NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

FROM THE JAPAN SQUADRON.

The following interesting Letter has been received from Com. PERRY, commanding the United States naval forces in the East India, China, and Japan Seas:

U. S. STEAM FRIGATE POWHATAN,
Harbor of Hakodadi, Island of Jesso, Japan, May 30, 1854.

I have examined the ports of Simoda and Hakodadi, which are to be opened to the vessels of the United States, and am happy to inform the Department that, with respect to geographical position, convenience of ingress and egress, and commodiousness for all the purposes required, they cannot be surpassed. This is one of the safest and most convenient harbors I have ever seen for vessels of all classes, and it is sufficiently capacious to hold half the navies of the world.

The authorities and people of the two towns and their vicinities have manifested much kindness and attention. The ships have been promptly supplied, at reasonable prices, with wood, water, and such other articles as the country could furnish. The singular abstemiousness of the Japanese from animal food has never made it necessary for them to rear and fatten animals for the market, and hence the scarcity of that aliment so necessary to people of the western nations. It is quite probable, however, that they will hereafter be better prepared to meet the demands of the vessels visiting the two ports. Poultry and fish, and, at the proper seasons, fruit and vegetables, may be obtained in reasonable quantities, and one or two ships could always be provided with a sufficiency for their wants.

At both places the officers and those of the crews who have been permitted to leave the ships go freely about in town and country, and on fishing and shooting excursions, visiting the shops, the temples, and other places of interest, without the slightest hindrance or molestation, and are every where treated with kindness and respect, and especially by the country people. But one instance has occurred of annoyance to any one, and this was at Simoda; and, on its being represented to me, I demanded and received an apology from the prefect, who disavowed the acts of the officers who committed the offence.

According to arrangement, I am to meet one or more of the Imperial Commissioners at Simoda on the 15th of next month, (June,) to settle various matters connected with a proper understanding of the treaty. After this is accomplished, I shall return to Hong Kong by the way of Oho-Sima, Lew-Chew, and the ports of Ningpo, Fuh-Chow, and Amoy, in China.

The officers of my command have constructed several valuable charts of the harbors and coasts of Japan, and our collection of specimens of natural history and of drawings, sketches, &c. are rapidly increasing.

One of the vessels of the squadron is now engaged in making a reconnoissance of "Volcano Bay," a convenient anchorage, about seventy miles from this port.

Until this time I have not had it in my power to institute in a thorough manner the researches and inquiries which the Department has ordered in its instructions of October 26, 1852, May 16, 1853, and June 11, 1853, with respect to the fate of our fellow-countrymen, supposed either to have been lost at sea, are to be still alive and held in captivity in Formosa or the islands of Japan.

The authorities here have furnished answers to my several inquiries upon the subject, (herewith enclosed,) and I propose to send the Macedonian, accompanied by the Southampton, to Formosa, there to prosecute every possible research, and at the same time to examine the coal region of that island.

As evidence of the good understanding subsisting, as well at this place as at Kanagawa and Simoda, I may remark that the Prefect, Governor, Mayor, and other persons of rank visited this ship by invitation last evening, and were entertained by me at a formal supper.

With great respect, I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant, M. C. PERRY,
Commander-in-Chief U. S. Naval Forces,
East India, China, and Japan Seas.

To the Hon. JAS. C. DOBBIN,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

The Annual Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Church in New York assembled on Wednesday at St. John's Church, in New York city. The Convention attracts especial attention because on it will devolve the duty of filling the vacancy occasioned by the death of Bishop WAINWRIGHT, and from the fact that a renewal of the contest for and against the restoration of Bishop ONDERDONK may occur. Some of the papers have stated that the Convention will endeavor to reinstate Bishop Onderdonk, but this is not possible under the ecclesiastical rules which govern the church. The suspension or degradation of a bishop is pronounced by the House of Bishops, and the offender can only be restored to his position by the same body. Quite a number of candidates are named for the Bishopric.—*Baltimore American.*

POSTAGE ON BOOKS SENT BY MAIL.—Books not weighing over four pounds may be sent in the mail, pre-paid, at one cent an ounce, any distance in the United States under three thousand miles, and at two cents an ounce over three thousand miles, provided they are put up without a cover or wrapper, or in a cover or wrapper open at the ends or sides, so that their character may be determined without removing the wrapper. If not pre-paid, the postage under three thousand miles is one cent and a half, and over three thousand miles in the United States three cents an ounce.

ALEXANDRIA, LOUDOUN, AND HAMPSHIRE RAILROAD.—A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Alexandria, Loudoun, and Hampshire Railroad was held on the 26th instant. The Chief Engineer stated that his estimates and specifications would be ready by the 14th of October, when the Board resolved that they would, so soon as they should be reported, proceed forthwith to contract for the necessary graduation, masonry, and bridging between Alexandria and Clarke's Gap, in the county of Loudoun, a distance of forty miles.—*Alexandria Gazette.*

The steamship "City of Philadelphia," lately lost near Cape Race, Newfoundland, was a screw-steamer, upwards of 2,000 tons burden, and valued at $200,000. She was owned by the "Liverpool and Philadelphia Steamship Company," and was on her first voyage. This is the third vessel the company have lost. The "City of Glasgow" sailed from Liverpool for Philadelphia on the 1st March last, since which time nothing has been heard of her, and the "City of Pittsburg" was burnt in the harbor of Valparaiso a year or so since. The only vessel that the company has now afloat is the "City of Manchester," but they expect to have a consort for her ready before the winter. This vessel is also an iron one, building on the Clyde, and will be called the "City of Baltimore."

CURIOUS ARTESIAN SPRING.—A few days ago Mr. Dabney commenced boring for water on his premises in San Jose, California. The augur penetrated through a stiff bed of clay fifty-eight feet thick, when a stream of water was struck which forced itself up the aperture with unprecedented power, and in a volume greater, it is believed, than all the other artesian streams in this neighborhood combined. From this well alone flows a sufficiency of water to turn a mill. It boils up with great force and runs off in a stream four feet wide and six inches deep. At the mouth the current has washed out a hole of several feet wide and very deep. Serious apprehensions are entertained that the proprietor will not be able to control the water. If the city authorities would take it in hand, every street in the city could be plentifully provided with water, and at every corner and in every public square running fountains could be had. The water is cold and delightful.—*San Jose Telegraph.*

THE CROPS IN KENTUCKY.—The Frankfort (Ky.) Commonwealth says, in relation to the crops in that State: "We hear different accounts from different places; but our conclusion from the whole is that Kentucky will have fully half an average crop of corn this year. A gentleman just from Cumberland county tells us that the corn crop there is fully two-thirds of an average; the tobacco crop is very fine; wheat excellent, and selling at 70 cents per bushel."

A young lady, recently married to a farmer, one day visited the cow-house, when she thus interrogated the milk-maid: "By-the-by, Mary, which of these cows is it that gives the butter-milk?"

RUINS IN NEW MEXICO.

A late number of the Missouri Republican contained a long article, being "*Major Carleton's Journal of the Expedition to the Ruins of Abo, Quarra, and Gran Quivira, New Mexico.*" There has been much speculation as to the origin of the huge remains of ancient cities, temples, &c. which are scattered over many portions of Mexico. By the acquisition of a portion of its territory we have placed within our reach the means of investigation. Major CARLETON is an energetic officer in the United States army, and, having resolved to explore some of these famous relics of the past, he accordingly started with an expedition from Albuquerque on the 14th of December last. We copy from the journal of Major CARLETON:

"A squadron of cavalry, formed of company H, first dragoons, commanded by First Lieutenant Samuel D. Sturgis, and company K, first dragoons, commanded by Brevet Major James Henry Carleton, in all one hundred strong, with one twelve-pounder mountain howitzer, left Albuquerque at 11 o'clock this morning as an expedition to explore the country around the ruins of Gran Quivira, New Mexico, and for other objects connected with the bands of Apache Indians who often infest that portion of the Territory.

"Our route for the first forty miles lies down the left bank of the Rio Grande. This part of the country has often been described. Its principal features are easily named over. The Rio Grande at this point averages about one hundred yards in width and not more than eighteen inches in depth. Its waters are turbid, like those of the Kansas; its bottom and banks are composed of sand. The valley along the river is very level, and usually not over two feet higher than the surface of the water. In some places it is more than two miles broad. It has a great deal of sand mixed with the soil, but it is remarkably fertile. From this valley a second bottom or tableland extends by a gradual ascent back to the mountains on either hand. This table land is destitute of water and uncommonly sterile. The lower level which skirts the river, and which is irrigated from it, is the source of nearly all the agricultural wealth of New Mexico."

After three days' journeying in a southwest direction they arrived at Abo. The following is the sketch of the ruins at that place:

"The ruins of Abo consist of a large church and the vestiges of many other buildings which are now but little else than long heaps of stones, with here and there portions of walls projecting above the surrounding rubbish. There is yet standing enough of the church to give one a knowledge of the form and magnitude of the building when in its prime. The ground plan of this structure is in the form of a cross, its longitudinal direction being within ten degrees of the magnetic meridian. It was, perhaps, situated exactly upon that meridian when the building was erected, the variation of the compass accounting for the present difference. The great entrance was in the southern end. From thence to the head of the cross, where the altar was doubtless situated, it is one hundred and thirty-two feet, inside. This, the nave of the church, is thirty-two feet in width. The short arm of the cross, or what in cathedrals is called the transept, is forty-one feet in length and twenty-three in breadth. The transept is sixty-six feet from the doorway. These measurements were made with a tape line in a very high wind. The round numbers in feet are therefore only given, without noting the fractional parts of a foot.

"The walls are of great thickness, and their height is at this day, in over half the structure, all of fifty feet. The upper edge of these walls is cut into battlements. The church, as well as the neighboring buildings now in ruins about it, was built of a stratified, dark-red sandstone, such as crops out along the creek and makes its appearance along the sides of the surrounding hills. The pieces of stone do not average over two and a half inches in thickness, and are not generally over one foot in length. Each piece is of the form it had when it was broken from its native bed. We saw not a single dressed stone about the ruins. These stones are laid in mortar made of the ordinary soil, from the ground immediately at hand. The roof of the church was evidently supported by beams and covered with earth, as in the churches still occupied as places of worship throughout New Mexico. We saw no signs of an arch, nor any indication that those who planned and built the church at Abo were at all acquainted with architecture as a science. The walls over the doors and windows, so far as we could observe, had been supported by beams of wood. When these had become destroyed these stones which were liberated above had dropped down; so that now, over each window, there is a rude description of the gothic arch, owing its form not to design, but to accident. The wood work of the church was evidently destroyed by being burnt. Wherever in the walls portions of the beams still remain they are found charred and blackened by fire.

"The form of the church alone proves it to have been designed by christians. Perhaps the workmen employed in its construction were Indians. We saw distinct marks of an axe in one of the pieces of timber which is embedded in the east wall of the church some six feet from the ground. Saws also were doubtless used, but we discovered no marks of them. The stick of timber marked with the axe and some beams that supported a landing at the head of a stairway which is made in the west wall were the only pieces of wood about the ruins which were not burnt so much over their surface as to obliterate all marks of tools.

"The extent of an exterior wall, which, from the appearance of the present heaps of stones, once surrounded the church and the town, was about nine hundred and forty-two feet north and south, with an average width east and west of say four hundred and fifty feet. A large population must have occupied this town and its neighborhood, if one were to judge of the number of people by the size of the church built to accommodate them while at their devotions.

"We saw few, if any, unmistakable signs that the ground had been cultivated in the vicinity of these ruins. Nor is there any good arable land, so far as we could observe, at any point nearer than the Rio Grande; for uplands, to be arable in the climate of New Mexico, must be so situated as to be capable of irrigation. The stream of water at Abo is in a deep ravine. It is very inconsiderable in point of size, and loses itself in the sand in less than five hundred yards below the springs which feed it. The adjacent country is rolling and broken and covered with pinon and cedar. The underlaying rocks are secondary red sandstone. The summits of the mesas and neighboring eminences are composed of gray limestone, filled with marine fossils.

"It was nearly night when we reached Abo. There was a keen freezing gale from the northwest, and the whole appearance of the country was cheerless, wintry, and desolate. The tall ruins standing there in solitude had an aspect of sadness and gloom. They did not seem to be the remains of an edifice dedicated to peaceful religious purposes, a place of prayer; but rather as a monument of crime, and ruthlessness, and violence. The cold wind, when at its height, appeared to roar and howl through the roofless pile like an angry demon; but when at times it died away a low sigh seemed to breathe along the crumbling battlements; and then it was that the noise of the distant brook rose upon the ear like a wail.

"In the mystery that envelopes every thing connected with these ruins, as it were, and why and by whom they were erected, and how, and when, and why abandoned, there is much food for very interesting speculation. Until that mystery is penetrated so that all these questions can be answered without leaving a doubt, Abo belongs to the regions of romance and of fancy; and it will be for the poet and the painter to restore to its original beauty this memorable temple, to rebuild its altars, and to exhibit again unto us its robed priests, its burning censers, its kneeling worshippers."

Twelve miles further on the party came to the ruins of Quarra. This point is not so important as the others.

"The church of Quarra is not so long by twenty feet as that at Abo. We found one room here, probably one of the oldest cloisters attached to the church, which was in a good state of preservation. The beams that supported the roof were blackened by age. They were square and smooth, and supported under each end by short pieces of wood, carved into regularly curved lines and scrolls, like similar supports which we had seen at the ends of beams in houses of the better class in Old Mexico. The earth upon the roof was sustained by small straight poles, well finished and laid in herring-bone fashion upon these beams. In this room there is also a fire-place precisely like those found in the Mexican houses at the present day.

"We had heard that in a stone panel inserted in the front end of the church at Quarra we should find emblazoned the *fleur de lis*, the ancient armorial bearings of France; and many, therefore, supposed that possibly this church had been erected by French Catholics who had come as missionaries across the country from the direction of New Orleans. But we saw no panel, no fleur de lis, and no stone of any kind that bore the marks of a chisel or of a hammer. Every piece in the church, in the cloisters, and in the debris of a neighboring village was in the same rough form which it had when it was broken from the quarry."

After three days' journey, during which time the troops suffered much from cold and the want of water, they arrived at the most imposing and important of these ruins, Gran Quivira. The journal of their passage through this terribly bleak and barren region is very interesting, but we have only room for their descriptions of the remains of a once important city:

"We found the ruins of Gran Quivira to consist of the remains of a large church, or cathedral, with a monastery attached to it, a small church or chapel, and the ruins of a town extending nine hundred feet in a direction east and west, and three hundred feet north and south. All these buildings had been constructed of the dark blue limestone which is found in the vicinity.

"The cathedral which we had seen from Laguna de la Puerta is one hundred and forty feet long outside, with the walls nearly six feet in thickness. It stands longitudinally W. 15 deg. S., with the great entrance in the eastern end. The altar was in the western end. Like the churches at Abo and Quarra, it is constructed in the form of the cross. From the doorway at the foot of the cross to the transept it is eighty-four feet seven inches, across the transept it is twenty-one feet six inches, and from thence to the head of the cross it is twenty-two feet seven inches; making the total length inside one hundred and twenty-eight feet eight inches. The width of the nave is twenty-seven feet; the length inside of the short arm of the cross is thirty-six feet. A gallery extended along the body of the cathedral for the first twenty-four feet. Some of the beams which sustained it and the remains of two of the pillars that stood along under the end of it which was nearest to the altar are still here; the beams in a tolerably good state of preservation, the pillars very much decayed. They are of pine wood and very elaborately carved. There is also what perhaps might be termed an entablature supporting each side of the gallery and deeply embedded in the main wall of the church. This is twenty-four feet long by say eighteen inches or two feet in width. It is carved very beautifully indeed, and exhibits not only great skill in the use of various kinds of tools, but exquisite taste on the part of the workmen in the construction of the figures. These beams and entablatures would be an ornament to any edifice even at the present day.

"We have cut one of the beams into three parts to take back with us. The entablatures are so deeply set in the walls we are unable to procure a piece of them. The beams are square and are carved on three sides; the floor of the gallery rested on the fourth side.

"The stone of which the cathedral was built was not hewn nor even roughly dressed; but the smoothest side of each piece was laid to the surface with great care. We saw no one piece in all the ruins which was over a foot in length. The mortar was made from the ordinary soil found on the spot. It affords but a poor cement to resist the action of the elements and the ordinary ravages of time.

"The walls of the cathedral are now about thirty feet in height. It was estimated from the great quantity of stones which had fallen down, forming a sort of talus both with the walls and outside of them, that originally this building was all of fifty feet in height. There is a small room to the right as you enter the cathedral, and another room which is very large and which communicates with the main body of the building by a door at the left of the transept. There was also communication between this large room and the monastery, or system of cloisters, which are attached to the cathedral. The chapel is one hundred and thirty feet from the cathedral. This building is one hundred and eighteen feet long outside and thirty-two in width. Its walls are three feet eight inches in thickness. It is apparently in a better state of preservation than the cathedral, but yet none of the former wood-works remain in it.

"A short distance from the chapel there is an enclosure which we supposed was the ancient cemetery.

"The remains of the town are but heaps of stones, with here and there some evidences of narrow streets running nearly east and west and north and south. Through these stones pieces of beams and sticks are seen to project. These indicate, by moss and otherwise, that they are of great antiquity. They are bleached white by the weather and are deeply gnawed by the tooth of time.

"We saw some deep pits which were circular and walled around like wells. We believe them to be the remains of cisterns; they were not deep enough for wells. Some have concluded they were *estuffas*. Two hundred and ninety feet north of the cathedral there are evident traces of an *estangue*. This, as well as the cisterns, was probably made to collect the rain water which ran from the different buildings.

"Towards the east we saw a well-defined road, which kept the ridge for a few hundred yards and then turned off toward the southeast, where all further vestiges of it are lost in the sand. Where it is the most plainly marked along the summit of the ridge some large cedar trees are growing directly in the middle of it. These trees look to be very old indeed.

"In every direction about the ruins we found great quantities of broken pottery, many specimens of which we have collected to take to Albuquerque. Some of it is handsomely marked and well glazed. We also found several stones, which were evidently once used as *matates*. These matates are in use to this day to rub boiled corn upon until it becomes a kind of dough suitable to be kneaded into cakes called *tortillas*. We have selected two which we shall take home with us. These proved to us that the ancient inhabitants of Gran Quivira knew the use of corn as an article of food.

"There is no sign that the ground in the vicinity has ever been cultivated, and no mark whatever of irrigated ditches. Indeed, an acequia, or open aqueduct, could not, it is believed, have brought water to the Gran Quivira; for the point occupied by the town appears to be considerably higher than the surrounding country.

"We are informed by men at Mazana who had been *pastores* in their youth, and had herded sheep in this region of country, that there is a fine bold spring of water at the base of the Sierra de las Gallinas, about fifteen miles from the ruins, and that they had heard that water once ran in an aqueduct from that spring to Gran Quivira. This could hardly have been possible, unless the aqueduct was a closed pipe; because, from appearances, the country intervening between these two points is considerably lower than either of them.

"We saw no indications that there had ever been such an aqueduct, nor did we see any signs that wells had been digged in the neighborhood. From every feature of the country, both within and without the surrounding sand-hills, we could but be lost in conjecture as to the method adopted by the inhabitants to obtain even water to drink, without taking into account any at all for purposes of irrigation, unless they were supplied by some spring or stream that has long since disappeared. The nearest point where water can always be obtained now is the spring which the pastores spoke of as being at the base of the Sierra de las Gallinas, fifteen miles away. The Laguna de la Puerta is fourteen miles seven hundred and seventy-three yards from Gran Quivira in nearly a direct line; but this is said to become entirely dry in seasons of great drought.

"As at Abo and Quarra, we were surprised at not finding in the cathedral and chapel some of the door-ways and windows surmounted by an arch. Had they been so originally, these buildings would now be in a better state of preservation. The beams across windows and doors, in giving to the weight above, as they became decayed, made a fair beginning towards letting down the whole superstructure.

"Many have supposed that the ancient Aztecs built the edifices Gran Quivira, Abo, and Quarra during their migration from Aztlan towards Anahuac; that the ruins now found in the Navajo country and the *Casas Grande*, which are still to be seen along the Gila river, were built by the same people and at about the same period of time. Capt. Johnston, of the first dragoons, visited the ruins of the Gila river in November, 1846. From his description of one of the Casas Grande (the largest and best of any he saw) we can discover no point of resemblance between it and these now before us. Capt. Johnston says:

"'After marching six miles, still passing plains which had once been occupied, we saw to our left the *Casa de Montezuma*. I rode to it, and found the remains of the walls of four buildings and the piles of earth showing where many others had been. One of the buildings is still quite complete as a ruin; the others had all crumbled but a few pieces of low broken wall. The large Casa was fifty feet by forty, and had been four stories high; but the floors and roof had long since been burnt out. The charred ends of the cedar joists were still in the wall. I examined them and found that they had not been cut with a steel instrument. The joists were round sticks. There were four entrances, north, south, east, and west; the doors are about four feet by two. The rooms had the same arrangement on each story. There was no sign of a fire-place in the building. The lower story was filled with rubbish, and above it was open to the sky. The walls were four feet thick at the bottom, and were built of a sort of white earth with pebbles, probably containing lime, which abounded on the ground adjacent, and the surface still remained firm, although it was evident they (the walls) had been exposed to great heat from the fire. Some of the rooms did not open to all the rest, but had a hole a foot in diameter to look through; in other places were small holes.'

"Clavigero, the historian, believes that this great movement of the Aztecs from the North towards the South commenced about the year of our Lord 1160, and that the Casas Grande were built by them at various halts which they made in their circuitous journey toward the Valley of Mexico. It has been shown that in 1542 there were no buildings of the size and character of the Casas Grande, or such as are found here now, in all the country called Quivira which Castanada visited and described. So one must conclude that so far as the Aztecs were concerned, whatever they may have had to do with the building of the edifices either in the Navajo country or on the Gila, or those found 250 miles northwest of Chihuahua, they never planned or constructed those at Gran Quivira.

"History represents that Vasquez de Coronda, finding no gold during his great expedition, returned to Mexico, where he fell into disgrace and died in obscurity.

"The Spaniards did not return to colonize the province of New Mexico until the year 1581, and the country could not be considered as conquered until 1595. For eighty-five years after this the colony seems to have prospered and to have grown in power. Towns and villages were built and valuable mines of gold and silver were found and worked with success. The Catholic clergy were aided in their efforts to convert the Indians to christianity by the Government, at whose expense large churches were erected in different parts of the province of New Mexico, corresponding with the *missions* which were built for the same purpose and at about the same period in the other provinces of Texas and California. It was during this time, doubtless, that the large edifices at Abo, Quarra, and Gran Quivira were erected. It is more than probable that valuable mines of the precious metals were found in their vicinity and worked under the direction of the Spaniards by the Indians who had been subjugated, for there is every reason to believe that the mountains east of the Rio Grande are at this day rich in gold and silver.

"It appears that during these eighty-five years the Spaniards treated the Indians with the most cruel oppression, until finally the latter revolted against them. The night of the 13th of August, 1680, was the time set throughout all New Mexico when the Indians should rise and make an indiscriminate massacre of all the Spaniards in the country. This plot was made known to Don Antonio de Otermin, then the governor and military commandant of the province, by two Indian chiefs. Every effort was made for defence and to avert the coming storm, but without success. The Indians rose as agreed upon, and, after various conflicts, they destroyed great numbers of the inhabitants; and, finally, by the latter end of September of that year succeeded in driving all the rest, with Gov. Otermin included, to El Paso del Norte, entirely beyond the confines of the Territory.

"Old Mr. Chavis, who overtook us soon after our arrival at Gran Quivira, informed Major Carleton that he had been told when in his youth by very old people that a tribe of Indians once lived here called the Pueblos of Quivira; the Spanish priests came and lived among them in peace and security for twenty years; that during this period these large churches were erected, and that at the time of the great massacre there were seventy priests and monks residing here, all of whom were butchered excepting two, who contrived to make their escape; that previous to their massacre the priests had had intimation of the approaching danger, and had not only buried the immense treasures which had been collected, but had concealed likewise the bells of the churches; that many years after the people of Quivira had died off until but few remained; that one of these, a descendant of the chief, knew where the treasures were buried; that the remnant of the tribe afterwards emigrated and joined other pueblos below El Paso; and that many years ago an old man, one of the last of the tribe, had told in what direction from the church these great treasures had been concealed. So far as the building of the churches and the massacre of the monks and priests are concerned in this account, as well as the final decrease and removal of the people who once lived here, there is no doubt but that the story told by Mr. Chavis is, in the main, correct. The account of the depositories of the bells and the treasure is said to have been written down as given from the lips of the last Cacique of the Quivira, who, at the time he made the disclosure, was living away below the Mesilla, on the Mexican side of the river."

THE AUTUMN WOOD.

A POEM.

BY JAMES A. YOUNG, M. D.
Prince George's County, Maryland.

I love the pleasant solitude
Of shady stream and sombre wood,
When Autumn's morn, with grateful heat,
Has made the deep'ning shadows sweet:
When, thro' the woodland path, which winds
Mid stalwart oaks and clustering vines,
I love to rove at Fancy's call,
While round, unnumbered all,
The withered leaves of autumn fall.
Alas! they mark Time's ruthless flight,
His pathway strewn with smiles and tears,
Hopes withered 'mid the lapse of years!
For human hopes and flowers of spring,
And all that's fair and all that's bright,
The human heart has loved, take wing,
And, like the leaves of autumn cast,
With bitter memories strew the past.
But if sad thoughts will oft intrude
Amid the bright autumnal wood,
They greet the heart in pleasant mood.
The colors which so dazzle them,
If tinted by the dying year,
Presage a moral, while they shine
To crown the glory of decline.
So age, amid life's closing years,
The deathless charms of virtue wears,
Varied and beautiful like these
We note among the autumn trees.
With mincing step I pass along,
Attentive to the mimic's song,
Whose varied notes surpass for me
The proudest strains of minstrelsy.
Above, around, the leafy scene
In autumn's brilliant robes is seen.
The dark columnar oaks arise
Like pillars to support the skies;
And golden light is mottled o'er
The wide expanse of sylvan floor;
When bright-hued flowers in beauty nod
Amid the green and fragrant sod,
Fit temple of creation's God.
No prayer sectarian rises here,
No cold precisian vainly cowers,
The only anthem which I hear
The song of birds, the scent of flowers,
The full-soul's rapture in this hour,
Fit worship of that glorious Power
Whose breath created all—whose care
Hath made them simply what they are—
A God of equal love and power,
As witnessed by a world, a flower.

Onward I pass in musing mood,
'Till, lost within the mazy wood,
I sit me down to rest. The trunk
Of some huge tree, decaying, sunk
Where river from its woodland thrown,
Upon the earth it lies, moss grown,
Serves for my humble seat. The hare,
With troubled look and pointed ear,
Is crouching in the thicket near;
And, now in sunshine, now in shade,
Forever murmuring through the glade,
A streamlet rushes by.
The tangled bushes hide it now;
Anon it flashes on the eye,
Lit by the sun's bright glow;
Now, sparkling o'er its pebbly bed,
Its laughing tide is lightly led;
Now, stayed by the obstructed bow,
Its gathered waters slowly go,
'Till suddenly they overflow,
And, bounding o'er the dam which stayed,
They fall in miniature cascade.

Above me spreads the azure heaven
In bright unchanging blue,
Where the proud leafy dome is riven
Forever smiling through.
Forever! Ah, what thoughts will rise
While gazing on yon changeless skies!
Forever, and for aye,
Who shall say
When yon bright skies shall pass away?
Six thousand years agone the sun
Was blazing in those skies;
How many changing years must run
Ere all their glory dies!
Ages ago your vault was spread
In glorious beauty overhead;
Morning and night as now would come
To break in light or close in gloom;
The changing seasons lightly pass'd—
The summer's breath, the winter's blast—
And ever as they went or came
Behold yon changeless skies the same!
And myriads of our race since then
Have fallen, yielded to a sure decay,
And mountain height and shady glen
Are rich with human clay.
The very earth on which I tread
May hold the ashes of the dead;
Yon little flower which flaunts the day
Draws all its beauty from decay;
These forests vast take strength and grow
From mouldering millions of our race.
They were, they are not; and shall we
Escape their fearful destiny?
I know not and I cannot know
To what dark bourne the soul must go;
But this I feel while musing here,
Beside the sadly closing year—
All things alike attest God's care.
Tho' manhood's strength and beauty's form
Alike be doomed to feed the worm,
The soul is still *immortal!* This,
Or if in torture, if in bliss,
Shall triumph over Death and Time!
Nature proclaims the truth sublime
And Reason witnesseth for man,
Deprived of his immortal soul
Systems and Suns in darkness roll,
Creation has no plan!
What tho' uncounted worlds revolve
And race succeed to race for aye,
Man's immortality must solve
The problem of the universe. They
Too in time shall pass away.
And what is left? A record of decay.
Successive changes cloud at last
In fruitless memorics of the past.

Matter-elementary hath this immunity!
And shall the spirit die?
Ah no! beyond yon azure sky
I feel, I know, my soul shall wing
Its flight to immortality.
Death is a phantom! Nature knows,
Throughout her wide and varied range
No terror of the fiend. 'Tis change.
Change infinite and blessed,
All beautiful and true, like those
In which the autumn woods are dressed,
Attends on all created things!
Spirit of Beauty, reigning here,
Amid this solitude of trees,
Beside the dying year,
Teach me your gentle mysteries;
Absolve my heart of fear,
And lend my spirit wings,
'Till my rapt soul with ardor full
Be wedded to the Beautiful!

For oh, the soul hath longings Earth
Can never truly satisfy;
And vaulting hopes which here have birth
Find homes beyond the sky.
Oft have I gazed, with longing eyes,
As now, upon yon azure skies,
And strove to pierce their mysteries;
And, had the spirit wings as free
As will, my daring soul,
Mocking at earth's control,
Had soared into infinity.
But no, ah no! the chains which bind
Our earthly bodies clog the mind.
We can but view the wonders o'er
Without the power to explore.
Spirit of Beauty, ever good,
Who peoplest this vast solitude,
Teach me, oh teach me, while I rove
In woodland walk or shady grove,
Your gentle craft of love!

Teach me, with calm untroubled eye,
To scan the glories of the sky:
With heart attuned and grateful mind
To list the voices of the wind,
When, sighing thro' the woods at even,
They whisper hope of Heaven.
Teach me to join the vesper hymn,
Which, warbled by unnumbered throats,
Upon the air in rapture floats,
In gratitude to Him,
The God of Love and Power.
Teach me, oh teach me so to read
In nature Nature's glorious creed
Of love, and love alone,
That when my heart would faint with fear
I may forget my terrors here.
Here, where my God has reared His throne,
In Nature's peaceful solitude,
So shall my heart remember long
My woodland walk, the vesper song,
Of earth in this her saddest hour,
Amid the autumn wood!

But see the sun declining now;
The autumn woods are all aglow;
Crimson and gold and gorgeous red
Are flashing brightly overhead,
While in the distance darkly spread,
Like some vast screen,
Behold the Pine's eternal green.
The day departing seems to wear
A crowning glory like the year;
The western sky is glowing bright
With purple and with golden light;
While massive clouds, like mountains riven,
Against the sky uproll'd,
Seem gorgeous, like the gates of Heaven,
With azure and with gold.
The God of day, in glory dressed,
Is passing to his rest!

The years, the seasons, and the day,
And all that God has made,
In all their glory pass away,
In all their beauty fade.
Yet, while we mark their sure decline,
Ourselves as frail as they,
Our hearts are cheered by Hope divine—
'Tis change and not decay.
No terrors rise to fright our eyes
Thro' Nature's wide domain;
No spectres meet us there;
Glad Spring renews the parting year,
The morrow sees the sun appear,
And all is glad again!
Ah, wherefore should we fear?
The bonds of death are riven,
The Power which bade the seasons roll
Conferred on man undying soul
And made him hope for Heaven!

TO CHARLES W. LANCASTER,
New Bond street, Middlesex, England, and all others concerned.

WHEREAS an interference has been declared between the patent granted by the Commissioner of Patents to you as the inventor of an improvement in cannon and a claim presented him by me, as the original inventor of an improvement in the construction of cannon and shot, the hearing for which is set by him for the fourth Monday in November next, you will therefore take notice that on the fourth Monday of October next, and following days, if necessary, at the Bruen House, Lexington, State of Kentucky, I shall take the depositions of sundry persons, to be read as evidence in my behalf in said hearing, when and where you may attend, if you think proper. THOMAS H. BARLOW,
aug 16—wtd Washington.

BRILLIANT SCHEMES.

To be Drawn at Wilmington, Del., October, 1854.
GREGORY & MAURY, MANAGERS.

Four Prizes of $25,000!

Lottery for the benefit of
THE STATE OF DELAWARE,
Class 230, for 1854,
To be drawn at Wilmington, Delaware, on Saturday, October 7, 1854.
78 number lottery—13 drawn ballots.
BRILLIANT SCHEME.

4 prizes of	$25,000	40 prizes of	$500
2 do	8,100	200 (lowest 3 No. prizes)	200
40 do	1,000	&c. &c.	&c.

Tickets $10—Halves $5—Quarters $2.50.

Certificate of packages of 26 wholes		$140 00
Do do	26 halves	70 00
Do do	26 quarters	35 00

Tickets $20—Halves $10—Quarters $5—Eighths $2.50.

Certificate of packages of 26 wholes		$270 00
Do do	26 halves	135 00
Do do	26 quarters	67 50
Do do	26 eighths	33 75

☞ Orders for Tickets and Shares and Certificates of Packages in the above splendid Lotteries will receive the most prompt attention, and an account of each drawing will be sent immediately after it is over to all who order from me.
Address P. J. BUCKEY,
sep 22—3tawd&cop Agent, Wilmington, Delaware.

One splendid Capital of $50,000!

Lottery for the benefit of
THE STATE OF DELAWARE,
Class 236, for 1854,
To be drawn at Wilmington, Delaware, on Saturday, October 14th, 1854.
75 number lottery—14 drawn ballots.
SPLENDID SCHEME.

1 prize of	$50,000	1 prize of	$3,897
1 do	25,000	40 do	1,000
2 do	15,000	40 do	500
2 do	7,500	277 (lowest 3 No. prizes)	200
&c.	&c.	&c.	&c.

Tickets $15—Halves $7.50—Quarters $3.75—Eighths $1.87½.

Certificates of packages of 25 wholes		$170 00
Do do	25 halves	85 00
Do do	25 quarters	42 50
Do do	25 eighths	21 25

40,000 Dollars!

Lottery for the benefit of
THE STATE OF DELAWARE,
Class 242, for 1854,
To be drawn at Wilmington, Delaware, Saturday, October 21st, 1854.
75 number lottery—12 drawn ballots.
BRILLIANT SCHEME.

1 prize of	$40,000	1 prize of	$8,627
1 do	20,000	100 do	750
1 do	15,000	115 do...(lowest 3 Nos.)	300
1 do	10,000	&c. &c.	&c.

Tickets $10—Halves $5—Quarters $2.50.

Certificate of packages of 25 wholes		$140 00
Do do	25 halves	70 00
Do do	25 quarters	35 00

80,000 Dollars!

Lottery for the benefit of
THE STATE OF DELAWARE,
Class L, for 1854,
To be drawn at Wilmington, Delaware, on Saturday, October 28th, 1854.
78 number lottery—13 drawn ballots.
MAGNIFICENT SCHEME.

1 splendid capital of	$80,000	2 splendid capitals of	$5,000
2 do	25,000	20 splendid prizes of	1,500
2 do	20,000	100 do	1,000
2 do	15,000	155 do (lowest 3 Nos.)	400
2 do	10,000	&c. &c.	&c.

Tickets $20—Halves $10—Quarters $5—Eighths $2.50.

Certificate of packages of 26 wholes		$270 00
Do do	26 halves	135 00
Do do	26 quarters	67 50
Do do	26 eighths	33 75

☞ Orders for Tickets and Shares and Certificates of Packages in the above splendid Lotteries will receive the most prompt attention, and an account of each drawing will be sent immediately after it is over to all who order from me.
Address P. J. BUCKEY,
sep 22—3tawd&cop Agent, Wilmington, Delaware.

D. O. HARE, Engraver.
State, County, and Corporation Seals. Presses furnished.
ma 13—eptf WASHINGTON, D. C.

Telegraphic Correspondence.

A WEEK LATER FROM EUROPE.

The Telegraph reports the arrival yesterday of two European steamers—the Alps at Boston and the America at Halifax. The latest dates from Liverpool are to the 16th instant.

The accounts of the harvest in England and on the Continent continue to be most satisfactory.

The cholera was raging at London with great virulence. There had been 4,000 deaths during the three weeks ending on the 8th instant.

The London Morning Post discredits the charge made against Mr. SOULE, of having been connected with the late insurrection at Madrid.

Letters from Madrid to the 7th state that the payment of the Imperial debt will be resumed on the 11th instant.

It is supposed that Queen CHRISTINA arrived in Portugal on the 3d instant. The confiscation of her property had fairly begun. The Governor of Oredo had seized the coal mines, which formed part of it.

A French loan of four hundred millions of francs is proposed.

The most important item of intelligence from the East is the sailing on the 4th instant of the expedition against the Crimea. It was expected to reach Sebastopol about the 10th. The war-vessels and transports of the expedition number some seven hundred, and convey an army of 74,000 men.

The total destruction of the forts of Bomarsund and the departure of the French troops for France is confirmed. The fleet has gone from Ledsund to Narga.

Count CROMINI entered Bucharest on the 6th at the head of 4000 Austrian troops.

Although Austria does not consider the rejection of the four conditions on the part of Russia as a *casus belli*, she still looks