

VARIOUS MATTERS.

Ingenious Escape from Blackwell's Island.—A convict, named John Harris, who had been confined upon Blackwell's Island in pursuance of his sentence for petit larceny, on Thursday effected his escape as follows:—A party of prisoners were engaged, by order of the keeper, in laying out an extensive grass plot, at which Harris and others were employed in carrying sod. Towards evening some of his fellow prisoners proposed to Harris that he should lie down at a convenient spot, and suffer himself to be covered over with the pieces of earth intended to form the grass plot, leaving an aperture just over the face, to enable him to breathe, and to remain in that position until dark, when he could easily elude the vigilance of the guard, and escape. The plan was at once agreed to, and the adventurous convict consigned to his mother earth by his companions, where he lay quietly entombed in the manner above described until nightfall, at which time he arose again from his grassy sepulchre, and having divested himself of his shoes, he plunged into the river, and succeeded in a short time, in gaining the main land unobserved. We have frequently heard of prisoners making their escape from the island by various contrivances, and, among others, in one instance, by being screwed up in a coffin; but it is the first time we believe on record, that an attempt of this kind has ever been made, after an individual had been fairly put under the sod.

Waterspout.—We copied a few days ago from a New York paper an account of a waterspout which had been seen on the Hudson river. We learn from the Evening Post that it completely deluged with rain the country between Suckbridge and Hudson. It took place about four o'clock, P. M. and became known to the passengers of the Hudson and Berkshire rail road by the instantaneous appearance of one of the most violent showers ever witnessed. In that mountainous region the accumulated water acquired an immense impetus which frequently had a very grand effect by creating in a moment cataracts of various sizes from every peak and cliff, which poured their united flood over the plain in every direction.

About a quarter of a mile from Canaan the progress of the force across the track, fairly imbedding the engine and obliterating all appearance of a rail road.

It was some hours after the stoppage before sufficient force could be mustered to dig out the engine and clear the track, so as to enable the passengers to reach the village. Much damage was done in the neighborhood by this remarkable visitation which disappeared as suddenly as it came.

It is said that the waterspout was only seen by a man, which, though always high and dry before, was swept away, and in large fragments was floated against the bridge, and formed with an angle of the road a sort of buttress, which strengthened the structures sufficiently to resist the flood. The waters swept over it, and around it, destroying the neighboring gardens and fields, and carrying off the fences that lay in its course. The rail road was extensively injured, the bridge and a large portion of the track have been swept away below Canaan, and the track having been either destroyed or extensively injured in exposed situations along the whole range of the storm.

IMPORTANT ENTERPRISES.

A Rail road from Portland to Lake Champlain is proposed and the route, 188 miles, had been surveyed. The cost is estimated at \$3,250,000, to be borne by three states. Our whole country seems likely to be traversed by steam. The great Rail road route from Boston to St. Louis, 1500 miles, is spoken of as in progress. The Buffalo Commercial says:

The citizens of St. Louis, Alton and indeed of the principal towns of Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, have engaged in this great work with earnestness. So much of the route as lies between Boston and Buffalo is in a state of forwardness, and so well understood that nothing can prevent its early completion. From this to Toledo, companies have been chartered to construct a railway the whole distance excepting about 40 miles across the narrow portion of Pennsylvania that separates Ohio from New York. We understand the company in Ohio are now progressing rapidly, with their section of the above great chain of communication between the Emporium of New-England and the central valley of the Mississippi. From the mouth of the Maumee river to the termination of the line of rail roads now in progress to St. Louis is only about 200 miles. To complete the whole chain, there needs to be supplied but two links, one of 40 and the other of 200 miles.

This great thoroughfare will be open during the whole year, and will not, like the canals and lakes be obstructed from four to six months with ice, nor like the Western rivers, rendered useless for purposes of navigation in consequence of the drouth of summer.

Rapidity of Traveling.—Passengers are carried on the rail roads between Albany and Auburn, a distance of 192 miles in one day. A person leaving Syracuse in the morning arrives at Saratoga Springs in time for tea in the evening.

EDITING A NEWSPAPER.

The following sensible and correct remarks are from the New York Sun—Read: Editing a newspaper is no easy task. Many people estimate the ability of a newspaper and the industry and talent of its editor, by the variety and quality of editorial matter it contains. Nothing can be more fallacious. It is comparatively an easy task for a writer to pour out daily columns of words, upon any and all subjects; his ideas may flow freely; and his command of language may enable him to string them together like a bunch of onions, and yet his paper may be a meagre, poor concern. But a judicious, well-informed editor, who exercises his vocation with a full conviction and consciousness of the responsible duty he has to perform, will conduct his paper with the same care and assiduity that a clever lawyer bestows upon a suit, or a humane physician upon a patient. Indeed the mere writing part of editing a paper is but a small portion of the work. The industry even is not shown here. The care, the taste, the time employed in selecting is far more important, for the tact of a good editor is shown more by his selections than and thing else; it is half the battle. But (as before observed) an editor ought to be estimated and his labour appreciated, by the general conduct of his paper—its tone, its temper, its manners, its uniform consistent course, its principles, its aims, its manliness, its courtesy, its dignity, its propriety. To preserve all these as they should be preserved, is enough fully to occupy the time and attention of any man. But if to this be added the general supervision of the establishment, which most editors have to do, it will appear that editing a newspaper is indeed no very easy task.

Curious Courtship and Christian Resignation.—Deacon Marvin was a worthy Deacon in Lyme, Connecticut; and fell in love—Deacons as well as ministers are "made of frail stuff as all the lighter sons of vanity," and are just as liable to stub their toes, bark their shins, or fall in love as any other men: Deacon Marvin fell in love with Betty Lee, as pretty a lass ever stepped into Lyme meeting house of a Sabbath day, and she was as constant there as the Deacon himself, to say nothing of the minister. When the Deacon's love had waxed so warm and uproarious that he could no longer restrain himself, he mounted his plough horse and directed his course to Captain Lee's. Reflecting on the way, that it would ill become the dignity of a Deacon to make love as do world's people, he determined to conduct operations with a serious gravity befitting the occasion. He had studied his Bible to good purpose, and resolved to make the patriarch Jacob his pattern. Accordingly on finding himself by the side of Miss Betsy, he lifted up his voice and kissed her, yea, he kissed again, "The Lord has sent me to thee!" Betsy had hitherto been little better than one of the wicked; but the Deacon's kisses had wrought wonders, and although there was a little mischief in her eye, she answered with all the resignation and submission of a Deacon's intended, to the great joy of Deacon Marvin:—"The will of the Lord be done." They were man and wife in a fortnight.

Uses of the Nettle.—The Nettle is generally considered by farmers and gardeners as a useless and troublesome weed, but it needs little argument to prove that the most common gifts of Providence are often the most useful to mankind. The common stinging nettle is one of the best medicines which is produced in the vegetable kingdom; and its medicinal qualities ought to be more generally known and appreciated. In the form of a simple, weak infusion, taken the quantity of a pint a day, it acts as an alterative and deobstruent in impurities of the blood. A strong decoction taken in the same quantity, proves an admirable strengthener in general or partial relaxation. Applied as a fomentation or poultice, it dissolves swellings and abates inflammations; and the expressed juice taken in spoonfuls, as the exigency of the case may require in internal bleedings, is the most powerful styptic known. We may add, that its leaves, when boiled, are converted into a tender healthy and nourishing aliment grateful to the palate. And yet there are few plants whose appearance is viewed by the farmer with more disgust than the stinging nettle.

Boston Merchantile Journal.

Shaving Shops.—The Schuylkill Savings Institution has stopped payment. We learn also that the Philadelphia Saving Institution has made an assignment to the Girard Trust Company, having preferred the depositors.

An instance of the distress occasioned by these soulless bodies, came under our observation on last Friday evening. A poor Irish girl, who had, by dint of the most persevering exertions and self denial, for the space of about six years, succeeded in laying by about \$200, had placed it in the Philadelphia Savings Institution for safe keeping. Having occasion to make use of a portion of it, on Friday she called upon the Institution, and demanded her money, but received for answer that she could not have it, but must call again in about a month. She afterwards was informed that the Institution had failed, and it was doubtful whether she would ever get a cent. Her distress, at finding herself stripped of every cent she possessed in the world, may be better imagined than described.—*World.*

From the Globe. NEWSPAPER, &c.

The following is a list of Newspapers, Magazines and Periodicals, published in the United States, July 1st, 1839.

Maine,	41
New Hampshire,	36
Vermont,	31
Massachusetts, (at Boston, 65)	124
Rhode Island,	14
Connecticut,	21
New York, (at New York city, 71)	274
New Jersey,	39
Maryland, (at Baltimore, 20)	48
Pennsylvania, (at Philadelphia, 71)	253
Delaware,	3
Dis. of Columbia, (at Washington 11)	16
Virginia, (at Richmond, 10)	59
North Carolina,	32
South Carolina,	20
Georgia,	30
Florida Territory,	3
Alabama,	34
Mississippi,	33
Louisiana, (at New Orleans, 10)	26
Arkansas,	4
Tennessee,	50
Kentucky,	31
Ohio, (at Cincinnati, 27)	166
Michigan,	31
Wisconsin Territory,	5
Iowa Territory,	3
Indiana,	69
Illinois,	32
Missouri,	25

Of the above 116 are published daily, 14 tri-weekly, 30 semi-weekly, 991 once a week. The remainder are issued semi-monthly, monthly, and quarterly, principle magazines and reviews. Many of the daily papers also issue tri-weekly, semi-weekly, and weekly. Thirty-eight are in the German language, four in the French, and one in the Spanish. Several of the New Orleans papers are printed in French and English.

FLORIDA.

In the Savannah Georgian we find a letter dated at Fort Lauderdale East Florida, June 22, which says:

"Since the promulgation of the treaty, our camp has been visited every day by large parties of Indians. On the 19th, Ap-pi-ac-ka, or Sam Jones, made his appearance, attended by 15 or 20 warriors and a negro. He desired a recapitulation of the terms of the treaty, and professed himself pleased. He laid down the law to the Indians and ordered them to understand and obey it. The high opinion entertained of the influence of this chief is fully warranted by the deference paid him by his people, and even by Chitto-Tustinjee, who was present.

Sam Jones sent to inform me, yesterday that he had sent to the Big Cypress Swamp a party of his warriors, who would bring him to terms. It may be important to inform you that by the computation of Sam Jones, there are 261 Micassuky warriors now in Florida, and that they and the Seminoles, are scattered in different directions, and that the main camp, lies at the head of this river, (New) which Sam Jones informed me could at any time turn out three hundred warriors, an assertion warranted by the number we have already seen, and heard of. He said, moreover, that the treaty had met with some opposition, and it would be some time before the Indians who inhabited the swamp could hear of it.

*Chitto-Tustinjee, is the Chief whom Sam Jones sent to treat with Gen. Macomb.

Cuba.—The N. Orleans Bulletin holds the opinion that this important Island will not much longer remain under the dominion of Spain. The Editor says—

"The position of the Island makes it the key to the Gulf of Mexico, and holds forth facilities that may constitute it the centre of a rich and boundless commerce, while the extent of its surface and the fertility of its soil, furnish the capabilities of becoming the seat of a powerful and populous empire. All that is wanting to realize these capabilities, and develop these resources, is emancipation from colonial bondage—the erection of Cuba into a free and independent state. The way is rapidly preparing for this great change. The people of Cuba have only to will their freedom, and the Island will be lost to Spain. The vigilance of military despotism has hitherto availed to suppress every attempt at revolution; but the march of innovation must soon show footsteps here or elsewhere. Already the intrigues and machinations of the Carlist party, have put the popular mind in action. The subject of politics begins, for the time, to engage the attention of the people. A little thought, reflection and debate on this topic, and they will learn their right to choose their own rulers, and be governed by laws of their own making—and then, farewell to the domination of Spain. The colonial yoke will be thrown off, and perhaps, another great republic will ere long be added to magnificent democracy of North America."

A joker in New York having met a small gentleman, whose first name was William, turned and walked by his side. In a little while the gentleman turned to his uninvited companion and asked him if he had any business with him. "None at all," said the other, "but as the law does not allow us to pass small bills, I have turned about."

Our Country.—There is no better illustration of the retributory capacity of this broad land, than the fact that at the period of the great revolution, as it is called, of 1836, the United States, as a trading nation was indebted to Great Britain upwards of twenty millions of dollars, for excess of imports over exports. Exchange was against us—our banks, our people, and we had nearly said our government, was seized with a "panic" in regard to money and our capacity to reproduce. In 1838, Great Britain lost his place as our national creditor, and now, in 1839, is our debtor to the amount of twelve millions of dollars—and her citizens, her bank and her trade have been seized with a "panic;"—and owing to the rottenness of her institutions, and the frivolities of her rulers, does not stand near so good a chance to get well out of it, particularly if a war should take place in any portion of her vast dominions.

In 1836, we owed France and the continent of Europe, some fifteen millions; now we do not owe them a million and a half.

These facts tell well for republican institutions. They are cheering to our rulers, and ought to put to rest the unceasing abuse and denunciation so lavishly bestowed on Mr. VanBuren and his administration. He he has had to contend against an unprincipled press, ancient foes and traitorous friends. And what is the result? We are \$30,000,000 richer than we were three years ago—our currency has secured a firm foundation—our national faith unbroken—our flag, our public servants, and our institutions are respected in every clime where-with we have intercourse.

In another view these facts are cheering. From the rocky soil of Maine to the surf beaten Cape Sable—from the Sabine to the stormy North, from the Atlantic to the Ozark mountains—all is smiling content and happy prosperity—all is the symbol of a happy condition. Vigorous towns, thriving valleys unnumbered minerals, and the sweet wave of a plenteous harvest, show that our hopes are not on "fancy's airy ladder reeling." Our future is onward prosperity; which exhibits to despotic and corrupted governments, that the republican form which we have adopted—with its written laws, its submission to the will of an intelligent people, its annual exhibits, and the accountability of its rulers—can exist, be permanent and successful, without the aid of a consolidated aristocracy or a national debt.

Reporter.

The Developments on the Huntingdon Breach.

Some extraordinary instances of villainy have developed themselves during the investigation now making by the Auditor General, relative to the expenditure of the \$400,000 on the breach above Huntingdon, one or two of which we enumerate. JOHN STONEBRAKER, whom all our anti-masonry friends will remember to have been in prison, on a charge of fraud forgery and perjury. He is a defaulter for upwards of \$4000, as a pendant to his misdemeanors. One man was appointed to an office at \$2 per day drew his pay, and swears he never served an hour. He voted for Ritner of course. Most of the officers had nothing to do, or if they had, have not been able to define, on oath, their duties. THE SQUANDERING OF MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS, is clearly proven and should the evidences of fraud and corruption continue to come to light in the same ratio, during the remainder of the inquiry, it will be shown that Ritner, Stevens and their coadjutors lavished more than two hundred thousand dollars upon worthless partisans, and in an endeavor to corrupt that fountain of free institutions—the elective Franchise.

Reporter.

Stop my Paper.—Our readers no doubt recollect the fable of the old man, who, in taking the Ass to Market, attempted to please every body, pleased nobody, and lost his beast in the bargain. The editor of a newspaper who attempts to pursue a like course, will be very likely to find himself in a similar predicament at last. There is now and then a subscriber, who appears to think the paper he takes is published for his special and sole benefit; and that the publisher is bound, by all possible means to shape his course entirely with that view and to obey the dictates of that one subscriber by so doing every other one might be disgusted and driven away. Should the publisher refuse to submit, the dictator steps forward, a very picture of offended dignity, and, with all the hauteur of an enthroned monarch, cries, "Stop my paper," with an air that seems to say, this is to be the fate of your establishment.—*Prov. Her.*

Trouble among the Indians.—Extract from Little Rock, July 1839. News has arrived here that the Cherokees are quarrelled among themselves. That Ross has way-laid and shot Rife, as they returned from laid and shot Rife, that both of the parties the grand council for a fight; that General Ar are prepared for a fight; that they must not fight, and buckle up and defend themselves. Ross told the General they would fight in spite of him. There is trouble brewing among the Indians on our frontier, and if they once get going, our situation here will not be enviable, as we are only about 150 miles from the line, and it is said they can raise, if combined, 20,000 men. I mean, if all the tribes join. We have plenty of arms and ammunition here.

The Hydrophobia Case.—We are indebted to the attention and politeness of Dr. H. COOLIDGE, Associate Physician at Bellevue Hospital, for the following particulars of the case of Hydrophobia, a part account of which we gave in our paper yesterday. It will doubtless be read with much interest. From the report we extract the following, viz:

John Tyron, (or Tighe,) a colored man twenty-three years of age, was bitten, about seven weeks ago, by a Scotch terrier on the left arm, the wrist, and on the right leg, about three inches above the inner knee. The wounds were, as we learn, properly treated by a physician of this city but on Sunday last, at 2 P. M. he was admitted to the Bellevue Hospital, with the following symptoms of Hydrophobia: Great difficulty of breathing, with frequent and violent spasmodic contractions of muscles of the pharynx and diaphragm, difficulty of swallowing, sore throat, increased secretion of saliva, and at times peculiar sardonic appearance of the countenance. He desired water, but when it was brought to him, the sight alone threw him into the violent spasms so that he would almost suffocate for want of power on his respiratory muscles. On moving him from a room by a window which was raised he instantly stopped, unable to speak, scarcely able to breathe, intimating signs, that the window sash must be let down which being done, the spasm subsided almost instantly. In the course of afternoon and evening, the Resident Physician, (Dr. Vache,) with a view of seeing the effect of water, repeatedly offered him some in a cup; the patient would sum up all his resolution, and with desperate effort raise the cup to his lips but the moment the water touched the pharynx he would fall backwards in the most violent spasms. Notwithstanding the most active medical treatment was pursued from the moment the patient entered the Hospital; he rapidly grew worse, and at night was a raving maniac, though in intervals of the paroxysms he would be perfectly sane, speak of his approaching death, and ask pardon for any injury which might have inflicted during the paroxysms. As the morning dawned, the phrenzy increased, and at 5 o'clock it was deemed expedient to employ straps in order to prevent his injuring himself or others; some difficulty was experienced in their application, the patient constantly attempting to strangle or kick his attendants, and, when near enough to bite them. He continued raving until half an hour before death, when he became quite sensible, talked of his approaching dissolution, desired that an amputation should be made of his body, and expired without a struggle at twenty minutes past 8 A. M. having been in the Hospital eighteen hours.

Autopsy, made six hours after death. The membranes covering the brain were inflamed; also those enclosing the spinal marrow. The lungs were very much congested, and the mucous membrane of the alimentary canal inflamed. The veins leading from the wounded parts were examined and no signs of phlebitis apparent.

N. Y. Courier.

MORE EXCITEMENT IN CANADA.

A row occurred at Coburgh, U. C. at recent meeting of the Reformers. It is stated that the populace carried standard inscribed "Durham and Reform," and that after they were collected together, a band of malecontents and British officers assailed them with shillelahs, and demanded the surrender of the flags. This was refused, and an attempt being made to force them, one of the bearers presented a pistol, and attempted twice to fire it. He was seized, horribly mangled and carried off. The flags were taken. Durham's name took and the whole torn into a thousand shreds and trampled on with contempt.

In the closing part of the day, a new attack was made upon the Reformers. One was pursued in his wagon, who fired twice on his pursuers. Neither shot took effect.

One man was seized and rode off on a rail, and others took shelter under the shavings, in cellars, in the warehouses. The Lewistown Telegraph says—A count of two burnings, belonging to one of the barns and the other Dr. Newburn, of Mr. Overhault, at the house and both were the work of incendiary royalists.

conspire on the American Soil by British Soldiers.

The St. Albans, Vt. Messenger says—That a barbarous outrage and cruel murder took place in Highgate on Monday morning. A correspondent gives the particulars as follows:—Three soldiers in attempting to desert their post at Missisquoi Bay, on Sunday night, were hotly pursued by some 50 soldiers into Highgate, where two of them were taken and sent back, and the other run into the lake. On being told that he would be shot unless he came out, he answered that he would rather drown—knowing his fate if taken—and after invoking the mercy of God, he sunk into the water. His body was discovered on Monday about 10 o'clock.

A man who had a scolding wife, in answer to an enquiry made after her said she was very good in general, only she was very often subject to "breaking out at the mouth."