

From the National Argus.
MEXICO AND HER CHIEF.

Santa Anna having been formally installed as Chief of the Mexican nation, another epoch in the history of that people has commenced. Within the last few years change has followed change, and revolution trod on the heels of revolution with such rapid succession, as to puzzle the mind in their contemplation, and leave the judgment totally at fault as to any reasonable conclusion with reference to the duration of the present form of Government. The picture of the condition of the country drawn by Santa Anna in his address to the public, on taking the oath of office, is a most deplorable one, and shows that a man to grapple successfully with the revolutions, must be no common person either in mental qualifications or physical courage. Discard his conventional and friendly smiles of that Republic into rivals and enemies on a multitude of questions, and that evil instead of abating, is daily on the increase. The National treasury bankrupt from the fact that the States refuse to pay their quota for the support of the government, because they had no confidence in the ability, patriotism or honesty of those whom chance, not the popular will had placed at the head of the Nation.

While the want of money for the ordinary expenses of the government, was being deplored by all those who wished the faith and credit of the Nation to be respected both at home and abroad, the taxes were being increased in all the States, and the labor and industry of the people ground down by military and civil exactions of the most momentous and unmitigated character. The money thus collected however, did not reach the National treasury, but was consumed by those who made a sport of the miseries of the people, and trafficked upon the honor of the Nation. In addition to this the spirit of lawlessness and insubordination was wide-spread and universal, and while in some of the States a fixed system of government was recognized and obeyed, in others no authority was acknowledged in any public manner, and the election of members of the National House of Deputies was a mere ruse without the respect or confidence of the well informed and respectable portion of the people.

These are the evils to the remedy of which Santa Anna has now addressed all his energies. That he sees them clearly, and feels the necessity of their reform forcibly, no one will dispute; but that he is the man to institute the measures commensurate with the evils to be eradicated is quite a different affair. His first step, that of allowing the National Chamber of Deputies to recess, may be taken as an intimation as the bent of his mind on the proper course to be pursued at the present crisis in the affairs of Mexico. If he is determined on having a strong central government; around which the different States will revolve as mere satellites without power or consequence, no better plan could have been adopted than that of sending the delegates from the various States home, with the intimation that in future, their services would not be needed, save as attaches to the supreme head of the nation. This will bring up the question of authority at once; and if he can succeed in this step at the outset of his career, his path in the future will be a plain one, at least until it is arrested by another revolution. Santa Anna evidently looks to a strong central government as the best means of building up his own fortunes, as well as rescuing the nation from that precipice on the verge of which it now totters. He has no confidence in the virtue or intelligence of the people, and therefore all his hopes are centered in physical force which he aims to concentrate at the capital by his last coup d'etat.

But will even this movement of Santa Anna even if successful, be a sufficient antidote to the poison which for years has been working in all parts of the Nation? This is the point of the problem. Is there enough vitality remaining in the old national carcass to be reconstituted by any movement, no matter how decided? We think that facts will give a negative to this question. The whole Mexican nationality is a mere shell, feeble, unsubstantial and rickety. The people have no confidence in their rulers, and in return those in official position look upon the masses only as a source from whence to draw the money necessary for their support in ease and affluence. There is no standard of public faith and national patriotism throughout the whole of Mexico. Some are for federation, some are for consolidation, while others are openly advocating annexation to the United States as the only means of preventing their either being overrun by the Indians who live upon their borders, or being hypotheated to the foreign money lenders to pay the debts contracted by some of their tyrants. We think it certain that no intelligent Mexican can hope for a better state of affairs in that country, so long as military despotism rules the people, and grinds them to the dust with its heel of iron.

What then is this new move of Santa Anna, but a step nearer the final dissolution of the Mexican nation? Nothing—and in view of the fact that Arista, a man of considerable influence in that country; now plainly intimates his conviction that annexation to the United States is the only refuge left for the people of that disturbed nation—it becomes us to give thought to this matter, so that when the pear shall fall our basket shall be ready. The Monroe doctrine is now the settled policy of this country, and that will prevent any part of the Mexican nation from ever passing into the possession of either Spain, France or England, under any pretext whatever. Foreign bond holders may reasonably be presumed to their cent per cent transaction; and though Shylock may have his pound of flesh, there must be

draining of a drop of blood. Each day brings this question nearer to us, and the Mexico controversy and its kindred questions, are but the skirmishing preparatory to the grand action. Santa Anna may for a period succeed in amusing the people with his new devices, but the chain will soon gall again, and then the murmurs of discontent will once more be loud and portentous. In a few years annexation will be a necessity with the Mexican people, from which there will be no escape. Annexation or annihilation will be the ultimatum. And when that comes, what will be the course pursued by the United States? Texas can alone afford an answer to this question. Her soil received the first baptism of republican principles, as they flowed down from the north; but now those same rays of annexation that was heard on the banks of the Rio Grand, has reached the home of the Montezumas, and the inhabitants of that country are talking of the same project, which once was treason to whisper on the soil of Texas. So proceeds the acts of this wonderful drama, and the last scene has just been opened by Santa Anna at the national capital. When this closes more actors will be introduced, and the curtain may fall upon a still wider extension of the era of human freedom and progress, we shall labor and wait.

France and the Sandwich Islands.

The French demands on the government of the Sandwich Islands are—
1. That the duties on French brandies shall be reduced from \$5 to \$1 50 per gallon.
2. That the prohibition of the introduction of spirituous liquors by whalers shall not be enforced against French whalers.

3. That a board of superintendence be appointed for each religion; that Catholic schools be under the sole control of Catholic inspectors; and that the fund arising from the school tax be proportionally divided between Catholics and Protestants.

These claims are based upon the treaty of 1846, of which the second article guarantees to French residents in the islands the same rights and privileges which are now, or which hereafter may be, granted to the subjects of the most favorable nation. Article six declares that French productions shall not be prohibited or subjected to a duty greater than five per cent ad valorem—except in the case of wines, brandies, and spirituous liquors, which may be subjected to an equitable duty which the government of the islands may see fit to impose—on condition that this duty shall never be sufficiently high to become an absolute prohibition to the importation of said articles.—Evening Post.

A FEMALE GAMBLER.—The Sacramento Union says that on the evening of the 20th December, a prostitute named Fanny Seymour, alias Smith, on a very slight provocation, deliberately shot a stage driver named Albert Putnam, through the side, inflicting a dangerous wound. The wounded man is still lying in a precarious situation.

As a gambler; Fanny was notoriously reckless—sitting the whole night at a faro table, imbibing copious draughts of strong liquor, and betting hundreds of dollars on the game. This she was abundantly able to do, as her fortune is pronounced by those who have some knowledge of the matter, to have been little if any less than one hundred thousand dollars previous to the fire. At the present time it cannot be less than half that amount. On such occasions, in the earlier history of the State, her belt was garnished with a revolver and bowie knife, whose threatening aspect was believed to be of no idle or merely bragadocio import; and the result has proven that she knew how to use us well as display the weapons.

She is the mother of several children for whom she has always manifested the liveliest solicitude, and on the night of the tragedy for which she was arrested, enquired eagerly, while in the hands of the officer, for their safety.

ST. LOUIS REMOVED TO THE COUNTRY.—Much apprehension has long been felt in St. Louis that the action of the waters of the Missouri, where they enter the Mississippi above that city, will eventually wear away the Illinois shore to such an extent as to force a new channel for the great Father of Waters, and thus leave St. Louis some five or six miles out in the country. The present flood, as usual, is tearing away the bank, having washed off a mile and a half of the telegraph line near Alton, with all the land on which the poles was placed. The editor of the Alton Courier says:

"As much abrasion of the Illinois shore for the next ten years, or even five years, as has been occurring for a few years past, and the lakes and lowlands above spoken of will be reached. The Gilliam farm is now nearly all swept away; and the old dwelling-house, which has already been moved once or twice, will soon have to be removed further back or torn down.—Where we rode along in our conveyance, on the public road near, this place, some three years ago, is now 150 feet out in the stream of the sweeping Mississippi."

IMPORTANT TO POSTMASTERS.—The Savannah Courier of the 19th ult. says:

A case was tried, during the recent session of the U. S. Circuit Court in this city, which ought to be generally understood, both by the people and the officials who have charge of the various Post offices throughout the country. The Postmaster at Sylvania in Scriven county, was arraigned and fined fifty dollars, for delaying a letter in his office. The law makes it the imperative duty of every Postmaster, to forward all mail matter deposited one half hour before the departure of the mail, unless a longer time should be granted by the Postmaster General on account of the business in the office.

THE REPUBLICAN.
CLEARFIELD Pa., May 28, 1853.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.
CANAL COMMISSIONER,
THOMAS H. FORSYTH,
Of Philadelphia County.
AUDITOR GENERAL,
EPHRAIM BANKS,
Of Mifflin County.
SURVEYOR GENERAL,
J. PORTER BRAWLEY,
Of Crawford County.

The absence of D. W. Moore, Esq., senior editor, is the only excuse we have to offer for the scarcity of editorial, or any other deficiencies which may appear in the present number.

As was the case with us last week, we are several days behind with our present number, and from the same cause—want of paper. We have now a supply on hand, and shall make every exertion to be out in due time with our next.

We have a long, and no doubt interesting communication on file, from our correspondent, 'Rambler,' but it is so miserably written that it will require at least two to read it, and the senior editor being absent, it cannot consequently appear until next week.

JOHN HASTINGS, junior editor of the Pittsburgh Union, has been appointed Collector at Pittsburgh. We look upon the appointment as a good one. Mr. H. is a practical printer, a clever fellow and a sound democrat, and eminently qualified to discharge the duties of the office assigned to his trust.

OUR NEXT REPRESENTATIVE.

Already we hear much inquiry concerning the next representative from this district. The people of this county, without distinction of party, talk as if they felt that our county is entitled to the member, and seem determined to use all fair means to secure that object. They expect the other counties to yield to their claims, which we think they will do. Some are disposed to waive the usual formalities of party organization, and make our nomination without sending conferees, &c. To such a course we desire now timely, though respectfully, to enter our protest. Notwithstanding the apparent indifference and disregard paid to our county's preponderating population last fall, by nominating both the Senator and Assemblyman from McKean, we would yet treat them with proper respect and consideration. We must not resent a wrong by doing wrong. Let us rather do as we always have done, and send delegates as usual, and give our friends of Elk and McKean every opportunity to do us justice, and repair the wrong then inflicted. Should they again disregard our claims, and use the advantage which an erroneous practice of delegated power gives them, to deprive us of the member, it will then be time to talk of exercising the strength which our superior population gives us.

The time is fast approaching when the members of the Democratic party of this, and all the different counties of the State, will set about selecting candidates for the different offices to be voted for in October next. Of all the different candidates to be presented for the suffrages of the people, there is none of more importance than that of Assemblymen. Our county abounds with persons eminently qualified to represent us in this department, men who would pay some attention to the interests and wishes of the people whom they represent, and at the same time be ever watchful of the interests and welfare of our good old Commonwealth; and we trust that the Democracy of our county will present and urge the claim of some such person at the Representative Convention, and our rights cannot fail to be respected.

The history of the last two sessions of our State Legislature, teach us most clearly the necessity of electing men to that body who are qualified for the station—men who will not spend a hundred days or more, and at the end of that time have not one solitary act of theirs to which they can refer which is likely to prove beneficial to the mass of the people. Let us, hereafter, endeavor to send men who will legislate more for the interests of the people of the State at large, and less for the interests of monopolists. In short, let us if we can, be represented in that department by men who know their duty, and knowing it, will do it. Had it not been for the watchfulness of our worthy Executive, and the glorious privilege of exercising the veto power, our State would at the present time be infested with monopolies, and in a deplorable condition indeed; and all for want of scrutinizing in the manner in which the interest of the case demands, the qualifications of those who have aspired to represent us.

To those of our farmers who have any amount of grain on hand, which they wish to dispose of to advantage, we would inform them that a very favorable opportunity is offered for doing so in this place, at the present time. There is a great demand here for grain of every description, and very liberal prices are being paid.—Wheat, we understand, has been selling at \$1 25 per bushel, and other grain in proportion. Those who have any on hand, would do well to embrace the present favorable opportunity for disposing of it, as it is hardly probable that prices will further advance—but the flattering accounts of the growing crops, from all parts of the country, tell most distinctly that the time is not far distant when grain must come down considerably below the present rates.

We would direct the attention of the reader to the advertisement of Isaac Smith, of Curwensville, by which it will be seen that he has just received a large and splendid assortment of new goods of every description, which he proposes to sell at prices so low as to 'astonish the natives.'

The Pennsylvania in speaking of the administration of Gov. BIGLER, pays our worthy Executive the following deserved compliment:

"Gov. Bigler is always to be found at his post, giving unwearying and unremitting attention to his duties, and squandering none of the people's time in political pilgrimages. His official course has been marked by a devotion to the public interests unsurpassed by any of his predecessors. His active mind has constantly been employed in devising new measures to promote the welfare of our good old State, and to protect her from the evil of special legislation in all its potent shapes. He is bold and manly in his course upon all questions of State policy, while it may have offended the interested few, cannot fail to meet the hearty approbation of the masses. His able messages abound with correct doctrines, and evince at once great ability and unwavering devotion to the interests of the people.

Frank and cordial in his manners, honest in his purposes, devoted to his duties, the administration of Gov. Bigler, if continued in the spirit in which it has been begun, will prove highly beneficial to our State, and will form a bright page upon the future history of Pennsylvania.

The Coal Fields of Western Pennsylvania.

Professor Hall, the State geologist of New York, who has been engaged for some time past in making thorough examination of the bituminous coal field in the town of Lafayette, McKean county Pa., is about to make out a report in detail of his labors and the results. Mr. Hall had an interview at Buffalo, lately, with the directors of the Buffalo and Pittsburgh Railroad Company, when he informed them that the field which he examined contains about six thousand acres, all of which contains coal; that at least three-fourths of the tract has an average of eight feet in thickness, which is more easily approached by railroad than almost any other field within his knowledge. The quality of the coal is equal to that of any bituminous coal found either in Ohio or Pennsylvania, a good portion being superior Cannel coal, and in quantity sufficient for all the wants of this section of country for the next one hundred years at least. In addition to this the country immediately beyond the Kenzie, and but a few miles south of this field, and directly on the line of the Alleghany Valley railroad, is full of coal of a similar quality, together with large beds of iron ore.—Nat. Argus.

ANOTHER NEW TERRITORY.—ALABAMA.

The Washington Union contains a communication from Henry R. Schoolcraft, Esq., in which he describes a section of country which is known by the name of Albarra. He says it is an attractive, well timbered and fertile area of country, lying immediately west of the Rocky Mountains, in mild, temperate latitudes, to which, for the purposes of distinct allusion, he applies the above aboriginal term. The area is about fifty miles broad, and lies parallel to the Rocky Mountains for a distance of several hundred miles. It gives rise to both of the main and numerous sub-affluents, of the Columbia River. It is a high plain, which is cut through by these affluents, of a most fertile character, bearing trees, and in some places high grass; and while the streams create abundant water power for lumber and grain mills and machinery, they are free, or nearly free, from inundation of their banks. The district probably comprehends twenty-five thousand square miles, and if its capacities of production have been correctly estimated, would sustain a population greater than some of the Eastern and Atlantic States.

ARTHUR SPRING.—The following paragraph is from an Irish paper, the Kerry Evening Post, of April 16th:

"Since the publication of our last we have heard on good authority, that the wretched culprit whose trial we copied from the Philadelphia papers, though calling himself Spring in America, was never known by that name in this country—having always been called Arthur Crosbie, after his mother, Pog Crosbie, a woman of such notoriously bad character that her sons claim was never admitted by the gentleman after whom she chose to call him; and, consequently, as before stated, he always went by her name. Besides him, the miserable woman had several other illegitimate children, all named after different fathers. Left to the soul guidance of such a mother, it is no wonder that the unfortunate wretch should have been no better than he was.—Tarlet Chron.

A GOOD STORY.—The following capital story is told in connection with Mr. Marcy, the able Secretary of State, under the Administration of General Pierce:—"Among the host of besiegers in the pursuit of place, was a woman who was extremely anxious that her husband should be made Postmaster in some country village. She was most persevering in her solicitations, in season and out of season. She stood at the Secretary's door when he came out of his room in the morning; she intercepted him on his way to his meals; she followed him to his lodgings at night. On one occasion she remained there unusually late; the Governor listened to her as long as he could, when he requested her to excuse him, but she lingered. At length, every gentleman but one had gone, and the Secretary took off his shoes. Still she stood her ground, quite unmoved. Growing desperate, the Secretary finally rose from his seat and stripped off his coat—then turning to the woman, he exclaimed: 'Madam, I am going to bed, and if you don't withdraw, I shall write to Mrs. Marcy about you.' The lady immediately retired—from the room."

The professional man who dares wear a threadbare coat until he is out of debt was in town yesterday. A very good looking but melancholy sort of a man he was, and no wonder. At the bookstore the salesman suggested the advantage of cash payment, and taking the package home one's self, over trusting it to bungling porters who don't know how to make change properly on delivery. The sexton of the church he attended gave him a back seat, and spoke of the poor ventilation of the upper part of the room. His landlady was very much crowded with boarders, and could scarcely find a seat for him at the table. His lady acquaintances found him so thin and reduced that with difficulty they recognised him, and after his introduction could not feel as familiar as of old. It was surprising how many of his old companions, who formerly had leisure enough, had become men of business, and suddenly remembered pressing engagements as he met with them. A clerical friend, who knows him thoroughly, says that he fancies singularity, loves to be noticed, and is evidently proud of his shining raiment. He left town this morning by the early boat.—N. Y. Times, 14th.

SAFETY TO RAILROAD TRAINS.—In a letter in the Cincinnati Gazette, Josiah Kirby, who says he has given several years attention to the subject, suggests the following as a means of stopping locomotives to prevent railroad accidents: "The arrangement is simply to place a steam cylinder under the locomotive, and connect the break rods with the piston, in such a manner as to operate upon the several breaks of the train, at the same time. This plan gives the engineer the entire control of the brakes, and enables him to stop the wheels of the cars at pleasure. I have satisfied myself by drawings and models, that it is fully practicable, and I am willing to test it at my own expense, if any company will compensate me for my time, should it prove successful."

Professor Anderson, the great magician, challenges the whole 'spirit rapping fraternity,' its votaries, victims and teachers, in the sum of \$5,000 to 10,000, that they cannot produce a single knock on his table, which he cannot account for by natural causes and natural laws.

A man calling himself James Colt, passed upon James Williams of Warsaw (p. Jeff. co.), a quantity of counterfeit money in payment for a horse. He was followed to Elk county, captured, taken to Jefferson county and lodged in jail.

An Ox, weighing 3,000 pounds and perfectly white, raised in Illinois, and a five legged cow, were passengers on the David White, at Wheeling, on Tuesday. They are on route for the World's Fair at New York.

It is said, that in consequence of the great destruction, by the fly, of the tobacco plant, many of the Md. planters will make no tobacco at all this season, but will plant their land in corn.

Tobacco is selling high at St. Louis; at \$5 per hundred lbs., and manufactured, of good quality, at 10a 10 35.

A syphon for dairymen is now in use in Scotland, by means of which the milk is drawn away from the cream instead of skimming the cream off the milk.

The new banking law of Louisiana requires banks to keep on hand one dollar in coin to every three dollars of liabilities, exclusive of circulation.

The receipts of the American Colonization Society last month amounted to \$5,117 87 of which \$3,972,42 were from legacies.

Nebraska Territory contains \$340,000 square miles, with a population of less than 600.

Santa Anna's address commences with these words; "On placing my foot on the shores of my native country." He has lost one leg.

To command one's spirit is the first step towards commanding one's destiny.

Help the industrious and they will help you.

A charter was granted, by our Legislature at its late session, for the establishment of a Female College at Harrisburg.

A new Masonic Hall is about to be erected in Philadelphia at an expense of \$100,000. The front is to be of brown stone, and to cost \$20,000.

Punch says a man will pardon anything in a friend except prosperity. Punch is right. If you wish to be called 'a brainless ass,' go to California and come back a millionaire.

A man's business will not stick to him if he will not stick to it.

America was discovered on the 11th of May, 1492.

MINISTER TO MEXICO.

The Journal of Commerce has been favored with the following extract of a letter received by a commercial house in the city of New York from Colonel James Gadsden, of Charleston, newly appointed Minister to Mexico:—"You will probably be as much surprised as myself at my Mexican appointment. It took me by surprise; but as a voluntary offering from the President, it is the higher appreciated. I have long felt a desire to visit the domains of Montezuma, and to do so under existing circumstances and opportunities is the more gratifying. My only anxiety is that I may justify the President in the high trust reposed, and fulfill the promises of a faithful representative. "Will you be kind enough to collect for me, among those engaged in the Mexican trade, all the statistics which may be valuable and important. I desire to understand thoroughly our commercial relations with that country, and to see to what extent they may be encouraged and extended advantageously to us under the broad banner of free and untruncated trade. "Free and unrestricted intercourse, commercially and socially, with Mexico will accomplish more in harmonizing the disturbing disagreements between the two countries than all the treaties and negotiations which diplomacy can accomplish. They are the great panacea of peace on earth and good will towards mankind—the foreboding of the Christian millennium."

TOO FREE USE OF THE KNIFE.—Among the sentences passed in the Sessions, on Saturday, was that of Richard Suttle, who was convicted of an assault and battery on William Taylor, by inflicting three stabs upon him with a knife. The affair occurred in a public house in the northern portion of the county, on a Sunday afternoon. Judge Kelly, in sentencing him, said—"It was my duty, a few days since, to sentence a man to twelve years imprisonment for using a knife just as you did. His case grew out of meeting with a number of acquaintances at a drinking shop, on Sunday. The place was full, and the fight was with an acquaintance. Just your case precisely. Yours occurred near the same place. But there was this difference in your case. The man you stabbed was able to be in Court to testify against you—not because you did not try to kill him, but because you happened to strike the fleshy part of his body. The other man sent his victim to another world. By the merest chance you were saved twelve years imprisonment. You have proved a good character, when you are sober. When you get out of prison, and are about to drink again just think you see a gallows at the bottom of the glass. The use of the knife has become too common, and we intend to make an effort to stop it. I therefore shall give you a sentence proportioned to our rule, and fixed the period at seventeen months in the Eastern Penitentiary. This is the penalty of your getting drunk."—Daily News.

A PRESENTMENT.—The New York Courier states that Dr. Josiah Bartlett, of New Hampshire, one of the victims of the recent accident on the New Haven Railroad, was visited a few weeks ago at his residence by a friend from New York, who invited him to spend a few days in that city, at the then approaching Medical Convention. Dr. B. replied that it would afford him much pleasure to spend some time in that city, but that he had great apprehension of danger in travelling to and fro, augmented by the fact that when he last visited New York he had engaged his passage in the steamer Lexington, for the fatal trip on which she was burned, when almost every passenger perished,—but did not reach the wharf in season to get on board. He subsequently overcame his reluctance to travel, attended the Convention, and met with the fate he dreaded, in the New Haven cars.

VERY SINGULAR.—We are informed that on Wednesday last, a heavy shower took place a short distance south of Bedford, and on several persons going out of their houses, the ground was observed to be covered with a species of lizard, about three inches long, of a purple and green color, with four natural feet, and one in the middle of its body, with nails on like those of a human being—it also has but one eye, of a dull, heavy lead color, in the middle of its head, between the ears, and from which it sees sharply in every direction. Several living specimens have been preserved, by a gentleman, in the neighborhood of the shower. It feeds on bark, roots, and grass. This gentleman intends sending a pair of them to a distinguished naturalist in Philadelphia.

CENTRAL ROUTE TO THE PACIFIC.—Mr. Elisha Riggs, of the firm of Corcoran & Riggs, and his young brother, William Henry, and H. Rogers, Esq., member of the bar at Washington City, left St. Louis on the 10th inst., for Kansas, to join Superintendent Beale in his new route to California. As the Superintendent will have left Kansas when these gentlemen arrive there, they will take a light carriage, drawn by six Mexican mules, and run fifty miles a day until they overtake him. These gentlemen are not employed by government, but go as amateur travellers to see the country and to form their own opinions of the practicability of the route. O. Benion accompanied Mr. Beale to Kansas. —Daily News.

THE LEGISLATIVE TREAT.—"Pop went the cork, and the contents of a bottle were hidden away in the twinkling of an eye! This was fun!"

Round comes the tax-collector, and the contents of a poor man's purse disappear very suddenly. This is a very common occurrence.

Norwalk make a draw in the Haven road.