Lexington Weekly Intelligencer.

VOL. 12. LEXINGTON, MISSOURI, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1883. No. 46.

ATTORNEYS.

ALEXANDER GRAVES. WILLIAM AULL.

GRAVES & AULL.

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, Lexington, Mo., will practice in the courts of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, and United States courts. Prompt attention given to collections. Office in the Kriehn Block. jan6

XENOPHON RYLAND.

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Will give prompt attention to all business entrusted to his care. Will practice in all the courts, except the Probate Court of Lafayette county. dec21

T. C. WOOD,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW AND NOTARY PUBLIC. Office opposite City Hotel. apr29y1

MONEY TO LOAN. apr29tf T. C. WOOD.

GEO. S. RATHBUN, SR. GEO. S. RATHBUN, JR. Notary Public.

RATHBUN & SON,

ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Lexington, Mo. Will practice in all the courts of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, and United states courts. Prompt attention given to collections. Office in "Intelligencer Building," front room.

R. A. HICKLIN,

ATTORNEY AT LAW. Will practice his profession in the courts of Lafayette and surrounding counties. Prompt attention given to business entrusted to his care. Office over Keller's store, front room. [feb22y1]

HENRY C. WALLACE. WM. H. CHILES.

WALLACE & CHILES,

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT Law, Lexington, Mo. Office, front room over the "Lexington Savings' Bank," opposite the court house. Will practice in the courts of Lafayette and surrounding counties, and also in the Supreme court of the state of Missouri, and the U. S. Circuit and District courts for the Western District of Missouri.

MEDICAL.

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PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON; office and residence on Oak (College) and South streets, Lexington, Missouri.

DR. P. H. CHAMBERS,

PHYSICIAN & SURGEON, office opposite courthouse, over M. E. Keller's store. Residence: Southeast corner Main and College streets. jan16-1y.

DENTIST.

J. F. HASSELL, D. D. S.—OFFICE OVER Kriehn & Meyer's Boot and Shoe store, Lexington, Missouri. july19

DR. J. W. BENG,

SURGEON DENTIST, office opposite the courthouse, up stairs, Lexington, Missouri.

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aug26y1

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july17-3m

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aug17 JNO. F. LANNEAU, President.

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BONES, IRON, METALS, &c.

septl6m

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1883. 1883.

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FIRST-CLASS WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

containing *all* Local News of interest to the people of Lafayette county, and as much of the General News of the day as can be given in addition, in a concise and intelligible shape.

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has the largest circulation of any paper published in Lafayette county; it is the largest paper in the county, and is thereby enabled to give its readers more local and general information than any other, it is the

OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER.

and contains the sheriff's notices, probate court notices, court dockets, proceedings of courts, and all other local matter of interest, such as births, deaths, marriages, proceedings of political, religious and other meetings, &c., and has a large and interesting county correspondence.

THE INTELLIGENCER,

in politics is an independent democratic news paper, always supporting the principles and nominees of the party, but freely criticises wrong-doing in democratic officials, high or low.

THE INTELLIGENCER,

on the bond question, is with the people, as it has always been; thinking that the innocent Tax-Payer has rights which should be respected as much as those of the "innocent bondholder."

THE INTELLIGENCER

is reliable in all its statements, avoids the sensational, and selects its literary matter with a view to the promotion of good morals and good taste.

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1883.

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may27-1

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Weekly Intelligencer.

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ALEX. A. LESUEUR, - - - - EDITOR
ETHAN ALLEN, - - BUSINESS MANAGER.
W. G. MUSGROVE, - - - - PUBLISHER.

PACIFIC RAIROAD TIME TABLE.

LEAVE LEXINGTON.

Accommodation for St. Louis and the East	5:45A. M
Express and Mail for St. Louis, East	8.15 P. M.

ARRIVE.

Express and Mail from St. Louis, East and South	7:30 A. M.
Accommodation from St. Louis, East and South	6 :40 P. M.

C. BEN RUSSELL, Agent.

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LEAVE LEXINGTON FOR KANSAS CITY.

Passenger	5:20 A. M.
Freight and accommodation	1:00 P. M.

ARRIVE AT LEXINGTON.

Passenger	9:00 P. M.
Freight and accommodation	11:00 A. M.

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WABASH, ST. LOUIS AND PACIFIC.

LEAVE LEXINGTON

Trains for St. Louis, K. C and St. Joe.	6:35 A M
Trains for St. Louis and East	8:35 P M

ARRIVE AT LEXINGTON

From St. Louis and all points East	6:35 A M
From Kansas City and all points West	8:55 A M
From St. Louis K. C. and St. Jo	8:35 P M

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GOING EAST.

No. 47, Kansas City Mail	8:47 A. M.
No. 5, Denver Express	9:02 P. M.
No. 49, Slater Accommodation	8:20 P. M.
No. 101, Local Freight	11:40 A. M

GOING WEST.

No. 6, Denver Express	7:10 A. M.
No. 50, Kansas City Accommodation	7:42 A. M.
No. 48, Kansas City mail	7:41 P. M.
No. 102, Local Freight	11:40 A. M.

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R. P. PRICE, Agent.

The Cloud.

I bring fresh showers, for the thirsting flowers,
From the seas and the streams;
I lay their gloriole for the leaves when laid
In their noonday dreams.
From my wings are shaken the dews that waken
The sweet birds every one,
When rocked to rest on their mother's breast,
As she dances about the sun.
I wield the flail of the lashing hail,
And whiten the green plains under;
And then again I dissolve it in rain;
And laugh as I pass in thunder.

I sift the snow on the mountains below
And their great pines groan aghast;
And all the night is my pillow white,
While I sleep in the arms of the blast.
Sublime on the towers of my skyey bowers
Lightning, my pilot, sits;
In a cavern under is fettered the thunder;
It struggles and bowls at its.
Over earth and ocean with gentle motion,
This pilot is guiding me,
Lured by the love of the genii that move
In the depths of the purple sea;
Over the rills and the crags and the hills,
Over the lakes and the plains,
Wherever he dream, under mountain or stream,
The spirit he loves remains;
And I all the while bask in heaven's blue smile,
While he is dissolving in rains.
The sanguine sunrise, with his meteor eyes,
And his burning plumes outspread,
Leaps on the back of my sailing rack,
When the morning star shines dead.
As, on the jag of a mountain crag,
Which an earthquake rocks and swings
An eagle alit, one moment may sit
In the light of its golden wings;
And when sunset may breath, from the lit sea beneath,
Its ardors of rest and of love
And the crimson pall of eve may fall
From the depth of heaven above,
With wings folded I rest, on my airy nest,
As still as a brooding dove.

That orbid maiden with white fire laden,
Whom mortals call the moon,
Glides glimmering o'er my fleece-like floor
By the midnight breezes strewn;
And wherever the beat of her unseen feet,
Which only the angels hear,
May have broken the roof of my tent's thin roof,
The stars peep behind her and peer;
And I laugh to see them whirl and flee,
Like a swarm of golden bees,
When I widen the rent in my wind built tent,
Till the calm river, lakes and seas,
Like strips of the sky fallen through me on high,
Are each paved with the moon and these.

I bind the sun's throne with a burning zone,
And the moon's with a girdle of pearl,
The volcanoes are dim and the stars reel and swim
When the whirlwinds my banner unfurl.
From cane to cape, with a bridge-like shape,
Over a torrent sea,
Sunbeam-proof I hang like a roof
The mountains its columns be.
The triumphal arch through which I march,
With hurricane, fire, and snow,
When the power of all are chained to my chair,
Is the million colored bow;
The sphere-fire above its soft colors move,
While the moist earth was laughing below.

I am the daughter of the earth and water,
And the nursling of the sky;
I pass through the pores of the ocean and shores
I change, but I cannot die.
For after the rain, when, with never a stain,
The pavilion of heven is bare,
And the winds and sunbeams, with their convex gleams,
Build up the blue dome of air—
I silently laugh at my own cenotaph,
And out of the caverns of rain
Like a child from the gloom, like a ghost from the tomb,
I arise and unbuild it again.

The Almighty.

[Translator, Sir Jno. Bowring.

[The following sublime ode to the Supreme Being is translated from the Russian. It was written by one of their most distinguished poets, Derzhavin. This ode is said to have been translated into the Chinese and Tartar languages, written on rich silk and suspended in the imperial palace at Pekin. The Emperor of Japan had it translated into the Japanese, embroidered in gold, and hung in the Temple of Jeddo. It is gratifying to learn that these nations have done themselves the honor to bestow such praise on this noble composition.]

O Thou Eternal One! whose presence bright
All space doth occupy, all motion guide;
Unchanged through Time's all devastating flight,
Thou only God! There is no God beside.
Being above all beings! Mighty one!
Whom none can comprehend, and none explore;
Who fill'st existence with thyself alone:
Embracing all—supporting—ruling o'er—
Being whom we call God—and know no more!

In its sublime research, Philosophy
May measure out the ocean deep; may count
The sands or the sun's rays; but God, for thee
There is no weight nor measure; none can mount
Up to thy mysteries. Reason's brightest spark,
Though kindled by the light in vain would try
To trace thy counsels, infinite and dark,
And thought is lost ere thought can soar so high,
E'en like past moments in eternity.

Thou, from primeval nothingness, didst call
First Chaos, then Existence. Lord, on thee
Eternity had its foundations; all
Spring forth from Thee; of Light, Joy, Harmony,
Sole origin; all life, all beauty, thine;
Thy word created all and doth create;
Thy splendor fills all space with rays divine;
Thou art, and wert, and shall be glorious! great!
Life-giving, life-sustaining Potentate!

Thy charms the unmeasured universe surround,
Upheld by Thee, by Thee inspired with breath!
Thou the beginning with the end hast bound,
And beautifully mingled Life and Death!
As sparks mount upward from the fiery blaze,
So runs are born, so worlds spring forth from thee!
And, as the spangles in the sunny rays
Shine round the silver snow, the pageantry
Of Heaven's bright army glitters in thy praise.

A million torches lighted by thy hand,
Wander unwearied through the blue abyss;
They own thy power, accomplish thy command,
All gay with life, all eloquent with bliss.
What shall we call them? Piles of crystal light!
A glorious company of golden streams?
Lamps of celestial ether burning bright?
Suns, lighting systems with their joyous beams?
But thou, to those, art as the noon to-night.

Yea; as a drop of water in the sea;
All this magnificence in thee is lost.
What are a thousand worlds compared to thee?
And what am I, when heaven's unnumbered host,
Though multiplied by myriads, and arrayed
In all the glory of sublimest thought,
Is but an atom in the balance, weighed
Against thy greatness—is a cipher brought
Against infinity! What am I, then? Naught.

Naught! But the effluence of the light divine,
Pervading worlds, hath reached my bosom, too;
Yea, in my spirit doth thy spirit shine,
As shinest the sunbeam in a drop of dew.
Naught! But I live, and on Hope's pinions fly,
Eager, toward thy presence; for in thee
I live, and breathe, and dwell; aspiring high,
Even to the throne of the divinity!
I am.—O God! and surely thou must be.

Thou art! directing, guiding all, thou art;
Direct my understanding, then, to thee;
Control my spirit, guide my wandering heart,
Though but an atom 'midst immensity,
Still I am something fashioned by thy hand.
I hold a middle rank, 'twixt heaven and earth,
On the last verge of mortal being stand;
Close to the realm where angels have their birth,
Just on the boundary of the spirit land.

The chain of being is complete in me;
In me is matter's last gradation lost,
And the next step is spirit—Deity!
I can command the lightning, and am dust;
A monarch, and a slave; a worm, a god.
Whence came I here, and how? so marvellously
Constructed and conceived unknown. This clod
Lives surely through some higher energy;
From out itself alone it could not be.

Creator! Yes! thy wisdom and thy word
Created me. Thou source of life and good!
Thou spirit of my spirit and my Lord!
Thy light, thy love in their bright plenitude,
Filled me with an immortal soul to spring
Over the abyss of death, and bade it wear
The garments of eternal day, and wing
Its heavenly flight beyond this little sphere
Even to its source—to thee, its Author, thee.

Oh thought ineffable! Oh vision blest!
(Though worthless our conceptions all of thee);
Yet shall thy shadowed image fill our breast,
And wait its homage to the Deity.
God! thus alone my lowly thoughts can soar;
Thus seek thy presence. Being wise and good,
'Midst thy vast works, admire, obey, adore;
And, when the tongue is eloquent no more,
The soul shall speak in tears of gratitude.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

EDITOR INTELLIGENCER: — The claim that there is a necessity for the calling of another convention to revise and amend the constitution of the state, seems to be the result more of the preconcerted clamor of a few interested persons with ulterior objects to subserve than of any general dissatisfaction on the part of the people of the state with their organic law. The constitution adopted in 1875 has scarcely had time, by appropriate legislation, to be put fully into operation, and have its provisions construed by the supreme court before chronic agitators, who are better qualified to tear down than to build up, and who are ever ready to object and criticise everything not the workmanship of their own hands, go to work to conjure up objections more imaginary than real, to this instrument, which was the subject of their loud hosannas in the fall of 1875, when the necessity for its reformatory provisions were keenly felt, and which was ratified and adopted by the people of the state by the largest majority of votes ever given at any election held therein for any purpose.

This agitation, as if by concert, was started at Jefferson City and Kansas City. The former, which owes all of its importance and growth to the fact of its being the capital of the state and the expenditure of public moneys there in the past would, doubtless, like to have the constitution so amended or changed as to allow the holding of annual sessions of the general assembly, instead of "once only in every two years," as is now provided for therein; as well as to allow of a more lavish appropriation of money out of the public treasury to be expended there. And in the latter named city it was recently claimed that there was a strong element who would like to have the boundaries of the state so changed as to transfer Kansas City into the state of Kansas, thus depriving Missouri of an immense amount of taxable property. Her people are said also to desire larger powers for taxing property. And lobbyists and job-men throughout the state who, prior to the adoption of the present constitution, winter after winter gathered like vultures in the lobbies and committee rooms of the legislature, seeking to get through their pet schemes "by fair means or foul," thereby poisoning and corrupting the law-making power of the state for their personal aggrandizement, would, doubtless also like to see the constitution so altered and amended as to omit and leave out that part of the oath required to be taken by senators and representatives, wherein they are required to swear that they "will not knowingly receive, directly or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing for the performance or nonperformance of any act or duty pertaining to their office, other than the compensation allowed by law," which has so effectually broken up the baleful "lobby system" that so disgraced the halls of legislation prior to the adoption of the New Constitution. But none of these alterations could be made as separate amendments on their own merits under the method for amending the constitution now embraced therein by a vote of the people on each amendment proposed by the legislature, and the only hope of their advocates would be to get them, if possible, inserted in a general revision of the constitution, and have them dragged through on the merits of other provisions.

It is to be regretted that Governor Crittenden has so far listened to the objections of these "thoughtful and intelligent citizens;" yea, so "thoughtful" of their private and local interests, as to give importance to this unreasoning clamor for the calling of a convention "to make a new constitution," as to give it a place in his annual message to the general assembly, just convened. And while he will not venture to recommend the calling of such convention he takes occasion to make a very disingenuous and wholesale attack on the constitution by saying, "that our present constitution possesses many serious defects cannot be questioned;" without deigning to specify or point out *one single* "defect" in the same. To lend the influence of his name and position as governor to an assault on the organic law of the state, which he is sworn to execute, and which has given success and prosperity to his administration, without specifying his objections, if any he has, is simply unworthy of his position.

If he knows of any "defect" or insufficiency in the constitution in the operation of the machinery of the state government, what more appropriate time and place to name it than when, under the constitutional requirement, he was undertaking to give the general assembly "information, by message, of the condition of the state?" And thus enable the general assembly, while in session, under the provisions of the constitution, to "propose amendments" thereto, to be voted on by the people to remedy the defect, if any. This was clearly his duty, if any such defect exists.

And if the indefinite indictment of the governor is true, that our present constitution has "many serious defects," then both he and his predecessors, Governors Hardin and Phelps, have been very derelict in failing to point out these many "defects" in their messages to the legislature, and recommending their correction by proposed amendment. The very object of the XV. article of the constitution, in regard to the "mode of amending the constitution," by amendments submitted by the legislature to be voted on by the people, "at the next general election thereafter," was to afford a speedy and cheap method of remedying any defects therein, which experience might develop in the practical working of the government thereunder, thus avoiding the expense of holding a constitutional convention, and also by requiring "each amendment separately" to be voted on, more effectually to secure its adoption, if at all, on its *own intrinsic merits.* For it is well known that in adopting a new or revised constitution as a whole, both the convention and the people at the polls are apt to adopt it for the sake of its good provisions, taking along with them some objectionable features, which would be rejected if voted on alone. So that the most effectual way to secure a perfect constitution after adopting one, good in the main, is to amend its defects by a direct vote of the people on "each amendment separately," as provided for in our constitution. Beside, this method is more expeditious, as under the provisions of the constitution, before a convention for revising and amending the constitution could be held the general assembly would have, by law, to submit the question of holding such convention to a vote of the people; and in case the people should vote for the holding of the convention, then an election would have to be held throughout the state for the election of delegates by senatorial districts to the convention; and then after the expenditure of the time and money necessary, and after the convention should revise and amend the constitution, the same would have to be submitted to a vote of the people of the state at another election for ratification or rejection, and then would follow the proclamation of the governor. So that every consideration of economy, expedition, directness and accuracy are in favor of amendments of the constitution by amendments proposed to the people by the legislature, rather than by means of a convention for that purpose.

The constitutional convention of 1875 was only justifiable because the constitution of 1865, framed by a convention in the midst of the throes of civil war, controlled and dictated by the passions and animosities of that unfortunate conflict, had engrafted into it a number of anti-republican and proscriptive provisions totally at war with the spirit of our free institutions; and because the results of that war had materially changed the social structure of our state government, and had fastened on our people many and oppressive abuses of official powers and duties, so that it was more like putting a new government in operation than the ordinary case of amending the organic law of the state.

But Governor Crittenden, after the suggestion of "thoughtful and intelligent citizens," tells the general assembly, "it is not my province to advise you in this matter." If not, why does he allude to it? Yet not content to let the matter rest here he gives another parting slam at the constitution by urging the general assembly to take such action "best calculated to insure to the people of the state of Missouri a constitution worthy of the dignity and commercial importance of such a state, and will more surely guarantee to her citizens all the rights which free people should possess." Does Governor Crittenden mean to say that our constitution adopted by a majority of some seventy thousand of our people, is not "worthy of the dignity and commercial importance of such a state?" Whence has the "dignity and commercial importance" of the state and the prosperity of the business interests of the state and its people so boastingly enunciated in other parts of his message by Governor Crittenden come, if not under the operation and working of this constitution? And what "rights which free people should possess," are denied in the present constitution? None. Unless it be the "right" or running the state, counties, cities, towns and school districts overwhelmingly in debt, and imposing higher taxation on private property to the great oppression of the tax-payers and toiling millions, as was done under the old constitution; or the "right" to open the flood gates of wild and visionary schemes for building railroads by lending the aid of the state, counties, cities and towns, and even townships to their schemes for private aggrandizement to be paid for by direct taxation on the people.

Does not our bill of rights secure all the rights of a free people? After reading the sophomoric expressions of Governor Crittenden in connection with the constitution a stranger might conclude that the people of Missouri were still living under the "Draconian-Code," abolished in 1875. But how sadly are these expressions contradicted by other parts of Governor Crittenden's message? In the forepart thereof, and before he had received suggestions from "thoughtful and intelligent citizens," he says: "I congratulate you upon your assembly as the chosen representatives of the people, under such auspicious surroundings and favorable circumstances. Order prevails in every part of the state; local affairs are managed with wisdom and economy; the labors of the husbandman have been repaid with most abundant harvests; the people are blessed with good health, peace, liberty and contentment; signs of individual and general prosperity greet the eye upon every hand."

In another place he says, "At no previous period has the state's indebtedness been so rapidly diminished, or the state grown so rapidly in those elements which give a state a character at home and abroad as within the last two years." And as if with the view of emphasizing these sentiments the governor quotes from "a letter from a reputable banking firm of New York City," which says, "By referring to the quotations you will perceive that the bonds of the state of Missouri not only compare favorably with all other state bonds, but in point of fact will bring more than any state bonds dealt in upon our Stock Exchange, even more than those of Connecticut, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, or even than Massachusetts, which at one time ranked much higher than the United States." And in another place, speaking of the difficulty and controversy between the state and the Hannibal and St. Joe R. R. Co., growing out of the state's issuing bonds in aid of said railroad company under the old constitution, the governor says: "This controversy shows the wisdom of that constitutional provision inhibiting the state from contracting any debt or liability on behalf of the state, or to issue bonds or other evidences of the indebtedness thereof, except in renewal of existing bonds, and to create a debt not exceeding $250,000 to meet an unforseen contingency or casual deficiency, as the liberality of the state has been so often abused by the recipients of its grace."

So the governor specially points out and compliments certain provisions of the constitution, and nowhere points out or specifies any defect in the same. Then whence the necessity for a convention? It is a great pity these "thoughtful and intelligent citizens" had not been sufficiently "thoughtful" to save the governor from the inconsistencies and contradictions of his message in this regard.

No constitution, framed by finite beings, we suppose, was ever perfect. And while perfection is not claimed for our present constitution, we do claim that it is as near perfection as any constitution of any state of this great sisterhood of states, styled the American Union; and that no constitution which could be agreed on by a convention, and adopted by the people of the hundred and fifteen counties of the state, with their varied and diversified interests, would likely be freer from imperfections than the present. Its defects, if any, are minor and inconsiderable, as compared with the whole, and can be readily and easily amended in the mode prescribed therein, without a convention. It is best to let well enough alone, and not hazard experiments in doctoring the body politic, which may impair and debilitate the system. Frequent changes, even in statute laws, are injurious; much more pernicious are frequent changes in the organic law of the state, after its provisions become familiar to the people, and have been construed and explained by the courts. Old Lafayette is well satisfied with the constitution as it is, and will, I predict, oppose the calling of a new constitutional convention. CITIZEN.

A VISIT TO MEXICO.

[Letter to the Warrensburg Journal-Democrat.]

MONTERRY, MEX., Dec. 14, 1882.

"Laredo on the line!!!" shouts a man who rattles his baggage checks and shuts the car door with a bang which makes the sleeping passengers spring erect in their seats, yawn and rub their eyes. We are but a few miles from the Rio Grande; it is in the early dawn and we are making at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour. Directly the whistle sounds and we are notified there is time for breakfast before the train leaves for Mexico. The passengers march through the dusty streets with miserable adobe Mexican huts on either side to the hotel and have a breakfast well suited to prepare them for what they may expect on the other side of the river.

Laredo, Texas, is a very old Mexican town, but amounted to nothing until the railroad was built, since which time it has grown rapidly, and now has some 6,000 inhabitants, three fourths of whom are Mexicans. It is surrounded by an almost desert country and is "a hard place" in every respect.

At eight o'clock we are ready to be off to Monterey. The agent tells us the fare in American money or what it will be in Mexican money. Half a mile from the depot we reach the bridge over the Rio Grande, which here appears as a fourth class, insignificant stream, a hundred yards wide filled with sand bars and a succession of desolate, barren hillocks upon either side. In a few minutes thereafter we are on the southern shore, and under a foreign flag. The train slows up and we are at Nuevo Laredo, a Mexican city built up entirely since the completion of the railroad. It has a population of about 6,000, and is even a less inviting spot than its sister on the other shore.

As the train checks up, the conductor tells all the passengers who have baggage to proceed to the baggage car and open up their trunks for the custom house officers. The officer said he was busy and the passengers got off with simply showing their keys. This is not always so, sometimes everything, including the persons of the passengers are carefully searched, and the finding of any contraband article in a trunk or box, confiscates the whole.

We now realize we are beyond the land of the stars and stripes. Strange sights already begin to attract our attention. Out yonder a drove of little darkies are picking at the stunted vegetation, the crowd of faces are all of a color, the men with cigars in their mouths made of tobacco wrapped in corn shucks, and wearing bright, red sashes around their waists and with great broad-brimmed hats on their heads.

For the first hundred miles after leaving the river the route