GENERAL NEWS.

LIFE IN THE CITY OF MEXICO.—The following letter from Mr. Wm. Dewitt, late of this city, but now a resident of Mexico, where he has been for the last two years, and where he has property, with an interest, the readers will doubtless be interested in that letter in the extract for life. But, says the Russian proverb, an independent jury would probably have disagreed with it. At least, in a case nearly similar, the Emperor Nicholas so decided. A proprietor was entering a forest with his hounds for a day's hunting. Meeting a little boy, whose father was cutting wood at a distance, the hounds barked at him and the little fellow, picking up a stick, began to defend himself. The proprietor, strange that the life of a slave should be at the mercy of his dogs, set them upon the boy, and in an instant he was torn in pieces. The father, who had seen this horrible scene, while running to the help of his son, found nothing remaining but shreds of flesh. He rushed upon the proprietor and killed him with a blow of his axe. The matter was carried before the Emperor Nicholas. He wrote with his own hand across the report, "*Sobaka ubiétchik*—sentence a dog for the death of a dog." And he is said to have added verbally to the minister, "In his place I would have done the same thing." Is not the assassin of Mr. R——y very nearly in the same case?

A SINGULAR QUIRK IN HINDOO LAW TURNING TO THE ADVANTAGE OF CHRISTIAN CONVERTS.—The *Missionary Herald* of March has an account of a decision made by an English magistrate at Amednugger, India, which, if acted upon, will completely revolutionize the position of Christians in India. It seems that some Christian converts, connected with the society under the charge of the American missionaries drew water out of the public tanks, which, as outcasts or low-caste people, it was claimed they had no right to do. An appeal was made to the magistrate, who decided that the Christians might have all the rights they had before conversion. The Hindoos, not satisfied with this, appealed to the governor in council, who not only confirmed the decision of the magistrate, but went one step farther, and reminded the Hindoos that according to their own Shasters, "the caste of the Ruler is equal to the highest!" Thus all Christians, being of "the caste of the Ruler," or of the British Queen, are made the highest at once. This, if carried out, will relieve Christian missionaries in India of a great deal of annoyance.

A NEGRO GIRL ROBBING THE MAILS.—Large sums of money, amounting, it is said, to $3,500, having been lately abstracted from the Post Office Department at Charleston, South Carolina, the officers of the Government have been zealously endeavoring to discover the perpetrator. On Friday a negro girl, who, it is said, has of late been dealing largely in lottery tickets, was arrested, and some of the money found in her possession. She was examined, but, as it might defeat the ends of justice, the *Courier* forbears at this time going into detail. The girl has been fully committed by the officers of the United States Government.

A SAD SEQUEL.—A letter from Charlestown, Va., to the Richmond *Dispatch*, tells the following sad tale:

Mrs. Allibone, the oldest sister of George W. Turner, who was slain by John Brown and his associates, was buried here to-day by the side of her brother. She died at Mount Hope Lunatic Asylum, whither she was taken shortly after her brother's death. She never rallied after his murder, but continued to think until her spirit bared its mortal bonds and returned to its Maker. Another murder to be added to the Harper's Ferry list!

We also see in our exchanges the following:

Mrs Martha Brown, the widow of Oliver Brown, who was shot at Harper's Ferry, died at North Elba on the 2d instant. She gave birth, about four weeks previously, to a daughter, who lived but a few hours.

We have already recorded, the death of the daughter of Fred. Douglass, owing to grief and apprehension on account of her father's supposed connection with the Harper's Ferry raid.

THE LOCUST PANIC.—Already are the croakers endeavoring to excite both the community and the seasons, with the view of the ravages and devastation which will follow in the wake of the predicted coming of the locusts during this summer. No popular belief was ever more false—no common superstition more unfounded. The writings of scientific men have long since dissipated these visionary delusions and terrific forebodings, so far as the American locusts are concerned—which are, upon thorough examination, found to be without the power to do any material harm to vegetation, its sustenance being merely the dews and juices of plants, none of which they injure by absorbing the little they need for their short but harmless existence.

Professor Jaeger, who is high authority, in a recently published work, gives an interesting account of the family to which our dreaded locust belongs. Speaking of it, he says: "Our *cicada*, commonly called locust, is a harmless, lovely creature, and has been celebrated, from the earliest times, for its songs. To the ancient Greeks no sound was more agreeable than the chirping of the cicadas, not only because it seemed to give life to the solitude of the shady grove and Academic walks, but because it always conveyed to their minds the idea of a perfectly happy being. So delighted were they with its song that they kept the cicada in cages, and called it the 'nightingale of the nymphs,' and the 'sweet prophet of summer,' and the 'dove of the muses.' Indeed, it was regarded by all as the happiest, as well as the most innocent of creatures."

THE BORDERS OF ABOLITION CASE—OBEYING A SPIRIT.—Mrs. Beach, the wealthy and handsome Bridgeport widow, who married George W. Francis, an intelligent, black man, gave to her friends as one reason for her conduct, that she had received communications from her deceased husband in the spirit world advising her to wed Francis, and stating that since he left this vale of tears he had been conjugally united to the spirit of a colored damsel. The marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. Mr. Millett, in the evening, when the lady was so much disguised, by "frizzling" her hair, &c., that he did not suspect she was a white American woman. Francis once gained some notoriety as the supposed nephew of Soulouque, the Emperor of Hayti.

AN FIENDISH MURDER.—Mr. L. H. Snapp, a respectable citizen of Jefferson county, says the Louisville *Democrat*, while lying in bed at his mother's house, on Wednesday night, with a child two years old lying on his breast, and his wife in the room at the time, was shot from the window of the house through a window, and instantly killed, the shot taking effect in the head. One grain of shot entered the head of the child, and another the hip. The child, it is thought, will recover.

The Sicilian papers announce the attempted suicide, in Paris, of M. Jullien, the celebrated musician. He was making arrangements for some grand performances of sacred music, &c., which were to have commenced on the 8th inst., by a performance of Handel's *Messiah*. Several English *artistes* were engaged for the occasion. The concerts have since been postponed, M. Jullien having been placed under restraint.

Signor Chessal, a performer with Mad. Gazzaniga in her present concert tour, died very suddenly in St. Louis, on last Wednesday evening. Chessal was subject to fits, and died in one of the spasms, in a room near the stage, and just at the close of his concert.

ACCOMMODATING AND ECONOMICAL.—The Milledgeville *Recorder* states that two couple were recently married in Montgomery county, Ga., at which the grooms, being magistrates, officiated in turn for each other.

How Divorces were Obtained in Cleveland in Olden Times.

Two of the committees, one for recommending a location for the new penitentiary, reported in favor of Sandusky. It has been surmised that the committee, viewing with alarm the increase of convicts, sought some way to prevent that increase, and, in the course of their travels, having heard how divorces in old times were obtained, took the hint from the moral of that tale, and immediately decided upon Sandusky. The story runs thus:

Many years since Cleveland numbered among her villagers a noted wag, whose sole idea of the chief end of man was to tell good stories. Our old settlers very well remember Gideon Boughton, who built the St. Clair House, and kept tavern there. Mr. B. had a hired man, who, had come from the East. This man, in a very confidential way, came to Boughton one day, and asked him what the law in Ohio was relative to divorce. B. replied that there not only was so, but allowing a man to get a divorce from his wife, in fact that the Constitution absolutely forbade such proceedings. "What on earth, then," asked the suffering husband, "can a man do who can't live with his wife; how can he get rid of her?" "Oh!" said Boughton, "that is the easiest thing in the world. I'll tell you. Pretend to your wife that you want her to take a short trip into the country, and get her on board a vessel bound for Sandusky city. When there you can get her boarded for one dollar and fifty cents a week. Make her believe that you must go down to Mount Vernon or Wooster, and that it will be more comfortable for her to remain at Sandusky. Pay her board two weeks in advance, that would be, three dollars; don't pay for any longer, for that will be long enough; go off on your business, and your wife will never trouble you again. One week in Sandusky is enough to sicken her, and *they always bury strangers by the end of the second week!!*" The tired husband followed Boughton's advice, and at the end of two weeks was a free man.—*Cleveland Herald.*

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