

### From the New York Times

#### Important Intelligence—Mutiny on board the U. S. Brig of War Somers.

We received information yesterday of a most important transaction on board the U. S. Brig of War Somers, Capt. McKensie, which our readers will recollect arrived at this port on Wednesday last from the Coast of Africa, where she had been cruising for some months, in order to protect American merchant vessels from the interruption of British cruises searching for slaves. The Somers left Liberia on the 21th of November and anchored at St. Thomas on her voyage hither. She left St. Thomas on the 5th of December; and on that day the captain observed disorderly movements among the crew, which excited his suspicions of intended mutiny. He saw nothing definite, however, or sufficient to warrant the arrest of any. He contented himself, therefore, with ordering all his officers to wear their side-arms, and proceeded on his voyage.

He had been out but two days when some of the crew informed him of the existence of a plot on board, which was immediately to be put in execution. The plan was to murder the Captain, the higher officers and all others who would not join them—to seize the vessel and convert her into a private ship. She is one of the swiftest sailers in the service; and it was thus supposed that she would be most completely fitted for the purpose to which they designed she should be applied. They intended first to watch for some one of the Liverpool packets—expected to bring out a large quantity of specie—to seize upon and plunder her, and then sail for some more remote portion of the sea. This information was given to the Captain by one of those who had been originally engaged in the plot, but had subsequently repented and betrayed their murderous design.

This was on the 7th of December. The Captain immediately ordered all hands on deck, and ordered those of the crew who were opposed to him to go upon the forward deck. Passed Midshipman Spencer, son of John C. Spencer, our Secretary of War, the *Bonswain's Mate* and the *Mast* at *Arms* immediately led the way, and were followed by thirteen apprentices, and about sixty of the crew. They arrayed themselves upon the forward deck, without doubt supposing that they would be followed by a great proportion of the crew. Captain McKensie instantly ordered them to be put in irons. They were shackled and securely confined.

In the evening a Court Martial was summoned. Spencer and his two companions, as the three ringleaders, were tried, convicted, and sentenced, and next morning were hung at the yard-arm. The rest were brought in irons to this port, where they are still kept in shackles and close confinement.

Thus, by the prompt, fearless decision and energy of Capt. McKensie, one of the most bold and daring conspiracies ever formed was frustrated and crushed. The whole crew on board numbered we believe, not far from four hundred; and had the plot been successful, as a day's delay might have made it, deeds of blood and of fearful atrocity, would have paralleled in the horrid records of piracy and murder, would have blackened the sea and cast terror to the heart of the world. We presume that official accounts of this astounding affair will be speedily given, when more of its particulars will be spread before the public.

Immediately upon the arrival of the Somers, we understand, a messenger was despatched to Washington with the intelligence. It has been thus far kept a secret here, we presume, in order that it might not first reach the ear of Mr. Spencer through the columns of the press. An official investigation will of course be immediately ordered, and all the particulars of the matter be soon made known. There are some portions of this account which lead us to suspect its entire accuracy; but we give it as it was told to us—upon authority, which we deem most reliable.

#### The Naval Mutiny.

The following letter from New York contains another version, and additional particulars of the late mutiny on board the U. S. Brig Somers:—

Correspondence of the U. S. Gazette.

New York, Sunday P. M.

#### THE SOMERS MUTINY CASE.

In my last I informed you of the reported mutiny on board of the U. S. Brig Somers—but as the officers on this station appeared not to know or be willing to give any information on the subject, I had doubts of the authenticity; these, however, are removed, and I have to lay the particulars before you. There is reason to believe that the conspiracy was planned here before she sailed—that it was conceived by Midshipman Spencer, and that he induced into his views two seamen, Cromwell and Small, who shipped on board two days after he joined her.

The crew consisted mainly of apprentice boys, who were picked up in our large cities, and who were just the characters to lend a willing ear to Spencer's stories of the fine life they would lead on board of a private-of-the-women they would obtain—the spare they would get, and then their fat sailing belt would clude all pursuit. Among the papers found on board in possession of Spencer was one detailing the whole scheme, which was to seize the vessel after she had sighted and watered at Saint Thomas, and carry her to the Isle of Pines, near Cuba, where they were to be met by confederates, who it is presumed, left here after the matter was concerted for the purpose of joining them there.

As soon as the vessel sailed for the coast of Africa, Spencer opened his plan gradually to the crew, bringing them one by one to his views, assuring them to carry, and teaching them a kind of enthusiasm which related to the obligations they had contracted, and the plan they had in view.

He then made two lists of their names, one of which was headed certain, and the other doubtful. His own name appearing first on the former; these were also found on him. After leaving St. Thomas as I have before mentioned, the scheme was that

two of the hands should at night get into a pretended fight on the fore-castle; that they would be killed off by the officers of the watch to know what that noise was about.

They were then to enter into explanations with him, and while he was listening to them, to seize him unawares and throw him overboard. The remaining officers being below, might it was supposed, be easily murdered, as well as any one else who had not joined them. All this was found among Spencer's papers, with a plan for the division of the anticipated spoils, and for the allotment among them of the women that might fall into their power. When the brig was on her return from the coast of Africa, and about 500 miles distant from St. Thomas, Spencer was made by one of the conspirators to the purser's clerk to induce him to join them.

He signed acquiescence, and took the oath; they still mistrusted him, however, and told him that he would be watched, and if they saw anything in his conduct to excite suspicion, they would at once throw him overboard. He dared not communicate to Cromwell, but found an opportunity of divulging the whole to the Purser, who in his turn repeated it to the Captain. He at once determined upon his course after consultation with his officers, of which there was but one above twenty-one years of age, and this was to seize the ringleaders and hang them at the yard arm.

The officers do not seem to have been induced to take this step by any apprehension for their own safety now that they were forewarned, but by a feeling that such an atrocious attempt, so disgraceful to the character of the flag, should be instantly revenged by an ignominious death.

Accordingly the Captain and all his officers, and those on whom he could depend, mustered on the quarter deck armed to the teeth, as you may suppose. Among them was an old Sergeant of Marines, who came out of a sick berth when he heard what was going on, and who returned to it when all was over. All hands were piped on deck; the Captain addressed them depicting the enormity of their crime and his determination instantly to punish with death the ringleaders.

They were all dumb struck, and Spencer, Cromwell and Small were told to prepare themselves for the yard arm. They admitted their guilt, but Spencer asked for time in order to obtain the pardon of Small, who he said he seduced into the crime, and that he could not die happy unless he forgave him. He did not want to write to his father or mother he said. He would rather be executed there, and spare them (his parents) the pain they would suffer if he was carried to the United States and tried.

This, it is supposed, was a concerted plan in case of discovery, to give time to the crew to rescue them.—They did not attempt it however. After the lapse of an hour the three were hung, and their bodies given to the waves; of course, such further precautionary measures were used during the voyage as were expedient and on arriving here thirteen of the seamen were sent on board the North Carolina in irons. The apprentices, I believe are still on board the Somers, under strict guard. These are the main facts of the case. I might go more into detail, but have not the time before the mail closes.

**Mr. C. Dickens.**

This gentleman has been pretty severely handled for his notes on this country. His egotistical vanity led him in the belief that he could sketch English low life to perfection, therefore he could scan and measure the colossal limbs of this great country at a single glance. Mr. Schoolcraft in a recent lecture in New York, deals him the following severe blow:—

Travelling has this peculiarity, that in addition to the never ending charm of novelty, it enables one to select and fix upon any one, two, three or a dozen subjects, to which the mind, by a natural bias, or education, leans. But it too often happens I think, at least for the cause of good books or useful knowledge, that travellers in foreign countries allow these selections to fall upon the merest every day trifles,—things of which it is of very little consequence for the present age, or for posterity, to be informed. Perhaps this allusion will be better understood, and I dare say, the Society will pardon it, if I instance the case of an English writer of popular fiction, of celebrity, who recently favored this country with a visit, the scope of whose observation was, in a great measure, confined to the comforts of his appetite, or to mere animal gratification. And here, in this respect, under the force of a piece of criticism once made on the poet Blackmore,—

"He was erudite in trifles, and eminent in insignificant knowledge."

In the only instance in which the visitor referred to took notice of the natural history of the country, he was probably mistaken, in the case of the "flying squirrel," a parakeet for a blue jay, and he traversed three thousand miles—for it was the *terminus* of his route—to express his disappointment that a prairie was flat.

**STATE DEBTS.**—The debt of Louisiana, divided among the free white population of that State, is at the rate of \$130 for each white man, woman or child. The debt of Alabama is at the rate of \$45.66 for each white person; the debt of Mississippi, \$40.08 for each white person; the debt of Maryland, \$20 for each white person; the debt of Pennsylvania, \$20.40 for each white person; that of New York, \$8.96; that of Georgia, \$9.19; that of Ohio, \$7.18.

**ORIGIN OF THE HUMAN RACE.**—The N. Y. Express has on file an entirely new hypothesis of the origin and spread of the human race. It is stated and urged with much ingenuity. The argument is that Adam is a term signifying men, rather than one man, and that a race of men were created when Adam was first



## THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, Dec. 24, 1842.

☐ We have just received sixty reams of printing paper, similar in size and quality to the sheet upon which this is printed. Also 36 reams of super Royal 24 by 28 inches, which will be sold at cost and carriage, for cash.

☐ A public examination will take place at the female seminary in this place, under the charge of Miss Brook, on Saturday next. The citizens and others interested are respectfully invited to attend.

☐ There seems to be but little doing in Congress thus far. A strenuous effort is making to amend the Bankrupt Law, and the general opinion is, that it will be effected.

☐ The Philadelphia Gazette has been considerably enlarged and otherwise improved in appearance. The Gazette is an excellent paper, whig in politics, and most savagely severe on all transgressors, whether in morals or politics.

☐ We stated a short time since, that Col. Johnson was out of employment, and would, as it was said, spend the winter at Washington, and devote his time to electing. This has aroused the ire of our gallant friend, Col. Best, of the Danville Intelligence, who wishes to know who "said it," or whether the American did not "invent" the story. Now we saw the fact stated that Col. Johnson would spend the winter at Washington, in a number of papers. Had we, however, reflected a moment, that the Colonel was a member of the Kentucky legislature, a circumstance we did not think of at the time, we should at once have seen our error. We would not, willingly, say one word disparaging the character of Col. Johnson, whom we believe to be an honest, brave and patriotic old soldier, and we cordially concur with the Intelligence, that "Col. Johnson is the last man who would neglect his public duties to promote his private interests."

☐ The State Capital Gazette complains that piles of wood are left on the pavements at Harrisburg, during the night, to the great damage of the shins and noses of passengers, and advises all "needy persons to steal all the wood left on the pavements at night." Now this might be some consolation to the really needy, but what are those who are not needy to console themselves with, unless broken shins include all within the category of *needy*?

☐ An article in the Madisonian signed S., generally supposed to be from the son of Secretary Spencer, himself condemns in strong terms the conduct of Capt. McKensie in executing young Spencer and his two associates. He talks of the mutiny as if "it was all jakes,"—the "venerable romance of a heedless boy." A Court of Enquiry has been ordered in the case. The Midshipman was the third son of Mr. Spencer. Of his guilt, and the justice of his punishment, there seems to be no doubt.

#### Harrisburg Papers.

The Keystone and State Capital Gazette, (democratic), will be published twice a week during the session of the Legislature, and once a week during the remainder of the year, at the following prices:—

The whole year,	\$4 00
The session only, (twice a week.)	2 00

Any person sending them five subscribers accompanied by ten dollars, shall receive a copy for their trouble, gratis. Payments may be transmitted by mail, postage paid, at their risk. By a rule of the Post Office Department, postmasters are permitted to frank letters containing money for subscriptions.

The Signal (democratic) will be published once a week during the session, at one dollar. The Intelligence, (whig,) two dollars for the session or \$3 per annum. The "Aurora" an excellent democratic german paper, at one dollar per annum.

☐ They have their jokes in Congress as well as elsewhere. It appears, a few days after Mr. Seymour of Pennsylvania, who had returned home sick, had left his seat, Mr. Giddings, a raving abolitionist from Ohio, took it. This seat adjured that of our member, the Hon. John Snyder. The next morning a board, five or six inches high, appeared between the two desks, as a partition. This excited considerable amusement. Oliver Oldschool, the correspondent of the United States Gazette, who, though he writes an entertaining letter, could never discover any virtue or talent under the habiliments of a platid democrat, belabors Mr. Snyder with sundry epithets, as if he really knew the man whose character he pretends to describe so minutely. He describes Mr. Snyder as "morose, unsocial, and politically bigoted," while Mr. Giddings is represented as "good natured, amiable, and social," as a matter of course.

To those who are acquainted with Mr. Snyder, this will be news indeed. His generous disposition—his kind and social qualities, are universally admitted wherever he is known. There are but few public men who are more generally esteemed in their immediate neighborhood for their kind and social qualities, than Mr. Snyder. The poor and the unfortunate have always found in him a warm and generous friend. We have not only to say in regard to Mr. Oldschool's comments on the political sins, as this is his vocation, but Mr. Snyder must be bigoted indeed to contrast so unfavorably with Mr. Giddings, the rankst abolition whig in the house, who on several occasions set the House in a complete ferment with his fire brand abolition discourses. We will venture to say, however, so far as Mr. Snyder was concerned, the whole was a good humored joke.

#### Mutiny on board the U. S. Brig Somers.

We have devoted a considerable portion of our columns this week, to several accounts of a most horrible mutiny on board the U. S. Brig Somers, which was fortunately frustrated by the prompt and energetic conduct of the commander, Captain McKensie. In addition to the statements published in another column we have obtained some additional facts from the N. Y. Courier and Enquirer, which the editor says can be relied on as substantially the same as the official report. The Somers is the fastest vessel in our navy, commanded by Alexander Siddell McKenzie, well known as a most exemplary officer, and to the literary world as the author of a "Year in Spain." The crew consisted of about 100 persons, including apprentices. Midshipman Spencer, a son of the Secretary of War, who, from all accounts, proves to have been a most reckless villain, was the leader in the mutiny. He was nineteen years old, and had been previously discharged from the Brazil squadron for bad conduct. There is reason to believe that Spencer had conferred with accomplices before sailing from New York, as a rumor was circulated a few weeks ago, that the Somers had been shipwrecked. Spencer also told some of his fellow midshipmen that they had not long to live, when going out. The manner of accomplishing their object, was first to gag and throw overboard midshipman Rogers, in command of the deck.

Spencer was then to enter the cabin and kill Capt. McKensie; and others were appointed to be stationed at the main hatch, through which the crew must pass to get on deck, and at the steerage hatch, through which all the officers except the Captain must pass. All the officers except the Surgeon, were to be murdered and thrown overboard; and the crew, who were below, were to be mustered on deck. The two after guns were to be pointed forward, to secure the mutineers from an attack, and such of the crew who had not yet joined, but who then elected to come in with them, were to be admitted, while the others were to be thrown overboard.

They were then to get out all the boats and lighten the vessel; after which they were to make for the Isle of Pines, where they were to meet a confederate. They were then to cruise in search of merchant vessels, trading between this port and Europe; which, after being plundered, and the males on board killed, were to be indiscriminately sunk; and if there chanced to be any females, they were to be taken on board the Somers, violated, and retained so long as the Pirates might desire, when they also were to be committed to the deep! The arrangements for the division of the spoils, the allotment of the females, the various offices on board, &c., were all completed, and drawn up in detail in Spencer's hand writing; and he assured Mr. Wales that he had twenty of the crew with him sure.

The conduct of Capt. McKensie, on this trying occasion, meets with universal approbation. There were but two commissioned officers on board, and the law requires five to constitute a court martial. It became his duty, therefore, as commander, to decide upon the fate of the guilty wretches. After addressing the crew and warning them of the awful consequences of their act, the Enquirer adds:—

"Capt. McKensie then addressed a circular letter to each of the officers on board the vessel, except the Midshipmen, requesting their opinion as to the course of conduct which should be pursued towards Spencer and the two men who had been arrested with him. Each one returned for answer that they deserved immediate death, and Captain McKensie's opinion coinciding with that of his officers, it was determined to carry the punishment into immediate execution. All hands were accordingly called to witness the punishment. Whips were then rove into each end of the fore yard arm, and one of the inner part of the yard. The prisoners were then brought on deck and informed of the punishment about to be executed upon them. Small at once fully forgiven his fault, and asked most penitently the forgiveness of his commander and the officers, which was at once accorded to him. He then obtained permission to address the crew, which he did, warning them against permitting themselves ever to be seduced as he had been, into the commission of the crime for which he was about to suffer death.

Spencer asked a respite of ten minutes for himself and companions in guilt, in order that they might prepare to die. This was granted, and he was asked if he wished to write to his father or mother; but he replied that he did not. He then acknowledged his guilt and the justice of his punishment, and remarked that he would rather meet such a death there (at sea) than to be subjected to the infamy of exposure on shore. The ten minutes asked for by Spencer, was extended to upwards of an hour, nearly the whole of which time was employed by him in endeavoring to obtain forgiveness of Small, for having seduced him into the commission of a crime for which he was soon to expiate with his life. Small withheld his forgiveness for a length of time; but at last, in reply to Spencer's oft reiterated request of "Do forgive me Small," he said that he fully pardoned him.

Every thing being in readiness, the noise was placed around the neck of each of the culprits, and the officers were stationed about the decks to see that every man had both his hands on the ropes. About one o'clock, (sea time,) on the 1st of December, the signal for execution was given by firing a gun forward, and the guilty men were hung up.

After hanging about an hour the bodies were lowered down and delivered to their several messmates to be laid out and sewed up; and in the evening they were committed to the deep. Captain McKensie reading the service usual on the occasion of burial at sea. Small's last words were to invoke a blessing on the American flag, and to ask forgiveness for having so dishonored it; but the other died without any marks of penitence. Immediately after the execution, all hands were called to "cease ship"; and three cheers were given for the American flag, which was then waving at the gun; after which all hands were piped down and the usual duties of the vessel were resumed.

Four of the men who appeared to be most deeply implicated, were placed in irons immediately upon the discovery of the projected mutiny; but the others suspected to be concerned, were permitted to go to duty until they reached this port, when they were also ironed and sent on board the North Carolina.

The mutiny was discovered on the 29th of November, and the culprits executed on the 1st of December.

☐ A BAD BREAKING UP.—A Mr. Henry Brining was brought up before the session of Union county, at the last term, and convicted of stealing chickens.

☐ One of the Santa Fe prisoners, a young man by the name of Birchard, from Brooklyn, N. Y., is now teaching school in Santa Ana's dominions. Among his pupils, is the daughter of Santa Ana, who is about sixteen years old, and could not write her name when she commenced with him, but has improved rapidly.

☐ The managers of the Vermont Asylum for the Insane, have a newspaper establishment in that institution, which is edited and conducted entirely by the inmates of the Asylum. Their remarks would sometimes do no discredit to these sane cotemporaries of the Press. The following is an extract:—

"In all our exchange papers we find that the world would be called sane people are killing themselves every where. We are not so big fools here. There has been no suicide at the Vermont Asylum since it was opened."

#### MISCELLANY.

**New Counterfeit.—Exchange Bank of Pittsburgh.**—1's and 2's, altered with a pen from Towns and Relief notes. The genuine are signed W. James, Jr. or J. B. Murray, Clerks, with the names of President and Cashier engraved on the left.

The debt of Great Britain, in silver, would load 206,250 wagons, allowing each to carry 2,000 lbs.; and allowing each team 30 feet, would form a line over 1,700 miles in length. If reduced to cents, it would load 8,887,500 wagons, and form a line twice round the globe.

The Last Lie.—The London Morning Chronicle says: "Slaveholders in America make a practice of feeding swine with the dead bodies of their negroes!"

Joe Hatchedick, of Guilford, Conn., was recently fined \$100, and imprisoned six months for whipping his wife. Certainly not very severe for the offence.

A gentleman of Kentucky is about to cultivate Indian corn for sugar. He says 1000 pounds of sugar can be obtained to the acre.

Caster Beans are selling about Alton at 37½ a 40 cents per bushel. Last year they brought a dollar to a dollar and a half a bushel. Has the manufactured article fallen in like proportion? If it has, babies look out—your careful mothers will double the dose.

An Aged Eld.—An English paper relates that a farmer residing on one of the highest hills in the Arks, in clearing out a well, found an eel alive and kicking, that he had placed there 40 years before.

To suit the Trade.—It is stated that the low prices of produce, and competition, have reduced bread in Washington from \$10 and \$15 a week to \$3 and \$4, at which price many of the members are said to have contracted for the winter.

New York Bible Society.—10,000 Bibles have been distributed by this society during the past year. Receipts \$5,800, being about 3,000 less than last year. This decrease is attributed to the pressure of the times.

The Savannah Republican of Dec. 16th, says: The first shad of the season was served up at the Pulaski House, yesterday morning.

Peny in Missouri.—Mr. David Myerly, formerly of Philadelphia, states that there are about 200 farmers in Missouri, engaged in water-rotting hemp, and they will produce from 400 to 500 tons.

Sentence.—William Stewart, convicted of perjury, swearing to be worth \$1700, in order to bail Wm. E. Ross in the sum of \$1200, was sentenced to the State Prison for two years.

Books.—A modern writer, who probably benefited by experience says: "Don't lend books. On this point be inexorable both to friends and foes. Borrowed books never get fair play. They are either lost, damaged, or kept.—Not one person in fifty returns them to their owners in the state in which they were given out."

No Reciprocity.—It is a curious fact, that while portraits of Napoleon have been extensively purchased in England, no instance can be found, after careful inquiry among the print and book sellers, of a single portrait of Wellington ever having been sold in France.

The Hon. DANIEL E. HUCKER has been elected by the Legislature of South Carolina to the United States Senate, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Calhoun, who retires after the 4th of March next.

Ice.—A dealer in Cincinnati during the cold snap of the first of December, laid more ice than he was able to collect during the whole of last winter. It was seven inches thick, clear and bright.

A Town in Wisconsin.—Milwaukee contains at present over 3,000 inhabitants.

The Louisville Journal states that there are now eight or ten consumptive in the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky, who design remaining there for the winter. The proprietors of the Cave have announced that they will not be able to accommodate any other for a time to come.

Practical Benevolence.—The New York Commercial Advertiser mentions that Mrs. JACOB SERRON, of that city, has contributed to the Orphan Asylum at Bloomingdale no less than six hundred and fifty pairs of yarn stockings, all her own handiwork.

#### Deaths of Members of Congress.

Since the election of Members of this present Congress, ten deaths have occurred among them, as follows:

Samuel L. Southward, Senator from New Jersey.	" Georgia
Richard W. Habersham, Rep.	" Massachusetts
Wm. S. Hastings,	" Maryland
James W. Williams,	" North Carolina
Levin Williams,	" Pennsylvania
David Dimock,	" "
W. S. Ramsey,	" "
Joseph Lawrence,	" "
Charles Ogle,	" "
Henry Black,	" "

A large number, we believe, than have ever died from the Members of any preceding Congress.—Commercial Ad.

MILTON J. ALEXANDER.—The jury in the case of this unhappy man brought in the verdict on Tuesday afternoon a week, at 4 o'clock; we give below the affecting scene, as reported for the United States Gazette:—

Before that hour, the jury appeared in the box; and that fact was taken by those versed in such matters, as an indication that they had agreed, which supposition proved to be correct in this case, as after the opening of the court, they rendered the following verdict:—We find Milton J. Alexander not guilty of the felony of murder, but guilty of manslaughter."

The prisoner, who had been standing, as is the form, no sooner heard the last words than he fell backwards in his chair in a paroxysm of grief, his sobe were long and loud, but were far exceeded by those which burst from his aged and agonized parent, and his elder brother. The spectacle was a most affecting one: from the moment of the rendition of the verdict until we left the court room, (at nearly five o'clock,) the father had not taken his hands from the body of his son, which he clasped as convulsively as if he was then to part from him forever.

The Rev. Dr. Durachat was busy in pouring the words of consolation into the father's ear; but up to the moment in which we left, with but little apparent effect. The brother, too, remained inconsolable. Milton, however, had partially regained his composure at this time.

REDUCTION OF POSTAGE.—The New York Evening Post, in an article in favor of reducing postage, illustrates the extravagance of the present rates in the following pitying manner:—

The freight on a letter weighing one ounce from New Orleans to New York, is one dollar—on a pound of cotton from New York to Liverpool, one half penny.

The freight on a barrel of flour from Rochester to Albany, apart from the toll, is fourteen cents—of a letter, eighteen and three-quarter cents.

The freight on a passenger from New York to Albany, in summer, is 50 cents—on a letter 18¢ cents.

At Chicago, wheat is 37½ cents a bushel. To send a letter by mail from Chicago to New York, and receive an answer, costs one and one-half of a bushel of wheat.

In a part of New Jersey, laborers can be had at 25 cents a day and their board. Should one of these laborers receive a letter from a distance, it would require the whole of a day's wages to pay for it.

An old subscriber, a farmer in Illinois, lately wrote to have his paper discontinued. He had read it, he said, with pleasure, for years, and it was with the utmost reluctance that he should now cease to peruse it, he was dependent upon the produce of his farm for subsistence, and what else could he do than to top off all his luxuries in view of the following prices, which he subjoined as the current rates at the place of his residence:

Wheat, bushel	25 cts.	Beef, per lb.	2 cts.
Corn, "	5 "	Pork, "	1 "
Oats, "	3 "	Stock hogs per lb.	¼ "
Potatoes, "	6 "	Butter, "	6 "
Fowls per doz.	50 "	Steers, each	\$3 a 1
Eggs, "	36 "	Com. Ad.	

A LUCKY ERROR.—The editor of the Cleveland (Ohio) Plain Dealer has secured a handsome shout by betting on the result of the elections.—Just here the lucky fellow's rejoicings:—

"Shannon is elected, this secures our brother Bouck is elected, this secures our teacher; and Morton is elected, the boots are ours! Just think what a figure we shall cut with our *Morton boots*, *Shannon pants*, *Bouck benches*. Don't know as we shall be recognized by the 'dirty-shirt democracy' probably they will mistake us for one of the 'rich and well born.'"

The Mother and Child. (Goethe relates that he met, in the Campagna of Rome, a young woman nursing her child, seated on the remains of an ancient column. He questioned her on the ruins with which her dwelling was surrounded. She was wholly ignorant of everything concerning them; being wholly devoted to the affections which filled her soul. She loved and to her the present moment was the whole existence.)

Temples and monuments, and crumbling fane,  
Alters, and broken shafts, are scattered round;  
Ages long past have sanctified these plains,  
And stamped the sacred spot as hallowed ground:  
While Art and Genius here their home have found!

But see! where these old sculptured cherubs rest,  
A mother clasps her infant to her breast!  
She seeks not here to learn what minds unknown  
Carved these immortal forms in breathing stone;  
She smiles in joy upon her infant fair,  
And that sweet babe to her glad spirit seems  
Hollier than sculptured forms of poet's dreams;  
And in such bliss, Oh! wherefore should she care  
Who reared those shafts! by whom those towers  
were piled!

The present fills her soul—her heart is with her child!

A CASE IN A NUTSHELL.—A very wealthy planter in Woodford county, Ky., says: 'I have rather be taxed for the poor boy's education than the poor man's ignorance; for one or the other I am compelled to be.