Weekly National Intelligencer.

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THE WEEKLY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

NEW BOOK.

THE LIFE AND LETTERS OF STEPHEN OLIN, DD., LL.D., late President of the Wesleyan University. In 2 volumes. New York: Harpers. Washington: Taylor & Maury.

We shall offer no apology for laying before our readers this sketch of the career of a good man, gifted with high intellect, brilliant eloquence, and deep piety; whose sincere humility and Christian charity endeared him to all, and rendered him an honor to the religious body with whom he identified his life and labors.

Descended of reputable ancestry in Vermont, STEPHEN OLIN inherited from nature a hale and robust constitution, together with a herculean frame; but, by intense and unremitting study while at college, and a culpable neglect of hygiene and her organic laws, became an early martyr to nervous debility, and a confirmed valetudinarian in after life.

On the termination of his college studies he removed to Abbeville, South Carolina, where he conducted for some time a flourishing seminary. Here, one day, while in deep contemplation on his prospects, and the great ends of his being, a sensible communication from above appears to have decided forever his future course.

Under a wide-spread beech, while engaged in ardent prayer for light, an answer was given to his petition which solved the great problem of life. The sensation is described as an electric shock, quivering through his whole frame, and thrilling his soul with divine emotion. The effect of his new convictions was profound, imbuing his entire character. A sanctity like that of FENELON ever after pervaded his whole being, and shone forth in every feature of his well-spent life.

At the South Carolina Conference for 1824 Mr. Olin was admitted into the travelling mission, and stationed at Charleston, where he exercised his ministry until failing health compelled him to resort to his native mountain air. On the first Sabbath of his New England visitation he preached at Leicester, in a pine grove, near the centre of the town; and the result of his eloquence fully justified the truth of the observation expressed in the 4th verse of the 6th chapter of St. Mark. Here he fondly hoped to see a revival and a spiritual awakening; but, alas, in vain. Leicester proved a hard soil for Christian culture. Nor is this a cause of wonder. Many of the leading citizens of the township, without being bad men, are described by an affectionate acquaintance as "pretty tough cases," as impervious to the quickening dews of theology as if their consciences were granite rocks.

After much travel in the Northern and Southern States in pursuit of health, Mr. Olin was, in 1826, elected Professor of Belles Lettres in Franklin College, at Athens, Georgia; and in 1828, being ordained elder in the Methodist Church by Bishop McKendree, he became Professor in the University of Georgia, which office he held during seven years—a bright example of moral excellence, and the unwearied advocate of order, system, energy, and industry.

In 1832, on the occasion of his election to the Presidency of Randolph Macon College, he pronounced an inaugural address distinguished by its ability, and which elicited the approbation even of Gov. Tazewell;

"—— non sordidus Auctor
"Naturæ verique——."

He there deprecates the growing neglect of classic studies as an evil omen; and by various and weighty arguments shows the utility and importance of classical learning. Next to the study of Greek and Roman literature and of pure and mixed mathematics, he places intellectual philosophy, and contends that this course, connected with the abstractions and combinations of subtle analysis, presents to the advanced student a discipline calculated to elicit and enlarge the faculties of the highest intellect. In the selection of subordinate studies he makes ample allowance for subjects of practical utility, and concludes by expressing the sentiments and almost the words of Archbishop Hughes, of New York: "I am fully convinced that *we must educate our own youth in our own schools.*"

In the autumn of 1834, having been invested with the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, he shortly after took leave of the faculty and graduates preparatory to a tour in Europe.

Landing at Havre in June, 1837, he travelled extensively in France and Belgium, visiting also England and Ireland. The Doctor draws an unfavorable picture of the state of the reformed churches in France. At Nismes he finds a congregation of Quakers and Moravians, "which sects, like most Protestants in France, pay but "little regard to the Sabbath, and are accustomed to send "their children to Catholic schools conducted by an order "of religious men."

By the way, we have never been able to grasp the complex idea of a *French* Quaker. Imagine a Frenchman—gay, fluent, and volatile, the mirror of fashion and the pink of politeness—*engrafted* on a plain drab coat of formal cut, with beaver and shorts to match, discarding *vous* and *tutoying* "les belles dames," and all the world besides. The components forming the character are so incongruous as to present to the fancy that combination which the schoolmen call an *ens rationis*—a vague idea.

In his travels through Ireland Dr. Olin remarks every where the misery necessarily linked with misgovernment: "In the village of Abbeyfeale, one of the poorest "I have seen in Ireland, there is a Protestant Church of "modern construction kept in good repair, which is never "open, for the good reason that there is not one Protestant in the parish. Yet the poor people pay tithes "to support a Protestant minister who resides at a distance, and holds the living as a sinecure. Will Ireland "ever be quiet under such a system? Ought Catholics "and dissenters submit quietly? And yet this is part of "the established system by which the National Church "seeks to convert Roman Catholics."—Page 296.

Having visited Holland, Germany, and the Levant, Dr. Olin returned home about the close of 1840, and was subsequently elected President of Middleton College.

In the pulpit his peculiar elocution and masculine energy were wont to carry thousands with them; and the volume of sermons he has left constitutes a masterly guide for thought, and an exquisite model of style. We quote two sentences as a specimen: "The true end of "education and of life, so far as the individual is concerned, is the highest improvement of the intellectual "and moral powers. So far as others are concerned, it "is the best employment of those powers in doing good "to our fellow-creatures and in glorifying God."

Dr. Olin was not deeply versed in systematic theology; the science of religion with him being that of the heart. His clear, logical mind saw instinctively that all such systems were directly opposed to the principles of Protestant liberty. Of what avail is our vaunted privilege of the Bible, if we must interpret its contents according to the views or whims of some modern Cephas or Apollos?

On embracing that form of Christianity which to him seemed good, the Doctor conceded cheerfully the same right to others. And far from constituting his own tenets the standard of orthodoxy, he was ever tolerant of dissent; his pulpit being open to brethren of all denominations. Nor was he ever known to express an unkind word or cherish an unkind feeling towards Christians who differed from his religious views or refused to worship in his tabernacle. Not even in the prostrate crowds of adorers before the altars of France did he behold aught but a fervor of devotion and sincere piety which touched his heart and won his approval and admiration.

In the autumn of 1845 Dr. Olin was chosen delegate to the Convention of the Great Evangelical Alliance to be held in London. This assemblage of the various and conflicting sects who rally under the Protestant banner throughout Europe met with the view to settle differences of opinion and doctrine, and to form some approximation towards a common bond of brotherhood. The meeting, however, proved an utter failure, through the unwise introduction of extraneous topics—American slavery, for instance, and Popery. The English abolitionists upbraided their American brethren with the *dark* stain, forgetful of the serf-like condition in the mines and collieries of Cornwall of their own half-nude, dingy, and blackened sisters; while the advocates for the suppression of Popery urged a system of measures deemed efficient in England and Scotland, but which, if attempted in France or Prussia, would entitle the agents to a sure and speedy crown of martyrdom. His Holiness was therefore spared, and so was abolitionism. The meeting dissolved in no high degree of concord, and it was mainly owing to the temperate conduct and moderation of Dr. Olin that no explosion took place. The Americans, with feelings outraged and insulted, returned home in disgust, and so ended the chapter of Evangelical Alliance.

Dr. Olin was accustomed habitually to beg the prayers of his friends on all emergencies and momentous affairs, attributing much efficacy to those intercessory appeals. He even (page 388) expresses his belief that our departed friends pray for us in their new and glorious abode.

But the interest of the subject has led us beyond our limits.

Though a confirmed invalid, Dr. Olin allowed of no dereliction of duty through corporal infirmities. In delivering a course of lectures to his Alumni on the subject of the college studies, he overtasked his strength, inducing a physical debility which stayed forever his useful career. Conscious of his state, and robing in religious beauty the mighty proportions of his immortal spirit, his soul passed before that final ordeal for which the scope of his whole life was an anxious preparation.

He died on the night of the 15th August, 1851, his last words to Bishop Janes being, "I shall be saved, *though it be as by fire.*" Q.

TO THE EDITORS.

ROCHESTER, JULY 13, 1853.

This city of Rochester, which, in less than forty years, has grown from a few hundred to a population of nearly fifty thousand, exhibits a remarkable degree of resolution, activity, and enterprise. Last week Corinthian Hall (the most convenient if not largest hall in the city) resounded for three days with the debates and harangues of a colored convention, and this week it is appropriated to the Rochester University, a most worthy institution, under the control of the Baptists of this State, although in its benefits limited to no one religious sect. This University embraces both a Theological and a Classical and Scientific department; and, while the exercises of Commencement drew a great crowd to Corinthian Hall this morning, this apartment has been thronged with the friends of the various literary or religious societies every morning or evening, thus far, of the week. President WAYLAND preached some two hours yesterday morning, to a large and attentive audience, on the duty of publishing the Gospel to all men, and the relations of private christians and the authorized ministers of Christ to the work of the religious instruction and conversion of the world. He insisted that, according to the primary and essential meaning of the word "preach," it was a work and duty to be performed by all christians, and highly approved the practice, as it had long prevailed among the Baptist, of lay preaching, while he urged that all who gave themselves *exclusively* to the ministry should be trained by education to the ability thoroughly to discharge their work. To the theological department of this University belongs the valuable library of the great and admirable historian of the church, NEANDER, containing five thousand volumes, while not less than an equal number of choice books belong to the scientific and classical department. This University, like every thing connected with this city, is full of life and energy, and will unquestionably rise to distinction.

You will be gratified to know that your friend, Mr. H. J. BRENT, is gaining reputation in all this region as an artist, and among the objects of interest here nothing has delighted me more than the paintings of this gentleman. To his courtesy I am indebted for a view of some of the finest scenery on the Genesee river; but the picture which he has just completed of *Marshfield* made present to me the simple, modest, quiet scenery of New England, and brought me to see the varied objects of the spot chosen by the great man of the age as his home and his grave.

It is the purpose of the lovers of the arts here to erect a noble hall in which this and other pictures may be exhibited, and we may predict that, should his life be preserved, many great works will be furnished to it by the genius and skill of Mr. BRENT. That gentleman, I am happy to say, is held in high and deserved esteem here, both as a man and an artist.

I have just visited the House of Refuge, built and sustained by the State, yet owing its existence mainly to the labors of a benevolent gentleman of this city, Dr. F. F. BACKUS. This institution is for the protection and reformation of juvenile offenders. The boys, now about two hundred, gathered from all the western part of the State, labor a part of the time and attend school the remainder. The trustees may at any time, if they consider a boy reformed, place him with a mechanic or farmer, or any other person in business, or, if they judge best, hold the youth under their discipline until he becomes of age. Many, and I believe most, are reformed. Such an institution would be of infinite benefit at Washington.

Most truly, your friend. ——

SMALLEST ENGINE IN THE WORLD.—Mr. Benjamin J. Warner, the London watch manufacturer, has sent to this country, for exhibition at the World's Fair, the working models for two steam engines. We infer from notices of them in some of the London papers that they will be the most curious specimens of minute workmanship exhibited in the Crystal Palace. The smallest one, an oscillating cylinder engine, stands upon an English four-penny piece, (size of half a dime,) with room to spare. The cylinder is but one-sixth of an inch in diameter, the length of stroke three-eighth, and diameter of the piston is that of an ordinary needle. The other is a beam engine, composed of more than two hundred pieces. The length of the stand is three and a quarter inches, length of beam two and a quarter inches, diameter of cylinder three-eighths of an inch, and the length of stroke seven-eighths of an inch. Both of these engines are screwed together with the delicacy and precision of the work of a watch.

USED UP.

The subjoined article from the Boston *Courier*, as a specimen of party discussion, at once felicitous and triumphant, and of the complete using up of an adversary, surpasses any thing we have lately seen in newspaper polemics:

FROM THE BOSTON DAILY COURIER.

A few days since we undertook to say a word or two upon the double-faced and dishonest doings of the Democratic party of Massachusetts in combining with the Freesoil party, giving them countenance, support, and influence, and thereby augmenting and strengthening and propagating the mischief of abolition doctrines, while at the same time that party, under the name of Democracy, was professing different doctrines in another quarter, and passing itself off as friendly to the Union, the Constitution, and sound national politics. We have heard of but *one* man, either in the State or out of the State, disposed to deny the perfect truth of this picture. The Democratic organ in Boston was too discreet to say a word upon the subject. To deny would be too bold, and would bring too many awkward facts flat home to the forehead of that concern to make its position at all comfortable. To defend, to extenuate, to palliate was impossible. The only resource was to "grin and bear" the exposure without a word; and every one knows the Boston Post has *no grand talent pour le silence* whenever its own or its party's misdeeds will not bear an examination.

But the "talent for silence" is not the gift of every one. The editor of the Worcester Palladium has ventured to take up the cudgel so prudently declined by the Boston Post. He will not sit still, though every body else does, and allow it to be said that the pure Democracy of Massachusetts has become abolitionized. As we were desirous to know what could be said in defence, explanation, or extenuation of the act of self-degradation perpetrated by that party, we have taken the pains to read what the Palladium has put forth with that object, and we have come to the conclusion that had this writer possessed the "talent for silence" that distinguishes some other people, it would have been better for himself and none the worse for his party. But the reader shall have a specimen of what he can do to make out a case of "injured innocence."

The celebrated jack-knife that the boy could not lend because he *had* no jack-knife, and besides he was using it, is a fair type of Democratic abolitionism in the hands of the expert logician of Worcester. His argument amounts to this: the Democrats have never touched abolitionism; and, besides, whenever they *have* done so, it has been "*only for State purposes!*" But we will give his own words:

"The Courier knows full well that the Democrats of "this State are not *abolitionists*. It knows that there has "never been any association or affiliation between them. "Because of the coalition of the Democratic and Free-"soil parties *for State purposes solely*, which crushed the "Whigs in Massachusetts, the Courier finds it convenient "to call Democrats abolitionists! It knows, as well as "it knows any thing, the precise terms upon which the "coalition was based, the extent of the agreements, "the objects contemplated, and generally the whole "purpose which it aimed to accomplish."

Could any jack-knife case beat this? "Never any association or affiliation," only a "*coalition!*" and that "for State purposes only!" Just imagine a culprit at the bar arraigned on a charge of being "art and part" in a dishonest affair, and pleading in his defence that he never had any "association or affiliation" with the rogues, but only a *coalition* for private purposes! Would not this be esteemed a bran new expedient to save an unfortunate gentleman's neck? Such is the Worcester plea for Democracy caught *flagrante delicto* in a coalition; and much good may it do them!

Indeed, this writer seems to be struck himself with a dim sense of the awkwardness of his position. He evidently writes in a puzzle as to the precise issue on which to put this matter of Abolitionism and Democracy, sitting cheek by jowl with each other. As the fact of the coalition cannot be denied, and Abolitionism, by his own avowal, has "a bad name," he feels a strong inclination to deny that Freesoilers are as bad as Abolitionists, but to do this he does not dare; he therefore slubbers over the point in the following awkward style:

"Whether the Freesoil party are or are not Abolition-"ists, it is not now our purpose to inquire. That party "can speak for itself."

"Not our purpose to inquire!" Of course not. Having been so long hugged in the embraces of the Freesoilers "for State purposes," he need not "inquire" whether they are Abolitionists; he knows they are already. Can the readers of the Palladium swallow simplicity like this? Is there one of them who would think of stopping a man in the street and asking him to point out the difference between Freesoil doctrine and Abolition doctrine, without expecting, in reply, some stale joke about "two eggs" or "six and a half a dozen?" But we have a most pointed and severe condemnation of this writer, taken out of his own mouth. At the close of the very article upon which we have been commenting he says:

"We hold it a cardinal rule that a man has no busi-"ness to speak upon a subject about which he is in igno-"rance; and thus mislead others by pretending to know-"ledge which he never had, or, having it, conceals it for "mean, if not for malicious purposes."

Now, we cite him into court and put him upon his purgation under the very rule which he has laid down. He professes ignorance whether the Freesoil party are or are not Abolitionists: thus, by his own declaration, he "has no business to speak upon the subject." Yet he does speak upon the subject, and most rashly and foolishly charges other men with calumny and falsehood for making statements concerning this subject, and appealing to notorious facts for their confirmation. When he talks of matters "concealed for mean if not for malicious purposes," we marvel that the words do not stick in his throat. A more scalding rebuke to the duplicity and shuffling and false-heartedness of the abolitionized Democracy of Massachusetts could not be uttered. If the editor of the Palladium is too dull to understand how the charge of Abolitionism sticks to the Democracy, we can tell him other men are not. Between Abolitionism and Freesoil you cannot thrust a pin's point.

As for the flimsy excuse set up by the editor of the Palladium that the Democratic Coalitionists are not responsible for the mischief they do by consorting with Abolitionists, helping them to office, and giving them aid and comfort, because, forsooth, the Democratic party in a body "never passed any Abolition resolves," we have only to say that we judge of them by their *acts*, and so the world will judge them. They *act* with Abolitionists, while their organ puts forth a column of empty flummery once in three months to hoodwink the Democrats of the South. But the trick is now seen through and cannot be repeated with success.

Our readers will perceive that the very bad cause which this writer has undertaken to defend is likely to gain little from such championship. In fact, the indications of a very clear head are nowhere discernible throughout his article. We should imagine it to be written by a peion who went to sleep two years ago and waked up yesterday afternoon. Will our readers believe that this man actually dreams that the *Whigs are not in office in Massachusetts?* But that he actually *is* under such a hallucination all be seen by his language, as follows:

"The power of the Whig party in the State has been "broken by the coalition of the Freesoil and Democratic "parties. The Courier and its political friends—the cor-"porations, the stock-jobbers, the money-lenders, the "plutocrats of State street—*have been thrown out of power* "*and place in Massachusetts, and they die hard.*"

"The Courier is Quaker Sly in politics. It broods over "the mortification and chagrin caused by the *prostration* "*of the Whig party in the State* until it can restrain its in-"dignation no longer."

This we take for insanity. People who are in their senses imagine that Massachusetts has now a Whig Governor, a Whig Lieutenant Governor, a Whig council, a Whig Senate, a Whig House of Representatives, a Whig Senator last elected to Congress; and that nor have been "thrown out of power" and "prostrated" but the Janus-faced, false, treacherous, bargaining, huckstering Democratic Freesoil Coalition. But perhaps the Palladium will reply that it is only telling the story "for State purposes." The moral character of every thing ems to depend upon State lines with some people.

THE FISHERY QUESTION.—We have good reason to doubt the truth of the statements which have obtained currency, and which it would seem are credited at Washington, that our fishermen have gone out armed with the purpose of maintaining their rights by force if needed. We have good authority for saying, so far as Gloucester is concerned, there is no foundation for such a report, and that no fishing vessel among the large number which have sailed from that place has taken arms.

[*Boston Evening Traveller of Friday.*

ASPECT OF OUR INDIAN AFFAIRS.

FROM THE BALTIMORE AMERICAN.

CONGRESSIONAL NEGLECT.—Our Indian affairs, never too well administered, are now perhaps in a worse state than ever before. With the accession of the vast territories of Texas, Oregon, New Mexico, and California, immense hordes of aborigines were taken under the coverture of the United States Government "for better or for worse." Hitherto the change of circumstances has been to the Indians almost wholly for the worse.

In time past, with occasional exceptions, they were able to supply themselves with food and covering; latterly the *rule* has been for them to be devoid of either. They were once in the main a brave and noble race; now the almost universal report is that cunning, cowardice, treachery, and meanness of spirit have supplanted the better qualities that once distinguished them.

Every year is pushing them further away from their accustomed means and modes of support, changing their habitation, breaking up upon their inveterate habits, and otherwise removing them from that routine which by immemorial custom had come to be instinctive, and hence to their apprehension essential to their existence.

Some considerable abatement of this must be made for those semi-reclaimed tribes who have been dispossessed of their original seats in the country now occupied by the organized States of the Union. The merciful policy of the Government has conferred upon them, in exchange for their abandoned homes, in several cases unnecessarily large, in all fully sufficient areas of habitable and fertile territory. Some of the tribes thus located, as the Creeks, Choctaws, Cherokees, &c. among the larger; the Weas, Peorias, Kickapoos certain of the Ottawas, Chippewas, and Winnebagoes, &c., among the smaller tribes, may be considered as occupying a place in the scale of civilization equal, if not superior, to the mass of the people inhabiting Eastern Europe, or the descendants of the Spanish and Portuguese settlers of South America. Some individuals are highly educated.

But, with these exceptions, the present condition of the Indian race is deplorable; and this is especially true of those Indians who have been brought under our control since the period of the annexation of Texas. Our Indian legislation since that period compares most unfavorably with what preceded it. It is but too apparent that the legislative mind has been less beneficently affected towards, far less sincerely concerned, about the welfare of its Indian wards than used to be the case in the older time—more selfish and self-seeking, more given to party, and less impressed with the sense of the parental in its authority than it formerly was and always ought to be.

The condition of most of the Indian tribes in Texas, especially the feebler, is so bad that it can hardly be worse. They have been driven from their ancient localities, hunted like wolves, and have not been assigned any homes, suitable or unsuitable, for their residence. Starvation and death seem inevitably to await them. Successive administrations of the Indian Department have made honest efforts to remove the bad footing of the Indian affairs in Texas, but untoward influences in Congress as well as in the State Legislature have been hitherto too potent to allow any scheme to take root and develope its capacity for good.

For the use of the Indian service for the current year in New Mexico, in and around which from twenty to thirty thousand savages roam the arid wastes, the paltry pittance of ten thousand dollars was doled out last session from a plethoric Treasury. Disallowed by the stronger tribes of the great plains, the Camanches, Arrapahoes, and Cheyennes, &c., from the pursuit of the buffalo, and prevented by the arms of the United States from committing raids upon their natural enemies, the Mexicans, the tribes of New Mexico have been reduced to a most precarious support. To steal or to starve has been the alternative presented them. It has cost hundreds of thousands per annum to make a show of keeping them in subjection by military means; but our Congressional economists, though forever complaining, will not take the pains to understand how peace may be maintained and improvement aroused by an expenditure of one-tenth the present amount, if made in the proper direction.

As for California Indian matters, the vacillation and weakness betrayed by Congress in respect to them have been for some time matter of profound surprise. The Commissioners sent out in 1851 to conclude treaties with the Indian tribes, and thereby give peace and quiet to the country, was, with all its labors and results, good, bad, and indifferent, (and we admit a proportion of all three,) extinguished at one fell swoop, without distinction or discrimination, and nothing whatever substituted in its place. A great number of treaties had been made with the tribes all over the State; promises had been held out to them based upon the honor and good faith of the United States to be fulfilled at times now long past; but all these were dealt with in the Capitol as if they merited nothing better than contempt. The consequences of this disavowal to both whites and Indians in California have since been the sorrowful burden of many a despatch, and it cannot be asserted that the end has come yet.

Again, in Oregon treaties solemnly concluded with the natives by regularly commissioned agents of the Government have received a similar go-by. Carrying with them the importance and prestige of representatives of the Government, these agents were successful in making valuable treaties, but, their stipulations not being carried out, the Indian has become highly dissatisfied, and looks upon the whole white race as polluted by falsehood and bad faith.

Our most recent advices from Oregon touching the excitement amongst some of the tribes bear witness to these statements and opinions. A return to the old paths must be undertaken, and Congress more faithfully discharge itself of its duty. No censure in these matters lodges with the particular Executive Department charged with Indian affairs; bound as it is by the acts and negligences of the legislative authority, a considerable portion of its labors consists in correcting the mischief and smoothing the roughness produced by Congressional mismanagement.

DEATH OF A CHEROKEE CHIEF.—RICHARD TAYLOR, Second Chief of the Cherokee Nation, died at Tahlequah on the 19th ultimo. The Cherokee Advocate states that from his youth he has been more or less engaged in public capacities—such as United States Interpreter, Delegate to the Federal Government, member of the National Committee, Executive Councillor, and two years since he was elected Second Chief of the Nation. He was captain of a company of Cherokees under Gen. Jackson in the Creek war. At the time of his death he was a member of the Presbyterian Church, of which he had been an exemplary member for many years.

A CONSIDERATE VERDICT.—The coroner's inquest into the deaths caused by the fire of the military, in Montreal, during the Gavazzi riot, have returned a verdict in which they disclaim intending any reproach upon the military, but recommend that in the next riot where their services may be needed that the interval between the order to fire and the discharge of guns shall be "long enough to allow all persons exposed to the fire to get safely out of reach." This is very considerate and humane on the part of the inquest; but if the troops are not to fire till every body gets safely out of the way, would it not, for economical reasons only, be better to save the gunpowder by not firing at all?—*Ledger.*

HORRIBLE SUICIDE.—FRANKLIN C. GRAY, aged about forty-five years, a wealthy merchant of San Francisco, California, where he was Alderman for two years and highly respected, committed suicide on Friday, at New Rochelle, New York, by throwing himself across the track just as the express train was passing, and was instantly killed. The Westchester News says:

"The deceased had an income of $36,000 a year, which he received regularly in monthly remittances of $3,000. He brought letters of credit from Cook, Palmer & Co., of San Francisco, about fifteen months ago, and has since been residing, a portion of the time, in Washington, where he married a young, beautiful, and highly accomplished lady. He recently purchased a house in New York, in the Fifth Avenue, for their occupancy, which he fitted up in the most magnificent style. Last week, while laboring under an aberration of mind, he disposed of his house and furniture at a sacrifice of $7,000 to $8,000. He advertised his furniture for sale; and, on persons going there, they found that he had sent for a furniture broker, and had it all taken away. On Thursday he proceeded to New Rochelle, to sojourn awhile at the Pavilion Hotel, and on Friday was to have gone on a fishing excursion with several ladies, but during the morning declined going, saying he was unwell, and soon after walked out to the railroad and threw himself across the track. His wife, whom, it is said, he appeared to idolize, was expected from Washington on Friday evening to join him at New Rochelle. A few days ago he made his will, leaving all his property to his wife."

ELECTIVE JUDICIARY.

FROM THE RICHMOND WHIG.

A letter to the Editors, from Louisiana, remarks, incidentally, "I am sorry to say our elective judiciary works badly." It would contradict reason and experience both if it worked otherwise than badly. History teaches the fallacy of this as of many other Democratic notions; but her lessons are thrown away upon those who obey only a passion for change, no matter what, and progress, no matter whither.—*National Intelligencer.*

Virginia was one of the last States to adopt the popular election of the judiciary. Until the late Convention the effort to introduce it had been resisted by the conservative temper of our people; but the Democratic and progressive-downwards spirit having gained the ascendancy in our Legislature, by whom the election of judges was made, it was thought by many that matters could not be made worse by change. The first experiment of the new mode was made last year. That, owing to peculiar circumstances, and particularly to the fact that many of the old judges were men of fine ability and great worth, resulted favorably. Party politics were in a great measure banished from the contest, and no candidate for a judgeship took the stump or resorted to the ordinary arts of electioneering. But no one who looks beneath the surface was unaware that that external decency was preserved only by great efforts. The demagogic spirit was extremely restless and impatient under the restraint imposed upon it, and threatened frequently to burst forth in spite of all opposition. We do not expect that it will be long restrained; and we rather fear we have seen the first and last general election of judges unconnected with personal solicitation of votes and party considerations. In the election which recently took place in the Botetourt circuit to supply a vacancy the old practice was departed from, and the candidates harangued the sovereigns and otherwise electioneered, as though they were seeking a seat in the Legislature. This is the beginning of what we may expect hereafter. Another election is about to be held in the Bedford circuit; and from the indications that will confirm our forebodings.

The men who founded our Republic established the best system of free government that the world has ever seen. Demagogues and dreamers have been busy in making alterations on their work, but they have made no improvement. All, under their systems, possessed freedom of person and security of property, and they had guarantees for their stability. Now, we have more liberty, it is said, but its tenure is precarious and its enjoyment interrupted by constant alarms. The omnipotence and despotism of a bare majority are familiarizing men's minds to a habitual resort to the Tribunitian, or Veto, or One-man power, a favorite expedient of our Democracy, as it was that of Rome, who, having established it for their protection, soon found it wielded by the Cæsars for their destruction.

COURAGEOUS PHILOSOPHERS.

"And not long ago an infidel convention was held in "Connecticut, composed of men sufficiently bold to avow "their infidelity to all the religious doctrines held sacred "by the mass of mankind."

We are at a loss to see any great boldness in such an avowal. In this country no one can hurt any man or any body of men for their faith or want of faith. They may believe that the moon is made of green cheese, or they may refuse to believe that it has any existence at all; in either case their liberty, life, and property are secure. Any man in the United States has a right to prove himself an ass without molestation from the Government. It may be an act of "boldness" towards God; but, as these people deny His being, they have no motive for fear. It requires, in fact, no kind of moral courage boastingly to proclaim infidelity. All that is necessary is a large stock of self-conceit, a desire to be thought original and independent, and an absence of all knowledge and judgment.

Cicero and other sensible heathens, while they saw the absurdities of the prevailing religion of their day, tacitly acquiesced in systems which they did not believe, simply because they recognised the necessity of controlling men by religious motives, imperfect as might be the creed upon which they were founded, and were wise enough to perceive that until they could produce a substitute it was the part of prudence not to disturb principles rooted in the popular heart. Our modern reformers, even if they are honest in their infidelity, might learn a useful lesson from the sages of antiquity. They cannot eradicate the belief which they affect to despise, and if they could they are unprepared to propose any better, or indeed any other plan in its place.—*Richmond Mail.*

THE WHEAT CROP OF WESTERN NEW YORK.—The farmers of Western New York are busily engaged in gathering their hay and wheat crops. The Rochester Democrat says a considerable portion of the wheat will be cut this week, and that the weather could not be finer for securing it in first-rate condition. Only a few small parcels of new wheat have yet been received at Rochester, and it will be fully another week before prices can be established.

FOR THE WORLD'S FAIR.—Mr. LABARRE (an artisan—rather we should say artist—in the employ of Mr. Keyworth, goldsmith and jeweller, of this city) has executed an article for exhibition at the great New York Fair which we venture to predict will be unsurpassed in beauty of design and exquisite workmanship by any specimen in the same branch of art which may grace that great collection. It is simply a large golden sugar bowl, shaped as a melon, resting on a silver grape leaf and pedestal, and covered with silver vine and leaves entwined around it, interspersed with golden grape clusters, and surmounted by a golden bee-hive, on which sits a silver dove. It remains at present at Mr. Keyworth's store, and its surpassing beauty will repay a visit.

A MARITIME NOVELTY.—The arrival of the Hawaiian brig *Magdalia*, Capt. Taber, exhibited quite a Fourth of July novelty in our harbor. It was the first time that the royal flag of the far-off kingdom in the Pacific had ever been displayed in these waters, and a very good-looking flag it is, blending the main features of the American, British, and French national colors. The union is a mixture of St. George's cross with some other devices which we do not understand, and look at a casual view almost identical with that of the British flag, while the body of the Kanaka ensign shows eight stripes, alternately of white, blue, and red; and, as it flung its folds to the breeze, it seemed an appropriate emblem of independence, and a fitting accompaniment of our own rejoicings on the glorious day we were celebrating.

The *Magdalia* is a fine vessel of two hundred and seventy-seven tons burden, and appears to be of Dutch origin, though she was owned by subjects of his Hawaiian Majesty until purchased by Capt. Chester, of this city, and sent home with a cargo of oil, still sailing under Kanaka colors.

When Cook first landed on Owhyee, some seventy or eighty years ago, how little did he think that a vessel almost as large as his own, and owned by the natives, would navigate the waters of a large and independent nation, then a mere colonial dependance of his country! How strange it would have seemed to the first devoted Christian Missionaries from the United States to have been told that in less than half a century those benighted pagans would become proprietors of a respectable commercial marine, and send large vessels under a Sandwich Island flag into our own harbors!—*New London Chron.*

SNOW ARCH ON MOUNT WASHINGTON.—A party of travellers just arrived from the mountains report that on the 13th instant, in ascending the summit of Mount Washington by a new route, they passed under or through a natural archway of snow, twenty feet high, one hundred and sixty feet long, the crust above their head forty feet in thickness. This archway was worn by the stream known as Crystal Falls, which descends towards the east through a chasm or gap whose walls are seven hundred feet on each side. They express the belief that this natural archway of pure snow will remain in its present state during the summer. The surface of this mass of snow extends over several acres, and has no sign of ice or crystalization.—*Portland Advertiser.*

OFFICIAL.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, JULY 16, 1853.

Official information has been received at this Department that goods, the importation of which is prohibited in France, will not only be admitted at the Universal Exhibition which is to be opened in Paris in 1855, but after the exhibition they may, at the option of the exhibitors, be either re-exported free of all duties or delivered for interior consumption by paying a duty of thirty per cent. on the value.

THE GAVAZZI RIOTS.—The Coroner's Jury on Tuesday evening, at Montreal, gave in their verdict on the victims of the late Gavazzi tragedy.

Nine Protestants found, substantially, that James Walsh was shot by some persons unknown, who were endeavoring to disperse a mob assembled in the vicinity of Zion Church, (including, among others, the said deceased,) which mob had previously overpowerd the police, with the object of attacking said Gavazzi or the audience within Zion Church. That the other deceased came to their deaths by gunshot wounds inflicted by the troops at the order of the Mayor, and that both the said order delivered to the officers and the firing of the soldiers without orders were unnecessary and unjustifiable. Further, they condemn the practice of individuals carrying fire-arms, even in circumstances of assumed emergency; recommend a better police force, and regret the want of discipline of the troops who fired without the orders of the officers.

Ten Catholics find substantially the same thing as to Walsh, except that they say nothing about the riot in which he was engaged; and instead of finding that the Mayor gave the order to fire, which caused the death of the others, declared that it was done by some person unknown.

A RECOMMENDATION FOR OFFICE.—The Knickerbocker for July contains a number of specimens of letters from office-seekers and their friends. We copy one from Mr. Twist to Governor Marcy, on behalf of a gentleman who is ready at any moment to die for his country and a fat office:

"The bearer, Martin Van Buren Phips, is an applicant for some easy office, and, I am happy to say, is an out-and-out Democrat. He voted for Van Buren in '40, for Polk in '44, and in '48, being somewhat puzzled with the claims of the contending factions, polled two votes, one for Van Buren and one for Mr. Cass, evincing a spirit of conciliation and high-toned principle which puts to the blush all other compromise measures. Mr. Phips, I can truly say, is an active, energetic, and industrious Democrat, but is unable to discharge very many out-door duties, as he is suffering under a physical disability, having, some two years since, sprained his ankle badly. The circumstances attending this physical disability may not be uninteresting, as illustrative of the sterling Democracy inherent in the man. They are these: He was engaged with some young Democrats raising a hickory pole. They had accomplished their object, and young Phips determined to place the stars and stripes upon the top of the pole. For this purpose he commenced climbing; but, alas! having arrived at the dizzy height of ten feet, the pole gave way, and he was hurled miserably upon the earth, with a severe contusion upon the fleshy part of the leg and with his left foot sprained terribly. Apparently not realizing the extent of the injury, he waved the tattered ensign over his contused frame, and gave three hearty cheers for James K. Polk. Such Democracy ought not to go unrewarded; and I hope you will be able to place our unfortunate friend in some easy position where his physical disability will not be antagonistic to his progressive Democracy."

THE DELAWARE SHIP AND CHESAPEAKE CANAL.—The Centreville Times of Saturday says that the construction of this canal will give to Baltimore an outlet to the ocean highway, which, in connexion with her interior position, and extended and still extending lines of railroad, will speedily elevate her to her destined position as one of the first cities of the world. Of its advantages to the Eastern Shore of Maryland the Times says:

"The canal will place us in daily communication and within a few hours' run of the great cities of New York and Baltimore. Agriculture will be revolutionized, and barren fields, which can now scarce find a purchaser, will be changed by the hands of prosperous industry into fertile market gardens, whose varied products will feed the teeming myriads of these great commercial emporiums."

COKE A FUEL FOR LOCOMOTIVES.—The experiments with coke as a fuel for the passenger engines of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad continue highly successful. The Miners' Journal says that a few nights since the train for Baltimore was run through from Cumberland with no other fuel, and notwithstanding detentions by burden trains, amounting in the aggregate to nearly an hour, yet the time required by the schedule was easily made. There was not only an abundance of steam, but almost more than the engineer could manage.

RIOT AT MILWAUKEE.—The laborers on the La Cresse railroad are on a strike, in consequence of the contractors failing to pay them, and a few days ago they had quite a serious riot at Milwaukie. Mayor Walker and several citizens were violently attacked. The firemen were called out and played upon the mob, and finally a strong posse of one hundred citizens dispersed them.

STARVATION IN SPAIN.—It appears that the miserable condition to which Ireland was reduced a few years ago is paralleled by what is now taking place in Spain. A writer in a French paper says: "In vain the venerable Bishop of St. Jacques, in presence of more than six hundred unfortunates, resembling moving corpses, who daily besiege his gate, has sold his mules and his carriage. In vain has he reduced himself and his servants to the merest necessaries, in order that he might give the rest to those who perish of hunger. All that he or the other bishops and clergy, all that the Government can do, according to the Esperanza, is but a drop of water to extinguish the conflagration. When we speak of the Government, however, we must remember that a last contribution made by it of 3,000,000 of reals had not been distributed. In the mountains the starving die by dozens, and in many places fevers of the most dangerous character are joined to the famine. Hundreds of sick expire for want of nourishment and medicine. The streets of our cities are encumbered with old men, women, and children, with the visages of corpses, covered with miserable rags and even worse, troubling themselves no longer except to die in quiet, and imploring with loud cries the succors of the public charity. At the gates of the archiepiscopal palace more than a thousand people wait for daily bread, and I hear that one day lately 4,500 poor assembled to receive the alms distributed in the city by one gentleman."

AN OLD SOLDIER.—Mr. William Hall, of Beaver county, Pennsylvania, now in