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No subscription discontinued (but at the option of the Editors) until all arrearages are paid.

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Letters addressed to the Editors must come post paid to ensure attention.

FROM KENDALL'S SKETCHES OF THE SANTA FE EXPEDITION. I'VE SEEN THE ELEPHANT.

EARLY IN THE AFTERNOON we reached a small spring of water where we encamped, and the grass being excellent in the vicinity, we remained nearly all the next day to rest the jaded cattle and repair the rickety wagons.

Many of the latter were half worn out when we started, and the rough road over which we had traveled was far from improving them.

An afternoon's march brought us to a noble spring in a grove of post oaks—a grove which turned out to be one of the outskirts of the celebrated Cross Timbers.

Up to the 21st of July, one month from the time when we left the Brushy, our course had been nearly north, the country we traversed principally fertile and rolling prairies, destitute of timber except the bottoms of the different streams we had crossed.

Our road, in the mean time, although we had considered it very bad, was a perfect macadamized turnpike in comparison with what we were shortly to meet.

There is a cant expression, "I've seen the Elephant," in very common use in Texas, although I had never heard it until we entered the Cross Timbers, or rather the first evening after we had encamped in that noted strip of forest land.

I had already seen "sights" of almost every kind, animals of almost every species, reptiles until I was more than satisfied with the number and variety, and felt ready and willing to believe almost anything I might hear as to what I was yet to see; but I knew very well that we were not in an elephant range, and when I first heard one of our men say that he had seen the animal in question, I was utterly at a loss to fathom his meaning.

I knew that the phrase had some conventional signification, but farther I was ignorant. A youngster, however, was "caught" by the expression, and quite a laugh was raised around a camp fire at his expense.

A small party of us were half sitting, half reclining around some blazing fagots, telling stories of the past and speculating upon our prospects for the future, when an old member of the spy company entered our circle and quietly took a seat upon the ground.

After a long breath, and a preparatory clearing of his throat, the veteran hunter exclaimed, "Well, I've seen the elephant."

"The what?" said a youngster close by, partially turning round so as to get a view of the speaker's face, and then giving him a look which was made up in equal parts of incredulity and inquiry.

"I've seen the elephant," coolly replied the old campaigner.

"But not a real, sure-enough elephant, have you?" queried the younger speaker, with that look and tone which indicate the existence of a doubt and the wish to have it promptly and plainly removed.

This was too much; for all within hearing, many of whom understood and could fully appreciate the joke, burst out in an inordinate fit of laughter as they saw how easily the young man had walked into a trap, which, although not set for that purpose, had fairly caught him; and I, too, joined in the merry outbreak, yet in all frankness I must say that I did not fully understand what I was laughing at. The meaning of the expression I will explain.

When a man is disappointed in anything he undertakes, when he has seen enough, when he gets sick and tired of any job he may have set himself about, by his "seen the elephant." We had been buffeting about during the day, cutting away trees, crossing deep ravines and gullies, and turning and twisting some fifteen or twenty miles to gain five—we had finally to encamp by a middle hole of miserable water, and the spies had been unable to find any beyond—this combination of ills induced the old hunter to remark, "I've seen the elephant," and upon the same principle I will here state that I had by this time obtained something more than a glimpse of the animal myself.

We were now fairly within the limits of the Cross Timbers, a singular strip of wooded country, a description of which may not prove uninteresting.

The immense western prairies are bordered, for hundreds of miles on their eastern side, by a narrow belt of forest land well known to hunters and trappers under the above name. The course of this range is nearly north and south, with a width ranging from thirty to fifty miles.

The growth of timber is principally small, gnarled, post oaks and black jacks, and in many places the traveller will find an almost impenetrable undergrowth of brier and other thorny bushes. Here and there he will also find a small valley where the timber is large and the land rich and fertile, and occasionally a small prairie intervenes; but the general face of the country is broken and hilly, and the soil thin.

On the eastern side of the Cross Timbers the country is varied by small prairies and clumps of woodland, while on the western all is

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THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

BRUNER & JAMES, Editors & Proprietors.

KEEP A CHECK UPON ALL YOUR BUSINESS.



LETTERS. DO THIS, AND LIBERTY IS SAFE.

NEW SERIES, NUMBER 31, OF VOLUME I.

SALISBURY, N. C., NOVEMBER 30, 1844.

THE ATMOSPHERE.

A perfect ocean of prairie. The belt, therefore, for whatever purpose it may have been fashioned by the Great Creator of all things, appears to be an immense natural gulf dividing the woodlands of the settled portions of the United States from the open prairies which have ever been the home and hunting-ground of the red man.

In that portion through which we passed, and we spent nearly a fortnight in the Cross Timbers, we found the face of the country broken, and full of deep and almost impassable gullies. These, in the rainy season, carry off the waters from the hills, to the larger streams outside the woods, but in July we found them all dry.

Bear and deer are found in the Cross Timbers and the vicinity, and small gangs of buffalo take shelter in them when scattered and driven from the prairies by Indians. In many of the trees swarms of wild bees are found, affording delicious honey—a great luxury to those who are engaged in a border life, for it is well known that the absence of breadstuffs increases the appetite for sweets of every description.

For two or three days we journeyed through the middle of the belt, every attempt to find a passage out proving futile. On one or two occasions, distant fires were seen upon the hills at night, but we were unable to get a sight of the Indians who were encamped by them.

Knowledge.—Young D'Israeli recently made an eloquent speech at Manchester, in the course of which he remarked that the prince of all philosophy had said, in an immortal apothegm, that "knowledge is pleasure." It is knowledge that equalizes the social condition of man, that gives to all our political positions passions which are in common, and enjoyments which are universal.

Anecdote.—The following interesting anecdote is told of Commodore Dallas who recently died at Callao. He was the 3rd Lieutenant on board the frigate President, the first vessel which burned powder in the last war.

CENSUS OF LIBERIA.—From the abstract of the census of Liberia, published in an exchange paper, we gather the following items.

In 1843, the total population of the colony was 2,350; of these 645 are children born in the colony. The average annual mortality in the colony is about four per cent. The first emigrants arrived there in 1820, twenty-four years ago.

Churches, 23; communicants, Americans, 1,014, reaped Africans 116, Africans 333. Total, 1,463.

Schools, 16; scholars, American, 370; African natives, 192. Total 562.

Imports in two years, \$157,829; exports do, \$123,694; stock in trade, \$48,750; real estate of merchants, \$39,550; commission business, annually \$50,500; vessels, 9.

Coffee trees, 21,197; acres sugar cane, 54; acres in rice, 62; do. Indian corn, 105; do. ground nuts, 31; do. potatoes and yams, 806; do. cassava, 326. Acres owned, 2,594; under cultivation, 948. Cattle, 71; sheep and goats, 214; swine, 285; ducks and hens, 119 dozen. Total value owned by farmers, \$21,775.

PROGRESS OF CHRISTIANITY IN BURMAH.—The Baptist Record publishes an extract from a letter from Mrs. Abbott, wife of a devoted Baptist missionary in Burma, which contains gratifying intelligence as to the progress of Christianity among the Karens, both in Arracan and Burma. Mr. Abbott had made during the season two tours to the Southern churches, in company with the native pastor, and had baptized about eighty converts.

Be Prepared.—None can tell what the next minute will bring forth, and the only plan is to be prepared to take advantage of whatever may happen, for circumstances must be hard indeed that will not permit wise and quick-witted men to abate their evil or to augment their good.

The Bud.—Have you not seen a little brown bud upon a tree in the spring looking as if there were nothing in its heart but dry leaves, and then the sun shines upon it for an hour and out it bursts all fresh? But still it is the same bud you looked at in the morning.

The atmosphere certainly is a wonderful substance; one of the most extraordinary with which we are acquainted; generally deemed invisible, it yet forms the most beautiful and magnificent coloured object we know, the blue sky. So thin and attenuated as to give rise to the proverb, "light as air," it yet exerts an enormous pressure on the various bodies on the surface, being, in its entire mass, as heavy as a globe of lead sixty miles in diameter; and when in rapid motion, possessing a force at momentum which is irresistible. Although we see nothing around us, yet the air is everywhere present, and is the most universally diffused substance in nature.

While depressed at our late defeat, we are disposed to seize upon the smallest crumb of comfort to console us under our loss. Texas, they say, has beaten us. Be it so. We should rather think the cause than any other, for there is something to be made by it. They have promised us one hundred and fifty acres of Texas land if Polk is elected; and we, with the balance of LACKLANDS in Georgia will hold them to their promise.

"SOME COMFORT YET."

"Moderate duties for the support of the Government, so that the South may flourish and buy cheap iron, clothing, sugar, tea and coffee, and other necessities of life."

"DEMOCRATIC CREED."

"To increase the power of the South by the admission of new States."

"To acquire TEXAS, and distribute her rich lands to the people."

"The proportion of Georgia would be 1,291,480 acres."

"The proportion of this Congressional district would be 161,435 acres."

"The proportion of each county would be \$968 acres."

"The proportion of each voter would be 150 acres."

FROM THE SAVANNAH REPUBLICAN. THE GRAND RESULT.

The returns from New York yesterday settled the question. Mr. Polk is elected President of the United States, and the Democratic ascendancy is complete for four years at least. The contest has been a desperate one, and as we have before said, a discreditable one to the country. The result has proved that although Mr. Polk may be elected by a considerable majority of the electoral votes, the two great parties of the country are, numerically, nearly equally divided.

FROM THE PITTSBURG GAZETTE. FOREIGNERS—ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN.

Now that the Presidential question is settled, and the challenging of the electoral vote of Illinois and Michigan cannot affect Mr. Polk's election, and be attributed to any improper motive, we should be glad to see the question raised in a legal manner whether the electoral votes of those States ought not to be rejected by Congress, on account of their repudiation of the naturalization laws of the United States.

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From the Richmond Whig. The Late Canvass.

If the reader is not already sickened enough at the profligacy with which the late canvass against the Whig party and HENRY CLAY was conducted—the argument varying in every section of the Union, but the same suggestion of falsehood, the same slander of Mr. Clay's personal character, and the same misrepresentation of his public life, the same perversion of history, the same appeals to the cupidity of the mercenary, the prejudices of the ignorant, and the passions of the envious, distinguishing it everywhere—we can increase his nausea.

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