march of a great commercial corporation and its eight or ten millions of people have gone to swell the immense congregation of British subjects in India. But what do you think was the cause of the war which has just ended in the swallowing up of the kingdom of Burmah? The whole history of human contests, since the dispersion of the family of man upon the plains of Shinar, exhibits no such national provocation followed by such a national punishment. Political arithmetic contains no such sum as that which drove England to this unwelcome measure. Had we not the most irrefragable evidence, we might well refuse credence to this story of real rapacity. But the fact is indisputable that England went to war with Burmah and annihilated its political existence for the non-payment of a disputed demand of £990. So says the London Times, the authoritative expositor of the opinions and policy of England. "To appreciate correctly," says that impersonation of British feeling, "the character of this compulsory bargain, the reader must recollect that the sum originally demanded of the Burmese for the indemnification of our injured merchants was £990. And Lord Dalhousie's terms, even when the guns of our steamers were pointed against Rangoon, comprehended, in consideration of the expenses of the expedition and of compensation for property, a claim of only £100,000." Well does it become such a people to preach homilies to other nations upon disinterestedness and moderation.

And, in a similar spirit of *exclusive virtue*, we have had another specimen of British meddling interference with the concerns of this country, in the form of an address from the female aristocracy of England to the women of the United States upon the subject of slavery, marked with that modesty and practical charity which ought to characterize such an interposition in the concerns of a distant country, which the actors do not understand, and cannot benefit. One would suppose there were objects enough of distress in England to engage all their sympathy, and to command all the assistance which the women—and the men, too, titled or untitled—can furnish. The London Times told us, not long since, that there were one hundred thousand persons in the city of London, "the centre and core of British civilization," who rise every morning without knowing where to get a meal during the day, except from a "*passing job or a crime.*" And this frightful picture is not overcharged, as all know who have been there. Can any man truly say this, or any thing like it, of our country, north or south? And I have seen more wretchedness in one of the proud capitals of Europe than I ever saw in our favored land, among bond or free. As to starvation, nobody can starve here, white or black, unless he wilfully keeps his mouth shut. And I think that publications originating in an excited imagination, or in some worse motive, giving the most exaggerated descriptions of the sufferings of slavery, and thus exciting false impressions both at home and abroad, should be discountenanced by every true-hearted American.

These English ladies of high caste cannot go into their own streets to relieve the misery that surrounds them. Out upon these pharasaical pretensions! "A slovenly, unhandsome corse cannot come" "betwixt the wind and their nobility." I have no respect for that self-boasting charity which neglects all objects of commiseration near and around it, but goes to the end of the earth in search of misery, for the purpose of talking about it.

Mr. President, since my earliest years, and where I could, I have rebuked the unworthy course of the British press and people towards this country. And for the expression of this natural feeling of indignation I have been often denounced for belligerent propensities, and for a wish to involve us in a war with England. Nothing could be more untrue or unjust than this charge.

I never wanted a war with England, but felt as an American ought to feel, though for many years there was a kind of infatuation upon this subject, a shrinking from English boasts and English taunts, which marked a portion of our people, as acquiescence. For myself, the opinion of England is no more than the opinion of any other nation, and I deprecate that sensitiveness which would lead us to watch with jealous earnestness the indications, though it were our duty to submit to them in silence elsewhere, of the views entertained of this country, of its conduct, policy, and institutions. Let us go on, enjoying in a spirit of thankfulness the blessings we have received from Providence, doing our duty openly, honestly, and with a general confidence in human nature, and also with a belief in its progress, and with a heartfelt sympathy for the struggles of the oppressed bowed down by centuries of tyranny. And let us fulfil our *manifest destiny* in no spirit of aggrandizement or of propagandism, but fearlessly and rightfully. And I have been much pleased to see that recently the assaults of the British press have been met in a proper spirit by our own, and especially by some of the great journals in New York. May they go on in the good work.

Mr. UNDERWOOD addressed the Senate at some length. His speech, which is kept for revision, will be published hereafter.

Mr. MANGUM. I desire to know when this resolution was introduced?

The PRESIDENT. This morning.

Mr. MANGUM. It has involved a great deal of discussion, and I would suggest the propriety of postponing the discussion until we shall have before us the information called for by the resolution.

Mr. WELLER. There is no probability that the Senate will act upon this resolution to-day, and I therefore move that its further consideration be postponed until Monday next.

THE PRESIDENT. The Chair would inform the Senator that the resolution is only under consideration by sufferance, and not by any rule of order. The Senator from Virginia presented the resolution, and made his remarks upon it before it was properly under consideration.

Mr. WELLER. There being no objection interposed to the reception of the resolution, it was of course before the Senate, and is now under consideration.

The PRESIDENT. By general consent only.

Mr. WELLER. I move now to postpone its further consideration until Monday next.

Mr. MASON. It was by no means my intention to provoke a discussion of the elaborate character which has ensued, but to ask for the consideration of the resolution at once. If, however, the Senator from California, or any other gentleman, desires it, I will cheerfully acquiesce in a postponement; but as we shall have a very thin Senate next week, I should prefer its postponement to a day beyond next Monday.

Mr. CHASE. Say Monday week.

Mr. WELLER. I have no objection to postponing it till Monday or Tuesday week. Ordinarily this discussion ought to have taken place when the message of the President was submitted to the Senate; but as several Senators have engaged in the debate, and have discussed a variety of questions in which that section of the Union from which I come is directly interested, I may desire to submit some remarks upon those questions. I therefore move to postpone the further consideration of the resolution until Tuesday week.

Mr. MANGUM. I have no objection to the vote being taken on the resolution to-day. I hope it will be taken to-day. We are calling for certain correspondence which I understand is written out and ready to be sent in. The only difficulty, in my mind, which I wished to suggest when I rose before, was whether we had better debate the subject in the absence of the knowledge of the facts than after we should obtain them. I thought we might have read some interesting chapters from some modern publication quite as interesting, and perhaps as pertinent to the subject-matter, as some of the remarks which we have heard to-day. I do not know what this resolution will bring out, but really it seems to me that none of us know much about the subject-matter that we are discussing. When the information shall be received, then would seem to me to be the appropriate time for entering into the discussion. I have no doubt that the honorable chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, who has of course a proper degree of the confidence of the Administration, did not speak in the dark; but the rest of us must necessarily do so. I suppose this call may as well be made to-day as at any other time; but let us know what we are calling for, and let us know what has been done before we undertake to discuss it. As to this matter of progress up and down, on an inclined plane or otherwise, it may all be very relevant to the matters which will be brought to our consideration by the answer to this resolution; but really I cannot see what pertinency it has to the question. I hope that, if the resolution be not adopted to-day, the discussion will be continued. It will entertain and detain gentlemen. The whole subject can be fully discussed after we get this information. I hope, therefore, my honorable friend from California will withdraw any objection to the vote being taken to-day.

Mr. MASON. I cannot and will not object to any gentleman who desires it continuing this discussion; but, inasmuch as the Senate will be very thin during the next week, I would submit to the consideration of Senators, that if they allow the vote to be taken upon the resolution now, the information asked for will be received from the President within a very few days, and discussion can then arise upon a proposition to refer. I think it better to let the vote now be taken, and the information will be given to us by the President during the next week.

Mr. WELLER. I have no objection to pursue the course indicated by the Senator from Virginia. I therefore withdraw my motion to postpone, in order that the Senate may, if they are so disposed, act upon the resolution now. Then, when the answer of the President shall be received, discussion can continue upon a motion to refer it to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. SOULE. Mr. President, it is too late now to talk of stopping this debate, until the papers sought to be obtained from the State Department shall have been sent to us in compliance with the resolution upon your table. Had that resolution been introduced without the prefatory remarks through which it was announced, and had it been suffered to wait, in due course of business, and in accordance with the rules of this House, until it were called up for discussion, I should certainly be for delaying the consideration of the matters which it involves until we were put in full possession of such facts as might enlighten us on their merits. But, sir, it is no longer in our power to determine what course it had been better for us to pursue. A peculiar character has been imparted to the debate by the unusual manner in which it was initiated, and still more by the flight which it took; and from that character it is not in our power to divest it. And it might seem strange, if not ominous, that I, in common with many of my friends who sit on this side of the chamber, and who may be presumed to feel as immediate and sensitive an interest in the subject which brought it forth, should abstain from all participation in it, it has been deemed advisable that I should say a few words in explanation of our course.

The subject, and the debate which it has given rise to, sprang upon us this morning most unexpectedly. Neither I, nor, as far as I could ascertain, any of the friends who surround me, had the least knowledge that they would be brought forth; and it will have struck you, Mr. President, as it struck every other member of the Senate, that the interests involved in both were of the most serious magnitude and import, and such as we could hardly be presumed to be willing to speak of but in the most temperate and measured terms, considering that the position which we at present occupy as a party, before the country and before the world, would hardly admit of a single word being uttered by us in that connexion which would not be deemed pregnant with meaning and significancy.

Well, sir, we would deprecate, at this juncture particularly, that we had to encounter such exigencies of debate as might hurry us into an unguarded expression of sentiment with reference to so grave a subject. We will like to meet it, sir, with becoming prudence, though not without some considerable degree of freedom; but we will also wish to meet it with a well matured, and, if possible, with a well-concerted judgment. It may be all well for the two Senators who addressed themselves to the question, from this side of the chamber, to have indulged us thus early, and, through us, the country, with a disclosure of their sentiments and views. The honorable Senator from Virginia had full leisure while preparing his resolution to give the subject it embraced that well-balanced consideration which his ponderous mind has bestowed upon it; and the Senator from Michigan who followed him had, it would seem, the privilege of being apprized in time of the movement which was to be made here this morning, and thus of being furnished with ample opportunities for preparing himself, if we may form any judgment from the strikingly elaborate character of his remarks, and from the memorandum out of which he helped himself, that he might present them in that peculiar and taking way of his which so eminently characterizes his productions. But we, who enjoyed none of those advantages, will naturally wish for time to mature our thoughts, and discipline them for debate. At the same time we will desire to meet the question as it now stands, without awaiting what communications it may please the Executive to send us. It will not require a very deep seer to guess what the character of those communications will be. And may we not, as fairly as the Senators who have preceded us, approach the obvious question which they involve without them? I ask leave to renew the motion just withdrawn by my friend from California, to postpone the consideration of the resolution to Tuesday of the week after next.

Mr. BUTLER. I suppose that the State of South Carolina, not being more than three or four days run from Cuba, cannot be indifferent to this question. The topics involved in the discussion are very important. They deal with one of the most important and delicate questions that can ever affect the destinies of this country; and my constituents would not perhaps be satisfied if I were not, at least, to take some part in such a discussion as this. I am not now prepared to enter into the debate. The Senator from Virginia, being chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, has perhaps very properly made his remarks; but since the debate has assumed altogether a character so unexpected, it would not be right that other Senators, equally interested in the question, should not have an opportunity of mingling a tributary at least to the great current of public opinion which is to be made by the debate. If this country is to be influenced by public opinion, let us all, who have opinions, have an opportunity of pouring our tributaries into the stream. When a debate of this kind comes up, I think it ought to arise upon some question upon which we can all deliver our sentiments. I am deeply interested in this matter. I represent a State nearer to Cuba than any other, unless it be the State of Florida. This does not, however, seem to be a fit occasion to go into that subject; but I must take the liberty of saying that if this debate continues it cannot be expected that we shall be entirely silent.

Mr. MASON. I have no desire in the world to curtail this debate, or to discourage it. If the honorable Senator from South Carolina supposes there is any desire on my part, or on the part of any other Senator, to prevent the fullest and most elaborate debate gentlemen may think proper, I am not informed of any such purpose. Sir, I would have given notice of my intention to introduce this resolution, had I supposed that it would involve a debate before the information was received. The matter arose simply thus: Two days ago, I think, it occurred to me that it would be proper to call for the correspondence mentioned in the President's message, and I conferred, as I frequently do, with the honorable Senator from Michigan, who is now the Nestor of the Senate, especially in matters of foreign relations, and informed him of my purpose. I asked him at the same time whether he thought it would be proper for me to preface the resolution, before the vote was taken, by a very few remarks, which I have made, confined to that subject, and that alone. He told me he thought it would be proper, and that he would avail himself of the occasion to make some remarks. I beg Senators to believe that I had no desire to bring a debate unexpectedly upon them. I did not suppose the resolution would lead to any extended debate.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. When I came into the Senate chamber this morning I did not dream of making any remarks on this or any other subject, and the remarks which I have inflicted on the Senate were purely the result of an allusion of the gentleman from Michigan to me on the subject of progress, which had been bandied between us during the last session; and I thought it was a fit occasion to give him my ideas of human progress, and I did so.

I have not said a word about the question of annexing Cuba. I have said nothing about its importance or its disadvantages to the country; but my people have as deep an interest perhaps as Louisiana and South Carolina in it. And allow me to say that my people are very intimately connected now, and will be more so very shortly, both with South Carolina and the States east of Louisiana, as they have long been with Louisiana herself. If this debate is to go on, I should like very much to hear the gentlemen representing South Carolina and Louisiana and the other Southern States upon it. I would like to call their attention to the influence which this annexation may have on the trade between Kentucky and their States, and to the trade between those States and Cuba.

Heretofore we of Kentucky have been in the habit of supplying ourselves with rice, sugar, and other Southern productions from the lower Mississippi. If you annex Cuba she will want a great many of our horses, mules, hogs, and other productions; and if you will give us the cheap communication of which I have spoken, from the mouth of the Ohio down to Cuba, free of duty, every body will see what immense changes and what deep effects will grow out of that state of things, both in reference to the trade of Kentucky with Louisiana for her productions, and with South Carolina for her productions.

Now, without committing myself—for I have not discussed this view of the subject—in regard to these important matters, for they are of great importance, I have merely thrown out these suggestions in the hope that the representatives of South Carolina and Louisiana who wish to make speeches—and I shall give them an opportunity to do so by my vote—will take into consideration these vital questions of internal trade. I wish them to consider what will be the effect of opening new avenues of trade by the annexation of foreign territory. That such annexation would be very efficient for good or for evil I see plainly; but whether the good or the evil will predominate, I am not yet permitted to see.

Mr. GWIN. Whether the question has been sprung upon the Senate I neither know nor care; but this is certainly an unexpected debate. I have no doubt the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs did not intend to preclude us from an opportunity of delivering our views. When Senators talk of individual States of the Confederacy most interested in this question, I feel bound to say that I represent one more interested than any other, for we send right in sight of the Island of Cuba from two and a half to three millions of dollars in gold every two weeks; and I should like to know what State of the Confederacy is so much interested in the matter of our friendly relations with Spain?

Again, we have questions of our own likely very soon to attract public attention. We may have a troublesome neighbor south of us, for it is said that the French have taken possession of Sonora, and intend to hold it as a province of the French Empire. My friend from Texas (Mr. RUSK) will no doubt be called out on a "buffalo hunt" very soon, if that should turn out to be true. Texas and California will be very apt to look into that question, and think of the propriety of Sonora being annexed to the French Empire. Therefore this resolution opens a great question—the question of what is to be the future foreign policy of this Government. There are other islands beside Cuba in which the United States are interested. There are a set of islands called the Sandwich Islands, which we in California look upon as our summer residence. And when the Senator from Virginia talks about ripe fruit, it ought to be known that that fruit is ripe also, and ready to fall. This resolution, therefore, is very important; and I think, inasmuch as some gentlemen have commenced forming public sentiment, we ought to give others a chance, and let it go over till next week. We can make public sentiment now just as well as when the documents shall come in.

Mr. BADGER. I hope the motion to postpone will not prevail. The honorable Senator from California (Mr. GWIN) says that "we," meaning himself and others, understand pretty well what this document is. Now, I am not in the same happy state and condition with him; I do not know what it is; and if I am to be instrumental, directly or indirectly, in forming public sentiment on this subject, I would rather do it after I shall have had an opportunity of knowing the contents of the document. The Senator from California seems to know it already; I do not. Let the resolution be adopted, and let the document be communicated to us, and then we shall all stand upon an equal footing: and equal justice. I know, is what my friend from California will go for under any circumstances. I hope, therefore, that the matter will not be postponed, but that the resolution will be adopted now.

The motion to postpone was agreed to, and the Senate adjourned.

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES,

Passed at the Second Session of the Thirty-second Congress of the United States of America.

[PUBLIC—No. 2.]

AN ACT to amend the act approved the thirty-first August, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, in reference to the appropriation for continuing the survey of the Mexican boundary.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purpose of continuing the survey of the Mexican boundary, it shall be lawful to use so much of the appropriation provided by the act approved thirty-first August, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, entitled "An act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the Government for the year ending the thirtieth June, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, and for other purposes," as may be required in running and marking said boundary under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, on the Rio Grande, below the town called "Paso," and in defraying any necessary expenses heretofore incurred, or that may hereafter be incurred, connected with said survey.

Approved, December 23, 1852.

[PUBLIC—No. 3.]

AN ACT authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to issue registers to vessels in certain cases.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be and he hereby is authorized to issue a register or enrolment for any vessel built in a foreign country whenever such vessel may have been, or shall hereafter be, wrecked in the United States, and have been, or shall hereafter be, purchased and repaired by a citizen or citizens thereof: *Provided,* That it shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury that the repairs put upon such vessel shall be equal to three-fourths of the cost of said vessel when so repaired.

Approved, December 23, 1852.

PAYING THE PIPER.

FROM THE NEW YORK EXPRESS OF THURSDAY.

THE LAST OF INTERVENTION *à la* KOSSUTH.—It was fondly thought, no doubt, by many of our tax-paying citizens, when the enormous expenses incurred by the Common Council for the entertainment of KOSSUTH and suite were footed by that body, (although, it is true, not without some little compunction,) that that would be the last, and that our city treasury would not be taxed to a greater extent on that score; but it would seem as if in this hope (as in many others of a like character) they were doomed to disappointment; for even at this late day, when Kossuth is well nigh forgotten, we are treated to a *small* bill for board, &c. at the Irving House. This bill (amounting to *only* $3,800) was presented to the Board of Aldermen on Monday evening, in the shape of a resolution authorizing the Comptroller to pay it; which resolution was referred by the Board to the Committee on Finance, who reported, last evening, in favor thereof, and which report, it will be seen, was adopted.

It would seem that the Kossuth Reception Committee, of whom the Mayor was one, appointed that gentleman, with one or two others, to ascertain of Mr. Howard, of the Irving House, what he would board Kossuth and suite for, and the Mayor's report to the Committee was that Mr. H. would do it for *two dollars* per week, each; but when Mr. Howard sent in his bill for $14,299.87, for fifty days board, (from the 11th of November to the 31st of December,) being *only* $286 per day, the Committee were quite taken aback, and sent for the Mayor for an explanation, which he gave, averring that Mr. Howard then said that he was misunderstood, and told the Mayor *two dollars per day*, instead of *per week*. After some considerable delay, Mr. Howard agreed to reduce his bill $1,000, thus effecting a compromise. The Committee then, as if afraid to expose the whole matter to the public, asked an appropriation of only ten thousand dollars, giving out that it was to pay Mr. Howard in full, and with this understanding many of the members voted for the appropriation who would not have done so if it had been known that there was nearly half as much again to be paid at some future day. But this ten thousand dollars, it is now asserted, was only paid Mr. Howard on account.

The report directing the payment of the bill finally passed the Board of Aldermen by a vote of twelve to four. Previous to its passage, however, there was considerable debate, in the course of which Alderman STURTEVANT communicated some information as to the manner in which these extraordinary expenses were incurred. He said:

"He never voted against the payment of any bill incurred by the Hungarians. These men, or a greater portion of them, perhaps in their own country, had never lived at an expense of over sixty-two and a half cents per day; when they arrived here they were sent to one of our largest hotels, and kept at an expense of two dollars per day, and while there they concluded they had the liberty of the city, and went into all sorts of excesses. They would walk up to the bar in the morning, drink a bottle of champagne a piece, and fill their pockets with cigars which cost sixty dollars per thousand, and come in at noon on a rainy day, and lay down on the clean beds with their dirty boots on, and the Common Council were called upon to foot their bills."

A new umbrella entitled the "Mushroom" has just made its appearance in Paris; it has no handle, and sustains itself over the head of the wearer. An adjusting apparatus fastens it to the hat, and when not employed on duty, it may be rolled up and carried in the pocket. What a handy thing for a windy day! Comes a gust—whew! and away go both hat and "umberill" together, parachutting in the air. Oh, yes! we "go in" for the Parisian "Mushroom!" We want about a gross of them.

[*Albany Register.*

The spot on which the Duke of Wellington breathed his last is believed by scholars and antiquarians to be the identical place where Julius Cæsar disembarked with his army nineteen hundred years ago.

A POOR CRETER.—"Long time ago," in New England, dwelt a lady equally renowned for piety, credulity, and courage. As she was in the habit of returning from meeting unattended, some wild fellows formed a project for frightening her, and furnishing themselves with a little pleasant amusement. One arrayed in black, crowned with a pair of horns, and armed with a pitchfork, placed himself behind a tree and awaited her coming. His companions were concealed near by to watch the mischief and participate in the fun. At last came the unsuspecting victim leisurely along, meditating, no doubt, on the discourse to which she had been listening. Out sprang his satanic majesty pro tem., and confronted her.

"Why, who be you?" she exclaimed.

"I'm the devil!" exclaimed the rogue, in a hollow voice.

"Well," said she, in a pitying tone, not doubting, mind you the gentleman's word, "you're a poor *creter!*" and quietly went her way.

We call that true courage, or perhaps, more properly, true faith. With a conscience void of offence, she knew that she had nothing to fear; that she was, in truth, a mate for his betters.

VALUABLE REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.—Pursuant to a decree of the Circuit Court of Rockingham county, Virginia, rendered at the October term, 1852, the undersigned, as Commissioners appointed by said Court, will, on the first day of March, 1853, proceed to sell, on the premises, at public auction, the tract of land belonging to the late Abraham Smith, deceased, and on which he resided at the time of his death.

It is situated on both sides of North river, in the counties of Rockingham and Augusta, about 18 miles from Staunton, and 12 from Harrisonburg, the proposed terminus of the Manasses Gap Railroad, and contains, by recent survey, about 1,023 acres of exceedingly fertile land, constituting unquestionably one of the most valuable estates in the valley of Virginia, being, as it is, well supplied with dwellings and outbuildings of the best quality, under good fence, and in a high state of cultivation.

There are about 50 acres of first-rate meadow, and as much more can easily be made. A large portion of the bottom land consists of a black vegetable deposite from two to six feet deep, which is equal in its fertilizing properties to the best stable manure.

About half the tract is cleared, and the residue heavily timbered. It will be offered for sale entire, and also in four subdivisions, and the sale confirmed in that way in which the largest sum will be realized. These subdivisions contain severally some poles more than 495, 254, 218, and 55 acres, each provided with buildings except that of 254 acres. The tract of 55 acres has also on it a Saw-mill and Grist-mill, with good water-power.

Terms: Bond and approved security for the whole of the purchase money; one-third in sixty days, with interest from the day of sale; the residue in one, two, and three years, and the title retained till the further order of Court.

JOSEPH SMITH, Jr.
C. C. STRAYER,
Commissioners.

dec 25—lawts

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1852.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

Of the history of Christmas and its observances in the olden time, an account is given in a learned and able article in the preceding columns, by a perusal of which hardly any reader can fail to find himself amused, if he be not instructed. The writer dwells with truth as well as force on the diminution of the zest with which the day used to be celebrated by outward pomps and sports as well as in domestic circles. There are some parts of our own country, indeed, in which the day has at no time been marked either by religious ceremonies or festivities. A growing interest in the day has of late, however, been perceptible among us.

To all warm-hearted people it must be a source of satisfaction that in our part of the country at least, the observance of Christmas, instead of waning away and falling into gradual disuse, as it has done since our earliest remembrance of its joys and sports, is, on the contrary, manifestly and steadily reviving. This is well: a token for good; a symptom, a favorable symptom in our social and moral condition. It savors of rest, of settled quiet, of the revival of domestic affection and of kindly, gentle, neighborly feeling amongst us. Amidst the terrors and the dangers of war, or when surrounded and assailed by the worse terrors and deeper dangers of political convulsion, who thinks of keeping holyday? While cannon are thundering, troops mustering, demagogues haranguing, and blood, shed by brother's hands, is flowing down the streets, what loving mother sets up the Christmas tree? what happy group of expecting children anticipate the dawn of day, unable to rest for the hope and the joy that is throbbing at their hearts? Such days may indeed come; and it is not out of place, in the midst of our many blessings, occasionally to remember it. But, thanks be to a beneficent Providence for the bright, the happy contrast this day exhibits throughout our land, from the mountains to the sea.

We congratulate, then, our patrons, our personal friends, our countrymen every where, on this happy CHRISTMAS MORNING.

Its return gladdens the heart, expands the bosom, and brings home to its inmost recesses the remembrance that we are men, and that every human being is a brother. Before the wide-grasping tie that binds us together by a common nature and a common hope, all that is narrow, and exclusive, and selfish, and belittling, shrinks away ashamed. The charity that should grow out of it, if left to its true workings and elevated to its right place within us, will prove too strong for the poor and petty feuds of personal resentment, and will at least mitigate, if it cannot wholly assuage, the malignant bitterness of party hate. Let political opponents go to church together this morning, and as they sit, side by side, in the temples of God, learn to remember that there is a Providence above, in whose sight one warm and generous emotion, one deed of unfeigned kindness, and especially one gracious *act of forgiveness*, is of greater value than the highest display of mental brilliancy or strength and all the triumphs of party.

But, while exhorting others to hear preaching, let us not attempt to preach ourselves. Let us then all remember that winter is nigh, though its severity has been, for a while, postponed; and that there are many in the midst of us but poorly furnished to meet its bitter blast. While our fire burns cheerily, and our board, loaded with plenty, is surrounded by all we love, let us think for a moment upon homes where fire is a comfort but scantily enjoyed, and where to procure the daily meal calls for weary hours of unremitting toil, often reaching far into the night, and again to be renewed with the returning dawn. The ladies, God bless them, have indeed taxed their slender fingers, and called up the exhaustless energies of their ingenuity and skill to tempt us into charity, and lure us to the (too rare) luxury of doing a little good. Their deed is in Heaven; but, after all their pains, and all their winning smiles, and all the glad counting of their little gains, how much, alas, remains behind!

Let us think too upon the CHILDREN—those gems of Nature's hand that gladden alike hearts that beat beneath the russet gown, and those that swell under the lace and diamonds of the wealthiest mother. How their little souls thrill and bound to Christmas joys! Scanty indeed is the purse that does not open *once* a year to the demand of such lips and eyes. Hark at the silvery voices; the shouts of glee; the merry, merry laugh, coming full and free from the very bottom of the heart. O man of five per cent. a month, what would you give for a laugh like that? Does it not breathe freshness and life over the worn and jaded spirit, spent and weary and disgusted amid the dull monotony of every-day existence? Like the bright acacia springing in the desert, like flowers amid graves, those sounds and sights of a pure delight bring back our childhood's days, and for the moment make us young again. Blessings, then, we say again, upon Christmas, its sacred and its social observance, and upon all who love and enjoy it!

DIPLOMATIC SALARIES.

Certain facts interesting to aspiring diplomatists have been brought to light in letters from our Ministers and Chargés abroad, in answer to a circular from Mr. Webster. The Hon. ABBOTT LAWRENCE thinks that the salary of the Minister to England should be $20,000. His own expenses exceeded that amount. Mr. RIVES thinks a Minister at Paris, "with a decent regard to his position" ought to spend at least $12,000. Mr. NEIL BROWN, living as a bachelor at St. Petersburgh, spends $6,000, and thinks the salary should de increased to $12,000. He also says the Secretary of Legation has not a sufficient salary. Mr. FOLSOM, residing at the Hague, estimates his yearly expenses at $13,479.86. Mr. BARRINGER reckons his annual expenses at Madrid at $8,518, after an original outlay of $12,200. Mr. SCHWARTZ, U. S. Consul, estimates the necessary expenses of a Chargé at Vienna at $6,682. Mr. BARNARD, at Berlin, found himself on the 9th of December, 1852, $2,500 beyond his salary. Mr SCHRŒDER, at Stockholm, "considers the resources provided for the Chargé d'Affaires at this place to be sufficient." Mr. BAYARD puts down his annual expenses at Brussels $9,884. Mr. SCHENCK, at Rio, whose children are in the United States, thinks he may save $2,000 a year. Mr. MARSH thinks the Minister at Constantinople ought to have his salary increased.

This information has been elicited in reply to a circular of Mr. Webster sent in compliance with a resolution passed by the United States Senate.

Which travels at the greater speed, heat or cold? Heat because you can easily catch cold.

LIBERIA EMIGRATION AND AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

The New York Courier and Enquirer of Thursday has the following paragraph:

"We are requested to call public attention to the existence and operations of this Association. It is a self-colonization movement among the free colored people for their own benefit. This association was organized in October, 1851, and, having secured the confidence of the leading friends of Africa, the society appointed as agent ABRAHAM CALDWELL, who sailed last March from Baltimore with goods, &c. valued at $1,000. Mr. CALDWELL received from President ROBERTS six hundred acres of land on the St. Paul's river, in trust for his society, and proceeded to erect eight small dwelling-houses and one store-house. Having cleared fifteen or twenty acres, and planted various vegetables for the benefit of settlers, he returned to consult with his association as to future operations. His health is better than it has been for twenty years, and he is enthusiastic in his praises of Liberia."

THE CONDITION OF MEXICO.

Col. RAMSAY read an interesting paper before the American Geographical and Statistical Society of New York, at its monthly meeting held on Tuesday evening. It was announced that this essay would be devoted to showing the best route for opening an inter-oceanic canal through Mexico, but the greater part of it consisted of a description of that country, the manners and condition of the people, and the position of the Government. Col. RAMSAY said:

"If there is any State as to which the American public knows little, it is Mexico at the present moment. Since Mexico has been in the possession of the Spaniards there never was any period in which it has been in a more prosperous condition than now. Its mineral wealth has been developed to a greater extent, and agriculture is receiving an attention from which the agriculturists of the United States might receive lessons, and the manufactures never were known to be so productive or prosperous. The quantity of machinery imported into Mexico now far surpasses that of any former time. The entire country has the appearance of prosperity. In the city of Mexico we see the public buildings and the palaces embellished; the churches are newly painted and adorned, and the streets newly paved. Large and new plazas for driving are opened; and the famous bronze horse, the greatest work of art in America, has been removed from within the old University to the plazas, to the distance of a mile, in order to adorn them.

"There are fewer failures among mercantile men in Mexico, viewed in the same proportion with those in the United States. The whole bane of Mexico is, that there is no person, or scarcely any person residing there, who has any love for the institutions of his country. The Mexicans are patriotic; they love their country as much as the Americans love the United States, but they have no love for their political institutions. They care nothing for their President, their Congress, their Judiciary, or any executive officers. The whole complaint against the President that I have ever heard of, was that he would do nothing; in other words, that he would not violate the constitution, for he is a republican and will not violate the constitution.

"All that Congress does is to thwart the President and pass no appropriation bills. Congress is split up into factions, and no party has the ascendency. If good laws were passed in Mexico it would be in a prosperous condition. Mexico can produce a revenue of from thirty to forty millions, without oppressing the people: but, having no love for their institutions, and Congress doing nothing, the laws are without any force, and are very oppressive. Hence the people, oppressed by some of these laws, have taken means to rid themselves of them by what are called pronunciamentos or revolutions.

I will describe the different phases of revolutions in that country. First an objection is made against the laws for the introduction of foreign goods, and hence they get up on speculation a revolution on the Rio Grande. Merchants from the United States furnishing funds and under a 'hurra' are permitted to get their goods into the country without paying duties. The same thing occurs on the Pacific, at San Blas, for instance, where we have received accounts of a dreadful revolution. These revolutions last three or four days, until the object is gained, and then they die out. I see they have got a revolution up at Tampico and Vera Cruz. Here they complain that the President will not send troops to suppress it; and he said he would not, because he had nothing to do with it. Our impression was that it was directed against the President; but that is not so. In the interior of the country there is another reason, for not only is there a tariff duty on foreign goods, but a tariff between each of the States. Goods manufactured in Puebla, for instance, if taken to another State pay interior duties; and against these interior duties they have raised revolutions elsewhere; but these are only affairs of the moment and soon pass away.

"On two or three occasions they have tried to give a general character to the revolutions. A plan has been made, for example, that Santa Anna should head it, but it is never carried out, for the people say, 'that's not what we have assembled here for.' In Puebla they got up a revolution which lasted only for a day. I happened to be in the palace at that time in conversation with the President on no less a subject than agricultural machinery. Presently a telegraphic despatch was handed to him describing this pronunciamiento, and he read it, and without remark went on with his talking on agricultural machinery.

"I see the English newspapers, in speaking of the terrible condition of Mexico, say that there churches and muskets prevail, but I cannot see what influence the church exerts at this time in Mexico. In the first place, the regular clergy, that own the four hundred millions of dollars, have no christian love for each other, for they are distracted, divided, and cannot act in unity; and the priests of the villages dislike the regular clergy, because they are poor and the regular clergy are rich; and the church has nothing to gain by the revolution. Now as to the muskets. Gen. Arista has reduced that large army to two thousand men; consequently they have no regular troops, and cannot, therefore, effect any revolutions. These revolutions that we read of in Mexico, I can compare to nothing better than if you happened to go into the interior of the United States and pick up a weekly newspaper, which is full of murders and accidents, and steamboat explosions, which would give you an idea of a revolution in the United States.

"And, in fact, the news published from the United States in Mexico, is actually of that character that the Mexican people are afraid to travel through the United States, for they think we are in a terrible state here. When the revolution broke out in Vera Cruz a conducta, with two millions of dollars in silver, was going round it, and was unmolested. Within the last two years no robberies have been committed between Vera Cruz and Mexico. It is precisely the same view which the English take about bowie knives and gouging when they come to the city of New York."

CHARGES OF FRAUD AND MURDER.

The Cincinnati Commercial of the 21st instant has the following statement:

Alonzo and Amasy Chapin, formerly of the firm of Filley & Chapin, large boot manufacturers of this city, and Wm. Kissane, of the firm of Smith & Kissane, pork packers, and James Chandler, of Covington, were arrested yesterday about 12 o'clock, by G. A. Jones, United States Marshal for Ohio, and taken to Columbus on charge of being implicated in one of the most damnable crimes, if true, that we have ever had to record.

Some time last January, Capt. Cummings, brother-in-law of the Chapins, purchased the steamer *Martha Washington*, and put her in the New Orleans trade. On her first trip the Chapins made very heavy shipments on her of what purported to be boots and shoes. It is now said that Capt. Cummings and the Chapins had effected an insurance on the boat and shipments on her, amounting to one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, and that the boxes supposed to contain boots and shoes were filled with rubbish of no value whatever, and that the boat was set on fire and wholly destroyed with a view to recover this immense insurance. Capt. Cummings is now, we learn, in New Orleans, and measures have been taken for his immediate arrest, if it has not already been done. It will be remembered that sixteen persons were lost by the burning of the boat, and we learn the parties arrested are now charged with murder, as well as fraud. Kissane and Chandler are also charged with being parties to the attempted fraud.

DISTRESSING OCCURRENCE.—It is with feelings of the deepest sorrow that we have to record a most melancholy occurrence. The boiler of the steam saw-mill at Waynesboro', the property of JESSE PIPKIN, exploded yesterday morning, killing three white men and two negroes. Mr. Pipkin, the proprietor, was killed, and Thos. Gardner and Wm. Jones; two negroes were badly wounded. Defects of the boiler was the cause of the explosion. Mr. Pipkin leaves a widow and three children to mourn their irreparable loss. Mr. Jones and Mr. Gardner have each left a family in almost destitute circumstances.

[*Goldsboro (N. C.) Patriot.*

Mr. GLIDDON, the archaiologist, in conjunction with Professor NOTT, is engaged in New Orleans in an ethnographical work to be entitled "Types of Mankind," or ethnological researches, based upon ancient monuments, paintings, sculptures, and crania of races, and upon their natural, geographical, philological, and biblical history.

You will not anger a man so much by showing him that you hate him as by expressing a contempt for him.

MEXICAN ANTIQUITIES—MUSEUM OF GEORGETOWN COLLEGE.

On one mild autumnal afternoon, availing ourselves of a few leisure hours, we strolled through the grounds and examined the Astronomical Observatory, Conservatory, the Library of twenty-two thousand volumes, and the well-filled Cabinet of Minerals, Zoology, and Museum of the time-honored and venerable College of Georgetown.

In the Museum, among the curious and interesting collections of coins, medals, and antiques, our attention was attracted to a lithographic print and daguerreotype, presented to the University by his excellency DON LUIS DE LA ROSA, late Minister from Mexico. The print and daguerreotype purport to be correct and striking *fac simile* representations of the famous Zodiac stone of the Aztecs, which was discovered, whilst some excavations were being made, in the principal plaza of the city of Mexico, on the 13th of August, 1790, two hundred and sixty-nine years after the conquest and occupation of the country by the Spaniards under CORTES.

From the patient and extensive researches instituted by distinguished Mexican antiquaries, we learn that the Aztecs devoted the chief and most solemn portion of their dark and ferocious worship to the Sun; and, considering him as the father of nature, they exposed his image, resplendent with silver and gold, within the sacred precinct of their great *teocalli*, or temple, *Quauhxicaleo*, which crested the lofty summit of the rugged and precipitous mountain *Teotihuacan*.

Thither on special and solemn occasions the Emperor, accompanied by the officers of the imperial household and the caciques in grand cortege, repaired, and, with horrible and mystic rites, celebrated the festivals of their fiery divinity, drenching the black sacrificial stone with the blood of human victims. The palpitating hearts, torn from the breasts of the reeking bodies,