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The Weekly Gazette.

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GEN. PIERCE'S CABINET.

The triumph of the Allen faction at the late Locofoco Convention has given his friends new hopes, and now instead of fighting under cover, they come out boldly and ask the President elect to give him a seat in his cabinet, selecting for this purpose the office of Secretary of State. There is to be a bold push made to secure this object, and it will require a union of all the opposing factions in the State to prevent it. If all rumors are true, the Allen triumph at the Convention and the nomination of Col. Medill were not secured by the most honorable means, and it may be that success will be of that kind which only leads to final and disastrous defeat. It is quite certain that the defeated factions do not take the event very coolly and should they become sufficiently exasperated to unite with one enemy to conquer another, the combination would be too strong to be resisted. We do not think with some that the Miami Tribe is destroyed. Its members are not made of that kind of stuff. A defeat only whets their appetite. They united for the spoils and the same object will still hold them together. They will fight harder to obtain the loaves and fishes, when they become hungry by long fasting, and in the employment of means to secure success, they will not be more choicely than the Allen men are reported to have been at the late Convention.

But to close with the same subject with which we commenced—Col. Allen will not be Gen. Pierce's Secretary of State, nor will he obtain any other seat in the cabinet. A foreign mission is the best he can get and even that a matter of extreme doubt.

CONGRESS.—On the 10th, in the Senate, Mr. Seward made a speech in reply to Messrs. Case and Downs, in regard to the Clayton and Bulwer treaty, which was called the Nicaragua Convention, which was signed at Washington by Clayton and Bulwer, as approved by the Senate, and signed by the negotiators, in which both the Government stipulated that neither one or the other will ever obtain or maintain any exclusive control over the proposed ship canal, and agree not to fortify, colonize or assume dominion over Nicaragua, Costa Rica, or Mosquito Coast, or any part of Central America. Subsequently, an understanding, or explanatory declaration was agreed to, that the engagement regarding neutral territory did not apply to her Majesty's settlement at Honduras and its dependencies. It then referred to the charge made by Mr. Case that this construction was given to the treaty, without the consent or knowledge of the Senate, and that in this transaction the executive department of General Taylor's administration had committed a great error. Mr. Seward then went on at great length to defend Mr. Clayton, arguing that the construction placed upon the treaty by him was well understood by the Senate when the treaty was passed.

The House, the same day, was engaged principally in discussing the policy of Cuban annexation. Mr. Bell said that the annexation of that island would be a curse to our interests and calculated to produce a war.

OHIO LEGISLATURE.—The Journal says that Mr. Ward, of Warren, has introduced a bill into the House, which is now being discussed in the committee of the whole, revising the act for the punishment of crimes.—This bill proposes to abolish capital punishment for murder, and substitute imprisonment for life in the Penitentiary. The bill also makes it a penitentiary offense to maliciously destroy personal property, growing trees, grains, or fruits above the value of thirty dollars. A married man, or woman, committing adultery, is also to be punished by imprisonment in the Penitentiary.

As there is a difference of opinion as to the policy of adopting these measures, and as petitions pro and con are frequently sent in, it is proper to notify the people that now is the time to let their requests be known.

THE CALORIC SHIP.—A despatch from New York, dated Tuesday, says that the Ericsson calorific ship, on a trial trip this morning, witnessed by a large party, went off at 8 knots an hour, against a head wind and a strong flood tide. Her speed astonished everybody.

It may almost be considered a fixed fact that hot-air for a motive power will now enter into competition with steam, and what improvements will be made it is impossible to conceive: It is a wonderful invention and the imagination runs wild in attempting to understand its powers of extension and its application to the praxial operations of life.

FOREIGN NEWS.—The news by the Baltic is not much of interest. The new English Cabinet is a strong one. It will be noticed that Napoleon has been compelled to give in to the Ex-King Jerome.

MICHIGAN U. S. SENATOR.—The Hon. Charles E. Stuart, Democratic member of the House of Representatives, has been elected to the United States Senate by the Michigan Legislature, in place of Hon. Alpheus Felch, whose term will expire on the 4th of March.

The express train arrived at Albany from Utica, a distance of 78 miles, in one hour and thirty-five minutes, last Wednesday.

JOHN WILSON.

Editor Gazette: I am of the opinion that the following incident in the life of one of our venerable citizens will be interesting to your readers. If you should concur with me, please give it a place in the columns of the Gazette.

John Wilson, who now resides with his son-in-law, William Upheld, Esq., in the northern part of our city, was born near the Head of Elk, on the Pennsylvania side of the State line, on the 19th of October, 1769. When quite young, his father, James Wilson, removed with his family to Kiskadee Valley, now Milford county, Pennsylvania, then a frontier settlement. In the month of July 1781, and when the father and son were in the harvest field collecting in the grain, they were both taken prisoners by a party of Indians of the Six Nations, of whom the noted Cornstalk was Chief, and hurried off over the Allegheny Mountains, through an entire wilderness of several hundred miles to Buffalo creek, within a few miles of where the city of Buffalo, in the State of New York, now stands. On their arrival at Buffalo they were, after running the gauntlet, separated, and the father adopted into an Indian family, which had lost its head in war. He was kept in the family during the winter of 1781 and 1782, and was treated with much cruelty, and would have perished had it not been for the interference of a British Indian agent by the name of Johnson, who took compassion upon him, and gave him relief. The son, and subject of this article, after being separated from his father, was taken to Niagara, and from Niagara, he was taken to Carleton Island, at the head of the river St. Lawrence, where he remained throughout the winter. In the spring of 1783, the party to which he belonged, made a trip, with him to Niagara, and back to Canada; and in June of the same year, he was brought to Buffalo creek, where he found his father. In a month or so after their meeting, they were both conveyed by the British, in conformity with the treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain in 1783, by the way of Lakes Ontario, Champlain and George, to Saratoga in New York, where they, with a party of other prisoners, were detained, and restored to liberty, their families and friends. From Saratoga, the father and son returned through New York and Philadelphia to their home in Kiskadee Valley. Mr. John Wilson emigrated and settled in Fairfield county in 1823. He is now in the 84th year of his age, and may be seen, in favorable weather, walking our streets, with a staff in hand, in good health and strength for a man of his age, and approaching that bourne from whence no traveller returns, with a strong and abiding hope of future happiness "in that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens."

AN OLD SETTLER.—Taking their cue from the five column official report of the Eighth of January Convention which appears in the Statesman, the party press of the State will invite long leaders on the harmonious Democracy in Ohio. All very well, in good health and strength, tell a different tale. The leading wire pullers remained in Columbus during Monday and Tuesday, and there was a general fear that the faithful "Things had been working" until they had to come out. Omination and re-creation were the order of the day for Monday. It was openly said that the friends of the "stall chief" had offered before the nomination to support Manly penny, at Salem, Ohio, on the 3d inst., which was a place for him in the Cabinet, but that Manly penny declined giving the pledge. Gov. Wood's friends then gave Medill their support, with the understanding that the Medill men were to vote for Rice for Lieut. Governor. The friends of Knapp who preferred Manly penny, were induced to support Medill, upon receiving a pledge of assistance to a place for him in the Cabinet, but that Manly penny declined giving the pledge. Gov. Wood's friends then gave Medill their support, with the understanding that the Medill men were to vote for Rice for Lieut. Governor. The friends of Knapp who preferred Manly penny, were induced to support Medill, upon receiving a pledge of assistance to a place for him in the Cabinet, but that Manly penny declined giving the pledge. Gov. Wood's friends then gave Medill their support, with the understanding that the Medill men were to vote for Rice for Lieut. Governor.

GREAT EXCITEMENT AT SALEM, OHIO.—A new mode of cat gathering was attempted at Salem, Ohio, on the 3d inst., which has created in that town quite a fuss. The Treasurer of Columbiana county, having called upon the Salem Bank for taxes assessed several times, and being refused, on the grounds that the tax was levied on the capital instead of on the profits, entered the Bank with a posse armed with guns, revolvers and sledges for the purpose of breaking open the vault, and seizing the requisite funds. At this state of the affair an armistice was declared, for the purpose of calling the directors together, that they might decide whether they would or would not pay the tax assessed. The directors met, and protested against paying, and by the means of guns, crowbars, &c., drove the tax-gathering party out of the bank. On the 4th, a renewal of hostilities upon the bank was expected—the result of which, we have not learned.—*Statenville Her.*

FANCY PAINE, CASHIER.—It is even so; Fancy Paine is Cashier of "The Bank of Chicago." You old fogey bankers, put on your eyes and ears, and seeing the requisite with pen behind your ears, and see how Fancy Paine, Cashier; Ira B. Eddy, President. There lies before us a two dollar bill beautifully engraved, just issued, by our friends of the "Spiritual Bank" over the way, with the above officers attached. The President is said to be one of our leading men, and, doubtless, has had a revelation as to this new and important feature of "woman's rights." Ye fortune hunting bachelors! don't get up "a run" on the bank to see the fair cashier, for we learn she has long since assumed other duties, which a certain old antiquated book, called the Bible, places far above a cashiership. Surely we live in an age of progress.—*Chicago Democratic Press.*

LAST TOUCH OF LAZINESS.—The most dangerous cases of this epidemic that have yet come under our notice, happened upon New Year's day in New York, when some gentlemen who were down with it very badly, laid in bed all day, and sent their cards by servants to such places as they were expected to call at, and the credulous ladies who received them fondly believing that the gallant gentlemen were in the door in their carriages, instead of being in bed, or puffing cigars in lounge-gown and slippers. This is about the gentlest laziness we ever heard of.

WE FIND THE FOLLOWING IN AN OGDENSBURG PAPER:

"WHO IS FRANKLIN FIERCE?"
"Who is Franklin Fierce?"
"We've got your name, was prominent, and quite amiable."

How kind to thus dispel our cloud!
But pray, however, when a civil question's put to you,
Speak not a time, and not so thundering loud!

USE HOWE'S COUGH CANDY.

REVOLUTIONARY DOCUMENTS.

A recent examination of the papers of Gen. Knox, left in his old mansion house, at Thomaston, Me., has brought to light a mass of interesting and valuable revolutionary documents, which have never been made public. Gen. Knox, as is well known, was honored with the special friendship and confidence of Washington, who kept up with him a frequent and familiar correspondence for many years. Of the fruits of this correspondence, more than fifty of Washington's letters have now, for the first time, been discovered; in which the various details of his private life, as well as the great affairs of the nation, are freely noticed. Besides these, there are a proportionate number of letters from Lafayette, Baron Stueben, Lord Stirling, Generals Lincoln, Greene, Wayne, Health, and Gates, Major Shaw, and other distinguished revolutionary heroes. These letters, though they have laid among the rubbish of the attic in the old family mansion house, for half a century, are generally in a good state of preservation and perfectly legible, and may yet prove of essential value to the biographer and historian.

We may add, that besides the mass of letters alluded to above, many other interesting documents were discovered among Gen. Knox's old papers; for example, what appears to have been the original draft of the article of capitulation of Cornwallis at Yorktown, containing the original signatures of Cornwallis, as commander of the land force, and Thomas Symonds, as commander of the British naval forces in York River.—*Boston Traveller.*

A DARK SERENADE.—Our Julia was a rare singer, and, of course, a lover of music.—Many were the hours we discoursed heavenly harmony beneath her window; and many the bouquets and sweet flatteries "The Serenaders" won from her hands and tell-tale lips. Of course, "The Eolian's" became jealous of our success, and soon entered the lists to compete for our lady's smiles and favor. Night after night, alternately, the bands disturbed the fair one's slumbers, until the contest began to excite public attention, and draw other listeners than Julia. At this stage of affairs, the flattered woman quietly withdrew to a neighboring town; trusting a few week's absence would allay the passions of the excited players. Unaware of her absence, and reinforced by two fine tenors from a troupe concerting in the place, "The Serenaders" proceeded to the accustomed seat, proud in the hope of a grand triumph. A full hour passed upon the beautiful arias of Donizetti, followed by his "Twilight Voices"; by the two tenors: the whole execution was effective and sweet; and we concluded to fill the cup with the delicious "Love me tenderly." The accompaniment instruments were tuned, the key-note was struck, and the window was thrown up. The bouquet was looked for with intense anxiety, and our hearts beat wildly that the many hearers in the street should witness our triumph. Soon a dark, shining face was projected from the blind, and, imagine our horror when, instead of the messenger flowers, came "Look a healy, mass!" Missus's gown away, and "his lady's" day. At this juncture, we were all so much engaged, when "What a sight! you shall have due notification by letter when you see under do;—so clear you selves!" And clear we did, and the shouts and yells of more than fifty listeners.

Since that night the air has slept quietly beneath Julia's window—no longer our Julia, and "The Serenaders" have forever serenaded.

AN ANXIOUS INQUIRER.—Some two miles up the river from St. Johnsbury, Vermont, is a primitive sort of a little village called "The Centre." Here, not long since, the rustic youth of the village, conversing for a "dunce," and "hande they did," said our informant, "with an unctious unknown to our city belles and beaux." One interesting young man, having "imbibed" rather too freely, became too "fatigued" in course of the evening, and wisely concluded to "retire" for a short rest. A door ajar near the dancing-hall revealed invitingly, a glimpse of a comely female, of Maryland look possessing with the prospect of an undisturbed "noize." It so happened, however, that this was the ladies' withdrawing room, and no sooner had he closed his eyes, than a pair of blooming demsels came in from the hall, and began adjusting their disordered ringlets, the dim light of the tallow candle not disclosing the tenant of the bed. The girls' heads were bowed, most of the "seck" which ran on in this wise: "What a noize 'dunce' we're having! Have you heard anybody say anything about me, Jane?" "La, yes, Sally! Jim Brown says he never see you look so handsome as you do to-night. Have you heard anybody say anything about me?" "About you, why, sartainly! heard Joe Flint tell Sam Jones that you was the prettiest demsel he had in his room." "Who roomed with her things chucked, 'fixed up' a little more, and made off toward the ball-room. They had hardly reached the door when our half-conscious friend raised himself upon his elbow and quite intelligently, though slowly inquired: "Ha! you heard any body say anything about me, Jane?" "Phancy their cheeklets at that juncture!" They fled with an explosive scream.

TOBACCO.—The stock in our warehouses, on the 1st of January, 1853, was 17,699 hhd. The inspections during the year amounted to 48,333 hhd., which added to the stock on hand at 1st Jan. 1852, 18,000 hhd., makes a total of 66,032 hhd. Of this amount there have been shipped 54,813 hhd., leaving a stock on hand, on 1st inst., of 11,759 hhd., being 5,940 hhd. less than on 1st January, 1852. The foreign exports the past year have been large, showing an increase compared with those of 1851 of 18,233 hhd. Of Maryland Tobacco the inspections show the crop to have been near 5,000 hhd., more than in 1851. Of Ohio descriptions the sales have been unusually large, embracing the entire stock left over from 1851, amounting to near 7,000 hhd., together with nearly the entire receipts of the past year, forming a total of 24,000 hhd.—*Balt. Sun.*

THE DIVING OF THE WATER.—The court house of Portage county, Ohio, in the handsome village of Ravenna, stands in such a position that the water which falls upon the North part of its roof reaches the Atlantic Ocean through the River St. Lawrence, and that which falls upon the Southern side goes down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico.

James Gillespie has been sentenced to forty years imprisonment in the penitentiary for the murder of Wm. Smith, in Cass county, Mo.

A free colored man, for seducing a slave woman to run away. He was sentenced to the penitentiary for two years.

Friday Evening, Jan. 14, 1853

PRINCE-JOHN PHOENIX OR PRIGHT.

One of the resolutions passed at the recent Locofoco Convention, reads as follows: "Resolved, That the inefficient and timid foreign policy of the present administration, its utter failure to cause our flag and the rights of our people to be respected, and its tame submission to violations of both, meet and receive our indignant condemnation."

Upon this the Ohio State Journal remarks that "such is one of the ton-foot resolutions of the late Eighth of January Convention. If there is any one thing more ridiculous than another, it is the swagger of these 54 deg. 40 min. gentlemen when they venture to talk about our foreign relations. Look at their conduct under Polk on the Oregon question. See how they boasted, and then how terribly they fazed. And yet, these same men, with an infatuation wonderful to behold, really think the people have forgotten all these things, and are just as keen to lunge and cheat them again, as they were in 1844, with their blustering talk about national honor! and their heroic devotion to it! The United States may, indeed, be very thankful if our foreign relations are managed with as much care and ability, for four years to come, as they have been for four years past. Our national honor and credit never stood higher among foreign nations than we do to-day."

We have published the speeches of Mason and Cass, wherein they fully endorse the course of President Fillmore in his relations with Cuba. They denounce the filibusters, and utterly repudiate all such arrant nonsense as is embodied in the above resolution. They thank God that the Government is not in the hands of such men as GEORGE LAW, and the Ohio Locofoco Convention. We are content to hear such men as passed this resolution make fools of themselves, when the endorsement of Cass and Mason goes forth to the world, from the Senate chamber, in vindication of the policy and conduct of the President.

WHIG STATE CONVENTION.—We are pleased to see a call for a Whig State Convention, on the 22d day of February next. The object is to nominate candidates for State offices and to transact such other business as may come before the meeting. The Central Committee request the several County Committees to take measures for the selection of one delegate to attend said Convention for each free-hundred Whig voters, and one for each fraction of two hundred and fifty voters in their respective counties; and to vote at the Presidential election to be taken as the basis.

On this basis Fairfield county is entitled to four delegates, and the Central Committee should immediately issue a call for a county meeting to select persons for this purpose.

JUDGES AND POLITICS.—The Cincinnati Gazette of Wednesday says that "Judge FLEX has not yet returned home from Columbus, and the Criminal Court was again adjourned yesterday until Monday. The Jury and witnesses are dismissed until that time."

This is a pretty kettle of fish. In these days, the execution of the laws must give way to the political ambition of Judges, and Courts are adjourned while they attend political conventions. It is high time for the people to begin to act for themselves and not take everything as right because political leaders tell them so.

A NEW COIN.—The New Orleans Picayune says they were shown yesterday a Swedish silver coin of the issue of 1852, under King Oscar, a very large quantity of which has been recently brought into this city, and now floods the market. Their intrinsic value is six cents; they are of the size of a dime, somewhat thinner, and much lighter.—There is a possibility of these coins being passed off as dimes. The slightest examination detects the difference.

OHIO CANAL.—The Engineer of this canal publishes a notice in the Portsmouth Inquirer, as follows:

"The water will be drawn off the Canal between Columbus and Portsmouth on the 10th day of March, and continue off until the first day of April. Between Lockland and Carroll it will be drawn off on the 1st day of February, and will continue off until the 1st day of April."

TIGHT QUARTERS.—On splitting off a piece of old marble at Washington Navy Yard, a few days since, by Commodore Rogers, there was discovered (four inches below the surface) several holes about the diameter of a small pistol bullet, in each of which there was a muscule alive and kicking.

CUBA.—We learn from recent accounts that confidence is entirely restored in Cuba, and that business is prosperous and promising in different branches. One of the most satisfactory evidences of this is the facility and abundance with which money has been offered for the construction of railroads and other enterprises. The government proposed a short time since, to raise a loan, at low rates of interest; and similar readiness to invest has been shown for long terms. We learn, also, from sources in which we place full reliance, that important negotiations are seen to be made in the administrative department of the government of the island, and that certain changes of decided advantage will take place also in the political system.—*New York Express.*

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE TEST.—The lower branch of the New Hampshire Legislature has concurred, by a large majority, in the Senate's resolutions deprecating of the religious test in the constitution of the State. It is not improbable that the people of the Granite State will, within a year or two, effect this foul and only blot from their constitution.

The Homestead Bill, just passed by the Arkansas Legislature, exempts from execution 180 acres of land, or a town lot with building appurtenances. It extends to heads of families, males and females.

A SUGAR PLANTATION.

The following extract from a letter written at New Orleans by a gentleman formerly of this city, to a friend here, will be read with interest by such of our readers as have not the opportunity of seeing how the thing is done: "The Geography of this State is on all the maps and its surface so plain and even that a glance comprehends the whole. The River is the main artery and the bayous are lateral arteries, and the principal, differing only in size. The river itself is above the level of its shores, and is prevented from flooding the land by levees, which vary in size according to the distance from the mouth. Thus the Levee at Port Jackson, 90 miles below, is only two or three feet high, whereas here it is about five to eight; and as you ascend the levees increase in dimensions. This is because the water is dangerous, the nearer you approach the sea, and the numerous outlets or bayous afford a more easy escape for the accumulated waters of the Freshets. Here the extreme rise never exceeds eight feet above the lowest water, whereas at Cincinnati the rise and fall passes through forty feet. But these are all nothings, and need not be mentioned further than to prefix my narrative. On Saturday last, by invitation of an in company with a merchant named Morrison, I embarked on the steambest Bella Donna, bound up the coast, as the river is termed. The whole line was marked by sugar plantations whose furnaces lighted up the shores, for this is the crushing and boiling season. As we went on we reached our destination, the plantation of Dr. Gourier, a surgeon in the French Navy and after a wandering life settled down in La. as a Sugar Planter. His wife is a native or Creole, who can understand a little English, but invariably speaks her native French. They have eight children, four of whom are at school in the city; and the other four are small and at home. We soon became acquainted and sailed forth to see the premises. It was Sunday, but that makes no difference in the Grinding Season, for time is precious and the labor must of necessity be continuous. So we found in the fields the negroes cutting cane. The Doctor had about 400 acres of cane, one-half of which had been cut and the rest was standing. The stocks are perfectly green, but the tops and outer leaves were touched with frost, the whole looking more like a field of rashes than of corn with which it is usually compared. In cutting, each negro follows one row, reaching up with the left hand above the cane part, the right hand brings the back of a large heavy knife down ward so as to strip off the leaves, then cuts off the tops so as to leave the sugar cane stand bare. The leaves and tops are thrown on the ground so as to make a bed, and then the cane is cut close to the ground and cast cross over on this bed of leaves. About 30 negroes were engaged and could cut about four acres a day. Carts with large bodies, made so as to dump like an ordinary mud cart, followed the cutters and carry the cane to the sugar house. These carts are drawn by two yoke of oxen or three mules abreast, and five such will about carry the cane of the thirty cutters, provided the field is near the sugar house. The grown men and women are cutters; smart boys and men the drivers; children attend to help load the carts and to carry food and water for the cutters. The work is hard, and generally continues for the months of November and December.

The Sugar mill for grinding and boiling the sugar requires a more minute description. A steam engine is the first item; its cost about \$6000, erected at the end of the house. The house is a long rectangular building with a shed attached. Under this shed the cane is dumped; children and women pick it up and throw it on the cart; a man arranges it so that the rollers cut it uniformly on this cart about thirty feet wide, which moves up about thirty feet, where the straps turn sharp to return. The cane tumbles forward down an inclined plane where the rollers grasp it, and it comes out mashed and dry, nearly as thin as pasteboard. Scarce a taste of sugar remains. The juice in a liquid, like chocolate, runs into a pan below, whence it is carried into a mill, and the molasses, when sorted in these vats, it is covered with an ugly dirty froth, and the juice itself assumes a greenish olive color. In that form it is sweet and palatable, and so very nutritious that the negroes become very fat and sleek during the rolling season. Thus you see the roller is simple in form but most effectual. To reduce the juice to sugar, a set of kettles somewhat like the cooking kettles of the wash boiler, is generally adopted. The hottest fire is first under the battery or last boiler, when the juice first enters the first boiler, when it is skimmed and charged with a little brine; thence into the second; thence the third and lastly into the battery. A man with a paddle guards each kettle constantly waving back towards the first kettle the scum. An old negro, skillful in his art, guards the battery and judges when the sugar is done when he ladles it out fast into a large trough, whence in a liquid state it is conducted into some one of the numerous coolers which you see I have arranged. Each boiling produces 1/2 of a hoghead or 300 pounds; but the boilings are continuous, averaging thirty a day. Ten hogheads, equal to 3,000 pounds of sugar. The hot liquid cools about two days and then is bottled, & carried in a kind of put, and emptied into the large hogheads standing on end in the Purgery, a large room with beams about a foot apart, under which are large vats lined with cement to hold the molasses which leak from the hogheads.—When purged of molasses, the hogheads are placed to the levee and sent to market.

Dr. Gourier's is about an average good plantation. He has about 800 acres, a mile from river, about 75 negroes, and this year makes 600 hogheads of sugar and about 700 barrels of molasses. The sugar is worth at 4 cents about \$40 a hoghead. 824,000 Molasses at 22 cts gal. \$8,800 per barrel 6,100 \$90,100 Besides which he raises common sweet potatoes, &c. for his family and negroes. He buys his bacon, beef, every thing else, and clothing for negroes. His own slaves make the hogheads and cut the necessary wood for furnaces, about 21 cords of hoghead.

This is a favorable season, and at this rate planters grow rich; but some seasons the levee breaks and all is lost. Again the winter comes too soon, the cane is frosted and immediately on thawing begins to ferment. It must be cut, ground and reduced to sugar or is lost. It requires care and a combination of labor to cultivate successfully. This year is a most favorable one and planters are in clover. We have hardly any frost, and the weather is delightful. Roses are still in bloom and among other flowers I noticed the common Touch-me-not. If this weather continues two weeks longer, the yield of sugar will be a very large one indeed. Same of cotton; indeed all classes

have seen to prosper since our poor officers of the army whose salaries remain the same, so that when their prices rise, they decline, and even in the worst times we can barely exist. For my part I have not despaired and have relinquished all hopes of ever getting into smooth water again. Far better would it have been, had I been ordered to Oregon.

But I am departing from my topic and must return. You will perceive I have discussed the juice, but the vegetable matter of the cane is a grand bore. It is called Bagasse. Some manage to pile it up, dry it and use it as an auxiliary fuel. Others with their machinery have it conveyed into a large chimney purposely constructed to burn it; but most planters do as Dr. Gourier, and it falls from the roller to the levee and throw it on the edge to help check the overflow of the current of the mighty Mississippi. I staid three days on the plantation and returned night before last, just in time to take part in the grand celebration, or funeral of Calloun, Clay and Webster.

W. T. S.

"The writer gives a drawing, which of course we have no way of publishing."

THE STRENGTH OF INSECTS.—In a volume published by Van Nostrand, on "The Natural History of Animals," several illustrations are given of the super herculean strength with which the common insect is endowed. The common flea, as every one knows, will without any apparent effort jump two hundred times its own length, and several grasshoppers and locusts are said to be able to perform leaps quite as wonderful. In the case of the insect they scarcely excite our notice; but if a man were coolly to take a standing leap of three hundred and eighty odd yards, which would be an equivalent exertion of muscular power, perhaps our admirers of athletic sports might be rather startled at such a performance. Again, for a man to run ten miles within the hour would be admitted to be a tolerably good display of pedestrianism; but what are we to say of the little fly observed by Mr. Deleise, "as minute as is almost invisible," which ran nearly six inches in a second, and in that time made six hundred and thirty-two and six-tenths steps. This, according to the calculation of Kirby and Spence, is as if a man whose steps measured only two feet, should run at the incredible rate of 20 miles in a minute. Equally surprising are the instances of the insect strength given by Mr. Newport. The great stag beetle, which tears off the bark from the roots and branches of trees, has been known to gnaw a hole six inches in diameter, through the side of an iron canister in which it was confined, and on which the marks of its jaws were distinctly visible. The common beetle can without injury, support and even raise very great weights, and make its way beneath almost any amount of pressure. In order to put the strength of this insect Atlas to the test, experiment has been made to which I allude, that it is able to sustain and escape from beneath a load of from twenty to thirty pounds, a prodigious burden when it is remembered that the insect itself does not weigh as many grains; in fact, once more taking man as a standard of comparison, it is as though a person of ordinary size should raise and get under a weight of between forty and fifty tons.

A acquaintance of ours, and by the way, a very clever fellow, who has much of the best of the theatre and concert room that the church, was persuaded by his wife last Sunday, the first time since their marriage, which occurred several years ago, to accompany her to John's church. He sat very uneasily until the fine toned organ broke forth in the grandest strains of delightful harmony; he listened with breathless attention until the last note died away, and amidst the echoing echoes of the woodwork, when forgetful of the sacred place he was in, and when involuntarily placed by striking with his cane vehemently on the floor; and did not discover his mistake until the eyes of the whole congregation were resting upon him. His confusion can be better imagined than described.—*Chc. Non.*

A STRIKE FOR HIGHER PAY.—The Cincinnati Gazette, speaking of the letters of our foreign ministers, in relation to the adequacy of their salaries, refers also to another proposition that is discussed at Washington, and which will probably soon assume a more tangible form. It is as follows: The President \$100,000 a year, with a finished house.

The Vice President \$15,000 a year with a finished house.

The Heads of Departments \$10,000 a year each, with finished houses.

Ministers of the first grade from \$10,000 to \$25,000 a year and like outfits.

Ministers of the second grade from \$5,000 to \$10,000, and like outfits.

THE ARCTIC EXPLORING EXPEDITION.—Mr. Henry Grinnell will have his second expedition for the search of Sir John Franklin ready about the middle of April next. It will consist of the big Advance, which formed a part of the first expedition, and is still in perfect order, with the exception of her keel, which was knocked off with ice. It is expected that the exploring party will be ready to start for New York in about three weeks. She will be manned by a crew of picked men under the command of Dr. Kane, United States Navy, and be supplied provided with sledges and India rubber boots, with which to penetrate into the frozen regions.

THE CHICAGO WAGS.—The Chicago wags are piling fun on the issues of their wild-cat banks. On Saturday Capt. Keely handed us a bill which looks as though it had been engraved with a broad-axe, and printed on a cider press. It reads: "No. 18708. '41 ether Be." THE FUGITIVE BANK, Chicago, Ill. Pay to F. PIERCE or Bearer One Dollar on demand, in Gold.

Bill Holder responsible. Ogdensburg, N. Y., Jan. 1. 1853. The two dollar bills of the same bank are 'let'er Jan.'

BOSTON, JAN. 8th.—The brig Two Ladies has arrived with Port au Platte dates to Dec. 20th. The report that the French had seized Samana was wholly unfounded. News of war was seen in the neighborhood.—The republic of San Domingo was unusually quiet. A Portuguese schooner, with a crew of 20 men, had been seized at Port au Platte and taken to San Domingo for trial. The health of Port au Platte was good.

THE EDITORS from different parts of the State assembled at the Capital, held a meeting, and passed Resolutions against repealing the law authorizing the publication of laws in newspaper, and also against any reduction in the prices paid for publication.

BAD BUSINESS.—A young lawyer named Lawson, of New York, has been sentenced to twenty years imprisonment at Wethersfield, Connecticut, for forging certificates in that State.

CHOLERA AND INTERFERENCE.

The Rev. Henry W. Lee, D. D., Rector of St. Luke's Church, Rochester, in a sermon preached on Thanksgiving day, gives a thrilling account of the suffering of the interperate portion of that community, by cholera, during its prevalence in that city the last summer. He says: "To the city of the living the past year has been the most sad and trying of any in its entire history. God sent the pestilence amongst us, and filled our dwellings with mourning and lamentation and woe. In some cases, houses were actually depopulated by the dread disease and certain localities were made sadly desolate. About one eighth of our population were swept away by the pestilence alone, while others were removed by the ordinary diseases which prevail in our midst. Our own parish was no exception. It suffered as it never suffered before. The grave yawned for victims from among ourselves; and we furnished fearful proportion of those who fell beneath the desolating scourge. About one fifth of the whole number of victims were nominally of this parish; while of the deaths among the Protestant portion of our population, about one seventh were in families connected with this congregation. In fifty days, I was called to attend fifty burials, including those of some who died of ordinary diseases; while the majority were of those who were carried off by the pestilence. Never, my brethren, can I forget the dreadful scenes of August and September, thus far the most trying of my pastoral life. By day and by night, I was at the bedside of the dying, amidst the tears of the Saviors of sinners, and endeavoring to help them to prepare to meet their God. Some departed in the triumph of faith and hope; and some, alas! went down to the dank and dark grave. Most of the adult cholera victims were also victims of intemperance, hurried into the presence of their Judge, and laid in the earth, and, to all human appearance—I must say it—unprepared for eternity!"

Never did I more heartily deprecate the vice of drunkenness, than when on some of those sad and fatal occasions I was not only forced to think of the ghastly tenant of the coffin, as having, as it were, reeled and staggered into eternity, but was forced to see living drunkards, as yet unrepentant, to the place of burial, and so under the influence of intoxication, at the very grave, as to be unable to render the needed aid to those who bury the dead. On one such occasion I remonstrated with the only persons, four in number, who constituted the company at the grave, and all of whom were partially intoxicated, and with a few words, and, to all human appearance—I must say it—unprepared for eternity!"

THE LOCOFOCO NOMINATIONS.—We cannot answer for other portions of the State, but so far as our own is concerned, the most bitter and extensive disappointment is felt and expressed, by a large portion of the party of our opponents, in this region, with the result of the nominations at Columbus. "Curse us, not loud but deep," are heard on all sides. Some declare that the nomination of Medill, and the election of the cholera, and were in their graves, near the spot where I had forwarded them of their danger!"

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