

to think they'd 'moxy' w' the help o' a guid load o' buckshot, I'll make as many bolts through ye as ye could count in an auld ten lan'—and I'll mak' bet led rad through ye, for a, the world like quick-silver through the reddie o' a Scotch fan, an ye dinna dance right off the reel, like a hen upo' a hot griddle. Now then."

"What could I do? Feeling it was no time to tride, and almost fancying the buck-shot was already perforating me, I be-thought me of a waltz, and whistling it, in less than three minutes, belabored myself into a perfect foam of perspiration, in the deep sand. Tired to death, I paused to breathe, and asked the old tyrant if that would not do for this time."

"Na, na; dinna flash yourself, dear. I am na tired o' lookin on, gif ye are na tired o' scootlin. Sae gaie us twa or three jerks more, and when ye hae done, I'll reward ye w' twa or three o' the siller dollars."

I renewed the dreadful onset once more, with a resolute heart; and when I stopped again, out of wind, he pitched the silver at me, and recommended an honest mode of borrowing, bade me clear myself—which it is needless to say I did.

It was now dusk, and I turned into a road that led into the interior, through a large swamp. I had scarcely proceeded half a mile, when I found my arms, as if by magic, pinioned to my back, in the rude grasp of two ruffians, gentlemen of my own calling.

"Stand, and deliver," said a stern voice. "I have just been delivered myself," said I, "gentlemen; and by my honesty, you may as soon draw blood from a turnip, or milk from a stone, as enrich yourselves with spoils from me."

"No palavering," said my lacome incognito, at the same time quite unceremoniously thrusting his hands into my pockets, (while the other held me,) and deliberately drawing forth the fruits of my Scotch prize.

"I have a few of the shiners?" said he. "Yes—and if you have no objections, after a fair division, I'll make one of your gang."

"None of your tricks upon honest travelers," said he. "I however, gave them abundant proofs of my sincerity and was admitted."

We were in an inn next evening in the village of —, just as the mail stage arrived. It required but half the time it was changing, for us to push out half a mile on its route, build a fence across the road, and concert various other measures for the robbery of the mail; by which we flattered ourselves with fortunes. In the mean time, my comrades entertained me with a brief account of their course of life; and I could perceive many similar points to those of my own short history; and principally springing, in the first instance, from parental unkindness and maladministration and bad example.

The mail was carried in a coach or stage, drawn by four horses. There were, we knew, six passengers and the driver to contend with. Fearful odds, but nothing to our cool and determined daring. My comrades were informed by advices the day before, received by an accomplice in Philadelphia, that considerable remittances were expected there from Lancaster about this time.

It was arranged that the instant the horses should stop at the fence (it was dark) one of my comrades should present himself on either side of the stage, with pistols ready, whilst I kept the driver in check with mine.

"Don't fear, gentlemen," said Clifton—for that was our leaders' name—"we intend to subscribe for stock for the improvement of these roads; but being rather short of funds, are going to borrow a small cast from the mail; so condescend to step out, one at a time, and I will tie you to separate trees. But if more than one of you appear at a time, or if you hesitate one moment, or make as much noise as would be heard from the mouth to the ear, I'll send a couple of rounds of buck shot among you that will not leave one of you to tell the tale."

Our first tumbled in dumb show, one at a time; and while Clifton tied the last, I tied the trembling driver. We now drove the stage off into the wood, and availed our lives of the contents of the mail, by the help of a dark lantern, while Smith—the third—kept guard outside of the coach—"This part of the business through, we un-gauged three of the horses, mounted them and struck off through the wood in a by-path, at a round gallop. After riding all the fore part of the night, we turned the horses loose and totted it.

After a robbery, we would disperse, proceed to some city, change our disguise for an entirely different one; and after spending a part of our funds, meet at a preconcerted spot, and proceed as before. I will here remark, that after repeated acts such as I have just described, I discovered such an apathy and cool bearing, that my associates voluntarily appointed me their captain, and, in our moments of drunken revelry, to a certain deep, dark cavern, which was our chief place of refuge and rendezvous, they tied me—the *severed* brigand!

One night, on my way to this cave, I met a solitary old man, in an old sulky, walking his horse cautiously, as if doubtful of the road. The moon shone only by fits, from behind the clouds, and I could not resist the opportunity of rifling this lonely old creature.

"Stop," said I—"your life or your purse—Without uttering a syllable, but, in the most evident alarm, the old man made a quick, bustling movement, and seemed to grasp something in the bottom of the vehicle, and fearing I had another Scotch prize

to deal with, for the first time in my life, I fired on a lone man.

With a convulsive and shivering movement, accompanied by a groan, he pitched from the carriage a lifeless trunk at my feet.

My horror was unutterably inconceivable, hardened wretch as I was, when I found I had murdered a gray-headed defenceless old man. Dragging the body to one side, with the view of casting it into the bushes, a faint gleam of the pale moon fell upon the wan features—O! horror of horrors, I discovered it was my aged father!!!

THE COMMERCIAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1819.

The non-Proscriptive Party.

The late democratic party having suddenly become the non-proscriptive party, it may be necessary to remind them of some of their sayings and doings in times past and gone.—Their conversion is very sudden indeed, and may be thought to arise as much from the "force of circumstances," as any amiability of disposition or love of justice. But the people will judge of this.

In the time of Gen. Jackson's administration the doctrine was promulgated through the presses that supported him, that a change was necessary in the persons as well as the principles of government. They said that no one was silly enough to suppose that the "defeated faction" who slandered the President and his supporters, should be continued their servants. The question was asked: "What does a change of Administration mean, but a change of officers?" It was insisted that the *rebis* should go through all the grades of officers, till the party which had triumphed had agents who "think as they do."

We might fill our paper with pointed remarks of the same character.

When Mr. Polk ascended the Presidential Chair, under pledges that held out a prospect of mild and impartial conduct on his part, the Press was not slow to spur him on to the work of proscription for opinion's sake. That he required any admonition in respect to decapitating his political opponents, no one believes. The decree against Whig Office Holders was as irreversible as the Laws of the Medes and Persians. And yet the democratic exponents deprecated the *slow process* of a few hundreds per diem, and of one hundred and fifty or more in the city of Washington in the course of a few weeks.—Their ardent anxiety for reform, or else their intense desire for office, outran the operations of the most vindictive and malignant politicians this or any other country ever knew.—Such was the character of Polk and his Cabinet.

Any change of opinion was called a "transfer of allegiance," and punished by dismissal. None but those who continued to pay "homage and service" to the reigning power, were spared. Such was the condition of this country, that the late Democratic Party exercised a dominion over the minds and consciences of their followers, to which no Inquisitorial Tribunal ever afforded an excellent counterpart. In their public walks, in their private conversations—every where, were the species of jeannetian tyranny exercising their base and vulgar surveillance, and marking for public proscription and private hate every freeman of this Union, who dared to question the infallibility of the "Progressive Democracy."

A Democratic State Convention was held at Harrisburg, on the 8th of March, 1817, at which the following Resolution, among others, was adopted, and approved by the Washington Organ:

"Resolved, That the removal from the various offices at Washington of every officer of the NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION, or of Democratic principles and measures, has been long called for, and is alike demanded by the voice of the Democratic party and the best interests of the country, and ought not to be longer postponed or delayed."

This is proscriptive enough, we think for the most rampant radical of the land.

Read the following letter from Mr. Brown, the second assistant Postmaster General—now among the amiables, the innocent victims of "tory federalism," and all that. This Letter was written in reply to some inquiry by a Postmaster in the State of New York, as to why he was removed:

"Appointment office, Post Office Department, July 26, 1818.

"Sir: Your letter has been received, and submitted to the Postmaster General. I think your reasons for abandoning the Democratic party wholly unsatisfactory. The Postmaster General has heretofore refused to listen to applications for the removal of postmasters for such reasons. But the party to which you are now attached having taken ground against the Administration, and the *regular nominee* of the party for President, I do not see how the Administration can further refuse to act in these cases, without subjecting it to the charge of lending its influence to defeat the candidate of the party."

I am yours, &c. W. J. BROWN.

H. J. SICKLES, Esq., P. M.

Does any one suppose the contemptible scamp who penned this Letter would desire to hold office under Gen. TAYLOR? Yes, indeed, and whine about "proscription, because he is not retained!"

Let us see what is democratic doctrine, embracing the whole ground of the subject before us. It was asserted in the *Globe*, a paper too well known to require a special introduction to our readers: These are the words: "No subordinate officer holds his place but by a permission equivalent to a re-appointment; and the true theory of our Government in regard to the subsidiary Executive functionaries is, that none should be permitted to remain, or, in other words, be re-appointed whom the President would not, under the circumstances attending each case, appoint to office. He is just as responsible for retaining as for appointing."

It might be reasonably concluded, that those who have thus bitterly assailed and wantonly and unfeelingly proscribed their political opponents, would think it a very delicate matter to hold office under the present administration. But, bless you, their delicacy is not shocked at all. Hold on—hold ever—is the motto—and one might as well expect to make a cable statue, to wrap, as to penetrate their callous hearts with a sentiment of honor or propriety. This shows what sort of people these Democratic Office-holders are, in the main; it shows that they never cared a fig for political principle, but went for office only; that they have no preferences except those which are personal to themselves. Paradise or Tophet is all the same to them, so they get the money.

It may be asked what are the indexes that arise in these particulars—what does *ere-handled justice require*? The answer is easy—there is no problem to solve. The requirement is neither more nor less than the removal from office of every adherent to Polk and his administration. Such a course would be the legitimate comment upon the democratic Text.

But Heaven forbid that Gen. Taylor and his Cabinet should copy the mean and malignant policy of their immediate predecessors. We hope and believe that they will look for higher and purer examples, and show the world that they consider American Citizens as freemen, who have a right to express their opinions upon all public matters—not as minions of Jacobin Clubs, nor the slaves of ambitious and unprincipled leaders.

STEAMER CAMBRIA.

The Steamer Cambria, from Liverpool, has been telegraphed as arrived at Halifax.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING.

A meeting of some of the late Democratic party was held in the Court House, in this town, on Wednesday evening last. D. HARKELL, Esq. was called to the Chair, and Mr. W. T. J. VANCE appointed Secretary. Gen. L. H. MARSHALL, explained the object of the meeting, which was to adopt proper measures to bring out a candidate to represent this District in the Congress of the United States. He stated that he had received a private letter from Gen. McKay, in which he positively declined being a candidate for that office.

Several Resolutions were adopted—proposing a District Convention to be held the 31st of May, in Clinton, Sampson County—expressing a preference for Wm. S. ASKE, Esq.—and complimenting the administration of Mr. Polk. The opinion was specially expressed, that there ought to be no proscription for opinion's sake—of course not! This reminds us of the fable, well known to our readers, of the Horse and game Cock. The latter, crowing around the former, was buried with disdain and a mass of litter against the wall. In this plight Chancellor says:

"I say, my noble brother!
"Thus cringed in space, let us take care,
"We look not one another."

COMMISSIONERS OF NAVIGATION.

Our citizens will recollect that Tuesday next is the time for electing Commissioners of Navigation. This is a very important Board, and the public interest requires that it should be filled by men who understand the duties of the office, and are willing to perform them.

PRESENTATION.

The National Intelligencer of the 25th, contains an account of the presentation of a sword, to the President, on the preceding day. This sword was voted by the Legislature of Virginia, to Maj. Gen. TAYLOR, in honor of the distinguished courage and conduct displayed by him in his victorious achievements in Mexico.

The Committee were introduced to the President, by Mr. PIERCE, Secretary of the Navy. Mr. DANIEL, in behalf of the Committee, made a very handsome address on the occasion. On the sword was inscribed: "Presented by Virginia to her distinguished son, Major General ZACHARY TAYLOR, for his gallantry and good conduct at the battles of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey and Buena Vista."

We have only room for the President's reply to the address, which is as follows:

GENTLEMEN:—I receive, with emotions of profound respect and gratitude, the sword voted by the Legislature of the State of Virginia, which you have been deputed to present in their name.

It need hardly be said that this token of approbation and of confidence bears with it unusual interest and value. It is from the State of my extraction and nativity—a State distinguished throughout the American annals for the abilities, the valor, and the patriotism of her children, and which yields to none in devotion to the cause of constitutional liberty.—This offering of her representatives will be cherished with pious care, and handed down as a precious inheritance to my children.

You allude to the services which have had the good fortune to elicit the approval of my countrymen. The recent campaigns in Mexico, so far as military combinations and the actions of commanders are concerned, have now become matters of history; but no history can fully record the sufferings, the privations, the courage, and the constancy of the common soldiers. To the steadiness and discipline of the rank and file, ably led as they were by the platoon and regimental officers, our success must be mainly ascribed. Without such officers and such men, no inspiration, no good fortune, could have averted disgrace from our arms.

I beg through you to convey to the able and distinguished Governor of Virginia, to the Legislature, and to the people of the State over which he worthily presides, my most sincere and heartfelt acknowledgments, for the high honor I have this day received, and allow me to present to you, gentlemen, my thanks for the very handsome manner in which you have discharged the trust confided to you.

(FOR THE COMMERCIAL.)

The thanks of many are due you, Mr. Editor, for your timely notice of a serious annoyance, which almost invariably accompanies "Public Celebrations" in this place.

I mean the practice, on such occasions, of crowding the galleries of the churches "with servants, with young children in their arms." I hope your making the matter known to "the parents of the children, and the masters and mistresses of the servants," will abate the nuisance.

Permit me to correct one error, in your notice of the Odd Fellows' Celebration. You say, "the children of the Odd Fellows' School will sing several Odes, under the direction of Brothers LEIGHTON and MAGINER." The singing in the Odd Fellows' School, is under the direction of Mr. DANA BROWN; and whatever of credit the scholars may reflect on their teacher in Vocal Music, belongs of right to Mr. BROWN.

From the Journal, of yesterday.

CALIFORNIA.—We notice in our marine list the arrival at this port of the "JOHN A. TAYLOR," a new and handsome barque, built at Little River, S. C., by Mr. MORSE, for our enterprising fellow citizen, GEORGE W. DAVIS, Esq., Commission Merchant, under the immediate superintendance of her present commander, Captain MARTIN. The "JOHN A. TAYLOR" is a large and commodious vessel, coppered and copper fastened throughout. She is now having her cabin finished, and being rigged, and will be ready for sea in a short time. The "JOHN A. TAYLOR" is advertised to sail for San Francisco, and we would here call the attention of those in this section who may contemplate going to the "Gold Region," to the propriety of engaging passage on board of her.

From the Charleston Courier, 24th inst.

Arrival of the steam ship Isabella.

This regular packet steam ship keeps up her reputation for punctuality. She reached her berth in Charleston at 9 o'clock yesterday morning, having left the port of Havana at 6 o'clock on the afternoon of the 22d inst., making the run in sixty-three hours from wharf to wharf, including the stoppage at Key West, and the delivery of the mail at Savannah.

The actual running time of the Isabella from Havana to Charleston, was but a few minutes over fifty-hours. She brings upwards of one hundred and twenty passengers.

VISITERS TO THE WEST POINT ACADEMY.

The following named gentlemen, as we understand, have been invited by the SECRETARY OF WAR to attend the Examination of the Cadets of the Military Academy at West Point on the first Monday in June next:

1. John S. Abbot, Esq. of Maine.
2. Hon. Horace Mann, of Massachusetts.
3. Capt. Daniel Tyler, of Connecticut.
4. Jerome Fuller, Esq. of New York.
5. John L. Gow, Esq. of Pennsylvania.
6. Capt. John H. B. Latrobe, of Maryland.
7. Capt. Patrick M. Henry, of North Carolina.
8. Gen. Duncan L. Clinch, of Georgia.
9. Col. R. W. Barnett, of Ohio.
10. Gen. J. McCall Wiley, of Alabama.
11. H. Myr J. Ballard, Esq. of Louisiana.
12. Hon. Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi.
13. Col. William T. Stockton, of Florida.
14. Dr. H. Houghton, of Iowa.
15. Gen. Rufus King, of Wisconsin.

In connection with this subject, some misapprehension being understood to exist as to the mode of appointing CADETS of the Military Academy at West Point, we take occasion to state that, since the passage of the act of 1813, which in a great measure restricts the number of Cadets, to the number of Representatives and Delegates in Congress, these appointments have been made on the recommendation of the Representatives and Delegates from their respective Congressional districts. In addition to these the Executive has the appointment of ten Cadets at large, irrespective of residence in any Congressional district.

National Intelligencer.

THE AUGUSTA BANK ROBBERY.

Frederick Augustus Wingate, the elder of the two brothers charged with having broken into and robbed the Augusta Bank, in December last, was, on Monday and Tuesday last tried before the District Court in session in Augusta. The jury after an absence of half an hour, brought in a verdict guilty.

An important witness (says the Age) in securing his conviction, was Mr. Hopkins, of the Boston Police, who testified that Wingate confessed to him his participation in the affair, and the mode in which he got possession of a key to the safe. His story is that while the safe was being painted at the manufactory, the painter allowed Edward Wingate to take the key for a moment, and thus he had an opportunity, which he had improved, of taking an impression in putty. From this impression a false key was made.

It was proved that Frederick was in town under suspicious circumstances, before, and at the time of the robbery—that he was with his brother, (who disclosed the plunder,) on the night of the robbery—that he had about him a large sum of money when arrested, &c., &c. These facts in connection with the confession, rendered a verdict guilty inevitable, notwithstanding the elaborate and able defence of the prisoner's counsel, Lot M. Morrill, Esq. The prosecution was ably conducted by R. H. Voss, Esq., County Attorney.

Wingate was sentenced by Judge Rice, to eight years confinement in the Maine State Prison at hard labor.

THE FEMININE FOR CALIFORNIA.—A New York letter, of Tuesday evening, says,

"I hear that Mrs. Farnham is succeeding very well in her enterprise, and that there is every prospect of her having half of her cargo, if not two-thirds, of her cargo, (about four hundred tons of women) by the first of next month.

"The gold diggings will ship to us their treasure in the shape of gold dust, and in return we shall send them women. This is a great country!"

From the Weldon Herald.

OBITUARY.

It becomes our painful duty to announce the sudden demise of one whose name is familiar, eye, even to every schoolboy in the county of his nativity, and whose friends were not confined by County or State limits—one who has enjoyed the confidence of his fellow men to a large extent; and who has proven himself worthy of that confidence—one whose friendship was deep and abiding, and who never forsook a friend.

Maj. Lemuel McKenute Long is no more! The heart which throbbled with friendship's strongest emotions, the bosom which could heave a sigh at the thought of the sufferings of humanity, the tongue which could speak out feelingly and without restraint in freedom's cause—all are still. That voice which has so often fallen like music on the ear, is hushed and hushed forever. While relatives and friends hung hopefully around his couch, reluctant death marked him as its victim.

On Monday night, the 16th inst., Major Long was attacked with Pneumonia. Every thing that medical skill, or faithful and unremitting attention could do, were done for him. Eminent Physicians, and fond doating relatives, were by his bedside day and night, striving to alleviate his sufferings and restore him to health; but, alas! they could not accomplish their purpose—the first desire of our hearts—to save the life of the dear one. The disease, ever a dangerous one, had the advantages of the disagreeable weather, and seemed determined that its full period should be wrought. Our friend continued to endure his sufferings, which were scarcely more acute than the anxiety of his friends, till Saturday evening, the 21st inst., when, about 11 o'clock, he ceased to be. He breathed his last at the residence of his brother, Col. N. M. Long.

Strictly decorous in all his deportment, high minded and honorable, the subject of this humble tribute enjoyed the confidence of his more immediate fellow-citizens, to a high degree. The first and only time he was ever before the people, as a candidate for any public station he was elected to represent, his native county, in the Legislature of the State.—He served his term out faithfully and honorably, and at its close declined to be a candidate for re-election.

He lived surrounded by friends far and near, and died without an enemy. The peculiar favorite of his family connexions, he was scarcely less a favorite with all who knew him. But, alas! his mortal remains have been consigned to their last resting place, and his memory is all that remains true—that let us cherish.

The funeral of the deceased was preached on Monday morning, the 23d inst., by the Rev. Thomas G. Lowe, from the text, "Prepare to meet thy God." Touching was the Discourse—eloquent the appeal of the reverend gentleman on this occasion. Every one present was affected to tears.

At the conclusion of the sermon the remains of Maj. Long were attended to the grave by a numerous concourse of friends, sorrowing most of all, that on earth "they should see his face no more."

Later from New Granada.

By private advices received from Santa Marta on the 17th of March, we understand that the presidential election in New Granada had resulted in the choice of General Hilario Lopez. The report of Santa Marta had been made a part of entry, which will be a great accommodation to all that country between the ports of Santa Marta and Cartagena, which was devoid of any customhouse facilities.

New York Herald.

A newly married couple went to house-keeping not long since at Boston, in Poplar-street. At breakfast the next morning after their entrance, the gentleman said to his lady, "My dear, this is Poplar street, and by putting it (you) in it, it becomes popular."

"And by putting it in it," promptly replied the lady, "it will become popular."

From the North American and E. S. Gazette.

YVESSEI, SEIZED. Some time since a Spanish schooner, "Yvessei Anadia," of but ten tons burthen, sailed from Cadiz for Havana, with a cargo of Leeches, and was navigated safely across the Atlantic by a captain and crew of four men to her port. She left Havana for Cardenas, on the north shore of Cuba, but by stress of weather was driven into Key West, the Collector of which place caused her to be seized, huddled, condemned and sold. It being contrary to the U. S. laws for a foreign vessel of less than thirty tons to enter any port of the Union. During her voyage to Havana, she put into Green, on the Coast of Africa, where the negroes tied her with much kindness, and afterwards, on account of a storm, into Martinique, where the French authorities gave her all protection and assistance. The crew made the voyage to Havana without further impediment.

This story is related in a letter from the Captain to the *Cronica*, a Spanish paper published in New York, and it is to be true that he was forced into Key West by bad weather—a thing likely enough, as it was certainly at etching our laws too far to constitute the vessel, and the conduct of the African negroes, and the French authorities at Martinique, under similar circumstances, makes in contrast very much to our discredit. The affair should be inquired into, and if the facts show the captain to have expressed the truth, a just restitution should be made.

THE CROPS, &c.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The Abbeville Banner of the 21st says:

"The prospect for an abundant wheat crop was the finest we have ever seen in the district—the more forward crop is certainly destroyed—the cotton was generally up throughout the country, and has been completely killed, and what renders it more serious is, that many farmers have not enough seed to replant their crop. The fruit has all been destroyed and the leaves upon the trees every where around present a blasted and dreary aspect.

GEORGIA.—The Alabama Patriot of the 21st says:

"The cotton on many plantations is so greatly damaged, that already the owners are having large fields plowed up for replanting, and others are denied even this forlorn hope of a crop, by the want of seed to replant their ground. We have heard from the centre of the State, and we regret to say the accounts from every quarter are gloomy in the extreme.—Snow fell in many of the middle counties on Sunday last and the cars running from Macon to Savannah passed through a snow storm of many miles in extent. The wheat and cotton crops are thought to be ruined in a large portion of the State. The corn, fruit, and gardens are much injured. It is hardly possible to imagine the amount of damage which the State has sustained in one night.

ALABAMA.—A writer in the Montgomery Journal says:

"The late freeze has done more damage than was at first supposed. Three-fourths of the Cotton will have to be planted over; the other fourth is hardly reliable, but will do to risk by chipping in seed in the missing places. The Corn will have to be planted over; some planters are leaving it, in hopes that it will come out, but no doubt all the oldest would be best to be ploughed up and plowed over. The dry weather and the high winds are all dead against the planter in his present bad fix. What will be the result no one can tell. But take the best feature, and the chances for a cotton crop are bad. Early planting, from positive experience, is best; now we shall be more than a month behind. The growing season is near at hand, and grass, corn and cotton will have a fair start together.

The Mobile Register says:

"As we anticipated, the severe frost with which we were visited on the night of the 15th inst. was seriously injurious to the planting interest in the interior. From a number of the counties we have advices of its effect on the young corn and cotton plants, both of which have been generally destroyed. In Baldwin, Clarke, Wilcox, Dallas, &c. we learn that many of the planters are ploughing up their fields for the purpose of replanting. The lands throughout South Alabama are suffering for the want of rain, and while the drought continues no newly planted seed will germinate. There is danger therefore of a deficiency in the coming crop, the extent of which will depend upon the contingencies that cannot at present be estimated."

MISSISSIPPI.—The New Orleans Picayune of Thursday says:

"We learn from the clerk of the steamboat Saladin, arrived last night, that a severe frost occurred above Vicksburg on the night of the 15th inst. and it was reported that the cotton crop was totally destroyed."

The Chickasaw Patriot of the 17th says:

"On Sabbath last, the 15th day of April, we were visited with a severe snow storm, it having snowed thick and heavy for near an hour. In the evening the clouds were all blown off with severe Northern winds, and in the morning of the 16th we had as severe a frost as was witnessed during the past winter; and at the present writing the trees of the forest are all clad in deep mourning, and all vegetation is literally nipped up. Such universal destruction of nature's blessings to man and beast has not been witnessed perhaps within the last century. Our present opinion is, that the seed of wheat, and many other articles essential to the well being of man and beast will scarcely be saved. It cannot be doubted that all the growth of the present season, as well as of the trees as of herbs, grain, &c. has been entirely killed."

MEXICAN ATTACK UPON CALIFORNIA EMIGRANTS. AN AMERICAN KILLED.

The New York Journal of Commerce gives the following extract of a letter received by a highly respected Abbe-house in that city, dated Guadalupe, March 11, 1819:

An unfortunate occurrence took place with us a few days since, resulting in the death of Mr. Charles Dunham, of Wardour's Point, near Hartford, Connecticut. As the affair will be brought to the notice of the government, I will relate the circumstances attending it somewhat in detail. On the morning of the 7th inst. our party entered the city of Irapuato, one of the finest in Mexico, situated in a beautiful valley, midway between this city and containing 5,000 inhabitants. As our custom is, we separated into small parties, and entered several eating-houses to obtain our breakfast, the deceased, with some others, making one party. After eating, a dispute arose between him and the person keeping the house, the latter alleging that one Billing was due him, while Dunham averred that nine cents of it was paid. The Alcalde was then called by the Mexican to prevent Dunham leaving.

Upon this, Mr. Charles Carrell (one of our party) was called to act as interpreter, who stated the case to the Alcalde, the Mexican all the while denying that anything was paid. Mr. D. directed Carrell to offer the Alcalde the remaining three cents, which was refused. At the same time Carrell was ordered to dismount. This was refused. The guard which was called by the Alcalde then pointed three guns at him and ordered him to dismount, and at the same time took hold of his pistol. The guard observing this, instantly struck him with their guns, and killed him to the ground. On this, Dunham put spurs to his horse to escape, and had advanced a short distance, when one of the soldiers shot him through the heart with two balls, making one opening in his back where they entered, and two in his breast where they escaped. He exclaimed, they have killed me, and led a lifeless corpse to the ground.

The soldiers then fell upon our men indiscriminately, beating and firing at them. The result was that they were badly injured, by blows only, the guns either snapping or missing. Mr. Bidlack, myself, and some twenty others, were at some distance from this scene, and escaped unmolested, through the kindness of two priests, who opened the gate of the cathedral yard, and thus enabled us to escape from the mob. After several interviews with the Alcalde outside the city, in which he expressed much sorrow and regret that the affair had taken place, declaring it impossible for him to have prevented it, he brought out the wounded men, having first dressed all their wounds. He also promised a Christian burial for the deceased. We parted with them, and resumed our march.

The deceased was an interesting and worthy young gentleman, who leaves a father and mother to mourn their loss.

The wounded have mostly recovered. During the affray, one of our men being hotly pursued by a Mexican, turned suddenly upon him, and with a blow from the breech of his gun killed him to the ground, sinking the lock in his head just under the ear.

INCIDENTARY PUNISHING.—The St. Louis Evening Union of the 13th inst. says:

We learn from a gentleman from the Western frontier, that considerable excitement has recently been excited in the border counties south of the Missouri river, in consequence of the preaching of some abolitionists, professedly in the discharge of the duties of the Methodist Episcopal Church North, on the subject of slavery. A large number of colored persons, had become dissatisfied with their old religious organization, and had gone over to the "North" division of the church. It is feared that his invidious attempt to render the slaves of that portion of the State dissatisfied with their social condition may lead to serious results.

THE CHOLERA IN PARIS.—The poster to the Paris letter in the *Courier des Etats Unis*, announces that on the 5th instant there were a number of deaths from cholera among the representatives of the French Assembly.