

AGENTS.

The following gentlemen are authorized to act as agents for this paper: L. S. SAUNDERS, Esq., Murphey, N. C. T. P. SILEY, Esq., Franklin. A. M. FINLEY, Esq., Marion.

The Usury Laws.

Although Gov. Bragg declines to make an express recommendation on the subject of the existing laws concerning usury, we infer from the tone of that portion of the Message which relates to the subject, that he is in favor of a change. We confess (says the Raleigh Register) that the inclination of our own mind is towards a change, as we have never been able to see why the market price of money should be regulated by law, any more than the market prices of lands, houses, horses, or any other vendible article or commodity. As Germans to this subject, we extract the following short and sensible article from the Fayetteville Carolinian:

If a man has an ox, or a barn filled with grain, and wishes to sell it, the law puts no restriction upon the price he is to ask. He may speculate on his necessities neighbor to his heart's content. It is only in money transactions that the benignity of the law interposes to prevent a man from exercising his own free will in the transaction of his own business. It is here alone that the law steps in to prevent a man from making what it chooses to consider a bad bargain. After all it may be for him a very good bargain. If he can save his property from being sacrificed by giving seven or eight per cent interest for the use of money, why should the law prevent? He ought certainly to know his own interest better than the law. If he does not, he ought to be prevented not only from borrowing money at more than six per cent interest, but from transacting any other business, excepting through the medium of a legally appointed guardian.

A man may be placed under the necessity of raising a sum of money within a given time. This he can do, we will suppose, in two ways only. First, by selling property at a sacrifice; or secondly, by borrowing money at the market value. That value may be more than six per cent. But the law steps in and prevents him from borrowing at this rate, and he is compelled to sell property at twenty per cent below its actual value, when if he had been left to himself he might have obtained a loan on time at eight per cent, and thus have actually saved twelve per cent on the amount. A man under such circumstances would be apt to think that the law had given him a very expensive and unnecessary protection against usury.

What would be the consequence of repealing all restrictions on the rate of interest? One of the first results would be that money would no longer flow out, but would flow into the State to be loaned. This would give great life and animation to commerce. Our large towns would feel its effect in an especial manner. The abundance of money capital is what mainly gives the Virginia market an advantage over our own. Let our merchants be supplied with means of trading and their own enterprise will effect the rest. Thus would be established that unembarrassed influx and reflux of the circulating medium so necessary to a healthy condition of trade. Necessitous persons would no longer be compelled to pay an additional percentage to the money lender as insurance against the risk encountered by lending at usurious interest. Every man could then obtain money at its market value, and sacrifices of property to raise money would be less frequent. Many a solvent borrower is now paying from ten to twenty per cent per annum for the use of money, who could if the usury law were abolished, obtain all he might require at seven or eight per cent.

Fatal Affray.

A correspondent of the Western Democrat furnishes the following particulars of an affray at Chapel Hill:

"An affray took place at Chapel Hill on the night of the 22d inst., between a student by the name of Boylan from Raleigh, and another student named Flanner from Wilmington, in which a student by the name of Walsh from Mobile, Ala., interfered to make peace. The lights were extinguished, and Walsh received a stab from Boylan, considered fatal. Flanner and a young man by the name of Cole were cut slightly. Liquor was the instigator."

November 27.

Boylan was not arrested and has left Chapel Hill. It is thought that Walsh may recover.

There was a man by the name of Holder stabbed and killed in Winston, yesterday, by a man named Schultz. Liquor was the cause of the affray.

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina, L. O. O. Fellows, met in Newbern on the 22d ult. We learn from the Newbern papers that the following were elected officers for the ensuing year:

John Sloan, of Greensboro', R. W. Grand Master; W. H. Clarke, of Elizabeth City, 1st Grand Master; Thomas M. Gardner, of Wilmington, R. W. Grand Secretary; R. J. Jones, R. W. G. Treasurer; Wm. Edwards, R. W. Grand Warden; and Rev. A. P. Repton, R. W. Grand Chaplain.

Initiated during the past year, 142; rejected, 16; admitted by card, 20; re-instated, 5; suspended, 165; expelled, 31; deaths, 21; Past Grand in the jurisdiction, 286; contributing members, 1256.

Amount received during the year, \$10,330.05.

The next meeting of the Grand Lodge will take place at Statesville, on the 4th Tuesday in November, 1859.

THE ASHEVILLE NEWS.

VOL. 10—No. 22.]

ASHEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1858.

[WHOLE No. 490.]

Correspondence of the News.

RALEIGH, Nov. 24, 1858.

Editor Asheville News:

Dear Sir—Thinking that you would perhaps like to hear something from the "assembled wisdom" of North Carolina, I give you a few items. As you will see from the papers, all the offices have been filled, and now the Legislature is ready for business in good style.

A bill of great interest to your people was presented by Dr. Baird a day or two since. It is to incorporate a Company to build a Turnpike from Asheville to the Black Mountain. I hope it will pass, as I have no doubt it will, for it will add much to the attractions of your place.

Col. Thomas has introduced a number of bills concerning the section between Asheville and Ducktown. One is to define the termination of the Western North Carolina Road—states what point on the French Broad, and gives them the right to connect with the Blue Ridge Road or to go on to Ducktown.

A number of bills to incorporate mining and manufacturing companies, have been introduced by Messrs. Bryson and Love. They were the Waybutta Company, the Keowee Company, and the Potosi Company.

Mr. Woodfin introduced one to incorporate the Southern Mining and Manufacturing Company. Also, a bill to create the county of Bragg, out of portions of Macon and Cherokee.

Mr. Bryson introduced a bill to amend the act chartering the Keowee and Tuckasege Turnpike Company.

Mr. Caldwell of Burke has introduced a bill to lay off a county out of portions of Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke and McDowell.

Mr. Love introduced a bill for the benefit of the securities of J. H. Holland, late Sheriff of Haywood.

Mr. Walker introduced, a day or two ago, a bill to create a freehold exemption law, which was ordered to be printed.

I will let you know what becomes of these bills. Yours, O. D.

The Penitentiary System.

Governor Brown, in his Annual Message to the Georgia Legislature, after ably and elaborately discussing various matters of State policy, speaks thus of the Penitentiary system:

"The report of Gen. Eli McConnell, principal keeper of the Penitentiary, will inform you of the present condition of that institution. The walls, badly constructed at first, have stood for a long time, and are now nearly ready to tumble down. The whole structure is in a dilapidated condition, and will require action on the part of the Legislature at its present or some early session. It is a question worthy of your attention whether it should be rebuilt where it is, or be removed to some more favorable location; or whether it should be entirely abolished, and some other mode of punishment substituted in its stead. As a place of reformation of the convicts it is believed to have proved a failure. It brings together an assemblage of the worst men in the State, many of whom are beyond the hope of reformation. In the midst of such an assemblage the young offender has but little encouragement to reform. Observation has shown us, that a considerable proportion of those who have served the term of a sentence, have, after going out, very soon violated the law, and been sent back for a second, and some even for a third time.—Some of the States, as Alabama and Texas, have leased out their penitentiaries; and it is reported that this plan has worked well in those States, and has relieved them from all burdens in maintaining their prisons. I commend the whole subject to the careful consideration of the Legislature."

HIGHEST AND LOWEST.—The highest salary of a Governor of any State in the Union, is paid in California—\$10,000 and the lowest is in Vermont—\$750.

INSANE.—Mr. Plunkett, the Sheriff of Cabarrus county, was brought to this city on Friday last and placed in the Insane Asylum. The duties of his office, it is said, were probably the chief cause of his derangement.—Raleigh Register.

ELECTIONS BY THE LEGISLATURE.—On Tuesday last the two houses of the General Assembly, by joint vote, elected the following Judges and Solicitors: Jesse G. Shepherd, of Cumberland, and R. R. Heath, of Chowan, Judges of the Superior Courts of Law and Equity; and Robert Strange, of New Hanover, and Wm. J. Houston, of Duplin, Solicitors. On Wednesday Thomas Ruffin, Jr., of Alamance, was re-elected Solicitor for the 4th Judicial Circuit.—Raleigh Standard.

A NEW EL DORADO.—The Santa Fe (N. M.) Gazette, says: "Major Stein, lately from Sonora, expressed the opinion that Sonora is more prolific of gold and silver than California, and if a Territory of the United States would yield ten million dollars annually. He says he has seen single lumps of gold taken from the mines there, worth from \$2,000 to \$5,000.—He likewise informed us, that he had seen a 'cord of silver in bars' and mined without machinery."

Important Bills.

The following important bills have been introduced into the Senate by Col. Humphrey, of Onslow. In introducing the first Col. Humphrey said:

The bill proposes to remove the free negro population from the limits of the State after two years' notice, or if they will remain, to reduce them to the same condition of slaves. The bill was prepared and introduced at the request of many of his constituents, as well as at the request of many citizens of other portions of the State, who had suffered long and severely from the evil influences which the free negroes exercise over slave population. But a change so radical and important in our municipal law, as the one proposed by that bill, deserved well, he thought, the serious consideration of the Legislature; and while the change proposed met the views and wishes of those at whose instance it was framed, he had a doubt that some of its provisions might conflict with the constitution. In his own opinion some legislation upon the subject was demanded of this Legislature. He moved, therefore that the bill be printed and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A BILL CONCERNING FREE PERSONS OF COLOR. Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That from and after the passage of this act, it shall not be lawful for any free person of color to emigrate this State.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted That if any free person of color shall emigrate to this State, it shall be the duty of the Sheriff, or any one of the Constables of the County to which such emigration shall be made, to arrest such free person of color, after giving him ten days' notice, and bring him before the Chairman of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, before whom such free person of color may be brought, to receive the bond of such free person of color in the sum of one thousand dollars, with the security of a citizen, to be approved by him, conditioned for the removal of such free person of color out of the limits of the State.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That if any free person of color should be brought before the Chairman of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of any county, and shall not be able to give the bond as prescribed in the second section of this act, such Chairman of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, shall commit such person of color to the public jail, with an order to the Sheriff to expose him to public sale, to the highest bidder, at the Court house door, of his county, after giving four weeks' notice of the same, in the nearest public journal, and at least four places in his county, and said purchaser shall also exercise all the rights of ownership over said free person of color, for one year from such sale.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That if any such free person of color, shall during the year of such slavery, be able to give his bond as contemplated in the second section of this act, to take effect at the end of his slavery, he shall be permitted to do so; but if he shall fail to render the bond, until after the expiration of his slavery, it shall be the duty of the purchaser to return him to the hands of the Sheriff.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Sheriff, upon the return of any such free person of color, upon six weeks' notice in some public journal, and at least four places in his county, to expose the free person of color, so returned, at public sale, to the highest bidder, and such free person of color, shall remain a slave for life; Provided, That if any person of color so sold should be the property of any individual, he shall have his right of recovery by due course of law.

Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, All monies arising from the sale of such free persons of color, shall be paid over to the Chairman of the board of Superintendents, to be appropriated by him to the use of Common Schools, in his county, in the same manner as county taxes for school purposes.

Sec. 7. Be it further enacted, That upon the forfeiture of the bond of any free person of color, the same shall be placed in the hands of the county Solicitor for collection who shall prosecute the same against the securities only; and the amount of sale, if such have been made, of the free person of color shall, in all cases, be subtracted from the amount adjudged against the securities, and the remainder only shall be recovered by them.

Sec. 8. Be it further enacted, That two years shall be allowed, from and after the passage of this act, to all free persons of color who now are in this State, to remove out of the same; and all who shall be found here after that time, without the permission of the General Assembly, shall be arrested and sold as provided in this act.

Sec. 9. Be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any master of a vessel, or owner thereof, nor to any other persons whatsoever, to bring, import, induce, aid or assist in the bringing, importing, or inducing any free person of color within the limits of this State, directly or indirectly; and any person so offending shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be fined to a sum not less than five hundred nor more than five thousand dollars: Provided, That cooks and other hands employed on board of vessels shall not be considered as coming within the provisions of this act.

Sec. 10. Be it further enacted, That the Governor of the State do issue his proclamation, commanding all free persons of color who are now in the State, to remove from the same before the 1st day of January, 1860, and the Secretary of the State publish

this act a number of times in all the journals of this State.

Sec. 11. Be it further enacted, That all laws contrary to the meaning and spirit of this act, are hereby repealed.

A BILL TO PERMIT FREE PERSONS OF AFRICAN DESCENT TO SELECT THEIR OWN MASTERS AND BECOME SLAVES.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That it shall be lawful for any free person of African descent, now in the State, or who may hereafter be within its limits, being over the age of fourteen years, to choose his or her master, and become a slave, upon the terms and conditions hereinafter named: Provided, said slave shall not be subject to sales for any debt incurred by, or judgment rendered against the chosen master, prior to the period of enslavement.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That whenever any free person of African descent as aforesaid desires to choose a master, such person may file a petition in the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of the county in which he or she resides, setting forth his or her desire to choose an owner, and stating the name of such person as he or she desires to select as an owner; which petition shall be signed by the petitioner, in the presence of at least two subscribing witnesses. And thereupon the clerk of the Court in which such petition shall have been filed, shall give notice thereof by posting such notice at the Court house door for four weeks; and said clerk shall issue a summons to the petitioner, and the person designated in the petition as the proposed master, citing them to appear before said Court, at the term thereof next succeeding the expiration of the publication of said notice, and shall also issue a subpoena for the subscribing witnesses to the petition, which summons and subpoena shall be executed in the same manner as like process in other cases.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That upon the appearance in open Court, of both the petitioner, and the person designated in the petition as the desired master, the Court shall proceed to examine each party separately, as well as the subscribing witnesses to the petition, and such other person as the Court may see fit; and at such examination, the County Solicitor shall be present, and see that a full examination is had, and he shall represent the petitioners in such examination. And if upon such examination, the Court shall be satisfied that there is no fraud nor collusion between the parties, that the proposed master is a person of good repute, and there is no good reason to the contrary, the said Court shall have power, by decree entered into the records of the Court, to grant the prayer of the petitioners; and from the entry of such decree, the property in said person of African descent, as a slave, shall vest in the person so chosen as master, and his rights and liabilities, and the conditions of the petition shall in all respects be the same as though such petitioner had been born a slave to the master so chosen.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That when any such petitioner as hereinbefore named shall be a female having children under fourteen years of age, and shall in her petition ask that such children shall become the slaves of the same person chosen by her as master, if the Court shall, after examination as in this act before provided, grant the prayer of the petitioner as to herself, it shall also decree such children in like manner, to be the slaves of the same owner. Provided, that where the mother of such children of African descent, under the age of fourteen years, shall be deceased, in that case the next friend of such children shall have authority in their behalf, to proceed in the same manner to the selection of a master for them, as the mother might do under the provisions of this act.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That the County Solicitor shall be entitled to a fee of ten dollars for each examination attended by him under the provisions of this act, which shall be taken as costs of the proceedings, and all the costs of the proceedings shall be paid by the master to whom the slave may be decreed, and after a petition shall have been filed under the provisions of this Act, and during the pendency of the proceedings under the same, no proceedings shall be had against the petitioner under any law prohibiting free persons of color from remaining in or coming to this State.

The Methodists of Alabama have raised the sum of 309,000 as a beginning for an endowment fund for a university at Greensborough.

The Newcastle (Ind.) Courier says that a new groggery in that place was "dried up" summarily and without any fuss, the other night, by the ingenious process of boring holes through the floor and continuing the boring up into the barrels.

Stations are said to be fast springing up on the great overland California route, and are rapidly increasing.

The Paris papers announce the death of the Hon. Benjamin F. Butler, of New York and Attorney General of the United States under the administration of General Jackson.

MELANCHOLY DEATH.—On Monday the 8th inst., a young man named Govan Early, aged about 18 years, was killed by the caving of the earth upon him while at work on the Railroad, on the contract of Rev. Wm. Harill, a few miles below town. He had just commenced work that day.—Rutherford Enquirer.

If a lady yawns half a dozen times in succession, young man you may as well get your hat.

Thanksgiving in New York.

Thursday last was the day set apart for general Thanksgiving in New York, and was observed by all according to their several tastes and inclinations. Business was in a measure suspended; the churches thrown open, the military paraded the streets, and martial music rent the air, every thing passed off as well as could have been expected of a public holiday in New York, with but one exception, (and that a most shameful one) the miserable hoax played upon the suffering poor by the heartless publishers in one of the papers of the announcement that a free distribution of food to the poor would take place at two o'clock that day—0000 lbs of bread and 1,200 lbs of beef in all.—The distribution to take place near the statue of Washington. The weather was very cold; notwithstanding which the squalid, shivering crowd began to assemble at an early hour at the appointed rendezvous, with their bags and baskets, all anxiously awaiting the feast which they were told would be forthcoming. Many of the expectants were Irish women with tremendous baskets capable of holding a bushel. Of course advantage was taken of the opportunity by some who by their appearance seemed better qualified for giving than receiving alms.

As the hour approached the crowd became more dense; persons in every stage of poverty from the ragged sweep to the "strapped" printer, lounged about Union Square, almost frozen with the cold, but cheered up with expectation of soon seeing the promised food. Hour after hour passed and still no symptoms of the long looked for bread wagons.

Still the poor people waited, stamped their feet, eyed butchers' carts suspiciously, but got no bread or meat. At twelve o'clock the crowd was greatest, and expectation at its highest pitch. Another hour passed in the cold and no signs of food, nor no one appearing to explain the unwarrantable delay. After a while the crowd began to thin out; one by one they dropped off until but few were left, still clinging to the hope that their wants would shortly be supplied.

At last some of the persons whose names appeared in the card, came forward and announced the hoax to the poor people, declaring at the same time that their names were used without their consent. Sorrowful, dejected and half frozen, the ragged remnant dispersed.

And this is a specimen of a New York Thanksgiving Day! a day of humiliation and prayerful acknowledgment to be debased by unfeeling impositions upon the poor.—Wilmington Herald.

A Logical Baggage Master.

The post of a baggage master on a railroad train is not an enviable one. There is often a wide difference between the company's regulations and the passenger's opinions of what articles, and what amount of them, probably comes under the denomination of the baggage; and this difference of opinion frequently subjects the unlucky officials to animated discussions with a certain class of the traveling public. We lately heard an anecdote of "George," the affable B. M. on Capt. Cobb's Train, on the Virginia and Tennessee road, which is too good to be lost: A passenger presented himself at a way station on the road, with two trunks and a saddle for which he requested the checks.—The baggage master checked the trunks, but demanded the extra charge of twenty-five cents for the saddle. To this the passenger demurred, and losing his temper peremptorily asked:

"Will you check my baggage sir?" "Are you a horse?" quietly inquired George.

"What do you mean?" exclaimed the irate traveler.

"You claim to have this saddle checked as baggage."

"Certainly, it is baggage," positively returned the passenger.

"Well," said the imperturbable George, "by the company's regulations nothing but wearing apparel is admitted to be baggage; and if this saddle is your wearing apparel, of course you must be a horse! Now, sir, just allow me to strap it on your back, and it shall go to the end of the road without any extra charge whatever."

Speaking of Governor Stewart, of Missouri, getting drunk and whipped in a groggery the other day, the Washington Republic is reminded of a story:

The deacon of a church, over whom a new pastor had been settled, was praising his many good qualities to the deacon of a neighboring church. He declared that their new minister had but one fault in the world, and that was, a propensity to become a little quarrelsome when he was drunk."

A stuttering man at a public table, had occasion to use a pepper-box. After shaking it with all vehemence; and turning it in various ways, he found that the pepper was in no wise inclined to come forth.

"T' th s p'pper-box," he exclaimed, with a sagacious grin, "is so-something like myself!" "Why?" asked a neighbor. "P'pper poor delivery," he replied.

A SINGULAR VOTE.—At the late election in Massachusetts the town of South Danvers voted as follows for Governor:

Banks, Republican 444

Beach, Democrat 444

Lawrence, American 444

That town was very impartial in its favors, and was determined no party should have cause to complain of it.

GOOD NAME.—A young man in Cincinnati, named Pike, having grown rich in the whisky trade, has just erected a magnificent opera house, the first in the West, and a wag wants to call it "Pike's Al-co-hol!"

Correspondence of the News.

RALEIGH, Nov. 29, 1858.

Editor Asheville News:

Dear Sir—The election of Senators being over, we have gone quietly to work. Already a great many bills have been introduced which are generally at present before the committees, who are engaged in preparing reports.

I have introduced several bills, and among them a bill to charter a company to build a Railroad east from Ducktown, to connect with one or both of the Roads which are approaching the Blue Ridge. The provisions of the bill may not be interesting to some of the readers of your paper.

First. It provides that the Board of Internal Improvement shall appoint a suitable engineer to make a survey for a Railroad from Rutherfordton across the Blue Ridge at the Reedy Patch Gap, to a point at or near Asheville, thence to Ducktown, Tenn. Also to make an examination of the survey thro the Swannanoa Gap, and make a report on both. That being done, the Western North Carolina Railroad Company shall proceed to locate their road, either west to the line of the Blue Ridge Road or Ducktown, or north to the line of the State of Tennessee, at the Paint Rock. The Company is left free to make the selection between the routes, which is so fair a proposition that it seems probable the French Broad delegation will finally come in and support it.

The bill also provides that the State shall subscribe for that Road the same that she subscribed to the North Carolina Road to complete and equip it, in proportion to the amount of individual stock, and that the excess of subscription be spent on the Mountain division of the Road, and thus supercede the necessity of individual subscriptions for that object. One division terminating at a point at or near Asheville; and that all the provisions of the Acts of 1854-55, and 1856-57, shall apply to the entire division.

The bill also authorizes the two Companies to unite at any point they may select, and to construct a common trunk Road, for the benefit of both, to the point which may be selected as the terminus of the Road. And in making that selection, it is made the duty of the Company to take into consideration—1. Distance. 2. Grade. 3. Cost of construction. 4. The objects to be attained in connecting with other Roads. Part of the French Broad delegation seem inclined to favor the bill. Others seem to regard it as objectionable. It is to be hoped that the west will not split up as they did last session, and thus disappoint the hopes of the people.

In 1835, when the present basis was adopted in the Senate, which gives the East so large a representation in that body, it was anticipated, as the debates in the Convention prove, that long since our Railroads would have been extended West, increased the value of property, and thus equalized taxation and representation in the Senate. Near a quarter of a century the West has waited for a fulfillment of the promise; while the Eastern portion of the State at once went into possession of the advantages conferred on it. How much longer the West will be required to wait, this session of the General Assembly will determine. But it is to be presumed if the West unite, that the policy upon which we elected the Governor last summer, i. e. that of taking off the restrictions to the extent of the appropriation already made, will be carried out in good faith. But it is now obvious that efforts are being made to divide the Western members, and lead them to exhaust their strength on each other, in a sort of Kilkenny cat fight. W. H. T.

SORGHUM CIDER.—The Nashville (Tenn.) Homestead says that besides the excellent syrup and sugar made from the Chinese sugar cane, there is yet another article obtained from it which is of pleasant taste, and doubtless healthy in its consequences. It is obtained by putting the expressed juice of the cane into a clean wood or glass vessel, allowing it to stand ten or twelve days, when it assumes the appearance of limpid water, and we suppose might be properly called cane cider.

A MAN BLOWN UP BY A KEG OF POWDER.—A man in New Orleans, last week, blew up a keg of powder upon which he was setting, the force of the explosion sending him some seventy feet into the air and into the river. It appears that he sells powder in one of the skiffs on the river, and had landed his boat at the foot of Main street. Having occasion to place one of the kegs out upon the bank, he took a seat upon it.—Some children near by had kindled a fire and were roasting oysters, and having a jolly time of it generally. The powder man, thinking to frighten the children and amuse himself, commenced throwing some powder which he had in his pocket, into the fire, and laughing heartily at the expression of the juveniles, who could not account for the mysterious, fizzing and cracking among the oysters. In a short time and before he was aware of it, he had made a train of powder from the fire to his keg, which suddenly communicated with the latter, and sent the man whirling into the air, and fortunately let him down into the river, where the water prevented him from breaking any bones, and also relieved his burns.

A Boston paper says that a Yankee has invented an eight day clock that runs sixteen days without winding or stopping, and gives two quarts of milk per day! Its value could not be calculated, if it only churned its own milk, and would stop ticking during family prayers.

John Patterson, an Albany printer, is said to be the best mathematician the world.