

THE SOMERSET HERALD.

AND FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' REGISTER.

TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM,
HALF-YEARLY IN ADVANCE.

IF NOT PAID WITHIN THE YEAR,
\$2 50 WILL BE CHARGED.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY SAMUEL J. ROW, SOMERSET, SOMERSET COUNTY, PA.

New Series.]

TUESDAY, JULY 6, 1847,

Vol. 5.—No. 34.

A SIMILE.

BY "AONES."

I've seen the sun go down to rest,
Far in the vaulted sky,
Then in its glory, through the east,
Again 't would raise on high.
I've seen the floweret of the vale
Grow pale, and droop, and die;
But when again came Spring's soft gale,
It reared another flower on high.
I've seen the old and stately oak
Seem towering in its pride,
But, ah! the lightning's fatal stroke
Has rent it, and it died.

'T is thus with life; for some have power
To stem misfortune's tide;
And though its clouds may darkly lower,
They'll rise again in pride.
And there are some who fade awhile,
And seem forever dead.
But soon, again, you'll see them smile
And rear their drooping head.
But there are some who fell beneath,
Oh! wretchedness! thy power;
And thy first rending blast brings death
To many a stately flower!

The Yankee turned Turk.

A correspondent of Noah's Sunday Times, who lately travelled in Egypt, relates the following amusing incident of Yankee enterprise:

We soon found ourselves in the desert, traversing seas of sand. The weather was exceedingly pleasant, and the heat not as oppressive as we apprehended. We had an agreeable party, determined to be pleased with the journey, and not grumble at whatever privations we encountered. Early on the second day, after camping among some ruins, and hearing in the night the howl of a solitary hyena—not a very pleasant sound—we saw at a distance what appeared to be a shanty near a small clump of palm trees. It was rudely constructed of rough boards with an awfully formed door—the whole looking like anything else but Egyptian architecture; but it occurred to me that it might have been thus rudely thrown together as a shelter for savans exploring the ruins in the neighborhood. In the front of the door, a Turk was seated on a bench smoking his pipe. He looked like an *oasis* in the desert. He had on a pair of cotton trousers, sandals, a striped shirt and a turban, with an *attaghan* stuck in a red sash at his side, and against the side of the shanty rested a long gun. As we approached he rose up, placed his hands on his turban, and said in Arabic, "*Bash chalic*!" shook hands with my dragoman and exchanged a salutation with the janizaries, who appeared to know him. His hair, complexion and manner satisfied me that he was not a Mussulman. I rode up to him.

"Hilloo!"
"Halloo to you!" said he in good English. The tone and manner in which he spoke created a suspicion that he was one of us. After shaking hands with him, he looked inquisitively at me and said:—"Stranger, moughtn't I have seen you before?"

"Where?"
"Why, in New York."
"I belong there; but where do you come from?"

"I traded in a sloop from Stonington to New York, and am right sartin that I've seen you often."

"Pray what are you doing here in this barren and isolated spot?"
"I keep this hotel."

"Hotel?"
"Yes sir—nothing else! It isn't the Astor House; but I entertain man and beast travelling from the Red Sea. They reckon sometimes to stop the night with me, and get a cup of coffee and chicken now and then, and a pipe."

Where will the enterprise of the universal Yankee nation end? In what part of the world will they not be? "But my friend, what originally brought you here?"

"I went up to the second cataract of the Nile to look after a two-horned rhinoceros, for June, Titus, Angevine, and Co.'s menagerie, but I couldn't get the animal creeter; they wouldn't sell him for no price. So I resolved to stop here a while and keep tavern."

"Is there much travelling on this route?"
"Quite considerable. I reckon this is to be a mighty country for trade from India. They bring considerable goods across, and when we get our Railroad—"

"Railroad?"
"Sartin sir. The route has been explored, and this is the depot, and I'm to be agent—so Leftenant Waghorn says; and when we get our locomotive, we shall streak it from Cairo to the Red Sea in six hours. Won't I scare the lions, hyenas, and other varment away with that ere whistle?" So saying he put the hollow of his hands to his mouth and set up a whistle as loud as a locomotive's, evidently showing that he had been practicing.

"Stranger, wont your company stop for breakfast?"

I proposed a half of an hour or two, which was agreed to, and we rolled off

our donkeys and fastened our camels.—John Hudson—for I learned that was his name—brought out a large wooden mortar, into which he emptied some toasted mocha coffee, which he pounded fine and boiled in a tin kettle over a charcoal furnace, and served up to us as we sat under the palm trees with some eggs, quite comfortably. We filled our pipes and looked around at the barrenness which met our eyes in every direction. At a distance there were some mounds, some broken fragments of marble, here and there the ruins of tombs and buildings denoting that at some time it had been a place of note. Josh bustled about and filled the pipes with sweet tobacco.

"Moughtn't you like to buy a mummy?" he inquired.

"Why, do you deal in antiquities, my friend?"

"Occasionally. I've got a mummy, an ibes, and some glass beads which I tuck from a tomb about a mile off; but the beasts in the neighborhood are troublesome, and I darn't venture often."

"Well landlord, what's to pay?"

Josh reckoned the amount on the tips of his fingers, which came to a Spanish dollar, which we paid with great cheerfulness, and shook hands with him on our departure.

As Doctor Pangloss says in the play, "the human mind naturally looks forward." This enterprising man, no doubt aware that the overflowing route to India would soon be established, and that a great traffic and commerce would grow out of this new enterprise, was determined to take his position in time; so he commenced squatting on a spot in a central position, and be ready to take advantage of the travelling, and also to trade *in transitu*, and have a monopoly of his position. "There is stun enough in the neighborhood," said he, "to build a smart hotel; and when I can get hands, I'll surely put it up."

This was once the great highway of nations, when the commerce of India poured its wealth into the Mediterranean—when the gold of Ophir was brought to enrich the coffers of King Solomon—when the whole route was one continuous line of noble cities, flourishing villages, cultivated fields, and enterprising inhabitants, in the midst of which the Nile flowed majestically, as it does now, amidst barren sands. This is the vanity of all earthly affairs.

THE NIGHT AFTER THE BATTLE.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Delta gives the following brief description of the field of Buena Vista on the night after the battle:

"Saddened more than I would desire to admit, I moved over the field which was so recently the scene of such bloody strife, and terrible were the evidences of that day's carnage. The shattered bodies, which made death appear to the poor sufferers a thing to be desired, and the horses, whose riders in many instances lay motionless beneath them, were struggling in the agonies of death. I saw many a little band silently moving about, in whose faces were strangely blended the desire to find, and the fear of finding, the friends whom they sought among the dead. On arriving at that part of the field near the mountains, to the left of our position, where a portion of our little army received during the day the fiercest charges of the enemy, I saw the bodies of many a fallen foe, and felt how dearly our brave artillery made the enemy suffer for the guns they were compelled to abandon. I saw many of my countrymen cold and motionless where they fell, mingled with the enemy—defiance still on their brows, their swords still grasped in their hands, and I knew they were undaunted and unwavering to the end."

A YOUNG WEST POINT.—Lieutenant EVANS, of Buena Vista, a son of Senator George Evans, of Maine, graduated at West Point last summer, and hastened to join the army early in the fall. A letter from a superior officer says:

"Throughout this whole murderous conflict he was immediately under my eye. He was apparently as cool and collected in the most trying hours, when men were falling around him on every side, as he would have been at his father's table. Two or three times he was sent by Col. May with orders or messages to different parts of the field, and under the heaviest fire, which duty he performed with great credit and gallantry, and assisted in fighting with his company. His courage and skill were above praise.—Maine should be proud of him."

A distressing accident occurred on the Des Plaines river, near Morris, Grundy county, Illinois, on the 8th instant, by which TEN MEN were launched into eternity. It appears that the men were at work on the canal, and boarding on the opposite side of the river, and when returning from their breakfast the boat was sunk by a yoke of oxen on board, which, becoming unmanageable, moved so near one end as to cause it to fill with water.

A man some years ago was indicted in the Grand Circuit Court, State of Kentucky, for the crime of petit larceny.—The evidence was heard, upon which it clearly appeared that the defendant had been guilty of stealing "one bag of corn worth two dollars and twenty cents."—Nothing daunted by the array of facts against his client, the lawyer rose, and poured out an argument two hours in length. When he concluded, the jury retired, and after a brief consultation, returned a verdict of "petit larceny." The attorney moved a new trial, which was granted by the Court, and the case again brought before the jury. This time the lawyer spoke three hours and a half, the result of which was a verdict by the jury of "guilty of grand larceny." Again the attorney rose to move a new trial. He squared himself, and commenced in a style of grandiloquence worthy of an itinerant tragedian. He had spoken but a few words when the prisoner rushed forward, seized him violently by the arm and said: "Hush, hush, for Heaven's sake, hush! Another speech will hang me as sure as I'm a living man."

COPPER MINES.

EAGLE RIVER, MAY 24.—We have had winter here in all its fury. THIRTY-FIVE feet of snow have fallen at this place during the past season. But, notwithstanding, we have got on very well, and the mines are generally very successfully worked. The location on which I was, contained a vein of green carburet, intermixed with a little spar, and of five feet in width. It belongs to a Pittsburgh Company, and Mr. Jones is agent. The principal mines are getting out copper boulders by the wholesale. The following is the best information I have with regard to a few of the locations.

The Medora Company has struck a vein, and is doing well.

The Albion is not doing much at present.

Copper Falls is doing a good business.

The Eagle River works are in a more prosperous condition than usual.

The navigation is open at last, and we have had two boats from the Sault. Others are hourly expected. Our fine weather has commenced, and everything appears brisk and cheering.

THE MINES OF MEXICO.

We see it stated that the number of mines in Mexico already known is between three and four thousand. The largest yield in any one year was \$25,644,566, in 1806; and for some years previous to 1810, the average annual yield was \$24,000,000. From official returns, it appears that in 1842 the value of the gold and silver exported was \$18,500,000, exclusive of what was smuggled out of the country to avoid the export duty of six per cent, and which it is supposed could not have been less than three millions more. Gold mines are rare in Mexico; the only ones known are those near Oaxaca, gold being found in combination with silver. Three pennyweights of gold to a mark of silver is the largest amount obtained of the more precious metal from the combination ore, and this from the mines of Guanajuato only. When the amount of gold in these ores are small, it is not separated from the silver, as the result of the process is not equal to the cost.

A MORAL PICTURE OF LONDON.

There are 30,000 common thieves in London; 10,000 children learning crime; 3,000 houses of stolen goods, and about 10,000 common gamblers.

The "Weekly Despatch," an infidel paper, has a circulation of 150,000 copies a week, in the city!

The population of London, now, is about 2,250,000 souls! There are 100,000 people in the metropolis alone, unprovided with means of religious worship. There are about 108,000 female servants in London. Of this number, from 14,000 to 16,000 are daily changing places. Upwards of 50,000 persons are now inmates of the London workhouses; 60,000 are receiving out-door relief, and 1,000 to 2,000 nightly shelter themselves in the refuges for the homeless. In addition to this number, there are thousands who live by begging, and thousands more who live by criminal practices.

Captain JOHN POYNOR, of Dinwiddie county, (Va.) came to a sudden and painful death on Thursday last, in the following manner: Having just had a chill, or apprehending one, he went into the office of his brother-in-law, Dr. John H. Edwards, to take a dose of quinine. By a most unhappy accident, he mistook morphine for quinine, swallowed it, and was, in a very few minutes, numbered with the dead. He was in the bloom of manhood, and has left a widow and three little children.—Petersburg Intel.

SENTENCE OF ANTI-RENTERS.—Peter and Calvin Finkle, convicted at Hudson, New York, of assault and battery with intent to kill, have been sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor at Mount Pleasant, for the term of three years and four months, each.

HOPE—A THOUGHT.

BY CHARLES SATRE.

Hope! Thou'rt a bright and sunny isle,
In life's wild sea;
A star of light, and weary hearts
Look up to thee.
Bright visions pass before our sight,
Then vanish in eternal night:
Yet still thou flashest clear and bright—
Time's eldest born.

FROM MEXICO.

THE LATE NEWS FROM VERA CRUZ.

FROM THE N. O. PICAYUNE OF JUNE 17.

The ship *Massachusetts* arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the evening of the 11th instant. She brings over 155 sick and wounded soldiers. The following deaths occurred on board:

C. Gaines, of the mounted Rifles, and John Drew, of Company 1, 7th infantry, died on board before the *Massachusetts* left Vera Cruz, and were sent on shore for interment on the 11th of June. On the 12th of June John Pope, of the mounted Rifles, and John Smith, of Company C, 7th infantry, died at sea. On the 13th J. F. Carson, South Carolina volunteers, died. On the 14th D. Scurry, South Carolina volunteers, and H. Heck, 2d dragoons. On the 15th L. Grover, company E, Mounted Rifles.

The vomito is represented as on the increase at Vera Cruz. We regret extremely to say that Paymaster Bosworth, who sailed from here only on the 18th ultimo, sickened and died in Vera Cruz of the vomito. His remains were brought back on the *Massachusetts* in charge of his brother.

Quite the most important intelligence brought by this arrival relates to an attack upon a large train by the Mexican guerrillas, which has been partially successful. By the *Fanny* we learned that a train was to leave Vera Cruz on the morning of the 5th instant for Puebla, under command of Lieut. McIntosh. The train had in charge \$225,000 in specie, of which sum \$100,000 belonged to the Paymaster's Department, the remainder to the Quartermaster's. One hundred and twenty-five wagons and six hundred pack-mules were in the train, which was escorted by 800 troops.

The train left Vera Cruz on the night of the 4th instant, and on Sunday, the 6th when it had advanced about twenty-five miles, it was attacked by a large party of guerrillas. The place was well selected for the purpose by the Mexicans, being represented as a desile broad enough for a single wagon only. It is said, that slight works had been thrown up by the Mexicans to obstruct our advance. The attack was made upon the extremity of the train and upon the centre at the same time—the principal point, however, being the wagons, which were supposed to contain the specie.

Private accounts represent that the attack was so far successful that forty of our wagons were destroyed—though not those containing the specie—two hundred mules loaded with subsistence were taken, and thirty of our men killed. The American Eagle of the 9th says our loss is variously estimated at from four to twenty, but private accounts from responsible sources give the loss, as we have done, at thirty men.

The check was so severe that Col. McIntosh determined not to hazard an advance without reinforcements. Our troops accordingly entrenched themselves behind their wagons, and despatches were sent to Gen. Cadwalader at Vera Cruz. The General left on Monday evening, the 7th instant, with a force of about five hundred men and four howitzers. Private accounts say further, that on the 10th a part of the voliguers also left, with four howitzers, to join the train.

The Eagle represents that our troops received the attack with the utmost coolness, and that the enemy, being repulsed, fell back towards the Puente Nacional, which some suppose they may attempt to defend. No later news from the train had been received the morning of the 11th day the *Massachusetts* left. On the 10th a large mail was despatched to this port on the propeller Washington, which may be hourly expected. Her letters may bring us further details.

No later news had been received from the army of Gen. Scott. The reason is obvious; for the present at least the communication has been entirely cut off.—We do not regard this as at all alarming, for Gen. Cadwalader will no doubt open a passage to Jalapa at once; but it indicates a necessity for some cavalry force upon the line to clear away the brigands which infest it, and who must have mustered in greater force than had been anticipated to attack a train guarded by 800 troops.

But the audacity of these guerrillas does not stop here. They are entering Vera Cruz and stealing our horses. For several nights alarms had been created in the city by these predatory attempts. Private letters say that sixty horses were stolen from one pen in the immediate vicinity of the town.

The *New Orleans Bulletin* states that the train which was attacked consisted of one hundred and thirty-two wagons and six hundred pack-mules.—The fighting continued at intervals for three days, with a loss on our side of thirty men, besides two hundred of the pack mules captured, and thirty-five of our wagons, with their contents, destroyed to prevent them from falling into the hands of the enemy, the horses having been killed in the previous fighting. It was thought that Col. McIntosh could hold his position until the arrival of Gen. Cadwalader.

On the evening of the 10th a body of twenty-five guerrillas made an attack on fourteen Americans and two Mexicans, who were in charge of horses, about fifty miles from the city. The Mexicans, not answering to the challenge, were fired upon by the guard and six killed, but they succeeded in carrying off ten horses. The next morning the two Mexicans persuaded the second in command to accompany them in search of the horses, and so soon as they were out of sight of the guard they hung the officer, and, mounting another Mexican on his horse, succeeded in driving off sixty of the best horses. A stronger force was sent from the city, but neither the Mexicans nor horses were to be found.

LATER FROM VERA CRUZ.

FROM THE N. O. BULLETIN OF JUNE 18.

We have seen a letter from an officer of the regular army at Vera Cruz, who has good opportunities for forming correct opinions, in which he expresses much anxiety on the subject of the recent attack upon our train. He alludes to the report that the enemy are destroying the Puente Nacional, which would greatly interfere with, if not entirely impede the passage of artillery and wheel carriages, as the main route leads directly across that bridge.

A more serious apprehension, however, exists that the enemy will again take possession of Cerro Gordo, and defend that pass against any reinforcements going to Gen. Scott. If they do so, the present train and escort, even after they are joined with the additional force under Gen. CADWALADER, and also admitting they were not interrupted by the destruction of the National bridge, would not be able to force that pass; for if the enemy are in sufficient numbers to attack eight hundred regulars, and oblige them to entrench for their defence, they could hold in check or repulse fourteen hundred under such advantages, as to position which Cerro Gordo would afford to them.

To seize and hold the pass, at present, with any thing like a strong force, would also place Gen. Scott in an unpleasant situation, and might oblige him to retrace his steps, in order to force open his communications with Vera Cruz, so that his reinforcements could join him.

The prestige arising from the unvaried success in all our military operations is at present exercising a vast influence upon the enemy, and the loss of this, from any partial success on their part, such as the capture or even the repulse of a train or a detachment, would be very unfortunate, as it would infuse new hope and energy among them, and probably induce a more general turn out, or even a popular rising of the people.

The letter we have alluded to expresses the belief that, even after Gen. CADWALADER joins the train with his force, they will encounter much difficulty in reaching Jalapa. The next advice from that quarter will be looked for with much interest.

FROM THE CITY OF MEXICO.

The *New Orleans Picayune* gives some further items of intelligence from the city of Mexico, as follows:

We have seen a letter from one of the American officers now a prisoner in Mexico. It was dated May 28th. He had been promised his liberty again and again, but expected to be released on the 30th beyond a doubt. He writes that Gen. Scott was expected to enter the capital within eight days, and he did not anticipate that any formidable opposition would be made to him.

Whilst exercising supreme power, Santa Anna on the 22d ultimo directed that every prosecution against military persons should be discontinued, and all accused of offences be at once set at large.

Senor Pacheco was named Minister of Justice on the 27th ultimo.

From private letters from the capital, which we have seen, we feel persuaded that little opposition to Gen. Scott's entrance into the city will be made. *El Republicano* urges strenuously that the seat of Government should at once be transferred. Then, should the capital

fall, it urges, the Government will still exist, and form a centre of union and a rallying point. The editor urges the point with such force that we are persuaded he anticipated no formidable opposition to Gen. Scott's advance.

In an earlier article upon the subject of the defence of the capital, *El Republicano* sets down the troops available for the purpose as follows: The garrison then in the capital (the 26th of May) was not far from 10,000 men, while there were to arrive, says the editor, from the state of Guanajuato 3,000, from the south of Mexico 3,000, from Michoacan 2,000, and from Querataro 1,000. We infer from allusions made to an article in *El Rozendador* that the latter paper ridicules the idea of making any defence of the city.

We see nothing in the papers about the formidable works said to be going on at Rio Fria. We are inclined to the opinion that the resistance anticipated at this point has been much exaggerated. The Mexican papers which we have seen say nothing about it, and speak only of the fortifications in the immediate vicinity of the capital.

We are at a loss to understand the various movements among the military chieftains of Mexico. We have the resignations of Santa Anna, Bravo, and Rincon, and the arrest of Almonte, all within the space of eight or ten days, and the departure of other generals to remote points and Santa Anna during the time was exercising full sway and extending every indulgence to the soldiery. It looks as though parties were marshalling their forces for a struggle for power among themselves rather than to defend their country against a foreign foe.

We find in the papers a copy of the new constitution, or rather the amendments to the constitution of 1824, which have been adopted. The address, too, of Gen. Herrera, Gen. Santa Anna, and the Presidents of the Supreme Court upon the former promulgation of the new law, are given at length. We have looked into that of Herrera with much curiosity to find what he has to say of the war. He touches upon it only in general terms.—He says that a people truly free was never yet conquered by a foreign invasion, and conjures Mexicans to lay aside their animosities and unite in support of the laws and constitution. This done he promises that their defence of the independence of their country cannot fail. Santa Anna's address is in his usual vein; we get no new ideas of his designs from it.

The Jalapa correspondent of the *St. Louis Republican* gives the following information in a letter dated—

"JALAPA, MAY 26, 1847.

"A warm and somewhat severe rupture has broken out between Gen. Scott and the Clerk of the State Department, Mr. Trist, who has been sent here as a sort of *Generalsissimo* of the American army. This Mr. Trist, in the exercise of his mongrel plenary civil and military powers, addressed a letter to Gen. Scott directing him as to what move he must make with his troops. A portion of those directions were such as Gen. Scott believed were at war with the best interests of our Government, and the tendency of which would be the protraction, rather than a termination of hostilities. It was the correspondence growing out of this difference of opinion that was the immediate result of this rupture. Copies of all the correspondence, I learn, have been transmitted by Gen. Scott to the War Department; and if, at the next session of Congress, they are not voluntarily produced, justice to the country as well as to Gen. Scott will demand that they should see the public light of day by means of a resolution calling for them."

ANECDOTE WITH A MORAL.—When Charles the Second chartered the Royal Society, it is narrated of him that he was disposed to give the philosophers a royal, but at the same time a wholesome, lecture.

"Why is it, my lords and gentlemen," said he, "that if you fill a vessel with water to the very brim, so that it will not hold a single drop more, yet, putting a turbot into it, it shall not overflow the vessel?"

Many were the sage conjectures; that the fish would drink as much water as compensated for his own bulk; that he condensed the water to that amount; that the air bladder had something to do with the phenomenon, and a hundred others which were propounded and abandoned in their turn, much to the amusement of the merry monarch. At length Mr. Wren (afterwards Sir Christopher) modestly asked, "But is your Majesty sure that such would be the case?"

"Aye, there," exclaimed his Majesty, laughing, "you have it! Always, gentlemen, find out whether the thing be true before you proceed to account for it; then I shall not be ashamed of the charter I have given you."

CENSURE is the tax a man payeth to the public for being eminent.