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THOS. W. ATKIN,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS OF THE MESSENGER:

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From the Philadelphia U. S. Gazette.

War of 1812-'15.

We recently noticed the announcement of a new work by the Hon. C. J. Ingersoll—"A Sketch of the War of 1812-'15." It will be issued by Messrs. Lea & Blanchard in a few days, and in the mean time we are favored with a few sheets from which we make an extract. There is a freshness in the volume which is peculiar, as the author—being in Congress during the period of the war—had opportunities which have rarely been afforded to the historian. He was intimately connected with the leading men of the administration then existing, and he now relates much that passed under his notice. We have no doubt but that the work will be sought with great avidity when published.

"The weather was severe winter, in a climate of unusual rigour to our troops. The ground was covered with deep snow; yet the everlasting swamps of that region not hard frozen. The gallant volunteers were ill provided with clothing and camp coverings; for many of the officers ignorant and negligent of indispensable precautions in the midst of an Indian country, within twenty miles of their English allies, under Colonels Proctor and St. George, Major Muir and other thorough bred soldiers, unscrupulous of whatever means would lead to the great end of success, and relying for it chiefly on their numerous savage auxiliaries. As is generally the case, a small error or blunder, superadded to the imperfect state of the forces altogether, occasioned, probably, the terrible calamities of the battle of the 22d, and cruel massacre of the 23d January, at the river Raisin, which will long be lamented in the accounts of western warfare. When Winchester arrived at the Raisin with some 300 men, he found Lewis with 600, posted in gardens, yards, and the enclosures within them, well prepared for any emergency. On Lewis's right was an open field bounded by another enclosure like those in which he had posted his men. With General Winchester came Colonel Wells, who being of the regular army, outranked Colonel Lewis of the volunteers.—Lewis' advice to Winchester was to post the 300 men with Wells in the enclosure on Lewis' left. To this Wells objected, requiring the right of Lewis, which General Winchester allowed him to take, in an open exposed field, instead of being under cover of the enclosure. To this slight circumstance may be attributed much of the misfortune of the fatal day.

The British and Indians attacked, early in the morning of the 22d January, 1813. Col. Wells' detachment resisted, unprotected by any cover, the fierce attack of superior numbers, fought not only with unflinching bravery, but with great effect, until their ammunition began to fail; a sad deficiency which ought not to have occurred. Gen. Winchester, who courageously commanded, ordered Wells to retire into the enclosures where Lewis was stationed. Attempting to execute this difficult movement, to withdraw in the face of a superior enemy pressing upon them, Wells' men fell into confusion. Directions to fall back into Lewis' enclosures, were mistaken for an order to retreat. Instead of falling back upon Lewis, which would have rendered them quite safe, with an officer of experience and courage, the bewildered men unhappily passed over the river on the ice, and retired into the woods, towards the rapids. They were immediately, in fact, constantly, pursued by the Indians, who surrounded and cut them down, fighting to the last with the utmost resolution, selling their lives dearly, and inflicting on their assailants heavy loss. All of Wells' detachment were killed but twenty-eight, and about forty taken prisoners. General Winchester and Colonel Lewis, who accompanied and attempted to rally them, with the General's aid and son, were taken prisoners. The General's official account of the action, written at Malden the next day, says, that "the few of us that remained with the retreating party, borne down by numbers, at length submitted." By thus losing their two principal officers, our troops, never more than half the number of their enemies, were not only reduced to less than 500 remaining with Major Madison within the pickets, but were deprived of their principal commanders and at least 300 hundred of their comp[illegible] thus reduced, however, the remai[illegible] [illegible] their position with undaunted [illegible] desperate spirit, repulsing the Brit[illegible] several times, and killing [illegible] of them, then their official account [illegible] after the battle acknowledged. The [illegible] report of the British Adjutant General Edward Baynes, dated at Quebec, on the 8th February, 1813, was that 400 took refuge in the houses of the town and kept up a galling fire from the windows. The fact was that Madison repulsed every attack on his position, and maintained it from near noon till day break, when the battle began; the British having suffered so severley that day that they deemed it necessary to resort to a stratagem in which they unhappily succeeded. Falsehood is perhaps not among the forbidden arts of war, and the mere stratagem by which the remainder of our brave men was affected, might not be deemed contrary to the usages of legitimate hostilities. But the vile use made of it, at any rate, rather an unmimely trick, calls for the strongest reprobation of a base contrivance. General Winchester was prevailed upon, when taken prisoner, from motives of humanity, to send his aid, Major Overton, with a flag of truce to Major Madison, with proposals for an honorable capitulation, if he would surrender. At that time the firing had so far ceased, that our men supposed that the British had come to propose a cessation of hostilities. General Winchester had only acceded to Proctor's proffer of an honorable capitulation, in order to save the lives of many valuable men, the flower of the citizens of Kentucky, who were with Major Madison.—Proctor told him that unless they surrendered, the buildings in which they were would be immediately set on fire, and that he would not be responsible for the conduct of the Indians, who were greatly exasperated at the number of their warriors killed in the action. In this critical situation, desirous of saving the lives of the brave men with Major Madison, and expressly stipulating with Proctor that they should be protected from the savages, allowed to retain their private property, and have their side arms returned to them, Winchester yielded to Proctor's earnest solicitation, and sent Major Overton with a flag of truce to Major Madison, who not without great reluctance and every proper and possible precaution, finally submitted himself and his gallant comrades, prisoners of war. Between 400 and 500 men thus fell into the hands of the enemy, of whom a great many were wounded, and doomed next day to horrible assassination. The British account claims to have killed between 400 and 500 of our people; Adjutant General Baynes in his official report, boasted that the Indian Chief, Roundhead, with his warriors, rendered essential service by their bravery and good conduct; and that all the Americans who attempted to save themselves by flight, were cut off by the Indian warriors. It was Roundhead that captured General Winchester and delivered him to Colonel Proctor, to be the amiable and good natured instrument of his vile contrivances.

Such was the battle of the River Raisin, on the 22d January, 1813, preceding the massacre of the next day, which covered nearly every respectable family in Kentucky with mourning, filled every generous American bosom with indignation, was visited by condign retribution at the battle of the Thames in the following October, and should forever be exposed among the detestible acts of English barbarity in that war, which, nevertheless, found disaffected and graceless Americans enough if not vindicative, at all events to palliate and rejoice over.

After the capitulation, Major Madison strongly remonstrated with the British commanding officer upon the necessity and duty of protecting the wounded American prisoners from the savages who were hovering about like blood hounds thirsting to prey upon them. The stipulated protection was again promised with renewed assurances that the terms of capitulation should be faithfully and justly complied with. Next day, after General Winchester and other superior officers had been removed to Malden, when but two of the seven American surgeons survived the action of the day before, our wounded officers and men, in want of every thing and suffering the rigors of a winter, the severest almost ever known in that climate, (when, if they had surrendered at discretion, every dictate of humanity and principle of manhood, even without regard to articles of capitulation required their protection,) were given up by British officers to the ruthless brutalities of the Indians, and put to death according to the most barbarous proceedings on such occasions. Never giving or taking quarter, they make no prisoners, but exercise what is, perhaps, the sternest right of war, by putting all their captives to death. According to the regulations of civilized hostilities, this right does not exist but in case of absolute necessity for self-preservation; and under no circumstances can it be exercised with tortures, mutilation, scalping, burning and other abominable excesses. All our prisoners were, according to promise, to be conveyed in sleighs from the Raisin to Malden. Instead of that, every one of them unable to march, was not only murdered, but most of them tortured to death by the savages, as mischievous children torment insects by tearing them to pieces.—Captain Nathaniel Hart, Mr. Clay's brother-in-law, had been wounded in the battle in the knee, and was unable to walk. He had greatly signalized himself by undaunted intrepidity. A half-breed Indian, Elliot, holding the King of England's commission, who had been a college companion of Captain Hart, promised to have him carried to Malden and there taken care of in Elliot's own house.—A band of ruffian savages, nevertheless, tore him from the bed on which he was laying, and were about to kill him when he was rescued by a brother officer. Soon after, while mounted on a horse on his way to Malden, (on the 23d January,) he was shot by a party of Indians, tomahawked, and scalped, his body left on the road unburied to be devoured by hogs. The fate of many other most respectable men was similar to Captain Hart's. Nearly all our prisoners were stripped of their clothing, rifled of their money, the officers' swords given up to the savages; men of education, talents, and the highest respectability treated by British officers of every grade, from the highest to the lowest, with supercilious harshness, unmanly, ungentlemanly, and inhuman. When an American officer urged the necessity of British surgical assistance to the wounded, (as five of our seven surgeons were killed,) Elliott's execrable reply was, *the Indians are excellent Doctors.*—Sixty four wounded Americans were left on the ground, under the care of Doctors Todd and Bowers, (the two surviving surgeons,) with every assurance and full reliance that they would be kindly removed in sleds next day to Malden. At sunrise, on the 23d, a large body of Indians stripped them, as they lay extended on the cold ground, tomahawked and scalped all who were unable to march, (such was their frightful surgery,) and took away a few surviving prisoners with them for further and more excruciating tortures.—Among those assassinated, were Captains Hickman, Mead, Edwards, Price, M'Cracken, many valuable and highly respectable subaltern officers and privates, nearly all of whom were among the most respectable citizens of Kentucky. Seldom, if ever, has a greater outrage been committed. The murdered prisoners and poisoned wells imputed to Bonaparte in Egypt, were no worse than these barbarities, which are unquestionable, while the British Egyptian stories are as fabulous as many of the romances of that remote country. The unfortunate victims at Raisin were betrayed to their destruction.—I incorporate with my narrative, as more authentic and particular than any thing I could give, the following account of Captain M'Afee. The troops within the picketing under Majors Graves and Madison, had, with Spartan valor, maintained their position, though powerfully assailed by Proctor and his savage allies. The British had posted a six-pounder behind a small house, about two hundred yards down the river, which considerably annoyed the camp till its supplies of ammunition which were brought in a sleigh, were were arrested by killing the horse and his driver. Major Graves, in passing round the lines, was wounded in the knee—he sat down and bound it up himself, observing to his men, "never mind me, but fight on." About 10 o'clock, Colonel Proctor, finding it useless to sacrifice his men in vain attempts to dislodge this little band of heroes, withdrew his forces to the woods, intending either to abandon the contest, or to wait the return of the Indians, who had pursued the retreating party. The loss sustained by our men was inconsiderable; and when Proctor withdrew, they employed the leisure it afforded them to take breakfast at their posts.

As soon as Proctor was informed that General Winchester was taken, he basely determined to take advantage of this situation to secure the surrender of the party in the picketing. He represented to the General, that nothing but an immediate surrender would save the Americans from an indiscriminate massacre by the Indians. A flag was then seen advancing from the British lines, carried by Major Overton, one of the general's aids and accompanied by Col. Proctor at a respectable distance; Major Madison, with Brigade-Major Garrard, proceeded to meet them, expecting that the objects of the flag was to obtain a cessation of hostilities for the British to bear off their dead. They were much mortified to find that Major Overton was the bearer of an order from General Winchester, directing the officer commanding the American forces to surrender them prisoners of war. This was the first intimation they had that their General had been taken.—Colonel Proctor, with great haughtiness, demanded an immediate surrender, or he would set the town on fire, and that the Indians would not be restrained in committing an immediate massacre. Major Madison observed, "that it had been customary for the Indians to massacre the wounded and prisoners after a surrender, and that he would not agree to any capitulation which General Winchester might direct, unless the safety and protection of his men were stipulated." Col. Proctor then said "Sir, do you mean to dictate to me?" "No," replied Madison, "I mean to dictate for myself, we prefer selling our lives as dear as possible, rather than be massacred in cold blood." Proctor then agreed to receive a surrender on the following terms: that all private property should be respected, that sleds should be sent next morning to remove the sick and wounded to Amherstburg, on the island opposite Malden, that, in the meantime, they should be protected by a guard, and that the side arms of the officers should be restored to them at Malden.

Major Madison, after consulting with Garrard, thought it most prudent to capitulate on these terms. Half the original force was already lost; the rest would have to contend with more than three times their number; there was no possible chance of a retreat, nor any hope of a reinforcement to save them; and worst of all their ammunition was nearly exhausted, not more than one third of a small keg of cartridges being left.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Twelve Days Later from Europe.

Arrival of the Brittannia.

This steamship arrived at Boston a few mornings since, bringing Liverpool and London dates to the day of sailing, Sept. 4.

She has a large list of passengers, numbering 191, among whom are Hon. Edward Everett, wife and daughter, and Hon. L. J Papineau.

The state of trade is in most respects satisfactory. The demand for all the leading staples, whether Sugar, Coffee, Wool, or Cotton, is so steady as to indicate a healthy consumption, and the supplies are sufficient to check any exorbitant advance.

The weather in England, which had for some time been stormy, and which it was feared would greatly injure the growing crops and retard the harvest, has suddenly changed for the better, and there is a fair prospect of abundance. Every interest is feeling the advantage of restored confidence.

The French have met with some reverses in Algiers—the Arabs at Orleansville having again revolted.

The ancient town of Tervonia in Hungary has been reduced to a heap of ruins by fire.

A murder of the most appalling character has recently occurred in Leicester, England. A man only twenty-five years of age, murdered his young wife under circumstances of peculiar atrocity.

A private soldier of the sixty-seventh Regiment, now lying at Portobello barracks, has charged himself with being the murderer of Eliza Grimwood, whose death caused such a sensation in London some years ago.

The cheap railway trains, now so general, bring thousands of persons from the manufacturing and the agricultural districts, on a visit to Liverpool, who never before saw a seaport, a ship, or even the sea.

Dublin has now attained the third rank of importance as a commercial depot, being only exceeded by London and Liverpool.

Capture of a Pirate Slaver.—There has been on the west coast of Africa a most gallant and successful engagement between the boats of one of her Majesty's ships and a large pirate slaver.

The boats engaged in the affair belonged to the Pantaloon, 10, sloop, Commander Edmund Wilson. The prize is a remarkably fine vessel of about 450 tons, polacre rigged, with immense sails. She is of great celebrity on the coast, is armed with four 12 pounders, and had a mixed crew, composed chiefly of Spaniards, amounting to about 52, and was equipped for any villainous service, whether slave dealing or piracy.

The affair had excited a great sensation on the coast, and the men of war are loud in their congratulations on the success of the Pantaloon.

IRELAND.

The British Ministry are trying to stop the spirit of Orangeism and Repeal together.—The London Times of Sept. 3 illustrates their Herculean task thus;

"They have pledged themselves to degrade and exclude from Her Majesty's commission every declared Repealer and every declared Grangeman; nor can they withdraw without loss of credit and power. Now, as every man in Ireland is declaring himself either an Orangeman or a Repealer, the Ministerial course involves the utter extinction of this branch of the magistracy. Peel unites in himself the two wives in the fable. As the older spouse, he has vowed to extract every black hair from the Irish pate; and, as the younger, every gray one. Universal baldness and pain will be the consequence of these alternate yellications.

Difficulties, however, are only opportunities in the hands of the ambitious. The statesmen of Washington see conquest in a disputed boundary; and it is not impossible that Sir Robert Peel sees the extension of the stipendiary magistracy in the obstinacies of Orangemen and Repealers. What if the two parties on the bench fight it out till not even a tail remains?"

Mr. O'Connell still remains at Derrynane.

The Repeal Association continues its meetings with unabated zeal.

The Repeal Fund for the week ending Sept. 1st, was announced at £221 3s. 2d.

On Monday evening, a fire suddenly broke out in the extensive iron works of Messrs. Henwood & Co., Roche st. Belfast, and was not extinguished until £3,000 damage had been sustained.

FRANCE.

A fire broke out at Bordeaux, on 23d Aug., at the Rue Boire-sac Gratrous, at a Monsieur Tastet's. A store, full of brandy, was consumed, and the fire spread to neighboring houses. The following morning, by the falling in of the roof of one of the burned houses, a commander, an adjutant major, a lieutenant, and three firemen were killed, and a fireman and two soldiers wounded. The loss of property is estimated at 3,000,000 francs.

There has been a terrific whirlwind on the continent. Its effects in Holland were almost as severely felt as in France. At Romen, however, it seems to have expended its greatest violence. In that city three extensive manufactories were destroyed by the whirlwind, while all the hands were at work; not less than 60 persons of all ages perished in the ruins, and 120 wounded.

A great cloud of winged insects called ephemerae, recently spread over the city of Nantes, darkening the atmosphere as though by an eclipse. The gardens and ground were covered.

SPAIN.

A reduction of postage has been effected on letters, but it has been contrived to tax newspapers as letters, and charge them by weight.

Madrid has been the scene of another disturbance. The people having resolved not to pay the new house taxes. All the shops were shut up, and business entirely suspended. Troops poured into the city, and on the 19th charges of cavalry and a discharge of musketry were found necessary to disperse the crowd, when several persons were killed and wounded. The political chief published a most energetic proclamation, ordering the shops to be reopened under the most severe penalties, which, after some time, was complied with, and order was once more restored.

GERMANY.

From Germany we learn that the religious disturbances at Leipsic have not been renewed, and that the popular irritation has been allayed by the King's prompt compliance with the request of the citizens in regard to a commission of inquiry.

Select Good Seed.

There is no way in which improvement in agriculture can be made in so cheap a way as in the judicious selection of seeds. A superior kind of seed can often be obtained for an acre of land at a small expense—perhaps at the extra cost of only 50 cents—and it may be the means of adding 10 per cent to the crop, which may amount to several dollars on an acre. Farmers can often improve their seed by purchase or exchange, and every one has it in his power to make improvements in this way by a good selection. If an earlier kind be desirable, then select seed from the earliest that ripens. If you would have larger products, then select seed from the largest. In this way almost every thing can be improved. Some cultivators will select their best beans, peas, and other vegetables for eating, and take what is left for seed. In this way he can depend on deterioration.

At a small expense, the finest seed, earliest, largest, or latest, as desirable, may be selected from the best plants, and a little seed thus obtained can soon be multiplied into a large quantity. Grain selected from a few fine heads can soon be increased in a sufficient quantity for a whole farm. By beating sheaves of wheat, rye, or other grain, over a box or cask, the largest and plumpest berries can be readily shaken out, which will be the best for seed. Then with a suitable sieve the largest of this choice lot may be separated from the rest, and by washing in water, salt water if necessary to effect your purpose, at the time of sowing, the heaviest grain may be obtained. All this can be done at a trifling expense, and the advantages from the improvement will continue for years.—*Boston Cultivator.*

Wheat from Wisconsin Farms.—The Racine, Wisconsin, Advertiser says that two farmers from Jamesville, Rock county, whose farms adjoin, last fall conjointly had 200 acres of prairie broken and sown in wheat—the work being performed by two young men, with ten yokes of oxen, and two boys to drive a few weeks. These 200 acres of wheat have recently been cut by means of a machine, occupying only twelve and a half days, with an extra expense of fifty cents an acre for binding and stacking. The wheat turned out an aggregate of 5000 bushels, worth $2,500 or an average of 25 bushels to the acre. On Friday, the owner came to Racine with two wagons, loaded with an aggregate of 205 bushels of wheat, which he sold at 62 1 2 cents the bushel.

Beautiful Extract.—And the Bible too—what an exhaustless storehouse is it of materials, scenes, personage, events, from which the poet, the painter, and the sculptor, the orator have drawn, and still continue to draw, to mould and beautify their works! Why is it that genius deems it his greatest triumph, and the surest passport to 'perpetuate memory' to be able successfully to illustrate the pages of this holy record? The answer is that it is the book of the soul. It deals with fundamental verities which belong to the universal interests. It treats of man's highest interests. It sets forth truth. All that is great in idea, all that is glorious in vision, all that is beautiful in hope, all that is tender and elevated in sentiment, all that is mysterious in sin, the diversified drama of human life, the struggles of those passions which inhabit the human breast, the might and authority of conscience; the great world epic of God's Providence—creation, redemption, and judgement; the history of what has been, the prospective unfolding of what shall be—these all meet in the Bible. And the most that genius can do, as age follows age, is to copy its sublime and affecting lessons on the canvass or in solid stone, to translate its venerable diction into the various tongues of the earth, to transfer its awful sentiments to arched ceilings and 'long drawn aisles' and overhanging domes, to testify judgment with its denunciations, and inspire hope with its promises, and solace grief with its peace, and strengthen human weakness with its commandments, monitions and menaces."

The Revival.—Sixteen days have passed since the commencement of the great religious revival now going on in this City.—Within that time, one hundred and forty three persons have found pardon for their sins, and one hundred and three have connected themselves with the Methodist Church. This includes the exercises on Monday evening.—Twenty persons were then at the altar of prayer, and some were converted. The congregation was as large as ever, and the interest unabated; yet we think the meeting near its close. We regret that the health of our most efficient, zealous and untiring minister in charge, the Rev. Mr. Kennon, has been so much affected by his labors, that he is unable to preach or take any active part in the meeting. Yet he is generally present, even when he should be in bed.

For the last week, the Rev. Mr. Graves has officiated at the alter, and in the reception of members. His bodily strength, great as it is, has been nearly exhausted, and no further ministerial aid can be obtained. He has been instrumental in doing much for souls, and he will be held in kind remembrance. The moral foundations of Tuscaloosa have been shaken, and long will the good work display its fruits.

N. B.—It was announced last night, at the Church, that aid had arrived, and the meeting would be continued.—*Tuscaloosa (Alabama) Monitor.*

SAVANNAH, Sept. 27.

The Crops.—A letter received in this city, yesterday, from one of the most respectable planters of Wilkes county, in this State, under date of 24th instant, says—"Our crops are miserably short, and we will have to depend greatly on early grain fields. The caterpillar, the first I have seen in this region of country, are destroying the fields of late grass, and the entire turnip crop. This has been a sad year to planters, less than a half crop of every thing is realized."

We see by the Hamburg Journal that the cattterpillar has made its appearance in Edgefield District, and is busy at its work of destruction. They have also made their appearance in Richmond county, in this State.

Georgian.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept., 23.

Sixteen Days Later from Mexico.

Withdrawal of the French Minister.

The U. S. steam frigate Princeton, arrived at Pensacola on the morning of the 20th inst., having sailed from Vera Cruz on the evening of the 15th. Our previous dates were brought by the Mexican schooner Guerriero, which left Vera Cruz on the 30th of August. By the arrival of the Princeton we did not receive our regular files, and gather the following items of information from our correspondence and some chance papers.

The French Minister, Alleye de Ciprey, having been again refused the reparation he demanded for the personal indignities offered him some months since, has demanded and received his passports. He was expected to leave in the next packet from Vera Cruz.—The Siglo Diezy Neuve makes an elaborate defence of the action of the Mexican Government, insisting upon it that the demands of the Baron were beyond reason, and could not be granted without trampling upon the inviolability of the power of the judiciary and the social guarantees which repose thereupon.

By the papers received at Vera Cruz on the 14th from Mexico, it appears that a despatch had arrived at the capital, stating that 3000 regular troops of the United States and 1500 Texans were on the march to Matamoros.

By the returns Herara has received 110 out of 130 votes. Only one Department remains to be heard from.

Tobasco was still in the possession of the Federalists, and as yet the Government has been unable to despatch any troops to put down the revolt. The revolution at Tobasco is repudiated by the Federalists of Mexico.

Paredes was at San Luis Potosi with a force of 10,000. He was ostensibly making preparations to march for the northern frontier; but his designs are suspected, and he has been accused in Mexico of aiming at a military dictatorship. A division under his command has pronounced against the present Government, and in favor of a military system.—Paredes has written that he has succeeded in restoring order, and professes to be favorably disposed to the present Government; these professions are, however, distrusted.

The order for establishing the *Defensores* has been unsuccessful in most of the Departments heard from. In some departments they had not enlisted a single person. The terms of the enlistment have in consequence been modified. The system of voluntary enlistment has been regarded by the supporters of the army with great jealousy, and was denounced as intended to supplant and disband the regular troops for political purposes.

The Santa Anna party are in favor of postponing the declaration of war against the U. States to a more propitious time, in view of the present distracted and unprepared condition of the party.

The Siglo XIX still contends, as it did in the outset, that as the war with the United States is a war of defence solely, the object of which is to recover a portion of territoy which has been wrested from Mexico, that an *express declaration* or announcement of war is not necessary; that the previous protests and solemn declaration of Mexico cover the whole ground.

The Government is so beset with difficulties and embarrassed in its resources, and the country is in so distracted a state, that it is believed that another revolution is inevitable, and that it may occur at any moment.—*Picayune.*

Melancholy Accident.—On the 25th ult. Mr. David Davis, one of the owners of the Moor Gold Mine, in Montgomery county, was killed by the caving of the earth. He was a respectable and industrious citizen, of a friendly disposition and unspotted character.—*Independent.*