

The Athens Post.

ATHENS, TENN., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1857.

VOL. IX.—NO. 467.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

TERMS:
The Post is published every Friday at \$2 per year in advance, or \$5, if payment is delayed until the expiration of the year.

Advertisements:
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THE POST.

ATHENS, FRIDAY, SEPT. 4, 1857.

MORTALITY AMONG U. S. SENATORS.—Of the members of the Senate during the last Congress, no less than five have passed away since the first session commenced, to wit: Messrs. Clayton of Delaware, Bell of New Hampshire, Adams of Mississippi, Butler of South Carolina, and Rusk of Texas. The body has been nearly decimated in the short space of about twelve months, which is a fearful mortality indeed.

The Spartanburg (S. C.) Express says: We learn from the agents, in our town, of the bank of Newberry, that there is a new counterfeit ten dollar bill out on the Bank of Hamburg, South Carolina, of the old issue. The Cashier of the Bank of Charleston says it almost defies detection.—Look out for it.

As to the other opposition members defeated in the South, and the general rate of the whole known Nothing party of that section, the result is to be rejoiced over. Such is the language in which the Abolition correspondent of the New York Tribune announces the result of the recent elections in the South. It only confirms what we have all along maintained—that the Free Soilers are anxious for the consolidation of all parties in the South into one. In that event the North would range itself into a grand opposition party, and the fate of the South would be sealed. The evidences of this thicken all around us. On no other ground can we explain the delight with which Black Republicanism chuckles over Democratic victories in the South.

Prolonged Absence—No leave for a Second Marriage.—It is a vulgar and very dangerous error to suppose that any term of absence of one of two persons married will, while that party is living, permit of the other marrying again. This misconception, but too fatally prevalent among the lower classes, has arisen from a clause in the statute relating to bigamy, the 9 Geo. IV. c. 31, s. 22, which provides that no punishment therein enacted shall extend to any person marrying a second time, whose husband or wife shall have been continually absent from such person for the space of seven years then last past, and shall not have been known by such person to be living within that time. Thus the party marrying under these circumstances is by this clause certainly protected from a conviction for bigamy, and its consequent pains and penalties, but that is all. The second marriage will nevertheless be absolutely void should the party absent turn out at any time, however long, to have been alive when it was contracted. Nothing but death or a divorce a vinculo matrimonii can sever a marriage once legally performed.

WHAT IS NORTHERN DEMOCRACY?—H. B. Payne, the Democratic candidate for Governor of Ohio, in accepting the nomination is reported to have said: "Under Mr. Buchanan's administration, Kansas, protected alike from New England and the South, is working out the peaceable fruits of righteousness. At a day not distant or doubtful, as from the beginning has been predicted, Kansas will be admitted into the galaxy of States with a Free State constitution by the votes of her own people, abolishing forever slavery in her midst, thus furnishing an application of practical Democratic doctrines."

This is a specimen of a Northern Democrat who is so national, and whom Southern men are exhorted to rely upon. H. B. Payne is as much the friend of the South as any man in the North. How do you like this?

INDIANS IN TEXAS.—The Galveston News, of the 15th, furnishes the following: The Indians tribes of Texas are passing into rapid decay. In 1853, the Indians of Texas were estimated at 20,000. In 1855, the number, from some 150,000, did not exceed 12,000. Some 150 Indians till the reservation on the clear fork of the Brazos, and make good crops, 3,000 semi-civilized Creeks, Delaware, and Choctaws are in Eastern Texas. In the North 1,000 Wapachas and Wacoss. There are 3,000 Comanches, 1,000 Lipans, and 4,000 of all other stragglers. From this report it will be seen that in the course of a few years from the very nature of things, the whole Indian tribes of Texas will become extinct.

THE ALABAMA CONTEST just now is cool and comfortable. It consists of a straw hat, a shirt collar and a fan. Of course, for a "dress party," it is a little more "full."

A writer in the Augusta Chronicle & Sentinel, dated from Sheltonville, Ga., says: "Mr. Henry C. Rogers, who had 70 acres sowed in wheat, has just finished threshing it, which made 1,545 bushels, being an average of 22 bushels per acre, and weighs 63 lbs. per bushel."

NEW YORK, August 26.—Warren Bank of Pennsylvania, Kanawha Bank of Virginia, and several other bank failures are reported. It is also reported that Benedict & Co., and Fisher & Co., have failed. The reported failure of the Hartford Bank is untrue.

THE AUGUST ELECTIONS.

We give below the names of the gentlemen elected to Congress at the elections held the first part of last month. The list was compiled by the Columbus Sun, and we presume may be regarded as accurate.

The names of the American members are in italic letters:

- NORTH CAROLINA.**
1. Henry M. Shaw,
 2. Thomas Ruffin,
 3. Warren Winslow,
 4. S. O. B. Branch,
 5. John A. Gilmer,
 6. Alfred M. Scates, Jr.,
 7. Barton Craige,
 8. Thomas L. Clingman,

- TENNESSEE.**
1. Albert G. Watkins,
 2. Horace Maynard,
 3. Samuel A. Smith,
 4. John H. Savage,
 5. Charles Ready,
 6. George W. Jones,
 7. J. V. Wright,
 8. F. K. Zollcoffer,
 9. J. C. D. Atkins,
 10. W. T. Avery,

- KENTUCKY.**
1. Henry C. Burnett,
 2. Samuel O. Peyton,
 3. W. L. Underwood,
 4. Albert G. Talbot,
 5. Joshua H. Jewett,
 6. Joseph M. Elliott,
 7. Humphrey Marshall,
 8. James B. Clay,
 9. John C. Mason,
 10. J. W. Stevenson.

- ALABAMA.**
1. Jas. A. Sturthow,
 2. Eli S. Shorter,
 3. James F. Dowdell,
 4. Sydney Moore,
 5. George S. Houston,
 6. W. R. W. Cobb,
 7. J. L. M. Curry.

- TEXAS.**
1. Gay M. Bryan,
 2. John H. Regan.

- MISSOURI.**
3. Joseph B. Clark, to fill a vacancy.

The above shows a Democratic gain of 10 members, as compared with the delegations from those States in the last Congress.

HUNTER AND WISE—OLD VIRGINIA OF THE FENCE.—The Richmond Whig has a curious article upon the coming Senatorial election by the Virginia Legislature. The Whig thinks that Hunter will win, provided that the election is brought on early in the session; but that if Wise gets a chance to dine and wine the rural members, the aspirations of his opponent will be knocked into a cocked hat. Wise, according to the Whig, will be backed and sustained by the whole power and influence of the Administration at Washington, and by all the defenders and supporters of the Kansas policy of Walker, in Virginia, and in the South and in the North; whereas Hunter will be compelled to rely upon the aid of the "Administration." This Senatorial election, then, will necessarily turn upon this question whether a majority of the Democratic members of the next Legislature endorse or condemn the Kansas policy of Walker and Buchanan? We passed his opinion will be knocked into a cocked hat. The Whig, according to the Whig, will be backed and sustained by the whole power and influence of the Administration at Washington, and by all the defenders and supporters of the Kansas policy of Walker, in Virginia, and in the South and in the North; whereas Hunter will be compelled to rely upon the aid of the "Administration." This Senatorial election, then, will necessarily turn upon this question whether a majority of the Democratic members of the next Legislature endorse or condemn the Kansas policy of Walker and Buchanan?

RAPID SETTLEMENT OF TEXAS.—The following, from the Dallas Herald of the 20th of June, will give our readers some idea of the rapid settlement of the frontier counties of Texas:

"We have recently visited the frontier counties west of this place, as far as Brazos, passing through Tarrant, Parks, Palo Pinto and Young counties, as far as Brazos agency, on the lower Indian Reserve. We passed the same route some two and a half years ago, and were now greatly astonished at the rate of rapid strides the country has made in the short time in settlement and improvement. Then from twenty-five miles beyond Fort Worth it was an uninhabited wilderness to Fort Belknap. Now the whole route is settled by an industrious, hardy and patriotic population, from the head of the Clear Fork of Trinity to fifty miles beyond Belknap. The frontier settlements are extending at the rate of fifty miles a year. Where, ten years ago, was a wilderness, farms are being opened, houses built, and settlements extending. The railroad enterprises that are now pointing toward this desirable region, will give a powerful impetus to the tide of emigration and improvement west and north of Belknap and Cooper, and two years more will see the mountains and valleys of the Wichita dotted over with cottages of the hardy pioneers of American civilization."

EXTRAORDINARY METEOR.—Letters from Bagdad announce an extraordinary fall of rain on the 14th of June at that place, which from its bloody hue, gave the surrounding country the appearance of a battle field.—The meteor seen at Malta on the 14th of June was likewise observed on the same day throughout Syria and Palestine; and letters from Trebizond, Samsoun, Sinope, Constantinople and Smyrna, report a heavy fall of rain, and tempestuous weather on that day, to the great alarm of the inhabitants, who had for some weeks been anxiously looking out for the comet crash. The evening of the 13th of June was the remarkable meteor and whirlwind in New York.

VIRTE EXTRAORDINARY.—The Shasta (Cal.) Courier says that two gentlemen of that county, who were each tendered the appointment of county judge, by the Governor, declined on the ground that they did not think themselves fully qualified for the position. Can any other State in the Union produce two such men?

Quite a business has been carried on in London by some witty swindlers, who have notified numerous gentlemen that the degree of LL. D. had been conferred upon them by the Rackensack University of Arkansas, and notifying the new doctors that a fee of two pounds must be forthcoming in order to secure the honors. It is not known how many have been caught by this bait, but Mr. Dallas had numerous inquirers touching the Rackensack University.

ELOQUENT EXTRACT—THE UNION OF THE ATLANTIC WITH THE PACIFIC.

The magnificent project of uniting the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific, by railroad connection, and of accomplishing in a few hours a journey across the breadth of the continent of North America, which formerly required months to effect, and of causing the commerce of the East to flow through the gates of our principal cities, is well calculated, although a utilitarian scheme, to give the hue of poetry and romance to the speculations of those who are engaged in forwarding the great work.—The idea is so splendid and great that even our most sober and sedate statesmen, when in general confine themselves to prosaic facts and figures, will insensibly, in their allusions to it, use the most oratorical and splendid illustrations. When we contemplate the advantages and results that will flow from it, the changes that it will produce in all the great enterprises of life, it is not remarkable that it is a fine theme for forensic display.—The classic and eloquent Keitt, a member of Congress from South Carolina, in a late speech at Charleston, at a railroad celebration, handled the subject as ably and beautifully as we have ever seen it done. He said:

"The march of the States is onward and onward still—nor can it pause until the sun is right over our heads; nor will the edict of Destiny be met until the people of these regions are bidden to a marriage feast grander than any spread upon the records of time.—The Pacific, vexed by storms, and restless upon its lonely, bearded bed, for unrotted centuries, has sobbed to the rock bound coast the story of his baffled love; but American genius and American energy, like carrier-pigeons, are now bearing the sailor's gentle plea over plain and mountain, over forest and city, and they soon will carry back the plighted maiden's vow of the blushing Atlantic.

Much have you, of the South and West, already done, but much still remains for you to do. The lordly Pacific, like an awakened giant, is stepping forth to demand and welcome the bride he has already wooed and won, and it is for you to solemnize the magnificent hymen of the oceans with a claim of our East, and the long procession of the trades will follow in your trackway to seize and hold the golden keys. The splendid commerce, which erstwhile enriched Thebes and Palmyra, Venice, Genoa and Holland, and which now plants the great commercial nerve of the world on the Exchange in London, will come to you a bidden guest.

"The use of tropical productions is fast becoming a test of civilization, and they are rapidly elaborating themselves into the very elements of national greatness and power.—Great Britain sees this, and hence she is pushing her conquests through red India, and treading over shattered thrones, to lay her hand upon the sources of tropical wealth.—The East, and the long procession of the trades will follow in your trackway to seize and hold the golden keys. The splendid commerce, which erstwhile enriched Thebes and Palmyra, Venice, Genoa and Holland, and which now plants the great commercial nerve of the world on the Exchange in London, will come to you a bidden guest.

On balanced wings, the warrior came back to Paris the last time from his favorite amusement in Africa, he suggested to Devisme, the well known gun-maker of the Boulevard des Italianes, the idea of inventing a ball that would explode when it arrived at the animal's body. The new projectile is about the size of the Minnie ball; its penetrating force is equal to the common ball. Arrived in the animal's body it explodes like a bomb, and, of course, causes the sudden death of the animal. If shot into the lungs of an elephant, for example, the ball in exploding discharges carbonic acid gas, and the animal, which from its size might otherwise survive for a short time, will suddenly fall asphyxiated. A few days ago a party of gentlemen accompanied M. Devisme to a horse slaughter-house in the environs of the city. There the new projectile was tried on five horses who were standing tied to a fence waiting to be shot. They were each shot in the lungs, the ball exploded, and the animal fell dead. The experiment was completely satisfactory.

STRANGE INFATUATION.—There is an individual residing in the neighborhood of Maple Root, New Jersey, by the name of Smith, who imagines that he is two hundred years old, although he does not yet number two score years. Yet every effort to disabuse his mind of this singular fancy has thus far proved unavailing. Smith has maintained his present notion for three years, and talks of events, which he says he witnessed, which occurred long before he was born.—Upon every other subject he is perfectly rational, and in his business relations he is uncommonly smart. He says he will not taste death, but is destined to live on until the end of time.

On Saturday quite a scene occurred at the New York Hotel, a gentleman residing in the neighborhood being discovered by a wealthy down-town merchant on terms of too great intimacy with his wife. The offending party made his escape almost in *paris naturam*, and was taken, by those who saw him, to be a fanatic. He ran pretty fast for the injured husband had a revolver. All the parties belong to "our first society."—*N. Y. Times*, Aug. 17.

"**TIT FOR TAT.**"—A youngster fell in love with a poor old maid, who, believing she knew all about the fickleness of men, said to her "lover":

You men are angels when you woo the maid, But desire when the marriage vow is said. The lover, not to be out done, replied as follows:

The change, dear girl, is easily forgiven— We find ourselves in hell, instead of heaven.

An Irishman attending a Quaker meeting, heard a young friend make the following announcement:—"Brethren and sisters, I am going to marry a daughter of the Lord." "The devil ye are," said Pat, "Fath an' bejers, an' it will be a long time before ye'll see yer father-in-law."

HATI NO EARS.—It is stated that there is a negro woman in Virginia who has no ears yet distinctly hears what is said to her by opening her mouth. If this be true she must have an admirable capacity for "drinking in a discourse."

A GOOD HIT.

The New York Hall, a paper in which we seldom see anything to admire, makes the following admirable hit upon those hypocritical philanthropists of a North, who profess a desire to place the grog upon an equality with the white man:

"**The Vote on No Suffrage in Iowa.**—It is not a little singular that the vote on that clause of the negroes an equality, in point of political rights, with the whites, should have been so decidedly agitated by the people of that State. Iowa considered a republican State, the republicans in this part of the world have lately made a practice of counting upon it as a certain. Yet it seems that the republicans of Iowa do not carry their republicanism far as to admit the negroes into a community of political rights with themselves.

Very few political communities of white men have been proved wiser, in their present day, to admit the negro to a political equality with themselves. Northern men are ready enough to sympathize with the alleged wrongs of the colored man in the South, and to make an outcry about the injustice of holding the human creature in bondage by another. But when time some Northern men are asked to sit at the same table, or ride in the same cars, or occupy the same apartment, or to vote side by side with the black human creature, their idea of the analogy becomes materially altered. In such States as Rhode Island, free negro suffrage may pass must; but New York and Iowa, it seems, "prejudice obdurate" operates to debar the colored man from the privilege.

We presume that, in New York, the people of Iowa will compromise the matter by tacking on a property qualification to the negro suffrage, and will declare that a black man who is worth one hundred dollars shall be held to be a human creature to all political intents and purposes, while the negro who has nothing shall be only a hybrid between humanity and chateaufort. We, therefore, affectionately recommend all negroes who desire worth of property without loss of time, or to hurry back to the South. We are full of compassion here in the North; but black humanity, to go down with us, must be moderately guided."

WROUGHT IRON CHAINS.—The Hudson River Railroad Company have ordered four of these to be made and used on their road by way of trial. The frame work is to be a very strong, yet elastic basket, each joint protected by rivets, and the whole further protected by making the entire platform at each end one strong spring of steel. Cars thus made will be lighter it is said than wooden ones, yet so safe that a fatal accident with them is a thing hardly possible, as they will spring, bend, or twist, but remain whole as a shield to their occupants, no power being able to break them into fragments or splinters.

Everybody has read of Jules Gerard, the lion-killer, and his wonderful encounters. On his latest visit to Europe he returned to Paris the last time from his favorite amusement in Africa, he suggested to Devisme, the well known gun-maker of the Boulevard des Italianes, the idea of inventing a ball that would explode when it arrived at the animal's body. The new projectile is about the size of the Minnie ball; its penetrating force is equal to the common ball. Arrived in the animal's body it explodes like a bomb, and, of course, causes the sudden death of the animal. If shot into the lungs of an elephant, for example, the ball in exploding discharges carbonic acid gas, and the animal, which from its size might otherwise survive for a short time, will suddenly fall asphyxiated. A few days ago a party of gentlemen accompanied M. Devisme to a horse slaughter-house in the environs of the city. There the new projectile was tried on five horses who were standing tied to a fence waiting to be shot. They were each shot in the lungs, the ball exploded, and the animal fell dead. The experiment was completely satisfactory.

RECONSTRUCTION OF PARTIES.—The New York Herald says: "If Kansas is admitted as a free State right or wrong, the Northern Democracy will disappear from the earth like a vapor; if she is admitted as a free State, justly or unjustly, the result will be a split of the Southern Democracy and the organization of a radical Southern sectional party. We take it for granted that Kansas will come in as a free State, and the Southern sectional party indicated will be the first consequence. Thus, perhaps, as early as next summer, we shall have a Southern sectional party, on the platform of the secessionists, brought out upon the course, while our Northern anti-slavery forces will unquestionably gather confidence and boldness from the free State solution of the Kansas question."

The rule by which diamonds are valued, is to multiply the square of the weight in carats, by forty dollars. A carat is equivalent to four grains, Troy weight. A diamond, by this rule, weighing three hundred carats, and about as large as a small hen's egg, would be worth in the market three million six hundred thousand dollars.

A New York editor finding cabbage seed in a letter from a brother quill, wanted to know whether his correspondent had a habit of scratching his head while writing?

"Joe, what makes your nose so red?"

"Friendship."

"Friendship! How do you make that out?"

"I've got a friend who is very fond of brandy, and he is too weak to take it strong; I've constituted myself his taster."

ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH CABLE LOST.—The Atlantic Telegraph Cable parted 330 miles from the shore on the morning of the 11th and the vessels were returning to England.—The directors were, however, sanguine of ultimate success. A conference was held at London on Saturday to determine whether to go on or wait another summer.

NECESSITY OF OCCUPATION.

It is an imperative law of Nature, that in order for any one to be happy, they must have some occupation. The mind is so constituted that it requires some object on which its power may be exercised, and without which it preys upon itself and becomes miserably wretched. A person accustomed to a life of study, longs for ease and retirement; and when he has accomplished this purpose, he finds himself wretched. We are acquainted with individuals whose early lives were passed in active business pursuits, and who, at the age of forty, having acquired a competence, have retired from business with the intention of passing the remainder of their days in leisure. For awhile everything seemed pleasant, and they flattered themselves that they could now enjoy life and be happy. But they had deceived themselves; their minds soon became restless and there was a vast amount of time which they could not occupy, and they have said that their happiest days were passed in business.

The pleasure of relaxation can be known only to those who have regular and interesting occupation, and on this account continued relaxation becomes a weariness, and the mind becomes weary of being inactive, and on this ground we maintain that the greatest degree of real happiness and enjoyment is not realized by the luxurious man of wealth, nor by the listless votary of fashion, but by the middle classes of society who along with the comforts of life have constant occupation, which in itself proves one of their many sources of happiness.

From these facts we draw the following conclusion: That in order to be happy the mind must have some employment, but we would observe that it is not necessary for any person to make their occupation the sole end of their existence, and pursue it with such energy as to shorten their lives, but we believe that occupation, with proper seasons of relaxation is conducive to and actually necessary for the happiness and welfare of every human being, and without it no one can enjoy life.

Fun should be cultivated as a fine art, for it is altogether a fine thing. Who ever knew a "funny man" to be a bad one! On the contrary, he is not nine times in ten generous, humane, social, and good! To be sure he is a great thing. It smooths the rough pieces of life, makes the disposition as sweet and rosy as a maiden's kiss, scatters sunshine and flowers wherever we go, gives the world a jolly countenance, makes all the girls as pretty as June roses, and makes one of the best families out.—We go in for fun.

A PHOENIX.—A calm, blue-eyed, self-complacent, village down east, received a long call the other day from a prying old spinster, who, after prolonging her stay beyond even her own conception, of the young man's endurance, came to the main question which had brought her father: "I've been asked a good many times if you were engaged to Dr. C. Now, if folks inquire again whether you be or not, what shall I tell 'em I think?" "Tell 'em," answered the young lady, fixing her eyes on the inquisitive features of her interrogator, "tell them that you think you don't know, and you are sure it is none of your business."

NICE HONEY IN GLASS JARS.—Mr. B. A. Manchester, of Western New York, has probably the most accommodating family of bees that are known in this vicinity. He places over a hole in the top of his hives large glass tumblers reversed. The bees come up through the holes and fasten their comb and honey in the middle of the tumblers in the most ingenious manner possible, beautifully clear and white. When each glass is filled, the bees go below, the tumbler is taken off, and there is a nice jar of honey already put up for family use by the bees themselves.

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MORNING IN JERUSALEM.

From Test Life in Holy Land.
The first morning in Jerusalem was a time forever to be remembered. When the sun came up above the Mount of Olives, I was standing on the eastern side of the city, with the walls, on the brow of the valley of Jehoshaphat, looking down into its gloomy depths and up to the hill that was hallowed by the last footsteps of Christ.

I could not sleep. It was vain to think of it or attempt it. Broken snatches of slumber, dreamy and restless at the best, but mostly broad awake thoughts, fancies, feelings, and memories occupied the entire night. Weary and exhausted as I was by the previous day's travel, I could not compose my mind sufficiently to take the rest I actually required. It was but a little after the break of day that I strolled down to the gate of St. Stephen, (so called now, though formerly known as the gate of the Lady Mary, because of its leading to the Virgin's tomb,) and finding it open already, passed out among the Moslem graves that cover the hill of Moriah, outside the walls, and sitting down on one of them, waited in silence the coming of the sun. And it came.

I had seen the dawn come over the forest of the Delaware country, in the sublime winter mornings.

When last night's snow hangs lightly on the trees, And all the colors and the pines are white With the new glory.

I had seen the morning come up over the prairie of Minnesota, calm and majestic along the far horizon. I had seen it in golden glory on the sea, in soft splendor in Italy, in rich effulgence over the Libyan desert.

But I never saw such a morning as that before nor shall I ever see another such in this cold world.

At first there was a flush, a faint but beautiful light like a halo, above the holy mountain. Right there-away lay Bethany, and I could think that the radiance of the bursting tomb of Martha's brother, but the flush became a gleam, a glow, an opening heaven of deep, strong light that did not dazzle nor bewilder. I looked into it and was lost in it, as one is lost that gazes into the deep loving eyes of the woman he worships. It seemed as if I had but to wish and I should be away in the atmosphere that was so glorious.—Strong cords of desire seemed drawing me thither. I even rose to my feet and leaped forward over the carved turban on a Mussulman's tomb. I breathed strong, full inspiration, as if I could breathe in that glory.

All this while, deep in the gloom of the valley between me and the Mount of Ascension lay the Hebrew dead of all the centuries, quiet, calm, solemn in their slumber. The glory did not reach down to their low graves; yet I thought almost aloud, that if that radiance could but once touch those stones, heavy as they were, the dead would spring to life, even the doubly dead who lie in that valley of tombs.

Alas! for the dead whose grave the morning radiance from the mountain of the Lord's ascension will never reach! Alas! for the sealed lips of earth that will never be kissed to opening by those rays!

Then came the round sun; it seemed but an instant after the morning-star had sunk into the blue, and then the full sun-light poured across the hills of Judea, on the battlements of Jerusalem.

Then one more I bowed my head. It is no shame to have wept in Palestine. I wept when I saw Jerusalem, I wept when I lay in the starlight at Bethelheim, I wept on the blessed shores of Galilee. My hand was no less firm on the rein, my finger did not tremble on the trigger of my pistol when I rode with it in my right hand along the shore of the blue sea. My eyes was not dimmed by those tears, nor my heart in slight weakened. Let him who would sneer at my emotion close this volume here, for he will find little to his taste in my journeying through Holy Land!

A NATIONAL WORK.—A gigantic enterprise is now going on in Holland, being nothing less than blocking up two arms of the sea and replacing them by a navigable canal for merchant vessels of the largest burden. By this operation an extent of land of 14,000 hectares (35,000 acres) of the finest quality will be gained from the Scheldt. This canal, which will be completed in the course of two years, crosses the islands of Sud Beveland, between the villages of Hanswert, on the western branch of the Scheldt, and Wemerdige, on the eastern.

CAUTION TO RAILROAD TRAVELERS.—The Alien and Sedition laws are an instance of instant death to a passenger, by putting his head out of the window while the train was under way, which should be a warning to passengers never to permit their head or elbow to project out while the train is in motion. As the train was passing Lawry's Station, the passenger stuck his head out, which, coming in contact with the timbers of a bridge, took his scalp entirely off. The editor of the Democrat sat on the seat with the unfortunate man, and was bespattered with blood. He describes the scene as awful—the crash of the skull, the fainting of the woman, the alarm of the passengers—all being instantaneous. Keep your heads and arms in when the cars are in motion.

FLOUR COMING DOWN.—The Fairmount True Virginian, is informed by a gentleman, that a considerable quantity of Flour was sold in that town, on Wednesday last, at \$2 57½ per hundred, or \$5 75 per barrel.

Iowa.—It is generally understood that the new Constitution has been adopted by the negroes to a free suffrage in common with the whites, has been voted down by a large majority.

A MAN OF BUSINESS.

In one of the western counties of New York, is a man by the name of Zedock Pratt, one of the bone and sinew, an intelligent mechanic and farmer, who has contributed greatly to the general prosperity, as well as to his individual wealth. In a speech at an Agricultural Fair in Greene county, New York, he said that, since he had been engaged in farming, he had employed over fifteen thousand years of other men's labor; had employed thirty thousand men, and paid them for their labor over two millions five hundred thousand dollars. He had cleared over ten thousand acres of land, used two hundred thousand cords of hemlock bark, and paid over half a million of dollars for it. He had used and worn out five hundred horses and one thousand yoke of oxen; used two hundred thousand bushels of oats, one hundred and twenty thousand tons of hay, thirty thousand barrels of beef and pork, nearly one hundred thousand barrels of flour, and potatoes without number or measure. He had tenanted over one million and fifty acres of leather; his usual disbursement is over five thousand dollars per day; and he has used in his business over ten millions. He has never had a side of leather stolen, and never was sued on account of his business transactions. We should say that Zedock was a valuable member of society. Moreover, he shows the advantage of diversifying labor, and of bringing the man who consumes by the side of him who produces.

STRYCHNINE.—The source from whence the poison, which has gained so world wide a celebrity is obtained, is thus noticed in Dicken's Household Words:

In Ceylon, and several districts of India, grows a moderate sized tree, with thick, shining leaves, and a short crooked stem. In the fruit season it is readily recognized by its rich orange-colored berries, about as large as golden pippins. The rind is hard and smooth, and covers a white, soft pulp, the favorite food for many kinds of birds, within which are the flat, round seeds, not an inch in diameter, ash-gray in color, and covered with very silky hairs. The Germans fancy they can discover a resemblance to gray eyes, and call them crow's eyes, but the likeness is purely imaginary. The tree is the strychnine tree, and the seed is the deadly poison. The latter, was early used as a medicine by the Hindoos and other doctors long before it was known to foreign nations.—"Dug-killer," and "fish-killer," are two of its Arabic names. It is stated that at present the natives of Hindostan often take it for many months continuously, in much the same way as opium-eaters eat opium. They commence with taking the eighth of a nut a day, and gradually increasing the allowance to an entire nut, which would be about twenty grains. If they eat directly before or after food, no unpleasant effects are produced; but if they neglect this precaution, serious result.

MOSEACH OF THE FOREST.—Captain Kendrick informs the editor of the Tampa (Fla.) Peninsula, that while on a scout a short time since, he found, on Fish-Eating Creek, eleven miles from his mouth, a live oak tree measuring thirty-seven feet in circumference, which throws a shade, at noon, forty-five yards in diameter. This tree has but five branches—one occupying a central position; the other four forming angles, five feet from the ground, and extending in horizontal lines—giving the tree the appearance, from a distance, of a small hammock, with a large tree in the centre. Capt. K.'s whole company—eighty-eight men—dined under the shade of this tree, at noon, and hitched their horses to the limbs!

NOVEL INVENTION.—A down-east mechanic has invented a bed which is made up of spiral springs, and constructed with an air-chamber in the centre, so curiously arranged that every motion made by the sleeper produces a bellows action, and forces out the air which has become affected by the perspiration of the body, and at the same time a new supply is taken in. The act of rising from it in the morning completely airtight. It at once expands to shape, and can be made and put in perfect order in one minute, thus saving much time and inconvenience.

A GROSS SWINDLE.—Fort Snelling, rendered useless as a government outpost, by the advance of civilization, has recently been sold by government for the sum of \$300,000. The sale includes 1000 acres of surrounding land, the whole beautifully located at the junction of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers, near St. Anthony's Falls. It is a magnificent site for a great town, in one of the most valuable and rapidly rising sections of Minnesota, and had the property been opened to public bidding would have brought many times the price, a sum which some administration favorites have been permitted to gulp the prize in at. Half a million dollars would have been a small figure for the property thus pocketed for less than a hundred thousand. Who are the lucky holders under this swindle, and may we not know by what greasing of fingers the thing was accomplished?—*Boston Traveller.*

"THE HEALTHIEST COUNTRY IS CREATION."—DeBow's mortality statistics show that the people of the United States are the healthiest on the globe. The deaths are three hundred and twenty thousand per year, or one and one-third per cent of the population. In England the rate is over two per cent, and in France nearly three per cent. Virginia and North Carolina are the healthiest of the States, and have six hundred and thirty-eight inhabitants over one hundred years of age.

An exchange paper tells this