

Terrific Gale in the Gulf.

The mail from the South received in Baltimore Oct. 30th, contains the following particulars of a terrific gale in the Gulf, and loss of life, taken from the New Orleans papers.

The gale commenced blowing from N. E. on the morning of the 11th inst; by 1 o'clock it blew a perfect hurricane, the tide rose rapidly, and the storm raged with incredible violence until near midnight, when it abated.

Key West light-house and buildings attached are entirely gone, and the spot covered with sand washed up by the fury of the waves. Fourteen souls perished in those buildings and sands. Key Light house has totally disappeared, with the building connected with it.

All the warehouses are either blown down or unroofed. At Key West the streets are full of lumber, and not six out of 600 houses but what are either unroofed or blown down.

The whole waters now extend sixty or seventy miles to the Southwest of Tortugas. The Government will lose by the storm the revenue cutter Morris and brig Perry, two light-houses, fortifications, custom-house and hospital, not far from \$200,000.

Destructive Storm in the Gulf.

[OFFICIAL.]

KEY WEST, October 14, 1846.

Sir: It is my painful duty to report to you a dreadful calamity which has befallen this place, and every thing connected with the Florida Reef, so far as heard from.

The town of Key West is now a heap of ruins. Of about 400 houses, large and small, there is not more than 10 or 12 left standing in a habitable condition, and those much shattered, whilst the general confusion and distress can hardly be realized.

The wind gradually changed to the South, still blowing with the same strength, and finally to the Southwest, abating its fury about 11 P. M. Of course the sea was driven into the harbor, and against the island with tremendous force.

In brief terms, I have to report the total destruction of the fort. The wharves, bridges, houses, lighters, boats, tools, machinery, and materials, ordnance stores—in short, all have been swept away, and mixed up with the general ruin.

The streets of the town are barricaded with the timber and debris from the fort—a large amount of which lodged there. Even barbettes, carriages, muskets and crow bars from the fort are found in the midst of the town.

The strip of land or levee along the shore, on which the public buildings were placed, being the highest of the public ground, has been completely levelled by the sea.

The Havana prices current of the 18th ult., in summing up the list of disasters to the shipping, gives the following result: Ships sunk 11, dismantled 4, much damaged 8, safe 4—total 27.

Ships sunk 11, dismantled 4, much damaged 8, safe 4—total 27. Brigs sunk 10, dismantled 12, much damaged 14, safe 4—total 40. Schooners sunk 7, dismantled 3, much damaged 2, safe 1—total 13.

Steamships lost, Natchez, Tacon, Villanueva, Coasters sunk upwards of 45. HAVANA, Oct. 19.—Lumber is wanted. There is no Pitch Pine here. Some contracts have been made at \$54. We have sold 150,000 feet white Pine at \$30 per M.

A REVOLUTION IN COTTON PLANTING.—The most important discovery for the South is the adaptation of the plants of the old cotton-growing States, to the cultivation of Mastic cotton, a new species of the plant which commands about double the price of the unprofitable short staple cotton hitherto produced on the high lands of the cotton region.

BEAUTIFUL COMPARISON.—In an imaginary conversation between Petrarch and Beccaccio from the pen of Walter Lander, there is the following passage: "The damps of Autumn sink into the leaves, and prepare them for the necessity of their fall; and thus insensibly are we, as years close around us, detached from our tenacity to life by the gentle pressure of recorded sorrows."

Effects of the Gale at Havana.

Tremendous Loss of Shipping.—Ninety-two vessels sunk, destroyed or otherwise injured.—Forty or fifty Coasting Vessels Wrecked.—Great Loss of Life and Property.

The brig Cybelle, Capt. Merrill, arrived at Savannah on the 20th ult., bringing advices from Havana to the 20th. We are indebted to the Savannah Georgian for extras containing the accounts of the effects of the dreadful gale of the 10th ult.

The recent gale experienced all along the Southern coast, was also felt with much violence at Havana, and did considerable injury to the city, and to the shipping in port. It was one of the most severe gales that has been experienced at that island for many years past.

During the hurricane in the city it was dangerous from large sheets of lead and tile pots blown down from the tops of the houses; these lay about in every direction, and were in many instances carried by the wind to great distance.

The beautiful Palmetto and other trees which adorned the Garconero Square, were broken and torn down, even the lamp-posts, &c. The wind was strongest about nine o'clock, at which time it shifted suddenly to the Northwest, and blew with terrific violence.

The air was filled with dense clouds of "spoon drift," or salt spray, which it was impossible to face. This spray was carried for half a league into the country and deluged the houses, entering the crevices and flooding the streets.

Many houses were blown down or unroofed and among them the Tacon Theatre, which was partially unroofed and received other damage. The streets were nearly deserted except by occasional detachments of soldiers, ordered to different posts, to give assistance where it was needed.

The beautiful Paseo, the fashionable drive and promenade of the citizens, suffered to its shrubs, trees and plants, and after the hurricane, many were forcibly detained to assist in removing the rubbish and ruins from the streets.

But the wharves presented the most disastrous spectacle—ships, barks, brigs and schooners, some crowded on top of the others, three tied down, sunk, wrecked, dismantled, or totally crushed to pieces, with the owners, captains and sailors gazing upon the scene of destruction.

Some vessels known to be in the harbor previous to the hurricane, have disappeared, and their fate left to conjecture. As nothing could be seen a furlong's length, owing to the showers of spray and drift which filled the air, and as the wind blew nearly into harbor, they could not have gone out, but the sad spectacle of masts, spars, yards, and pieces of wrecks which strewed the harbor, proved that they must have drifted into each other and sunk or gone to pieces.

It is not known how many lives were lost, but bodies were seen floating in the harbor in the different dresses of seamen in the merchant and naval services.

The brig Mohawk, from Newfoundland, went ashore at Punta Fort, and was exposed to the heaviest part of the hurricane. The crew escaped by lines being let down from the fort to the wreck, by which they ascended to the walls of the fort.

News from the interior stated that the sugar crops were very much injured, and in many instances ruined. A continuance of fine weather might restore such as was not totally lost. The coffee plants were also seriously damaged.

The Governor had issued permission to such as had had their houses damaged, to rebuild with wood, a privilege hitherto denied under such circumstances.

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THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, November 7, 1846.

V. B. PALMER, Esq., at his Real Estate and Coal Office, corner of 3d and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, is authorized to act as Agent, and receipt for all monies due this office, for subscription or advertising.

Also, at his Office No. 160 Nassau Street, New York.

Our paper, this week, is pretty much taken up with news from the Seat of War. Every letter, though giving an account of the same battles, has something new or different, or the relation of some incidents not before related.

In another column our readers will find an account of one of the most violent and destructive storms that has occurred for many years. At Key West the destruction of property and loss of life was immense.

Since the result of the late elections in this State, things have settled down to the usual quiet. We find, however, quite a number of papers, as well as individuals, who were previously silent on the subject, who are now convinced of the necessity of carrying out the one term principle, and the selection of new men in all offices of power and patronage.

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Members Elected to the Pennsylvania Legislature.

- Wm. DEMOCRAT. 1 Charles Gibbons, Wm A. Crabb, 3 George Richards, 4 Wm Williamson, 6 Josiah Rich, 7 Ab Herr Smith, John P Sanderson, 9 Jacob D Boss, 12 Wm Harris, 14 Benj Jordan, 15 J S Wagonseller, 17 Philip Smyser, 18 Thomas Carson, 19 John Morris, 24 George Datis, John Lewis, 25 Robt Darragh, 27 Jesse B Johnson—18

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- DEMOCRAT. Wm. Adams James Cooper, James Burns, John Sips, Charles Lewis, John C Myers, John Long, James Graft, John L Webb, Victor E Piolet, Michael Hassp, C. S. Worrell, John Reynolds, Clarion Jefferson & Yeung, Wm. Perry, John Kratt, Stewart Pearce, S. G. Crick, J. K. Kerr, James V. Boughner, Peter Bowman, Geo. Feisteinscher, N. Jackson, Lyngdon Clinton & Patter, Timothy Ives, John S. Weiler, Northampton & Monroe, James Whit, John Jacoby, P. M. Buck, John Souder, Thomas Daly, John K. Laughlin, Stephen D. Anderson, John Kline, Thos. S. Fernon, John Rupert, Henry Mather, Susquehanna & Wyoming, David Thomas, Schuyler Fasset, John C. Knox, Warren McKean & Elk, Solomon Sartwell, Washington, Richard Danaldson, Wayne & Pike, John F. Lord, Westmoreland, Geo R Haymaker, Jas Clark, John Fausold, Total 44

MORE OF THEM.—The Governor of Kentucky has appointed Thursday, the 26th of November, to be observed as a day of thanksgiving; and the Governor of New Jersey also. This makes twelve States which will observe the same day as a day of thanksgiving.

The citizens of Lehigh county are urging the construction of a railroad along the valley of the Lehigh river, connecting Easton and Tamaqua, thence to connect, by a road now partly built, with the Beaver Meadow and the Danville and Pottsville Rail Road, thus forming a junction of all the great coal regions of Luzerne, Schuylkill and Carbon counties.

LETTERS.—The Cleveland Herald contains an advertisement for the letting of forty miles of the Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati Railroad, commencing at Cleveland.

MEXICO.—Attempts are making to fortifying the city of Mexico, and a large sum of money has been raised for this purpose.

POTATO DISEASE.—Some farmers have become quite confident that shell lime is a cure or preventative of the potato disease.

Progress of the Manufacture in the U. States.

The beneficial effects of the Tariff of 1842 upon the manufacturing interests of our country can be seen every where, but upon some kinds of manufactures its influence has been much greater than upon others.

Table with 3 columns: Names, Location, Tons per an. Lists various iron works and their production in different states like Danville, Pa., Wilkesbarre, Pa., Trenton, N. J., etc.

Of the above mentioned works all are in operation except four or five which are now in process of construction and nearly finished. It will be seen that they are of sufficient capacity to make 119,000 tons of Rail Road Iron per annum.

It is estimated that five tons of coal are used in the manufacture of every ton of Railroad Iron.—This gives an aggregate of 595,000 tons of coal used for this purpose, nearly all of which is Anthracite.

In producing the amount of Rail Road Iron mentioned above, 390,000 tons of iron ore are used. It is impossible to state accurately the number of hands employed in manufacturing the iron from the time the ore is dug until the rails are finished at the rolling mill.

THE VOLUNTEER FORCE.—The Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce says the President is about to call out a large additional volunteer force.

GENERAL PAREDES.—The arrival of this distinguished personage at Havana, was mentioned a few days ago. Bermuda papers of the 30th ult. state that he arrived at those islands the day previous, on board the British packet Thames.

POTATO DISEASE.—Some farmers have become quite confident that shell lime is a cure or preventative of the potato disease. Patches laid have been sound this year, while other patches all around, not limed, have perished.

Letter from Gen. Butler.

We copy below extracts of a letter from Gen. Butler to a near friend in Louisville. The Louisville Journal states, before giving the letter, that Gen. Butler remarks that it is the opinion of those Mexican officers who have been taken prisoners by our army, that their government will at once offer to our terms of peace.

I became faint from loss of blood, and was compelled to leave the field after having been in it under a heavy fire of grape and musketry for three hours. I have been required by my surgeon to keep perfectly still since the battle.

The condition in which we were placed fully justified, if it did not positively require, us to make the attempt. The peculiarity of our situation I cannot now explain without going into greater detail than I am able to do.

The battle commenced about 9 o'clock, A. M. and continued without intermission, with various degrees of intensity, for eight hours. I had almost 1000 men in the battle, (the Louisville Legion having been left to guard our mortars) and of that number we lost in killed and wounded about 250.

We took our battery and a house fitted up as a fortification, and I assisted the regulars in taking a second. Gen. Worth, with great gallantry and equal success, and with far less loss, carried on his operations on the opposite side of the town.

The loss of the regulars, who acted with us, was nearly proportional to ours, as I learn, tho' I have not seen the official returns.

Under all circumstances, the terms of the capitulation are favorable to us. There are still several strong forts in the hands of the enemy, which we would have been compelled to take by regular approaches or by heavy losses.

They admit they will have at least 8000 fighting men, while on our part we cannot muster 5000 for duty, and have only a few heavy guns, and them we took from them.

Never, I believe, did troops, both volunteers and regulars, behave with more calmness and intrepidity, and I do not believe that for downright, straight-forward hard fighting, the battle of Monterey has been surpassed.

THE DISTANCE BETWEEN SALTILLO AND THE CITY OF MEXICO.—The following are the distances from Saltillo to the city of Mexico, which General Taylor's army will have to march over in case he intends to proceed to that city:

Table with 3 columns: From Saltillo, (12000) Miles, Pop. Lists various locations like Aguanaveles, La Encarnacion, Noca, etc.

GENERAL FREMONT.—A letter from Monterey, on the Pacific, to the editor of the Alexandria Gazette, contains the annexed notice of our interesting young countryman, Lieut. Col. Fremont. The letter is dated July 20.

California Rye is cultivated in Georgia. On eighth of an acre in Tallapoosa county produce thirty-six bushels. The heads are immense large, and so heavy that it is necessary to cut the stalks are prostrated by the weight of ears. When sown thick, they support each other.