Minnesota Times.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1856.

MUSIC HATH CHARMS, &c.—On Monday night we were aroused from our slumbers by a serenading party, who, stopping under our window, delighted us with their sweet music, both vocal and instrumental. What is more pleasing than to be startled from a sound sleep, and before you are fairly awake, to hear the beautiful notes of the guitar, accompanied by the voices of accomplished singers? It did not hardly seem real to us. We were imagining ourself in dream-land and it was some time before we comprehended the true state of the case. We should like to hear the performance repeated.

☞ The Fanny Harris arrived yesterday afternoon. She has the following memoranda: Met the James Lyons, at Buena Vista; the Ben Coursin, at Cassville; Lady Franklin and Falls City at Coon Slough; War Eagle in Lake Pepin; Excelsior at Prescott; and City Belle above Hastings.

☞ The Alhambra, Capt. Gabbert, J. J. Hills, first Clerk, Robert Melville, second Clerk; arrived yesterday morning. We are indebted to the Clerk for the following memoranda. Left Galena Saturday night at 11 o'clock; Dunleith at 11 o'clock Sunday morning. Passed the Matty Wayne, from St. Louis, with a barge, is on her way up; passed the A. G. Mason, at Red Wing, coming up; passed the Fanny Harris below Winona, she left Dunleith the night before the Alhambra. The Alhambra had about 160 passengers. Freight principally for St. Paul.

☞ The York State arrived at our levee yesterday morning early. She is the first boat up from St. Louis.

☞ The City Belle left for Galena yesterday morning.

☞ The Reveille, Capt. Spencer, left yesterday afternoon for the Minnesota.

☞ The Golden Era went out yesterday afternoon.

☞ The York State left yesterday afternoon for St. Louis.

☞ We met on the road to Sunrise river, a few days ago, Dr. E. Miller, of Vernon, Vt. The Dr., had with him some fifteen or twenty of the hardy Green Mountain boys. The company was in fine health and spirits, looking forward, as well they might, to happy homes in Minnesota.

☞ Mr. A. S. Elfelt is receiving his spring stock of Fancy and Staple Dry Goods. Those in want of articles in his line, can be suited to a T, both as to price and quality. Drop in opposite the American House.

☞ Stranger! do you wish to find in Minnesota, a public house where all your wants are anticipated and supplied, where every comfort and luxury is provided, and every attention paid you? Mr. E. A. Duel, of the Winslow House, can introduce you to such a place.

CONSENT ASKED.—The Brussels Independent asserts that the Prince Frederick, son of William, of Prussia, has asked of the King his uncle, his consent to the proposed alliance with the Princess Royal of England, and that consent was granted in presence of the Court. The Prince is 25 years of age.

—— The Cincinnati Price Current states that at no time during the last fifteen years, has there been such activity, as at present, in all the departments of the commerce and trade of that city.

—— A complaint has been made against the East Boston toll man, and captain of the ferry boat, for obstructing the U. S. mail, they having refused to let the mail carrier pass unless he paid the increased toll.

☞ Henry A. Wise, Jr., the son of the Governor of Va., is about to be ordained as an Episcopal minister.

All the railroad lines leading from Boston to New York have raised the rate of passenger fare one dollar.

☞ One of the "city fathers" of Allegheny City, Pa., has been fined $5 for whipping his wife.

☞ The Legislature of Mississippi has passed a bill authorizing parties to contract for the payment of any rate of interest not exceeding ten per cent. on the renewal of any debt after maturity.

☞ The steamer Eclipse from Louisville for New Orleans, had 16,000 sacks of corn engaged at points along the Ohio. This will make the largest cargo of corn ever known to have been shipped on a boat.

☞ A committee appointed by the business men of Kansas, consisting of G. W. Brown, editor of the Herald of Freedom, and others, were in Alton, on the 9th, to take the initiatory steps for establishing a line of steamers between Alton and Kansas, for the purpose of transporting free State emigrants with their goods. They will proceed hence to Chicago, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and eastern cities, to perfect the arrangement.

☞ The Richmond Enquirer which has all along been predicting that the "Abolition Party," as it styles Republicans, could never get even a foothold in any Southern State, says:

"It is needless to conceal the fact that there is now an organized abolition party at the South."

☞ The Boston Times says the rate at which the lot on the corner of State and Exchange st's., in that city, was recently sold, was $80 per square foot, and at the same rate the cost of an acre would amount to $3,484,800.

☞ The South Carolina Joint Stock Pro-Slavery Emigration Aid Company requires this pledge of its Emigrants: "We agree to go to Kansas Territory and locate there *until* it be decided whether it shall be a Pro-Slavery or Anti-Slavery State; and we further agree to support *when there*, the Pro-Slavery party."

☞ Nova Scotia legislature has passed the Maine Liquor law, by 27 to 20, to go into effect immediately.

☞ The Richmond Whig says the chinch-bug is alive and kicking in Virginia, and threatens destruction to the wheat if rain does not fall.

AN IMPORTANT WITNESS.—A Dutchman was arrested in Cleveland, last week, on charge of murdering his wife, and his examination was held on Saturday. It was proved he had struck her and abused her, and at last she had strangely disappeared. The evidence was getting dark against the man, when the door opened, and in walked the wife in perfect health! Tired of his abuses, she had gone to the poor house, and had been living there for six weeks, when hearing of the arrest of her husband, came into court as a witness for him, and produced of course, much excitement. The couple were once more united, and are now living together.

☞ Epitaph on a lamb just killed: "*Peas* to its remains."

Correspondence of the Times.

LITTLE FALLS, April 16, 1856.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—As probably a great number of your readers are not aware of the rapid growth and promising advantages of Little Falls, perhaps you will give this communication an insertion in one of the columns of your paper, it would be interesting to them to learn of its condition and resources.

Little Falls is situated on the Mississippi one hundred and eight miles above St. Paul, and fifteen miles below Fort Ripley. It has lately become the county seat of Morrison county, and at this time contains fully twenty-five buildings occupied by about one hundred inhabitants. Among the buildings may be mentioned two stores, one large mill which answers the double purpose of grinding and sawing, a good blacksmith shop, and a hotel in erection that would do honor to the first town of Minnesota. Besides it contains a number of very handsome private residences. These, when taking into consideration the fact that a year ago there were only three or four houses in the place, are calculated to set Little Falls in rather a favorable position before the public.

The country around is beautiful. A large fertile prairie extends above and below it which is skirted on the East by oak openings and a rolling country of good meadow and farming lands. Little lakes are interspersed at convenient distances, forming admirable watering places for farmers. On the West is good timbered land, containing timber suitable for all kinds of business purposes. And the land itself is of excellent quality. Indeed, it is pronounced by some to be of superior worth to that on the East side. However that may be, it is all capable of raising an abundant crop. There are many good farmers in the vicinity of Little Falls, who cultivate a large quantity of land, and are well repaid for their exertions.—The high price of produce makes this a desirable situation for them.

In regard to the water power of the Mississippi at this place, it seems to be the very caption of privileges. There are some of the most splendid chances for a number of large manufactories on either bank directly opposite the town. Already the Little Falls Company, with a good water power, are doing a handsome business in the manufacturing of lumber and building material, and they are still extending their works. Last summer they had in operation two saws, and a rotary, a grist mill and shingle machine. But this year, when their spring's arrangements are completed, they will have in addition another rotary saw, some lath saws, a planing machine, and iron and wooden turning lathes. Besides I may mention another saw mill, which they are building two or three miles above at the mouth of the Little Elk, soon to be in operation.

The Company are sparing no exertions to build up and benefit the place. The site has been surveyed and plotted into wide, commodious lots, with alleys, which they are selling to purchasers at very suitable prices. Being situated on the route from St. Paul to Fort Ripley, Little Falls has all the conveniences of a good road, and of the mail plying between those places. A road has been authorized to be laid out from this place to Otter Tail Lake, which will be done in due time, besides a road from here to Mille Lac will probably be opened this spring. No doubt you have noticed the favorable opinion of Little Falls in the report of Gov. Steven's exploring party, as being the best crossing place of the Mississippi for a railroad from Lake Superior to Puget Sound. This favorable opinion, it is hoped, will soon become a fact. The river is compressed here into a narrow channel only 150 feet wide, and the opposite banks seemed to have been formed almost purposely for a bridge. They are composed of solid rocks and would make excellent abatments. The levelness of the country and the abundance of timber favor the idea that this will be the passage of a northern route from Lake Superior. Perhaps you will be surprised when I say that Little Falls bids fair to be one of the most flourishing towns of the North West. S. M. P.

—— They are paying 38 cents per bushel for corn, in Chicago, to be delivered after the opening of the canal.

A SHIP SWALLOWED UP BY THE LAND.—In 1849, a large ship from Boston, was used as a storeship at San Francisco. By degrees, piles were driven around her and the city crept down beyond, until she was entirely surrounded by buildings, and her hull was converted into a large hotel!

☞ In 23 counties in the western part of New York, there are said to be forty million of young fruit trees growing.

☞ Extraordinary as it may seem, Horace Greeley, according to the N. Y. Herald correspondent, actually danced in a quadrille at the Washington National Hall the other evening.

☞ The first herring of the season, arrived at Taunton, Mass., on the 27th ult. It was sold for $1.50.

☞ It has been ascertained that Bishop O'Reilly, of Hartford, was not on board of the Pacific.

☞ Mr. Van Metre has obtained contributions to the Five Points Mission at Freeport, to the amount of $120, besides a box of clothing.

☞ The State Agricultural Fair of Wisconsin, will be held at Milwaukee on the 8th, 9th and 10th of October.

☞ Mr. John A. Washington, owner of Mount Vernon, lately wrote to one of the ladies engaged in raising money for its purchase, that the place was not for sale. The estate is said to be going to decay rapidly.

☞ The new dome of the Capitol at Washington, will cost, according to the estimate of Mr. Walters, the architect, about a million of dollars. Its construction was commenced with an appropriation of $100,000.

☞ The Superintendent of Public Instruction in California recommends that a copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary should be placed in every school in the State.

☞ Frosted feet may be easily cured thus:—Heat a brick very hot, and hold the foot over it as closely as it can be held without burning; then cut an onion in two, and dipping it repeatedly in salt, rub all over the foot. The juice of the onion will be dried into the foot, and effect a cure in a very short time.

☞ A Philadelphia punster says that in view of the universal fun made by the American press over the birth of the prince of Algiers, he proposes that the title of the illustrious stranger should be changed to the "Prince of All jeers."

☞ The best occupation for man to make choice of is such as shall prove an ornament to himself and useful to mankind.

Items from the St. Anthony Express.

We learn that a gentleman is now here from the East, with the intention of establishing an iron foundry. He wishes to secure a good water power on the St. Anthony side and put up a building capable of accommodating one hundred workmen. Mr. Chute the agent of the Mill Company is now unfortunately at the East, still it is thought an arrangement will be made, and the foundry be built immediately. Mr. Stone, the gentleman who proposes building it, is the proprietor of an extensive foundry near Hartford, Conn. We sincerely hope that that project may be carried through. It would greatly add to the business of our flourishing city.

We notice another improvement which has just been commenced. A canal thirty feet wide, is being cut through Hennepin Islands for the mill purposes. It commences about oppsite our office and is to be extended to the foot of the island. We understand that a similar canal is soon to be cut through upon the opposite side of the island. There is a great future for the manufacturing interests of St. Anthony.

We understand that Mr. Jones the brick maker of Minneapolis, has lately returned from the East, and intends to recommence his old business immediately. He informs us that he will probably be able to furnish upwards of 2,000,000 bricks the ensuing season. Go ahead, neighbor Jones; we shall need them all. Minneapolis as well as St. Anthony is bound to grow this season.

☞ The Falls present a very splendid appearance now. They are not only beautiful but they are sublime. The old logs and rubbish which have heretofore so much marred their beauty are fast disappearing. All excepting one jam near the Minneapolis shore, have gone and this must disappear, under the immense pressure of water which is now playing over it.

☞ The water is higher now than it ever has been before for several years and still continues rising. There was considerable rain last fall which filling up the swamps and freezing, has made it a very easy matter to coax the greater part of the snow, together with the great quantity of rain which has fallen lately, into the river. The logs must now come down. It cannot be otherwise, as it continues to rain and there is no prospect of abatement in the rise of water till it is much higher than it now is. As far as lumber is concerned Minnesota cannot fail to see a prosperous time this year.

THE GLORIOUS UNCERTAINTIES OF THE LAW.—Our readers may remember the facts of the arrest of a young man at the Astor House, some four weeks ago, charged with having left Australia very suddenly, with some $40,000 of his employers property, and also that a member of the firm succeded in attaching a large portion of the money which had been placed in the hands of Messrs Coleman & Stetson, by the young man for safe keeping. The principal tried the laws of New York upon his defaulting employee, but finding that the case would probably take years to bring it to a final settlement, concluded to compromise the matter, and submitted to a loss of $11,000. The late clerk remains in New York, to spend what he has left of his ill-gotten gains, and the employer took his departure from Baston on Wednesday in the steamer for Liverpool.—*N. Y. Express.*

Julia-Marir-Ann Cauliflower says, "when she fell in love, she felt as if she was sliding down an ice mountain on a little hand sled, with a chunk of rainbow in her bosom as big as a pound of swan-down, expecting to be landed in a lake of honey filled with islands all covered with posy beds." The thermometer being twenty-eight degrees below zero, the gal didn't faint.

☞ Indiscretion is the fountain whence misfortunes ever flow, but hope and fortune ever grow for him who has a prudent mind.

—— A medical writer says that the rocking chairs, as now constructed, ought never to be used, for they produce a double bind of the spine inwardly, and of the shoulders forward, which is preventive of free respiration. He says they might be constructed to flare exactly the other way—their sides warping outwardly, and their tops turning backward, with infinite benefit. Some chair maker might do well to improve on this very rational hint.

☞ A lover, writing to his sweetheart, says: "Delicate dear—You are so sweet that honey would blush in your presence and molasses stand appalled."

☞ Since 1840, the whole number of interments in Greenwood Cementry, New York, have been 47,223.

—— Several millers near Manchester, England, have been heavily fined for mixing white clay with their flour. The proportion found in several samples was about two per cent.—The court ordered all the flour they had on hand to be sold for feeding swine, and the proceeds given to the poor.

☞ The editor of the New York Herald speaks of three editors, by one of whom he is called a Know Nothing, by the second a Soft Democrat, and by the third a Black Republican. We suppose the three got hold of three different numbers of his paper, published, probably on three consecutive days.

☞ The Philadelphia Dispatch gives an account of the bursting of a lady's hoop in the street, by which calamity the outside lining of her dress was torn into ribbons, and her little boy walking by her side knocked into the gutter, senseless. He was, however, rescued from drowning by a hack driver, who gallantly plunged in and brought him ashore. The lady escaped uninjured.

☞ The California papers ridicule the charges made against Gen. Wool by the Legislature of Oregon. They declare that the acts of violence done by the Indians have been caused by wanton dishonesty and intrigue on the part of the whites.

☞ The patrons of the Theological Seminary are making efforts to raise $150,000, for its better endowment, so as to raise the salaries of its Professors and build a fire proof building.

☞ It is reported that since his retirement from the Washington Union, Mr. Forney is employing his leisure hours in writing a biography of Mr. Buchanan.

☞ Barnum has again been up on a judge's warrant. He says he can do nothing for his creditors but surrender his property. He accounted for the disappearance of his fortune of nearly half a million by clock debts paid and secured, $70,000; loss of bonds on Jerome Co., $30,000 sacrifice on Connecticut property, $300,000; other losses $53,000, and family expenses.

WOMAN.—An exchange says that "God intended all women to be beautiful as much as he did the roses and morning glories; and that he intended they should obey his laws, and cut indolence and corset strings and indulge in freedom and fresh air. For a girl to expect to be handsome with the action of her lungs dependent upon the expansive nature of a cent's worth of tape, is as absurd as to look for tulips in a snow bank, or a full grown oak in a little flower-pot."

THE TYPE BATTERY.—Mr. Fye, of the New York Press, being called on to reply to a toast in honor of the craft at the late celebration of the Typographical Society, made a very excellent speech—the speech of the evening decidedly, in the course of which he said:

"There are two kinds of weapons. We have Paixan guns, Minnie rifles and Sharp's rifles; but there is one thingt hat shoots further than all these. It is the shot from the type battery. It goes round the world; it circles and threads plains; it wends its way through woods; it rattles in the rigging of the ship in the most distant seas; it is never spent when aimed high, but ricochets striking with fresh force every form of evil, dishonor and oppression. In firing, then, let your aim always be true, and remember that to hit the mark aim a little above it."

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1856.

THE GROWTH OF HOUSES.—As we were coming up Third street a few evenings since, a gentleman who had visited St. Paul two years ago, overtook us, and after the usual salutations, and remarks about the weather were interchanged, our friend stopped short, as though he had been struck with a fit of paralysis. Any one who had seen his countenance at this moment, would have fallen back aghast, at the terrible amazement and horror depicted therein; for a few seconds he stood transfixed, but recovering himself, as if from a dream, he drawled out, "When I was here two years ago, Minnesota was considered "some pumpkins," and I thought it was a pretty smart place, myself. I heard a great deal said of the fertility of the soil, and of rapid vegetation, but hang me if I could ever believe that houses grew if I had not witnessed it with my own eyes."—The case is this—for some time past the grading of Third street has been in operation, and as the earth had been leveled to the bottoms of the cellars, the vacuums thus caused had been filled in with stores, making the buildings appear as though the lower stories had grown out of the ground. Our friend could not understand the explanation and left with the impression that *everything* grew in Minnesota.—The last that was heard of him he was on the cars *en route* for Michigan, intending to purchase a large stock of worn out type and several "A No. 1, Northrup presses," saying that he would plant them in the fertile soil of Minnesota, till they grow to be new and then he would be able to assist in the publication of the Cheese Press, providing the rapidly increasing circulation of that valuable sheet should require any aid and comfort.

MAIL LOST.—We learn from the St. Peter Courier that on Thursday last, the entire mail from the Winnebago Agency, Mankato, Kasota, St. Peter, Traverse des Sioux and Le Sueur, was lost in Le Sueur Creek. It appears that the stream was much swollen by the recent rains, and that the driver heedlessly and without regard to the danger attempted to drive across. The water was so deep that it floated off the bed of the wagon which immediately upset, throwing the mail into the stream. In the letter bag there were many letters of importance, and their loss together with the rest of the mail matter has caused a feeling of bitterness throughout the community, as it is averred the whole thing was the result of abject carelessness.

☞ The St. Louis Democrat publishes a letter from Old Bullion which is, in substance, his farewell to public life. The old hero will devote the declining years of his life to the completion of the literary task which he has so nobly begun.

A GROWING TOWN.—The Rome (Ga.) Advertiser states that town now numbers about five thousand inhabitants, and that by the census of 1848 it had then only *five hundred and eighty*. Her Railroad and the navigation of the Upper Coosa river have contributed very largely to this great increase and prosperity of Rome.

You call that a growing town, do you? Why, in 1848 St. Paul could not count *eighty* inhabitants, and now she numbers almost *seven thousand*.

☞ A new steam saw mill is in progress of erection at Traverse des Sioux.

☞ The St. Peter Courier says that a severe hail storm passed over that village a few days since.

☞ The work of grading Fort and Chestnut streets is progressing finely.

☞ The A. G. Mason arrived from St. Louis on Tuesday night.

☞ The Mattie Wayne, from St. Louis, arrived yesterday forenoon, with a heavy freight and about 40 passengers.

☞ "Lardner's 1010 things worth knowing" is a cheap publication (only 25 cents), recently issued by H. Long & Bro., N. Y., which should be in the hands of every young person or every head of a family. It clearly explains how to do almost every thing that can be necessary in the kitchen, parlor or drawing room, and discloses most valuable receipts and instruction in the useful and domestic arts.

—— A traveler in San Joaquin Valley describes a wild and vivid scene. "Captain Egan resumed command, and sent six of us into the valley, where the wild mustang horses roamed in bands of tens and thousands. The sound made by their feet was like distant heavy thunder; large herds of elk were playing around, and the heavens were darkened by the millions of water fowls, and at times we stopped for hours to let the mustangs cross our trail."

—— Louis Napoleon, it is said, will soon pay a visit to the island of Corsica, with the object of regenerating the place, and leaving behind monuments that will honor his name.

—— Two men have been arrested at Trenton charged with having been concerned in the murder of Joseph Sebold, a pedlar, about four years ago.

—— A policeman in Buffalo, left a pair of handcuffs in a store, and went away out of town. The same day, a porter, in the store, thought he would try them on. The handcuffs were so constructed that they lock by means of a spring and cannot be opened except by a peculiar shaped key which is made to fit each pair. The man's wrists were soon inserted, but they were not so easily removed. He rushed frantically to the Police Office, and then, in turn, to all the policemen, but no one could unlock the cuffs. He wore the ornaments from Saturday till Monday, when he was released.

—— Aaron Gage, *alia* Wm. A. Gage, *alias* Aaron W. Gage, *alias* Daniel Read, has been arrested for breaking into the store of B. M. Clark & Co., Orfordville, N. H., from which he abstracted a full suit of clothes, rings and so-forth; but into the safe he could not get, though he picked away at it all night.

—— The loss of cattle by the cold weather in Texas has been immense. Not less than one-third of the stock in many counties, it is thought, has been lost.

SERIOUS LOSS.—The Boston Transcript says the loss of the Worcester Railroad Company, by the burning of their depots at South Farmington, is $10,000. The engine house and 600 cords of wood were burnt.

☞ The late Kentucky Legislature fixed the weight of a bushel of bituminous coal at eighty pounds, whilst that of cannel coal has been reduced to seventy pounds.

—— Haydon, who stole $27,000 worth of jewelry from Ball, Black & Co., of New York, states that he was driven to the act by the distress of his mother in England, who continually wrote to him for assistance. He was also in love with a girl whose name he had rather not mention.

—— Within a radius of five miles around Sebastopol, it is supposed that more blood has been spilt, more lives sacrificed, and more misery inflicted in a year, than in any other equal extent of the earth's surface in the same time, since the days of Noah's flood.

—— The Louisville Journal makes the following acknowledgement: "Jefferson was a great man and undoubtedly a patriot, but a Southern editor would expose himself to the danger of mob violence if he were to use such language as Jefferson used."

BREAKING DOWN MOUNTAINS BY WATER.—Mr. Ewbank, in his work on Brazil, relates that mountains in some of the mining districts of Brazil are often broken down by the simple yet philosophical plan of digging wells into them and in the rainy season filling them with water by means of gutters. By this device the hydrostatic pressure of the liquid columns forces off masses from the face of the mountains which would require hundreds of men for months to accomplish with the mattock and shovel.

DECLINE IN CORN.—Corn in Nashville, Tennessee, on the 12th inst., was quoted from 15 to 20 cents per bushel.

—— Sir David Brewster is now preparing a work on the Stereoscope, which will also embrace his views, in full, on optics in general.—It will also contain a discussion on the subject, in which the views of others will be given.

☞ The whole number of land warrants issued under the act of the 3d of March, 1855, is now 100,853.

☞ A poor German woman had her pocket picked of $300 in gold at Albany, N. Y., lately. Her husband is a shoemaker, and the money was the savings from his labor for the past eleven years. They had just arrived in Albany from New York, and are left penniless.

IOWA FOR BUCHANAN.—The Dubuque Express says that Buchanan is unquestionably the choice of a majority of the party in Iowa, for the Presidency. This is a "lick back" that Douglas has not expected, and that Mr. Pierce who has eaten more dirt in Iowa than any man alive, will not like.

A BAD CAPITAL.—Frankfort, the capital city of Kentucky, is bankrupt, and has made an assignment of all its property for the benefit of its creditors. The "effects" assigned consists of the Capitol Hotel—a building erected by the city for the accommodation of the Legislature—Gas Works, Water Works, and various other public "traps." It is stated that the amount which will probably be realized from their sale will not be more than half sufficient to liquidate the indebtedness of the city, and that the remaining liabilities will have to be repudiated.

—— There are twenty women in the employment of the United States, at various points, as keepers of light-houses, beacon-lights, &c. Three or four have the prefix of "Miss" before their names, in their reports to the government.

—— There was a sensation in one of the Boston churches, on a recent Sunday, caused by the discovery of a considerable volume of smoke issuing from the organ during sermon time. An examination disclosed the two "blowers" in the little coop behind the instrument, comfortably enjoying their segars, and the alarm abated.

—— A strong demonstration is about being got up in Sonora and Coahuila, in favor of independence from Mexico, and annexation to the United States. Some parties are now in correspondence with the friends of the revolutionists in the United States, and the work is privately going on, of preparations for a formal declaration of independence at a time not far distant.

—— The American colonization society have an opportunity to secure the freedom of more than one hundred slaves, if they can obtain funds and send them to Africa. They appeal to the liberal for $21,000 before June 1st, for this and other purposes.

—— Senator Butler, of S. C., says that he would vote to dissolve the Union at once, if slaveholders cannot be permitted to go where they please with their property.

—— On the 26th ult., a large mail bag from Buffalo, containing mail matter from various parts of New York, intended for Chicago and the West, was cut open on the cars between Cleveland and Toledo, Ohio, and the letters scattered along the track. About a hundred, with the envelopes torn off, have been picked up, and will be returned to their authors.

—— Rev. E. H. Nevin, of Boston, and two other gentlemen, have purchased 12,000 acres of land in Iowa, on which they purpose to colonize 100 families, mostly from New Hampshire and Maine.

—— There are in the state of Maine fifteen railways, whose aggregate length within the State is 406 miles. Their entire cost is $19,272,491. This includes the entire cost of the Boston and Maine and Atlantic and St. Lawrence roads, large portions of which lie in other States.

—— Henry McDonald, baggage-master at Michigan City, Ind., is under arrest for robbing the mails. He confessed his guilt, restored some $800 in money, and $10,000 in drafts, and promised to obtain some $800 in money in addition, which had been secreted.

—— Not a paper in Michigan has hoisted the flag for Fillmore. A gentleman in Arkansas has made a present of an "immense American eagle" to the editor of the Louisville Journal, and the said editor promises substantially to release the noble bird, on the election of Mr. Fillmore to the Presidency. The poor bird is imprisoned for life.

—— It is said that it cost Rachel's brother only $10,000 to learn how to play faro, in New York. This gave him only the first principles.

☞ A. La Grange, who was recently mulcted in Albany, in the sum of $9,000 damages, for a breach of promise of marriage, with and seduction of Miss Elizabeth Compbell, has negotiated a marriage with the fair prosecutrix.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 1856.

Editorial Correspondence.

Albany—A Birdseye View of the Assembly.

ALBANY, April 15th, 1856.

In my last, I alluded to the general appearance of Albany. In this, I purpose to speak more particularly of the assembled wisdom recently gathered here and the public buildings which give to Albany a name at home and abroad. Conspicuous among these buildings is the Capitol at the head of State Street. It is not a very pleasant day, but I think we can keep warm by walking fast, so take my arm and we will enter the place where those who have been elected by the people to make their laws, are convened, and where men stoop from their exalted positions *as men*, to the ignoble depths of low, cunning politicians. We enter the iron enclosure of the Park (which is quite small,) and ascend the steps. Do you see that little group of wire-workers in yonder corner, earnestly engaged in conversation?—They belong to the Third House, (St. Paul has a Third House, judging from a pamphlet I have recently seen,) and have come from New York to create an outside pressure on the members in order to get through the Legislature the Bridge Bill. They are what the world calls shrewd men, and represents a high degree of respectability, and wealth to the amount of millions. And yet what are they doing? Pledging thousands of dollars to this and that member to secure his influence—promising offices of trust and honor to others, who, dazzled with the bright castles so gorgeously set upon golden clouds, shut out the better promptings of the heart, and cause them to do the bidding of scheming men. They succeed, and the Bill, granting a Bridge across the Hudson, to the detriment of the commerce of that noble river, passes and becomes a law, and yet how little knows the outside world of the causes brought to operate in the accomplishment of the end. And such *has* been, and for ought I can see, will be for years to come, the controlling influence that is ever perverting the Right and perpetuating the Wrong; still, I conceive a period at no distant day, in the history of the World, when men will be actuated by higher motives than at present govern too many of those who wear the cloak of Respectability beneath which lurk bad and designing hearts.

But let us pass on. We ascend a pair of stairs, turn to the right and enter the chamber of the Senate. It is a small room, not near so large as the Council chamber in the Capitol at St. Paul. There are thirty-two members, and they sit in a sort of amphi-theatre, occupying but little space. In the centre, at the outer circle of this amphi-theatre, is the Speaker's desk, slightly elevated in order that he may see the members. On his right is the Chief Clerk,—on his left the Assistant. Small boys in the capacity of pages, are moving silently from one member to another, carrying and conveying messages to various parts of the house within the railing, thereby superseding the necessity of the members moving from their seats, a feature I commend to the Legislature of Minnesota as worthy of imitation, as it avoids much confusion and gives to worthy and intelligent lads employment calculated to benefit them in future years. Outside of the railing, and on the right of the Speaker, are chairs for ladies—on the left are seats for gentlemen. Ushers are at each door to wait upon you, and thus, in the Senate Chamber of the Legislature of New York, a system is attained which at once commends itself as fraught with most excellent results. By this system each member can easily ascertain what is going on about him; can distinctly hear, and if he possesses ordinary common sense, and the Speaker makes himself intelligible, can fully understand every motion brought before the body. To me it was a luxury to sit in this chamber and watch the movement of the machinery which at the end of each day turned out work to be approved or disapproved by the thousands of citizens of the great Empire State. While we sit here let us scan the characters of several of those who compose the Assembly, and first, do you see that small man, not much larger than myself, with not a very high, nor very broad forehead, but indicating compactness and completeness? That is Mr. RAYMOND, Editor of the N. Y. Times, and President of the Senate. Watch him. See how restless his eyes are; twinkling from one side to the other, and apparently cognizant of everything transpiring about him. A member has just arisen, and before he has time to address the Chair, how quickly the President detects him and announces his name, and then subsides again into that same restless, comprehensive position. The member has taken his seat. Observe now how distinctly and quickly the President puts the motion, apparently with a full knowledge of the subject before him,—the eye still rolling from side to side and the mind still reaching forward to catch and understand and dispatch whatever business may be offered by other members. Mr. Raymond is certainly one of the best Speakers I ever saw in the chair, and though he has not that open and frank countenance which I admire, but rather of the political, trickery order, still he deports himself in such a way as to prove to my mind that he has much influence with those with whom he is associated. I cannot say that I admire the continual smile which plays upon his features, for it carries with it the idea of demagogueism, and of all traits in a man's character this I detest. Mr. Raymond is slim in person, and will disappoint those who know him only through the columns of the TIMES, and as Lt. Gov. of the State of New York.—His countenance is not striking, but the mind changes when you hear and see him dispatch the business brought before the Senate. I should judge that he is one of the youngest members of the Senate—certainly not over 33 or 34.

That tall, foppish-looking young man, with mustaches and goatee, very much resembling in statue, John B. Gough, is Senator Dan Sickles, well known to the Democracy of the city of New York. He has arisen from his seat and is about to speak. He has a full, round head, well developed, with a lock of hair carelessly falling on the left of the forehead—intentional doubtless. His general appearance is that of a foreigner, but his manners are easy and his delivery cool and distinct. His reasoning is good; he is very sarcastic, clear, logical and argumentative in debate. His voice is whining, but when tasked to its full compass rings clearly and distinctly. During three hours debate on the Bridge question, he acquitted himself gallantly, and in reply to a charge of Mr. Richardson, that he (Sickles) had misrepresented that Senator, he made a most scathing yet gentlemanly retort, which, notwithstanding the place, called forth applause from the spectators. He is a promising young man, and although directly opposed to me in politics and an admirer and supporter of General Pierce, whom I absolutely hate, yet I most cheerfully accord to him the credit due his talents. Judging from his effort on the Bridge question I consider him the ablest man of the Senate. Should say he was 34 or 5 years old.

Senator Brooks, (Editor of the N. Y. Express,) is a larger man than either Sickles or Raymond. He stands before us with his bushy head of black hair and dark, frowning brow, with a forehead by no means prominent as to comprehensiveness or intellectuality. His countenance is not pleasing, for to me he appears to be dissatisfied with himself and every body else, and instead of seeking to demonstrate by argument that his opponent is wrong, he seems over anxious to crush him by physical force.—He has a mulish, ambitious, wire-working, narrow-minded look, which comports well with any previous idea of his character, though that idea may be erroneous. His identification with the Know Nothings and his proscriptive course with every thing he does not understand and appreciate, fully confirm my view of the man. He is said to be, by those who train in the same troop with him, a gentleman of power and ability, but in my opinion there is something more needed to make a man than brains. A bold, fearless stand in the cause of Truth, with a kind, generous sympathy for humanity, is far more acceptable to me, and make a truer man than great ability, with a cold, selfish, ambitious heart.

Senator Nixon is among the youngest and smartest men of the Senate—strikes fearlessly, effectively and understandingly. Says only what he has to say, and then stops. I feel sure that the people of N. Y. will hear from him again.

Senator Kelly has a pleasing countenance; brow high and hair erect; light complexion—speaks seldom, but well. I have not time to speak of other Senators, among whom there are some twelve gray-haired men, but I can say this, without infringing upon my conscience, that the Senate of New York is a very orderly and dignified body. The members seem to be governed by higher and manlier motives than those composing the other house.

The room occupied by the members of the Assembly, is very large—larger than both the rooms in the Capitol at St. Paul, and you will readily see that it is necessary to be so, when 127 members take their seats therein. The Speaker's desk is high; below him are the clerks. Just in front of the clerks are the Reporters chairs, facing the members, an excellent arrangement. On the other side of the Speaker are the Engrossing and Enrolling clerks, and there are quite a number of pages (boys) moving about as in the other house.—The Speaker is ORVILLE ROBINSON, an elderly man of good proportions, and a good parliamentarian. He is by no means as quick as Raymond, nor as comprehensive in his mind, but nevertheless presides with much dignity and ability. The majority of those composing the House are by no means intellectual-looking, and but few possess the ability to express their views intelligently, much less to speak well. The leading member is Mr. Northrup, of Washington County, a large man, who never rises but he commands attention, and who always leans to the side of the weak and the defenceless. I wish there were more such men in the country, and I feel sure that our prosperity would be greater and humanity much better. There are galleries at one end of the room, for spectators, and the same care to prevent confusion, is taken here as in the Senate, but without that success.

Let us leave the House and pass into the chamber of the Executive. He is all alone, cosily seated in his chair examining his papers, and on my introduction to him, he becomes suddenly interested in the far west, and in a quiet, dignified, yet affable manner, enters into conversation—the topic, as a matter of course, being MINNESOTA. Gov. CLARK is a tall, but by no means fleshy man, with a pale, emaciated, care-worn countenance, quiet and pleasing in his deportment. He carries his heart on his arm, and is as unfit for a politician as I am for the Ministry. The liquor men and the advocates of hanging and rowdyism in general, hate him as intensely as Satan hated the Savior, and great efforts have been made, and will continue to be made, by this rabble to annoy him, but the *people* are with him, and if he should run again, I believe he would be reelected to his present high position.

We have lingered long enough in the Capitol and will retrace our steps, having learnt something of the politics and politicians of the Empire State. As you leave the Park, take a look at the building. There is nothing about particularly attractive; no architectural beauty; no splendid dome, but an ordinary, commonplace-looking edifice, in keeping with the time at which it was built, but out of keeping with the progressive spirit of the age.

—My letter is already too long, and I close, asking pardon of the readers of the TIMES for the infliction imposed upon them, and when next I write, I hope to be less garralous.

The New York Colony, of which I spoke in a previous letter, have increased their number to 127 or 130. They leave on the 23d, and will settle near the Great Bend on the Minnesota river, and not Crow River as I stated.

T. M. N.

☞ The Galena Advertiser of the 24th has the following item:

Dr. Root, of St. Louis, just sold for $24,872 a site in St. Paul, Minnesota, which he purchased for $600 six years ago.

☞ A fire broke out on Sunday last, about two o'clock P.M., in the packing house of Messrs. Toby & Booth, of Chicago, situated immediately opposite the Michigan Central R. R. Depot, and was totally consumed with the most of its contents,—Pork and hogs lard. Loss about $6,000. No insurance. The fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary inasmuch as no fire had been in the building for some time.

☞ We notice among the arrivals by the steamer Royal Arch yesterday morning, R. W. Hamilton, Esq., of this city, who has been absent at the East for about two months.

☞ The Metropolitan arrived from St. Louis yesterday morning, with a heavy freight but few passengers.

☞ The Royal Arch and Metropolitan left for below yesterday afternoon.