

TO ADVERTISERS. THE VERMONT PHOENIX has a larger circulation than any other newspaper in Southern Vermont.

There are now but two Republican newspapers in Virginia, and in West Virginia none at all.

Gov. Ames of Mississippi has made formal application to President Grant for aid to restore order in his state.

Hon. Thomas Talbot has written a letter to Major George S. Merrill, Secretary of the Republican State Convention, withdrawing his name from the list of candidates for Governor of Massachusetts.

The Democrats are in ecstasies over the result of the California election. Their candidate for Governor is elected by a large majority, and three of the four Congressmen elected are Democrats.

Some of the Roman Catholic priests in New Jersey, on the Sunday previous to the State election for their pulpits called upon each Catholic voter to scratch the proposed amendment to the constitution forbidding the appropriation of public moneys for sectarian purposes.

The official returns to Alabama show that, with the exception of one county which did not make its returns in the time prescribed by law, the vote for a Constitutional Convention was 77,763, against 80,928; majority for the Convention 17,835. The Democrats have 81 out of the 108 delegates.

The New York Tribune says the charges of dishonesty and incompetence brought against the Republicans are not as effective as they were last year. "All decent people agree that the last Ohio Democratic Legislature was one of the meanest and most worthless bodies that ever sat in Columbus, and the ill odor of that corral of wild cat that came together in Springfield as the result of the uprising of the people against the politicians will linger for years in the nostrils of the Ohioans."

To the list of abuses that call for reform in these days is the much-abused pardoning power that is defeating the ends of justice, and giving direct encouragement to the worst class of outlaws that infest the community. In New York, for instance, Gov. Tilden, within a few weeks, has set at liberty more than seven criminals, convicted of burglary, arson and manslaughter, for no good reason made known to the public. When political influence and sentimentalism are found on the side of the horse-breaker and the murderer, it is time that a limit should be put to the "discretionary" pardoning power.

The Record thinks it discovers in a recent item in the PHOENIX, regarding the refusal of the Central Vermont Railroad to run special Sunday trains to the Lake Pleasant camp-meeting, not only a bling at the road, "but also at Sabbath observance and religion itself." The Record is too keen-sighted, altogether, and how it can discern so much meaning in our few words we are at a loss to discover. The PHOENIX claims the right to speak for all sects and parties, and in penning the anonymous paragraph we simply give attention to the indignation felt by many Spiritualists and others (among the others being not a few of Brother Chandler's own religious faith), toward the managers of the road in refusing to provide means for attending the Sunday meetings at Lake Pleasant. Since there was no other adequate means of reaching the lake, and since other roads were running special trains for the public accommodation, we thought, and still think, that those desiring to go from here had reason to feel indignant. We know, and are glad, that it is contrary to the general policy of the Central Vermont road to run trains on Sunday, but it is not many years since we attended a Millerite camp-meeting at South Vermont by an excursion train on Sunday, and we are informed that a circus company was lately furnished transportation across the State on the first day of the week. Besides, do we not have a Montreal train passing through Brattleboro every Sunday morning? All we ask for Spiritualists is that they be treated as well as other people. It strikes us that if Beecher preaches at Lake Pleasant on a week from next Sunday, or if Moody and Sankey hold Sunday services there, a great many Brattleboro people will want to attend, including, no doubt, our clerical friend of the Record. The question is, would he insist upon walking or going by private conveyance rather than ride behind an unscrupulous locomotive, when it would take him but one-third the time and at less expense?

A SENSATIONAL SUICIDE.—Our exchange brings fuller details of the strange and dramatic suicide of a young Italian, at New Rochelle, Conn., on Tuesday. The actor in the tragedy was Pietro Valeri. He was strikingly handsome, only 22 years old, a native of Rome, and a fellow student with the great artist, Fortuny, Rembrandt and Zuccato. He has been resident in New York for four years, and he had exhibited paintings at the national academy which had met with praise, and altogether he was thought an enviable young artist. His paintings were on somber subjects. The first he exhibited in this country was a Florentine drawing, showing the head of her husband's mistress, murdered at her instance, which she had ordered her husband's ruffian and was about to send him. He had no home, was lonely, brooding, subject to dreams and delusions. He had been for some days visiting his friend, Doremus, on City Island, to overcome a belief that had haunted him some time that he was pursued by omens. On the fatal day, he attended a picnic, and it was noticed that he was notably melancholy, yet he enjoyed the feasting and the fun, and was so much taken by a story about Daniel Webster that Dr. Doremus translated it into Italian for him. After several guests had sung songs and made little speeches, Valeri suddenly asked permission to recite in Italian. His listeners, relying on the turf around, all interested, though few understood a word of the lines of Phœdra, which he was uttering. His action was wonderfully vivid; he kissed a locket once or twice during the recitation, and his audience supposed illustrations of the lines. At last, however, "kissed who judges, will judge this act of mine," he placed a pistol at his head and fired, falling on his face. So wonderfully was this wrought into the dramatic recitation that the group hesitated a moment between horror and admiration, and many had even begun to applaud and exclaim, "Wonderful!" when Dr. Doremus sprang forward, crying "Great God! he has really shot himself!"

Another Negro Massacre.

The work of negro slaughter seems to have again commenced at the South, this time at Clinton, Miss. As near as we can learn, the particulars are these: "According to a wide extended notice throughout Hinds county, Miss., a mass republican meeting was assembled at Clinton, last Saturday, and the members of nearly all the republican clubs in the county were in attendance, with many women and children. A barbecue was announced and arrangements made to feed 3000 persons. Nearly this number were in attendance. Careful precaution was taken to have an orderly and successful meeting. The Clinton authorities had appointed many special police and the regulations prohibited the sale of intoxicating liquor. At half past 1 o'clock, p. m., the speaking commenced on the grounds, and the democratic speakers being on the ground and asking for a division of the time, in the interest of peace and good feeling their request was granted and a joint discussion was fixed between Judge Johnston, the democratic candidate for state senator, and Capt. H. Fisher, editor of the Jackson Daily Free Press. Johnston to speak an hour, Fisher to follow in an hour and a quarter, and Johnston to close in a quarter of an hour. Johnston made a liberal and courteous speech, and Capt. Fisher took the stand and congratulated the audience on the auspicious opening of the campaign in the county and expressed the hope that the same good feeling would characterize all their meetings. His congratulatory address on the conservative tone of his remarks, and said he would be glad to see such meetings generally held. The republican party wanted peace and harmony to prevail, and he should say nothing that would contribute to this end. Capt. Fisher spoke in this strain about eight minutes, when he spoke the outskirts of the crowd leaving to go to the scene of a difficulty, about 50 yards distant. The speaker named, and urged the audience to remain, but excited words drew most of them away, and he stopped speaking to await their return. In about three minutes a pistol shot was fired in the crowd, and quickly another, and in a moment fifty shots seemed to be discharged. The wildest confusion ensued. Men, women and children broke loose from their hilchings and joined in the stampede. In the course of 15 minutes exceeding 500 shots were fired, and three whites and four colored persons were wounded. A large majority of the blacks were unarmed, having been cautioned against carrying weapons to the meeting. The colored men were wholly unthought by them, and they fought in self-defense. By 6 o'clock not a colored man was to be seen on the ground. Armed whites came out from Clinton and took possession of the ground. At the same time a Vicksburg train brought armed men from Edwards and Bolton. Saturday night 500 armed white men occupied Clinton and there was quiet. The next morning at daybreak, the Vicksburg train, 200 or 300 men were there, commenced slaughtering the negroes. All the colored men they could find were shot down. A dozen or more were killed in cold blood. Armed bands organized and scoured the country, and the work of slaughter went on. It is estimated that 50 men were killed in this way in the county on Sunday. Those who were not killed had to flee to the woods and swamps for protection. A complete reign of terror possesses the country. Colored men for two days have been hourly arriving and reporting new outrages. The civil authorities are utterly powerless to stop the manful bands. Gov. Ames has issued an order commanding the rioters to disperse, and in penning the anonymous paragraph we simply give attention to the indignation felt by many Spiritualists and others (among the others being not a few of Brother Chandler's own religious faith), toward the managers of the road in refusing to provide means for attending the Sunday meetings at Lake Pleasant. Since there was no other adequate means of reaching the lake, and since other roads were running special trains for the public accommodation, we thought, and still think, that those desiring to go from here had reason to feel indignant. We know, and are glad, that it is contrary to the general policy of the Central Vermont road to run trains on Sunday, but it is not many years since we attended a Millerite camp-meeting at South Vermont by an excursion train on Sunday, and we are informed that a circus company was lately furnished transportation across the State on the first day of the week. 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The Mississippi Floods.

Startling as most of the dispatches which come from the lowlands of Mississippi and Louisiana in times of high water, the work which goes forward along the banks of the river, and in the possession more of real grandeur than a great flood in the lower valley of the Mississippi. It rarely or never comes like a sudden "act of God," or on a quick rise in smaller streams taking its victims by surprise and overwhelming them before they have recovered from their first shock of panic, but more frequently starts abundant miles of about the water, and then to the south of the great lakes. It travels hardly more than five or six miles an hour, and is threatened coming is announced days before its arrival. Its progress is watched by vigilant sentinels at every station along the route as the progress of a cumbersome and slowly advancing army by scouts, and the plan of its approach with much forethought and deliberation, and in which a defensive army awaits assault. They set their places in order, remove all movable property from exposed positions, strengthen their earthworks, dikes and barriers, and prepare as best they may to thwart, to shut out and defeat the flood.

The freshets which recently made such havoc along the streams of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, have been forgotten by nearly everybody, except the farmers and villagers who have the best of reasons for remembering them. The lowland planters are now surrounded by the danger for which they began to prepare when those freshets were announced, and it is in large measure due to the timeliness and accuracy of the information which they have received from day to day that they have escaped as lightly as they have. The system through which those warnings are given is well worth some study.

It should be stated at the outset that dangerous freshets in the lower Mississippi rarely come from one source alone. A rise in the Ohio may be offset by a fall in the Indian river, and vice versa. It is necessary therefore that correct information be had of the condition of most of the important rivers in the Mississippi basin before a trustworthy estimate can be made of the proportions which a threatened flood in the lower valley is likely to assume. For this purpose each information signal station on the river has a telegraph to the river towns, whence daily reports of the rise or fall of water are likely to occur at this station, and the Signal Office at Washington is enabled to issue, when necessary, daily bulletins of river probabilities, giving the threatened and assumed water levels, and the danger of freshets. It is not necessary to be in any apprehension of danger. For instance, if the observer at Cincinnati reports a dangerous rise in the Ohio, while the signal sergeant at St. Louis simultaneously reports a rapid and steady fall in the Mississippi, the river country between Cincinnati and Cairo would be warned to prepare for high water, but the country along the Mississippi, below Cairo, would not have great cause to anticipate trouble.

By a "dangerous" flood in these reports is meant one which may be expected to destroy crops or other property along the river. At every river station a gauge is kept for measuring the rise and fall of the river, the zero mark frequently, though not necessarily, being the low-water mark. The "danger" in the report is given in the height at which the river floods the adjacent country. Thus, at St. Louis the zero mark is the low-water mark of 1873, and the "danger point" is thirty feet above zero, at which height "the water commences to damage buildings in the city. Any sudden rise endangers merchandise on levees."

The zero mark of the Cairo gauge is the low-water mark of 1871, and the danger point is forty-one feet higher. With these simple but invaluable arrangements for observing the fluctuations of the Mississippi and its tributaries, nothing but experience which is every year growing better, of the rate at which flood-waters of different heights rise, and the extent to which a given rise at one point will affect the volume of the river below, is needed to enable the Signal Office to foretell accurately the time at which dangerous floods will occur in the lower valley, the heights to which they will rise and the areas of farm lands which will be threatened with inundation. In the best of warnings have been given that it is possible to give, and the destruction of property is unavoidable when a heavy freshet occurs at this season of the year; though unless the accounts which come from the Northwest were greatly exaggerated, the lowland planters will suffer less by the time the river returns to its ordinary level than the Western grain-growers by their sudden drenching. As soon as it is known that a freshet is coming down the river from Cairo, the planters begin to prepare for it, and probably had ample time for making all preparations that were worth the making. (The estimate now is that hardly more than ten thousand bales of cotton will be broken levees were at once diligently repaired, new ones built in some places, and all of them closely watched as the river rose, by great numbers of men ready for any emergency, and under strict military discipline. The enemies against whose incursions they stand guard are of two kinds. If the levee should give way at any point the gap must be quickly filled up, and the purpose thousands of gunny sacks are kept on hand for this purpose, and a sure sign of a conspiracy against her, and a perfect horseshoe with a double shuffle combination, which sent the last rifle flying over our heads upon a tree top, and it was a twig coiled it and fired it off. We had to leave the rifle, although it might as well have been a gun.

Another man who cried Sir Richard in the hands of the crowd, and he was not a little surprised to find that the crowd apparently did give way all restraint she might have exercised before. The mahout was in his place astride her neck, and he gave her an awful prod with his iron-pointed stick, which ought to have brought her to reason; but the unlucky thing of that ride was that everything we did to make matters better only made them worse. Poorly as we were, we were not, as I threw her trunk into the air, wheeled about with a scream like a steam-engine, and started off in an opposite direction to the one we wanted to follow, at a rattling pace—at least it rattled us. I never was so nigg that had such a gait before. Sir Richard looked as little disturbed as he could, and said in a serene voice, "What is the largest and finest elephant belonging to the company, but she is rather young and a little frisky sometimes." I thought so, for at that moment we struck into a wood, and not abating her pace in the least, or trying to follow any path, smash we went among boughs and trees and great swinging vines, anyone of which getting entangled in the twigs, she would have paid it off and left us hanging or falling like monkeys in a cage.

While all these preparations go forward the mahout, who sits on the back of the elephant, and the one who put the rope around the neck of the cashier, was caught in his hanging or falling like monkeys in a cage.

A Night Aboard an Elephant.

Admiral Stockton has been in these waters before, and is acquainted with a lot of the tipsy bolts and nabobs on shore. As soon as it was known that he was on board the *Essex*, he came one of the directors of the *Essex* India company, a puffly old Englishman, fat and stout, in a military and naval uniform, and then we were both invited—i. e., being second in the command, was entitled to some respect—go on a tiger hunt the next day and to dinner afterwards. The admiral was greatly delighted at the plan and so was I. The next morning at five o'clock, and in the early hour, each with rifle, pistol, and sharp knife, for one may expect to need all sorts of weapons in a tiger hunt. Sir Richard, (he was a baronet,) met us in very good spirits, and said that the natives living outside of the eastern quarter of the town had been very much scared the night before by a big, old, mauling tiger, who had been prowling round—and when they have once had a collar off a native said he, in a cheerful tone as if a native were a sheep, "they always prefer that kind of meat afterward. We will see if we cannot put an end to his life."

We drove, in a light dog cart, several miles out of the city, to a spot where we were to find an elephant, and most two gentlemen who had also been invited. They seemed pleasant enough, and we took a glass of beer together, while Sir Richard stepped out to see after the elephant. Pretty soon he came back, rubbing his hands, and remarked that our nap seemed to be a little out of sorts, but he thought she would correct itself all right.

I forced my way in the right place that they but tigers here with the elephant. The latter rises like his mortal enemy, and always fights him furiously. The hunter sits in the howdah on the back of the elephant, and while that faithful animal amuses the tiger with a lively play of feet and tucks, he shoots the tiger, which is a very good chance. The tiger might be a complete success, but he could not but offend the tiger, and he would go into transports of rage and kill us. I suppose, he went into a tone of sublime patience, "this is one of the fits of rage elephants often have, but they always get over them."

"I hope they do," said the officer with a faint blush of irony in his voice. "I have been told that they sometimes know it to take a hundred and fifty rifle balls to kill an elephant, and before we could finish her she would go into transports of rage and kill us. I suppose, he went into a tone of sublime patience, "this is one of the fits of rage elephants often have, but they always get over them."

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Local Intelligence.

Brattleboro. P. T. Baranum is to open the lecture course Oct. 7.

The village schools commenced their fall term on Monday.

Rev. J. Jones has sold the Clark H. Reed place on Green street to E. M. Douglas for \$2500.

On Sunday next the hour of evening service in St. Michael's (Episc.) church will be changed to 7 o'clock.

The Brattleboro Savings Bank is to be removed to the location lately occupied by H. E. Taylor's hat store.

No further spread of the Texas cattle disease has occurred in this town, and the affected cattle are doing well.

Rev. C. W. Wallace, D. D., of Manchester, N. H., will supply the pulpit of the Centre Congregational church next Sunday.

General S. P. Banks will deliver the annual address of the Connecticut River Valley Agricultural Association at Claremont, Sept. 15.

O. J. Pratt has just received his usual large and well selected stock of dry goods and carpets for the fall trade, and prices are extremely low.

The Rev. Dr. Hull of Montpelier will officiate in the Episcopal church next Sunday. Morning Service, 10-30. Evening prayer and sermon, 7 o'clock.

The Baptist society of this village has extended a call to the Rev. Horace Borchard of Chicago, who has occupied the pulpit for the last two Sundays, and he has accepted.

Phoenix Hose Company, in practicing for the North Adams muster, Wednesday evening, with only eight men on the ropes, ran a quarter of a mile and laid 300 feet of hose beyond, in one minute 30 seconds.

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Brattleboro.

P. T. Baranum is to open the lecture course Oct. 7.

The village schools commenced their fall term on Monday.

Rev. J. Jones has sold the Clark H. Reed place on Green street to E. M. Douglas for \$2500.

On Sunday next the hour of evening service in St. Michael's (Episc.) church will be changed to 7 o'clock.

The Brattleboro Savings Bank is to be removed to the location lately occupied by H. E. Taylor's hat store.

No further spread of the Texas cattle disease has occurred in this town, and the affected cattle are doing well.

Rev. C. W. Wallace, D. D., of Manchester, N. H., will supply the pulpit of the Centre Congregational church next Sunday.

General S. P. Banks will deliver the annual address of the Connecticut River Valley Agricultural Association at Claremont, Sept. 15.

O. J. Pratt has just received his usual large and well selected stock of dry goods and carpets for the fall trade, and prices are extremely low.

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