The Press.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1858.

FIRST PAGE.—Penny-a-Liners; Pacification of Mexico; John Hickman at Chester; New York Literary Gossip; Party Nominations—The Legislature—Plain Talk; General News.

There is, of course, no doubt that the people of Kansas will at once proceed to prepare for admission into the Union. We notice, with great regret, that a few of the ultra Southern papers declare that she cannot ask admission under her own free Constitution, if she shall reject Lecompton. She has performed the act of trampling Lecompton under foot, and now she will demand *that her own Constitution shall be accepted*. She has been a long year and a half trying to get in. One after the other she has defeated her enemies, and now she stands forth for her rights as guarantied to her by all the great parties of this country in 1856. And who will say her nay? Make way for Kansas, the thirty-third State of this Union! Her speedy admission will effectually settle the question.

Mr. Cyrus Field's Journal.

Yesterday we published one of the most remarkable, important, and interesting documents ever communicated to the public by the press. This was the daily journal, or log-book, of the Atlantic Telegraph Expedition, supplied by Mr. CYRUS W. FIELD, who was the life and soul, the heart and muscle of the great experiment, now so gloriously surmounted by the diadem of success. It relates the conquest of Old Ocean, and surely never had poet, or historian, or philosopher a nobler deed than this to commemorate. What he has so greatly helped to do may well be considered the heroic Epic of this every-day life of ours. With that simplicity and modesty which almost invariably characterize great merit, Mr. FIELD puts forth his brief summary under the name of "Daily Journal." But how much does it narrate! Not COLUMBUS himself, when he discovered that New World of which he had thought by day and dreamed by night, during the weary years of more than half his struggling life-time, could have chronicled loftier achievements than are so briefly, yet so impressively, recorded by Mr. FIELD.

That daily journal, which has already been eagerly perused by millions in this country, and will be translated into every language and every dialect in foreign lands, simply traces the whole course of that last experiment, which so few hoped *could* terminate favorably as it has done. In every country where Civilization has reared her "Excelsior" banner, and in many places where she is yet unknown, this short and simple record will be eagerly read. In the luxurious East, in the spicy groves of Ceylon, in the yet almost untrodden plains of Australia, in the icy altitudes of Siboria, in the sandy deserts of Africa, in the vast-extended plains of South America, in every part of Europe, in the multitudinous islands of the Pacific—by sea and by land, in camp and court, in the cottage as well as in the palace, Mr. FIELD's unassuming but most affecting narrative will be read, and will be re-read, while language is perpetuated by printing, far into the great eternity of all future mundane time.

It is, indeed, one of the greatest compositions ever published—so brief, so concentrated, and yet so very explicit and eloquent in that brevity and concentration. A great intellect, deeply imbued with the finest spirit of humanity, has evidently been employed upon it. The achievement which it records required a great mind to trace its final steps, day by day, hour by hour, until the glorious consummation came.

Compared with this, how feeble and how diffuse appear all the despatches and proclamations of mighty conquerors! The narratives of XENOPHON and CÆSAR, brilliant as we have been used to account them, seem dull beside this most unpretending "daily journal" of Mr. FIELD. The despatches of MARLBOROUGH, WELLINGTON, NAPOLEON, and our own General SCOTT, seem cold when we read this narrative of the greatest victory of all—the triumph of Science over natural difficulties considered almost unsurmountable, the triumph of Mind over Matter.

The *Niagara*, Mr. FIELD tells us, arrived at the mid-ocean rendezvous on the evening of Friday, July 23d. On Sunday, she was joined by the *Valorous*. On Tuesday, the *Gorgon* came up. The *Agamemnon* did not arrive until Wednesday afternoon. The next day, (July 29th,) all preparations completed, the telegraphic fleet divided. The *Agamemnon* was bound for Valentia Harbor, 813 nautical miles distant. The *Niagara* was 822 nautical miles from Trinity Bay, but actually had to go 60 miles farther, to the Telegraph House at the head of the Bay of Bull's Arm. From that starting of the vessels, each on its different route, on July 29th, until the morning of August 4th, when the *Niagara* reached the entrance of Trinity Bay, what suspense must Mr. FIELD and every other person on board been subjected to! What watchful, doubting, hoping, weary hours must they not have felt! Even at the very last, a single hitch in the working would have ruined all. We trace anxiety all through Mr. FIELD's narrative. Every moment, in short, was full of fearful and exciting interest. As the poet says,

"Moments like to these
Need men's lives into immortalities."

A gracious Providence ruled over all, and they recognized it. Here is one of the last passages in Mr. FIELD's Journal, to our taste a thousand times more religious than if he had written a column of mere words about it:

At 5-15 A. M., the telegraph cable was landed. At 6 A. M., the shore end of the cable was carried into the Telegraph House and a strong current of electricity received through the whole cable from the other side of the Atlantic. *Capt. Hudson then read prayers and made some remarks.*

Captain HUDSON had passed through the perils of the deep, he felt that God had protected him, and, in his deep and sincere gratitude, he "read prayers and made some remarks." No doubt, *that* was a deeply affecting scene, a solemn worship.

Let us not, while we acknowledge what others have done, be unmindful of what Science, so remarkably developed on this occasion, owes to Lieutenant MAURY. Here is a letter from him, far too valuable to be allowed into the crowd of ordinary communications:

OBSERVATORY, WASHINGTON, August 6, 1858.

To the Editors of the National Intelligencer:

I send you a despatch reaffirming the glorious announcement which you made this morning under your telegraphic head. It is an achievement that our children will boast of, that two great nations will glory in, and you may well afford to "tell it over again."

"TRINITY BAY, August 7, 1858.

"Lieutenant MAURY, Washington:

"The Atlantic cable on board of her Majesty's steamship Agamemnon and the United States frigate Niagara, was joined in mid-ocean at 1 o'clock P. M., on Thursday, July 29, and is now successfully laid.

"C. W. FIELD."

It appears that the Niagara arrived at the entrance of Trinity Bay on the 4th instant. This gave her six days from "mid-ocean," the place of junction. The distance "made good" by the line is nine hundred and forty-six statute miles, which gives her an average "paying-out" speed of six and a half statute miles the hour. This high speed was a most "happy hit," for it greatly diminished the strain upon the cable, and lessened its liability to the dangers of the sea.

The following extracts, italics and all, are taken from a letter written at the Observatory on the 28th March, 1857, to the Company, upon the best time for laying the cable, and which has happily proved to be the very best:

"Nevertheless, the enterprise upon which you are engaged is an important one. Good weather for it is very desirable, nay, almost indispensable; and these barometric anomalies are suggestive. Perhaps it would be wise for the steamers *not to join cables until after the 20th of July. I think between that time and the 10th of August the state of both sea and air is usually in the most favorable condition possible; and that is the time, which my investigations indicate as the most favorable for laying down the wire.* I recommend it, and wish you good luck. Yours,

"M. F. MAURY."

The passage which we have placed in italics is really remarkable. It shows that sixteen months ago, Lieutenant MAURY, by scientific induction, had told the exact time when the great experiment could be most safely made. We should be proud, as a nation, of our MAURYS and our MORSES, our HENRYS and our FIELDS.

POTTSVILLE THEATRE.—We understand that Mr. Wayne Clwine has induced Mr. J. S. Clarke, of the Arch-st. Theatre, to play for him, for one night only, at the Pottsville Theatre, now open, under Mr. Clwine's management, and very successful. Mr. Clarke's performances will take place to-morrow (Wednesday) evening.

TYPOGRAPHICAL CRICKET CLUB.—The members of this new club met on the ground selected by them, on Saturday, where, we understand, their organization was perfected, and the pleasures of the game indulged in.

Party Nominations.

A bold article, from a prominent Democrat of this city, will be found in THE PRESS of this morning, calling attention to the matter of nominating candidates for the State Legislature. The suggestions of our correspondent will sink deep into the public mind. He might have gone further. The selection of the officers who are to have charge of the more local interests of our people is another grave duty. The men who are to have the management of the leading county offices should be most carefully chosen. It is incredible how indifferent the voters have become in the matter of electing these important agents. Now is the time to consider these things. In a very short period the different parties will place their candidates in nomination, and we discharge a plain and imperative duty in calling the attention of the people to the fact.

New York Amenities of Justice.

In another column will be found a narrative which admirably illustrates the manner in which justice is *done* in the adjacent city of New York. The proprietor of a newspaper was brought before one Justice OSBORNE (we had nearly written "Justice Shallow") at the Tombs, charged with having libelled two of the immaculates who wear aldermanic gowns in the City Hall. We particularly draw attention to the manner in which Mr. GRAHAM, a lawyer, "pitched into" the defendant. The emphatic way in which he Billingsgated the accused is worth notice, and the peculiar force of the expletives with which he larded his remarks will readily be appreciated. It is due to Justice OSBORNE to state that he stopped GRAHAM—*when he had concluded.* But he did not commit him for contempt of court, neither did he fine him for swearing! Verily, New York is a great place—to live out of.

The Kirkpatrick Case.

Yesterday, after a needlessly prolonged trial of 34 days, the jury in what is called "the Kirkpatrick poisoning case," delivered their verdict. Two of the accused were acquitted; two more were convicted, upon two counts of an indictment consisting of *thirteen*, of "assault and battery with intent to kill." If we understand the case rightly, the prisoners were accused of attempting to kill by *poison*—therefore, the assault must be *constructive!* The verdict in the family quarrel reminds us of that delivered by a Welsh jury in the case of a prisoner charged with burglary. It ran thus, "Not guilty of burglary, but we find him guilty of getting out of the window."

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9, 1858.

The *Union* is as silent as the grave over the rejection of the English bribe. Saturday and Sunday have passed, without a word from the official organ. Probably by to-morrow it may find its tongue, and tell the country whether it intends to resist the wishes of the people of Kansas when they apply for admission into the Union, as apply they will, at the next Congress.

Nothing will grow out of the protest of our Government against the interference of foreign Governments in the affairs of Central America, and especially in the matter of the Isthmus of Nicaragua. The protest was a matter of course, and of form; but neither England nor France intends meddling in this matter, so far as I can hear. The former certainly will not, and the latter can have no sufficient reason for an act which England has been so prompt to disavow. The colonial policy of both these countries on this continent has been too expensive to make any further investments, at least as an original question, at all desirable.

The *Union* reads Judge Douglas out of the party with the Democracy of the State of Illinois at his back; but has not dared to lay its hand upon Governor Wise. The brave *Union!*

There is considerable struggle over the appointment of bituminous coal agent. A number of Maryland politicians are in town looking after it. Among others I notice Governor Lowe, and the present agent, his father-in law, Colonel Polk. It is said that Col. Polk will be his own successor. A good many Democrats are candidates for the place, supposing there would be a change, as was the case in Pennsylvania with the Anthracite agency, when that thorough Democrat, Mr. Tyson, was displaced to make way for Dr. Hunter, who it is said did not vote for Mr. Buchanan. But it is not likely that the Secretary will consequently leave but that amount awarded to them. The aggregate amount of the bids is about thirty millions.

Among the unsuccessful bidders were Messrs. Belmont & Riggs, who offered 1½ to take the entire ten millions at a premium of 3 77-100, and Sweeney, Rittenhouse, & Co., at 3 per cent. premium.

There were in all fifty-eight bidders. Several offers were made at par, and the lowest bid among the premiums was one-half per cent. The highest was at seven and three hundredths, but it was for small sums.

The Nova Scotian at Quebec.

QUEBEC, August 9.—The steamship Nova Scotian arrived here yesterday from Liverpool, with dates to the 20th ult., but her advices had been anticipated by the despatch from Cape Race.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO "THE PRESS."]

LOCK HAVEN, Pa., August 9.—The news that the laying of the Atlantic Telegraph was successfully completed was received in this place with great joy, both by the American and German citizens, which was demonstrated by bonfires and the firing of cannon. CITIZEN.

Non-Arrival of the Niagara.

HALIFAX, Aug. 9—Midnight.—The weather is foggy and drizzling, and very dark. There is no prospect of the steamship Niagara, now nearly due here, reaching port to-night.

THE ARAGO AT NEW YORK.

THE AMERICAN HORSES AT THE GOODWOOD.

A MATCH WON BY MR. TEN BROECK.

NEW YORK, August 9.—The steamship Arago, from Havre and Southampton, has arrived. Her dates have been already published in the despatch from Cape Race, obtained by the news yacht of the Associated Press.

The Arago brings 170 passengers and $28,000 in specie.

She reports passing the steamer Borussia hence, off St. Alban's Head, on the evening of the 28th ult.

The Goodwood Races.

[By American Telegraph Company.]

At the Goodwood races on the 27th ult., Mr. Ten Broeck won a match race with Orlanda against Mimosa.

In the race for the Steward's Cup, Babylon, Mr. Ten Broeck's horse, was among the last, and for the Larnut Stakes, Woodburn, also an American horse, came in fourth.

The recent seizure at Stettin, by order of the Prussian Government, of seven Danish merchant vessels, had caused much irritation at Copenhagen.

FROM LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS.

The Election—The Utah Peace Commissioners, Etc.

LEAVENWORTH, Aug. 5, via Booneville, Aug. 9, per U. S. Express.—Scattering returns from Brown, Calhoun, Douglas, and Shawnee counties increase the majority against the proposition of the admission of Kansas as a slave State to 5,376.

The Utah Peace Commissioners, Messrs. Powell and McCulloch, arrived here to-day and proceeded to the East immediately. Mr. Bridger, the original settler at Fort Bridger, accompanied the Commissioners.

Over two thousand of Russell, Majors, and Waddell's wagons were met on the plains.

Several Mormon families passed down the river this evening bound to Illinois.

From New Mexico.

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., August 6—via St. Louis, August 9.—The Santa Fe mail, with dates to the 19th ult., has arrived.

The news furnished is unimportant.

The mail party reports that the Indians were very troublesome on the route, stopping the trains and demanding provisions and whiskey.

The river continued high and the roads somewhat wet. In some places the roads were washed to such an extent as to render it very difficult for the trains to proceed.

Very heavy rains fell in Santa Fe before the mail left.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

The Queen's Message, and President Buchanan's Reply.

NEW YORK, June 9.—The recording instruments for the Atlantic cable are in such a state of forwardness as to insure the early opening of the line for business.

It is understood that the transmission of the Queen's and the President's first messages through the cable will take place early in the afternoon, and probably in the course of the present week. Instantly after the transmission of the President's reply to the Queen's message, the two communications will, by consent of the President, and through the co-operation of the managers and employees of the telegraph lines of the country, be made public from Newfoundland to Texas, and from Quebec to the boundary of civilization in the Northwest.

We have assurances from all points that so soon as the Queen's and the President's messages are received, there will be public and private demonstrations of joy by the ringing of bells, firing of salutes, etc., etc., in every city, town, and village throughout the whole country. It is understood that Mr. Field will cause notice to be given in advance of the day when the first message will be transmitted through the cable.

Telegraphic Cable Rejoicings—Preparations in New York.

NEW YORK, August 9.—At the meeting of the City Councils this evening, a message was received from the Mayor, recommending that the hospitalities of the city be extended to all connected with the laying of the Ocean Telegraph, that the citizens of New York be requested to illuminate, and that all the public buildings be illuminated on the day to be fixed for the public celebration of the great event.

The Councils adopted a series of resolutions congratulating the public, tendering thanks, and offering a municipal display, and concerned in the enterprise, providing for the illumination of the City Hall, and requesting Cyrus W. Field to [illegible] Governor's Room at the City Hall.

MEMPHIS, Aug. 7.—The successful laying of the Atlantic Cable caused general rejoicing in this vicinity, but there has been no public demonstration about it. The newspapers are very eloquent about it.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 7.—The success of the Ocean Telegraph is the principal topic among the press and the people. Great excitement was caused by the first announcement, and there was much anxiety to hear further.

From Trinity Bay.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9.—The Secretary of the Navy has received a despatch from Captain Hudson, of the United States steam frigate Niagara, saying that the Electricians report the insulation and continuity of the Atlantic cable as perfect, and that they are busily engaged in preparing the battery required before the Queen's message to President Buchanan can be received.

Departure of the U. S. Frigate Niagara for St. Johns.

TRINITY BAY, August 9.—The United States steam frigate Niagara, and the steamers Gorgon and Porcupine, left for St. Johns this morning. All well.

Washington Affairs.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—The Secretary of the Treasury, on appeal, has decided that crude naptha, or coal oil, is subject to a duty of fifteen per cent.; cudbear, for dying, eight per cent., and labels, composed of paper, twenty-four per cent.

The Bids for the Ten Million Loan.

WASHINGTON, August 9.—The bids for the United States loan of ten millions were opened to-day at the Treasury Department. Upwards of five millions were awarded at about five per centum premium, three millions at between four and five, and about two millions at from four and a quarter to four and a half. The principal successful bidders are as follows:

Bank of Commerce	$1,600,000
Marie and Kane, about	750,000
Cammann & Co	750,000
Howland & Aspinwall	400,000
Chubb & Brothers	200 000
Drexel & Co (at 43 per cent)	500,000
United States Trust Co	500,000
Trevor & Colgate	500,000
G. S. Robbins & Son	2,000,000
E. Whitehouse, Son, & Morrison	400 000
Carroll, Livingston, & Co	500,000

Among the bids for the loan were the following:

James M. Townsend	$100 000 at 5 per cent.
Trust Company	50,000 at 4.62
" "	100,000 at 4.77
" "	50 000 at 4.81
" "	100 000 at 4.87
" "	50,000 at 5.02
" "	50,000 at 5 07
N. S. Munroe	40.000 at 4 26 to 4¼
" "	60,000 at 4.51 to 3.76
Carroll, Livingston, & Co	100,000 at 4½
" "	100,000 at 4¾
" "	100 000 at 4½
Bank of Metropolis, Washing'n.	50,000 at 4½
" "	100,000 at 4¾
" "	50,000 at 5
Chubb & Brothers	100 000 at 4.14
" "	100,000 at 4.64
" "	100,000 at 5.04
Savings Bank, Baltimore	100,000 at 3
" "	100,000 at 4
" "	50 000 at 5
National Bank, New York	100,000 at 3
Riggs & Co., for Henry White	150 000 at 1¾
Bank of Commerce, N. Y	75 000 at 5.17
" "	500,000 at 5 27
" "	300 000 at 4 53
" "	50 000 at 4.07
Cammann & Co	500,000 at 3 97
" "	300,000 at 4 35
" "	250,000 at 4 76
" "	150,000 at 5.00
" "	50 000 at 5 33
" "	50,000 at 5 52

Drexel & Co., of Philadelphia, obtained a million at from 4.29 to 5 04 per cent. They unsuccessfully offered bids at less.

Cromlie & Co	400,000 at 4 29 to 5 04
Continental Bank, N. Y	250 000 at 3 64
" "	50,000 at 4¼
Clark, Dodge, & Co	700 000 at 3 38 to 4 01
" "	300,000 at 4 26 to 4.76
E. W. Clark & Co. unsuccessfully bid for	500,000 at 1 07 to 3 07
State Bank, Troy	20,000 at 6 03 to 7 03
E. Whitehouse, Son, & Morrison	100,000 at 4 12 to 4 21
" "	300,000 at 4 32 to 5 01
Van Vleck & Drexel	2 000 000 at 4 26 to 5 60
G. S. Robins & Son	2 000 000 at 5 03 to 8 78
Bates H. King	100,000 at 3 80 to 4 05
Thompson Brothers	1,000 000 at 3 65 to 3 9
Bank of the Republic	400,000 at 3.95 to 4 05
" "	100.000 at 5
Trevor & Colgate	850,000 at 3 28 to 4.08
" "	500,000 at 4 38 to 4.05
" "	500 000 at 4 68 to 5.05
Roosevelt & Son	150.000 at 3
Marie & Kane	71 000 at par
" "	50,000 at ¼

The same firm were also bidders for 800,000, varying from 3 to 4.08, and $720.000 at 4.90@5.50.

Seamen's Bank for savings, $100 000 at 3¾ to 4.

Seamen's Bank for savings $100 000 at 4¼@5.

Davisson & Co., and Howland and Aspinwall $400,000 4.77 to 5.52.

Hoguet & Boel, $150 000 at 3.01@4.01.

Hoguet & Boel, $150 000 at 4 26@5.01.

Benson & Co., $100 000 at 1.13.

Talimadge & Healy, $50,000 at 4.

Talimadge & Healy, $250 000 at 4¼@5¼.

Matthew Morgan, $800 000 at 3.01@4.05.

Meigs & Greenleaf, $55.000 at 4¾@4¾.

John T. Thatcher, $200,000 at 4.52@4.81.

Messrs Robbins & Son telegraphed to the Department withdrawing one million of their bid, which, if allowed by the Secretary, will consequently leave but that amount awarded to them. The aggregate amount of the bids is about thirty millions.

Among the unsuccessful bidders were Messrs. Belmont & Riggs, who offered 1½ to take the entire ten millions at a premium of 3 77-100, and Sweeney, Rittenhouse, & Co., at 3 per cent. premium.

There were in all fifty-eight bidders. Several offers were made at par, and the lowest bid among the premiums was one-half per cent. The highest was at seven and three hundredths, but it was for small sums.

BRILLIANT ILLUMINATION.—The office of the American Telegraph Company, in Third street, below Chestnut, was illuminated last night in commemoration of the successful laying of the Atlantic Telegraph cable. The lamps were of the Chinese pattern, and were so arranged as to present a beautiful as well as brilliant appearance. We trust that preparations will be made for a more general illumination, when the Queen of England and the President first communicate with each other over the wires, "even if it be some expense to the city."—for Philadelphia shares in the immense advantage afforded by the success of this enterprise.

FACILITIES FOR SOUTHERN TRADE.—In alluding to the fact, in a recent number, of the presence of a number of Southern merchants among us for the purchase of their fall stocks, we stated that they were generally expected to be on their stands, with their supplies, by the last of August or first week of September. In order to do this, they were compelled to make their purchases early in this month; and as there are, at present, fewer Southern merchants in our city than there have been heretofore, at this season, it has been received by many as an unfavorable augury for a prosperous season. But there are facts explanatory of this. Heretofore the routes to Southern sections have been long, slow and tedious; but with the completion of railroad facilities from Northern cities to almost every interior portion of the South, goods can be transported in an infinitely shorter time, and at vastly improved rates of freights. This enables Southern merchants to leave home at a much later period, and still be in time to have their needed supplies upon their stands in due season.

As an instance of this: From New Orleans there is a continuous route, through Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia, &c., to all Eastern cities; while, both from all lower Mississippi towns and the interior of its bordering States, the East can be reached in a few hours, or at least days, by several routes, whereas weeks were formerly required. We yesterday conversed with a gentleman from Mississippi, just arrived, who reached here from his home, a few miles from Vicksburg, via Mississippi, Tennessee, and Virginia, in some sixty hours, whereas his usual route, via the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, had required some ten days or a fortnight for its performance. From this gentleman we have the assurance that there will be a large Southern trade; and as Philadelphia is a favorite with this class of merchants, we may anticipate for our wholesale dealers a prosperous season.

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Illinois Politics.

CHICAGO, August 9.—Senator Trumbull and Hon. John Wentworth addressed an enthusiastic audience on the political topics of the day, from the balcony of the Tremont House, on Saturday evening. The number in attendance is estimated at 3,000 persons.

Nomination Accepted.

UTICA, Aug. 9.—Gerrit Smith has accepted the nomination for Governor, made by the Liberty Convention.

Sickness on Shipboard.

NORFOLK, Aug. 9.—The Bremen ship "Hinnoh," twenty-nine days from New Orleans, with cotton and tobacco, has arrived. Seven of the crew and one passenger died of yellow fever. Others are on board still sick.

NEW YORK, Aug. 9.—Arrived at lower quarantine, ship Pepperell from New Orleans, bound to Bordeaux. She put in here in consequence of the sickness of the captain and most of the crew with the yellow fever.

The U.S. Steam Frigate Niagara at St. Johns.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., August 9.—The U. S. steam frigate Niagara, and H. B. M. steamers Gorgon and Porcupine, arrived here this evening from Trinity Bay.

Marine Disaster.

NORFOLK, Aug. 9.—The British schooner Daphne, from Baltimore, bound to Bermuda, arrived here in distress, having been run into by the schooner Storm. Her mainmast and rigging were carried away in the collision.

Wreck of an Excursion Steamer.

NEW ORLEANS, August 7.—The steamer Virginia, plying as an excursion boat on Lake Pontchartrain, was blown up to-day while lying at Jefferson wharf. She sunk in about fifteen minutes, and is a total wreck. It is supposed to have been caused by an explosion of powder, as the steam was off, and foul play is suspected. Several persons were injured, and some of the crew are missing. There were only a few passengers on board.

Fire at Wareham, Mass.

WAREHAM, Mass., Aug. 9.—The Manufacturing Company's foundry, steam mills and machine-shop were destroyed by fire this morning. Loss $43,000—Insurance $9,000.

Letter from New York.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

NEW YORK, August 9, 1858.

There is but one topic at the present time, overshadowing in importance all minor items of every-day intelligence. I doubt that a man of thought can dismiss all other subjects from his mind, and reflect solely upon this sublime realization of human speculations, without feeling an unutterable weight of sensation which bows his very soul to the earth. To stand upon the shore of the New World and converse with the Old, as man talks with man face to face!—to know at the hour of its transpiration all that happens publicly to mankind in the four quarters of the earth!—to learn simultaneously, on the day of their promulgation, the edicts of Asian, African, and European Governments, and the *vox populi* of American sovereignty!—these are reflections that at the same time exalt the human mind to omniscience, and appall it with a sense of its own feebleness. Science makes men as gods, they may the more clearly discern the Supreme God whose laws are the foundation of all science.

But what a glorious thought may we dwell upon in connection with this theme—the thought that our country (geographically speaking) is the centre of the earth itself—the great heart of the sphere; and that now this heart throws out its vital nerves to penetrate remotest portions of mundane matter! to feel that the throbs of this central seat of freedom will thrill through all the lands, and its electric fluids dart life into dead or stagnant humanity everywhere! to hope that the emanations of its enlightened liberty, and enfranchised Christianity, will permeate old despotisms and hoary systems of false faith, until all the sympathies of the mighty world shall be swayed by the pulsations of its exalted and beneficent wisdom. Well may the *thought* of this vast and successful enterprise oppress us with responsibility, while it elevates us with ambition!—

For behold! the hurrying thunderbolts, in viewless fingers held,
Whilst they burn upon the azure, are to mortal language quelled!
Straightway, now, all human error from our vision is dispelled,
And we know that towering altar is Jehovah's throne on earth!
And the billowy clouds around it hide the future's mighty birth!
This we read amid the flaming *Thought* that spans the heaven's girth!
For that *Thought* is man's redemption! man's enfranchisement from wrong—
When the earth to all God's children shall in brotherhood belong,
And the weak shall rest securely on the bosom of the strong!
Like an endless fire, consumeless, burns that Thought before mine eyes;
And my soul's electric flashes would eternally relate
[illegible]
ture's skies!

But the telegraph success has a ludicrous effect upon some queer people. A Chesterfieldian wiseacre in this evenin 's *Commercial* (over the signature of "*Civility*") suggests that "on the receipt of the first message from her Majesty the Queen, the *gentlemen of our whole continent*, within the reach of a telegraphic despatch, *shall raise their hats.*" To which the *Commercial* very sensibly appends the advice, that when our President's message reaches England "the ladies of all the British isles profoundly curtsey, and all the gentlemen therein *take off their boots.*"

Our city authorities are now in session, deliberating on the proper manner of celebrating the laying of the cable.

We have at length to notice the death of Judge Duer, who has graced the Supreme Bench, as presiding Judge, since the death of Judge Oakley, and was recognised as a leading jurist of the State.

Mr. D. Wemyss Johson appeared in court this morning, on a charge of libel in his *Red Flag*, but the hearing of the case was postponed till next term.

The business at to-day's stock board was limited, with a trifling improvement in prices. Reading was active, 2,200 shares being sold, beginning at 47, declining ½, and selling at the close at 47¼. New York Central advanced ½; Erie ½; Harlem sold at 11¼. There was a lot of Great Western Insurance sold at 113, and a lot of New York Gas Company at 160. Pacific Mail Steamship brought 84, dividend (of six per cent.) off.

In Western roads the principal business done was in Cleveland and Toledo, beginning at 35, and advancing ½. Michigan Southern, old stock, advanced ½ and the guarantied ½. Michigan Central opened at 59, and closed at 59⅞. Chicago and Rock Island reopened at 75¾, and rose to 76, an advance of ¾ from Saturday. Galena and Chicago advanced ½, closing at 85½. Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy sold at the prices quoted Saturday. Pennsylvania improved 1, and sold at 114.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE—August 9

SECOND BOARD.

25000 Missouri 6s	85¾	100 Reading R	47⅜
1000 Mich S & N Ind bd	67⅛	50 do	47⅜
13 Metropolitan Bk	107	125 do	47⅜
10 Ill Centre	100	300 do	47⅜
125 Pac Mail S Co	84¾	200 do	48
25 do	84¾	500 do	48⅜
25 do	85	100 do	48⅜
2.0 La Cr & Mil R	4½	100 do	48⅜
50 N Y Cen R	79¼	5 Chi & Rock I R	76½
200 do	79¾	50 do	76
100 do	79¾	5 Mich Cen R	80
100 Cler & Tol R	35¾	25 Gal & Chic R	45¾

THE MARKETS.

FLOUR.—No change in market of moment, and small supply of round parcels. Sales 13,500 bbls at $3.90@4.00 for unsound, and $4.30@4.40 for sound superfine State; $4 15@4.30 for unsound, and $4.45@4.75 for sound extra State; $4.35@4.50 for superfine Western; $4 70@4.85 for common to medium extra Western, and $5.2 @5.50 for shipping brands of round hoop extra Ohio—the market closing firm.

Canadian flour is also doing better, with sales of 375 bbls at $4 65@5 10 for common to good extra. Southern flour is scarce, and prices strongly tend upward. Sales 3,000 bbls at $5 10@5 35 for superfine; and $5 40@6 75 for fancy and extra.

Rye flour has advanced to $3.25@4., with sales 135 bbls. Corn meal is also firmer. Jersey is quoted at $4 50, and Brandywine at $5 and upwards.

GRAIN.—Market somewhat firmer; sales 45,000 bush at 40c in store for unsound Racine or Chicago; 91c@$1 for unsound to fair Milwaukee club; $1.05@1.20 for new red Southern; $1.08 for unsound, and $1.13@1.18 for good to prime.

Rye is firmly held at 83c, with buyers at 81c. The Corn market is dull and prices favor buyers, especially for good parcels.

Sales 28 000 bushels at 72@83 cents for hot to sound mixed Western; 95c for Round Yellow, and 65@66c for White Southern. Oats in moderate request at 45@50c for State and Western.

PROVISIONS.—The Pork market is very firm and dull in consequence of the extreme holding on to prices; the nominal quotations are for mess $17.50; prime $14.00@15, and prime mess $15.75@16. Beef is in moderate request, and is firm; sales 200 bbls at $11.75@ 12 for country mess; $13@14 50 for repacked Western mess, and $ 5 @16 50 for extra do; prime mess beef is quiet and nominal at $9@9 25. Beef hams continue scarce and firmly held at $18@19. Cut meats are moderately active, and better for shoulders; sales 140 bbls at 6¼@6¾c for shoulders, and 8¼@8¾c for hams. Lard is steady with sales of 135 bbls at 11¾@11¾c for No. 1, and prime. Butter steady at about previous quotations. Cheese continues dull at 6@7¾c as to quality.

SUGAR.—A quiet but firm market continues, and the tendency of prices is to a further advance. Sales some four last 140 hhds at 7¾@8¾c for Cuba and Porto Rico.

MOLASSES is firm, with a moderate inquiry; sales since our last 50 hhds, at 32c for Cuba muscovado, 4 months. New Orleans is quiet and nominal at 50@52c.

COFFEE.—Rio remains quiet, with small sales, within the range of 10¾@11¾c. In other kinds we notice sales of 200 bags, at 15c for Java, and 9¾ for St. Domingo.

COTTON.—Market dull and nominal at 12¾ for middling Uplands.

WHISKEY is lower. Sales 326 bbls at 27@27½c, chiefly at the inside price.

ARREST OF SHOP-LIFTERS.—On Sunday morning several shop-lifters were arrested at their residence, Carlton street, east of Twenty-third. Their names are Thomas Creighton, Ann Creighton, and Mary Ann Brown. The arrest was made by Lieutenant Patton and Sergeant Lewis, who also were successful in recovering four pieces of silk, valued at $1,000, alleged to have been stolen from establishments in Eighth street, below Arch, and Second, above Coates, some time during the last week. The parties were taken before Alderman Snider, by whom they were held in $1 000 bail to answer.

EX-MAYOR VAUX'S HOUSE ROBBED.—On Sunday night, about 11 o'clock, ex-Mayor Vaux's dwelling, Nineteenth and Chestnut streets, was entered by burglars, and robbed of clothing to the amount of $80. Two officers were despatched to the scene, but no clue to the robbers has yet been obtained. The residence is at present unoccupied, the family of Mr. Vaux being absent in the country.

Scene in a Police Court.

[From the New York Tribune.]

On Saturday morning Mr. Frank Leslie was again apprehended for libel, on complaints of Alderman Reed and Tuomey. Officer Gardner, of the Lower Police Court, who had the warrant, conveyed Mr. Leslie at once to the Tombs, telling him that such was the magistrate's imperative orders. Upon reaching the court Mr. Leslie was met by Aldermen Tuomey and Reed, and Mr. John Graham, their counsel, and arraigned before Justice Osborn. The magistrate informed Mr. Leslie that he was charged with libel by Alderman Tuomey and Alderman Reed, and asked him if he demanded an examination.

Mr Leslie stated that he had been brought direct from his office to the court, and had not been allowed or permitted to send for his counsel, and he was ignorant what course to pursue.

Justice Osborn. You can have time to send for your counsel and bail if you desire.

Upon the arrival of Mr. Ashmead, Mr. Leslie's counsel, Mr. Graham produced the affidavits, which were read in court.

Alderman Tuomey makes two complaints. In the first, Alderman Tuomey charges Mr. Leslie with libel in publishing in his paper a certain caricature which represents him (Tuomey) as a boisterous Irishman, on board of the steamship Ericsson, with a bottle of whiskey in one hand, and a shillelah in the other, with the words beneath, "If I catch the *Tribune* reporter, I'll throw him overboard, God d—n him."

[The assumed "libel" on Tuomey & Reed consisted of comments on their former appearance against Leslie, in a police office. There was also a caricature magnifying the noses of the two complainants.]

Alderman Reed's affidavit of complaint says:

"Further alleged libellous matter is set forth in a picture representing Alderman Reed in the garb of a butcher, with a party of Irishmen driving a miserable and diseased looking cow, without tail or horns, up to his stall. The leader of the party, Mr. Mike O'Flannagan, is represented as saying: 'I read you could the Alderman tother day that swill-fed beef was worth half a cent a pound more than any other kind of meat. Here's a beauty, yer honor; dosent he look fat and luscious? Arrah! don't yer eyes wather to luk at it? Here's the beast; we've brought it on purpose for yez. Hand us over the dimes!' Alderman Reed is represented as saying: 'I don't deal in that kind of beef. I stated that as an alderman, not as a butcher.'

Mr. Graham stated to the court that he desired to compel Leslie to give $2,500 bail in each case; in two of the cases to keep the peace for twelve months, and abstain from publishing any more caricatures; and in the third case to answer criminally to the sessions. Mr. Graham proceeded to say that they intended to show these English *scoundrels* that they could not libel and caricature respectable citizens with impunity.

Mr Leslie said: "You had better keep cool, Mr. Graham."

Mr. Graham, who was evidently very much excited, jumped up and said: "Don't speak to me, *you scoundrel*, or I shall not be answerable for the consequence. I ask your Honor to note that this is an attempt to intimidate respectable counsel. These fellows intend to caricature the entire court. *I'll neck the first man I see take out a pencil.* [At this juncture our reporter took out his pencil and began to take notes.] The first acquaintance I ever had with him showed him [pointing to Mr. Leslie] *to be a d—d scoundrel.* If they will meet me on my flat in New York, [pointing to Leslie and his friend Watson] *I'll take the heads off both of them.* I'll show them by the swelling of their chops there's no Miss Nanoyism about me," [shaking