The Press.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 1857.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR,
WILLIAM F. PACKER,
OF LYCOMING COUNTY.

FOR JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT,
WILLIAM STRONG,
OF BERKS COUNTY.
JAMES THOMPSON,
OF ERIE COUNTY.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,
NIMROD STRICKLAND,
OF CHESTER COUNTY.

THE WEEKLY PRESS.

SECOND NUMBER
READY FOR DELIVERY TO-DAY.

The Most Successful Weekly Journal in America.

CONTENTS.

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THE IRISH RACE, (Original.)

HOW MAJOR WILLIAMS BECAME A CONDUCTOR, (Original.)

JOTTINGS OF TRAVEL, (Original.)

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.
"OUR PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE."
"THOMAS DICK AND EUGENE SUE."
"ARE WE ANGLO-SAXONS?"
"THE NEWSPAPER."
"CAN'T BE HELPED."
"BRITISH INDIA."
"THE USES OF EXTRAVAGANCE."
"THE GOODWOOD CUP."
"OUR BUSINESS PROSPECTS."
"THE UNION MEN NORTH AND SOUTH."
Being a discussion of the various political, social, and financial questions of the day.
The whole constituting almost a volume in itself.

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☞ Editorial on first page — "Breakers Ahead."

THE SLAVERY QUESTION.

It is not often found that a question which *is of sufficient importance* to excite general inquiry is exquisitely balanced by leaving the right all on one side and the wrong all on the other. It so happens, generally, that the two are decidedly blended, and that passion and prejudice, and jaundiced eyes, make partisans of each.

The question of slavery, we are quite clear, is one which has enlisted far less dispassionate, philosophical inquiry, in this country, than it ought to have done. For this reason it is most difficult to discuss it without subjecting the writer to a charge of partisanship; but the truth may, nevertheless, be fully investigated. When the time arrives that this cannot safely be done, it is not difficult to see that reason will have been dethroned, and that the institutions of the States will depend upon the wildest passions of the mob.

We submit that the slavery question is now being treated in the Northern States as an excrescence which has been fastened upon us since the organization of the Federal Government. A material and necessary fact, on the other hand, *to be borne in mind, is the existence* of that institution in the thirteen original members of the Confederacy at the time of the adoption of the Constitution. We repeat, this is necessary, because it colors the responsibility of that relation, and makes the fact of its existence a part of our political system. Regarding slavery as an interpolation, we would have a right to assail it, and to declare against its continuance or extension. Coming into the Union with it as an element of our State systems, and giving it a representation in the National Legislature, thus making it a basis of all political action, it should be regarded and treated as a local interest, to be sure, appertaining to the sovereign States where it exists, and the people of those States as having equal rights with the people of the free States, in relation to the organization and admission of new members of our national family. This, after all, is the principle of the Kansas-Nebraska act, and its enforcement, in our judgment, is due alike to honesty and the legal interpretation of our obligations as members of the Union.

There is but one other course to pursue, and that is, to leave the whole question to Congress, where it has remained during nearly our entire national existence, and where its management has been a perpetual source of discord and of strife between the slaveholding and the non-slaveholding States. If it were lawful further to continue this exciting bone of contention in the National Legislature, we know of nothing which would so certainly lead to increased bitterness, if not to impossible union. But the Supreme Court, acting upon the subject, has decided that the people, when they may establish their own Constitution, preparatory to admission into the family of States, have the right to supreme control over all such subjects. The Kansas act was based upon the principle of that decision.

We are confident that if the people of the United States, North and South, would carefully examine this matter, they would, with almost absolute unanimity, decide that there is no other just and practical mode of Government in the premises. If in the first instance it appears to have worked against the South, it should be considered whether, by any other process, a different result was possible? We are as much opposed to any mere forcible creation of slavery in opposition to the will of the local community, as we are to forcible interference with the institution where it exists, by the people of the free States.

Viewed in an economical light—and how is it possible to regard it in any other?—it would be fallacious to attempt to force slavery where it is not needed as it would be to direct, by enactment, the employment of individuals in the various pursuits of life. Neither the one nor the other is possible for any period of time.

But again: The doctrine of submitting such matters to the local communities, though it has operated, and will ever operate in the North against slavery, is precisely the doctrine which, on some future occasion, the South will invoke for its own benefit. We have yet travelled but a little way in the direction of Territorial acquisitions. It is manifest that hereafter, as heretofore, our course in that respect will be to the South and West. Mexico is crumbling into decay with rich soils and genial climates. Commerce in the Pacific is just being opened. The whole face of this Republic is liable any year to be completely changed. The channels of trade can hardly be said to be at all permanent. Production in those great staples of which the South has and must ever retain a monopoly is yet in its infancy. Slave labor is limited, and, in our poor judgment, without a prejudice against its employment, it is deemed certainly to be called to those fields where it can be most profitably used. That is the law of industry everywhere, in every association. When it is opposed, profits cease, and the laborer is called away. Time in our history has been too short to have fully developed the system of employment and compensation which is to rule our industry. We have accomplished a great deal, but much that has been done has been fitful and experimental. All will sooner or later be reduced to the laws of order, on the principle of acquiring the greatest amount of compensation.

In this view of the slavery question—in which we have purposely refrained from throwing upon it the slightest shade of mock philanthropy—our intestine quarrels about its occupancy of this or that particular district sink into utter contempt. *And yet we do quarrel*; and we quarrel in the face of the great historical fact that slavery has never been established where it could not be profitably employed, and never retained against the operation of the same law. It is not a matter which can be put out like a candle or lighted up like a torch. It is a great material interest, and of course its enlargement and employment is to be governed not by caprice but laws.

Let us suppose a case in illustration. Grant that Missouri abolishes slavery. The practical operation of such a process would be this: Her proprietors would, as a general thing, transfer their negroes to the South. The abolition of slavery, then, in Missouri, would simply be an enactment that the relation should not exist there. Meanwhile the present force in the State would be transferred to a point where their labor would be more profitable. Sooner or later—granting that Missouri was not adapted to slave labor—such a result would be inevitable. In truth, slavery will not be abolished in Missouri till it ceases to be profitable in comparison with other fields for its employment; and when that time arrives, if ever, it will be the fact that proprietors can do better elsewhere that will be expressed in the act of emancipation. We have, in other words, no faith in the power of a naked philanthopy to accomplish any such general work in opposition to private interests. West India emancipation is no exception, because proprietors were paid for their negroes, and the *great motive* which led to the act was a jealous rivalry of the system of the United States, which it was thought would be thrown into disrepute by the abolition of slavery there. Such are the vicissitudes of Government, and not of law.

THE POLITICAL CONDITION OF EUROPE AND THE EAST.

The news from Europe on the arrival of every mail is of a highly exciting character. The philosophic observer cannot fail to see that great changes are in process all over the world, and that Europe is a field of especial *interest at the present time*. The proposition is self-evident, that in the five leading States of the Continent, including England, nearly all positive power is lodged. They constitute the governing agencies of the other side of the water. It would be just as sensible to consult the foot or the great toe of a man, in *order to ascertain what the intellect* and the will propose to do, as to counsel with the smaller States of the Continent in order to foretell the future political movements of Europe. Such, at all events, has been the past. But great changes, inaugurated by the Elder NAPOLEON, and rapidly recurring under various phases, with widely different objects and purposes, stimulated by different motives, but all tending to one common end—the enfranchisement of Europe and the identity of States—indicate the approach of a new order of things.

We are not amongst those who believe in the doctrine that the overthrow of a despot is the inauguration of freedom—that the removal of a tyrant is the education and preparation of *the people over whom he ruled for the reception* of the dignities and responsibilities of free government. Intelligence is the only basis of a just and impartial administration of the affairs of State. When power is lodged with those who are deficient in that qualification, whatever may be their motives, nothing but disaster is to be anticipated. Hence, we infer that Europe has but just entered upon the threshold of the temple of freedom; and we believe that if the torches of revolution were lighted all over the continent, it would be the signal of anarchy and of a deeper oppression than we have yet witnessed. It would be just as sensible to enact that seamen should no longer navigate our ships, and that landsmen should do that technical service, as to expect *of the uneducated masses of Europe* a wise and judicious exercise of the powers of self-government. But the process of education and preparation is going on. Men are being enlightened by that most potent of all regenerating powers—observation and experience. We stand before the world as an example; and as *communication with Europe is* opened; as commerce and exchange perform their offices; as immigration and correspondence increase; as we are orderly and successful, that example continues to present its triumphs to every class and condition of mankind; and it is exciting this day more influence upon the destinies of Europe than the five great powers combined.

We have never been of those who have regarded the re-establishment of the Empire in France and the recognition of the Napoleonic Dynasty—and of course the utter repeal of the statutes of the Congress of Vienna, in 1815—as menacing toil to the people of Europe. Providence never, in our judgment, directed a more beneficent work. France, with dominant power—the centre of European civilization—the home of the best political philosophers on the other side of the water, men of indomitable will and honest purpose—was wholly unprepared, nevertheless, to exercise the faculties of a free State. Her people saw their enfranchisement only through the spectacles of LEDRU ROLLIN and *his associates in* power; and the latter, governed on the principle of popular rights, with the full consciousness that their own schemes must absolutely prevail or that the end would be anarchy.

The return of NAPOLEON and his triumph on the nominal basis of popular election rights—the establishment of an Empire in fact on the tenure of the ballot-box—whatever may have been the means employed to effect that end, was an endorsement of the principle *upon* which this Republic was founded. Thus was transplanted into the very heart of Europe, and after a struggle which, with varying success, was cotemporaneous with our entire national existence, the great doctrines of our Declaration of Independence. Nor can it be regarded as involving the least sacrifice for the time being; for France was utterly disqualified to exercise self-governing powers.

The effect of the re-establishment of the Empire and the full recognition of the Dynastic titles of NAPOLEON, upon the States of Europe, is visible to all the world. The concentration of power in France and in all the German States, the check which has been imposed upon Russia, the subdued attitude of Austria, the defensive condition of England, and the conviction which exists everywhere that she can no longer be aggressive, are amongst the most visible of the return of the NAPOLEONS. The equilibrium of Europe—the fair distribution of power—is the safety of the people of the Continent.

Now, where authority has been added most—in France and Germany—there the people will first require its exercise when they shall return to their own estate. It may be said *that* we do injustice to England in this assertion—that England approaches nearest to our system, and should be appealed to as the breakwater against the surges of despotism from the Continent. It ought to be so, but it is not so, and we choose to deal with facts. The free system of England is a necessity growing out of the steady encroachment of her people upon the power of her aristocracy; the latter always retaining control of the State and hedging in their exclusive privileges. Hence, we infer that the governing principle of the British nation is essentially restrictive and exclusive, and that the cause of popular liberty can expect nothing from England short of a complete revolution. The wisest and most *practical men in the world govern England*; but they govern for their own benefit—to perpetuate their own power. They will concede at home the semblance of an enlarged franchise; but they are men of wealth and sagacity, and they own, in their thirty thousand families, all the real estate of the kingdom, on which the millions must rely for *subsistence*. This is a reserve power which is capable of controlling the people—of turning a free election into an agency to sustain the landholder—the aristocracy. England in fifty years will be far in the back-ground of free government, while France and Germany will be in advance.

We do not count upon the fall of England. It is impossible. She has wealth, intelligence, morality, religion, and a history of law the *superior of* all mankind. She is an ingenious, orderly, industrious, systematic nation. She is enterprising and money-making. The loss of India to such a people is a loss only of a fraction of her dividends. India does not touch her vital energies. Colonial profits have been growing smaller and smaller for many years. The improvements of the last generation have reduced the circumference of the globe, and have thus mingled nations together, removed restrictions, and diffused the profits of trade. English pride may be lowered and impaired; but it is impossible not to see, in the current of great public events, that the dominion of any one nation over a distant and numerous people cannot long be maintained. The power of England in the East has been a gigantic commercial speculation—it has enriched the operators, employed a vast navy and army, but has given to the governors only an adventitious political importance. The London Cabinet as well as that of Paris and Madrid, have been struggling with the colonies on this side of the water during the whole of this century. They have abolished slavery, sold and been driven out, the guiding motive of general action being found in an attempt to impair the position of the United States. The result has been the *destruction* of their colonies without damaging our interests.

Out of all these changes the people have been steadily advancing. The cause of popular government, free speech, inquiry, and judgment, has been promoted; and we count amongst the certain events of the future, in *peace and in war, the triumph of our great* American example over the Governments of Europe. The restoration of the slave trade by France, the re-conquest and subjugation of India by England, are testimonies against those States, and a vindication of the policy of our own.

GREAT NAMES TO JUSTIFY GREAT ERRORS.

The habit of using a good name to cover an evil deed is as old as civilization itself. It has been a practice with the advocates of Disunion to use the names of WASHINGTON, JEFFERSON, and MADISON, to shield and sanction their designs—and this has been done *North* and South. Even Mr. DE BOW, President of the late Southern Convention at Knoxville, Tenn., could not refrain falling into this practice. We copy from his speech the following passage:

Though, then, I am unwilling to make any more of the kind of sacrifices which are asked for, to save the Union, and have been forced by high and imperious necessity, to become reconciled to the idea of letting its enemies, if they will, consummate their mad purposes, and force upon us the virtuous and patriotic purpose of dissolution. I yet yield to no one in my estimate of what the Union has been capable of becoming, and of what blessings it might have conferred upon mankind, if administered according to the intentions of our fathers who formed it, and left it as our inheritance—the Washingtons and Jeffersons, Hamiltons and Jays, and Rutledges and Madisons.

Now, then, Mr. De Bow supplies us his idea of Southern independence:

Let the South but assume her stand among the nations, and these palaces and fleets and navies shall, with the rapidity that marked the burnishing of the Arabian's lamp, be found to have formed for themselves a thousand miles away, and have taken their seats among the mountains of Virginia, Tennessee, and Carolina, or in the harbors of the Chesapeake, of Charleston, Brunswick, Savannah, Mobile, and New Orleans. Great interior towns will spring up as by enchantment, and great seacoast cities and the arteries of communication between them reticulate the whole face of the country. *The mammoth European steamship line would at* once plough the waters of the Chesapeake, as other lines would bring into our ports the commodities and ports with each other and with Europe. Our trade would be made free, and all the world invited to participate in it. "Where the carcass is there will be the eagles." With $200,000,000 to $250,000,000 of exportable products, and an equal demand for the productions of other countries, adequate revenues *for all the wants of the most imposing Government* would be had from duties, almost nominal when compared with what at present exist, and an abundant basis would be supplied for the wisest treaties, and the most liberal diplomacy. All the world, by their necessities and interests, would be bound to keep the peace, and nations are alone ruled by their interests. The North would find us a profitable neighbor at her door, ready to trade upon just and fair terms, or if these be denied, ready and willing, and able to carry that trade to another quarter. To make war upon us would be still more to cripple the channels of her industry, to add to her impoverishment, and undertake the war which the genius, the *instincts, and the education of her people* have unfitted her. Our border property would be protected as much, and as secretly as is now the common property on the Canadian line. Her dreamers and theorists would imagine themselves no more responsible for our institutions than they are for those of Cuba or Brazil, and the whole power of the Northern Government would be exercised in sending back our slaves, under rendition treaties, the moment that they touched her shores, which would be preferable to paying for them, as England did, under the provisions of the treaty of Ghent. The danger of border wars could be no greater than in Europe, whose States have often but imaginary boundaries, *and would be much less from the peculiar characteristics of American life.* We have no border wars with Canada. Reciprocal treaties would be the interest of the Northern and Southern Governments, offensive and defensive, against the rest of the world. It is reasonable that the United States would have gone into Convention with the South American States for the maintenance of the integrity of the Continent against the balance of power systems of Europe.

England, ever ready to forget her theories and her sentimentality, in the dictates of lordly interests and of empire, regard not only herself in treating diplomacy with a country which already supplies *five-sixths* of her industrial material, and would become larger and still larger consumer of her wares. France has few sympathies, and could not, if she would, conduct a war three thousand miles distant; and with Russia and England at her doors, she will have *little time for such adventure. The Mississippi* and other great rivers would be her highways, all requiring their navigation upon the principle that the great rivers of Europe are now free. Population will crowd in upon us from all sources. We shall have the men of intelligence, of enterprise and capital, the artisans of Europe and the North, in the new and boundless field that will be presented. It was must remarkable, in spite of all the causes which seem to render them improbable, and the most strenuous efforts of the patriot, the South is protected against invasion by the causes which destroyed, in a single campaign, a score of the best officers, and with them nearly the whole of the *army of French who undertook to operate in 1803* in the West Indies. Upon her soil she will prove to be as invincible as the Macedonian phalanxes. Her system of labor will enable her to spare more men, in proportion, from the industrial pursuits, to take the field, than any other Power, and her semi-military system of society has at all times raised her martial character to the highest possible rank. Neither in the war of the revolution, nor in 1812, though her slaves were as numerous in proportion as now, did she experience the least embarrassment from them, although at times the enemy's ships were in sight of her shore, urging them to insurrection. The *Continental Congress ordered a legion of two thousand* slaves to be raised, and a battalion of this population served hand in hand with the whites at the battle of New Orleans. Against the North the South would at least be a match, at any rate at all times, and against one or all of the European Powers, *the common interests of America would dictate her security.*

We express our gratitude that these views of Mr. DE BOW did not meet the sanction of the intelligent men over whom he presided. Their very last act was a tribute to the Union—to *peace* and to brotherhood—and we printed it yesterday with sincere commendation. There is a degree of complacency in Mr. DE BOW's vision that reminds us of those spiritual theorists who tell us of their communications with departed friends, and who, in their infatuation, remove themselves from contact *with the outer world*. He seems to take it for granted that his dream will be fulfilled at once—that he will bring all the South with him—that he will cut loose from the North and West amid the blessings of the people of his own section—and that, when this Southern Confederacy is started, all will be as amicable and as quiet as it is now—that the Mississippi, its source held by a foreign power, and along almost its whole course to the Ohio flanked by free States, would be as tranquil as it is at present, when it is not guarded on one side by Southern forts, and bristling on the other with Western bayonets. Mr. DE BOW's picture is a little too much like CLAUDE MELNOTTE's anticipation of his "Palace by the Lake of Como," and, for his own sake, we are glad that there is no immediate danger of its realization. We perceive, however, that he invokes the testimony of JAMES MADISON in his behalf. Now let us contrast Mr. DE BOW's easy way to break up the Union with Mr. MADISON's idea of *how to preserve it:*

I submit to you, my fellow-citizens, these considerations, in full confidence that the good sense, which has so often marked your decisions, will allow them their due weight and effect; and that you will never suffer difficulties, however formidable in appearance, or however fashionable the error on which they may be founded, to drive you into the gloomy and perilous scenes into which the advocates for disunion would conduct you. Hearken not to the unnatural voice, which tells you that the people of America, knit together, as they are, by so many cords of affection, can no longer live together as members of the same family; can no longer continue the mutual guardians of their mutual happiness; can no longer be fellow-citizens of one great, respectable, and flourishing empire. Hearken not to the voice, which petulantly tells you that the form of Government recommended for your adoption is a novelty in the political world; that it has never yet had a place in the theories of the wildest projectors; that it rashly attempts what it is impossible to accomplish. No, my countrymen; shut your ears against this unhallowed language. Shut your hearts against the poison which it conveys; the kindred blood which flows in the veins of American citizens, the mingled blood, which they have shed in defence of their sacred rights, consecrate their union, and excite *horror at the idea of their becoming aliens, rivals, enemies. And if novelties are to be shunned, believe me, the most alarming of all novelties, the most wild of all projects, the most rash of all attempts, is that of rending us in pieces, in order to preserve our liberties and promote our happiness.* But why is the experiment of an extended Republic to be rejected, merely because it may comprise what is new? Is it not the glory of the people of America, that, whilst they have paid a decent regard to the opinions of former times and other nations, they have not suffered a blind veneration for antiquity, for custom, or for names, to overrule the suggestions of their own good sense, the knowledge of their own situation, and the lessons of their own experience? To this manly spirit posterity will be indebted for the possession, and the world for the example, of the numerous innovations displayed on the American theatre in favor of private rights and public happiness. Had no important step been taken by the leaders of the Revolution, for which a precedent could not be discovered, had no Government been established, of which an exact model did not present itself, the people of the United States might, at this moment, have been numbered among the melancholy victims of misguided councils; must at least have been laboring under the weight of some of those forms which have crushed the liberties of the rest of mankind. Happily for America, happily, we trust, for the whole human race, they pursued a new and more noble course. They accomplished a Revolution which has no parallel in the annals of human society. They reared fabrics of Government which have no model on the face of the globe. They formed the design of a great Confederacy, which it is incumbent on their successors to improve and perpetuate. If their works betray imperfections, we wonder at the fewness of them. If they erred most in the structure of the Union, this was the work most difficult to be executed; this is the work which has been remodelled by the act of your Convention, and it is that not on which you are now to deliberate and decide.

CONCESSIONS TO PRINCIPLE.

There is nothing half so eloquent and effective as the admission of a political opponent after having been fairly conquered in honorable warfare. The crimination and recrimination of mere partisans do harm alone. The following evidences of this truth will not be uninteresting:

SOUTHERN POLITICS AND PARTIES.—The Richmond *Whig*, acting on the principle laid down by the Irishman, that if he was dead he would own it, frankly acknowledges that the American party South is defunct. It says:

"We trust that the wise men of the American party will put their heads together, and they will undoubtedly reach the inevitable conclusion that American flag had been flying, as stated by Mr. ROBINSON, by permission of the authorities, for more than a year. He was to obtain from hostilities as far as possible, but, in case of necessity, he was to call upon the American ship "Science."

All these facts were communicated to Dr. PARKER, our Commissioner to China, with the further statement that Captain SIMMS would be kept at Formosa until the Government could be heard from, and that this step might be necessary to legitimate a prior American foothold, in case our Government should look to future reprisals and occupancy. Dr. PARKER approved what had been done. The last communication to the Government was dated April 10th, 1857, at which time nothing had been heard *from Captain SIMMS.*

Either Col. HUGHES, of Maryland, or Hon. CHARLES R. INGERSOLL, of Connecticut, will to-morrow be appointed Commissioner of Patents. The latter has been pressed very strongly by Secretary TOUCEY.

It is rumored that WM. F. PHILLIPS, of Virginia, has been removed from the Sixth Auditorship, and that either Dr. PARKER, of Virginia, or Mr. REED MARTIN, of Mississippi, will take his place.

Collectors SCHELL, of New York, and AUSTIN, of Boston, are here looking after their appointments of subordinate officers, some of which do not stand much chance of confirmation at the Treasury Department.

HENRY WINSOWELL has been appointed naval agent at Portsmouth, N. H., vice NEHEMIAH MOORE, to take effect 1st of September next.

First Lieutenant ALGERNON S. TAYLOR has been appointed to a captaincy in the marine corps, *vice* Captain H. B. TYLER, promoted; Second Lieutenant ANDREW J. HAYS to a first lieutenancy, *vice* TAYLOR, promoted; and MYRON C. RIGGS, of Connecticut, to a second lieutenancy, *to fill a vacancy occasioned by the promotion of* HAYS.

The President has appointed JOHN G. DOWNEY collector, San Pedro, California, *vice* C. B. CARR, resigned; TENCH TILGHMAN, collector, Oxford, Maryland, *vice* R. B. WILLIS, deceased; and JOHN HAY, superintendent of the central Indian agency at St. Louis.

The receipts of the United States Treasury for the week ending Saturday the 15th inst are $1,542,184.02; drafts paid, $1,423,779.63; drafts issued, $1,556,322.01; amount subject to drafts, $1,907,356.47.

The Navy Department has advices that the Cumberland, flag ship of the African squadron, was, on the 20th of July, at Madeira, about to proceed to the coast of Africa. All well.

One of the stipulations of the general pre-emption law, is, that the applicant, to bring himself under its provisions, shall "be a citizen of the United States, or shall have filed his declaration of intention to become a citizen."

Under the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the DRED SCOTT case, at the December term, 1856, "a free negro of the African race, whose ancestors were brought to this country and sold as slaves, is not a citizen within the meaning of the Constitution of the United States."

This decision of the Land Office applies to the other similar cases pending.

Renewal of Hostilities between the Sioux and Chippewa Indians.

DUBUQUE, August 20.—Hostilities have again broken out between the Sioux and Chippewa Indians, commenced by the latter, a band of Chippewas having attacked a party of Sioux, near Lake Pepin. They took thirty scalps and then retreated down the Red river.

An Ex-Bank Cashier arrested for an alleged Robbery.

CHICAGO, August 20.—S. Bronson, jr., formerly Cashier of the Merchants' and Mechanics' Bank of this city, was arrested at St. Paul's on Sunday, at the instance of Mr. Woodworth, the President, on the charge of the larceny of $50,000 of the funds of the Bank.

Colored Baptist Convention.

BOSTON, Aug. 20.—A convention of colored Baptists is now in session in this city. Sermons have been preached by the Rev. Moses Clayton, of Baltimore, and Edmund Kelley, of Philadelphia. It will adjourn to-day. A lecce at Faneuil Hall will be held this evening.

The American and Newfoundland Telegraph Companies—Courtesy to the Press.

NEW YORK, August 20.—Peter Cooper, Esq., President of the American and Newfoundland Telegraph Companies, has tendered the free use of their wires to the press of this country, on the arrival of the submarine cable at Newfoundland, for the transmission of any communications thereto.

Death of a Newspaper Proprietor.

CINCINNATI, Aug. 20.—John H. Strauss, one of the proprietors of the *Daily Commercial*, died suddenly to-day.

Death of a New Orleans Auctioneer.

NEW ORLEANS, August 20.—Major Beard, the celebrated auctioneer of this city, is dead.

Markets.

NEW YORK, August 20.—Flour depressed; 4,500 bbls. sold at $6.40@6.50 for State, an advance of 5c. Wheat continues with a declining tendency, and is nominally quoted. Corn dull; 20,000 bushels sold. Provision market generally steady. Whiskey dull. Stocks are active and firmer. Sterling Exchange is firmer at 9¾@9¾ per cent. premium.

BALTIMORE, August 20.—Flour is active and steady. Wheat—The receipts have been light. Corn—Sales of White at 84@85c.; Yellow 83@86c. Whiskey 21½@20c.

CHARLESTON, Aug. 20.—The sales of cotton for the week have amounted to 1,200 bales at full prices.

NEW ORLEANS, August 20.—COTTON—Sales of 250 bales, with a firmer market; Middling quoted at 15c.

Flour is very dull. Mess Pork buoyant at $25; Lard firm at 10c. Sterling exchange 10 per cent. premium.

AMUSEMENTS.

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NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE PRESS.]

The Island of Formosa—Capt. Simms's Mission—The New Commissioner of Patents—Rumored Removal from Office—The New York and Boston Collectors—Appointments by the President.

WASHINGTON, August 20.—The mission of Capt. J. D. SIMMS, of the U. S. Marine Corps, to the Island of Formosa, lying off the coast of China, is to a great extent misunderstood, and that it may appear in its true character, I will state the facts as I have learned them from the highest authority. Commodore ARMSTRONG, commanding the East India Squadron, received a letter from Mr. ROBINET, an enterprising American merchant, who, for more than a year, has been carrying on the mercantile and shipping business at Ape's Hill, Island of Formosa, with the information that the American ship "Highflyer," wrecked upon that island, had been plundered, and its officers and crew murdered by the natives. Some time after, another American vessel, the "Progressive," was seized by the Chinese authorities, and the officers and crew imprisoned. They were only released on the payment of a heavy ransom. All these proceedings were contrary to the express understanding with the authorities of the island, that Mr. ROBINET should carry on his business unmolested, and under which he had been acting, with the American flag flying from his house for at least twelve months.

Commodore ARMSTRONG despatched Captain SIMMS, to inquire into and ascertain the correctness of Mr. ROBINET's report. The Commodore instructed him in a cautious, prudent, and friendly manner, to learn from the authorities all that could be ascertained on the subject, reporting to him, by every opportunity, such information as he should obtain. His head-quarters were directed to be at Mr. ROBINET's, Ape's Hill, where the American flag had been flying, as stated by Mr. ROBINET, by permission of the authorities, for more than a year. He was to obtain from hostilities as far as possible, but, in case of necessity, he was to call upon the American ship "Science."

All these facts were communicated to Dr. PARKER, our Commissioner to China, with the further statement that Captain SIMMS would be kept at Formosa until the Government could be heard from, and that this step might be necessary to legitimate a prior American foothold, in case our Government should look to future reprisals and occupancy. Dr. PARKER approved what had been done. The last communication to the Government was dated April 10th, 1857, at which time nothing had been heard *from Captain SIMMS.*

Either Col. HUGHES, of Maryland, or Hon. CHARLES R. INGERSOLL, of Connecticut, will to-morrow be appointed Commissioner of Patents. The latter has been pressed very strongly by Secretary TOUCEY.

It is rumored that WM. F. PHILLIPS, of Virginia, has been removed from the Sixth Auditorship, and that either Dr. PARKER, of Virginia, or Mr. REED MARTIN, of Mississippi, will take his place.

Collectors SCHELL, of New York, and AUSTIN, of Boston, are here looking after their appointments of subordinate officers, some of which do not stand much chance of confirmation at the Treasury Department.

HENRY WINSOWELL has been appointed naval agent at Portsmouth, N. H., *vice* NEHEMIAH MOORE, to take effect 1st of September next.

First Lieutenant ALGERNON S. TAYLOR has been appointed to a captaincy in the marine corps, *vice* Captain H. B. TYLER, promoted; Second Lieutenant ANDREW J. HAYS to a first lieutenancy, *vice* TAYLOR, promoted; and MYRON C. RIGGS, of Connecticut, to a second lieutenancy, *to fill a vacancy occasioned by the promotion of* HAYS.

The President has appointed JOHN G. DOWNEY collector, San Pedro, California, *vice* C. B. CARR, resigned; TENCH TILGHMAN, collector, Oxford, Maryland, *vice* R. B. WILLIS, deceased; and JOHN HAY, superintendent of the central Indian agency at St. Louis.

The receipts of the United States Treasury for the week ending Saturday the 15th inst are $1,542,184.02; drafts paid, $1,423,779.63; drafts issued, $1,556,322.01; amount subject to drafts, $1,907,356.47.

The Navy Department has advices that the Cumberland, flag ship of the African squadron, was, on the 20th of July, at Madeira, about to proceed to the coast of Africa. All well.

One of the stipulations of the general pre-emption law, is, that the applicant, to bring himself under its provisions, shall "be a citizen of the United States, or shall have filed his declaration of intention to become a citizen."

Under the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the DRED SCOTT case, at the December term, 1856, "a free negro of the African race, whose ancestors were brought to this country and sold as slaves, is not a citizen within the meaning of the Constitution of the United States."

This decision of the Land Office applies to the other similar cases pending.

Renewal of Hostilities between the Sioux and Chippewa Indians.

DUBUQUE, August 20.—Hostilities have again broken out between the Sioux and Chippewa Indians, commenced by the latter, a band of Chippewas having attacked a party of Sioux, near Lake Pepin. They took thirty scalps and then retreated down the Red river.

An Ex-Bank Cashier arrested for an alleged Robbery.

CHICAGO, August 20.—S. Bronson, jr., formerly Cashier of the Merchants' and Mechanics' Bank of this city, was arrested at St. Paul's on Sunday, at the instance of Mr. Woodworth, the President, on the charge of the larceny of $50,000 of the funds of the Bank.

Colored Baptist Convention.

BOSTON, Aug. 20.—A convention of colored Baptists is now in session in this city. Sermons have been preached by the Rev. Moses Clayton, of Baltimore, and Edmund Kelley, of Philadelphia. It will adjourn to-day. A lecce at Faneuil Hall will be held this evening.

The American and Newfoundland Telegraph Companies—Courtesy to the Press.

NEW YORK, August 20.—Peter Cooper, Esq., President of the American and Newfoundland Telegraph Companies, has tendered the free use of their wires to the press of this country, on the arrival of the submarine cable at Newfoundland, for the transmission of any communications thereto.

Death of a Newspaper Proprietor.

CINCINNATI, Aug. 20.—John H. Strauss, one of the proprietors of the *Daily Commercial*, died suddenly to-day.

Death of a New Orleans Auctioneer.

NEW ORLEANS, August 20.—Major Beard, the celebrated auctioneer of this city, is dead.

Markets.

NEW YORK, August 20.—Flour depressed; 4,500 bbls. sold at $6.40@6.50 for State, an advance of 5c. Wheat continues with a declining tendency, and is nominally quoted. Corn dull; 20,000 bushels sold. Provision market generally steady. Whiskey dull. Stocks are active and firmer. Sterling Exchange is firmer at 9¾@9¾ per cent. premium.

BALTIMORE, August 20.—Flour is active and steady. Wheat—The receipts have been light. Corn—Sales of White at 84@85c.; Yellow 83@86c. Whiskey 21½@20c.

CHARLESTON, Aug. 20.—The sales of cotton for the week have amounted to 1,200 bales at full prices.

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THE CITY.

Attempted Suicide of an Insane Woman.—An insane woman, about thirty years of age, just arrived from Germany, attempted to commit suicide about six o'clock yesterday morning, by throwing herself from the third-story window of the house at which she was staying, at the south east corner of Sixth and Callowhill streets. She fortunately escaped death, but upon her body were inflicted wounds of a very severe character. She was removed to the Pennsylvania Hospital, where she remained only for a short time.

Result of a Fight.—A man named McDermott was taken to the Hospital on Wednesday evening, having been badly cut in the face during a fight which occurred in the vicinity of Penn and South streets. It is possible that he may lose the sight of one of his eyes. A man named Tomlin was arrested on the charge of inflicting the wound. He was held to bail.

Accidents.—William T. Hays, aged 21 years, had his right arm fractured and his body considerably bruised by falling off a cart in Buck lane, First Ward, yesterday morning.

John Wilson, aged eighteen years, had his right arm nearly severed from his body by having it caught in a revolving last-cutter at an establishment in Bread street, yesterday. His arm was subsequently amputated.

Samuel Holmes was cut in the forehead by a tumbler, yesterday, thrown by a woman, at the corner of Seventh and South streets.

Patrick Dugan, aged thirty-five years, had both his collar bones badly fractured and his head injured by falling from a carriage at Front and Market streets, yesterday. All of the above persons were admitted to the Pennsylvania Hospital.

Anniversary Supper.—The members of Atlantic Lodge, No. 262 I. O. O. F., partook of their tenth anniversary supper on Wednesday evening, at the Salutation Saloon, Third street, above Chestnut. The tables literally