

"Look at this blasted arm, than which a better never wrung a villain's neck."

"I pointed the swivel; would it had torn out your black heart!"

With a gasp of rage, Bernardo thrust a pistol into the very eye of the unfortunate captain, and fired! At the instant, a long shrill, unearthly scream of "Blood for blood!" pierced the air aloft. The affrighted pirates glanced wildly upwards, when the whirling, whizzing body of the forgotten Arnold fell on the upturned face of Bernardo, snapping his neck, and crushing him to the deck, a hideous corpse!

"My father! oh, my father," shrieked the expiring Arnold, writhing and crawling to the murdered captain. But his brave soul had gone; he knew not the infamy of his son. With a piteous moan, the poor youth clasped the stiffened corpse, and breathed his dying agony on his parent's bosom. The pirates stood appalled. The bodies of the father and son were dropped overboard together; as they went slowly down, the face of the father, yet bold and proud, gleamed for an instant under the bright wave and sunk for ever;—the dead Bernardo followed;—another commanded in his stead, and "The Flower of the Sea" sailed on.

THE FIRST ATLANTIC STEAMER.

As every thing connected with the navigation of the Atlantic by steam may be said to possess additional interest just now, we hasten to spread before our readers the following minute account of the first steam trip over the Atlantic. We copy it from the New London (Conn.) Gazette, to which paper it was communicated by Capt. Stephen Rogers, of Groton, who was sailing master of the ship Savannah, of which Moses Rogers of Groton, was commander.

"She was seen from the telegraph station, at Cape Clear, on the Southern coast of Ireland, and reported as a ship on fire. The Admiral who lay in the Cove of Cork, despatched one of the King's cutters to her relief. But great was their wonder at their inability with all sails in a fast vessel, to come up with a ship under bare poles. After several shots were fired from the cutter, the engine was stopped, and the surprise of her crew at the mistake they had made, as well as their curiosity to see the singular Yankee craft can be easily imagined. They asked permission to go on board and were much gratified by the inspection of this novel novelty. On approaching Liverpool, hundreds of people came off in boats to see her. She was compelled to lay outside the bar till the tide should serve for her to go in. During this time she had her colors all flying, when a boat from a British sloop-of-war came alongside and hailed. The sailing-master was on deck at the time, and answered. The officer of the boat asked him—"Where is your master?"—to which he gave the laconic reply—"I have no master, Sir."—"Where's your Captain, then?"—"He's below—do you wish to see him?"—"I do, Sir." The captain, who was then below, on being called, asked what he wanted—to which he answered—"Why do you wear that pennant, Sir?"—"Because my country allows me to, Sir."

"My commander thought it was done to insult him, and if you don't take it down he will send a force that will do it." Captain Rogers then exclaimed to the engineer—"Get the hot water engine ready." Although there was no such machine on board the vessel, it had the desired effect, and John Bull was glad to paddle off as fast as possible. On approaching the city, the shipping, piers, and roofs of houses were thronged with persons cheering the adventurous craft! Several naval officers, noblemen and merchants from London came down to visit her, and were very curious to ascertain her speed, destination, &c. As it was soon after Jerome Bonaparte had offered a large reward to any one who would succeed in taking his brother Napoleon from St. Helena, it was suspected that this was the object of the Savannah. After remaining 25 days in Liverpool, during which time she was visited by thousands of people of all rank, and her officers were treated with marked attention, she left for Copenhagen, at which place she arrived in safety—where she excited similar curiosity. She proceeded thence to Stockholm, in Sweden, where she was visited by the Royal family, the foreign ministers, naval officers, nobility and others, who by invitation of Mr. Hughes, the American minister, dined on board, and took an excursion among the neighboring islands, with which they were much delighted.

Lord Lyndock, of England, who was then on a tour through the north of Europe, by the invitation of our minister, took passage on board the Savannah, for St. Petersburg, which place she reached in due time. Here she was visited by the invitation of our minister at that court, by several noblemen, military and naval officers, who also tested her superior qualities by a trip to Constantinople. Her officers received several valuable presents of plate, &c. &c. and we have now before us a superb gold snuff box, which was presented to her sailing-master, Captain Stephen Rogers, by Lord Lyndock.—She sailed from St. Petersburg to Copenhagen, and thence to Arendal, in Norway, whence she returned to Savannah, where, after a passage of about twenty-five days, she arrived in safety—being the first steam vessel that ever crossed the Atlantic—and after performing a voyage highly creditable to American ingenuity and enterprise.

She used Liverpool coal for fuel, of which

she took seventy-five tons; as well as 25 cord of wood for kindling. She had no freight, and only used her engine when not able to go at the rate of four knots an hour with her sails. By the great fire in Savannah her owners were compelled to sell her, and she was purchased to run as a packet between that place and New York, whither she was bound, under charge of Captain Nathaniel Holdredge—now master of the Liverpool packet ship United States—when she was lost on the south side of Long Island.

Adventures and escape of Col. Wharton from Matamoras.—We have obtained from the Hon. Wm. H. Wharton, late Minister Plenipotentiary from Texas to the United States, some particulars of his distressing captivity and miraculous escape from the dungeons of his Mexican oppressors.

On the 17th of April, 1837, after a fight of more than seven hours, the Independence, on which he was a passenger, surrendered to two Mexican 16 gun brigs. The combat and capture took place almost in sight of the Colonel's residence, from which he had been absent many months on a mission to the United States. He was carried to Matamoras and confined for 4 months in a low, damp and dark prison, where he was almost suffocated with heat, continually tormented with fleas, exceedingly incommoded by the stench of the hospital, which was next door to him, and deprived of his rest every night by the screams of the sentinels, uttered every fifteen minutes within a few feet of his head. For 4 months such was his situation, dependent for sustenance entirely upon his own resources, shut out from the light of heaven except what the narrow grates of the dungeon admitted, and denied even the privilege of medical aid, when languishing under an illness brought on by the rigorous privations of his captivity. His escape, however, was at last effected, the details of which cannot now be made public, for fear of compromising the safety of the magnanimous individuals, residents of Matamoras, to whose aid he was indebted for deliverance.

On escaping from prison he was compelled by the treachery of his guide to remain hid in a low prickly pear thicket for 11 days, within hearing of the drums of Matamoras, and very often approached within a few yards by the soldiers and Indians in constant search for him, tempted by a magnificent price of \$5,000 set upon his head dead or alive. In this thicket of thorns he could not stand erect, being taller than most of the bushes, for fear of being discovered, nor for the same reason could he build a shelter against the burning rays of an August sun, almost within the tropics. During three days and nights he tasted neither food nor water. His sufferings under this privation were inexpressible, and such as none can realize unless taught by experience. After suffering 11 days in this situation, a guide furnished him with a horse, and he started on his journey home. Doubling the fidelity of the guide, he dismissed him, and set out for home, a distance of 600 miles, without provision, a pilot, or knowledge of his route, where after fifteen days he arrived.—*N. Orleans Bulletin.*

We have seen some curious fossils which were dug up in the county of Chesterfield, in a coal mine, about two hundred feet below the level of the sea. They appear like pieces of slate, with the distinct impressions of little fish like perch. The indentations cannot be mistaken. They are on different facets of the slate, and appear to be lying at different angles. It would seem as if there had been a large number of fish reposing in a soft bed of mud which from some cause or other was petrified, before the substance of the fish had undergone any decomposition.—The question is, as with the fly in amber, "how the duce they got there." That our Globe has been the subject of the most extraordinary revolutions—what is now the interior of the land having formerly been under water, and where the water is now in some places, was formerly land—is attested by a variety of phenomena which have been laid open by the Mineralogists. Our own globe is indeed a standing prodigy. There are millions of wonders yet to come to light, which are not dreamed of in our philosophy.—*Richmond Enq.*

From the Locomotive Gazette.

TRIAL OF WM. MILLER.

The trial of William Miller, in the court of Oyer and Terminer of Locomotive county, for the murder of Solomon Hoffman, terminated on Friday afternoon of last week. The jury after a very learned charge from the court, retired from the box; and in about two hours returned a verdict of GUILTY OF MURDER. His Hon. Judge Lewis, delivered in a very able and feeling manner, the following

SENTENCE.

You have had a fair trial, and a jury of your country have pronounced you guilty of one of the highest crimes known to the law. They have rendered their verdict against you upon that count in the indictment which charges you with the murder of Solomon Hoffman, by "lying in wait." The law adjudges this to be, "murder of the first degree," for that offence prescribes the punishment of DEATH. When it is considered that you are but a

few days over the age of 23, and that your conduct has brought you, in the freshness of youth to an untimely and ignominious end, we perceive, in your case, a melancholy instance of early depravity. The circumstances attending the murder, as disclosed in the evidence, were of a character peculiarly aggravating. Solomon Hoffman was a young man like yourself—he was a stranger in the country, and, as such, entitled to your kindness and protection. A stranger also to our language, like you he spoke the German tongue. He had not excited your passions by provocation of any kind. Nothing but a desire to rob him of his money and property, influenced you to commit the crime. It appears by the evidence that you formed the determination to commit this dreadful deed, the evening before the morning on which it was perpetrated; and that, in pursuance of that design, you informed the deceased that you had borrowed money of Bastians, and did not wish to purchase any articles from him in their presence, and therefore requested him to meet you in the morning as he proceeded on his journey at a particular place by the road side, where you stated that you would be engaged chopping wood, and would there purchase goods from him. After you had taken this step towards accomplishing your purpose of death, you slept in the same room and ate at the same table with the unfortunate traveller; and, in the morning you stationed yourself at the place appointed—awaited his approach, and when he came, engaged him in opening his pack and displaying his goods before you under the pretence that you were about to purchase. While in the act of taking articles out of his pack, you struck him on the back of the head with the axe, and followed up your blows until your object was accomplished. No human eye witnessed the horrid deed; but in the Providence of God it has nevertheless been brought to light, in verification of the long established maxim that "MURDER WILL OUT."

You have violated the laws of your country by committing a cruel and deliberate murder; and for this your life is forfeited. But you have also violated that law of God which proclaims that "thou shalt not kill." For this infraction of the Divine law, great as it is, you may yet obtain, through the merits of your Redeemer, pardon from that Omnipotent Being whose law you have broken. You are admonished that your time must necessarily be short in this world, and exhorted to prepare for your departure for the next, by seeking mercy from him who can abundantly pardon.

The sentence of the court is, that you, William Miller, be taken from hence to the place from whence you came, within the jail of the county of Locomotive, and from thence to the place of execution—within the walls or yard of said jail, and that you be there hanged by the neck until you are dead!

May God have mercy on your soul.

ELLIS LEWIS.

President Judge.

FLORIDA.

The following is from the correspondent of the New York New Era, at Key West: Messrs. Editors: We have but very little news since I wrote last. The expedition under Lieutenant Powell of the Navy, from the Everglades, came in here, staid a week, and stored their boats in the United States barracks. The officers are very intelligent. It seems to be the general opinion that the command must be given to young officers, and the war carried on summer and winter, before the Indians can be driven from Florida. Lately they killed two post riders near Tampa. One of the murderers was taken, and he confessed he shot the rider, because he wanted his horse. Sam Jones and his party are now quietly getting in their crops, and will be ready for another campaign as soon as the whites can be mustered to meet them. The citizens of the Territory bordering on the Indians are in a state of great alarm; and, in some places, have fled again to the forts. On Key Largo, where Wharton was killed, opposite the light ship, a party of Indians in a canoe chased a Juter, or fishing boat, and shot at the men: fortunately, the poor fellows escaped. Should any thing further transpire, I will write you immediately.

The Moselle.—A letter from Cincinnati to a gentleman of this city, gives, in effect, the following statement of the cause of the explosion on board the Moselle. The Ben Franklin steamboat, celebrated for speed, had just started before her: The captain of the Moselle, being anxious to pass the Ben Franklin, gave orders that no steam should be let off while lying too. The engineers remonstrated, but in vain. One of them opened the furnace doors to diminish the heat, at which the captain became very angry, and had them closed. The engineer, seeing this, and anticipating the result, stepped on board a raft which lay alongside, and the moment after the Moselle put off, the correctness of his judgment was verified by the awful catastrophe. The engineer, who was mortally wounded, is said to have made this statement just before his death.—*Pennsylvanian.*

The Dutchess of Leinster was robbed of diamonds to the amount of 40,000 dollars, which she brought from her country residence to appear at a ball in Dublin.

The following short but plain synopsis of the "Divorce Bill" we extract from the Blairsville Record. We would recommend it to the special attention of "the boys" who drafted the proceedings of the whig young men's meeting held in this village on Saturday last.

From the Blairsville Record.

THE SUB-TREASURY BILL.

The purport of this measure of the General Government simply is, that, as at present, the officers of the Government who collect the public revenue shall pay it over on drafts from the proper authority, directly to the public creditor without the intervention of banks. Part of the time hitherto banks were used as intervening agents between the collector and the creditor, that is to perform a duty which the collectors could just as easily themselves. The collectors were required to deposit their money in banks, and those having claims against the Government would get for their pay a draft on a bank. In the mean time the banks were using the public funds to their own advantage, increasing their discounts and circulation upon them, and of course making a large profit out of them. Thus the public revenue, in the hands of banks, became the means of increasing the excessive issues of paper money which ministered to the cupidity of men, excited to undue speculation, and produced the demoralizing effects which are now complained of all over the land. A government interested in protecting the interest of the whole people could not consent longer to be made the means of injuring the many for the benefit of the few; and hence arose the necessity of cutting the government entirely loose from the banks and the hordes of speculators which surrounded them. Whatever the state governments might think proper to do in this respect, the general government are determined that its funds shall not be used for the purposes of inflating a paper currency and speculation, until, at any rate, they shall have first passed into the hands of the public creditor, and in this determination, we make no question, it will be sustained by the people of the country. But before the accomplishment of the measure a tremendous battle will be fought. The Federal Bank party with its whole force of talent, money and corruption, is marshalled against it, and will contest every inch of ground. It is a grievous evil to them to have so much of their sources of profit, power, and speculation, as the use of the public funds afforded, taken from them, and they are determined to compel the government if they can to restore its use to them. This is the whole secret of the opposition raised against the Independent Treasury Bill.

BOARD OF CLAIMS.

A correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, furnishes the following synopsis of the bill to establish a board of commissioners to hear and examine claims against the United States, which has passed the Senate:—

Sec. 1. The duty of the Board is to examine all claims against the United States, not exclusively within the province of the accounting officers of the Government to adjust and allow, or which may require special legislation, and report to congress a brief statement of the facts of each case and their opinion thereon.

Sec. 2. The board shall consist of two commissioners, to be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, who shall each receive a salary of three thousand dollars per annum; and they shall reside and hold their sessions at Washington, and have the power of a Court of Record, for the purpose of summoning and examining witnesses, and punishing contempts.

Sec. 3. The board shall have power to make all needful rules and regulations for their proceedings, and to issue commissions for taking testimony.

Sec. 4. Any person swearing falsely before the board, or those commissioned by them to take testimony shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and on conviction thereof shall suffer imprisonment for a term not less than two nor more than ten years.

Sec. 6th provides for the payment of the contingent expenses of the board.

Sec. 7th provides that the evidence in each case and the opinion of the Board thereon, shall be presented to Congress within the first ten days after the commencement of each session.

Sec. 8th provides that no member of Congress or delegate, nor any person holding office under the United States, shall appear before said board as agent, attorney, or advocate, in prosecuting a claim, or act as such in any case whatever.

The duration of the act is limited to four years. It will be observed that decisions of the Board are not to be final in any case.

Doct. Chauncy Rogers, of Girard, Erie county, was suddenly killed on the 20th ult. by the bursting of a cannon, fired in honor of the passage of the Improvement Bill by the Legislature.

The New York and Albany Railroad company, whose road is to go on the west side of the Hudson, has been efficiently organized.

Circleville, (O.) April 21.

Generous Daring.—A few days since, a child four years old, son of Mr. Jesse Richardson, (living on the west bank of the Scioto, near the aqueduct,) while playing on some plank and timbers belonging to the old pile bridge, unconscious of its danger, walked off the timbers into twelve feet water. The river was swollen, and the current strong. The child, finding itself borne down by the stream, called to its mother for help, which the frantic parent was entirely unable to give. Her cries, however, attracted the attention of a man at Cradlebaugh's. He ran to the aqueduct, more than a quarter of a mile distant, walked a narrow timber 450 feet, suspended by the side of the trunk from one abutment to the other, gained the western bank, plunged into the rapid, cold current, and, swimming some two hundred yards, caught the child, and was making for the shore, when a skiff (which had been speedily brought from the high level on the canal,) came to the rescue, about a quarter of a mile from where the child went into the water. We inquired for the name of the individual who had thus promptly and generously perilled his own life, and, after several fruitless repetitions of the inquiry, we were told his name is J. Beynt, a tanner, in the employ of Mr. Cradlebaugh. Such acts ought not to pass without a special notice.—*American.*

The return of the election held in Virginia last week, for a member of congress in the room of Mr. Patton, resigned, and for representatives in the state legislature, are beginning to come in; and although, we confess, they do not look as favorable as could be desired, they by no means exhibit evidence of such an overwhelming defeat as our political opponents effect to discover in them. In ordinary times, they would excite but little attention; but coming after a succession of reverses, more or less severe, in other sections of the Union, they are calculated to produce unreasonable depression on the one side, and extravagant exultation on the other. In the present case we do not see any solid grounds for either, for although the democratic party may, occasionally be placed in a false position, and as a necessary consequence, suffer a temporary loss, that party is, and must, for a long time continue to be, a majority in the Union. If measures have been proposed, and efforts made to carry them into effect, by the force of party discipline, which are found to be unacceptable to the people, all that our friends have to do is to retrace their steps; and occupy the old ground, and the democrats who retired from the field during the present contest, will once more be found in the front rank, contending in support of the principles and the candidates of the party; for it is a fact that can be readily verified, by an examination of the returns of most of the late elections, that the success of our political opponents has resulted not from any increase in their votes, but from a diminution in ours.—*American Sentinel.*

A clerk, says the New York Star, going down Wall street to make a deposit, had his bank book peering and peeping from his coat pocket, while he stopped to gaze at the numerous caricatures near the new Custom House. A well dressed rogue came up behind him quietly, and while winking and smiling to the mob, and inviting them by signs to look at a neat trick, he slipped the bank book out of the pocket of the clerk, took out the notes; and returned the book to the pocket, without disturbing the clerk, who was still gazing at the pictures. The bystanders, believing him to be an intimate friend of the clerk, were highly tickled at the trick, and laughed and chuckled at the anticipated surprise of the clerk. The rogue walked slowly ahead, turned smilingly to the crowd, put his fingers on his lips to enjoin silence, and actually disappeared with a large sum of bank notes, thus obtained openly while hundreds were looking on. No one knew who he was, nor has the money been recovered. It was a bold, and yet, a most dextrous robbery.

Distinguished Visitor.—The Steamboat Susquehanna, "of and from" Owego, made her appearance at Wilkesbarre, on Friday morning last. It is the second time we believe, that the Valley has been honored with this aqueous stranger. On Saturday she made two pleasure excursions from the Borough to Nanticoke, well loaded, we understand, with the fair and the gay; but unfortunately, on the return of her second trip, when about two miles below town, her stern wheel struck upon a sand bar, breaking the shaft, and bringing the boat to a dead halt. The votaries of pleasure on board were disembarked, and had the advantage of active exercise in walking back to the place of starting. We are not aware whether the experiment of navigating the Susquehanna by steam is now considered thoroughly tested.—*Wyoming Repub.*

The Wilkesbarre Advocate of Wednesday last, says an Irishman was killed this morning, and three others badly injured by the explosion of a blast which they were engaged in drilling out, on the job of Messrs. Mish and Peck, on the Lehigh and Susquehanna railway.

A house was burnt at West Bloomfield, New York, a few days since, and two young women were seen by the neighbors amid the flames, without the possibility of being rescued.