

LATE FROM TAMPICO.

Victoria Occupied by the American Troops, under Gen. Quitman—Repetition of old Rumors—Mexican Force believed to be near Saltillo—Col. May's Dragoons Entrapped in a Mexican Pass by a large Mexican Force—The Rear Guard Cut off—Escape with the Main Body—March of Gen. Shields from Tampico—Engagement Anticipated with Mexican Troops—Mexican Force Estimated at Fifty Thousand—Thirty Thousand at San Luis.

The brig Georgiana, from Tampico, has arrived at New Orleans, bringing dates to the 14th ultimo. Col. Kenney arrived at Tampico on the 12th, direct from Victoria, with despatches from Gen. Taylor to Gen. Shields to suspend operations for the present. Gen. Taylor had entered Victoria with Gen. Quitman on the 9th. Gen. Quitman had driven the Mexicans before him for thirty or forty miles before entering Victoria. The Mexican force was very reluctant to give up the place, and only retired at one side. Gen. Quitman was entering on the other, having no cavalry, he could not pursue the retreating enemy.

Col. Kenney parted with Gen. Taylor at Monte Morales and pushed on towards Victoria with Gen. Quitman, thence proceeding alone to Tampico. There was no reason to suppose that Generals Butler and Worth had moved from Saltillo though it was so reported. The Mexican army is believed to be not far off, though the Mexican soldiers seen in the neighborhood of Saltillo are now supposed to have been the advanced party of some 1500 or 2000 men kept in the position on this side of the desert, between Saltillo and San Luis, to destroy the water tanks in case the American army should move in force in the direction of San Luis.

From the contents of private letters received, however, there is little doubt that a large Mexican force, consisting mostly of cavalry, were at the Tula, at the latest dates, under Gen. Valencia. Gens. Urres, Romero and Fernandez, were also reported to be in the vicinity on the 1st of January. Gen. Taylor had sent forward Col. May to examine a mountain pass between Monte Morales and Labradores, and in his return he took another pass, leading to Linares, where he was attacked by a large body of the enemy, and his rear guard cut off by rolling stones down into the pass. It was a dangerous spot, the pass being scarcely wide enough for the horsemen to go through in the single file. Col. May, however, managed to get away with his main body, and reached a spot, where he was enabled to dismount and return on foot to succor the rear guard, but he was too late, as the enemy had retreated with their prize.

At one time the dragoons were almost at the mercy of the Mexicans, had the latter discharged their pieces with accuracy, as they occupied a position directly over the heads of our troops. Col. May's loss had not been ascertained, or whether any of his men were killed. There can be no doubt that Generals Taylor, Twigg, Patterson and Pillow were at Victoria with a large force. Gen. Shields, with 650 men, marched from Tampico on 10th, towards Altamira, it was supposed, for the purpose of opening a communication with Gen. Taylor at Victoria. From two to three thousand Mexican troops were between Tampico and Victoria, with which it is supposed Gen. Shields might have an engagement. The force remaining at Tampico was 950. This market was amply supplied with American merchandise.

This fact precludes the idea of any serious attack upon Generals Worth or Wool being meditated, the object of the Mexicans being only to keep a watch upon the American forces and retreat before any advance to cut off the supplies of water.

Col. Kenney brought a rumor to Tampico that 15,000 Mexicans were to attack Saltillo on the 27th ult., and verbal news was brought to New Orleans by the Georgiana to the effect that Santa Anna had placed himself between Generals Taylor and Worth with 35,000 men, and that a general action was immediately expected. This probably was merely a repetition of the rumors before received by way of Matamoros.

Col. Kenney states that the Mexican force at San Luis was 30,000 strong and the whole force in the field was estimated at 50,000. The capture of Tampico, he stated had created the greatest excitement throughout the country. Generals Butler, Worth and Wool had 8000 men at Saltillo, considered to be the flower of the army. Col. Kenney speaks confidently of the success in case of an engagement. Generals Taylor and Patterson with 6000 men were at Victoria, waiting orders from Gen. Scott. It was not supposed that any movement would be made against San Luis, but that the Mountain passes would be retained and Vera Cruz subjected by land, which it was supposed would be attacked on Gen. Scott taking the command.

Late from the Army.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Delta writing from Captain May's camp, under date of January 1st, says:

Between 7 and 8 o'clock, P. M. Capt. May got in with his dragoons. He reports the loss of 11 men and their horses, and 7 pack mules. As far as I can gather the particulars—and they come from Capt. A. May—they are these. Between Monte Morales and Linares, Capt. May ascertained that there was a pass in a gorge of the mountains, and determined to ascertain the nature of it. His command consisted of two companies of dragoons—some 70 or 80 men. On approaching the foot of the mountain, every precaution was used to guard against surprise. A Lieutenant with 12 men acted as the rear guard and guard of the pack mules of the command, who remained some few hundred yards in the rear, and in this way they progressed slowly and carefully, until they found out the

pass which was so narrow that it was with much difficulty a single horse could go through it. But May was determined to traverse it, and make what discoveries he could on the other side. Dismounting himself and men, he led his horse and the way, and after experiencing much difficulty in getting from rock to rock, the command ultimately succeeded in getting through. On the right hand side of this pass there is a perpendicular cliff of some 600 feet high, as some of the men say, 'that a man up there looked like a little boy.' On the left hand, after 10 or 12 feet perpendicular, there was a gradual slope to the top, on which an enemy could run down, fire a piece, and then return.

It is represented as being the most dangerous pass to a daring enemy that is known and one where a few determined men could stop the advance of thousands. After going as far on the other side as was thought necessary, they turned to come back, and the main body retraced their steps with the same caution observed in effecting the first passage. But the rear guard were not so lucky in getting through this time, for it appears that the Lieutenant and Sergeant got through a large body of men, who stationed themselves on the perpendicular side, showered down stones from the top so fast and so heavy, that their advance was completely cut off, and that they were either killed, taken prisoners, or made their escape to the other side. It seems that Capt. May was not taken by surprise, for he was continually urging vigilance, and left his best bugler in the rear to sound the alarm in case of accident, as though he anticipated an attack. A rumbling sound in the pass caused him to halt for the rear guard but they not coming up when he thought it was time for them to reach him, he wheeled about and went in the direction of the pass again at full speed. He shortly met the Lieutenant and a Sergeant, and immediately demanded of the former, 'Where's your men?' The answer of the Lieutenant was, 'close at hand,' at the same time turning his head around as if with the expectation of seeing them just behind him.

But there were none there save the Sergeant, and the truth immediately flashed upon the commander that something was wrong with them. As quick as thought, and as the nature of the path would permit, they dashed off for the pass, and when they reached it found that a large number of stones had been thrown down and discovered traces of blood along the defile. They followed up as fast as possible, but it was of no avail; they could make no further discoveries, nor learn anything of the fate of their companions, so they sorrowfully retraced their steps, and arrived here as above noticed.

The same correspondent, writing from Victoria, on the 6th ult., says:

Gen. Taylor visited the Illinois Volunteers yesterday, and the way the boys crowded around him, threatened immediate suffocation. By way of salutation, I verily believe the old General pulled at his cap five thousand times, and I looked every minute to see him pull the front-piece off. The General was mounted on a large and gentle mule, whilst his orderly rode a splendid dragoon horse, and was himself dressed in a clean and handsome uniform, whilst the General had on that same old black frock coat, and a big Mexican straw hat. Mr. Fannin, the orderly, got about six salutes to Taylor's one, the 'Suckers' taking him for the General, and wondering why they called him old Taylor.

When at last they found out that the old ranchero was the sure enough General, they inferred from his plain appearance, that it would be nothing amiss to offer him a hand to shake, and they went at it with such good will, that by the time the two regiments finished squeezing it, there could have been little feeling left in it. As he rode off, there were many who wondered whether that was the animal on which he charged the Mexicans.

Speaking of Generals, there is no 'particular quantity' on 'em here, at this time. Maj Gen. Taylor, Maj Gen Patterson, Brigadiers Twigg, Quitman, Pillow, and I ought to say Smith, although Persifer is now acting the Colonel. They were all in town together yesterday, at the head-quarters of Gen. Quitman.

Another correspondent of the Delta, writing from Tampico, on the 13th ult., gives the following:

The city of Tampico is one of the most lovely spots I ever saw, and under an American government would greatly improve and increase. It must, from its position, always be a large commercial port, but under Mexican administration could not arrive at great prosperity. It is supposed that the United States will never abandon this place, and they ought not to do so, as, in a commercial view, it is only second to Vera Cruz, having a large interior trade and the richest soil on the continent to support it. I must relate to you an incident that occurred prior to the movement for Tuzpan. Gen. Shields, wanting mules for his expedition, sent an officer, with some twenty men, to Altamira, and demanded of the alcalde 200 mules, for which full payment should be made. The alcalde did not wish to send the supply, and told the officer that there was not a mule within 50 miles of the place, as Canales had been there but a few days previous, and stolen them all. The officer replied to him, very politely, that he was sorry, more on account of the alcalde than any other, as he, the officer, would be compelled to take the alcalde to Tampico, and his horse not being able to carry two persons the alcalde would be compelled to walk. Upon this, his honor desired a few hours, and after deliberation with his council furnished easily the quantity of mules desired.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO. Our Peace Proposals Accepted—Offer to Receive an American Minister—Probable Close of the War.

We are indebted to a friend who arrived here last night from New Orleans, for some important intelligence, if true.

He says he perused a letter just before leaving New Orleans, written by an intelligent gentleman, with the Army in Mexico, which stated that news had just been received that the Mexican Congress had agreed to our peace proposals, and had adopted a resolution, by a decided majority, to receive an American minister to form a treaty of peace, and conclude the war.

An express from Santa Anna had reached Gen. Worth, bearing, (it is supposed) the above intelligence. The express rider stated that the resolution, in the handbill form, had been posted at San Luis.

Our informant places much more reliance in the above than we do—though it may be true. We humbly trust it is.—Baltimore Clipper.

LATE FROM RIO JANEIRO.—Late intelligence from Rio Janeiro, (26th Dec) informs us that the third man of the Columbia had been released by the Brazilian government; the other two and Lieutenant Davis were set at liberty some time before, as the former accounts advised us. In regard to the difficulty between Mr. Wise and the Brazilian government, a correspondent of the Journal of Commerce makes the following statement:

The Brazilian government dislike Mr. Wise, because he has been instrumental in breaking up the slave trade—refusing to allow American merchant men, sold here notoriously for slaving, to sail under a sealed letter with the American flag. You know the laws about licensing vessels and understand what I mean. Mr. Wise has, in doing this, incurred the displeasure of the Brazilians, and hence their disposition to make difficulty and have his recall. Mr. Wise says the U. S. schooner Enterprise, that was condemned at the navy yard (Brooklyn) two years ago, has made three successful voyages to Africa after slaves, and is now on the fourth. She sold for \$1500, and in three months cleared her owners, to his knowledge, \$9,500.

The California volunteers sailed from Rio at the end of December. It is stated that a number of the volunteers deserted at that place and were seeking employment among the shipping—probably some of the unruly fellows that the regiment was glad to get rid of. The U. S. frigate Columbia sailed for the River on the 3d of Dec. The U. S. brig Bainbridge was at Rio on the 20th.

Santa Anna and his Officers.

Our readers may recollect the Gen. Don Tomas Requena, who commanded the citadel at Monterey, and who distinguished himself very highly in the defence of the place. He was personally conspicuous in action, and attracted the attention of many of our officers; indeed he is reputed to be one of the best officers of artillery in Mexico. After he returned from Monterey, he was ordered by Santa Anna into Zacatecas in disgrace, and thereupon he published his complaints of the caprice and tyranny of the commander-in-chief. This drew out a defence of his own conduct from Santa Anna, made by an intimate friend. It appears that it had been Santa Anna's purpose to give Requena the command of the artillery of his army, and he had great expectations of gallant service from him, notwithstanding his extremely irascible disposition, which is continually involving him in difficulties. Requena's conduct, however, betrayed great negligence and even insubordination, several instances of which are given.

But all this was borne with, and the real cause of his disgrace is openly avowed to have been the loose discourse held by Requena in regard to the comparative merits of the American and Mexican troops. He is charged by Santa Anna with exaggerating, in clubs of officers and citizens of San Luis, 'the prowess of the invaders, their dexterity in the use of arms, their military skill, the physical strength of their men, &c.; at the same time, it is urged against him that he would habitually deny the like qualities to the Mexican troops, and protested that it was impossible for the Mexicans to conquer such enemies. We think, with Santa Anna, that such expressions were highly censurable when made at random, so as to come to the ears of the people—that they would have been censurable in any Mexican, but more especially in an officer of the army.

Santa Anna, deeming such conduct most injurious, 'and more especially so when some subalterns, returning from Monterey, expressed themselves in the same manner,' ordered Requena to Zacatecas to assist Gen. R. yves in fighting Indians, and immediately issued a general order to check effectually any similar license of the tongue in officers who had personal knowledge of the prowess of American troops. By this time the Mexicans may again think themselves our equals; still it is difficult to stop the mouths of those subalterns who measured strength with the Yankees at Reques and again at Monterey.—N. O. Picayune.

The Mackerel Fishery is of great magnitude in Massachusetts. The number of barrels inspected in the year 1846, was upwards of 177,000. This is more than a barrel for every family in the State. Gloucester has the largest inspection—nearly 43,000 barrels. Boston has 18,000, and Newburyport and Weymouth, a little larger number. This vast amount is independent of the very large amount of mackerel sold without barreling.

How THE MONEY WAS APPROPRIATED.—Of the large amount raised for the living sufferers by the hurricane at Rotten, the clergy appropriated a considerable portion for Masses to repose of the souls of the dead!



THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, February 6, 1847.

V. E. 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 N. 3rd Street, New York.

E. W. CARR, corner of Third and Dock Streets, Sun Buildings, opposite Merchants' Exchange, Philadelphia, is also authorized to act as our Agent.

PRINTING INK.—A fresh supply of superior printing ink just received, and for sale at Philadelphia prices.

We call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of S. Winder, No. 7 South 3d st., Philadelphia, who offers to customers an elegant assortment of Combs, of every style.

J. Ladomus, No. 33 South 4th st., offers for sale a handsome assortment of Watches, tools and materials belonging to the trade, as will be seen by his advertisement.

In the published proceedings of the Sunbury and Erie Rail Road Convention, in last week's paper, it is stated that the reconsideration of the amendment striking out the words 'Schuylkill Valley' was lost. This is an error that nearly all the reporters had fallen into. The words 'Schuylkill Valley' were re-instated on re-consideration.

ICE.—A number of our citizens were engaged, the past week, in filling their ice houses. The ice in the pool of the dam, at this place, is about six inches thick. This article is not only a great luxury in summer, but has actually become an article of necessity. In sickness, it is now much used by the medical faculty. In some cases it is a specific that cannot be supplied by any substitute.

NORTHERLAND BRIDGE.—We understand that the re-building of the bridge on the eastern side of the Island, was let on the 19th ult., to Mr. Harrison, the gentleman who constructed the bridge on the Northernland side, four or five years since. The contract price is, we believe, thirteen thousand dollars.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE CANAL COMMISSIONERS.—On the Susquehanna division, Judge Blatterberger has been appointed supervisor, in the place of Col. J. McFadden. Joseph Hutchison has been re-appointed supervisor on the West Branch. Mr. Morrison has been re-appointed collector at Northumberland, and Mr. Fearon collector at Dunstown.

THE CANAL COMMISSIONERS.—The board of Canal Commissioners have been busily engaged, during the past week, in making appointments—a most unpleasant duty where there are so many applicants for every office. The present Board, as constituted, is an efficient and able one. Mr. Hartsborne, the oldest in office and President of the Board, is an amiable and honorable man. He has no ambition to be re-elected to an office which he reluctantly took upon himself. Mr. Burns is well known as a popular and efficient officer, having a practical knowledge of our public works. Mr. Power, the new incumbent, has made a favorable impression upon all parties. He is fully aware of the position he occupies before the people, and the circumstances under which he was elected by so large a majority. He is also a practical man and a good officer, and is determined not to disappoint the expectations of his friends.

LEGISLATIVE.—In the House, on Wednesday last, a resolution was offered that the committee on vice and immorality be instructed to introduce a bill so amending the law of the last session, entitled 'an act authorizing the citizens of certain counties to decide by ballot whether the sale of vinous and spirituous liquors shall be continued in said counties,' as to embrace the whole Commonwealth, which was amended so as to extend only to counties which shall ask for the law.

Petitions to allow Banks to issue notes of a less denomination than five dollars, and others to prohibit them issuing any less than ten dollars, were presented.

A strong effort is making to abolish punishment by death.

A CURIOUS CASE.—The prize piano, which was lately awarded at the Chinese Museum for the best conundrum, the proprietor refused to give up, because the committee were not unanimous. Mr. Canigan, to whom it was awarded, has used out a replevin, and the conundrums and all will be brought up before court for decision.

There is a rumor afloat, that the Mexican Congress has agreed to receive a Minister from the U. States, and accept the proposition to enter into negotiations for peace. We are inclined to think the rumor well founded. Mexico, with all her boasting, cannot continue the war much longer. Her internal dissensions and want of means will compel her to sue for peace ere long.

There is great distress prevailing in Ireland at present, on account of the failure of the potato crop. The British Government, in order to afford relief, has given employment to the poor on the public roads. In the County of Roscommon, there are 40,000 persons receiving 10d per day, for their work on the roads. Corn is selling there at 70 shillings per quarter, while wheat is only 60 shillings, which is equal to about \$1 66 per bushel for corn.

GAMBLING HOUSES.—The Legislature, a few days since, passed an act for the suppression of the ruinous, destructive and dishonorable vice of gambling. The penalties are very severe. The keeper of a gambling table is liable to imprisonment in the penitentiary and a fine of five hundred dollars. We saw Mr. Green, the reformed gambler, in the House of Representatives, urging the passage of the bill. He says when the bill becomes a law, he will make gamblers in Harrisburg as scarce as rats in a sinking ship. In the afternoon of the same day, in the chamber of Judge Gillis, Mr. Green showed a number of Senators and Members of the House the 'tricks of the trade.' He so arranged the cards, that in playing he won, in every instance, without a single exception. He says there are now in Harrisburg some of the most skillful cheats in the country, who are even more expert in these tricks than himself, the names of some of whom he mentioned.

CONVICTED.—Jesse Robins was tried in Columbia county, week before last, for the murder of his brother, John Robins, and convicted of 'voluntary manslaughter.' He was sentenced to pay a fine of five dollars, costs of prosecution and undergo imprisonment for the term of three years in the Penitentiary.

The Second Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers was to leave New Orleans for the seat of war on the 24th ult.

The Loan bill has received the signature of the President, and become a law.

On Wednesday evening the line of communication by telegraph was open between Hartford and Toronto, distance 779 miles. A ten minutes talk was had between the operators at the two stations.

A DISTINGUISHED SON OF TEMPERANCE.—Gen. Taylor, it is stated on unquestionable authority, is a teetotaler, and has not drank a glass of the ardent for twenty years past.

A SECOND NEWSPAPER is about to be established in Oregon. The materials went over in a ship last week from Newburyport, Mass.

Congressional Proceedings.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1847.

SENATE.—The House bill, establishing post routes in Texas, was taken up and passed.

The Committee on Naval Affairs reported a bill to separate the staff officers from the line in the marine corps attached to the army. The bill was taken up and pending its passage. Mr. Houston moved to recommit it to the Military Committee, with instructions to report it back with his amendment for volunteers, before offered and rejected. Mr. Houston spoke at considerable length in favor of the volunteer system.

Mr. Huntington moved an amendment to the instructions of Mr. Houston, by instructing the committee to strike out the proviso authorizing loan certificates. Not agreed to—yeas 18, nays 28. The motion to recommit was likewise negative, and the bill finally passed by a vote of yeas 39, nays 3—Cilly, Corwin and Davis voting in the negative.

A communication was received from the Secretary of the Treasury, in reply to Mr. Cameron's resolution of the 7th of January last. It recommends the following increases of duties: viz: on coal, ten per cent; iron, ten per cent; cloths, and cassimeres, costing over four dollars the square yard, ten per cent; brown, white and refined sugars, twenty per cent; cotton prints over thirty cents the square yard, five per cent; cotton goods not printed, over twenty cents the square yard, five per cent; and on white and red lead, ten per cent. These increased duties, the Secretary estimates, will produce \$1,418,000 additional revenue. He also recommends diminished duties of five per cent, on axes, hammers, chisels, plough shares and cotton goods, not costing more than eight cents per square yard, and estimates this diminution of duties to increase the revenue \$55,000. The tax on tea and coffee is again recommended, but the rate reduced to fifteen per cent; and a few articles now on the free list, he recommends to be taxed, but none of consequence.

The Senate passed into Executive session, and adjourned on the doors being re-opened.

February 2, 1847.

SENATE.—A Report was received from the War Department, with the annual returns of the Militia of the United States.

On Mr. Dix's motion, the President was requested to transmit to the Senate all the information in the possession of the departments relative to the importation of foreign criminals and paupers.

Mr. Sevier called up his bill appropriating three millions, and made a speech in its favor, stating that the object was to secure a treaty, the President being willing to conclude a treaty if Mexico would give us New Mexico and Upper California.

Mr. Miller replied that the object of the war now for the first time evolved in the effort to gain possession of New Mexico and California. He could see no prospect of peace by voting this money. The war would still go, and he believed when all expenses were paid it would be found to amount to one hundred millions for the first year.

Mr. Berrien moved to postpone the bill until Thursday.

Mr. Sevier opposed the motion and Mr. Calhoun spoke in favor of it. He thought the Senators on the other side had a right to ask it, as they had shown no disposition to prolong debate or delay measures, and had consumed less time than Senators on his own side of the question. The motion to postpone was then agreed to—yeas 38, nays 18.

The bill to sell mineral lands in Michigan and Wisconsin was then taken up, amended and passed.

The Senate then went into secret session on Executive business, and subsequently adjourned.

[Correspondence of the Public Ledger.]

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, February 1st, 1847

The Military Bill has at last passed the Senate in the form of regulars, and there is no doubt that, in order to expedite matters, the House will concur with the amendments of the Senate. The principal one of these is that originally offered by Mr. Cameron and amended by Messrs. Corwin and Simmons, giving poor soldiers a bounty of 100 acres, or scrip that amount, or \$100 in six per cent U. S. stock, after the expiration of their term of service or honorable discharge.

An attempt has been made to charge wholly which the passage of this bill suffered in the Senate upon the introduction of this amendment by Mr. Cameron; but a plain statement of the facts in the case will that accusation entirely at rest. In the place, the true difficulty and delay occur with the attempt to establish a Lieutenant General; then, with the passage of another (the Treasury Note and Loan Bill) report with a recommendation for its immediate consideration to sustain the credit of the government; then we had long debates whether hunters had better be substituted for regulars, and at last the *forma* in which the bounty was to be given to soldiers occupied several days of the session while the bill was committee, and out of it; all showing that personal pique and vanity of Senators, and struggle for ascendancy of the different Senatorial cliques for the Presidency, were the cause of the delay of the passage of the bill.

The resolutions in the House in regard to medals to be presented to General Taylor highly censurable. They are neither manly dignified, and will never pass the Senate that form. Silence on the subject would have expressed the sentiments of the majority in manner much less to be regretted. We on these proceedings to look somewhat to national reputation and the opinion of the world. Such a mixture of *sweet and acid* is incompatible in these resolutions requires nothing but a *spiritual* addition from the Senate to form most perfect materials for 'Punch.'

Mr. Walker's report went into the Senate day, but it is not yet published. It contains, I intimated a week ago, a recommendation for an additional 10 per cent. ad valorem on rum and coal, and 30 per cent. ad valorem on refined sugar. The rest of the duties remain pretty much the same. Pennsylvania will soon see whether the opposition is really disposed to be kind to her.

From Santa Fe and the Plains.

STARTLING REMOVS.—The following startling news is extracted by the St. Louis Reveille from the St. Josephs Gazette, where it appears in shape of a letter from Santa Fe, under the name of N. 12th 1846. The Reveille as we think with reason says:

'We place no reliance whatever on the fact that a city has never yet been occupied by an invading force without similar panics being spread. A strange climate, confinement, and a lack of usual comforts, we think, will sufficiently account for any illness which may prevail.' give it as we get it.

SANTA FE, Nov. 12, 1847.

There is a rumor in the city day, that the Spaniards have poisoned the flour and meal used by the army, which is said to be the cause of so many deaths. The poison consists of some vegetable substance, with enough strength in it to produce instant death, but just enough to derange the digestive organs and prevent medicine from operating on the system. If the rumor should prove true, it will be difficult to prevent acts of violence. If true wretches must die.

Something strange must be the matter, for morality of the volunteers is increasing at alarming rate. We are dying off at a rate of per month.

The Independence (Mo.) Expositor of the ultimo mentions the arrival of four men from Santa Fe, who left that city on the 24 of November. Thirty in all started from that place, of that number they lost three men, who were frozen to death.

KENTUCKY U. S. SENATOR.—The Legislature Kentucky had three unsuccessful ballottings 1 week for a United States Senator, to serve years after the 4th of March next, when Morehead's term expires. Underwood, who received 14 votes; Letcher, whig, 36; Metcal whig, 12; and Hawes, democrat, 46. It requi 70 votes to elect.

AN ERA IN STEAM NAVIGATION.—The large merchant steamship in the world was launched at New York on Saturday. She is called Washington, and is intended for the line of ocean steamships between New York and Bremen. The length of keel 228 feet, length of upper deck 240 feet, extreme length over all 260 feet; breadth of beam moulded, 39 feet; depth of hold, 31 feet on the outside, 49 feet; Custom-house measurement, 1750 tons; carpenter's measurement, 2350 tons; she has four decks, the upper one will be flushed fore and aft. She is to be fitted with the engines, each of 1000 horse power. She will be commanded by Captain Hewitt, known as the commander of the Harve packet ship Utica.

TWO MILLIONS OF DOLLARS are already subscribed to the new railroad to Albany from New York, which is intended to obviate the difficulties which the trade of the latter city encounters from the closing of the North River.

A wealthy young man from Virginia, about 21 years of age, who had just received a portion of his fortune in the shape of \$10,000, cash. In all a few nights since at a gaming table in Baltimore.