

# The North Carolina Whig.

"Be true to God, to your Country, and to your Duty."

VOLUME 4.

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THOMAS J. HOLTON,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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**Poetry.**  
From the Wilmington Journal.  
LADIES' HOOPS.  
"It cannot be, it cannot be!"  
"The hoop is right innocently."  
"Fan sound I heard a prying kiss."  
"But how can it be done in this?"  
"We pointed to her back dress."  
"And he smiled out in dire dejection."  
"Full fifteen paces round about."  
"The world was close and tight as usual."  
"And full five steps it measured through."  
"Oh goodness! why! what shall I do?"  
"We won't let 'em take it out of us."  
"Much less approach with face to face."  
"He walked the lady round and round."  
"She stared into his eyes as if a moon."  
"Secretly opened and fortified."  
"As 'till hours she could not sleep."  
"You'd say if you that hoop should see,  
A wonder if we meant to be."  
"He walked the lady round and round,  
And sunk all words on the ground."  
"Oh, how could you see me so?"  
"For now how could you see me so?"  
"For now how could you see me so?"  
"For now how could you see me so?"  
"For now how could you see me so?"

## Miscellaneous.

### THE WIDOW'S TRIAL.

#### A Spanish Legend.

BY WASHINGTON IRVING.

No sooner was the adventure of the wood made public, than a whirlwind was raised about the ears of the beautiful duchess. The blustering nephew of the deceased duke went about, armed to the teeth, with a swaggering uncle at each shoulder, ready to back him, and swore the duchess had forfeited her dominion. It was in vain that she called all the saints and angels, and her ladies in attendance into the bargain, to witness that she had passed a year and a day of immaculate fidelity; and into the space of one short hour, sin enough was conjured up by evil tongues to blast the fame of a whole life of virtue.

The two graceless uncles, who had seen the world, were ever ready to bluster the matter through, and as they were brawny, broad-shouldered warriors, and veterans in brass as well as dehaire, they had great sway with the multitude. If any one ventured to assert the innocence of the duchess, they interrupted her with a loud hiss of derision. "A pretty story truly," would they cry, "about a wolf and a dog, and a young widow rescued in the dark by a sturdy varlet, who dares not show his face in the daylight. You may tell that to people who do not know human nature; for our parts we know the sex, and that's enough."

If, however, the other repeated the assertion, they would suddenly knit their brows, swell, look big, and put their hands upon their swords. As few people like to fight in a cause that does not touch their own interests, the nephew and uncles were suffered to have their way, and a swagger uncontradicted.

The matter was at length referred to a tribunal, composed of all the dignitaries of the dukedom, and many and repeated consultations were held. The character of the Duchess throughout the year was as bright and spotless as the moon in a cloudless night; one fatal hour of darkness alone intervened to eclipse its brightness. Finding her incapacity incapable of dispelling the mystery, it was determined to leave the question to Heaven; or, in other words, to decide it by the ordeal of the sword—a sage tribunal of the age of chivalry. The nephew and the two brawny uncles were to maintain their accusation in listened combat, and six months were allotted to the Duchess to provide herself with three champions to meet them in the field. Should she fail in this, or should her champions be vanquished, her honor would be considered as tainted, her fidelity as forfeited, and her dukedom would go to the nephew, as a matter of right.

With this determination the Duchess was fain to comply. Proclamations were accordingly made, and heralds sent to various parts; but, day after day, week after week, and month after month elapsed without any champion appearing to assert her loyalty throughout that darksome hour. The fair widow reduced to despair, when tidings reached her of grand tournaments to be held at Toledo, in celebration of the nuptial of Don Roderick, the last of the Gothic kings, and the Spanish princess Exiliana. As a last resort, the duchess repaired to the Spanish court, to implore the gallantry of its assembled chivalry.

The ancient city of Toledo was a scene of gorgeous revelry on the event of the royal

nuptials. The youthful king, brave, ardent, and magnificent, and his lovely bride, beaming with all the radiant beauty of the East, were hailed with shouts of acclamations, wherever they appeared. Their nobles vied with each other in the richness of their attire, their prancing steeds, and splendid retinues; and the haughty dames of the Court appeared in a blaze of jewels. In the midst of this pageantry the beautiful but afflicted Lorraine made her approach to the throne. She was dressed in black, and closely veiled, four diamonds of the most stout and severe aspect, and six beautiful demellees, formed her female attendants. She was guarded by several very ancient, withered, and gray-headed cavaliers; and her train was borne by one of the most deformed and diminutive dwarfs in existence.

Advancing to the foot of the throne she knelt down, and throwing up her veil, revealed a countenance so beautiful that half the courtiers present were ready to renounce wives and mistresses, and devote themselves to her service; but when she made known that she came in quest of champions to defend her fame, every cavalier pressed forward to offer his arm and sword, without inquiring into the merits of the case; for it seemed clear that so beautiful a lady could do nothing but what was right; and that, at any rate, she ought to be championed in following the bent of her humor, whether right or wrong.

Encouraged by such gallant zeal, the duchess suffered herself to be raised from the ground, and related the whole story of her distress. When she concluded, the King remained for some time silent, charmed by the music of her voice. At length: "As I hope for salvation, most beautiful duchess," said he, "were I not a sovereign king, and bound in duty to my kingdom, I myself would put lance in rest to vindicate your cause; as it is, I here give full permission to my knights, and promise lists and a fair field, and that the contest shall take place before the walls of Toledo, in presence of my assembled court."

As soon as the pleasure of the King was known there was a strife among the cavaliers present for the honor of the contest. It was decided by lot, and the successful candidate was one of the grandees of the court, for every eye was ambitious of finding favor in the eyes of the beautiful widow.

Missives were sent, summoning the nephew and his uncles to Toledo, to maintain their accusation, and a day was appointed for the combat. When the day arrived, all Toledo was in commotion at an early hour. The lists had been prepared at the usual place, just without the walls, at the foot of the rugged rocks on which the city is built, and on that beautiful meadow along the Tagus, known as the King's Garden. The populace had already assembled, each one eager to secure a favorable place; the balconies were filled with the ladies of the court clad in the richest attire, and hands of youthful knights, splendidly armed and decorated with their ladies' devices, were managing their superbly caparisoned steeds about the field. The King at length came forth in state, accompanied by the Queen Exiliana. They took their seats in a raised balcony, under a canopy of rich damask, and at sight of them, the people rent the air with their acclamations.

The nephew and his uncles now rode in to the field, armed cap-a-pie, and followed by a train of cavaliers of their own rayetering cast, great swarthy and carousers, ardent swash-bucklers, with clanking armor and jingling spurs. When the people of Toledo beheld the vaunting and discourteous appearance of these knights, they were more anxious than ever for the success of the gentle duchess; but, at the same time, the starchy and stiff-necked frame of those warriors, showed that whoever won the victory from them must do it at the cost of many a bitter blow.

As the nephew and his riotous crew rode in on one side of the field, the fair widow appeared at the other, with her suite of grave, grey-headed courtiers, her ancient demellees and dainty demellees, and the little dwarf totting along under the weight of her train. Every one made way for her as she passed, and blessed her beautiful face, and prayed for success to her cause. She took her seat in a lower balcony, not far from the King's; and her pale face, set off by her mourning weeds, was as the moon shining forth from among the clouds of night.

The trumpets sounded for the combat. The warriors were just entering the lists, when a stranger knight, armed in plate mail and followed by two pages and an equire, came galloping into the field, and riding up to the royal balcony claimed the combat as a matter of right.

"In me," cried he, "behold the cavalier who had the happiness to rescue the beautiful duchess from the perils of the forest, and the misfortune to bring on her this grievous calamity. It was but recently, in the course of my errantry, that tidings of her wrongs have reached my ears, and I have urged hither at all speed to stand forth in her vindication."

No sooner did the duchess hear the accents of the knight, than she recognized his voice, and joined her prayers with his that he might enter the lists. The difficulty was to determine which of the three champions already appointed should yield his place, each insisting on the honor of the combat. The stranger knight would have settled the point, by taking the whole contest upon himself; but this the other knights would not permit. It was at length determined, as before, by lot, and the cavalier who lost the chance, related murmuring and disconsolate.

The trumpets again sounded—the lists were opened. The arrogant nephew and his two uncles appeared so completely cased in steel that they and their steeds were like moving masses of iron. When they under-

stood the strange knight to be the same that had rescued the duchess from the perils of the forest, and with the utmost derision, with the Marquis princess Exiliana. As a last resort, the duchess repaired to the Spanish court, to implore the gallantry of its assembled chivalry.

The ancient city of Toledo was a scene of gorgeous revelry on the event of the royal counter. It is needless to relate the particulars of a battle which was like so many hundreds of combats that have been said and sung in prose and verse. Who is there but must have foreseen the event of a contest where heaven had to decide on the guilt or innocence of the most beautiful and immediate of widows?

The sagacious reader, deeply read in this kind of judicial combats, can imagine the encounter of the graceless nephew and the stranger knight. He sees their contusion, man to man and horse to horse, in mad career, and Sir Graecius hurled to the ground, and slain. He will not wonder that the assaults of the brawny uncles were less successful in their rude encounter; but he will picture to himself the stout stranger spurring to their rescue in the very critical moment; he will see him transfixing one with his lance, and cleaving the other to the chin with a back stroke of his sword, thus leaving the two of spectators dead upon the field, and establishing the immaculate fidelity of the Duchess, and her title to the dukedom, beyond a shadow of a doubt.

The air rang with acclamations, nothing was heard but praises, of the beauty and virtue of the Duchess, and the prowess of the stranger knight; but the public joy was still more increased when the champion raised his vizor, and revealed the countenance of one of the bravest cavaliers of Spain, renowned for his gallantry in the service of the sex, and who had been round the world in quest of similar adventures.

The worthy knight, however, was severely wounded, and remained for a long time at his wounds. The lovely duchess, grateful for having twice owed her protection to his arm, attended him daily during his illness; and finally rewarded his gallantry with her hand.

The King would fain have had the knight establish his title to such high advancement by further deeds of arms; but his courtiers declared that he already merited the lady by thus vindicating her fame and fortune in a deadly combat of valour, and the lady herself hinted that she was perfectly satisfied of his prowess in arms, from the proofs she had received in his achievement in the forest.

### THE GIRLS.

When a young man enters the arena of the world in search of a wife, he should ask three questions before entering into courtship: 1st, is she intelligent, 2nd, is she kind and benevolent, and 3rd, did she get up before breakfast in the morning? If all these interrogatories be answered in the affirmative, no other qualification is independently necessary; for with such a wife, fortune and fame can be acquired. Such is the wife for the laboring man, such should be the companion of one fortunately possessed of wealth, and such should be the wife of him who aspires to the highest stations that society can bestow. All this information can be easily obtained from the girl you have in view; for many boasts of their intelligence, and think no higher compliment could be paid than by calling them diligent in health and feebly in mind. If she is weighed in the balances and found wanting, pass her with contempt, and look to other resources for future acquisition. But, beware, let the risk be what it may—it gives dignity to your profession, it inspires confidence, and commands respect. With a wife, the lawyers are more wealthy, the doctor more esteemed, the merchant gets a bigger credit, and the mechanic throws the hammer with increased power, and shoves the plane with a more detestable hand—in short, a woman who has no wife, is a man in all respects. She nurses him while sick, she watches for him when in health, gentlemen get a wife—a pretty one, if you like them best—a good one, if she is to be found—and a rich one if you can get her. Then you will pass in visionary pleasures, as if on a bed of flowers, middle age will be enjoyed in the bosom of a happy family, and when your head is silvered over with the frost of many winters, you can reflect back with the happy consolation that you have spent your life in usefulness to yourself, and to the benefit of your fellow-men.

A ROMANTIC INCIDENT.—A soldier who was present at the capture of Sebastopol, relates a letter to his friends the following romantic story: "A party of men, belonging to different regiments, were parading from house to house, in search of plunder. In one of the houses they came across a young and beautiful female, about 17 or 18 years of age. Of course, some ignorance was shown amongst the party, who commenced to drag her about, and would have used violence to her had not a young man, belonging to the 18th, taken a musket, and threatened to blow the first man's brains out that laid a finger on her; whereupon the young woman flew to this man, and clung to him for protection. She followed him all the way back to the camp, where, coming in sight of his camp, he beckoned her to return—but no, she would not leave him. Whether she had fallen in love at first, I don't know, but she came to camp with him. As soon as he got there he was instantly confined for being absent when the regiment was under arms. She followed him to the guard tent, and cried after him. The colonel of his regiment, seeing the affection she bore him, released him, and sent them both to General Harris, where an interpreter was got, and she related the whole affair to them; it turned out that she was a general's daughter, and carried a gold watch, and wore a set of bracelets of immense value. The young man is now about to be married to her. She will not leave him upon any account whatever, and if he is not a lucky dog, I don't know who is."

TRUTHS WELL EXPRESSED.—In his address at the New York State Fair, Gov. Wright, of Indiana, made the following excellent suggestions. They comprise a volume in a nutshell:—"We must cultivate the roots, not the tops. We must make the family government, the school, the farm, the church, the shop, the agricultural fairs the laboratories of our future greatness. We must educate our sons to be farmers, artisans, architects, engineers, geologists, botanists, chemists—in a word practical men. Their eyes must be turned from Washington to their States, counties, townships, districts, houses. This is a true patriotism, and the only patriotism that will perpetually preserve the nation."

TUNNEL UNDER THE NIAGARA RIVER.—A project has been started in Buffalo to construct a tunnel under the Niagara river. A correspondence between the Mayor of Buffalo and Mr. Wm. Wallace, on the subject is published in the Buffalo Courier. Mr. Wallace says, "that the project is entirely feasible is a settled question, and you will see by the accompanying estimate that the amount of capital is comparatively small." Mr. Wallace estimates the cost of the tunnel under the river at \$699,294; tunnel under part of the city, \$94,543; railway through the city, \$103,000. Total, \$896,837.

SPONGING ON THE PRINTER.—Here is a little article we think something of framing, to hang conspicuously over the editor's table:—"The public have a funny notion about printers. They think it costs nothing to puff, advertise, &c. And thus one and another will sponge an extra paper, a puff, or some benevolent advertisement. They forget that this is the printer's ink that makes tens of thousands of the immense fortunes. They forget it takes money to pay compositors—to buy ink, type and paper—and lastly they forget to even thank you for working for nothing by gratuitously puffing their business."

UNMISTAKABLE SIGNS.—When a man comes home and tries to bolt the door with a sweet potato, and pokes the fire with the spout of the coffee pot, attempts to wind up the clock with his boot-jack, tries to cut himself with his morning file with an ivory paper knife, takes a cold roll in his hand to light him to bed, and prefers to sleep in his boots and hat, you may reasonably infer that he has been making the acquaintance of some very friendly people.

PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.—The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of North Carolina assembled in Greensboro on the 31st ultimo.

The Synod of North Carolina is composed of Three Presbyteries, which were represented as follows:

Orange Presbytery	30
Concord " "	27
Fayetteville " "	19
Total,	82

Thursday night was devoted to the subject of Home Missions. The Rev. Mr. Slaughter made his report, and was followed in an able and interesting address by the Rev. Mr. Hopper of the Board of Domestic Missions of Philadelphia.

The agent, Rev. Mr. Baker of Salisbury, for the Board of Foreign Missions read his report Friday night, exhibiting much encouragement in that field of labor. \$3162 have been collected during the past year, which is \$1001 in advance of the previous year. The report was followed by an address from Rev. Loton Wilson, a returned Missionary from Africa. Mr. Wilson left his native home more than twenty years ago, as a pioneer light to that dark and heathen land. His speech was from experience, consisting principally of narratives, and they listened with the deepest interest. His was the first voice that ever spoke in christian accents to that benighted people. But the recent has been most glorious. Where the name of Christ was never spoken before hundreds of temples are now dedicated to his service and thousands of voices daily speak his name with joy and praise. Where once the proud and boastful monarch paid his courts with human skulls and broken hearts, contrite spirits are now offered up as acceptable sacrifices to the living God. Mr. Wilson's health having failed in Africa, he is now laboring among the Indians of the West.

The Revs. Drs. Smith and Dabney, professors in the Union Theological Seminary of Va. presented to the Synod a plan to endow another professorship (the 10th.) in the Theological course, there pursued.

For this purpose, they wish to raise \$40,000, \$20,000 of which has already been raised. Dr. Smith and Dr. Dabney, each made very able and learned address on the great importance of this cause.

Rev. Mr. Lacy, President of Davidson College, made his report, and then addressed the Synod at some length in his peculiar style of eloquence, representing the College in a very flourishing condition and rapidly on the increase. The members of the Synod exhibited much interest in the success of the institution, and the able manner in which it is at present conducted.

Dr. Lacy, former stated clerk, having resigned the Rev. Mr. Baker of Salisbury, was elected in his place.

Saturday night the Synod closed its 42d annual meeting having been in almost constant session since its opening.

The next meeting is to be held in the town of Fayetteville commencing the second Wednesday in November 1856.

FLASHY YOUNG LADIES.—It strikes us that lady who thinks of nothing else but her beauty, will find herself in a melancholy fix, when old time shall have scratched her pretty face full of wrinkles, and exploded her romantic dresses for the realities of old age. Surely it will be taking away her gods, and what will she have left? We have seen some such who had nothing left but desolation, the fall and terrible weight of which fell upon the devoted heads of divers of sufferers in the shape of husbands, &c., who were sufficiently sensible that intelligence in the old was as attractive as the beauty in the young. Women in their early years should be mindful as life advances, they cease to have any other attractions but those that arise from a cultivated intellect and heart, and therefore study sensible books, and cultivate their heads and hearts.—Boston Mail.

THE OPEN POLAR SEA.—Dr. Kane, having demonstrated the existence of an open Polar Sea, scientific deduction is at work to find out the cause of the anomaly. A correspondent of the New York Times thinks that these causes will be found in the centrifugal force and the internal heating power of the earth. The centrifugal force has a tendency to heap up the waters under the Equator, thereby producing a continual surface current toward the South, and a consequent absence of water from the polar regions, which must be supplied, and is undoubtedly, by a sub-marine current. The waters descend in the temperate regions of the earth, where they are much cooled the freezing point; their heat is raised and probably increased at the vast depths in which they move, and when they emerge at and about the Pole, they produce a warm and open sea, and a warm atmosphere about it. But in their flow to the South, the superabundant caloric of the water is continually being given off, until they are finally reduced to the freezing point, and ultimately become vast fields of ice.—Baltimore Patriot.

AN INTERESTING RELIC OF THE REVOLUTION.—Yesterday morning there was placed in Independence Hall the coat worn by Gen. Israel Putnam, and his commission as Major General, which was signed in Independence Hall, in June, 1775, by John Hancock, as President, and Charles Thompson, Secretary. The coat, which now belongs to Israel Putnam of Ohio, was presented to Gen. Putnam by Lafayette. The commission is now in the possession of Wm. W. Putnam, of Mississippi.—Philadelphia Ledger.

ON SUNDAY LAST, some children playing in the house of Geo. W. Angell, of Bedford, Michigan, discovered smoke coming up through the boards, when the boards were removed, and a mouse's nest discovered, into which the little animal had dragged a friction match. The match had probably been ignited by the movements of the mouse, and but for its timely discovery would have excited a serious fire.

### THE CLAYTON AND BULWER TREATY.

It will be remembered that about two years ago a despatch from Lord Clarendon found its way to the public, in which that Minister, on behalf of the Aberdeen Cabinet, re-asserted pretensions respecting Central America which this government supported had been finally disposed of and conceded by the treaty of 1850. That despatch, the correspondent of the New York Enquirer says, formed part of a correspondence in which Governor Marcy had distinctly stated the following propositions:

1st. The treaty of 1780 binds the United States and Great Britain equally not to colonize, fortify, or in any respect acquire or appropriate Central America or any part of it. The American Government is bound by that stipulation not to seek to annex those States, nor to subvert their independence. This obligation will be faithfully observed.

2d. The obligation is mutual. It has been violated by Great Britain in occupying the Bay of Islands, and in refusing to surrender by a distinct act of the Government the protectorate formerly asserted and exercised over the Mosquito coast.

3d. A perfectly good understanding between the countries requires that these causes of disagreement be removed. To that end this government proposes the discontinuance of the above colony and the formal relinquishment of the protectorate. As an alternative to the rejection of these propositions, this government should consider herself released from the equivalent obligations, and would proceed to treat with the Governments of the Central American States precisely as if the treaty had not been formed.

These propositions have been discussed and expounded by Mr. Marcy and Mr. Buchanan with great ability. Lord Palmerston has taken the responsibility of rejecting them, and the alternative has consequently taken effect. The Clayton and Bulwer treaty is, therefore, repudiated by both governments and no longer exists. Of course that repudiation releases the United States from its obligation not to annex any portion of South America, and should the enterprise of Walker and Kinney result in the subjugation of portions of the South American States, the question of annexation will undoubtedly come up and have to be decided with reference to the wishes of our own people and the opposition which England is likely to offer. It will no doubt meet with an energetic protest in both quarters, but foreign interference will be more likely to benefit than damage the cause of the annexationists.

### WHAT NEXT?

A tunnel beneath the English Channel, it is said, will in five years time connect Dover and Boulogne; and M. Favre, a distinguished French engineer, has lately been employed in surveying the neighboring coasts and taking the soundings, with a view of immediately carrying out this magnificent project. These soundings show that the soil is very favorable to such an undertaking, free stone having been found at a certain depth. As impracticable as this scheme may appear, calculations of its expense have been actually made, and plans for its execution devised. The length of the tunnel will be about eighteen and a half miles, and its cost per yard \$539—amounting, in round numbers, to \$20,000,000. An atmospheric railway is intended to be established, in order to avoid the smoke consequent on the use of ordinary locomotives. The estimates of the cost of this submarine railway are based on the supposition that 2,000,000 passengers now travel backwards and forwards annually between France and England. The company calculate that their transport of coal will amount at least to 10,000,000 tons yearly; and that the 8,000 ships that now annually enter the harbors of Calais, Boulogne and Dunkirk, with a tonnage of 40,000 tons, will yield a greater portion of their traffic to this railway.

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### FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.  
You may rest assured that nothing has transpired in our diplomatic relations that could give the President the slightest intimation of any unfriendly purpose in the ordering of a British fleet to American waters. There really is no excitement or uneasiness felt by the Administration, if positive assurances to that effect are to be believed.

Secretary Marcy thinks that, possibly, Great Britain intends to interfere with Walker. If such should be the case, the President hints at difficulties that may result. Beyond this, no one in official circles believes that a collision between our Government and that of Great Britain is possible.

It cannot be that the British Government has taken umbrage in consequence of the threatened dismissal of Mr. Crampton, for, if so, why has it submitted to the imprisonment of its Consul at Cologne, who was found guilty of the same offence.

On the Sound Dues question, Lord Palmerston professes to coincide heartily in our views. In regard to the Central American treaty, the President waits for the action of Congress; so there can be no collision here.

WASHINGTON, November 16.  
The Cabinet were in session again to-day, and the despatches by the Pacific from our Minister, Mr. Buchanan, were received at the State Department, and considered in Cabinet Council. The tenor of these despatches are, I am informed, by good authority, of the most friendly character, assuring our government that there was no significant intimation in their sending the fleet to the West Indies, and that there was not a slightest cause for the panic created by the English journals. The news has quieted these excitable individuals in the Cabinet, who have been anticipating a rupture between the two governments. Gen. Paulding's expected mission to San Juan has thus been frustrated, and only one vessel of the Home Squadron will proceed to Nicaragua.

EXECUTION IN THE ARMY.—The Washington Star states that private Wm. J. Dunn, of company G, mounted riflemen, U. S. A., was recently tried by court martial, at Fort McIntosh, Texas, Capt. Thomas Claiborne, Jr., of the mounted rifles, being president of the court. The charges were for mutiny and the murder of Sergeant John Williams of the same regiment and company, by shooting him with a revolver. The court found the prisoner guilty as charged, and sentenced him to be hung, at such time and place as the President may appoint. The murder, which was an atrocious one, was committed at the camp of the company at Limp Creek, El Paso road, Texas, on or about the 3d of June last. The President has directed the sentence to be carried out at Fort McIntosh, on the fourth Friday next succeeding the reception of his confirmation of it (the sentence) at that post.

DIAMONDS.—It is well known that the diamond is nothing more nor less than pure condensed carbon. It is also well known that carbon forms a large share of the constituent properties of charcoal, as well as of most animal and vegetable substances. For centuries, attempts have been made to separate the carbon in charcoal, and crystallize it into a diamond. A Boston chemist, however, believes he has succeeded in obtaining pure carbon by means of the electric galvanic pile, and that he has very little doubt of being able to crystallize it. In fact, he claims to have already produced somewhat imperfect crystals, which only needed something more of compression or concentration to render them perfect diamonds.

A DEAL FOR A WIFE.—The peace of several German families in Lancaster was somewhat disturbed a few days since by the discovery that three of their male members claimed the same woman for wife. At one time, says the Examiner, things looked serious, portending a storm, but better feelings, with humane counsel and laughter, having finally prevailed, it was determined by the parties and their friends, that the three husbands should decide their claims by a resort to cards. A game was accordingly played, and the winner put in possession of his "fair, fat and forty innamorata." The unsuccessful husbands, or rather widowers, concluded to "dry their sorrows in the cup," and make a night of it.

DISMISS IN KANSAS.—We find the following in a Missouri paper: "There will be a mass meeting of the pro-slavery party held at Delaware City, in Kansas Territory, on next Monday, to take into consideration the calling of a convention to form a State Constitution. A full attendance is desired. We are informed an address may be expected from Gov. Shannon. On the same day, and at the same place preparations are being made for one of the most magnificent cotton parties that has ever come off in the Western country. We are authorized to extend an invitation to the whole country, and the rest of the people, male and female, on both sides of the river, to attend the party. If any fail to receive tickets, let them consider themselves invited. Free ferry! free ball! and free barbecue!"

THE LAZY MAN'S BIRDSTEA.—An article of furniture exhibited at the N. Y. Institute Fair, that attracts much attention, is a newly invented bedstead, attached to the head of which is a small alarm clock, so connected with the bed that at a given moment the alarm clock will ring, and in five minutes thereafter, if the sleeper does not arise, the mattress upheaves, and he is struck, without any ceremony, tumbled out of bed.

REMARKABLE.—The passengers in a balloon excursion state that at the height of 14,000 feet above the earth, every thing spoken distinctly was returned in about a minute in an echo as clear and distinct as the words spoken.

### AN ENGLISH SQUADRON FOR CUBA.

The Hants Telegraph, an English paper, of the 19th ultimo, has the following announcement:—"The Powerful, 84, Captain Massey, is ordered to Jamaica; and the Cornwallis, 65, Captain Westley; the Pembroke, 60, Captain Seymour (retiree), and Roscommon, 60, paddler, Commander Crofton, are to go to Bermuda. It is rumored that this movement is in consequence of the American government having replied to some communication made to them by British government on the subject of Cuba in a tone in-sulting to this country in the highest possible degree.

The same paper states two other ships of war have also been ordered to the North American coast. We also see it stated, on other authority, that the discussion about Cuba has recently revived in a most brilliant shape between Mr. Buchanan, our Minister at London, and Lord Palmerston, the British Premier. Both statements, however, so far as they relate to trouble between the two countries in relation to Cuba, are of a doubtful character.

The FAMOUS GEORGE LAW MUSKETS.—We learn, from good authority, that the Russian Government has purchased the above fire-arms—100,000 old United States muskets, we believe—and these are now in process of alteration into semi-Minie rifles, at Colt's establishment, Hartford, Connecticut. It is a singular fact, that the chief belligerent parties in the present European war have come to the city of Hartford, Connecticut, to obtain their best arms. Messrs. Robbins and Lawrence are turning out over 1,000 rifles per month for the Sharp's Rifle Company, at that place, on an English contract, besides a large quantity of other arms. Extensive additions have been made to their works by the erection of new buildings, and, if the war continues, further extensions will be made.—Scientific American.

IMMIGRATION TO IOWA AND MINNESOTA.—The rush of immigrants to Iowa the present year is truly astonishing. No state, not even California, has obtained so rapid an increase of population as has Iowa the past season. Through May and June every road to the interior was thronged with wagons, accompanied by flocks and herds, and at morning and evening, wherever you went, the encampments along the margin of water-courses reminded you of the exodus of the exiles of the Israelites. Southern Minnesota, too, is filling up with great rapidity, and this Territory will soon be knocking at the doors of Congress for admission into the Union. The population of Minnesota and Iowa at the next census will exceed a million, and many think Iowa will reach that number.

MODIFIED BLOOMERS.—The Belles of Utah have adopted a new costume, which is thus described:—"It consists of a loose fitting dress, resembling, in cut, a man's sack coat, being buttoned in front, and reaching a few inches below the knees, a pair of pants adorning the ankles, and a Leghorn hat set jauntily upon the head, being in fact a modification of the Bloomer costume. The belles are thus relieved of a superabundant load of petticoats, and their husbands are freed from paying for more than two-thirds the usual quantity of dry goods—a no small item of expense in this country."

### LEGISLATURE OF GEORGIA.

MACON, Nov. 8.—The Legislature met on Monday. Mr. Bailey was elected Speaker of the Senate, and Mr. Styles Speaker of the House, both Democrats. The Governor's message is very voluminous, and is chiefly devoted to State affairs. He recommends the Legislature to provide for calling a State Convention, in case Congress rejects the admission of Kansas into the Union on account of being a slaveholding State; and in that case he recommends a disruption of the Union, but hopes that the patriotism of the North will be exerted to avoid such a calamity.

THE MISSING AERONAUT.—The Cincinnati Times says that on the 3d inst., a number of persons in that city plainly saw a balloon in the air, which, by a powerful blast, was discovered to be a wreck, and inferred that it may have been the balloon of the missing aeronaut, Wm. Walker, who made an ascent at Newark, Ohio, on the 2d inst., and has not since been heard of. The mystery involving his fate has excited a wide-spread interest and curiosity, which possibly may never be satisfied. The most plausible explanation is that he fell into Lake Erie, over which he was last seen, and that his balloon afterwards wandered uncontrolled through space till its gas was expended.

COL. KINNEY'S COLONY.—We visited Governor Kinney's plantation, about three-quarters of a mile from town, on the opposite side of the Laguna, selected by him for a test of the adaptation of the soil to different kinds of grains and vegetables. The Governor arrived here on the 16th of July, and it was some two or three weeks before he cleared away the undergrowth, and planted the seed. We brought away a fine lot of roasting ears, beans, &c. The three trees left standing are full of fruit, and thus, in the short space of about two months, the Governor is in the enjoyment of garden luxuries that would have required years to realize at the North.—Central American, Oct. 27.

A car on the South Carolina Railroad, containing about fifty bales of cotton, attached to a freight train, was burnt on Monday, at the 12 mile pump, causing the destruction of the train from Columbia for one hour. The train from Augusta, also, did not arrive in Charleston until five o'clock that evening in consequence of the engine having run off the track at George's Station.—Sack's Weekly.