

lit up Capt. Preston's face as he extended his hand for the supposed letter. Old Jacob, who had no misgiving of that character to deliver, but who had come wholly on his own responsibility, hesitated what to say. While the two parties are thus regarding each other, we will explain the incidents which had brought them thus unexpectedly together.

(To be concluded.)

### From the New Orleans Bee, March 29. Later News from the Rio Grande.

The Matamoros flag contains an elaborate account of the battle of Buena Vista. A few incidents of interest, which we do not remember to have seen elsewhere, are annexed.

On the 23d, at early dawn, the battle was renewed with great fury. The chief efforts of the enemy seemed to be directed against the left wing, composed of Gen. Wool's division. Gen. Lane being in command of the Indian brigade. The fight was very obstinate and sanguinary. Santa Anna, from his vastly superior force, was enabled to direct against this part of our army, three or four men to one. They fought with determined bravery, and fully redeemed their character from the aspersions heretofore cast upon it. Being composed chiefly of cavalry, they galloped up to the very mouths of our guns, and cut down or lanced the gunners. Every man belonging to O'Bryan's battery was either killed or wounded. Capt. Bragg seeing this, and fearing that his own guns might be captured, prepared to take another position. At this critical juncture, when a single false move might prove fatal to the whole army, Major Mansfield of the Engineer department, spurred to Gen. Taylor and informed him of the contemplated change of position. "Go back instantly," replied Gen. Taylor, "and tell him not to move an inch, but down them with grape and canister." This order was obeyed by the gallant Bragg as promptly as it was given, and his battery instantly vomited forth the most awful destruction, the guns being charged with musketballs and every species of death dealing missile. We should have stated that Gen. Wool had been maneuvering to draw the Mexicans within reach of our artillery. He made a feint of attacking them in force; and then suddenly retreating, deceived them within range of our light batteries. His force opened to the right and left, and the havoc was tremendous. Six thousand cavalry charged Bragg's battery; when within two hundred yards, every gun opened upon them, cutting a lane through their entire column thirty feet broad. A second round halted them for a moment, and a third proved so destructive that they fled in confusion.

The fighting continued for some time after this, but the repulse of this charge upon the battery contributed more than any thing else, to the victory. The battle lasted for eight long hours, without the slightest intermission. The Mexicans fought with all the fury of despair, and left no means untried to carry the day. It is thought by many that if their officers had headed them in the field, the result would have been different; but these valiant gentlemen, who vault so loudly when out of harm's way, took especial care to place their bodies out of the reach of bullets.

At the desperate attack on O'Bryan's battery, when the Indiana brigade was ordered and tottered all along the line, from the force of overwhelming numbers, Maj. Dix, of the Paymaster's department, snatched a flag-staff from the hands of its bearer and rushed to the front of the brigade, exhorting the men to stand firm. His presence re-animating them, and they rebuffed their exertions.

Colonel Jefferson Davis, the brave, chivalrous and accomplished commander of the Mississippi Rifles, was severely wounded—whether on the first or second day of the fight, is not known. His regiment was thrown forward the first day, on that most perilous day, skirmishing, and suffered severely. It is said to have 40 men killed and 100 wounded—an unprecedented loss, considering the weakness of the regiment. The Lieutenant Colonel of this gallant corps is yet quivering on the verge of the grave, from a wound received at Monterrey, having been the first to mount the walls of the castellated fort at that battle. And now the chief in command is struck down, and his life, too, vibrates in the balance.

Thousands of the Mexicans, after their defeat, fled to the mountains, and after the lapse of a few days, presented themselves to Gen. Taylor as prisoners of war. He told them, in their own language to *camas*, that he would have nothing to do with them.

Two thousand females, who followed the Mexican army, remained like ministering angels, to take care of the wounded. Gen. Taylor treated them with the kindness and delicacy due to their sex, and to the honor of an American.

Blincher and Wellington like, Generals Wool and Taylor met after the retreat commenced. Gen. W. rushed between his extended arms, and congratulated him upon his success. Gen. Taylor playfully replied, "Oh, it is impossible to whip us when we all pull together!"

From the Washington Union, April 7.

### General Taylor's Orders in Camp.

We publish General Taylor's "Order," from the field of battle to his victorious division. It is written in fine taste. It alludes, in the most modest terms which he could employ, to the brilliant victory which our troops have won over the immense superiority of the Mexicans, headed by their most distinguished military leader. It pays due honors to the brave officers and troops who live to receive the gratitude of their country. It pays a brief but affecting tribute to those gallant spirits who have gloriously fallen in the battle, but whose illustrious example will remain for the benefit and admiration of the army, and as a monument of the glory of our republic in the eyes of Europe. It treats as delicately as possible all those inexperienced soldiers who fearfully fled, to whom he administers the warning lesson of seeking to retrieve their reputation by future exertions on another field. It is impossible to read the various descriptions of this remarkable battle—where the skill of the commanding general, in selecting his ground and maneuvering his troops, vied with the chivalry of his men—without the deepest emotions.

### ORDERS NO. 12.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,  
BUENA VISTA, FEB. 26, 1847.  
1. The Commanding General has the gratifying task of congratulating the troops upon the brilliant success which attended their arms in the conflicts of the 23d and 24th. Confident in the immense superiority of numbers, and stimulated by the presence of a distinguished leader, the Mexican troops were yet repulsed in every attempt to force our lines, and finally withdrew with immense loss from the field.

2. The General would express his obligations to the officers and men engaged, for the cordial support which they rendered throughout the action. It will be his highest pride to bring to the notice of the Government, the conspicuous gallantry of particular officers and corps, whose unwavering steadiness more than once saved the fortunes of the day. He would also express his high satisfaction with the conduct of the small command left to hold Saltillo. Though not so seriously engaged as their comrades, their services were important and very efficiently rendered. While bestowing this just tribute to the good conduct of the troops, the General deeply regrets to say that there were not a few exceptions. He trusts that those who fled ingloriously to Buena Vista, and even to Saltillo, will seek an opportunity to retrieve their reputation, and to emulate the bravery of their comrades, who bore the brunt of the battle, and sustained against fearful odds the honor of the American flag.

The exultation of success is checked by the heavy

sacrifice of life which it has cost, embracing many officers of high rank and rare merit. While the sympathies of a grateful country will be given to the bereaved families and friends of those who nobly fell, their illustrious example will remain for the benefit and admiration of the army.

By order of Major General Taylor,  
W. W. S. BLISS, Asst. Adj. General.

### Another Victory! Later from Santa Fe.

The Insurrectionists Defeated!—A Brilliant Action—Gen. Bent's Attainment confirmed.

St. Louis, March 29.  
An express arrived here from Santa Fe this evening, which brings interesting news.

The Mexican insurrectionists, after their outrages at Taos, were swelled by new recruits to the number of 2000. Emboldened by the success of their first unexpected rising, and in pursuance of the plans originally proposed, they marched upon Santa Fe, which they hoped to surprise in its comparatively defenceless state, as neither the fort nor block houses had been completed.

Capt. Morris' command, however, having received intelligence of their approach, left the city, and took position in an admirably located spot in the valley of Mora, thus guarding the approaches to Santa Fe.

Here they awaited the Mexican insurgents, and upon their arrival a brilliant action commenced. Capt. Morris and his men behaved with the utmost coolness and gallantry, and the result was a decisive victory. The Mexicans were totally defeated and routed, with a heavy loss in killed and wounded, and the survivors precipitately made good their retreat. The American loss is not stated.

The assassination of Gov. Bent is fully confirmed. Twenty-five other Americans were killed at the same time.

### Later from New Mexico. Col. Doniphan in possession of El Paso. Another Battle going on!!

The Artillery not arrived—Contemplated movement on Chihuahua—Portugals of Morin's Victory—Captain Headley Killed—Seven Americans Wounded.

The accounts from New Mexico which have reached us, are from El Paso to the 12th January, and Santa Fe to Feb. 3d.

Col. Doniphan was still in possession of El Paso, waiting to be reinforced by the coming up of his expected artillery. As soon as it arrived it was his intention to move directly upon Chihuahua.

At El Paso nothing had been known of the change of Gen. Wool's position, and Col. Doniphan was still under the impression that they were co-operating.

James Magallon was still at large at Chihuahua, and had not been tried for treason.

The battle fought by Capt. Morin (before reported killed) and his command, took place 25 miles from Santa Fe. At the first volley discharged by our troops, 36 of the Mexicans were killed, the rest were thrown into confusion and precipitately fled to the mountains.

Capt. Morin followed up his advantage with decision, pursued the enemy, and devastated the valley of the Mora, burning every thing in his path. The people, terrified, fled to the mountains also, where death in the shape of starvation awaits them—a horrible but just retribution for the sanguinary massacres which they contemplated.

When Mr. Caldwell, who brought the express from Santa Fe to St. Louis, left the former place, he heard heavy reports of artillery in the direction of the Mora, and doubtless another battle was progressing; but no particulars were received.

Mr. C. thinks that the Mexicans must have been beaten worse than before, as our troops were fully prepared, flushed with success, burning for revenge, and in high spirits.

At the first battle Capt. Headley was killed, and seven wounded on our side.

Nothing had been heard of Capt. Sablette or his whereabouts.

### Santa Anna's Story.

A copy of the Matamoros flag for March 24th has been received at New Orleans. It contains two of Santa Anna's letters, translated from papers of Victoria de Tamaulipas. They show how complete was his discomfiture, and how terrible his loss at Buena Vista. He repeats the old falsehood that he had nine thousand men and twenty-seven pieces of artillery in the action.

To Gen. Don Cipriano Velazquez.

AGUA NEUVA, Feb. 25, 1847.  
My Esteemed Friend—The haste with which I sent off the last express to the government, hindered me from writing to you the news of the deeds of arms. We have fought for two whole days. The enemy awaited us at a point called the Narrows. The battle of the 23d was particularly bloody on both sides; but it was impossible to take the principal position of the enemy, which is another Thermopylae, although we drove him from five positions, and took two banners and three guns. The blood ran in torrents, and it is calculated that both armies lost three or four thousand men in killed and wounded. Our bayonet charges resulted in the death of hundreds, but the enemy could not be completely routed on account of the strong position he occupied. We gave him to understand that the Mexican soldier can fight bravely, breast to breast, and without being deterred either by strength of position, or by brokenness of ground, or by hunger and thirst, which he suffered with heroic resignation. The strength of the enemy was nine thousand men and twenty-seven pieces of artillery.

We have to lament the death of Col. Berra, Lt. Col. Aubone, and the commanders of battalions and squadrons, Luis de Rio, Pena, besides other officers Gen. Lombardo, Gen. Angel Guzman, Col. Brito, Col. Rocha, Lt. Col. Gallozo, Montecados, Andrade, Jicotear, Ojuna, Burre, Onate, and other chiefs and officers are wounded.

I lost my horse by a gunshot in one of the first charges. We are destitute of necessities for the wounded, and I therefore charge you to send us immediately the provisions in your place, so that they may meet the army, which has done its duty and saved the honor of the national arms. God and Liberty!

SANTA ANNA.

To His Excellency D. Razon Adams.

AGUA NEUVA, Feb. 26, 1847.  
My Dear Friend—The hurry in which I wrote my last letter prevented me from sending you a copy of my dispatch to the government, and the general order issued to the troops on the field of battle. I now send it, and suppose the triumph of our arms has been celebrated in your town. The want of supplies, together with the dysentery, which broke out in the army, compelled me to listen to the opinions of the generals and chiefs of the army, and regulate my operations accordingly. They unanimously determined that the army ought to fall back on points where supplies might be had. I have, therefore, determined to retire by way of Ciudad, Venegas and Matamoros, where I can establish a hospital for the wounded, who amount to more than 4000, and also for the sick; after which I will return and seek the enemy, provided the government furnishes the necessary resources.

I have informed the government to this effect under the present date. I have taken occasion to state, as all the world should know it, that the treason of a native Mexican prevented me from gaining a complete victory over our invaders. A soldier from the regiment of carabiniers, a native of Saltillo, deserted from Encarnacion and informed Gen. Wool of my approach. Gen. Wool precipitately struck his camp, abandoning a part of his train and some provisions, and occupied the impregnable post of Angostura, which it was impossible to reduce, notwithstanding the great advantage gained by our troops, who took five of their positions, two stand of colors and three pieces of artillery. God and Liberty!

SANTA ANNA.

## VERMONT PHENIX.

Brattleboro, Thursday, April 15, 1847.

### The War News.

The capture of Vera Cruz and the route of Gen. Juan d'Ulla by the army under the command of General Scott, an account of which will be found in another column, is an achievement which reflects honor upon American soldiers, and will add a little to the previously acquired reputation of General Scott as an able and skillful commander. This is the first time since our existence as a nation that our troops have been called upon to make a regular systematic attack upon a fortified place, and the complete success which has attended the enterprise cannot be otherwise than flattering to the pride of American citizens, however much they may regret the circumstances and condemn the policy which called for this display of military prowess, and the consequent effusion of blood.

The capture of Vera Cruz is not calculated, perhaps, to make such a vivid and startling impression upon the public mind as the more slowly but more steadily prosecuted campaign of the day before yesterday. But in all that pertains to correct military tactics—and success since their overthrow—the achievement of Gen. Scott is not surpassed by any on record. His preparations were made with prudence and forethought, and all his movements were systematic and soldier-like. He seems to have anticipated each difficulty, and to have provided adequate means for overcoming it.

There is still another view of this victory that humane men will not fail to observe, which, while success attests the military qualifications of the Commanding General, bears equally conclusive testimony to the goodness of his heart. We refer, of course, to the small sacrifice of life compared with the magnitude of the work he accomplished. Military greatness should be estimated by promptness of execution with the least possible expenditure of life and treasure. When measured by this standard, Gen. Scott can not fail of receiving a high rank among military chieftains. We are more than ever confirmed in the opinion, by recent events, that the war is drawing near its close—at least, that we shall have no more serious battles. The enemy may risk another engagement at the city of Mexico, but with very slight hopes, we should think, of any different result. If they could not successfully defend their stronghold, San Juan d'Ulla, or overcome with their whole army the little band of five thousand volunteers at Buena Vista, they can hardly expect to oppose successfully the united operations of General Scott and Taylor upon their Capital. We hope for the best.

### Connecticut Redeemed!

The election held in the "Land of Steady Habits" on Monday, the 5th inst., for the choice of State Officers and Members of Congress, has resulted in the complete triumph of the Whigs. The majority for Judge Bissell, the Whig Governor elect, over all others, is 600 or 700, and his plurality over Whiteley, his Locofoco opponent, is 3500 or more. The Whigs have also elected their entire delegation to Congress, by majorities ranging from 500 to 1000. Locofoco votes—The State stands 13 Whigs to 8 Locofoco—last year 10 Whigs to 11 Locofoco. The House of Representatives stands 121 Whigs to 92 Locofoco, and 6 yet to be heard from. A full House consists of 220 members. Last year, the Locofocos had a majority of 6 or 8. The result is just what might have been expected from the good old Whig State of Connecticut, and is any thing but complimentary to the Polk Administration at Washington. The war was made the test question of the canvass.

### Rhode Island—All Right!

Returns have been received from nearly the whole State, and the result may be summed up as follows: Elisha Harris (Whig) is elected Governor by a handsome majority.

Both branches of the Legislature are also strongly Whig. Henry V. Cranston (Whig) is re-elected to Congress in the Eastern district. In the Western district there is no choice. The vote is, for Updike (Whig) 1094; Thurston (Locofoco) 1016; Arnold (Whig) 406; Scattering 200. A plurality of votes on the second ball, when Wilkins Updike, the regular Whig candidate, will undoubtedly be chosen.

THE KNICKERBOCKER FOR APRIL is one of the best numbers of this time-honored Magazine we have read for many a day. The first paper, by John E. Warren, entitled "Tropical Ornithology," is an interesting treatise on the various species of birds which inhabit the tropical regions. "Running a Blockade during the last war" is a graphic yarn by Ned Budline, showing how the Yankee captain of a privateer outwitted a whole fleet of British men-of-war. The following "Epigram on an ugly woman sitting for her Daguerrotype," by John G. Saxe, the Vermont Poet, is not bad:

"Here Nature in her glass (the woman self) Sits gazing 'making faces' at herself; And while she scans her clumsy features o'er, Repeats the blunders that she made of yore!"

"The House-Hunter's Family," a tale of New York, was doubtless written expressly for the benefit of married ladies, and illustrates the utter selfishness and unfeeling treachery of some women. "The Saint-Leger Papers" are already too well known to need any comment. "The Girl Student" is a scientific paper upon the voice and phenomena of a wonder of the ocean, by Stuart Perry. It combats the idea that it is caused by the trade winds, and is worth reading. "Our Cousin, the School-mistress," is a capital bit at the upper crust notions of the exclusives. "The Editor's Tale" brings up the rear with the usual sort of fat things.

FIRE AT WILLIAMSVILLE.—We learn that the building occupied as a store and dwelling-house by Mr. Ward, of Williamsville, was consumed by fire on Wednesday morning, 7th inst., together with most of its contents, and about \$700 in stock lost. Mr. Ward, and family, were barely in time to escape the flames. Loss, \$2000. Insured in the Williamsville Mutual for \$1000.

THE SCHOOL JOURNAL AND VERMONT AGRICULTURE is the title of a new monthly publication, issued by Messrs. Bishop & Tracy, at Windsor, and devoted exclusively to Education and Agricultural interests. Each number will contain 16 octavo pages—one half occupied by each of the two Departments. Terms: For 1 copy 20 cents, 5 copies \$2.00, 10 copies \$3.00, 15 copies \$4.00, any greater number 25 cents per copy. The first number may be found at Mr. Swan's bookstore.

VERMONT AND MASSACHUSETTS RAILROAD.—The Directors held a meeting at Fitchburg on Monday, and located the road in Vermont line, crossing the Connecticut before the house-burned fire at Northfield. The engineers are now engaged in surveying in this vicinity.

SAM HOUSTON stated in New Orleans a few days since, that "Old Rough and Ready was not fit to command a corporal's guard!" Sam Houston and Tom Benton are on horse to the nation—besides being very modest men, very good fellows.

THE MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT.—Two companies of the Massachusetts Regiment of volunteers, under the command of Captains Water and Bell, arrived at Boston on the 13th inst., on board the brigantine Flying & Brothers. They are said to have carried the remains of those in the regular service by their martial bearing. Lieut. Col. Wright, with four additional companies, arrived on the 14th. Col. Washburn passed through Mobile on the 25th ult., en route for the seat of war.

THE ANTI-RACE EXERCISES have again broken out in Columbia county, New York. Several persons have been beaten and badly injured by individuals disguised in the dress of Indians.

There are 15 Banks in New Hampshire. On the 1st of March, they had a capital stock of \$1,738,500; specie, \$141,704 1/2; circulation, \$1,208,129.

YAK COLLEGE.—Judge Bissell, the Whig Governor elect of Connecticut, has accepted the appointment of Law Professor in Yale College, in the place of the late Professor Tilton. He is to enter upon his duties at the opening of the Fall Term.

The Natchez, Miss. Courier says there is a horse-tamer, named Faucher, in that vicinity, who can subdue the wild prairie courser in a few moments, so that the animal will follow him about like a dog. Oh, that we could try his art upon the wild Jacobites who busy so boisterously for the Mexican war! If these animals were tamed down into mere whining, sneaking dogs, the country and the people's ears might again enjoy peace.

### Ordination.

Mr. F. McIntyre will be ordained as Pastor of the Unitarian Church and Society in this village, on Thursday of the present week. Services to commence at 10 o'clock, A. M.

### Correspondence of the Phoenix.

CINCINNATI, Mass., April 5, 1847.

Friend Rhyer: According to my promise to put you down in time now and then, I send you a few lines from this bustling part of Yankeeedom. Springfield, with the surrounding region, is growing into one of the most important inland places in New England.

On Connecticut river, six miles above Cabotville, is a new factory village laid out. The dam is already built, and the water power is about ten times greater than that at C. The site is chosen principally by an English company, and they are now commencing erecting mills and dwelling houses this season.

At Hadley Falls, five miles above this place, on the Connecticut, is an immense water-power. And arrangements, it is said, are being made to employ it in manufacturing operations. So that the crystal waters of the Green Mountains and the Granite Hills, which from primeval ages have been useless to the ocean, will ere long be made to turn hundreds of thousands of spindles; and you will have another Lowell of something superior, within three hours' ride from the iron horse, which the people here hope soon to see dashing down from the borders of Vermont.

The sturdy farmers of Windham county will not fail to see the benefits that are to result to them from these cotton presses—an excellent market for their products, with a rapid communication over the iron track along the level banks of the Connecticut. By the early start, the young get fresh milk here in season for coffee at breakfast. The plough deep—there's a good thing coming, boys!

An unpleasant thought may, however, strike some of the lady, namely—when all these towns and villages are in motion, there will not be girls enough left in Vermont to milk the cows or make berry pudding. A sorry time that for bachelors, unless they offer the girls more permanent and substantial inducements to stay at home than they have for going to the factories. And this object it will at length be less difficult to effect: for our factories are filling up more and more with Irish girls and other foreign help, who come in starting multitudes to our shores, ready to work at any price; and whose constitution and habits of life make them better able to endure the toil and confinement of thirteen or fourteen hours a day in the airy atmosphere of a cotton mill, than are those accustomed to the healthful exercise of the farmer's home, and to the pure air of your hills.

An unfortunate incident occurred here last week. A young mechanic, three or four-and-twenty, in the occasional habit of drinking, went home intoxicated; and taking of fence at something his wife said or did, he swore he would be revenged upon her. He accordingly loaded a pistol, and deliberately shot himself in the side. He lingered a day or two in a horrible condition, and died, "as the fiddlers say." A sad commentary on the evils of intemperance.

Among other "men of note" here, is an old Doctor who cures cures (Wm. H. Harris, of Philadelphia). He has been a fairing man, and learned his mode of cure of an Indian doctor, in South America. He was sent for to treat a severe case here—some one had baffled the medical skill and the surgical knife of Dr. Warren, of Boston. It is in this case, his applications operate like a charm, especially when the disease is not too far advanced. The editor of the Telegraph here, but upon no fair an ugly caricature of a man, increasing in size and causing him some alarm. In a week from the time the doctor applied his first plaster, the tumor was removed, and in a fortnight the place was entirely healed. Cancer, with its kindred affections, is a frightful disease; and if any thing has been discovered to check its progress, it is the part of humanity to let it be known. Should this meet the eye of any who are afflicted in this way, they might like to consult or visit the Doctor, during his stay here for a few weeks.

Truly yours, S. G.

MR. RHYER: The measures that are in operation, under the late act of our Legislature, for raising the standard of Common Schools, are deserving the greatest encouragement. The proper and thorough education of our children and youth is of the first importance; and the project of an Institute, for the training of teachers, is deserving of high consideration and patronage.

Our talented County Superintendent, Rev. Mr. Brown, has just closed a term of four weeks of his Institute, at Putney. He has had a class of nearly forty young ladies, from the towns in the easterly and northerly parts of the county. And for his untiring zeal, and indefatigable industry and perseverance in his laudable undertaking, he is most justly entitled to the gratitude of the good people of the county. The rapid and most successful progress made in so short a time by the young ladies under his tuition, has been a matter of surprise as well as of pleasure to all who have had the opportunity of visiting the school. The young ladies are entitled to great credit. The progress they had made in the different branches to which they had attended, was abundantly manifest by the promptness and accuracy with which they answered all questions put to them at their very thorough examination. Their style of reading was superior and elegant—their hand-writing neat, and highly improved. As a whole, they appeared to be a class of young ladies of superior talents and acquisitions, well qualified to commence their most laudable employment, as teachers of our children and youth. And it is to be hoped they will receive that encouragement and patronage their merits so richly deserve. These young ladies ought to receive a more liberal compensation for their services than our Districts have in many cases been in the habit of giving to those not at all qualified. It is hoped and expected that our School Committees will duly consider this subject, and afford these teachers a compensation in some measure adequate to their merits.

Putney, April 10, 1847.

MR. RHYER: Our neighbor of the Democrats says "the volunteers must go forth trusting in Providence." They had surely better trust in something besides the representations of Locofoco editors. But the idea that the great Creator of mankind looks upon the business of robbing and murdering mankind, in the most preposterous. He must regard it just as he does all other crimes of robbery and murder. What moral distinction can any fair-splitter point out, between the Mexican war and a Thug warfare? Do they differ in radical character? In the guilt of the crime? In any other way than as horse-stealing differs from hen-stealing plundering?

SEVEN DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.—The packet ship Washington, bound for Boston on Saturday morning, in twenty days from England, has brought us a very important news. We glean a few items from the Boston Courier.

The price of cotton has fallen 11d. Business continues dull, both in the commercial and in the manufacturing districts. Several ships have arrived in New York. Breadstuffs and provisions are lower, on account of the arrival of immense quantities. American free sweet flour brings 40c to 41c; India corn, 1s 2d, less than our last arrivals. The demand for flour in the Continent is not so great as it was some time since.

Parliament is still hammering away at Irish Relief measures. The bill to appropriate £2,000,000 has received the Royal assent, and is now in the hands of the House of Commons. The bill for the relief of the poor has passed through one reading.

Irish.—The condition of this unhappy island is still awful to read of. The famine is now in its most deadly stage. All classes are emigrating, and in some districts no attention is paid to the spring sowing.

RECENTLY WILL EXTREMELY HIGH. Baron Rothschild has been offered \$2,000,000 to be used in the purchase of breadstuffs in the United States for the people of Ireland; and if there was any profit in the transaction, the surplus was to be devoted to the poor of the city.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT SAKTON'S RIVER.—On Wednesday night, about 11 o'clock, fire was discovered in the Woolen Factory owned by Mr. A. Smith, at Sakton's River village, in this town. It is supposed to have taken its origin from the machinery. The fire broke out about half an hour previous. The factory, Dr. Hume and Wm. Smith were entirely consumed. We understand the stock belonged to Prosper Merrill. Probably less than \$10,000, and covered by an insurance at Hartford of about \$5,000.—Holliston Daily Gazette.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COURT.—The action filed by Wetherbee vs. Ana Marsh, for slander, to which we alluded last week, occupied the Court on Wednesday morning last. Saturday afternoon, the alleged slanderer, that Mr. Marsh had charged Wetherbee with burning his own building, and also with burning Marsh's buildings. Marsh attempted to justify on Wednesday by offering evidence against Wetherbee; but by way of mitigating the damages in case he failed in this defense, he offered evidence to show that Wetherbee's general character was bad—that he had the reputation of an intemperate man, and was at the time reported and generally believed to be the author of the fire at Sakton's River. During the progress of the trial, more than fifty witnesses were examined, and on Saturday the case was argued by Wm. Wilson for the plaintiff, and Mr. Wheeler for the defendant; and was submitted to the jury under an able charge from Judge Parker. The plaintiff proved the speaking of the words by the defendant; but the jury found the defendant not guilty on the charge relating to Wetherbee's buildings, and guilty on the charge relating to Marsh's buildings—awarding the damages for the latter at ten dollars. By the Revised Statutes, the plaintiff also recovers ten dollars costs, while the defendant recovers costs on the charge of Wetherbee. Chamberlain and Foster for the plaintiff; Wheeler and Chamberlain for the defendant.—Keosauqua Patriot, 26.

New York Market, Monday, April 12.—Western brands of flour are selling at \$7.25, in bulk, and \$7.50 in sacks. A 30 lb. barrel is offered for delivery in a few days. Corn is still in great demand. Northern quality readily commanding 1 1/2 to 1.50 cents, and white 50. Southern corn selling at 40 to 50 cents.

### From the Boston Courier, April 7.

### Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad.

The most important debate which has taken place in the House of Representatives, since the present session of the Legislature commenced, or at any rate, that which we conceive to be of most interest to the readers of the Courier, occupied two hours' time yesterday. Some weeks ago it was presumed that a portion of the public felt some curiosity to know what were the opinions of different members, in relation to granting relief for the volunteers of the Mexican war; but we doubt whether the public in general, or even the friends of the volunteers, including Mr. Cushing himself, cared much which way the question should be decided. The next matter which was debated at any length was the Attorney-General bill, and nobody but a few lawyers, or perhaps the friends of the expected candidate for that office, felt any interest in that subject.

But yesterday, the bill authorizing certain railroad corporations to surrender the state scrip, and the loan thereof, to the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad Company came up for discussion, on its passage to a third reading, and excited great interest. It is a subject in which the whole people of the State are directly or indirectly interested, not merely as respects the present investment of dollars and cents, but in regard to future prosperity and much future business.

Mr. GILES of Boston commenced the debate with a sort of general opposition, and moved a verbal amendment, which was carried.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Salem spoke in favor of the bill, and explained that it did not appropriate any money, or authorize the contraction of any new issue of state obligations. He spoke generally as to the safety of the company, and the benefit it would derive from the authority to take the scrip from the Eastern Railroad Company, which that company wished to pay.

Mr. HAYDEN of Boston expressed great confidence in the company, and stated that having paid much and particular attention to this particular case, he had arrived at the conclusion that this bill ought to be passed.

Mr. KELLOGG of Pittsfield was not exactly satisfied, although he might be induced to vote for the bill. He thought it was awarding peculiar privileges to one company, and that the liberty asked for ought not to be granted merely because it was the first to ask. He thought that it had become a fixed principle that the State would grant no more scrip to any railroad, and if so, no road should not be allowed to come in and take up all that has been issued, that is now available.

Mr. PUTNAM of Roxbury was in favor of the bill. Mr. SCHOLER of Lowell opposed the measure, as it granted an exclusive privilege to one company. It was well known that there was an application now under consideration, from another railroad corporation, for a loan of State scrip, and there was not a larger amount available than this bill provides for the transfer of. He was not in favor of making this discrimination to the prejudice of another road.

Mr. WILLIAMS replied to certain suggestions made by Mr. Scholer, and suggested that all cases might not come with equal force before the Legislature. He stated a case hypothetically, in which he supposed two roads to be applicants for favors, one of which should be calculated to carry trade into it of the State and the other to bring trade into it; he did not think they would be equally deserving of encouragement. He intimated, also, that perhaps some applications might be made not so much for the purpose of obtaining encouragement, as for the purpose of preventing others from obtaining it.

Mr. BULLOCK of Worcester, and Mr. SEAR of Boston spoke in favor of the bill, the former alluding to the aid furnished by the State to the Western Railroad, to the benefit of which the building of that road has conferred upon all parts of the State, and to the benefit of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad, which are expected to accrue from building the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad. Mr. Bullough said that if the State had loaned eight millions of dollars to the Western Road, it would have been a gain for the operation.

Mr. CROWNSHIELD of Boston said that he had not quite made up his mind upon the merits of this particular bill, but in consequence of some of the arguments brought forward in opposition to it, he was induced to read a paper which he held in his hand. It was an affidavit signed by a respectable individual, setting forth, in substance, that while traveling, lately, he had been witness to a conversation between a director of the Connecticut River Railroad Company and another gentleman. The director stated that his company did not want the loan they had asked for, but that their application was sent to the Legislature in opposition to that of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad, and by and by they should propose to the latter to withdraw, on the condition that the Vermont and Massachusetts Company should run their road through Greenfield.

Mr. LUNT of Newburyport commenced a speech in favor of the bill, by remarking that it appeared singular to him, that the opposition seemed to spring up from quarters where the President of the Connecticut River Railroad had happened to be sitting at different times during the forenoon. He spoke at length as to the advantage the trade of the State was to derive from the establishment of the road which this bill was to accommodate.

Mr. WILLIAMS said that in some suggestions which he made a few moments ago, he had no reference whatever to any particular road, but he should not be surprised, after what had been presented by the gentleman from Boston, (Mr. Crownsfield) if what had been suggested should turn out to be fact. He would state, however, that he never heard of that affidavit before it was read to the House, nor did he know of its existence, and he hoped it would not be allowed to affect the minds of any member present. It should be recollected that it was at least but an expert statement, that it ought never to have been read to the House; and he thought it would have been an opportunity to come in with rebutting testimony.

Mr. SCHOL