

THE CINCINNATI CONVENTION.

This convention will assemble in some three weeks, and the entire country awaits its action, with no little interest. To the deliberations of this convention the country looks to furnish the only basis upon which conservative men can unite for the safety of the Union and the rights of the States. While the Philadelphia affair was meagrely attended, and generally regarded as a flash in the pan, every State, and every district in the Union, will be fully represented at Cincinnati—even South Carolina, although under ordinary circumstances, opposed to conventions, will be present at Cincinnati in the persons of her ablest and best men. The rejoicing over the ruins of the Democratic party were somewhat premature, it strikes us.—[Wilmington Journal.]

PRESIDENTIAL SPECULATIONS.

As the time for the meeting of the Cincinnati convention approaches, the all-absorbing question—Who will receive the nomination for the Presidency is the one which elicits the most discussion and excites the most interest among Democrats. We propose, in the present article, to give briefly our own impressions as to the present phase of the "Presidential game," based upon the developments which have already been made in various quarters of the Union.

Among Northern aspirants, unquestionably the most prominent are Buchanan, Douglas and Pierce. They occupy the arena to the almost total exclusion of every one else, and hence, in speculating upon the probable result of the deliberations at Cincinnati, our observations must be confined to the consideration of the amount of strength each of them is likely to bring to the support of his claims.

Judging from the developments which have already been made, we incline to the belief that the following statement as to the probable strength of each will be found by the result to be nearly correct. It is generally conceded that Mr. Pierce will receive, on the first ballot, the vote of all the slaveholding States except Virginia, Louisiana, Missouri and Maryland. Besides these he will most probably receive the support of nearly all the New England States, Maine, we believe, being the only Eastern State which has evinced a disposition to abandon his fortunes. Should this conjecture prove correct, it is obvious that the vote for Mr. Pierce, on the first ballot, will be a highly complimentary one, though wholly insufficient to give him any chance for the nomination under the operation of the two-thirds rule.

It is certain that Mr. Buchanan will receive a very large vote upon the first ballot. Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, California, Iowa, and, we believe, Maine, have already declared for him, while he has at least an equal chance for the votes of Virginia, Ohio, New York, Michigan and perhaps others. Should he receive the support of the last mentioned States, he will far out-strip Pierce on the first ballot, and his nomination may be regarded as almost certain.

In regard to Mr. Douglas, the public demonstrations in his favor, have, thus far, been much weaker than those for either Pierce or Buchanan. Louisiana is, we believe, the only State which has declared for him up to this time, and the New Orleans Bee expresses a doubt as to the course even of this State. Missouri and the whole North-west are confidently claimed for him by his supporters, though upon what grounds we are not informed. Certain it is, that Iowa, one of the North-western States, has declared for Buchanan, and his chances are supposed to be at least equal for the votes of Ohio and Michigan. It is fair to conclude, therefore, that Douglas will go into the Convention with a strength much inferior to that of either of his competitors, and consequently that his chances for the nomination may be justly regarded as merely secondary.

Should the foregoing speculations be justified by the result, (as we believe they will be) it is almost certain that neither Pierce, Douglas, nor Buchanan can obtain the nomination upon any of the first ballots. In this contingency one of the two following alternatives will probably be adopted: Either the friends of one of the three will drop their favorite and concentrate upon one of the remaining two and thus secure his election, or a new man will be placed in the field. Should the former course be pursued, the chances are in favor of the nomination of Buchanan or Douglas. Mr. Pierce will get his full strength on the first ballot, and the course pursued by his friends after his name is withdrawn, will most probably determine the event of the contest. What that will be, we have no data upon which to hazard even a conjecture.

In the event of the adoption of the latter alternative, nothing short of "a Prophet's ken" can form the remotest conception of the probable result.—[Danville Republican.]

FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The first Democratic Convention assembled in Baltimore on the 21st of May, 1852, Gen. Robert Lucas, of Ohio, presiding. It met upon the recommendation of the Democratic members of the New Hampshire Legislature, in consequence of there being some diversity of opinion throughout the country as to the favorite of the party for the Vice Presidency. The two-thirds rule of voting was adopted by this body, in which twenty-three States were represented. On the first ballot for Vice President, Van Buren received 206 votes, P. P. Barbour, of Virginia, 49 votes, and Rich'd M. Johnson, of Kentucky, 26 votes. Van Bu-

ren having more than two thirds, was of course nominated, and afterwards the nomination was, by resolution, made unanimous. No formal nomination of Gen. Jackson was made by the Convention, but a resolution was adopted, recognizing him as already the candidate, and "cordially concurring in the repeated nominations which he had received from all parts of the Union."

MR. GILMER IN STOKES.

Mr. Gilmer, the K. N. candidate for Governor, made the first speech of the campaign in Stokes county. He was replied to by Thos. Settle, Jr., Esq., of Rockingham. A friend who was present has favored the Raleigh Standard with a statement of some of Mr. Gilmer's positions; and all we ask of Mr. Gilmer is, to continue to occupy the ground he assumed in Stokes up to the day of election.

We learn that he commenced with a history of the Missouri compromise of 1850, and the effect of the latter in bringing about the platforms of the two great parties in 1852. After devoting about an hour and a half to this, his conclusion in his own words was, that in the Kansas Nebraska act Whigs and Democrats had broken the bonds of peace—were responsible for all the agitation in the country; and that as a remedy, he proposed to go back to 1850.

Mr. Settle, in his reply, charged this home upon him with much force and effect, showing that it was nothing more nor less than a proposition to restore the Missouri line. Mr. Gilmer interrupted Mr. Settle, and said he would explain his language in his reply; but he did not touch the point again.

Mr. Gilmer next discussed State politics—denied that he was opposed to Free Suffrage; but when asked whether, if a member of the next Legislature, he would vote for the Free Suffrage act now pending before the country, he said that was not a supposable case, and would not answer.—He was then asked if he would recommend its passage, if elected Governor. He could not say this was not a supposable case, and so he declined to answer.

On the subject of the basis, he planted himself on the resolution of the Greensborough Convention, evidently not wishing to "trammel" the "paramount principles" of his party with this "vexed State question." He said the "Western Address" had accomplished its purpose, in obtaining from the East liberal appropriations for internal improvements, and especially the Central Railroad.

Mr. Gilmer was asked, among other questions, if he had taken the Know-Nothing oath; but he refused to answer, saying that was personal.

We learn from our correspondent that Mr. Settle's reply was highly creditable to himself, and satisfactory to his friends.—He occupied broad State and national grounds upon every question, and maintained them with much force. Mr. Gilmer, practiced and able as he is in debate, was much troubled and embarrassed by the reply, and by the questions propounded. He evaded, dodged, told some characteristic anecdotes, and evidently lost ground by his effort.

Mr. Gilmer sets out in the campaign with the declaration that the Kansas-Nebraska act is a violation of the compromise of 1850. In endorsing, as he does, the Philadelphia platform of the K. N. party, he holds that the repeal of the Missouri restriction was a "reckless and unwise act."

MR. GILMER'S APPOINTMENTS.

Know-Nothing journals, on the authority of the Greensboro Patriot, are attempting to deny that Mr. Gilmer made his list of appointments for addressing the voters, without consultation with Gov. Bragg.—Now, the Raleigh Standard settles the question, and shows conclusively that Mr. Gilmer was guilty of the discourtesy of making his arrangements to suit his own views and convenience, without at all knowing whether it would be in the power of Gov. B. to confront him on the stump. The Standard says:

"Now, we repeat that Mr. Gilmer made the appointments without consulting Gov. Bragg; and Gov. Bragg was 'notified' thereof, not until he had written to Mr. Gilmer on the subject, requesting an answer. The appointments appeared first in the Asheville Spectator of the 24th April, before Gov. Bragg wrote to Mr. Gilmer; and yet the Patriot says the Governor was 'notified of them at the very earliest moment.' Again: The Register, of this City, stated on the 23d of April, that Mr. Gilmer would commence the campaign in the West; yet no appointments were given.—and the Patriot, printed in Mr. Gilmer's own town, suppressing them up to the 2d of May.—These are facts, which the Patriot can neither meet nor explain. The Patriot's article, instead of relieving Mr. Gilmer, has been the cause of showing more clearly his want of courtesy, liberality, and justice in this matter. We had no wish to make this showing, but the Patriot's insinuations against us left us no other alternative."

A STRONG CASE FOR THE OLD LINE WHIGS.

The Editor of the Ripley (Mississippi) Advertiser makes out a strong case for the consideration of such of the old-line Whigs as have refused all connexion with the Know-Nothings. He says:

"If, as the leaders of the Know-Nothing party now assert, and we believe truly, the issues between Whigs and Democrats no longer exist; if they have passed away, and there is now no matter of dispute between them, why may they not unite and act together as brethren? Can any one tell? If one of our churches were to lay aside its organization, and cease to exist as a body, surely the members of the dissolved church would have a right to worship in any neighboring church they might prefer, or even to become members of it. Yet how the order persecutes a Whig who prefers Democracy to it."

It is said that Gen. Simpson, of South Carolina, has contracted with a large land dealer of Galveston, for 50,000 acres of Texas lands.

CONGRESS.

MAY 5.—Nothing of interest transpired in the Senate to-day. The House passed a bill to-day making appropriations for Consular and Diplomatic expenses. Mr. Bennett, of New York, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill granting alternate sections of land in Iowa, in aid of the railroads now constructing. A motion to lay it on the table was lost, by a vote of 44 against 95. There was no action on Mr. Bennett's bill. Adjourned.

MAY 6.—In the Senate, Mr. Pugh presented the resolutions of the Legislature of Ohio, in favor of the admission of Kansas with the Topeka Constitution.

In the House, Mr. Clingman asked leave to offer the following: A joint resolution for the better protection of American citizens.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the better protection of the persons and property of American citizens under the law of Nations, and as secured by existing treaty stipulations, with reference to the thoroughfares or lines of travel between the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, the President of the United States be and he is hereby authorized to employ any part of the land or naval forces in the country, and to call for aid and use any number of volunteers that may be necessary to provide for the safety of passengers and others of our citizens in those localities; and such may be used by him in aid of the local authorities, or otherwise, to insure the observance of such rights as the government of the United States and its citizens are entitled to enjoy.

Objection having been made, Mr. Clingman moved a suspension of the rules.

Mr. Stephens asked Mr. Clingman what he proposed to do with the resolution.

Mr. Clingman replied that he thought it ought to pass; but if the House should reject it, he would have no objection to that. Mr. Jones of Tennessee, understood that the resolutions authorized the President to take possession of Central America. He did not want it done at this time.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, asked Mr. Clingman whether, if the rules should be suspended, he would give him an opportunity to offer an amendment looking to the annexation of the British provinces.

Mr. Clingman said he would make no motion which would cut off such an amendment.

Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, remarked that if the House should now adjourn, the resolution would go over till Monday next, and therefore he made a motion to that effect. In the meantime they could read the proposition in print.

The motion to adjourn was lost.

An ineffectual motion was then made that there be a call of the House.

Another motion was made to adjourn, which prevailed—yeas 95, nays 65.

MAY 7.—The Senate appointed a third committee of conference on the Deficiency Bill, the first two having failed to agree.

In the House, Mr. Pringle offered a resolution that, as the committee of conference on the Deficiency Bill had failed to agree, the House adhere to its amendments, disagreeing to those of the Senate. Mr. Cobb, of Georgia, wished to know what were the particular points of disagreement, in order that the House might act separately on each. Mr. Stanton said the principal points were the army appropriation bill of \$3,000,000 and the Washington water works bill. He was willing to lose the bill unless the Senate receded from its amendments. The system of deficiencies threatened to throw all the power of government into the hands of the Executive. He wanted the President to exhibit proofs, in good faith, that the laws are faithfully executed. Mr. McMullen defended the administration against the implied imputation in a very long speech. A long discussion ensued on the non-concurrence of the committee of conference on the Deficiency Bill. The House adjourned without taking action.

MAY 8.—The House as well as the Senate adopted the report of the joint committee of conference on the bill amendatory of the bounty land law. On motion of Mr. Pennington, the President was requested to transmit information touching the recent disturbances at Panama and the interruption of travel over the routes to the Pacific; also to state what measures have been taken for the protection of American interests in that quarter. The consideration of the disagreement amendments to the deficiency bill was considered. Mr. Giddings, while speaking in opposition to one item, suddenly fainted and fell to the floor. Much excitement ensued. Mr. Giddings was conveyed to a sofa, and after having become conscious, was taken home. Mr. Campbell of Ohio reported the ocean mail appropriation and post-office appropriation bills.

MAY 9.—The Senate passed the House bill granting a million and a half of acres of land to the Iowa Railroads. Mr. James reported a bill amending the patent laws.

In the House, a message was received from the Senate, asking for a third committee of conference on the deficiency bill; which bill being under consideration, Mr. Phelps rose to defend the people of Missouri from a charge made by Giddings yesterday, who had said they were traitors and deserved to be hanged. Mr. Giddings explained. His statement was with reference to the collection of an armed body of men for the purpose of usurping the government. Mr. Phelps denied the charge; saying such an idea existed only in the distempered imagination of his author. The Missouriian who went to Kansas in November and December last were for maintaining the laws, and the scenes of bloodshed were properly attributable to the friends of Mr. Giddings. The House appointed a third committee of conference on the deficiency bill. The New Mexico election case was debated till the hour of adjournment.

MAY 10.—The Senate was not in session to-day—and no business of public importance was transacted in the House.

SCENE IN THE SENATE.

A scene enacted in the U. S. Senate, on Friday, does not add much to its reputation, though we can well understand the difficulty that Southern men have in tolerating the presence of such creatures as Seward, Hale & Co. On Friday Hale, alluding to what he said were grossly personal attacks upon him in Mr. Clay's recent speech, remarked that he had but one word to submit in reply:—That it will take something besides malignity to redeem imbecility from contempt!

Mr. Clay sprung to his feet, and replied: I defy the Senator's malice as much as I do his baseness. No man shall assail my rights or those of my constituents, and slink his responsibility by skulking behind a plea of non-combatancy. If he had been animated by those heroic feelings which he proposes, he would not come upon this floor, and under the protection of its rules, seek immunity for his insolence. I know he is pleased by this attention. There are those of his class, who like the London attorney, Mark Meddle, in the play, are ambitious for a kick. [Sensation.] He concluded by remarking that he had nothing more to say to that Senator, having twice declined his acquaintance; and he asks pardon of the Senate for consuming so much time about a Senator who soils the carpet on which he treads.

Mr. Hale replied that he never sought an introduction to him but once, and that was on professional business, for the benefit of a citizen from Alabama.

Mr. Clay rejoined—He did not think his reputation for veracity would suffer by conflict with one who had repeatedly eaten his own words.

Mr. Hale replied that if he had eaten his own words he would have a more palatable meal than the Senator from Alabama, if he should undertake to eat his.

General Intelligence.

FATAL OCCURRENCE IN WASHINGTON.

Mr. Herbert, the Representative in Congress from California, shot the chief waiter of Willard's Hotel about 11 o'clock on the 8th instant. The waiter died instantly. The cause of the difficulty was the insolence of the waiter, who had been much excited in the house before meeting with Mr. Herbert, who is said to be a quiet and inoffensive man. The circumstances are said to be that, at a late breakfast, a dispute arose between Mr. Herbert and the waiter, when sharp words were passed. Other servants came up and made an assault with chairs, plates, etc. Mr. Herbert defended himself, with the assistance of another gentleman, and only shot the waiter when it was evident to all beholders that it was the intention of his assailants to kill him. The investigation of the affair was postponed till 4 o'clock. It is believed that the evidence will be very contradictory. Mr. Herbert is in the hands of the Marshal.

P. S. Mr. Herbert has been placed in custody of the Marshal, to undergo a regular trial for the offence. His counsel has applied to the criminal judge for his release, on writ of habeas corpus.

DETERMINED DUELISTS.

An account of the duel between Dr. Willkins and J. Flanner, a commission merchant of Wilmington, N. C., has been given. The Baltimore Sun says:

On the first fire, the ball of the latter cut off a part of the Doctor's ear; the second fire put his ball through the Doctor's hat. Nothing daunted, the latter coolly remarked that his hat was a new one—and desired that it should not be aimed at. The seconds here interposed, and used their best endeavors to reconcile the difficulty, but without success. The combatants then resumed, when the ill-fated Doctor was killed at the first fire.

THE MASSACRE AT PANAMA.

The New York Day Book asks what the negro-loving organs think of the black butchers of Panama? They are very silent on the subject. The Panama butchery and the outrages on defenceless women and children, are a fair sample of abolitionism, the natural result of free-negroism wherever it preponderates.

The New York Journal of Commerce, in an article on this subject, very properly insists that our Government must demand indemnity for the past and security for the future; and the only mode of securing these ends, is to have the strong arm of our Government on the spot, ready for action should occasion demand. Not less than four millions of treasure, besides thousands of passengers and valuable freight, pass monthly over this route.

There is but one iron link between the Atlantic and Pacific, connecting our Atlantic and Pacific borders, and that, all will agree with the Journal, ought not to be left at the mercy of savages.

CONDITION OF WALKER IN NICARAGUA.

The accounts in relation to the success of Walker at the battle of Rivas are somewhat contradictory. The Washington Star says: "Our private advices assure us that in the recent battle of Rivas Walker's loss was 150 men, and not 30, as published in W.'s newspaper; and further, that the Costa Ricans lost 150 men in that engagement, and not 600, as that paper published. As we anticipated, he and his filibusters are at the mercy of the Costa Ricans, who, to the number of 5,000, have cut off all his hope of supplies and reinforcements from the United States. His ammunition has also given out. His force (according to himself) is about 1,000 Americans and 1,300 natives."

NICARAGUA.

We have nothing new from Nicaragua. The next arrival from that country will probably decide the fate of Walker, his army, and his filibustering project. Meetings were held last week in New Orleans and New-York, to raise the "sinews of war," for Walker. A number of men from the former city have gone to his relief, and in the lat-

ter city material aid has been promised, and a Committee appointed to raise subscriptions.

WALKER'S GOVERNMENT.—The Cabinet at Washington have recently had several meetings, at which the propriety of receiving Walker's new Nicaraguan Minister was discussed. A letter from Washington says: "Divisions in the Cabinet and remonstrances from the conservative portion of the South and other quarters, have induced the President to suspend his decision on the recognition of Walker. Mr. Hunter and several other Senators have protested earnestly, without receiving positive assurance as to the President's determination. Mr. Cass was strongly inclined to the filibusters last week, but is now more subdued.

IN PEACE, PREPARE FOR WAR.

The Washington Union advises warlike preparations on the part of the United States, to resist inroads upon their interests and rights by the European governments. It is wise counsel. We trust that the present gloomy indications of European difficulties may give way to a clear and unclouded sky, but our only permanent security is preparation. The last war with England affords no standard by which to judge of the results of another contest with that country. Instead of finding her at war with France, we shall behold France her ally, and probably have to encounter both nations.

In the late war, and until a very recent period, our distance from Europe was considered an insurmountable bulwark against invasion on an extensive scale. But the introduction of steam in ocean navigation, and as an agent of naval warfare, has entirely upset this calculation. The Crimean war is before us, carried on at as great a distance from England and France as is America, and what have we beheld? Two hundred thousand men, with all the munitions of war, and with more complete and heavier artillery than was ever before used in battle, transported as if by magic three thousand miles, and landed in perfect safety, and in almost an incredible short space of time, upon an enemy's shores! What has been done in the East, can be done in the West. Two hundred thousand Englishmen and Frenchmen can be as easily landed upon the shores of the United States as upon the Crimea. Eight hundred British ships of war, all propelled by steam, can be on our coast in two weeks. To meet these tremendous odds, before which the colossal military power of Russia succumbed, we have a standing army of ten thousand men, and seventy or eighty war ships! Yet Congress hesitates even to inaugurate a system of defence for the country.—[Richmond Dispatch.]

FLORIDA INDIANS TO BE REMOVED.

The Tallahassee Sentinel of the 29th ult., states that Gov. Broome since his return from the seat of the general government has fully committed himself to the removal of the Indians by force. There are now in the service of the State and general government, together, one thousand and six hundred men, and the commanding officer in Florida has authority to receive "such additional force as may from time to time be required." This his excellency thinks is a sufficient force to adequately protect the frontier, and that this protection will be continued.

THE SHOOTING AFFRAY IN KANSAS.

The Pittsburg Post on reliable information, gives the particulars of the shooting of Sheriff Jones, at Lawrence, Kansas. On the 19th instant, the sheriff went to St. Lawrence to arrest S. N. Wood, but was driven off. He then went to Gov. Shannon, who telegraphed to the President, and called out 12 United States troops from Fort Leavenworth. They proceeded to Lawrence with Sheriff Jones and arrested Wood and six of the persons who aided in driving off the sheriff. That night while Jones was sleeping in his tent, some one fired a pistol ball into his spine. He was removed to the Free State Hotel, where the Congressional Investigating Committee were stopping.—Lieut. McIntosh then called in ten other troops who were passing Lawrence. Fifty more troops were to be sent there from Fort Leavenworth. Sheriff Jones has died of his wounds.

LATER FROM KANSAS.

The Lawrence correspondent of the St. Louis Democrat says that Colonel Sumner was encamped opposite Lawrence, with 120 men, dragoons. He had addressed a letter to Gov. Robinson stating that the attack on Sheriff Jones had produced great excitement throughout the territory and the frontier of Missouri, and urging on the people of Kansas the importance of ferreting out and bringing the assassin to justice. He says also that the offence has been reported at Washington, and that any order received there will be carried out.

ANOTHER TREATY WITH MEXICO.

On the authority of a letter from Mexico, which it inserts, the Journal of Commerce states that our Minister to Mexico has essentially adjusted the terms of a Convention with the Comonfort Administration, by which we are to acquire another slice of Mexican Territory—how large it is not stated, nor the price to be paid for it.

IMMENSE TRAVEL TO CALIFORNIA.

The steamship Illinois sailed from New York on Monday for Aspinwall, with upwards of six hundred passengers and the mails for the Pacific. It was thought she would have carried out eight hundred but for the apprehension of trouble on the Isthmus, inspired by the recent riots at Panama. The Orizaba sails on Thursday for San Juan.

MONUMENT AT THE COPWENS.

On the 23d ult., a monument was erected upon the memorable field of the Copwens, in the Spartansburg District of South Carolina, with appropriate ceremonies, a military encampment being in the neighborhood at the time.

SENTENCE OF A MURDERER.

An affecting scene took place in the Superior Court of Perquimans county, N. C., last week, upon passing the sentence of death on Riddick Sewell. The prisoner was brought into court in a very feeble state, having suffered dreadfully from cold when in jail last winter.

After going through with some necessary preliminaries, his Honor addressed the prisoner and asked if he had any thing to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him. Amid the breathless silence of a large and eager assemblage, Sewell arose and addressed the court with perfect composure for perhaps half an hour. He stoutly asserted his ignorance of every thing connected with the murder—knew nothing of it until he was arrested—if he committed the deed, he was crazy and knew nothing about it—earnestly besought the Judge to take off his right arm, pluck out his right eye, send him out of the country, but spare his life—told his Honor that if he would look over his books, he would find precedents for this, and cited two cases as authority—referred to the hard swearing of the witnesses against him, and charged those who captured him with having robbed him, &c. His speech was very disconnected, but indicated a tenacious hope of life which nothing could banish.

The unfortunate man was then sentenced to be hung on the 15th instant.

MURDER.

There was a terrible affair at Islesboro', Maine, last week. Joseph G. Brown, owner of a small water craft, returned to his home as his family were at breakfast. When his wife saw his countenance, she exclaimed, "I am afraid of you." He immediately caught up a knife and pursued her to a corner of the room and out her throat, severing both windpipe and carotid artery. Their daughter, eleven years old, in attempting to aid her mother, seized the knife, while Brown drew it through her fingers, cutting them severely. The monster fled, and undertook to escape to sea in a boat, but was overtaken by Capt. Benj. A. Warren and three others. He threw himself overboard with a rock tied to his neck, saying, "Warren, you know what I have done; I have killed my wife, but she killed me first; take care of my children, I commit myself to the waves"—but the water being shallow, he was fished up, and committed to Belfast jail. He is thirty-five years of age, and his wife was about thirty, a small woman, inoffensive, and prepossessing in appearance.

CHILDREN IN ILLINOIS.

The St. Louis Pilot, of the 22d, has the following: Are the children fair specimens of the "Sucker" children?

There yesterday arrived in this city two of the most surprising freaks of nature in the form of human beings that we, or, we believe, any one else, ever had the fortune to witness. They are a boy and a girl, aged respectively fifteen and ten years, born and bred on a farm in Goodman county, Illinois, about sixty miles hence. The boy is well grown, of the average height, but weighs over four hundred pounds. His name is Preston Hundlestone; he is sensible, healthy, and enjoys excellent health, notwithstanding that his immense weight precludes his taking much exercise. His sister, Juliana, is ten years of age, and weighs over three hundred pounds. She also is well formed, intelligent, and, for her size, extremely active. Their father and mother are yet living, and are both somewhat spare in habit. The former informed us he had four other children, some older and some younger, but none of them showed any disposition for such adiposity.

THE WAY TO GET A CLAIM.

Horace Greely thus writes to the Tribune: "I have been told that a man who had an indisputable claim on the Government for four or five thousand dollars, danced attendance at the Capitol for two or three sessions to no purpose. At length an old Member who knew the ropes, struck by his pertinacity, called him aside, and gave him the benefit of some volunteer counsel. 'My friend,' said he, 'I see you are green, long as you have been in Washington. Just withdraw your papers and increase your claim to twenty or thirty thousand. Then promise a thousand to this one and two thousand to that, and so on through a list of half a dozen who can help you, and of course on the contingency of your gaining your claim. If you should be cut down a little, you can afford it.' The claimant thankfully took the advice, acted on it, and in due time carried home his honest due and little more." By bribes of this kind, false swearing is obtained, and the Government no doubt often swindled.

PRACTICAL AMALGAMATION.

The liberty allowed under laws of Massachusetts for intermarriages between the white and black races is but rarely taken advantage of in Boston. A few days since a colored man of twenty-eight years, born in Norfolk, Va. was married to a white girl, of nineteen years. Formerly such marriages were forbidden by law there, but the prohibition had no practical effect.

THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER.

A newly married couple arrived in Boston recently and took lodgings at one of the fashionable hotels, to pass away that delightful season—'las! too brief—known as the honeymoon. Their happiness was the cause of envy among many, for not a cloud appeared to overshadow the enjoyment of the passing hours, until a doctor was sent for to the great haste, to relieve the lady of a dose of laudanum which threatened to terminate her life. The skill of the doctor saved the wife, and after the bride returned to consciousness, she was asked what motive induced her to commit such a wicked act! She replied: I saw a lady wink at my husband at the table, and I didn't want to lose.

IT IS SAID THAT A YANKEE BABY

will crawl out of his cradle, take a survey of the world, invent an improvement, and apply for a patent before he is six months old.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

Still Further Advance in Cotton.—The Central American Question—Result of the Peace Conferences, &c.

HALIFAX, May 8.—The steamer America has arrived bringing Liverpool dates of April 26. Cotton had advanced 1d., with sales of 103,000 bales, of which speculators took 38,000, and exporters 7,000 bales.—Fair Orleans 7d; Middling 6 7/16d; Fair upland 6 1/4d; middling 6 1/4d. At Manchester buyers demanded a reduction. Money was easier. Consols closed at 92 1/2 to 93. Breadstuffs had advanced. Canal flour 32s.; Ohio, 35s. 6d. Wheat runs higher. Corn had advanced 1s.; White 29 to 30s. At Havre cotton had advanced, with sales during the week of 12,000 bales. Imports 2000.

The London Star states that on the 23d the cabinet determined on making concessions in the Central American affair, but refused to re-call Mr. Crampton. The papers relating to the Central American difficulty were before parliament, but no action had been taken thereon. Those relative to the enlistment question would soon be ready. The matter created no excitement. The London papers have obtained an advance copy of the Treaty of Peace. It contains 34 articles. No fortresses are allowed on the coasts of the Black Sea, and it is closed to ships of war. The Danube is made free, Russia altering the boundaries of Bessarabia. Kara and the Crimea are restored to their original owners. Moldavia and Wallachia are to have a constitution, which is being prepared by a Commission.

QUEEN VICTORIA COMING TO AMERICA.

—The London correspondent of the Toronto Globe states that a report is quite current in England to the effect that the Queen has some thought of paying a visit, during the coming summer, to her loyal province of Canada. So far has the rumor gained ground, that several of the London newspapers are discussing the propriety of the step, and advising the Queen to make the journey by all means.

IMPORTING POTATOES FROM IRELAND.

One would suppose we could hardly need to import food into this country from Europe, but what will our farmers say to the arrival at this port from Londonderry (Ireland) of a bark with three hundred tons of potatoes, and a schooner from Cornwall, N. S., with 4,000 bushels? There are forty bushels in a ton, and altogether this makes 9,200 bushels brought to this city. Potatoes are always saleable in this market at prices ranging from \$1 75 to \$2 50 per bushel, and during the summer nearly \$100,000 worth of potatoes are brought to this port from Bermuda.—[New York Ex.]

THE COOLIE TRADE.

—Late accounts from Vapaurasi mention the arrival of the American ship Malmatia, one hundred and seventy days from China, with one hundred and sixty coolies, having lost ninety others and a large number of her crew on the passage. The American clipper Winged Racer had brought in seven hundred and sixty of the unfortunate Chinamen.

A SNAKE COMBAT.

Combats between the rattle and black snake are certain if they meet, and the black snake is, with rare exceptions, the conqueror. Upon seeing each other, these animals instantly assume their respective attitudes of defiance and display the great difference in their organization. The rattlesnake coils itself up, ready for attack or defence; the black snake, being a constrictor, moves about from side to side, and is in constant activity—naturally exciting each other's passions. The rattlesnake finally settles down into a glowing exhibition of animosity, its fangs exposed, its rattle in constant agitation. The black snake, seemingly conscious that the moment of strife has come, now commences circling round its enemy, absolutely moving so swiftly that it seems but a gleam of dull light; the rattlesnake attempts to follow the movement, but soon becomes confused, and drops its head in despair; then it is that the black snake darts upon the back of its deadly foe, seizes it between its teeth, and springing upwards, envelops the rattlesnake in its folds. The struggle, though not long, is painful; the combatants roll over in the dust, and get entangled in the bushes; but every moment the black snake is tightening its hold, until the rattlesnake gasps for breath, becomes helpless, and dies. For awhile the black snake still retains its grasp; you can perceive its muscles working with energy; but finally it cautiously uncoils itself and quietly betakes to the water, where, recovering its energy, it dashes about a moment as if in exultation, and disappears from the scene.