FROM THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

By the whaling ship James Maury, Capt. Wheldeed, from Honolulu, Dec. 25th, we have received a copy of the Polynesian of the latest date, from which we gather the following items:

The whale ship Francis Henrietta, Capt. Poole, of this port, fell in with at sea, in May, lat. 42 N. lon. 850 E., a Japanese junk of 200 tons, dismasted rudder gone and otherwise injured in a typhoon seven months previous. The original number of the crew was seventeen, but when Capt. Poole discovered them they were reduced to four, and in a famishing condition. The crew had drawn lots for sometime past who should be killed and eaten; the one upon whom the lot fell, if able, fought for his life, and in some instances succeeded in killing one of the others, in which case the murdered man was first eaten.

The survivors were shockingly scarred with dirk knife wounds, as if their lives had been often attempted by their companions. Capt. Poole kept them on board his ship thirty days, and then put them on board some fishing boats, close in shore, about lat. 40 N. They were exceedingly grateful, and manifested much emotion on leaving the whaler; the junk had not much of a cargo on board, or was in such a disgusting condition that the crew of the Frances Henrietta did not like to examine her minutely; they obtained, however, a number of interesting curiosities, such as books, idols, swords, pictures, fans, boxes, china ware, boxes of tools, etc.

The Bremen ship Otocheite, Capt. Wieting, had previously picked up another Japanese junk, relieved the distressed crew, and at Honolulu left several thousand dollars' worth of her cargo, which was sold at auction at that place, Dec. 8th, and brought good prices, the sales realizing about $13,000, exclusive of beeswax, which was reserved to be sent to Europe. The Polynesian says:

"The junk's cargo appeared to consist of 'notions,' and the samples of Japanese merchandize were sufficient to show that they have many articles that could be profitably exported, and that their own skill and comfort could be materially increased by a foreign trade. Some copper, brass hoop, iron and iron wire, white lead, glue, ginger and cinnamon, were of excellent quality. Their wrought copper utensils resemble in design and shape the metallic and earthen manufactures of the Mexicans and Peruvians of the 15th century, while their tools, although made of good iron and steel, are simple enough in construction to provoke the merriment of the greenest son of New England."

A public celebration or temperance feast was held by the pupils of the native schools, at Honolulu, on the 12th of Nov., in the vicinity of the town, in the vicinity of the town, in which the King and chiefs participated. About 800 scholars, nearly 500 parents, and a large number of spectators, were present.

Upward of 500 tables were arranged for the repast, at which some 150 pigs, 379 fowls, 215 geese, with ducks, turkeys, fish, vegetables, fruit, &c., &c., in like quanties, were demolished. The celebrations are held under the auspices of the missionaries and are becoming deservedly popular.

The George Washington and the Maria Helena, for the United States, were to sail from Honolulu in Dec. The Maria Helen, a merchat ship, would touch at Tahiti and Valparaiso—thence to this port.

The volcano at Kilauea had exhibited and increased action about the 1st of Dec., and on the 2d there was a slight earthquake.

A large invoiced standard books from the establishment of the Harpers, in New York, was received at Honolulu, Oct. 20th, and in less than six weeks, about one thousand dollars worth had been retailed among the town's people and foreign residents.—The foreign residents of East Main had ordered an entire set of Harper's Family Library, consisting of 172 volumes.—*New Bedford, Mercury.*

A MEXICAN EDEN.

A naval officer writing to the Washington *Union* from Tuspan River, Mexico, says:—"You never, in all your dreams and fancies, pictured to yourself as perfect a paradise as this country. The river is never disturbed but by gentle and cooling zephyrs, and meanders through a country over which reigns a perpetual spring. The land is rich and fertile, yielding of some things two crops, of others, three a year. The common productions of the soil, almost without cultivation, are corn, sugar cane, tobacco and wheat. The articles abounding in abundance, without cultivation, are dye-woods—such as logwood and vanilla beans; oranges, pine-apples, bananas, and a thousand other delicious fruits and luxuries. Papeta, the hemp plant of this country, and far superior to Manilla, grows wild all over the country. Deer, wild turkies, partridges, wild hogs, and cattle are numerous—in fact nature has done everything for this country, and man nothing. If you could induce from four to five hundred families to emigrate here, they would be more happy and wealthy in one year than they would be in the United States in four or five. The land is held here in common; and any person, by paying $25, to the municipal authorities, can take up as much land as he can work, and hold it during his own lifetime, and his children can do the same. You can also enter a pre-emption, and keep the land by purchasing it from government at the rate of 10 cts. an acre. Was this country in possession, or I should say, a part of the United States, with its natural passes, the difficulty of access, and vast resources which would develope them-elves, become in a few years, the most wealthy and powerful nation on earth. It only requires to be inhabited by a free and enlightened community. The production of the vanilla bean alone (and it can only be raised here) would produce more wealth in this province than is made in the whole States of New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia combined; everything at present is wild, beautiful and abundant. In my most dreamy imagination, I never pictured to myself so beautiful a country; nor could I give you by the most excited or lively description, the least idea of this Paradise."

TIME ABOUT.

Two Yankees were strolling in the woods without any arms in their possession, and observing a bear ascending a tree with its large paws clasped round the trunk, one of them ran forward and caught the bear's paws, one in each hand. He instantly called out to his comrade:

"Jonathan, I say, go home and bring me something, as fast as you can, till I kill the varmint.—Mind, don't stay, for I'm in a fix."

Jonathan ran off as fast as he could, but was an exceedingly long time returning. During the interval the bear made several desperate attempts to bite the hands of him who held it. At length Jonathan came back.

"Hollo, Jonathan what the deuce has kept you?"

Jonathan replied: "Well, I'll tell you: when at home, breakfast was about ready, and I guessed it would be as well to wait for it."

"Here, now, Jonathan;" said his comrade, "come you and hold it, and I'll kill the the critter in a jiffy."

Jonathan seized the bear's paws, and held the animal while the other could kill it.

"Well, Jonathan have you got hold of him?"

"I guess I have;" replied Jonathan.

"Very well, hold him fast; *I guess I'll go to dinner.*

Never treat Religion Lightly.—Impress your mind with a reverence for all that is sacred. Let no wantonness of youthful spirits, no compliance with the intemperate mirth of others, ever betray you into profane sallies. Besides the guilt thereby incurred, nothing gives odious appearance of petulance to youth, than the reflection of treating religion with levity. Instead of being an evidence of superior understanding, it discovers a pert and shallow mind, which, vain of the first smatterings of knowledge, presumes to make light of what the rest of mankind revere. At the same time you are to imagine that when exhorted to be religious, you are called upon to be more formal and solemn in your manners than others of the same years, or to erect yourselves into supercilious reprovers of those around. The spirit of true religion breathes genteelness and kindness. It is social, kind, cheerful—far removed from the gloom and illeberal superstition which clouds the brow, sharpens the temper, dejects the spirit, and teaches men to fit themselves for another world, by neglecting the concerns of this. Let your religion, on the duties contrary, connect preparation for Heaven with an honorble discharge of the duties in active life. Of such religion, discover at every proper occasion that you are not ashamed; but avoid making any unnecessary ostentation of it before the world.

Freight for England.—The Schooner J. W. Brown took from this port yesterday ten barrels pork, directed to Huddersfield England, care of Baring, Brother & Co., Liverpool.

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

Mr. Bancroft, our minister to England, was in Paris during the elections of April 23d, of members of the national assembly. It was an occasion for an American to be proud of, for it vindicated the capacity, moderation and intelligence of the masses. Mr. B. writes that the elections passed off with more of order and quiet and good humor than we are accustomed to in the States at any exciting election.

The arrangements were perfect. All Paris was divided into arondissements or wards, and each of them into sub-divisions, so that none should exceed a thousand voters. These again were arranged under sections of the alphabet, at which were stationed the checkers of the voters. Each voter was previously prepared with a pass containing his name, age and place of birth, which had been obtained of the registers. With this pass he presented himself; it was examined, the end clipped off, and with this he passed to another apartment, where, unseen, he deposited his secret ballott for his candidate, which was received by persons who could not see the depositor, who then passed out. In this way all voted as rapidly as was necessary, and none knew for whom his neighbor cast his vote, and no excitement, disturbance, riot or dissatisfaction appeared.

Happy has been the beginning of the elections in France. Gloriously the people, by their prudence and discretion, are putting to shame their slanderers and the unbelievers in self-government. It is understood that the elections have generally gone in favor of the moderate republicans.

Mutiny and Massacre.—Papers received by the Cambria state that the British convict ship General Wood, was seized when two days out from Singapore, bound to Penang, by the convicts on board, and the captain and nearly all the whites of the crew murdered. About twenty lascars and the passengers were spared. The mutineers ran the vessel ashore on the Island of Bungarow, off the Malay coast, and then abandoned her. Soon after she went down, the passengers saving themselves with difficulty in the boats. The Malays subsequently took part with the passengers, and the convicts were obliged to fly from the Island. They took to their boats; leaving 20 of their number behind, who were made prisoners. The fugitive convicts had not been heard of. It appears that the captain, officers and crew, with the single exception of third mate, were seized with a panic when the convicts made their attack, and offered scarcely any resistance. Some of them were butchered on deck, others thrown alive into the sea. There was no military guard on board the vessel and convicts were not even handcuffed!

Important Inventions.—Mr. David Isham, a machineist of Hartford, Conn., has recently invented a process by which iron can be converted almost instantly, and with but slight expense and labor into steel. Twenty minutes only are necessary to convert a ton of iron into steel of the best quality, a process of requiring from six to ten days. The inventor has been offered $12,000 for the patent right for the State of Pennsyvania alone. Articles manufactured from steel thus prepared, have been proved and found equal to those manufactured from the best English steel. If this invention is really what it purports to be, it will destroy one great branch of English labor and add much to the wealth of this country.

The Rev. Mr. Pepper, a Presbyterian clergyman of Albany, N. Y. has invented a compound of clay, Argillo, which resembles in stricture and appearance the richest, variegated agates. It is to be used for doorknobs, pavements, table tops and other ornamental articles. It surpasses in brilliancy any known variety of marble, and is equally cheap The Hartford Whig speaks of it in the following terms. "No one, who has not seen it, can form an idea of its beauty and illimitably variety of color. It is so hard as to resist any scratch except that of a crystal or diamond. Already, Mr. Calhoun has introduced in the Senate a resolution, which passed instantly, to the effect, that all the floors of the public offices in the capital should be made of this beautiful material."—*Springfield Republican.*

Sloughing off the Old Coat.—We preceive that one of the most ardent of the supporters of Gen. Taylor invokes the Federalists to take him up, because, he says, it will give them the opportunity to drop their old creed, and come out a new party, having no relation whatever to their past misdeeds.—The advice reminds us of the advertisements of a famous patent-medicine, in which the merits of the nostrum are extrolled as being able to effect a perfect change in the whole man, and, in a certain space of time, to substitute for a body impaired and diseased, one that is wholy elastic and new. But we suspect that the compound in question, will be unequal to the task of changing bad into good qualities. So with the name of Gen Taylor, adopted by the opposition as their motto and their guiding-star. It cannot change *the heart* of inveterate Federalism? *Pennsylvanian.*

The Storm Brewing.—A gentleman, who has been recently spending some time in London, says the New York Dispatch, has described to us a scene, which occured at one of the theatres, but was never reported by the British press. The band played, "God save the Queen." A few persons commenced to applaud as usual, when to their loyal astonishment, no doubt, they found their plaudits drowond in hisses. At this a stalwart fellow stood up in the pit, and cried "God save the People," which exclamation was received with thunders of applause.

In view of the apparent destiny of all crowned heads, "God *save* the Queen!" becomes a highly appropriate ejaculation.

Mystrious Murder and Suicide.—The St. Louis Union of May 1st says, the Steamer Lucy Bertram left that port on thursday last for Keokuk. When some 3 miles above the, city, near a place usually designated as the Point, she war hailed from the shore by a man. The boat was stopped, the yawl sent out, and the stranger taken on board.—On reaching the boat, it was soon discovered that his clothes were wet, and from his bosom protruded the handle of a large bowie knife. For some time he kept aloof from the passengers, and refused to answer any questions put to him. His appearance was that of a man laboring under alienation of mind, which together with the fact of his clothes being wet and his mysterious manner and singular appearance generally, so excited the curiosity of the passengers that just before night seeing him on the boiler deck they crowded around and inquired how his clothes became so wet. He replied that he started that morning for St. Louis on a log, which turned over and threw him into the water; and at the same time drew his bowie knife and threatened to kill the first man that laid hands on him. He was assured that no harm should be done him, and questioned as to his destination; he seemed very much alarmed, and and replied that he did not know where he was going—again drawing his knife in a threatening manner. He said he lived at Madison, but when asked his named turned away without disclosing it. He seemed very uneasy and walked incessantly from one part of the boat to another, avoiding every body that came in his way.

The clerk of the boat, on his refusing to answer as to where he was going and his ability to pay, told him he should go ashore at Alton. As the boat neared Alton he sprang into the water, crying help; but before he could be reacked with the yawl he sunk and could not be found.

On relating the circumstauces of this mysterious affair at Alton, the officers of the boat were informed that on Thursday morning the body of a man was found shockingly mutilated near Madison—that the Coroner of Alton was then gone to hold an inquest upon the corpse; and, from the circumstances had no doubt that the person in question had committed the murder and killed himself for fear of being arrested in Alton where the facts were known. The names of the murdered man and the suicide are not known.

Sharp.—A little boy not over ten years of age was seen the other day cramming his mouth full of "fine cut," when a gentleman standing by, somewhat amused at the spectacle, asked him what he chewed tobacco for. "What do I chew tobacco for?" replied the boy, "why, sir, I chew it to get the strength out of it, what d'ye think I chew it for?"

Somebody down East, advertises for "two apprentices to learn the art and mystery of Cordwaining." A lady who read it enquired of us what was ment by Cordwaining. We informed her that shoemaking was so termed by some people. "Is that it?" said she—"I think it would be less of a mystery if they would call it cordwaxing."

A Veteran Negro.—We were much interested in the history of the adventures of a negro man, who has lately returned from the Mexican war, as related to us by that accomplished officer, Lieut. Rains, of the Engineer Corps. Sandy has had the singular fortune, for a negro, to have been, at his own earnest soliciation, in nearly all the battles in Mexico. He was at Corpus Christi during the encampment of our army at that place; and marched with the column to the Rio Grande. In some of his peregranations around Fort Brown, he was captured by the Mexicans after a stout resistance, and thus became the first prisoner in the war with Mexico.—The Mexicans took Sandy to Matamoras, and treated him with the "most distinguished consideration," and finally offered him a Lieutenancy in the Mexican army, which he indignantly declined, and escaping in a skiff, joined his master, Major Rains, and was present at the bombardment of Fort Brown.

By solicitation, Sandy was allowed to join the army at Vera Cruz, and was present throughout the seige. He was again at the battle of Cerro Gordo, and joined his master's brother, Lieut Rains, at Puebla, he marched with the army into the valley of Mexico, and was present in every battle before the capital—being always near to render assistance to his master in case he should require it. No one in the whole army appeared to enjoy the success of our arms with more enthusiasm, and no one maintained a more uniformly gallant devotion to his duty and charge than the negro Sandy. Having been with the army since his childhood, he well deserves the title of the "veteran negro."—*N. O. Delta.*

The Stars and Stripes in Venice.—At Venice, on occasion of consecrating the tri colored banner, by the Patriarch of that city, in front of St. Mark's, the American Consul is said to have been the only foreign *diplomat* invited to be present, and in the course of the ceremonies, the commander of the troops on parade exclaimed "Attention? Honor to the flag of the United States of America!"—on which the dense mass burst forth in shouts of applause, with cries of "Long live our sister republic! The people, of all classes and conditions, soldiers and civilians, threw themselves into the arms of the consul, embraced him, and kissing the "star-spangled banner," pressed it to their hearts: while many with moistened eyes, reaching their hands though the desne crowd mercy to touch it, could but just articular, „*Viva il consyle!—viva gli Stata Unity.—viva la gran repnblica.* .,, And in the evening at the Theatre, there was a repetition of the enthusiasm, on the Consul's entering his box with his wife.

Western Democracy.—The voice of the Indiana democracy, as expressed by the following resolution adopted at the recent State Convention, speaks boldly and forcibly the language of true constitutional republicanism, and embodies a sentiment which lies at the roots of our confederative system:

"Resolved, That the great Democratic party of the Mississippi Valley knows no North nor South; but, like her noble rivers, they comprehend both extremes, and looking at the constitution of these U. States, that binds together the extremes of this Union, with its compromises, we regard every and any effort, upon the part of the national legislature, (under present circumstances,) to bind the future inhabitants of any portion of our territory as to their local institutions or internal affairs, which are to exist in States hereafter to be formed, as improper, and calculated to create local and sectional divisions, and weaken the ties of this great confederacy."

Valuable Discovery.—A New Jersey paper announces the discovery, by Mr. James Coppuck, of Mount Holly, of a process by which paint can be made to retain its whiteness in the shade, for any length of time. The editor says he has examined a small piece of board which had been painted and kept in the shade for about two years, and which looked as fresh and as white as if but just done.—The scientific world has tried in vain for a number of years to accomplish this desirable object; but Mr. Coppuck is satisfied from actual experiment, that he has found the 'philosopher's stone.' We don't know a better place in the world for this discovery than our own city. Won't he call here with it?

Erie Bank.—The New York Tribune in speaking of this institution says "the schedule of resources lets us into the secret of the explosion. The Erie Bank has been building the Erie and Ohio Canal instead of doing a legitimate banking business, and the Canal bonds and certificates are not convertable easily into coin for the redemption of circulation.—These Canal bonds could not probably be sold better than 20. We trust that Gen Reed, who we believe is very wealthy, will continue in his original intention of securing the creditors of the bank against loss."

Durability of Cedar.—At the head of one of the graves in the burial ground at "old St. Mary's," (Md.) there stands a cedar slab, which, as the inscription upon it indicates, was placed there in the year 1717! Notwithstanding it has been exposed to the weather for so long a period, it is still perfectly sound, and, if unmolested by desecrating hands, it will doubtless be standing when every man, women and child that now moves upon earth shall have gone down to "darkness and the worm."—*St. Mary's Beacon.*

A youngster from one of our back towns the other day made his first visit to the Empire city.—After leaving the boat and reaching Broadway, his mind was bewildered with the immense numbers moving to and fro in that great thoroughfare. He could account for the concourse he witnessed in no other way than the usual cause of large gatherings in his own neighborhood, and in his verdent simplicity, remarked to his friend that, *"there must be a meeting somewher's."—Newburgh (N. Y.) Telegraph.*

Shocking Death.—The American Signal gives the following particulars of a shocking accident and death of a young lady residing in Shirley, (Mass.) On Wednesday. Miss William, an accomplished girl, 16 years old, daughter of Mr. William Williams, was out in the garden with her brother William. Her brother looked up and saw a hawk flying over. He immediately called to his sister to get his gun in the entry-way; taking hold of it carelessly, the lock caught in a chest, causing the gun (which was loaded with a heavy charge of shot and powder) to go off, the entire charge passing through her head, entering near the eye, and killing her instantly.

FROM THE COAST OF AFRICA.

The Jamestown, the flag-ship of our squadron on *the coast of Africa, was at anchor off Wydah, on* the 4th of February last. We learn from her that at that time there was no American vessel on the coast suspected of being in the slave trade.

Before the Jamestown left Wydah (prior to the 12th of February last) the native Governor presented the ship with eight horned cattle, five sheep or goats, fodder, fruit, vegetables &c., to the value of some three hundred dollars.

The British and French, if not interdicted, are not encouraged by the native authorities in intercourse with Wydah.

On the 15th of February, the Jamestown was at West Princess Bay Island.

The Congress or Legislative Council of Liberia had not fixed upon its tariff or revenue system.

On the 13th of March, Governor Russworm was absent from Monrovia, having gone down the coast as far as Gaboon river for the benefit of his health. It was then said that the colony was suffering somewhat from a scarceity of provisions, in consequence of a war existing at Cavally, between the coast tribes and those of the interior, who intercept the rice from whence the colony had before obtained its principal supplies of that article of food. In other respects, at that date, the colony was doing well.

On the 25th of March the Jamestown was to have sailed from Monrovia on a cruise. On the 19th of March, the Porpoise, Lieut. Commanding Gordon, reached that point from Port Praya by way of Sherdro and Gallinas. The Decatur was at Port Praya when the Porpoise left, preparing for an immediate cruize.—*N. Y. True Sun.*

A Revolutionaty Soldier Departed.—We are pained to record this week, the death of Capt John Harvey of Preston, one of the gallant band who fought the battle of our country's independence.—He died on Tuesday, the 9th inst., in the eighty-seventh year of his age. Capt. Harvey was a native of Massachusetts. At the early age of 14, he entered the American army, and served in it during most of the war of the Revolution. He was in a number of engagements with the British, and was at the battles of Monmouth and Saratoga.—*Chenango Union.*

HORRIBLE TRAGEDY.

On Wednesday night, about half-past eleven o'clock, a horrible tragedy was perpetrated in Walnut street, under circumstances of such great barbarity that it excited considerable sensation of horror even among the most depraved portion of the inhabitants of that locality. But alas! it is only one of the many sacrifices which are continually offered up on the altar of intemperance. It appears that a cooper named Thomas Hays, living at No. 51, Walnut st., was in the habit of quarrelling with his wife, but on account of the frequency of the occurrence, these quarrels caused no remark from the neighbors. On the night in question, Hays came home intoxicated, and was heard talking angrily with his wife, but though her cries and the sound of her body falling were heard, no notice was taken at the time, but when the alarm was given and some persons entered the room, a shocking sight was presented to their eyes. The body of the murdered woman was found lying on the floor weltering in blood, with her head half cut off, and about a foot and a half from it was a cooper's axe, also covered with blood, pointing out too plainly that it was the instrument which had been used by the murderer in the perpetration of the horrible design. From the position in which the body lay, and the fact that drops of blood had gushed to the top of a bureau, there is no doubt but that she was standing when she was attacked. Yesterday the Coroner held an inquest on the body, and the above facts, together with the following, transpired:

It appears that the murderer, after the deed was done, went to a druggist's shop next door to the house he lived in, and requested the proprietor, Mr. Segnier, to come up and attend to his wife, as she was bleeding. He went up and after seeing that she was dead, went out and told the circumstances to officer Powell, who went and arrested Hays. On bringing him to the station house, he appeared excited, but still sensible, and said that his wife had got out of bed and aggravated him, which was the cause of his committing the act. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the foregoing facts, and the prisoner was confined in the prison of the Halls of Justice to await his trial.—*New York True Sun.*

Interesting Trial for Counterfeiting.—For the past three days, the United States District court Judge Conklin presiding, has been engaged in the trial of a very remarkable prosecution for the manufacture of bogus coin. The defendant is Dr. Salisbury of Jamestown, Chautauque county, a man against whom, until this charge was preferred, there was scarcely a breath of suspicion of guilt. He was a man of wealth, occupied a prominent position in society, was a leading member of one of the churches, and yet it was given in evidence that that after having spent the night of a Saturday, for instance, in manufacturing of counterfeit coin, he would go into the Sunday School the next morning and take a leading part in the execises! He was a prominent mover in all philanthropic projects of the day, remarkable for piety, soberness and benevolence! This was his general character in community, and yet from the testimony on the part of the prosecution, he was connected with a band of the most deliberate scoundrels that ever went unwhipt to justice!

It seems that he had constructed a room ten feet by twelve, and seven feet high, in the rear of his barn, on a side hill dug out of the ground, which was covered over by plank, and on the top of this was placed a hen house, so effectually as to prevent discovery. The door leading to it was concealed, that any one entering the barn a thousand times, would not have observed it. The manufacturers generally worked at night, and just previous to the Doctor's arrest, a man residing on the adjoining lot, discovered a light peering through the cracks, and on looking through saw Salisbury and another counting over what resembled money, and heard the Doctor say that if the other had a certain pile he must pay part down or give security.

When preparing his press &c., for operations, it seems that the Doctor represente that he was getting a root mill made for grinding such roots used in his practice as were too hard to pound! Salisbury was convicted and sentenced to the State Prison at Auburn, for several years.

A Heroic Sailor.—The New London (Conn.) Chronicle mentions with commendation, the heroic deeds of a common sailor, on board the ship Robert Bourne, recently arrived at that port:

As the ship was on her passage from the Sandwich Islands to the North West Coast, she encountered a severe gale of wind, and while laying to under close-reefed main top-sail, one of the foremost hands, named Henry C. Smith, of Norwich, fell overboard. The sea was rough that it seemed entirely out of the question to lower a boat. It could not be done without placing in imminent peril any boat's crew that might be ordered on so hopeless a service. Of course the word went instantly through the ship that there was a "man overboard," when a Portuguese sailor from the Cape de Verds, named Peter Antoine, who was then below, sprung on deck, and in an instant threw himself from the ships side and breasted his way through the billow towards the sinking sailor. It seemed impossible that the gallant fellow could sustain himself for any length of time, much less that he could reach and render any assistance to his drowning shipmate.—He did, however, by an effort that seemed almost superhuman, succeed in very nearly reaching the spot where Smith had till that time managed to keep his head above water, when just at that moment the poor fellow sunk to rise no more, and Antoine to all human appearance was doomed to follow his fate. Seeing his situation a determined effort was made from the ship to save him. A boat was got over and a line from it being kept on board the ship. Antoine was at last reached and finally got safely on board.

This same capital fellow performed a like feat, and with better success, on a subsequent part of the voyage. Being with a boat's crew in the surf at Maui, the boat capsized, and one of the crew by the name of John Noonan, was washed off, and being unable to swim was upon the very point of drowning, when Antoine pitched into the breakers and bore him alive to the shore. Nor does the record of the brave man's efforts in the cause of humanity close here, through the other instance of his gallant conduct occurred some time before.

On a previous voyage, some three or fours years ago, in thre ship Romolus, of Mystic, a sailor fell overboard, and Antoine promptly plunged into the sea, swam for his shipmate, and saved him!

The Mexican correspondent of the N. Y. Courier and Enquirer tells the following:—"I have a good joke for you, and although it is interlarded with a good many oaths, yet I must tell it or die. Immediately after the seige of Vera Cruz, Col. K. was walking along the streets, when a parot, seeing him coming, screeched out—"*Great God Almighty! here comes the Americans! run! run!*" The Colonel entered the house to take a look at the creature, and as he left, it screeched out, with a most knowing look at the family, "*any one hurt?*" It was too much for the Col., who returned and bought the parot. The *rara avis* was unfortunately drowned by the upsetting of a boat. I give anecdote as a slight exemplification of the fear in which we were held by the Mexicans. No doubt the cunning bird every day of the seige had heard similar expressions; the bursting of the shells must have caused the inquiry, "*any one hurt?*"

In Mr. Everett's Boston Eulogy upon Mr. Adams, is the following elegant parallel between the old age of the deceased statesman and that of the now exiled Louis Phillippe:

"If I wished to prove to the young men of the country, by the most instructive instances, that the only true greatness is that which rests on a moral basis, I would point them the Ex-President of the United States, on the occasion referred to, and the ex-King of the French;—the one, retiring to private life, an unsuccessful, but not discredited, candidate for re-election to the chair of state; ruling in a serene old age, in the respect and affection of his fellow citizens; borne, at seventy-six, almost on their shoulders, from one joyous reception to another; the other, sovereign but yesterday, of a kingdom stretching from Mount Atlas to the Rhine; master of an army to bid defiance to all Europe; with a palace for every month, and a revenue of three millions of francs for every day in the year; to-day (let me not seem to trample on the fallen, as I utter the words,) stealing with the aged partner of his throne and of his fall, in sorbid disguise, from his capital; without one of that mighty host to strike a blow in his defence, if not from loyality, at least from compassion; not daring to look round, even to see if the child was safe, on whom he had just bestowed the mockery of a crown; and compelled to beg a few francs, from guards at his palace door, to help him to flee from his kingdom!"

THE OBSERVER.

ERIE PA:

SATURDAY MORNING MAY 27, 1848.

☞ THOMAS H. ELLISON and R. O. LANDON are duly authorised traveling Agents for the Observer—we have no others.

Democratic Nominations.

FOR PRESIDENT,

GEN. LEWIS CASS,

OF MICHIGAN.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,

Gen. Wm. O. Butler,

OF KENTUCKY.

NOMINATION OF GEN. CASS.

It will be seen by our Telegraphic dispatches that Gen. Lewis Cass, of Michigan, was nominated, on the 4th ballot, by the Baltimore Convention, as the Democratic candidate for the Presidency. He was our first choice for that station—he has received the nominarion by a decisive vote, and we now unfurl his name to the breeze, with full confidence that the people of the United States will approve our choice by electing him President. It is not necessary now to allude at length to the claims and qualification he possesses for this station. The canvass we are about to enter will afford ample scope and opportunity for such investigation; and we now feel every confidence that the man who periled his life upon the frontiers in conflict with hostile savages, supported by British soldiers in our second war of Independence—who received his first appointment from the immortal Jefferson, and who was called to the councils of the nation by Jackson,—who, both in the Senate and as a representative of our government at a foreign court, has ever been found the unyielding, eloquent and successful advocate and defender of our national rights and honor—will come forth from the firey ordial unscathed. The name of Gen. Cass is identified with the history of the country for forty years, Its history for that period is his history. Whatever has redounded to her glory and honor bears the impress of his name and fame. It cannot be that such a man—to whom the country owes so much—will be rejected at the ballott box by the people.

Up to the time this article was written we had not received the nomination for Vice President. We may, however, get it before we go to press, in which case, it will be found above.

THE RAIL ROAD CONVENTION.

We attended the Rail Road Convention at Fredonia, on Wednesday last, and would give the proceedings in detail in to-day's paper, but want of time this morning, to prepare them from our notes prevents it. We shall therefore wait for the official report; but in the mean time will take occasion to say, that the best feeling prevailed throughout the deliberations. Our friends in New York are deeply alive to the importance of the work, and we have no doubt the necessary amount of stock to secure the charter, $70,000 with seven per cent. paid in, will be easily obtained by the committees appointed to solicit it. We shall allude to the subject more at length hereafter.

Important, Very.—The editor of the Gazette gravely informs his readers that *he* considers us "a better man than" we are "by many esteemed—in short, a very clever *little fellow.*" We certainly ought to be very grateful to *him* for *his patronizing* recommendation, from the fact that *we* are such a stranger in the county—so entirely unknown to the people—having resided among them *only twenty-six* years, while *he* has been here *at least a year!*. Of course, the extreme *modesty* manifested by our cotemporary in the above, to say nothing about the *good manners* it exhibits, will give it great weight, and materially add to *our good* name. And then it is so *very important* that all should know whether we are large as the Kentucky giant, or as small as Tom Thumb—whether we are "irritable" or as calm as a summer's morning, and whether our "bitterness" is cultivated" or natural. This information, we say, is very important, and our cotemporary should receive some manifestation of public approbation for, the *industry* and *talent* displayed in collecting it—say, for *instance*, a *leather medal*, beautifully done up in a copy of "Spoony Ogle's" speech, or one of Mrs. Caudle's lectures. Some such token of approbation is the more necessary from the fact that he is opposed, from *principle*, to *personalities* and never "departs from the rules of propriety," We hope the *benevolent* will take this matter in hand at once, procure the necessary articles, and appoint no very distant day for the presentation.

☞ Dr. Thomas Foote, editor of the Buffalo Commercial, is one of the dslegates to the Whig National Convention. Henry Clay was declared the first choice of the Convention.

Evading the Law.—The tavern keepers of Syracuse have adopted a very ingenious mode of getting on one side of an ordinance, lately passed by the common council, prohibiting the ringing of dinner bells in the street. One man stands on the sidewalk shaking a bell without a clapper, and another stands within the door ringing one, loud enough to attract the attention of all stragglers, and the pantomine of the fellow outside directs them to the place of eating.

An Impressive Fact.—It will not be forgotten, says the Pennsylvanian, after the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, 1846, and following the capture of Monterey, that the Federal press claimed nearly all our Generals of the regular army, as members of the Federal party. Every opposition paper talked of the war as having been made a war of victory by "Whig Generals." Time at last tells the truth, and we find how wide of the mark were all these estimates. We now see the list of regular Generals and Colonels, who are Democrats, that comprises the best blood of the old army; Worth, Twiggs, Jessup, Kearney, Harney, Riley, and Duncan! But, say the opposition papers, Gen. Worth and others, have become Democrats since the war broke out! We deny the fact; but, if so, what does it prove? *That the Federal opposition to the war has concerted the officers, as well as the men, into Democrats!*

☞ Gen. Reed's new boat, or rather a new boat called the "Queen City," built by him, and owned by the creditors of the Erie Bank, came into port on Monday evening last. It being her first trip, many of our citizens visited her, and although highly pleased with her external and internal appearance and arrangement, they could not but reflect that she had been built with the toil and sweat of the hard-fisted farmers and mechanics of the county.

☞ We learn from the Clarion Democrat that a Mrs. McCormick, wife of Robert McCormick of Monroe township, that county, committed suicide on Sunday the 14th inst., by throwing herself into Mr. Pulton's Furnace dam. She was about 35 years of age, and was laboring under partial derangement at the time she perpetrated the rash act. She has left a husband and family to mourn her untimely end.

Close Shaving.—The furniture of the Dayton House, one of the buildings destroyed by fire at Albany, on Monday, was insured for fifteen hundred dollars at noon that day. At 4 o'clock it was burnt!

☞ The office of the Spirit of the Times and daily Keystone, Philadelphia, was accidentally set on fire this morning (May 19) at two o'clock. The inside of the building was entirely destroyed. The forms and a part of the type and books were saved.

☞ Langfeldt has been found guilty of the willful murder of Mrs. Rademacher.

Massacre in Hayti.—Later accounts from Port au Prince, via. Jamaica and New Orleans, state that the black population of Hayti have risen in mass to put down or exterminate the mulattoes, who are opposed to being governed by the present President, Soulougue. It is reported that over two hundred persons were killed in one day.

☞ The Editor of the Commercial says he would not be surprised to find us poking our nose into *his* dinner pot some day, Our cotemporary need have no fears—we are too much of an *epicure* for *that.*

THE TRADE OF THE PACIFIC.

The increased and increasing importance of our possessions on the shores of the Pacific, and the advantages which will accrue to our country therefrom in a commercial point of view, is drawing the attention of Congress, and commercial men generally, throughout the country. As partisans we have advocated the policy of the present Administration in extending our territorial dominion in that quarter, but we did not do so at the expense of our better judgment. We believed those measures were calculated to redound to the glory and the welfare of the country—to make her the first and foremost among the nations of the earth, by opening to her the untold riches of the trade of the countries bordering upon the western Ocean. Situated between Europe and the countries of the East, we were convinced that the day was not far distant when she would become the store-house of the trade that has heretofore enriched the nations and cities of Europe. We are pleased to see that the first step for the accomplishment of this purpose is already taken. On this subject Mr. T. Butler King, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, has made an able report on the expediency of establishing a steam communication with Shanghai and Canton. The distance is given thus: New York to Chagres 2500 miles, thence to Panama 50 miles, thence to San Francisco 3000 miles, thence across to Shanghai 5,400—making 10,950 miles. Half of this distance is already accomplished by the act of March 3d, 1847, establishing a line of steamers from New York to New Orleans, thence to Chagres; a communication is formed across the Isthmus, connecting with a line of British Steamers running to Valparaiso; and before the close of another year a line will run from Panama to the Columbia river, touching at Monterey and San Francisco. Halfway to China, in a line with Shanghai, are the Sandwich Islands, at present almost the only rendezvous for 233,149 tons of whale shipping, manned by 19,560 American seamen, and producing $10,000,000 per annum. The coast of California abounds in coal, as does the opposite shore of China. The Oregon country turns out abundance of produce, the only market for which now is the Sandwich Islands, to supply the whalemen. Mr. King now proposes to prolong the Panama line of steamers via. the Sandwich Islands to Shanghai—one of the free ports of China, and which British authorities represent as promising to become the most important. These steamers are to sail monthly—to make, collectively, twenty-four voyages in a year, so that we shall be in monthly receipt of news from Oregon, California, the Sandwich Islands, and China.—They are to carry freight as well as passengers, to be each of the capacity of at least a thousand tons, and to be taken from our present steam navy, now in service or on the stocks. Thus it will be seen that the means adapted to the end in contemplation are immediate and will not add a dollar of expense to that department of our government. It will also deprive demagogues of their most potent argument against that right arm of our national defence, the Navy—its expence and uselessness. It will thus be made eminently useful, for it will not only protect, but extend our commerce into new and richer fields of enterprise. It will develope the wealth of our Pacific possessions, gather into our lap the wealth of China and the Indian Seas, and *ultimately be the means of spreading* christianity, refinement, civilization and *liberty* among the people of the East. In short, if what we have accomplished as a nation in the seventy years of our existence, is a fair indication of what we shall accomplish, the mind can scarcely comprehend the great events yet in store. In that time we have overrun this vast continent—from three millions of people, scattered along the Atlantic coast, we have increased to nearly twenty-five millions, crossed first the Alleghenies, then the Rocky Mountains, and now rest upon the shores of the Pacific. While at the North we have crowded the British out of Oregon, at the South, we have driven the Mexicans into a territory half the size of that they heretofore possessed. And now the Pacific is before us, inviting our enterprise, and holding out riches to beckon us onward in our mighty destiny.

ANOTHER CARD TO THE PUBLIC.

We notice in the last Chronicle another card "to the public," by Chas. M. Reed, late ptesident of the Erie Bank, to the effect that he *will* redeem the *entire circulation* of the Erie Bank, provided sufficient time is allowed him to do so. Whether he intends to do this or not we cannot say, as he has utterly refused to fulfill one declaration made to the Public and widely circulated by the press in this section of the country. It appears to us to be very foolish to ask people not to sacrifice the trash which they hold. In many instances it is in the hands of those who have to use *money*, and having taken this, cannot pay it out again for more than half the face of it.—What will they do with it? Why, the meaning of this card is, hold on to it until I get another lick at you, and then if you are not all used up, I'll give you something that you don't want for it, or perhaps, something that *you do* want, at a good round price. But we shall see what the result of this last card will be.

☞ A great fire lately occurred at Chelsea, a town opposite Boston, consuming "the factory of a Washerwomen Company," and large numbers of shirts ready for the tub, and also large numbers done up and ready for delivery. Among those consumed were the linen of the officers of two ships of war now in Boston Harbor, of the steamship