If any body asks you about that great fight, you can tell 'em you licked Bill Stokes most confoundedly."

Francisco was a powerfully built man, standing six feet and one inch in height, and weighing 250 pounds. His muscular system was extraordinarily developed, and he had been known to shoulder with ease, a cannon weighing eleven hundred pounds; and a gentleman of undoubted veracity, (still living in Virginia,) who knew him well, says: "He could take me in his right hand, and pass over the room with me, playing my head against the ceiling as though I had been a doll baby. My weight was 195 pounds." His wife, who was a woman of good size, and fair proportions, he would take in his right hand, and holding her out at arm's length, would pass around the room with her, and carry her up and down stairs in that position. He would take a barrel of cider by the chimes, and holding to his mouth, would drink from the bung, a long and hearty draught without any apparent exertion.

CHURCH TENURES—SPEECH OF MR. BROOKS.

In looking over the speech of Mr. Erastus Brooks, in the Senate of New York, on the Church Tenure bill, we find in it many sound statesmanlike views.

The Constitution of the United States, though founded on the rock of complete tolerance—Congress being prohibited from establishing by law, any religious system, or preventing the free exercise thereof, according to duty to the Creator, designs to secure to all citizens, civil and religious independence from the control of all despotic powers. It is maintained that the Papal power in the State of New York, is not in harmony with true civil and religious liberty—that many Catholic petitioners, American citizens as did the British Catholics in 1699, who petitioned Parliament, invoked the Legislature of New York to hear their remonstrance against the excommunication which held their names up to infamy and reproach, denied them the rites of baptism and burial, refused the marriage sacrament and in the hour of death, the holy consolations of religion, because they refused to violate the trust laws of New York and centre all powers in the Bishops.

Mr. Brooks read the following bill of excommunication which was issued by Pope Benedict VIII., against William II., King of Provence in France, and against his mother, for having seized certain ecclesiastical property administered by the monks of St. Giles.

May they never be redeemed from the fate of Judas, of Ann, Caiphas, Pilate and Herod.

May they perish by the curse of the angels and suffer the society of Satan in the loss of their flesh.

May they be damned in heaven, in earth, and in the regions below.

May they suffer the maledictions of God, and of the world.

May they suffer continually in their body, may their mind become stupified, and meet with all bodily pains, and end in perdition.

May they be damned with the damned ones, and perish with the wicked.

May they be damned with the Jews, who did not believe in Christ, and who crucified him.

May they be damned with the Protestants, heretics, who wish to overthrow the Catholic Church.

May they be damned with the impious and sinners, should they not repent, and refuse to return the property to the Monks of St. Giles.

May they be damned in the four parts of the world.

Cursed in the East—abandoned in the West—interdicted in the North—excommunicated in the South.

May they be cursed in the day, excommunicated in the night.

May they be damned while standing, excommunicated while sitting.

May they be damned while eating, excommunicated in drinking.

May they be damned in working, excommunicated in resting.

May they be cursed in Spring, and excommunicated in Summer.

May they be damned in Autumn, and excommunicated in the Winter.

May they be cursed in the present, and excommunicated in the time to come.

Strangers will be allowed to possess themselves of their property, and may their women perish in sin, and their children be destroyed by the sword.

May be damned every one who shall speak, trade, and have friendly relations with them.

May be excommunicated the Priest, who should administer to them, the Sacrament of the Holy Communion.

May be cursed and excommunicated the physician who shall visit them in their sickness.

May be cursed the grave diggers who shall bury their bodies.

In a word, may they be damned with all possible curses!

[Translated from *Les Procures de l'histoire de la ville de Nantes* in France.

Now reader, did you ever peruse such a string of maledictions. No wonder that the nerves of weak and superstitious people have given way to the Council of Trent and the Roman Pontiff, God's boasted Vicars.

THE CHIPPEWAY NATION.—The St. Louis Republican thinks that there is reasonable prospect of reclaiming the whole nation of Chippeway Indians from barbarism. The leading feature of the treaty recently made between this tribe and the United States is, that as fast as individuals or communities become civilized to a certain extent, (of which the United States Commissioners are judges,) they are to be admitted to all the rights and privileges of American citizens. The desire to come under this condition, is very general, it is said, and large sums will be expended this year, both by the Indian and Missionary societies, in building school houses and in the purchase of farming utensils. There are more than two hundred thousand Indians thus waiting to be civilized, and the experiment is likely to be tried fairly for the first time since the settlement of America, of extending equal rights to the aborigines.

BEST MAN IN THE INDIANA PENITENTIARY.—The Ripley Circuit Court, last week, sentenced Mr. Muir to the penitentiary for two years, for forging a note of $20. Mr. Muir is probably the richest man in Ripley county, Indiana. It is supposed his property is worth near $100,000. It has been his strife to be rich, and now he will have the honor of bragging of being the richest man in the penitentiary. Won't that be something of which to be proud?

Indiana Sentinel.

North Carolina Telbig.

CHARLOTTE:

Tuesday, May 8, 1855.

☞ The sale of the negroes advertised to take place in Charlotte to-day is postponed until next Tuesday, the 15th instant.

Messrs. Fisher & Hoke.

The Salisbury *Banner* contradicts a report which it says is in circulation that these gentlemen have been spoken of as candidates of the Know-Nothings of this District. The *Banner* thinks because Mr. Fisher is a personal friend of Mr. Craige that he cannot be seduced from his old cherished principles by offers of political preferment. And as far as Mr. Hoke is concerned the *Banner* believes he will be as far from being betrayed into such a suicidal step as Mr. Fisher. Now, all we have to say on the subject is, that we hope if these gentlemen hold the principles of the American party and either of them should be nominated for Congress, that he may adopt the language of an old Roman, "*not that he loved Cæsar less but that he loved Rome more,*" and do battle for that party. As good and true Democrats as either have given up their party predilections, and why should they not do so too, if they are in favor of Americans ruling America.

Gen. Washington's letter to the Baptist Churches.

The Salisbury *Banner* publishes a letter from Gen. Washington to the united Baptist Churches in Virginia, to which it invites the attention of the Know-Nothings, and which we give below:

To the General Committee representing the United Baptist Churches in Virginia:

GENTLEMEN:—It I could have entertained the slightest apprehension that the Constitution framed by that Convention where I had the honor to preside might possibly endanger the religious rights of any ecclesiastic society, certainly I would never have pressed my agency in it; and if I could not conceive that the wisest and best form of government might even be so administered as to render the most of conscientious citizens. I beg you will be persuaded that no one would be more zealous than myself to establish effectual barriers against the horrors of spiritual tyranny and species of religious persecution. For you doubtless remember I have often expressed my sentiments that any man conducting himself as a good citizen, and being accountable to God alone for his religious opinions, ought to be protected in worshipping the Deity according to the dictates of his own conscience.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

We presume there is not a member of the American Party that cannot give his hearty concurrence to every sentiment expressed in the above letter. But we would ask the *Banner*, while Gen. Washington is willing to grant protection to every one in "worshiping the Deity according to the dictates of his own conscience," does he at the same time recommend us to vote for foreigners. Not at all. Gen. Washington was opposed to immigration and of course could not adopt such a course."

Mr. Flournoy and Slavery.

The Richmond *Enquirer* and other kindred papers published a short time ago a charge against Mr. Flournoy that he was unfriendly to slavery and had made a speech in a Convention in Virginia in which he stated that the improvement of Virginia was retarded by the institution of slavery. This charge was made on the authority of a correspondent of the Enquirer. Mr. Flournoy's attention being called to this charge he contradicts it in the following letter:

HALIFAX C. H., April 7th, 1855.

Dear Sir:—On my return home yesterday, after an absence of several days on professional business, I received your letter calling my attention to the charge made against me by a correspondent of the Enquirer, of unfriendliness upon the subject of slavery. The charge is so contemptible, that nothing but a respect for the paper, who might be deceived by it, and your desire to be put in possession of every contradiction in regard to it, induces me to notice it.

Sometime in the year 1846, I speak altogether from memory, a Convention was held at Charlotte C. H., for the avowed purpose of considering the best means of improving the Roanoke and its tributaries, the Dan and Staunton Rivers. After the delegates had assembled, and to the surprise of all the counties in this region, it was proposed to abandon the improvement of the Rivers, and build a Rail Road. Upon this proposition, there was a good deal of discussion. Our lamented friend Tazewell advocated the Rail Road, and urged as an objection to the improvement of Rivers, their annual failure in many of the Northern States. I replied to him, and insisted that the illustration was not applicable to this section of country, that the population of the Northern States was a free white population; that ours was comparatively a coarse population, and nearly or quite half of it slaves; and that consequently the facility to be derived from travel, would not be comparable. To this I inferred from the statistics of the different sections of country. What language I used, I am unable to say, after a lapse of about nine years, having no notes of the speech to refer to; the impression being still lasting and unobliterable. I positively did not use the language attributed to me by the correspondent of the Enquirer, for I never entertained such an opinion. I am confirmed in my recollection by the fact that in the spring of 1847, less than a year after the holding of the Convention, I became a candidate to represent this, the largest slave holding district in the State, in the Congress of the United States, while the introduction of Rail and Plank Roads into our country has produced quite a revolution in the farming interest. The farmers finding that they have a market near home where they can dispose of the products of their Land, now feel like introducing a system of farming that will increase the products of the Land they cultivate. How is this to be done? Why, by Manuring the Land, &c., and using the most approved methods of Planting, Working and Gathering—and how are they to improve in this respect? By taking the testimony of men who have spent their lives in observing and testing all the different methods theories and practices, and selecting the best from among them. There is no one better calculated to do this than the author of the above book [R. L. Allen,] having had more experience in these matters than almost any other man that has attempted to write on the subject. This book contains valuable instruction on all of the above mentioned subjects, and is written out in a plain, practical style, so that any man that can read, can understand it, and $1.25 could not be better spent by any farmer than in this book.

New and Practical North Carolina *Farm Book*, by C. H. Wiley, to which is added the constitution of the State.

This work will be found what it purports to be, a collection of forms of Legal Instruments suited to the wants of Justices of the Peace, Clerks, Sheriffs, Constables and the people generally. The number of forms found in this book is much larger than in any other. Price, $1.00

Thirty years in the Senate of the United States Senate, by T. H. Benton.

This is a history of the working of the American Government for thirty years from 1820 to 1850. The writer spent these thirty years in the Senate himself besides many years in the Lower House and consequently is better calculated to write a correct history of it than any other man now living.

"NONSENSE OF THE BIBLE."

If the reader only desires to see an exemplification of the true spirit of Romanism, he will read the following article from a Catholic paper in New Orleans. How do you like to affiliate with men who call American Protestants "*Murderers*," and go openly for proscribing "*the nonsense of the Bible*?" Are you willing to put such men in office to rule the country? Do you know that one of them is your present Postmaster General? Let the people remember that it is against such men the Know-Nothing party is arrayed! They are unwilling that such men shall rule America!

Murders—American Protestantism in N. Orleans.

The following article appeared in the German Gazette, (J. Gabein, editor,) of Friday morning, which we have translated for the benefit of our readers:

It is known to most of our readers, that Mr. L. Berger, (a German Protestant preacher,) in the principles of a seminary, in which, reason only enough, no regard is paid to religion, and where it is only sought at to fill the heads of the pupils with things worthy of knowledge. For the last two weeks, repeated attempts have been made by the Murders, (American Protestants,) to flood the schools, during the absence of the teachers, with tracts, in order to injure the institution and derange the heads of young people with the silly contents of those tracts. But that was not enough; two or three decently dressed ladies, connected with the Bible Society, attempted yesterday, from 12 to 1 o'clock, while the pupils were playing in Lafayette Square, to induce some of them—by taking them gratuitously to the panorama and distributing cakes, &c., to visit the Sunday Schools, where nothing is taught but the NONSENSE OF THE BIBLE. Mr. Berger appealed in time to Gentle to the pious of those ladies, who seem to have been educated in the schools of the Jesuits.

In consequence of the impudence of the Murders, (American Protestants), Mr. Berger has taken measures to prevent the unwished-for intervention of these ladies.

The benevolent "ladies of our city are here termed Muckers, or hypocrites, by this Mr. Berger, who is, doubtless, a Jesuit in disguise. This gentleman's course should be watched in future. —*N. O. Creole.*

From the South Carolinian.

ARRIVAL OF THE ATLANTIC.

NINE DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, May 4.—The steamer Atlantic has arrived, with Liverpool dates of April 25, having sailed on Monday.

The Vienna Conference has been broken off, Russia having rejected the propositions of the allies. Lord John Russell and Drouyn L'Huys has left Vienna. There are strong indications that Austria will not act against Russia.

Sebastopol has been bombarded with 500 guns from the 8th to 13th of April, without result. The allies would probably attempt to storm the place, though an assault was hardly considered practicable.

The British loan of £16,000,000 had been taken by the Rothschilds, in the shape of an annuity, terminable in 30 years.

Parliament had increased the taxes on incomes, spirits, tea and coffee. A stamp tax on sugar was imposed.

Nicholson and Ingram had been in England for a week. It was stated that the English Government had consented that Napoleon should take command of the Crimean army, though this was doubtful.

MARKETS.—Cotton was steady at unchanged rates, though buyers ask concessions. Sales nine days, 70,000 bales, of which speculators took 10,000 and exporters 9,000 bales. Fair Orleans 5¾; Middling 5¼; Fair Upland 5⅝; Middling 5 1-16@5¼.

Flour and wheat were lower. Corn lower. Cwt. flour 30s 4½. Oats 42s 43s. White wheat 11s 6d@12s 3d. White corn 42s 45s. Yellow 43s 45s 3d.

THE POPE'S ORDERS OF SECRET SOCIETIES.—Pope Pius IX., in his allocution, delivered in the Secret Consistory at Rome, on the 9th of December last, thus speaks:

"We have still to lament the existence of an impious race, who would exterminate all religious worship, if it were possible for them; and who must count amongst them, before all, the members of secret associations, who, bound together by a criminal compact, neglect no means of overthrowing the Church and State by the violation of every law. It is against them assuredly that the words of the Divine Redeemer are directed: '*You are the children of the devil, and do the work of your father.*'"

[FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA WHIG.]

General Pierre.

A HEROIC-BATTIC POEM.

When Scott, with his army, was triumphant,
Passing from all quarters were chosen only
The bravest men that he, with an enemy's land,
Should have foreseen an enemy's hand,
Should have conquered the Mexicans from town to town;
Should have in triumphant, a resistance down;
Should have proved victorious at Churubusco,
And triumphantly entered the city of Mexico,
While Santa Anna was through the suburbs flying,
To escape the doom of ingloriously dying;
From the Mexicans, who were distressed,
By their own government oppressed,
Should in the free and general joy,
Coincide with any gross alloy;
And prepared to Scott, if he would become a resident,
That they would elect him to be their President;
And would give him for a salary, one million of dollars or more,
Of rare and enticing, bright sparkling golden ore:
This he with just indignation spurned,
Because his heart with patriotism burned.
When the report of the battle of Churubusco,
And of Scott's entrance into the city of Mexico,
Reached the government directory,
So unexpected was the victory,
That the President and his cabinet did not believe it,
Although they did from true sources receive it;
When the reports of the victory were found to be true,
Although no glorious tales were told about you,
Throughout all the States, from Maine to Mexico,
Resounded the glorious shout and pleasing brass
For the gallant hero of so many wars,
Whereas he personally bore many honorable scars,
The far-famed Duke of Wellington,
The chivalrous conqueror of Napoleon,
Called this hero of a hundred fights,
To maintain his country's cause and rights,
One of the greatest Captains of any age,
Of all whose names grace the historic page.

CIVIS.

From our Correspondent.

CHARLESTON, May 2, 1855.

Since the close of the Fair, the city has been rather barren of local incidents of sufficient interest to make them of moment to the outside public. The Fair itself, was altogether a brilliant and successful affair, and in both the interest it excited and the crowded attendance it commanded, quite exceeded the most sanguine expectations of its friends and advocates. The articles were highly creditable to the contributors, and outnumbered more than two to one, those on exhibition at any previous Fair. The addresses of Hon. Jas. L. Orr, and the President of the Institute, W. M. Lawton, Esqs., was delivered before immensely crowded and enthusiastic audiences. The list of premiums, as awarded by the Committee, was published in the city papers of Monday last.

The Firemen's parade, which came off on Friday, the 27th inst., was altogether a grand and imposing affair. The Fire Department was out, including two Companies from Savannah, and was reviewed by the Mayor and Council at 4 o'clock, P. M. There were twelve engines on the ground, and something over one thousand firemen. The sight was a most grand and imposing one, and the occasion will long be remembered with pleasure by those who witnessed it. One of the Savannah Companies—the "Young America," had a little girl, apparently about five years old, mounted on a platform above the engine, and encircled with a wreath of flowers.

The total eclipse of the moon came off last night, as announced in the papers and Almanacs, to the great delight and entertainment of our citizens. C. D. Belcher, Esq., opened the evening's entertainment at Apprentices Library, by mounting Lawton's Telescope, and inviting the moonstruck multitude to take a peep, and fall back to give room for others. My sight being very good, I did not patronize the Telescope, but took a private look, on my own responsibility, with the naked eye from a very convenient point near the Palmetto tree in front of the Standard office. There was some mistake in Miller's Almanac, about the time the doors would open, which caused a part of the crowd to come in rather late, on which account it was proposed to repeat the performances on to-morrow night, with an entire new programme. The reporter of the Standard, is out this morning in a very able and learned disquisition on eclipses in general, and the one of last night in particular. He considers them in good taste, and being a very innocent kind of amusement, recommends them to the good will and patronage of the Charleston public.

The cotton market remains firm, with an upward tendency. The sales of yesterday, amounted to 1200 bales, the bulk of which was sold at prices ranging from 9½ to 9¾. 87 bales reached 10 cents, and 37 bales ran up as high as 10¼. Pacific news from Europe would cause an immediate advance of from one to two cents per pound, which would be fair and remunerative prices. The signs of the times are a shade more encouraging, and the money market decidedly easier. Charleston is fast becoming a great and populous city, and with the advantages, we have also the disadvantages of a crowded and promiscuous population, congregated from all points of the compass. We occasionally have a street scene that would do honor to the crowded thoroughfares of the larger cities of the North. A few evenings ago, a woman was terribly cut up on Barresford-street, by a fiend which disgraces the form of man. A guardman in King-street, was lately knocked down and stabbed in the act of attempting to arrest a rowdy crowd who were disturbing the vicinity with their howls and screams; and on Sunday night, a peaceable, quiet man was knocked down in Cumberland-street, and had his leg broken. Such is the ever varying phase of city life.

It may be of interest to some of your readers to know that the Moultrie House on Sullivan's Island, will be opened about the 10th of June, in grand and magnificent style, by Daniel Mixer, the experienced, polite, and efficient host of the Charleston Hotel. Hundreds who have been in the habit of spending their summers North, will find at this place all the conveniences, comforts, and luxuries of Saratoga, Nahant, or Cape May; and thousands of our capital will be kept at home, which would otherwise have been spent at the North. A Railroad is to be constructed from the boat landing to the Hotel, drawn by horse power, capable of conveying passengers and baggage to any amount, and with all necessary speed. This is emphatically a fast age, and those who expect to live and thrive, must keep up with it. Old fogyism won't do now, when "Young America" is rampant.

You will see in the Standard, of this morning, a statement of the extravagantly high prices of our markets. Common tough beef, (half bone,) is selling at 18 cents a pound; veal, 25 cents; lamb at 25 cents; pork 15 cents; fowls, from 75 to $1.00 a pair; green peas 50 cents a peck, and strawberries 18 cents a dozen. Every thing else sold in our market, is in proportion to the above rates. And now the question arises: who can pay house rent and servant hire, at the present rate, and furnish his table from the market, and make enough at any ordinary business to clear expenses? Your correspondent is fortunate enough to have little or none of the above expenses to bear, and yet, he works hard, by day and night, and finds it difficult to pocket a few dollars clear at the end of each week.

The weather, for the last two weeks, has been dry, and quite warm for the season; though I see it has been much warmer in the upper Districts than it has been here. There has quite a change taken place this afternoon, and the cool Northwester indicates a gale. I see they are needing rain very much in some parts of the country, and the early crops are suffering, but we have had enough here to fill our cisterns and keep vegetation on the way, and that is about all we care for. Musquitoes and sand flies are making their appearance, and are becoming thick enough to be quite annoying.

The city was never more healthy at this season. The past week, there was only 16 deaths—10 colored and 6 white. Charleston is the healthiest city on the Atlantic coast.

ASHLEY.

The Boston *Transcript* says that no less than one thousand marriage certificates have been issued in that city since the 1st of January last.

RAIL ROAD JUBILEE.—The people of the lower portion of Richmond county, gave a public dinner on the 9th ult., to their members of the late General Assembly, for their services in procuring a charter for the Wilmington, Charlotte & Rutherford Road. Before the good things were attacked, a meeting was held, Dr. John Malloy acting as Chairman, and F. McLeod as Secretary. The report of the proceedings is published in the Fayetteville Argus. Major D. C. McIntyre offered a preamble and resolutions, expressive of the deep interest felt by the people of Richmond in the success of this really State enterprise—pledging their best efforts to raise the subscription necessary to the construction of the Road at as early a period as possible—declaring that the Road can, will, and shall be built—and returning thanks to their members of the Legislature for their services in procuring the charter. After the adoption of these resolutions, T. J. Morrisey, Esq., Senator from Richmond and Robeson, and Col. Walter L. Steele, Commoner from Richmond, addressed the meeting, presenting in a clear light the many and very great advantages to be derived from the construction of the Road. Then came the dinner! And after that, more speaking by Col. N. A. McLean of Robeson, P. A. McEachin and John G. Blue, Esqs. Books of subscription were then opened, and something over two hundred shares of stock were immediately taken.—*Wilmington Herald.*

The New York Herald, in some comments on the high price of provisions and breadstuffs, has the following remarks:

"A general wail comes in upon us from the North and Northwest, of the prevailing scarcity of breadstuffs and the high famine prices which they command. Why is this? We have land enough in the Northwestern States alone, to furnish supplies for a hundred million of people. Why these deficiences? It will not do to charge them to the immense accessions to our Northern populations from abroad; it will not avail to say that they are the result of the drought. They are the result of a neglect of cultivation of the soil. We are blest with free labor and common schools in the greatest abundance. Yet our free labor is perishing for lack of bread and meat, while in the South, notwithstanding the drought, they have a comparative abundance. The free laborer finds farming a slow process for getting rich. Money does not come by the rough hard work of farming, hand over hand. But merchants and tavern keepers, speculators, financiers, politicians and lawyers, may, in a single operation, make a fortune, while the farmer, though securing a comfortable living against casualities, is doing very little more. Hence, farming has pretty much been left to the "old fogies," while Young America at the North is among the merchants, speculators, financiers, stock jobbers, hucksters, oyster saloons, gambling dens, and vagabondizing, politicians, &c., &c. Anything but the hard, honest work of farming.

Thus our consumers are multiplied, while our producers are diminished. And what is to be the end of all this? If there be not a revolution in these things within the next ten years, the only alternative for a deficiency of bread in the North, the people of the North will have to fall back upon the Southern system of African slave labor. Strike out the products and supplies of Southern slavery of the last year, and we of the North would now be suffering the evils of an Irish famine."

THE UNITED STATES EXPLORING EXPEDITION TO THE NORTH PACIFIC.—The Boston Atlas of Thursday, learns through private sources, that at the last accounts the United States ship Vincennes was at Hong Kong, preparing for the exploration of Bhering's Straits and the Northwest American coast. The Atlas states that several of the officers attached to this expedition have died during the winter, of diseases contracted during the long stay of the vessel at Hong Kong last summer. Captain Davis, formerly of the Porpoise, Lieut. Hunter, of the Hancock, and Dr. Hamilton, of the Kennedy, have all died during the past winter. Another letter, under date of February 1st, refers to "a terrible suspicion which had been held by all, and now amounts to almost a certainty," that the Porpoise has been totally lost at sea, with all on board. She has not been seen or heard of since she parted company with the Vincennes, in the gale of the 21st of September last. That gale, it will be remembered, was very severe in the China sea, in which nearly a hundred smaller craft were lost, even in the sheltered harbor of Hong Kong. The other two vessels belonging to the expedition, the Hancock and the Kennedy, are known to be safe. That nothing has been heard of the Porpoise for eighteen weeks, since the gale referred to, justifies the gravest apprehensions as to her fate.

ARSENIC AS A REMEDY.—An article some time since appeared in one of the English magazines, giving an account of a curious practice of swallowing arsenic, which prevails among the inhabitants of several of the Austrian provinces. It gives them to endure long ascending walks on the mountains, without overtasking their lungs. It is now stated by a Paris correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune that M. Montigny, the French Consul in China, has furnished some interesting information with reference to the use of arsenic by the Northern Chinese. He says they mingle it with their smoking tobacco. The custom is peculiar to certain provinces, and so common that, according to the testimony of missionaries who lived a long time there, tobacco free from arsenic is not sold. The same assured the Consul that the arsenic smokers were stout fellows with "lungs like a blacksmith's bellows, and rosy as cherubs. The publication of Montigny's statement has called out a letter from Dr. Londe, who informs us that some years ago, in the course of discussion at the Academy of Medicine, on the agents to be employed to cure tubercular consumption, he told the assembled doctors that he had found but one successful means of combating this dreadful disease; that means was the smoking of arsenic. The doctor re-affirms his commendation of this remedy.

A sea monster was caught near Punta Rossa, on the 22d ultimo, which had a mouth three and a half feet long, and wide enough to swallow a canoe. The space between its eyes measured four feet four inches, its length of body nineteen feet, and breadth 19 feet, weighing 3,000 pounds!

Twenty-six diamond rings have been seized on board the steamer Africa at Boston.

SINGULAR PHENOMENON.—We find the following account of a most singular, but hitherto unnoticed phenomenon, in the Evansville Journal.

The explanation of it, however, is very simple, and any one can satisfy himself of the probability of the story by stirring a of stagnant water, containing putrid substance. The bubbles that rise to the surface contain an inflamable gas, which will burn for a minute with a pale, bluish blaze.

We have never seen in print a notice of the following strange fact, although every steam boatman acquainted with Green River navigation can verify its truth. Just above the locks, when the river is in a certain stage, very low for several miles steamboats shut down their furnace doors, and allow no torches to be lighted, for fear of what the dock hands call "setting the river on fire." Frequently boats using torches, or keeping their doors open at this particular place, have found themselves engulfed in blue flame to the alarm of passengers, and in several cases setting the steamers on fire. In some instance passengers have only been prevented by the strenuous exertions of the officers, from leaping overboard in their alarm. The cause of the phenomenon is simply this: The bottom of the river becomes covered with forest leaves and rubbish to the depth of some inches, probably several feet. Boats in low water run through this vegetable matter, their wheels string it up thoroughly. An inflamable gas is thus permitted to escape, which, on communication with a flame, at once takes fire and burns with a blue blaze. At such times the boat stops and flames ceases. When out, the boat goes on again, taking the precaution mentioned above. Unless allowed to continue some little time, this burning gas is not apt to communicate its flames to wood—but it is quite sufficient to seriously alarm those not acquainted with its cause.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF PHILADELPHIA.—There are now in Philadelphia, 288 public schools, 876 teachers, and 52,073 pupils. The whole expenditure for the support of the system for the last eight months has been $885,079, as follows: Salaries of teachers, $359,830; books and stationary, $66,543; fuel, $32,438; house cleaning and superintendence, $47,662; new school houses, $75,171; rent, $37,143; furniture, $13,336; furnaces and stoves, $9,916; additions and repairs to school houses, $27,838; and general expenses, $15,208. The annual average cost of teaching each pupil amounts to $8.79. The annual cost for the tuition of the pupils of the grammar, secondary, primary, and unclassified schools is $5,70; the total cost of the night schools in operation during the winter months is $20,000. This sum, the report says, should be deducted from the expenses in estimating the average cost of tuition in the other schools, making a reduction of about 38 cents per pupil. In the early part of the year 1854, a general advance of 20 per cent was made in the salaries of the teachers, taking effect on the 1st of April, from which cause there is a small increase in the rate of tuition in the present report, and a somewhat larger one will appear on the report for the current year. The previous salaries were those fixed 15 years ago, and from their inadequacy, the schools have been constantly losing their best teachers.

THE NEW BOUNTY LAND LAW.—The number of applications under this law now amount to 101,800, and are still coming in at a rapid rate. The Union of Friday, says:

It is probable that the Pension Office will commence the issue of warrants about the 1st of June next, as the engraving of plates is rapidly progressing. Already has a copy of the portrait of the Secretary of the Navy been completed for the 160 acre warrant, that of the Secretary of the Interior for the 120 acre warrant, and that of the Secretary of War, for the 80 acre warrant. The portraits of the President and others, are still in the hands of the engravers. The engravings already executed, are greatly admired by all who have seen them, and are an evidence of American skill and genius in this department of the fine arts.

The commissioner has decided that the rights of a widow of a deceased soldier are lost in a second marriage, but are revived again on the death of the second husband. If, however, there be minor children living of the first husband, they may claim in right of their father during the second marriage. A power of attorney cannot be executed until after the warrant has been issued.

FAMINE IN NORTH GEORGIA.—A correspondent of the Dalton Times draws a distressing picture of the starving condition of the poor in that region. More than one half of the people are without corn and money. The cry is "Corn, corn, corn!"—do you know of any corn for sale?" The answer is, I have traveled twenty miles around, every way, and can hear of not a bushel to be had, for love, charity or money." The poor man offers to work a day for a peck of corn to feed his wife and children on. He is turned off with an answer, "My own family will have to suffer, if I sell my corn." Horses and mules are turned out to perish, or live in the woods the best they can; and husbandmen that have farms and no corn, will not be able to cultivate more land than they can tend with the hoe. The writer concludes by arguing the propriety of appealing to the Governors of Tennessee and Georgia for aid.

A GOOD AMERICAN JOKE.—Not long since, says the Maysville (Ky.) Eagle, in one of the counties of Pennsylvania, the Postmaster General discovered the fact that one of the county postmasters was not only a member but secretary of an "American" council. No time was lost in his removal from office, and the appointment of another—one who is not contaminated. Well, the appointment was tendered to a man, who after some hesitation accepted the same.—Campbell is satisfied and so are the Americans, for the new postmaster is *President of the very same council of which his predecessor was secretary*, but Campbell doesn't know it.

A GREAT PASSENGER TRAIN.—One day last week a passenger train passed over the Cleveland and Toledo Road, drawn by three locomotives, and containing twenty-seven cars of the largest capacity, carrying over sixteen hundred passengers.

PADDY'S BLUNDER.—"O, yis! O, yis!" cried an Irishman in the street a few days since, ringing a bell, "Lost, between twelve o'clock and McKinney's store, on Market street, a large brass kay. I'll not be after tellin ye what it was, but it was the kay to the bank, shure."

Notices of New Books.

FOR SALE AT LOWRIE & LEVERE'S BOOK STORE.

The American Farm Book. Being a *Practical* treatise on Soil, Manures, Draining, Irrigation, Grasses, Grains, Roots, Fruits, Cotton, Tobacco, Sugar Cane, Rice, &c., &c.

[*From the Herald.*]

ACCIDENT ON THE N. C. RAIL ROAD.

HILLSBORO,' N. C., April 30th.

An accident occurred on the Railroad near this place, on Saturday last, which, as some of your citizens are to some degree involved, may be of interest to your readers: The second bridge across the Eno River, on the evening of that day, gave away and broke in the middle, carrying with it in its fall nine of the workmen. When I arrived at the scene of the disaster, all of the men had extricated themselves from the broken timbers and were, by the assistance of others, far out on the land; medical assistance had already arrived, and every thing had been done which could be done there for their comfort. Vehicles being provided, those most slightly wounded were conveyed in that manner, while others were conveyed by hand-cars on the Railroad, and from thence to their boarding places on litters.

When the surgical examination was made, it was found that their wounds were, for the most part, slight. Mr. David Wells, (I believe of your town) foreman of the work, received the greatest injury, having had his thigh broken, and a pretty severe thump on the nose. Of the other workmen, five were white and three negroes. Two of the former escaped with slight injuries—one a sprained ankle, the other with a bruise from which he soon recovered. The three others received cuts and bruises—one a pretty severe cut over the right eye; but none of them so seriously that they will not be able to be about in a short time. Two of the negroes were hurt but slightly,—the other received a blow in the breast, which, though serious, is, I believe, not considered dangerous. Three of the workmen were not on the bridge.

The bridge was sixty-three feet high. Now, Mr. Editor, there is an instance of preservation such as, I believe, has not yet been recorded in the annals of railroad accidents; that a person should fall over sixty feet, coming down on the hardest sort of clay ground, (all but the gentlemen alluded to fell in the water,) and escaped with only a sprained ankle, is almost incredible. And again, is it not wonderful that any should escape, when falling among such a quantity of timber? Although the days of miracles, by visible hands, we know have passed away, yet, in such a case as this, we see the working of an all-powerful and invisible hand.

The cause of the falling of the bridge, as I learn from Mr. McDowell, who examined it to day, was as follows: The water is about six feet deep, below that is about seven feet of mud, and under the mud appears to be a hard crust upon which the workmen rested the false works, thinking they had a sure foundation; but it seems that in the driving, preparatory to taking out the false works (in two hours the bridge would have been firm of itself) together with the accumulating weight, the props composing said works, pierced through the crust, and entered a substratum of quicksand, and immediately sank, carrying down the bridge and workmen as quick as thought. The posts of the false works were forty-five feet long, and excepting one or two near the bank, only a foot or two of any of them is above the water—showing plainly there's something soft "away down below."

Mr. McD informs me that his loss is only about $800; that a part of the timber and all the iron can be saved, and also, that he will be fully ready for work in about three weeks. Many accidents you have recorded have been more fatal, but few, very few, with so great danger show so little damage as this one.

With respect, yours truly. C

TEXAS.—A WARNING TO EMIGRANTS.—The Asheville Spectator contains a long letter from N. A. Penland, formerly of Buncombe, now of Texas, giving the results of his experience of two years' life in that land of promise. The following is his closing up:

"If I were back in Buncombe, I would never see Texas, with my present knowledge. But I am here, like thousands of others, and expect to die here. Some people can better their condition by coming, if they have means or shrewdness to start with. Otherwise, the "poor man's lot" is better there, than the rich man's field here."

We have reason to know that Mr. Penland's feeling is common with many emigrants from North Carolina: "If I were back in North Carolina, I would stay there. But I have incurred the expense of removal: have sold out there and bought here; and besides, if I were to go back, I should be laughed at." Such are the reflections of many—of thousands, we doubt not.

Mr. Pentland says that coarse corn meal was selling at $1 50 per bushel, flour $16 per bbl., and bacon 18 cents per lb. That with the country full of cattle, he does not get milk in his coffee, or butter on his bread, once in three months. What butter he gets is from the North, at 40 cents per lb.

He does not speak much better of mankind in Texas than of the comforts of living there. But hear him:—

"One thing for the credit of Texas I must say. There is less stealing in Texas, than any place I have ever lived. Now and then some poor needy fellow will steal a horse or negro, or a tract of land, but that is about all. To take a *cow or two*, is not considered *stealing*, if a man chances to fancy a little stock that belongs to his kind neighbor. Besides, we sometimes become hungry in Texas, as well as in Buncombe, and thousands of cattle are roaming over the prairies whose owners do not need them, and why spare them to be swamped, or eaten by the wolves?"

GOV. REEDER ON KANSAS.—EASTON, PA., May 1, 1855.—Gov. Reeder, of Kansas, arrived here to-day, and was enthusiastically received. He made a speech denouncing the Missourians, who, he said, invaded Kansas at the recent election, armed to the teeth, and took forcible possession of the polls. He said Missouri should be called on to disavow all sympathy with these ruffians, and if she refused to do so, the South should be called on, and if the South refused, it was the solemn duty of the North to take the matter up.

MORE TROUBLE IN SOUTH AMERICA.—The Paraguayan government had got into another difficulty with the government of its Southern neighbor. Corrientes and the latter had marched troops to the frontier. General Flores, the President of the Platine republic (Uruguay,) was about to resign his office and retire to private life, and the rumor of such intention had operated unfavorably on commercial relations. It was thought, however, that he would reconsider his purpose.