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VOL. II.

HANNIBAL, MO., THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 17, 1852.

NO. 42.

WHIG COUNTY CONVENTION.

PALMYRA, June 5th, 1852.
Pursuant to previous appointment, the Delegates from the different townships met at the Court House at 11 o'clock, whereupon Judge Gore was appointed chairman, and C. F. Kirtley Secretary.

The following resolution was offered by Dr. J. H. Kibby, and adopted, to-wit:

Resolved, That the delegates from each township report themselves to the convention forthwith.

The following were the delegates, to-wit:

Liberty Township.
J. W. Easton, R. Shacklett,
John Valiant, B. C. Curd,
Dr. J. H. Kibby, John Garner.

Mason Township.
Dr. R. H. Griffith, Judge Gore,
John Fry, J. F. Hawkins,
Wm. Shoot, G. W. Caplinger,
Thos. S. Miller.

Union Township.
George White, Dr. Tipton,
James T. Key, Major H. Willis,
W. Baldrige, Robert Allen.

Fabius Township.
James Holmes, N. Lovelace,
Col. Robert Fowler, George Gardiner,
Jeptha Lasse.

Round Grove Township.
James McKee, William Marksbury,
J. W. Jeffries, L. L. Banks.

South River Township.
Dr. McElwray, C. Forman,
John Ellis, A. Warner,
John Nichols.

Warren Township.
D. McCloud, William Moss,
S. T. Rhodes, John A. Lyle,
C. S. Spencer, J. J. Bowles,
J. W. Dobyns, H. G. Feagan.

Whereupon, on motion, the Delegates retired to a committee room above, when Thos. S. Miller acted as Secretary.

On motion of H. G. Feagan, a committee of eight was appointed to present to the convention a basis of Representation from each Township.

The following gentlemen composed said committee, to-wit:

Dr. Kibby, of Liberty Township,
Dr. Griffith, of Mason do
John Ellis, of South River do
H. G. Feagan, of Warren do
Dr. Tipton, of Union do
Dr. Banks, of R. Grove, do
Col. Fowler, of Fabius do
Adjourned till 1 1-2 o'clock.

1 1-2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Convention met.
Committee report that
Liberty and Mason Township each
have 7 votes.
Miller and S. River Township each
have 5 votes.
Warren, Union, R. Grove and Fabius
each have 4 votes.

On motion, adopted.
G. W. Caplinger nominated R. W. Moss;
Dr. Tipton do M. Knox of Union;
Col. R. Fowler do J. Mays, of Fabius;
Dr. Banks do J. McKee, R. Grove;
B. Owsley do B. B. King;
N. Lovelace do H. G. Feagan;
Jas. W. Easton do R. C. Martin;
as candidates for the Legislature.

R. W. Moss and R. C. Martin were nominated as candidates for the Legislature, and Wm. A. Maddox for Sheriff.

Whilst the convention was out, Thos. L. Anderson, Esq., being called for, responded to the call in one of his most happy efforts, in which he reviewed the history of the democratic party for the last thirty years in this State, and drew a contrast between their course of policy and that of the whigs. As a full synopsis of Mr. A.'s speech will be reported, it is unnecessary to make further mention of it here.

When the names of the nominees were reported to the people, P. C. Lane offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this meeting ratify, and that they will use all honorable means to secure the election of the nominees.

This was unanimously adopted.

On motion, the Hannibal whig papers, and the Palmyra Whig are requested to publish the proceedings of the convention.

On motion, the convention then adjourned.

J. GORE, Clk.

C. F. KIRTLEY, Sec'y.

PRETTY GOOD.—The North-East Missourian, published in Louisiana, says:—"We are glad to see that our citizens are beginning to work two horses to their drays, thereby showing a determination to make this place, at least, a two-horse town."

The Cholera has made its appearance in Maysville, Ky., and from the 5th to the 8th, inst., there had been 26 cases, 20 of which had proved fatal, and four others were not expected to live. All the deaths had occurred within half a square.

A mild form of the small pox has prevailed in Louisiana for the past few weeks; but only one case proved fatal. It is on the decline.

GEN. PIERCE.

One of the editors of the Louisville Times, who was in the Mexican campaign, gives in the following paragraph a complete history of Gen. Pierce's participation in that war—which is also the whole sum and substance of his military career:

At Contreras when dashing over the pedregal (a continuous series of sharp rocks thrown up by volcanic action) for the purpose of heading his brigade, his horse fell under him and crushed the leg of his rider in his fall. The battle of Churubusco followed next day, and scurrying to hang back within his tent, with crutch in hand he mounted his goodly steed, and urged his men "on to victory!" In the foremost rank of battle he was found; and through most of that bloody day he was the spirit of the wing in which he was placed. But with fatigue and the anguish of a fractured limb he became faint, and was borne insensible from the field; but not before (could he have heard) the shouts of victory would have filled his ears, and brought back the quick pulsations to this noble heart.

We speak with enthusiasm of the gallantry of Gen. Pierce, because, attached to that branch of service, we were an eye-witness of all that we represent.

We would be ashamed to detract one word from an honorable record, such as the above. It is too brief to be further condensed, and yet leave Gen. Pierce any capital with which to go into a Presidential campaign.

But the thought cannot but strike every mind that if so short and inefficient a military career, commencing perhaps with bad riding and ending with insensibility growing out of a bruised leg and the fatigue and noise and confusion of the fight, entitles Gen. Pierce to the high admiration of his countryman, what shall be said of the "Hero of a Hundred Fields," whose great services whole volumes are required to record, and whose body is scarred all over by balls, and not by rocks and bad riding.—St. Louis News.

Intelligence from Sacramento announces great excitement in regard to the Chinese amongst gold diggers along the banks of the American river, and their forcible expulsion from the diggings was taking place daily. One morning two hundred were driven off from one locality. There was but one opinion among American miners in regard to the importation of Chinese into the mines. They are fully determined to submit no longer.

A SINGULAR FACT.—A boy, says the Pittsburgh Commercial Journal, recently had his skull fractured by a kick received from a vicious horse. He is now doing well, with a good prospect of recovery; but it is a singular fact that before the accident took place he was very deaf, and had been so for several years; but now his sense of hearing is acute as that of ordinary persons.

A late arrival from California states that in San Francisco, though the dreaded anniversary of the great fire passed off quietly, so great was the fear of the inhabitants that a similar calamity would visit them, that all the engines of the city were ranged in the streets, with ropes stretched, etc.

PAINFUL INTELLIGENCE.—The Sacramento Transcript gives an account of the massacre of a whole band of sable harmonists, consisting of Messrs. Boley, Donnelly, Western, King, and Van Rensselaer, and their agent, Mr. Lathran. They were attacked on the road from Shasta City to Wyreka.

The Methodist General Conference, which was recently in session at Boston, has ruled out part of the old church discipline, which required that ladies and gentlemen should set apart during service in church. This was carried by a vote of 160 majority.

Kain, the Irishman, who was arrested in Louisiana some few weeks since, for assault with intent to kill a family of deck passengers on board the Martha No. 2, has been bailed out of custody by Capt. Alford of the above boat.

The Monroe county Whig Convention, held in Paris on the 6th inst., nominated for Representatives, JAMES M. BEAN, and GABRIEL ALEXANDER; for sheriff, MARION BIGGS; for Assessor, JOHN D. STEPHENS.

Three laborers on the Pacific Railroad were killed last Wednesday by the falling of a mass of earth upon them, as they were tunneling.

In California, recently, nearly one hundred and fifty Indians were killed by the whites at Shasta, who were infuriated at the murder of a Mr. Anderson.

The New York Tribune says land warrants are in fair demand at \$124 a \$127 per 160 acres. The supply is good.

A ratification meeting was held on the 7th inst., at Pittsburgh, and resolutions unanimously adopted, approving the nomination of PIERCE and KING.

RAPID TRAVELING.—It is contemplated to make the entire running time, from New York to Chicago, distance about 1,073 miles, in 43 hours.

The population of San Francisco increased nearly 6000 during the month of April last. Of this nearly half was from China.

CHOLERA.—A few fatal cases of cholera have occurred at Nashville.

CALLED SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE.

OFFICE PACIFIC RAILROAD,
St. Louis, June 8, 1852.
His Excellency, A. A. King,

Governor of Missouri:
SIR:—I had the honor on the 5th inst., of transmitting to you a copy of a resolution unanimously adopted by our Board of Directors (every member present but one) respectfully asking your Excellency to convoke the Legislature of the State, with the purpose of enacting such laws as will be necessary in order the more effectually and economically to improve and apply the grant of lands made by Congress on the 30th inst., in aid of the construction of the Pacific Railroad, and of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad. Since that letter was forwarded, I have had the honor of an interview with the Lieutenant Governor, in my office, who was particularly to enquire into the precise nature of the necessity of convening the Legislature with reference to this grant, in anticipation of the regular session, which we well know takes place in about seven months hence. Adding what I learnt from this conversation to what I knew before, of your determination against a called session, merely for the purpose of dividing the State into new Congressional Districts, with reference to an appointment under the census, I have felt that it was important that you should appreciate clearly any necessity that has arisen, which, if it should not outweigh that consideration, would, when added to it, constitute a sufficient reason for your promptly deciding in favor of the call. It may, however, occur to you upon reading the act of Congress, and from an outside view of the matter, that no legislation appears to be absolutely necessary at present, provided the President of the United States will withdraw the lands from market until we can make the final location of our road, as the regular session would seem to come in time to appropriate the lands to the purposes for which they are intended.

The real necessity for legislative action is to be found in the present position of the Pacific Railroad, with reference to the last part of the proviso of the first section of the act of Congress. The part I allude to is as follows:—"A copy of the location, made under the direction of the Legislature, shall be forwarded to the proper local land offices respectively, and the general land office at Washington City, within ninety days after the completion of the same, to be recorded." The location of the line or route, and the point of termination on the western boundary, though fixed and designated by this company, is doubtless done by "authority of the State," as required by the act, yet the "copy of the location" seems to be required to be "made under the direction of the Legislature," within ninety days after the completion of the same.

When the line or route of the line is definitely located, the grant covers every alternate section, designated by even numbers of six sections in width on each side of the road. Thus the location of the line also locates the granted sections. But in case any of the sections thus covered have been previously sold by the United States, or that the right of pre-emption has been attached to the same, then it shall be lawful for any agent or agents to be appointed by the Governor to select, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, from public lands most contiguous to the tier of sections above specified, so much land in alternate sections or parts of sections as shall be equal to such lands as the United States have sold, or to which the right of pre-emption has attached, provided that the lands so located shall not be further than fifteen miles from the line of the road, and all the lands thus granted are to be held by the State for the exclusive use and purpose of aiding in the construction of the road.

There seems to be nothing in our charter which can be construed into a direction of the Legislature to make a copy of our location until the road is completed, when we are required to file a plat thereof in the office of the Secretary of State.

The first section of the act of Congress grants the right of way, provided a copy of the location, made under the direction of the Legislature shall be forwarded to the local land offices, and the general land office, within ninety days after its completion.

The first step now to be taken is, to conclude all our experimental surveys, and procure *pari passu*, as far as is immediately practicable, the right of way through private lands. The concluding surveys were ordered before the passage of the land bill. Our own safety and economy, looking to the steady prosecution of the work, beyond the present division, required this. We have had recently nearly 1600 men on the first division. The present contractors are bound to complete their contracts by about the first of November, and it is very important that lettings for another division should take place in time to transfer the men, tools, teams, &c., to the next division, immediately after they have finished their work on this. To permit them to disband before we are ready with another division, would be to throw upon the starting of another division when ready, the labor, trouble and cost of the commencement of work upon a new road. It was our intention to be ready for another division the ensuing fall, even if the land grant had not been made. Suppose, then, we are prepared for lettings upon another division next fall; of course the line will be previously definitely located. Then comes in this proviso, which requires that, in order to avail ourselves of the right of way granted by the General Government, we must forward to the land offices and the general land office, a copy of the location, made under the direction of the Legislature, within ninety days after its completion.

Now it is obvious that, if we are obliged to wait until the regular session of the Legislature, which does not convene until the first of January, our whole work may probably be thrown back at least five months. Present contractors must know early whether there will be any more work for them on this road at the conclusion of their present contracts, else they will necessarily look to other works, perhaps in other States. They could hardly be required to commence upon a new division in mid-winter. Their preparations should be fully made in the fall.

If, perchance, the President should not suspend the sales of the lands along the line, and

the Governor of the State should not convene the Legislature, the land grant would be practically made null before next January by the private entries which have been going on for the last two years, and are now resumed more vigorously than ever.

I will take the liberty to suggest another important consideration. The future progress of the road, and especially the period of its completion, will much depend upon the action of the Legislature. It is therefore essential that the company should know soon what they have to count upon. And I venture to say, without any authority for doing so, that this will be a more important consideration to the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad Company than to us, as I presume, it is scarcely expected that they will start their road until the Legislature has acted upon the law of Congress.

The financial condition of our company, with reference to the work before them, is prosperous and sound. Their credit has always been maintained, and the credit of the city and State, which they have had occasion to use, has not deteriorated, but, on the contrary, greatly improved in their hands. The grant of lands for which we have been laboring for the past two or three years, and at some cost to ourselves, having now been made, the work must be pushed forward more vigorously than ever, and completed within the shortest practicable period.—May we not hope, that before it is completed, The Government of the United States will have fairly commenced the link further westward, which ought to be built to connect the Mississippi Valley and the Atlantic States with the gold-bearing regions, the immensely valuable trade of the Pacific seas, and the new and numberless people which, issuing from the Asiatic hive, and collecting from all parts of the earth, are swarming upon our Western coasts?

Trusting that your Excellency will find in all these considerations sufficient to justify you in immediately calling the Legislature together, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. ALLEN,
President Pacific Railroad.

NAPOLEON AFTER ELBA.

[LAMARTINE CONTINUES TO ISSUE THE VOLUMES OF HIS NAPOLEONIC HISTORY. IN THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE HE DESCRIBES THAT REMARKABLE SCENE WHICH OCCURRED BETWEEN NAPOLEON AND HIS SOLDIERS, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FLIGHT FROM ELBA.—THE STORY HAS BEEN RELATED A HUNDRED TIMES, BUT NEVER MORE EFFECTUALLY THAN BY LAMARTINE.]

"On quitting La Mure, the Emperor composed his vanguard of one hundred picked men from that chosen body always under the command of Chabronne. This General, on advancing towards a bridge at some distance from La Mure, found himself in front of a new battalion. The envoy he sent to them with signs of peace was driven back. The Emperor being informed of this, again dispatched one of his officers, Major Raoul, to attack the battalion which refused to open his route, but Raoul, threatened with their fire, returned without being heard. Napoleon felt that the moment had arrived to put to the test his own ascendancy over his old soldiers. He passed through his column, ordering it to halt, and rode forward at a gentle pace, almost alone, in advance of his army.

Whether he had been assured by his accomplices at Grenoble that the hearts of this battalion beat in his favor; whether the habits of a soldier on the battle-field had inured him to look on death with less repugnance by the fire so located near the front; or that his soul, since his departure from Elba, had concentrated all its powers in anticipation of this supreme moment, and that he had deemed his enterprise well worth the risk of life, certain it is that he did not hesitate a moment. He neither hastened nor slackened his steps, but approached within a hundred paces of the bayonets, which formed a wall before him on the road. There he dismounted, gave the reins to one of his Poles, crossed his arms on his breast, and advanced with measured steps, like a man who marches to his death. It was the spectre of the imagination of both army and people appearing suddenly, and, as if rising from the tomb, between France of the present and the past. He wore the costume in which recollection, legend and picture had alike engrained him on the memory of all: the military hat, the green uniform of the light infantry of the guard, the over-coat of dust-colored cloth, open and displaying his under dress, the high military boots, and spurs ringing on the ground; his attitude was that of reflection, which nothing can distract, or of peaceful command, which doubts not of obedience. He descended a slope of the road inclining towards the regiment he was about to accost. No groups of persons before him, beside him, or behind him, prevented him from being seen in all the illusion of his personal prestige; his figure standing out boldly and alone against the background of the highroad, and the blue firmament beyond. To strike such a man, whom the soldiers recognized as their former idol, would have been, in their eyes, not to fight, but to assassinate. Napoleon had calculated from afar, this challenge of glory to humanity and to the heart of the French soldier, and he was not mistaken; but it required a profound genius to attempt, and a Napoleon to accomplish it. His grenadiers, at a great distance behind him, stood with their arms reversed, as a token of peace. The officer commanding the Fifth Regiment, doing violence, perhaps, to his feelings, in the execution of his duty, or knowing beforehand the resolution of his soldiers not to strike their Emperor, and only wishing to intimidate the army without stopping, by an appearance of discipline, ordered his battalions to fire. The soldiers appeared to obey, and took aim at Napoleon, who, advanced within ten steps of the muskets levelled at his breast, and elevating that spell-like and resounding voice, which had so often directed the manoeuvres of the review, or of the field of battle, "Soldiers of the Fifth Regiment," he exclaimed, deliberately uncovering his breast, and presenting his naked bosom to receive their fire, "if there is one amongst you who would kill his Emperor, let him do it. Here I am!" There was no reply; all remained silent and motionless. The soldiers had not even loaded their muskets, as if they distrusted themselves.—Having gone through the semblance of obedience

and fidelity to discipline, they thought they had done their duty, and that the heart might now be left to its own course. And the hearts of all spoke with one voice. At first a thrill of feeling ran through the battalion, then a few muskets were lowered, then a greater number, and finally, the whole, while a cry of "Vive l'Empereur" issued from every mouth, which was replied to by a shout from the grenadiers of the guard, in the distance, of "Vive the Fifth Regiment of the line!" Some of the officers quitted the ranks, and took the road to Grenoble, that they might not be carried away by the emotion of their companies, while others wiped their eyes, sheathed their swords, and yielded to the general contagion. The soldiers, quitting the ranks, rushed along with the people to surround the Emperor, who opened his arms to receive them; while his own faithful soldiers, following the example, hastened to the spot, and mingled in one group and one acclamation with those of the Fifth. It was the junction of France, past and present, embracing each other at the call of glory—the involuntary sedition of hearts. Napoleon had conquered by disarming himself; his name alone had done battle. From this moment France was re-conquered, the trial had been made, the example given. At a distance people might be faithful to duty, but when near, enthusiasm would seize on all; the example of the Fifth Regiment was worth more to the Emperor than the defection of ten armies."

HON. EDWARD A. HANNEGAN.

The facts as to the killing of his brother-in-law, Capt. Duane, by Mr. Hannegan, are already widely known. Mr. Hannegan has been a member of the Legislature, both Houses of Congress, Ambassador to Prussia, and would have been honored and useful in every station in life, but for his fearful devotion to liquor.—John Wentworth, who served with him in Congress, thus comments on his case in the Chicago Democrat:

Every man who has seen Mr. Hannegan when under the influence of liquor, as we have, can believe the above. And every one who has seen him and lived at the same house with him and his family, as we have, when he has been a total abstinence man for months together, will indeed pity him. When sober, he is as pure, as upright, as kind, and as generous a man as there is in this country. With him there can be no middle state. He is a brute when drunk. But he cannot drink without getting drunk.

Mr. Hannegan entered the lower House of Congress many years ago, a perfectly temperate man and, in point of talents, integrity and popularity, his prospects were as flattering as those of any young man in the United States. But Washington fashions and habits were too much for him. Dissipation drove him to private life. He reformed, became a temperance lecturer, and an exemplary member of the Church. His exhortations in times of great revivals are said to have equalled those of the most eloquent divines living. At length his old habits were forgotten, and he was sent to the Senate. He took his seat an exemplary son of Temperance and Christianity. But again, the temptations were too great for him.

His struggles with himself were gigantic, and the assistance of one of nature's noblest of women, his wife, secured for him the sympathies of every body. But he would have his spree, and he lost his re-election. Like most politicians he left office miserably poor. At the close of his term, and of Mr. Polk's administration, to keep so popular and so good a man from despair and ruin, although it came out of General Taylor's term, the Senators unanimously Whigs and Democrats, signed a call for Mr. Polk to send him to Prussia, and he was appointed to that mission. His unfortunate career there is well known. Since his return, we have heard nothing of him until this melancholy affair.

We have seen many a young man enter Congress perfectly temperate, and leave it totally ruined; but we never knew one who had so many efforts to save him, so ineffectually, as Mr. Hannegan. We now have in our mind three in our own term who killed themselves. Mr. Hannegan has tried to do so several times, but he lived to kill his wife's brother, the best friend, save his wife, he had in the world. That he wishes he was in poor Duane's place, we have no doubt. What an awful comment this is upon the evil effect of intemperance. It was the first drop that ruined Hannegan. He is now about the middle age of man, and may yet live to be a very useful man; but there is greater probability that he will commit suicide.

This tragedy will do much toward enacting the Maine Liquor Law in Indiana, and we can almost predict it will be enacted at the next session of the Legislature.

HABITS OF THE NICE YOUNG MAN.—Attends evening parties—and hands the muffins round. Smiles, if he burns his fingers with the kettle. Plays the flute. Sings "Do you love me now as then?" Parts his hair in middle.—Takes an umbrella with him to an evening party. Wears goshaws after dusk. Has a secret passion for gruel. Writes acrostics, and contributes to ladies' albums. Curis his whiskers. Is the "Hon. Sec." to the "Ladies' Benevolent Mangle Distribution Society." Keeps a cat, and a regular account of his daily expenses. His greatest pleasure is to attend a meeting at Exeter Hall, and his next greatest pleasure is to have his name mentioned "amongst those whom we observed on the platform," etc. His fondest tie, next to an aged grandmother, is that of his white neck cloth. Can hum the overture to *Der Frieschutz*. Carries a pin-cushion and acclimated drops, about with him, and is never unprovided with a scent-bottle, for fear of accidents. Goes but in the rain to fetch a cab. Doesn't smoke. Helps mamma's shawl on with the grace of one of Stewart's shopmen.—Has his hair and handkerchief full of scents, and it is a pity the same cannot be said of his head. Holds a skein of silk with exemplary patience.—turns over the leaves of music with great digital skill—reads novels in a clear, secretarial-like voice—laughs *effusivo*—lips *moderato*—jokes with the old maids *allegro*—quotes poetry *penseroso*—rums ladies' errands *prestissimo*—and makes himself generally *usefulo*. Such are the habits of the nice young man.

BALTIMORE, JUNE 7.

A ratification meeting took place on Saturday night in Monument Square.

We have had a conversation with Mr. H. T. Burman, who has just returned from Muddy Creek, some eighty miles from this place, and from him we learn that the train of Hughes, Holladay & Co., which is en route for Salt Lake, had suffered very severely from Cholera. When our informant left there had been several deaths, and some ten or twelve sick. He represents the attacks as being very severe, and terminate very suddenly. We also learn from the same source, that the train had lost thirteen oxen; they died suddenly, all within an hour, and whilst they had their yokes on. We fear that this train has suffered still more severely.—From all that we can learn, there is a great deal of suffering and sickness among the emigrant trains generally.—[Western Reporter, 5th.]

A LORDLY DEMOCRAT.—Among the distinguished persons to whom the courtesy of a seat upon the platform has been extended, by the Democratic National Convention, is Lord Wharfedale, a nobleman of England, who is making, with some members of his family, a tour of observation through this country, noting the workings of our admirable and happy democratic institutions. He thus has the fortunate opportunity of gaining an insight into one of the most peculiar and important popular characteristics of our political machinery. His Lordship is very plain and unpretending in his personal appearance, looking quite as democratic as any of the delegates themselves. He is accompanied in the sittings by the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, of this city.—[Balt. Sun.]

MOSE BLOOMFIELD.—James Hill, one of the survivors of the "Scott's Fork Tragedy," and Nelson Southerland, were returning home from the plantation of John and Squire Leavell. On their way up Scott's Fork, they were fired upon by the Evans' and Jackson May, between five and ten balls taking effect upon Southerland, killing him instantly. During the affray, he received several severe cuts with a bowie-knife. James Hill, some sixteen years of age, received one wound in the thigh, he then attempted to make his escape, but was pursued by the four Evans', who shot at him several times. He was soon overtaken, and severely beaten with the barrels of their weapons, after which they took from him his own pistol and shot him, the ball taking effect in the hip. None of the parties have been apprehended. It seems to be a war of extermination, and there is no hope of reconciliation between the parties.—[Lancaster (Ky) Banner 3d.]

LOUISVILLE, June 8.—The Convention of Western River Men met yesterday. Delegates from Missouri, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, are in attendance. Nothing was done but to organize, and appoint a committee to prepare business for consideration.

The object of the meeting is to devise better means for the navigation of the Western rivers. A recent letter from San Francisco says:—"The extensive and well known firm of Hussey, Bond & Hale, of this city, are constructing a large fire proof store; and what is a remarkable fact, they are importing stone from China, for the erection of this building. Who could have dreamed of this a few years ago? Now we have not only stone from China, but the workmen to put up our buildings."

ELECTRICITY APPLIED TO WHALING.—The New Bedfordites have a new idea. They apply electricity to the taking of whales. An electro-galvanic battery is placed in a boat, which is attached by a metallic wire to a harpoon. It is capable of throwing into the body of the whale eight tremendous strokes of electricity in a second, or four hundred and eighty in a minute, paralyzing in an instant the muscles of the whale, and depriving it of all power of motion, if not actually of life.

SAD EFFECTS OF INTemperance.—A sad case of the effects of an inordinate appetite was presented in the streets of Newark, (N. J.) on Monday morning. A man who had formerly been, as he said, Principal of the High School of Frankfort, (Ky.), who appeared to be liberally educated, and a man of intellect, was begging his way to Bloomingdale, New York. He attracted the notice of some charitable citizens, who are interested in education, and they provided for his immediate wants.

A BREAK OF NATURE.—The *Washington* (N. C.) Argus states that Mr. Jabez McKay, living near White Marsh, Columbus county has a negro woman that gave birth some ten days back, to twin female children, joined together in a manner that makes them more interesting than the celebrated Siamese twins. Their faces look in opposite directions, and their bodies are joined by the back bone running into one at the joint of the hip, and forming one spine from the joint down.

MILITARY MOVEMENTS.—Company F., of the U. S. Infantry, now stationed at Fort Ontario, Oswego, has been ordered to join the regiment to which it belongs, at Governor's Island, from which place the regiment will proceed to Oregon, by way of the Isthmus.

In the Platte District Convention, which nominated Maj. M. Oliver, of Ray county, for Congress, some fifteen counties were represented. Everything was harmonious. King and Birchard "used up" men.—St. Louis News.

SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.—*Buffalo, June 2.*—Whilst the workmen were taking down the Theatre building in Eagle street, a part of the wall fell into a small pool, when a column of water burst up some two or three hundred feet in height, causing considerable damage to property in the vicinity.

A contract has been made for the construction of a road from Glasgow to Huntsville, at a cost of \$4,000. It includes the erection of bridges, toll-gates, toll-houses, &c., and is to be completed by the first of April, 1854.

The Abbezeitung, of New York, says the Germans in the United States amount to five millions of persons, or one-fifth of the total population.

A new engine of destruction, in the shape of a gun is announced, which can be discharged twenty-six times in two and a half minutes.

The Presidential nominations have been approved by an enthusiastic ratification meeting at Philadelphia.