

VARIOUS MATTERS.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE EARTHQUAKE IN HAYTI.

PORTO PLATA, May 20, 1842.

On the 7th day of May the island of Hayti was visited with an earthquake, which, in its destructive effects, has proved itself to be the severest which we have ever had on record. The weather had been for many days past excessively hot and sultry; the temperature varying from 92° to 95° in the shade, and 110° when exposed to the solar rays. The winds were hot, parching, and unrefreshing, and the drought had been for some time past prevailing. In the afternoon of that day, at about half-past 5 o'clock, I was standing on the square, which is situated in an elevated part of this town. The sky was uncommonly serene, and the descending sun promised to be bright and glorious in its setting. Just then casting my eyes towards Mount Isabella, which overlooks the town, I perceived a dark vapor ascending and enveloping its base and sides; a rolling rumbling sound immediately succeeded, and instantaneously came a shock which nearly dashed me to the ground. The level of the square appeared undulating like the waves of the sea; a faint and sickly sensation came over me and dizziness and difficulty of breathing. The house rocked to and fro, like vessels in a storm. The ground was rent in various parts. Many persons were thrown down by the force of the concussion, others were reeling as in a state of drunkenness. Every moment we expected the earth to open and engulf us. A second shock followed, yet stronger than the former, accompanied, by the same appearances, effects, and terrors. The church, a strong and massive building, seemed tottering to its fall, the bricks flew from the solid masonry as if from projectiles; wide fissures appeared in the walls and arches; and the whole would have been levelled, but for the uncommon strength of the outside buttresses and the lowness of the building. It was affecting to hear the terrific cries and lamentations of women and children, and instructive to contemplate, even then; their lowly prostration to the Divinity, imploring his mercy, aid, succor, in their distress. The second shock must have lasted about 60 seconds. Fortunately for us, our town is almost entirely constructed of wood, which alone accounts for its preservation. The stone buildings suffered materially, and some of the finest were entirely destroyed. From the 7th up to the present date, we have been in a continued state of alarm—upwards of 46 shocks having taken place during that interval, some more or less severe. Processions and prayers are continually on foot to avert if possible, the Divine displeasure. The men wear serious and solemn looks; the women, when not in the processions, are sitting at the doors of their houses, either in tears or with books of prayer. Business is not even thought of such is our state of agitation.

The fine town of Santiago, about 60 miles distant in the interior, and the centre of our agricultural commerce in this part, has been entirely destroyed. The population consisting of about 6,000 souls, of which 500 are buried in the ruins. Further in the interior, the towns of Vega, and St. Osero have met with similar fates. The city of Cape Haytien, deposite of all the agricultural products, of its fine plain—the capital of the northern part of the island—the first city in Hayti for the beauty and solidity of its buildings, and the second only in size and importance—has met with utter destruction, and it is one immense mass of crumbling ruin. It is stated that the number who have been crushed to death, and who have otherwise fallen victims here to this calamity, amounts to 7,000 souls. A gentleman who left immediately after the disaster, informed me that so sudden had been the catastrophe, that hardly three seconds were allowed to escape from the houses. Thousands were buried alive, and no relief at hand. Cries of agony and shrieks would now and then proceed from the buildings, and break the solemn stillness of the night. Many dead and putrefied bodies were lying in the streets, and no body to move them. The air was tainted with the infection, and a pest seemed quietly settling over the city.

21st May.—Since writing the foregoing, other intelligence has reached us from the Cape, which has materially added to the errors of its former situation. The city lying a depot for all the articles imported for the supplies of the interior, an immense quantity of merchandise was generally kept on hand for that purpose. At the riot of its dreadful visitation, the supplies are abundant and the stores crowded with goods. Will it be believed that the cupid and depravity of human nature should so overcome the terror inspired by the awfulness of the catastrophe, as to permit men to indulge and riot in a systematic and organized pillage! This is, however, unfortunately true. Hundreds of individuals, starting in from the country, commenced turning the crumbling ruins, and drawing forth from thence all the merchandise and articles of whatever kind they could lay their hands on, despatched the same to their different hiding places. Opposition was for the time useless, and summary execution was necessarily resorted to by the authorities, to strike a salutary terror. Many of the marauders were shot; and now to crown the whole with the extremity of horror, a new plague, which had arisen and been grad-

ually creeping onwards from the time of the catastrophe, spread at once into a general conflagration, consuming what had escaped the former calamity and the sacrilegious hands of pillage.

The survivors, now in a state of almost positive nudity and starvation, were thus deprived of their remaining hopes; and misery and utter destitution stared them openly in the face. Hundreds had taken refuge on board the ships in the harbor, with the trifling effects which an agonizing haste suffered them to lay hold of, together with as many of the maimed and wounded as were thus favored by their good fortune. As far as we have been able to learn, the city of San Domingo has fortunately sustained no damage whatever; neither has Port au Prince met with any injury to speak of, according to our last accounts. The conduct of the inhabitants of Porto Plata displayed a noble instance of generous and sympathetic feeling—alike honorable to their hearts, as it was meritorious from its utility. An association was formed of the principal inhabitants, and a board of relief established for the conveyance of succor to the distressed, both in Cape Haytien and in Santiago. Provision were contributed by each for this purpose, according to his means, and a depot was fixed to distribute the same as the exigencies of the case might require; and to those arriving here in a destitute state many have been thus relieved from the horrors of famine, which would have been the climax to their previous misfortune and misery. The other towns and villages besides our own and those enumerated above which have most seriously suffered, (some of which are entirely demolished,) are Porto Paix Gonaves St. Marc Mole St. Nicholas; St. Louis du Nord Port Capucin Limbeport Margot Borgue La grande Riviere Laxavon and Altamira which, together with Porto Plata Cape Haytien Santiago St. Osero and La Vega before mentioned, make in all 17 towns and villages, with loss of lives in nearly all. It is impossible to convey an adequate idea of the severity of the blow which will be given to commercial interest in general, through all their channels and ramifications; many years will be required to restore matters to their former footing. It will be equally difficult to conjecture at what periods the signs of ravages will be removed, and the town and cities regain and approach their former condition. We wait with extreme anxiety to hear the fate of our sister islands, Cuba, Porto Rico, and Jamaica. We must conclude that they have each and severally been visited with the same calamity, though perhaps not to the same extent and damage. The direction taken by the earthquake, which proved the most severe in its effects; was along the northeastern part; all the other parts of our island have experienced the shock though only in a partial and limited degree.

SINDY CROSS.

Porto Plata.

GEO. POTTS,

No. 21 Lispenard street, New York.

F. CARANA.

P. S.—During the earthquake at Santiago the inhabitants rushed into the Roman Catholic church to implore mercy from the most high God and filled it to overflowing; and when it fell, rivers of blood were seen to pour through the ruins proceeding from the bodies of the poor unfortunate souls crushed within.

GEO. POTTS,

F. CARANA.

ODD FELLOWSHIP.

The excellent institution, says the Brooklyn Eagle, is making rapid progress in all parts of our country, despite the foolish and ill-founded prejudice entertained by many against what they are pleased to term *secret societies*. The fact that the Order numbers among its members many of our most eminent divines and distinguished citizens from every walk of life, whose character, for all that constitutes true greatness, is beyond the reach of calumny, and who would be the last to encourage, or in any way countenance, an institution in the remotest degree injurious to the welfare of the great whole, is of itself sufficient to put to flight a host of objections. Their secrets consist merely in excluding the world from a knowledge of their mutual recognition. With them a deserving brother is never turned empty away; but some proof of desert is clearly necessary to prevent the misapplication of funds and avoid imposition; and hence the test already noticed.

The Nashville (Tenn.) Union gives account of the Third Anniversary Celebration of the order in that city, on the 3d inst., which concludes with this paragraph:

At half past two o'clock, the procession moved to the City Hotel, where, pursuant to previous arrangement, Mr. Marshall had prepared a sumptuous dinner on the *Odd Fellows' Plan*, that is to say, a public dinner with milk and water (first principal) substituted for wine and brandy. Among the guests were the Governor of the State and clergyman, and editors of the city; who participated in the closing exercise with much cheerfulness. We have never known more wit and humor elicited by the sides than was manifest under the wholesome influence of milk and water, and we regret our inability to give a list of the excellent sentiments pronounced on the occasion.

The Nashua, Mass. Artillery has ten men in its first section, whose aggregate weight is 2200 pounds! Of course they cannot be *Flying Artilleries*, but must belong to the *'heavies.'*

MEXICO AND TEXAS.

By recent arrivals at New Orleans, we have intelligence of importance from Mexico and Texas. Santa Anna has directed an order to be despatched to all the Mexican Ministers and Consuls in Europe and America, with instructions to have it published, in order that it may become known to the subjects of those powers, and that they may avoid any enterprise like that directed against New Mexico; but if notwithstanding this notification, they should take part with the Texans in all cases. In future, all individuals, no matter what nation they belong to, if found in the ranks of the Texans, and taken prisoners by the Mexicans, shall be irremissibly subjected to the laws of war. The Mexicans appear to be preparing for the invasion by the Texans: It is reported at New Orleans, that there are now no less than fifteen thousand Mexican troops in the valley of the Rio Grande. A Mexican steamer and a Mexican armed schooner at Vera Cruz were under sailing orders for Havana, where, it is expected, they will be joined by three other armed vessels.

From the New Orleans Picayune of the 2d instant we learn that President Houston has convened a special session of the Texas Congress, for the 27th of this month. The Attorney General, has been sent to the East to concentrate the troops in that section. Two Mexicans were recently captured on the other side of Corpus Christi and brought to Galveston. They were well treated, and immediately liberated by Gen. Houston. This is as it should be, for whatever indignities may have been heaped upon Texas prisoners in Mexico, there is no satisfaction to be obtained by retaliating upon persons who had no hand in those outrages.—The special call for an extraordinary session of Congress in Texas undoubtedly has reference to the much talked of invasion of Mexico.

We perceive in the Southern papers accounts of numerous contributions to aid the Texans in their intended operations. New Orleans has contributed in money, \$14,000 emigrants, 1000. In the city of Mobile, there has been contributed in money, \$14,000 emigrants, 500. In Tuscaloosa Ala, \$4000; in Natchez, \$6000; emigrants, 225. In Columbus, Ga. \$3000, emigrants, 75. In Augusta, Ga. \$82; and in many other cities: It will not do for these 'emigrants' should they be captured by the Mexicans, to claim the protection of the American Government.

The following is the latest intelligence from Corpus Christi:—Col. Kinney was under guard at Monterrey, Saverago was on the Sul-Colorado with a few hundred cavalry. The Mexicans were fortifying the public square in Matamoras. A ditch was dug and pickets set up around this square a year ago; but it is a weak defence. It is said there are 1500 soldiers at Matamoras—we do not believe there are 700. The Mexicans, it is reported scout the idea that Texas will be able to invade the country. They will ridicule the idea still more, doubtless; when they hear that the invasion is to be made in midsummer! Arista is but ill-prepared to defend the country, and it is believed he will not venture to give battle if 1000 Texans should march against him.

All the Americans in Santa Fe have been arrested and marched off to the city of Mexico. Among them are Mr. Charles Bent and Mr. Messervy, United States Consul at Chihuahua.

CONNECTICUT.

The Legislature of this State adjourned on Friday the 15th inst; after a session of but two weeks. Fifty-six acts were passed: abolishing imprisonment for debt, except in cases of fraudulent withholding, concealing, obtaining, or carrying away property, repealing all laws regulating the sale of spirituous liquors, except the law relating to taverns and the sale of liquor to Indians condemning the Bankrupt Law and Land Distribution and Pre-emption Law, in favor of a moderate tariff of discriminating duties imposing certain restrictions upon Banks, among other things, prohibiting stockholders from voting by proxy, instructing Senators and requesting Representatives in Congress to vote for the discontinuance of Military Academy, at West Point, repealing the *registry laws*, allowing sheriffs to be chosen by a plurality instead of a majority of votes, proposing an amendment to the Constitution to enable all persons over twenty-one years of age to vote, and disfranchising the student of Yale College of New Haven. The present Legislature of Connecticut is by a strong majority democratic.

One of the most deliberate murders we have almost ever read of, is narrated by the Sentinel, published at Edenton, North Carolina. A poor white woman, named Fanny Garrett, wife of Stephen Garrett, living near Jamestown, Marting county, N. C. went on the 1st instant to the orchard of a man by the name of William Watson who lived in her neighborhood, and was in the act of picking up a few plums, when she was discovered by Watson who very deliberately left his work went to the house and got his gun, walked back towards her until near enough to shoot, took deliberate aim and shot the poor inoffensive woman dead on the spot, and left her weltering in blood. Watson is about sixty-five years of age. He alleges that this woman had conjured him. He was arrested and imprisoned for trial.

LATER FROM ENGLAND.

The Royal Mail Packet Britannia, Captain Hewitt, arrived at the wharf in East Boston on Saturday morning last from Liverpool via Halifax. The Britannia left Liverpool on the afternoon of the 4th June. There appears to be no news of much interest by this arrival, the money market is heavy—cotton is firm, but great distress prevails in some of the manufacturing towns which threatens the peace, of certain districts.

The Britannia came near being sent to the bottom by an iceberg when 9 days out from Liverpool. A passenger informs us that in the fog she was within a trifle of running into an iceberg 150 feet high, and was only saved by the timely exclamations of two men who were on the look out. The danger was most imminent, and the passengers with a grateful feeling that does them honor immediately after, raised by subscription 70 guineas, and made them a present to the two persons who thus saved them from a watery grave.

Attempt to assassinate the Queen.—We learn by the advices by the packet that two attempts have been made on the life of the Queen, as will be seen by the following extracts:

At six o'clock on Monday evening, May 30, as her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, was returning to the palace in an open barouche, with outriders, an assassin presented a pistol, and discharged it at the Queen, from very nearly the same spot on Constitution Hill from which Oxford fired. The wretch was instantly seized by a soldier of the Scotch Fusillier Guard. He was supposed to be a foreigner, but it appears that he is an Englishman, named John Francis, son of a scene shifter at one of the theatres. He is about 20 years of age.

The royal cortage, when the pistol was discharged, was fortunately proceeding at a rate rather more rapid than usual, and to that circumstance it is supposed her Majesty to a great measure owes the preservation of her life, as Francis was seen by a police constable to take a deliberate aim. The act had been noticed by Prince Albert, who sat on the right hand of his royal consort, and who immediately rose from his seat. He pointed out the miscreant to one of the outriders, when the royal servant got off his horse to assist in his apprehension, but finding him secure in custody, again followed the royal carriage.

A respectable woman states that just before the attempt, she heard the prisoner say to another man in a flannel jacket—'The Queen, why should she be such an expense to the nation? It is to support her in such grand style that us poor fellows have to work hard.'

The barrel of the pistol was quite warm when taken from the prisoner. Of course at present there cannot be any evidence as to whether it was loaded with ball or slugs, but the impression is that it was loaded with a ball. A search has been made in order to endeavor to discover the bullet, if possible, but as yet the result has not been successful.

The villain is a good looking young man, about five feet six inches high, and his countenance is rather of a placid and agreeable cast than otherwise, there is nothing ferocious in his look. He is about the same seized persons as Oxford, but rather stouter. He was respectfully dressed in a dark frock coat and check trowsers.

The assassin was examined before the Privy Council and conveyed the same night to Newgate.

Another paper says:—It appeared that an attempt has been made upon her Majesty's life on Sunday. A Mr. Pearson states that on Sunday, about two o'clock, while walking in St James' park, he saw the carriage containing her Majesty, Prince Albert and suite approaching from the Chapel Royal, and when near to the little gate leading out into the Greek park, he saw a young man who was standing near him, with his back to the rails, pull a pistol out of his breast, and as the Queen's carriage passed, present the weapon, at it, but whether he pulled the trigger he could not positively say. At any rate the pistol did not go off, and no sooner had the carriage passed than the individual returned the weapon to his breast. Mr. Pearson having unfortunately a most serious impediment in his speech, may account, in some measure for his not having raised an instant alarm. He admits also, that he at first considered the exhibition of the pistol was out of a frolic, and not seeing any policeman near, considered the party would be out of sight before he could make persons understand his meaning.

Good luck.—Edward Hibbert, a porter, in the employ of Messrs. Bramah, Presage and Bell, 124 Fleet-street, has been discovered to be heir-at-law to estates in Isleworth Whitton, Fleet-street, and Devonshire, to the value of £1,200,000.

The weather is represented as remarkably fine—and a prospect of abundant crops.

From the East.—There is nothing later from China, The Indian mail has brought intelligence of the fall of Ghuznee. The place capitulated and surrendered, on condition that the garrison be safely conducted to Dabul. On the other hand, Col. Pollock had forced the Kiber pass, and taken possession of the forts commanding it and would, no doubt, march to the relief of Jellalabad, Gen. Sale, in a sortie from that place, overthrew the insurgents.

A rumor prevailed that Akber Khen had been badly wounded.

Gen. Knott had gained some advantage on the side of Mandahar, but Gen. England had not yet joined him. It was reported that Sha Soojah had been poisoned.

France.—There were rumors that Louis Philippe's life had again been attempted. The right of search and the commercial relations between France and the United States, have lately been much discussed in the Chamber of Deputies at Paris, and by the journals.

Spain.—Some rioting took place at Seville on the 10th which suggested new suspicion of French intrigue. Groups of workmen traversed the streets, singing the 'Marseillaise,' and crying 'Down with the Regent! 'The Republic forever!' The authorities succeeded, without much trouble, in repressing those disorders.

Number of white inhabitants in each state over twenty years of age, who cannot read or write, and the white population of each state:

Maine	3,241	500,423
New Hampshire	942	283,962
Massachusetts	4,448	728,932
Rhode Island	1,814	106,593
Connecticut	525	301,859
Vermont	2,270	271,130
New York	44,432	2,382,571
New Jersey	6,385	350,723
Pennsylvania	33,040	1,615,110
Delaware	4,832	58,581
Maryland	11,605	431,441
Virginia	58,717	735,821
North Carolina	56,609	504,182
South Carolina	20,615	150,002
Georgia	30,717	863,302
Alabama	22,592	288,947
Mississippi	8,260	178,967
Louisiana	4,891	112,149
Tennessee	58,531	629,492
Kentucky	40,018	561,658
Ohio	35,394	1,498,593
Indiana	38,100	676,296
Illinois	27,502	423,330
Missouri	19,456	277,257
Arkansas	6,569	77,815
Michigan	2,173	211,001
Florida Territory	1,303	18,147
Wisconsin do	1,170	30,500
Iowa do	1,118	42,864
District of Columbia	1,023	30,657
	549,693	13,966,390

The above table possesses much interest. It will be perceived that of the New England states, New Hampshire which is the most thoroughly democratic is the most enlightened in that region or in the whole confederacy; while Rhode Island the most aristocratic in its government, is the least so in proportion to population of any of her Yankee sisters. And this state forsooth, is not capable of taking care of itself, although in all the surrounding communities, the people, not the landholders, are the sole source from whence all power arises. We sympathize with the friends of freedom in Rhode Island, and do hope they will find a set of men who have need for the times—will not betray them—will lead them steadily onwards until the civil rights they have so long plead for, shall be yielded. If not peaceably—then as we once settled an attempted usurpation of the powers of government by a miserable minority in Pennsylvania would have fought.—their opponents vanished at the threat. The democrats of Rhode Island are as brave, and no brave people ever allow might to master the right!

Our Southern neighbors have no great cause to congratulate themselves on the results of their intellectual culture as set forth in the above table.—They do not possess such immense advantage in the education of the masses, as the tone of their organs would lead one to imagine, and especially are the 'dutch' of Pennsylvania, about half a dozen times as well off in the way of education, as are their 'bivalric' brethren of Tennessee Virginia Carolina or South Carolina.

A TALE OF HORROR.

The New Orleans Picayune of the 9th, contains an account of several murders committed at or near Concordia, La, by two slaves named Joseph and Enoch. Among the victims, was Mr. Noah Harrington, and another man, name unknown. They carried off Miss Harrington, whom they treated with shocking cruelty. Also a Mrs. Todd and her child; and they murdered Mr. Todd Joseph, the one arrested, was not of age. He confessed the murders, but said he was prompted by Enoch. He was chained to a tree on the bank of the Mississippi at Union Point, and was burnt alive. While in the flames, he cried out in terms of great agony, for some one to blow his brains out. At the same moment, with a tremendous effort, he broke from his chain, and sprung from the burning pile. Immediately several rifles were levelled at him he fell. His body was again thrown into the flames, and utterly destroyed. He belonged to Mr. Vothess, and Enoch to Mr. Durand from whom he ran away. Enoch on being pursued, was shot, but not killed, and had not been taken. They were accompanied by a yellow girl named Margaret, who several times saved the lives of Mrs. Todd and her child, and said that if shot, the bullets must pass through her body. A detailed account of the various scenes is published, but some of the passages are almost too shocking to appear in print.