrebonne, and is well known throughout the Northern and Western portions of the State, having canvassed them thoroughly, during the last Presidential Election. Mr. Lamon is a highly honorable and thoroughly educated gentleman of the parish of West Baton Rouge, whose election would be the means of reflecting the highest credit on our system of Public Education, in securing the services of a gentleman who, perhaps, more than any other in the State, is best calculated to devise means and assume a general superintendence. The ticket merits, as it will receive, a hearty co-operation of every true Whig in the State. We place the names of the nominees at our mast head, to remain, until the people shall have rendered their verdict.

## Louis Bush and the Vigilant.

The last three numbers of the Donaldsonville Vigilant received at our office, have the name of our fellow citizen Louis Bush, at the mast head, as an independent whig candidate for Congress, in opposition to Col. T. G. HUNT, the regular whig nominee. The course of this heretofore sterling and consistent Franco-whig journal, we are certain, was not urged nor is it encouraged by Mr. Bush, who justly stands among the most conspicuous whigs of our parish, if not of the whole district. We have known him from his infancy and from our infancy, and can vouch for his honesty of purpose, as well as for his political principles. Mr. Bush is not a whig for the sake of office, but from an honest conviction of right, and would, under no circumstances, pursue a course which would cause even a suspicion of censure to rest upon his name, much less countenance an act which he has ever viewed as the most heinous of all political crimes—that of opposing a regular nominee.

In saying thus much of the course which we are sure Mr. Bush will pursue in the premises, we would call upon his friends in Ascension to act in concert with those of the Lafourche parishes, by uniting with them in giving—as he most certainly will—their undivided support to Col. Hunt, the regular nominee. We will further state, that had Mr. Bush been desirous of a seat in Congress, his fellow citizens of the Lafourche parishes, had they seen proper to run counter to his wishes, would long since have urged his claims on the people of the district. But his private affairs would not permit him to accept of their proffered support. Mr. Bush is yet young, possessing talents which fit him to adorn the station of a Congressman, and when his private affairs will permit him to accept of that office, we doubt not that he will yield to the wishes of the people, and we shall, at no distant day, see him the nominee of the party in the district.

For the present, his personal concerns materially conflict, nor would they permit him to accept even of a unanimous nomination, much less a factious one—one wherein the interests of the whig party cannot but be made to suffer materially, if not blast them irrevocably. New Orleans has long desired the Congressman to be selected from among her own citizens, and we for one are willing that her wishes should be granted. Mr. Hunt has every requisite to adorn the station. His whiggery is unalloyed. Why, then, should the country desire to defeat him? Did he not at the last session of the Legislature receive the entire whig support for the U. S. Senate? a compliment as honorable as it was merited. And why should we now, in these days of despondency, seek to create discord in our ranks and jeopardize the election of a whig in the only whig district of the State, by opposing him? We pause for a reply.

## A Whig Journal in Assumption.

We have been shown a copy of a circular intended for distribution among the Whigs of our neighboring parish, Assumption, setting forth in strong terms the urgent necessity, and great importance of establishing a whig press in that one of the largest and most populous sugar-growing parishes in Southern Louisiana. The undertaking, though hazardous, is a noble one, and as commendable as it is necessary for the ultimate success of whig men and whig measures in that, now democratic parish. In no way can political information be disseminated to a better advantage than through the medium of a well conducted newspaper. Not only are journals useful as vehicles of political information, but also in noting the local news of a neighborhood, and in giving light to transactions which in their absence, would ever remain entombed in the dark. They are in fact, the harbingers of civilization, and should ever be considered as the surest safeguard of our liberties.

Fully impressed with the truthfulness of the above remarks, how all-important it is, then, that our whig friends in Assumption, should interest themselves in forwarding the enterprise now in embryo. Assumption can boast of having domiciled within her bounds, many true-hearted whigs; whigs who have means at their disposal to aid in the consummation of so laudable an undertaking, and we hesitate not in saying that its projector will meet with that encouragement which his exertions entitle him to expect and receive.

Some may argue, perhaps that now is not the proper time to embark in the new enterprise. In this they greatly err, for at no time in the future, will our party more need the influence of a journal, than at the approaching Fall elections, on which much depends. On the next General Assembly will devolve the high duty of electing a United States Senator to supply the place of Jno. Slidell, the political trickster and wire-wor of the democratic party, whose diems universally command more respect than his talents. Next fall also comes on our elections for State Auditor, Treasurer, and Superintendent of Public Education, and members to the General Assembly; and last, but not least, parochial officers. The parish though democratic, is not hopelessly so, and by thorough organization and concert among the whigs—with truth and justice on their side they might be made to triumph. This subject is worthy the deep concern of our whig friends of that parish, and upon them rests the success, or non success of a whig journal in Assumption.

FACING DEATH.—During the week, some fifty or sixty laborers, principally Irish and Germans, who have been employed on the Opelousas railroad, passed through here on their way to New Orleans. We endeavored by all our reasoning powers to dissuade them from going, but our efforts were fruitless and without effect. It really did appear as though Providence had destined them as food for the yellow fever—so obstinate were they in refusing to profit by our advice.

"Ma, has a cat got seven lives?" said a little fellow recently, who was evidently in pursuit of knowledge under difficult circumstances. "Yes, son; but why do you ask?" "Because I cut our old Tabby's head off two hours ago, and she hasn't come to life yet!"

The steamer R. M. Jones arrived during the past night, from New Orleans. We received no papers. The Jones will continue to ply as a regular New Orleans packet as long as the water will admit of. She is commanded by our townsman, Capt. A. B. Ragan.

An excellent article—one that should deeply interest not only our readers, but the whole community—is referred to under the title of "Survey of the Bayou Lafourche."

## Survey of the Bayou Lafourche.

GAYOSO PLANTATIONS, AUGUST 9, 1853.

Mr. Editor: I find in the journal of the proceedings of the Legislature the report of the Senate standing committee on the Bayou Lafourche, from which I have extracted a survey of a portion of the Bayou Lafourche by Professor Forbes, and ask for an insertion in your paper, believing that it will be read with much interest by your numerous readers. Prompted by the deep interest which I, in common with others, have in the subject of the improvement of the Bayou Lafourche, I have expressed myself freely, and can only trust that an investigation may start up, which will have for its object some system, which from the vast importance of the object to be attained, will insure its execution.

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS.

## REPORT ON BAYOU LAFOURCHE.

SECTION I.—AT DONALDSONVILLE, 82 miles above New Orleans.—High water width, 228 feet, taken 500 feet from the bayou; extreme rise and fall of river, 25.1; sectional area, 11,000; height of levee, 1 foot above water mark, 4.5; low do, 200; height of levee, 1 foot above water mark, 4.5.

SECTION II.—AT PAINCOUVILLE, 12 miles down.—High water width, 240 feet; low do, 50; height of levee, 1.5; sectional area, 18,500; height of levee, 1 foot above water mark, 4.5; low do, 200; height of levee, 1 foot above water mark, 4.5.

SECTION III.—AT FIMONVILLE, 84 miles down.—High water width, 240 feet; low do, 50; height of levee, 1.5; sectional area, 18,500; height of levee, 1 foot above water mark, 4.5; low do, 200; height of levee, 1 foot above water mark, 4.5.

SECTION IV.—AT LONGVILLE, or Locks of Barataria Canal, 55 miles down.—Width at high water, 227 feet; low do, 114; rise and fall, 15.1; mean high water depth, 14.05; high water depth, 15.6; low water depth, 10.75; mean height of levee from Thibodaux to Longville, 6.5.

Total length of Bayou Lafourche—100 miles.

It will be perceived by a careful inspection of these measurements, that the Lafourche is, in a state of nature, a very different stream from what improvements have made it. Its waters do not discharge themselves in a right-lined plan from the source to the Gulf, but occupy a circuitous route, some 25 miles above its mouth, it found the level of low swamp (near the Gulf level) making this, in high water, its natural discharge. The right-lined plan discharge there, was from its source, a little above 55 to 85 miles down.

When levees were applied to its banks, and confined the waters within a channel of remarkably uniform width, it is obvious that there must be a very great acceleration of velocity, or the smaller mass of water would not enable the waters to discharge themselves in so short a distance.

Both these effects followed. The currents ran so much more rapidly at Longville than at Donaldsonville, that the surface placed at a distance of 437 square feet, were carried through a channel of 3357 feet. But the whole effect was not felt in velocity. The capacity of the channel was much increased by raising the levees higher, the mean height of the levees here, at 55 miles down the Lafourche, is 2 feet 6 inches greater than at Donaldsonville—showing that the surface placed at a distance of 437 square feet, were carried through a channel of 3357 feet. But the whole effect was not felt in velocity. The capacity of the channel was much increased by raising the levees higher, the mean height of the levees here, at 55 miles down the Lafourche, is 2 feet 6 inches greater than at Donaldsonville—showing that the surface placed at a distance of 437 square feet, were carried through a channel of 3357 feet.

And this elevation will only subside when the increased velocity shall have had time to abate, by abrasion of the bottom of the channel, and the depression which will be effected, there could be no further reduction, if the levees are continued to be raised, because the right-lined plan of surface would be reached.

The obstructions in the lower channel of the Lafourche are from the source to Donaldsonville, to such a degree that they could not rapidly occur. But these obstructions removed, there might be an increase of capacity in the channel due to the nature of the bottom, and the depression which will be effected, there could be no further reduction, if the levees are continued to be raised, because the right-lined plan of surface would be reached.

For these reasons, it is very strongly urged that a force be applied to the clearing out all logs, rafts and bars in the Lafourche, and to raise the levees to such a height that they will only for another consequence. The declivity in the first few miles is much greater than further down, and the velocity of the water will be increased, and the depression which will be effected, there could be no further reduction, if the levees are continued to be raised, because the right-lined plan of surface would be reached.

I would also recommend a further contraction of the source of the Lafourche, to such a degree that the capacity shall not be so great as that which it enjoys further down. In the first 12 miles, the high water declivity is full of logs and rafts, and the declivity is 22 miles, it is only about 8 of an inch per mile. This will account for the rising of the water in the lower portions of the bayou.

We find here occurring, in the Lafourche bayou, precisely what is taking place in the Po and all European rivers that are subject to the same kind of obstructions. The declivity in the channels of gentle declivity, is increased by sediments brought down by the velocities of steeper plains.

A closure of the source of this bayou at Donaldsonville, by one-third of its whole capacity, to 296 feet, we should have about 3,000 feet of adjustment, and the channel could discharge about 1,000,000 cubic feet of water in 24 hours. This would be a sufficient supply for the drainage of the entire bayou, and would not be appreciably affected by this contraction of 1,000 square feet, and I would strongly urge its being done at once, by the source of the bayou, to such a degree that the declivity shall not be so great as that which it enjoys further down. In the first 12 miles, the high water declivity is full of logs and rafts, and the declivity is 22 miles, it is only about 8 of an inch per mile. This will account for the rising of the water in the lower portions of the bayou.

This suggestion is thrown out for the population interested. The river would not sensibly show the difference.

Respectfully submitted,  
C. G. FOUSTART, C. E.

## Letter from Terrebonne.

Mr. Editor: As the Hon. G. P. Connelly, our able, talented and popular Representative, has positively declined to be again re-elected to the lower House of the Legislature, the duties of which he has honorably fulfilled, the time now approaches when it is incumbent upon the good whigs of the parish of Terrebonne to select that candidate whom they may consider to be the most fitted to replace the late member.

The names of several gentlemen, (Messrs. R. D. Jordan, A. Lrette, M. H. Dannis, John Kerr, Peter Welsh, J. C. Potts, and Y. Boutin), all of them distinguished and well fitted to occupy the honorable position to which they aspire, have been mentioned by their numerous friends and supporters. It is my own opinion, Mr. Editor, as well as that of a numerous body of my neighbors, whose political views agree with mine, that the whigs ought to call to their aid, and make a judicious choice; that their object should be to find out the man who is intrinsically the best—for all the candidates are of such unquestioned worth, that in this respect all are unexceptionable—but that they should select that man whose interest is the strongest, who commands the most voters, and to whose election there will be the slightest opposition.

I am perfectly persuaded of this, and assert it without hesitation, that it is of little consequence which of the candidates may be nominated. Be whom he will, he will be at once received by acclamation, and even from his competitors he will receive the right hand of fellowship, and their hearty support. This nobleness of disposition, which is the distinguishing characteristic of gentlemen of intelligence, will not fail to be displayed on this occasion.

In regard to the candidate for the Senate, to replace the Hon. R. C. Martin—since it is said this gentleman declines again to serve the District—I earnestly advise my brother whigs to act wisely and with prudence; for, although in your noble parish of Lafourche, we have always been able to count upon a large majority, yet it is within the verge of possibility that our case may be injured by impudence. This I need not point out. Let us then, in this great emergency, disregard all personal predilections for any particular parish, and unite in supporting that candidate who is the most popular throughout the whole district, and who may consequently be chosen by the intelligent and unbiased members of the proposed district convention.

TERREBONNE, August 6, 1853.

Hon. J. C. White: Dear Sir—Our Senator ought this time to be selected from Terrebonne. Assumption and Lafourche have already had their members, and they will have no more to be nominated. Turn about is fair play; and if this is attended to, our party will be kept united.

HORRIBLE.—Two men in Illinois, near Lacon, came to a terrible death last week. A companion had stole a bottle of liquor, as he supposed, which he handed them for a treat. They both drank of it in such haste, that its pungency and deadly power were not discovered until too late to avert the evil. It turned out to be nitric acid, diluted in rain water. They then lay on their backs, and in a few minutes they were dead. Their bodies and clothing were found in a state of decomposition. Their faces and the earth with both hands, indicating by the contortions of their bodies and groaning, all that agony which would ensue if they had swallowed red-hot coals. Death soon ensued.

MISSISSIPPI UNION BANK BONDS.—The Bulletin learns from a correspondent at Jackson, that the High Court of Errors and Appeals—the Supreme Judicial tribunal in Mississippi—has decided (the Judges being unanimous in opinion) that the State is legally bound to pay the Union Bank Bonds, and that no act of the legislature or vote of the people can affect the question. This is, indeed, an important decision.

THE BEARDED LADY.—At the anniversary of a literary club in New York, recently, Mr. J. L. Keese recited a poem, from which we extract the following hit:

"The Bearded Lady," with her whiskers dark,  
Is seen each day at Barnum's, near the Park.  
Her shining locks, with her nose, taste,  
Her only hump that is not barbed.

## A GOOD PLATFORM.

The delegates to the Donaldsonville Convention, from the parish of Jefferson and city of New Orleans on their return, adopted the following preamble and resolutions, which they respectfully submit to their brethren throughout the District and State, for consideration and approval. We doubt not they will be greeted warmly and approvingly, by every Whig in the District. They breathe the true spirit of patriotic progress and improvement, which must commend them to the warm approbation of every friend of Louisiana and the South. This State, and the South, and the West, want, at the hands of Congress, what these resolutions recommend. Carry out the recommendations by electing our able, excellent and accomplished candidate—Col. THEODORE G. HUNT—and we may confidently look forward for better time in future.—Bulletin.

Whereas, the delegates of the Whigs of the Second District of the State of Louisiana have selected their candidate to represent them in Congress of the United States, and to present and advocate their sentiments on matters of great public concernment; In the council of the nation, we therefore believe that it will be the duty of our Representatives to bring to the notice of the general government the requirements of commerce, in having the mouths of the Mississippi deepened and the navigation of said river to St. Louis improved. We also believe that it is expedient for the general government to establish a navy yard at or near New Orleans. Such an establishment would have every facility in obtaining abundant supplies at cheap rates of provisions, timber, iron, coal, hemp, and naval stores, at all seasons of the year.

In contemplating the improvements and growth of our country, we desire to accompany and aid her in her progress to power and greatness. We adhere to our principles, that the only true and legitimate progress the United States can make is in the protection of her industry, the fostering of agriculture, the reciprocity of commerce, the promotion of education, the maintenance of their own laws, and a liberal system of national improvements.

Resolved, As the sentiment of this Convention, that our Representative in the Congress of the United States, should consider it their duty to their constituents and the State they represent to use their utmost diligence and address to secure for the city of New Orleans the establishment of a United States Navy Yard and Depot, at some eligible point in its vicinity.

Resolved, That in view of the wants of the General Government of the United States for a direct route of transit between the confederacy on the Atlantic and their possessions on the Pacific ocean, our representatives be requested to press on the attention of Congress the expediency and importance of such connection by railroads, for military and other national purposes.

Resolved, That as several routes for a railroad from the Valley of the Mississippi to California have been proposed to the consideration of the people of the United States; this convention deems it proper to express its preference for a railroad commencing at some point of the Mississippi, near New Orleans, running through the Valley of the Ohio to the port of San Diego on the Pacific and thence to the superior eligibility in point of climate, directness, distance and practicability, justifies them in recommending its favorable consideration to the people of the United States, and its adoption by Congress.

PIETRO SPINA.—The Union du Var publishes from Nice interesting details of the arrest of a celebrated brigand, Pietro Spina, who for nearly ten years past, had been the scourge of the town and province of Cuervo (Piedmont). He has just been arrested by four resolute gendarmes of Limona, a village situated in one of the valleys which skirt the other side of the Maritime Alps. Pietro was a man of athletic form, and endowed with great muscular strength. His features were remarkably handsome, and he was a great favorite with the fair sex, even among the wives and sisters of the gendarmes, who gave him intelligence when danger threatened him. His favorite, however, was a young girl named Cecchina, of great beauty, and very fond of dress and good living. The Count d'Aspromonte, captain of the gendarmes, hearing of this penchant of Cecchina, gained her over by presents, and at length, by inviting her to a dinner, in which the champagne of the country was not spared, she was induced to make important revelations, and promised, like Delilah, to betray her Sanson. She arranged with the gendarmes that she should follow her at a distance when she went to carry provisions to Pietro, and soon after she had entered the cave in which he had found refuge, and while he was enjoying the food she had procured for him, the four gendarmes rushed in and secured him, but not until a desperate struggle. He was heavily chained, and conveyed to Cuervo, to await his trial.

THE FASTEST NATIONAL STEAMER.—The United States steam frigate *Powhatan*, built at Gosport, Va., her engines being from the Gosport Iron Works, is said to be the fastest and most serviceable steamer in our navy. A correspondent of the New York Herald thus speaks her praise:

"The *Powhatan* made the run from St. Helena to the Cape of Good Hope in nine days and a quarter, against a strong sea and head wind, being four days and a half faster than the *Albatross*, from her day of making the same distance, and as part of the Cape of Good Hope in about ten days less time than the *Mississippi*. Taking into consideration the difference of model, power, and fuel consumed, the *Powhatan* may compare favorably with the *Collin's* steamers, even in the matter of speed. They have about the same amount of masted rigging, but the *Collin's* ships are of much better model, have 188 per cent. more power, and burn about 80 tons of coal per day, where the *Powhatan* burns only about 40 tons.

THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF BLACKS NORTH AND SOUTH.—The Richmond Examiner publishes an interesting statistical article, contrasting the physical condition of the free blacks of the North, and slaves of the South. The Examiner says:

"In Maine, there are 1852 free blacks, of whom 94 are insane—one to fourteen! In Louisiana, there were 45 insane out of 193,194 slaves—one in every four thousand three hundred and ten. In Massachusetts, the ratio was 188 per cent. more power, and burn about 80 tons of coal per day, where the *Powhatan* burns only about 40 tons.

In Missouri, 1 to 979. In Illinois, 1 to 47. The census of 1850 showed that there was one blind person for every 1445 whites, one blind to every 1645, slaves, whilst among the free colored persons of the Paradise of the Abolitionists at the North, there is one blind to every 870. There is one idiot to every 1940 slaves, and one idiot to every 400 free blacks at the North. The total of afflicted, of blind, deaf, dumb, idiotic and insane among slaves at the South, is one to every 1057—while these horrid maladies are endured among the free blacks of the North, under the care of Gerrit Smith, Garrison, Aunt Harriet, and Douglas, is the ratio of one to every three hundred and eleven!

ANECDOTES.—Anecdotes of Mr. Webster are always acceptable—especially new ones. Here is one, for which we are indebted to a correspondent of the Boston Transcript: "In the summer of 1823, when a mere lad, I was at Swift's in Sandwich. My then school-teacher was there also, and from him I had the table. John Trout was the well known subriquet of the fisherman who attended amateur anglers on their excursions. John was not remarkable for his veracity, but quite otherwise, when his success with the hook and line was the 'subject of his story.' One day he was 'out' with Mr. Webster. Both were standing in the brook, patient waiters for a bite, when Mr. W. told John how he caught a large fish, very fat, on a former occasion. 'Your honor,' said John, 'that was very well for a gentleman. But once, when I was standing down by yonder bush, I took a fish weighing—I forgot how much, but of course many ounces more than the lawyer's big fish. 'Ah, John, John!' exclaimed Mr. Webster; 'you are an amphibious animal. You lie in the water, and you lie out of it.'"

## THE CITY OF SHIRAZ.

The recent intelligence of the destruction of the Persianness of Shiraz, with 12,000 souls, has brought out in the *Nantucket Intelligence* the following review of that "celebrated seat of Persian literature":

"The completeness of the desolation produced by this event will be best conceived, when it is stated that the population has never been estimated beyond 40,000, and has commonly been supposed but one half as great. It was, however, the second city of the empire, surrounded by high walls, and profusely adorned with domes, minarets, and more than sixty tombs. The most stately of these structures, it is true, were prostrated by the earthquake of 1824, which ruined one-third of the city. The chief architectural glory of Shiraz, as it recently existed was its Bazaar, unequalled in the empire. It was a lofty, spacious street, a quarter of a mile in length, covered with a handsome, vaulted roof, pierced with numerous sky-lights, and built of yellow brick. It contained fifteen hundred shops.

Our own Prescott has spoken of the period when Moslem love of learning adorned every principal city of the empire with structures dedicated to science and literature. Shiraz once possessed no less than forty colleges, of which, not long ago, eleven yet remained. The principal contained one hundred rooms, in many of which the visitor still saw professors delivering their lectures to inquisitive young men, as in the palmy days of Arabian learning. Here were found the highest authorities in Mohammedan law, revered by all orders of magistracy up to the Shah himself; and here, also, the refined Sufism of Persia had its subtlest and most poetical exponents.

The people of Shiraz point out with pride the tombs of Hafiz and Sadi, the two most exquisite poets of their national literature. On the former are inscribed two of his most admired odes, as the monument for Sir Isaac Newton is adorned with his Binomial Theorem. The tiny stream of Roknabad, which Hafiz loved to celebrate, rolling its narrow current near his bones, is cherished for his sake.

So famous for its patronage of learning, did this city at length become, that it is styled on coins struck within its walls, 'The Gate of Science,' and it was the boast of Hafiz that 'our Shiraz is superior to Isfahan, the royal city. Nor do its people yet cease to claim pre-eminence over all Persians; esteeming their language the most pure, and their pronunciation the most correct in the Empire.

The Persian language is written and spoken by cultivated persons throughout Hindostan, for it is the language of the courts. But when, forty years ago, the New Testament had been translated under the auspices of the British and Foreign Bible Society, in India, and elaborated by the painful elegance of that prodigy of learning, Henry Martyn, it was still thought necessary to submit the work to the inspection of the scholars of Shiraz. The youthful missionary carried it to that city, and was so deeply impressed by the superior refinement of the higher classes there, that he made, under their guidance, a new translation."

THE DEAD.—How seldom we think of the dead. Although we sit round the same hearth where they once sat, and read from the same volumes they so loved to peruse, yet we think not of them.

How the heart throbs with wild, uncontrollable emotion, as we stand beside the dying friend we have dearly loved. We try without effect, to prolong the precious life; we follow down to the margin of the dark-flowing river; the spirit of the loved one passes onward alone, and we are left to linger on the shores of time.

We think, as we lay the inanimate form in the cold grave, and the damp earth grates harshly over it, that we will never forget; that the scenes shall ever be fresh to our memory, and even wonder that the busy multitude can still move on as before.

The sun shines as brightly on the new made grave. Again we mingle with the busy justly throng. Weeks and months roll on—we visit the grave less frequently—we cease to think of the loved one, save when some incident of by-gone days recalls to our memory.

IMPRISONED REPTILES.—Not long since, a number of specimens of mineral and animal products were received at the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, from New Mexico, and among other things was a horned lizard, accompanied by a letter from Judge Houghton, of that Territory, stating that the animal was taken alive from a block of stone, so solid as to preclude the entrance of the smallest insect; the lizard lived forty-eight hours after it was released from its long imprisonment. The letter states that this lizard must have been in the position in which it was found since the commencement of the formation of the rocks, and which, if true must make it a very old animal indeed. Many stories have been reported of toads and lizards having been liberated alive from solid rocks, and it is a prevalent opinion that they were enclosed while alive by the rock forming over them. We have seen a stone ourselves from which a toad was liberated of this antediluvian type, but not different in any respect from the present species. The place from which the animal was taken was somewhat hollow, and appeared to be a snug, strong nest, but as part of the rock was broken up before we saw it, we could not tell whether there was or was not some entrance into it. Geologists have no faith in toads or lizards being enclosed alive in solid rocks—the rocks forming over them. On this subject, Dean Buckland, the celebrated zoologist, remarks:—

"There is," he says, "a want of sufficient minute and accurate observation in those so frequently recorded cases, where toads are said to be found alive within blocks of stone and wood, in cavities that have no communication whatever with the external air. The first effort of the young toad, as soon as it has left its tadpole state, and emerged from the water, is to seek shelter in holes and crevices of rocks and trees. An individual, which, when young, may have thus entered a cavity by some very narrow aperture, would find abundance of food by catching insects, which, like itself, seek shelter within such cavities, and may have increased so much in bulk as to render it impossible to go out again through the narrow aperture at which it entered. A small hole of this kind is very likely to be overlooked by common workmen; who are the only people whose operations on stone and wood substances, that occasionally issue from strata at the bottom of a coal mine, the evidence is never perfect to show that the reptiles were entirely enclosed in a solid rock; no examination is ever made, until the reptile is first discovered by the breaking of the mass in which it was contained, and then it is too late to ascertain, without carefully replacing every fragment (and in no case that I have seen reported, has this ever been done, whether or not there was any hole or crevice by which the animal may have entered the cavity from which it was extracted. Without previous examination, it is almost impossible to prove that there was no such communication. In the case of rocks near the surface of the earth, and in stone quarries, reptiles find ready admission to holes and fissures."

The "Down East Debating Society," having dismissed the question, "Where does the fire go to when it goes out?" Has got a new and more exciting one up; "When a house is on fire, does it burn up; or does it burn down?"

## AN OMISSION AT THE GRAND BANQUET.

The New York Tribune says:

"We sat close by the two most eminent men in the room, the occasion considered. We mean Messrs. Carstensen and Gillemeister, the Architects of the Crystal Palace—the men whose genius planned and supervised it from floor to dome. As nearly everything under heaven was introduced into the political harangues of the evening, we thought that by some stray chance the names of these eminent and splendid artists might be mentioned, but no more notice was taken of them than if they had been two hood-carriers. The reason was they were neither Generals, Colonels, Captains, Lieutenants, Judges, Congressmen, officers, hunters or quacks—but simply creative artists."

"Such is the taste and enlightenment of New York in the nineteenth century. We have heard of the play of Hamlet, with the part of Hamlet omitted: it was paralleled last night!"

PREVENTION BETTER THAN CURE.—A physician of our acquaintance, says the Buffalo Republican, prescribes the following remedy against the evils of hot weather:

"A diet composed mostly of vegetables and fruits, in moderate quantities, cold but not iced water. Sufficient exercise in the open air to excite a free perspiration. Avoid dark rooms, solar light being as essential to animals as vegetables. Avoid medicines, unless sick, artificial and stimulating drinks, and all excesses whatever."

"Papa, I've been seeing the cook make bread, and can you tell me why dough resembles the sun?" "The sun, Freddy?" "Yes, Pa. 'No, I cannot.' 'F. I'dy with great pleasure.' 'Because when it rises it is light.' 'Pa (sighing) 'That child is too clever to live!'"

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