

The New Territory of Minnesota.

The Toledo Blade furnishes the following interesting sketch of this new Territory:

"It is bounded on the north by Canada West; on the east by Michigan and Wisconsin; on the south by the parallel of 43 degrees 30 minutes, which is the most northern line of Iowa; and on the west by the river Sioux and Red River of the North. The line separating Minnesota from Michigan is in Lake Superior, and that separating it from Wisconsin passes along Lake Superior to the Fall of the St. Louis river, and thence south till it strikes the river St. Croix, which it follows to the Mississippi. Thence down the Mississippi to latitude 43 1/2, the place of beginning.

"Embraced within these boundaries there are about 90,000 square miles, equal to 55,000,000 acres. It is in nearly the same latitude as the State of Maine. In area it exceeds the Island of Great Britain, and it is as large as New York and Pennsylvania. For the production of wheat and the grasses its soil and climate are favorable. Now it appears to the people of the United States as extremely distant and interior. So did Wisconsin fifteen years ago. In commercial advantages, it will not be one of the most favored of the States, nor yet one of the best.

"By means of Lake Superior, on which it borders for more than one hundred miles, from Pigeon River to Fond du Lac, its northern and middle portion will have cheap communication with all the Lake shores, and the Atlantic, and through the Upper Mississippi and St. Peter's Rivers, will hold easy intercourse with the whole great valley below. Lake Superior affords abundance of good harbors, and the Mississippi offers fine navigation up to the Falls of St. Anthony, more than 100 miles above the southern boundary of Minnesota. With the exception of its western portion, it is well watered by rivers and lakes. Its lake border is rich in metallic deposits.

"The most important points in Minnesota at present, and probably for all time to come, are Fond du Lac, at the western extremity of Lake Superior, and Fort Snelling, near the Falls of St. Anthony. With many its cold climate will be an objection. It is pretty well north, but if a man wishes to raise a vigorous family (and we know of nothing more desirable) he will much sooner seek a home in Minnesota than in Texas. There is, however, abundant ome, as yet, this side of that territory. Northwestern Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin should first be settled."

Lieut. WILLIAM PRICE, of Illinois, who was killed in the battle of Buena Vista, was seventy-two years old. A correspondent of the New York Post says he had left a home of affluence and ease, with the expressed wish to die in the service of his country, and, indeed he did on the field of battle. "They cannot cheat me out of many years," said he. When ordered with the battalion, like a forlorn hope, to the trying contest in the mountains, he exclaimed with a look of joy, as he drew his sword: "Now, boys, this looks like doing something." The enemy triumphed over his fall, supposing him to be Gen. Wool.

The same writer thus alludes to the death of a noble German in the fiercely contested battle of Buena Vista:

In the same part of the field, and about the same time with Clay, McKee and Hardin, another fell, pierced by a lance, whose name is worthy of a place in the rolls of fame—private Alexander Kunze, of Company H, 2d Regiment of Illinois. The writer was honored with his friendship, and had an opportunity of knowing him well, being a member of the same company and his tent mate. His conduct on the field was most soldierly, cool, calm, deliberate and prompt in obeying orders. His courage was conspicuous, even in the moment of his death, when he refused to surrender. Except a brother in South America, he left no relatives on this continent. His widowed mother lives in Bueckeburg, in Hanover, near to his native city, Hamburg. He received a splendid education at the Universities of Jena and Goettingen. He had been but a year in the United States when he joined our regiment in Alton, whither he had come to volunteer, from Wisconsin. His motives in taking this step were, that he might serve the country, whose constitution he respected before all other systems of government, and to gratify his curiosity in a new mode of life, by seeing Mexico, and observing, as he did with a philosophic eye, the character of her people and institutions. The writer promised much pleasure to himself in traveling with him through this country. He was twenty-seven years of age, and probably the most learned man in the army. His knowledge of philology was accurate and profound. Such was his familiarity with the Latin, that by one day's examination of a Spanish grammar he was able to read this cognate language with facility. Many pleasant hours have we spent together in rambling over the plains and mountains of Mexico, while he filled his haversack with new plants to send to Germany, and which his knowledge of botany often enabled him to class in the several genera and species.

A better or a braver heart than his never beat its last upon a field of battle. While awaiting upon the field, on the night of the 23d of February, the renewal of the attack by Santa Ana, the thought was most consolatory to several of his comrades, that death on the next day might make them companions of Miltiades, of Socrates, and of Kunze.

THE WAR IN MEXICO.—It is just one year since the war broke out in Mexico. On Saturday, the 6th, the first battle, that of Palo Alto, was fought and the first victory won.



THE AMERICAN. Saturday, May 8, 1847.

V. B. FLETCHER, Esq., at his Real Estate and Coal Office, corner of 3d and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, at his office a No. 120 Nassau Street, New York, N. E. Corner Baltimore and Calvert sts., Baltimore, and No. 16 State Street, Boston, is authorized to act as Agent, and receipt for all monies due this office, for subscription or advertising.

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

Democratic Nominations.

FOR GOVERNOR, FRANCIS R. SHUNK, FOR CASAL COMMISSIONER, MORRIS LONGSTRETH, Of Montgomery County.

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

The weather, until Wednesday last, has been cold and unfruitful. The continued winds that prevailed for the last six weeks have been injurious to vegetation. During the last ten days we have had some cold and frosty nights; but so far as we can judge, the fruit crop has sustained no injury in this borough.

An election for borough officers and town council was held on Monday last. Frederick Lazarus, Esq. was elected Chief Burgess.

We expected, by the time our paper went to press, to hear of a battle or proposal for peace between Gen. Scott and Santa Anna. Gen. Scott, at the last, advances, was advancing upon Cerro Gordo, about 12 miles this side of Jalapa. Cerro Gordo, as a fortification, is a steep and difficult mountain, almost as inaccessible as West Point. There is no doubt, but that there has been a battle at that place, or that negotiations for peace have been proposed. Santa Anna is, no doubt, inclined to peace, but dare not avow it to the Mexicans, whose hatred to the Americans is most cordial, and who would delight to see us all slaughtered. But as Santa Anna can neither whip us, and yet dare not offer terms of peace, he is in a dilemma that may prove to him both troublesome and unpleasant.

The body of Ransom Foote, who was drowned at the schute of the Shamokin dam, was found in the river near New Buffalo. A jury of inquest was held on the body on Sunday last.

EXPORT OF GRAIN.—More grain has been exported from this country to Europe, from the 1st of September to the 24th of April, than ever was exported in any year previous. The amount of breadstuffs reduced to bushels, sent from this country during that period, is said to exceed 20 millions of bushels.

THE WISCONSIN CANAL is said to be now in good navigable order. The Halifax Herald says, about 20,000 bushels of wheat have been sent to market by way of this canal. The coal trade on it has not yet commenced.

FIRST PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT.—By the list of Killed and Wounded at the Siege of Vera Cruz, it appears that the First Pennsylvania Regiment suffered more in this respect than any other Regiment present, whether Regulars or Volunteers. This is proof conclusive, that our troops were where duty was to be done, and their services most needed.

POLITICS.—The news from the armies of Scott and Taylor, which is always anxiously looked for, has withdrawn the attention of the people almost wholly from politics. This is probably just as well, as there will be, no doubt, enough of excitement before the election. We trust that our party, in recommending the qualifications of our candidate, will abstain from personal abuse towards the whig candidate. Such a course is only calculated to do injury, and with the exceptions of a few indiscreet editors, we believe, this course is pretty generally adopted by the democratic branch of the press. Democrats need not ask for no arguments but an examination of their principles.

VIRGINIA ELECTION.—The elections lately held in Virginia, have resulted favorably to the whigs. The last election in congress, stood 14 democrats to 1 whig. Now the whigs have carried six members of congress, and the democrats nine. It is more than probable that there will be a whig majority in the next congress.

It is supposed that Generals Scott and Taylor will celebrate the next 4th of July in the city of Mexico, if peace is not concluded before that time. The sickly season has already commenced at Vera Cruz, probably one of the most unhealthy cities in the world. It is not uncommon for one sixth of the entire population to die off in one season. The city of Jalapa, towards which our troops are marching, is said to be a delightful and healthy spot. It is about 60 or 80 miles from Vera Cruz, on the road to Mexico.

A HIGH COMPLIMENT.—The merchants of the city of Philadelphia, without distinction of party have had a full length portrait of the Hon. SIMON CAMERON painted, as a mark of their high estimation for his public services whilst in the United States Senate. The portrait is now being exhibited at Sully's Gallery of Paintings, and is one of the finest specimens of the art we have ever seen. The likeness is true to nature, and no one can fail recognizing the original by looking upon the copy.

The following letters, from several of the volunteers from Selinsgrove, now in the army, were handed to us for publication, by Mr. Gaugler, to whom they were addressed. Mr. App is an amateur soldier, leaving a comfortable home and a competence, for the pleasures and hardships of a life in camp.

VERA CRUZ, April 1st, 1847.

MY DEAR FRIEND—I now take my pen in hand to let you hear from my friend Bower; he requested me to give you a general history of matters and things here. Thank God, we are all well and in good spirits. We have taken Vera Cruz, and lost but 20 men killed and wounded, while the enemy's loss is reported to be from 2,000 to 2,500 killed, and to judge from appearances it must be greater. A great many buildings that our cannon knocked down have not been examined. We had five days' fighting to take the city. Day before yesterday the Mexicans marched out of town, and surrendered their arms and ammunition. I had heard much about the cowardice of the Mexicans, and am now inclined to believe the whole. If the 2d Pennsylvania Regiment had possession of the castle, the world could not take it. This city is the strongest fortified place in the world. The Castle of San Juan de Ulloa is 17 feet thick, and the magazine under water. The wall that surrounds the city is a fort. To see them stack their arms and leave them, was a solemn sight. Jacob App will finish this letter. Give my respects to all. I remain your humble servant.

HUGH McFADDEEN, FRANCIS BOWER.

Dear and Beloved Friend.—It is with pleasure that we write, in answer to your letter, which we received yesterday, about our military life. We landed on the 9th ult. about five miles below Vera Cruz, at which time we may say the battle commenced; for the Mexicans hardly ever ceased firing upon us, though this did not annoy us as much as the skirmishes we had with those outside our camp, which were not a few. It was not long before we had the city entirely surrounded, and all communication between it and the country cut off. It may appear strange to you that we delayed the attack for the space of two weeks, and laying all this time exposed to the fire of their heavy cannon and bomb shells, which were fired from the city to almost every quarter of our camp; but our time was not yet come. We were preparing our batteries, about 600 yards from the city, in one of which, fronting their best fort, I was engaged at work, and after they were finished we were engaged in pulling cannon, and were all the time busy at something. Gen. Scott was disappointed by a gun, which came not until all was over. The gun was intended to blow down the castle; and oh! how I wish I could have seen her playing. It is true, I saw the 68 pounds flying thickly through the air, but they would have appeared as shadows towards a 110 pounder. This vessel had nothing on board but this gun and men to man it. It was on the 22d, on a fine and beautiful day; the sun shone and spread its beautiful rays over both armies, until almost 4 o'clock, P. M. when the clouds began to rise and spread themselves over one of our batteries and over the city. The lightning and thundering commenced; and as I stood upon one of the sandy hills where I had a fair view, I saw the "thunder stones" flying before the flash, bidding farewell from the mouths of the cannon, and making themselves known as they entered the city, with exclamations of great joy, as they spread over whole squares, doing execution in every direction. This was Gen. Worth's battery, which continued to throw shells until Wednesday the 24th, when Gen. Pillow's battery, (our battery,) followed him with his balls, playing upon the fort, so that the city could find work in every corner.

The first night after our fire commenced, I was stationed as guard upon the hill before mentioned. To see the fiery balls passing and re-passing in the air was great fun, but to hear the screams and groans and crying of the women and children, was enough to create feelings in the breast of every one, that words cannot express. In reading histories of battles I have sympathized for the innocent; but I never felt upon the subject as I did that night.

Our army was formed into three divisions: the first was commanded by Gen. Worth and stationed on the right; the second by Gen. Pillow, (to which we belong,) was stationed on the left of the first, and the third by Gen. Twiggs, was stationed on the extreme left.

The fire was kept up until Friday morning, when they gave up the city and castle, which put an end to the effusion of blood. Our troops lay quiet until Monday morning, when we were marched to a plain close to the city, where we arrived just as the Mexican troops were marching out of the city with their arms, dressed in various uniforms, among which was a company of blacks dressed in white. As they marched out they gave us splendid music. They grounded their arms and marched off, and left them for "Uncle Sam." This put me in mind of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. They reported their forces at 4,000, but it must have been much greater, and is supposed by many to amount to 6,000 or 7,000.

The loss of the Americans during the whole engagement amounted to 15 or 20, with those that died from wounds, while that of the Mexicans amounted to the sum given above. The ruin in the city must be very great.

About the battle between Gen. Taylor and Santa Anna, you no doubt know as much as we do. The report you gave in your letter about Santa Anna is not correct; but there are many flying reports here. It is said, at present, that Taylor's whole army are taken prisoners; but I cannot believe it until I have better authority. We are both doing well, and I can say that I feel better now than I have for two years. With a few exceptions, our boys are all doing well. Give my best respects to all my friends. I remain yours, JACOB APP, of Selinsgrove. To Mr. WILLIAM GAUGLER.

Reidel, the Murderer and Suicide.

The Pittsburg Chronicle furnishes the following account of the suicide of Frederick Reidel, on Friday last:

He had been left in his cell, from which every injury upon himself had been removed, on Thursday night at about 10 o'clock, and at six was found dead suspended by the neck from the water cask.

It appears that Reidel had procured a piece of glass from the window, or some other source, and had made two gashes in his left arm, from which the blood flowed profusely, but it is supposed fearing that death would not speedily ensue from this cause, he tore off a strip of his blanket with which he made a rope, and finished the matter by hanging himself.

Reidel had made no confession. Almost his last words to human ears, were protestations of his innocence. A sheet of paper was found in his cell, upon which he had written in a *patois*, which is somewhat difficult to translate correctly:

"You need not put the blame upon any body else. I do not want to be hung. No one knows anything about it, who it comes from but myself."

"FREDERICK REIDEL." This probably has reference to his suicide, (although there are some think it refers to his wife) and the means by which he accomplished it. It is somewhat strange that nothing with which he could have cut himself was found in his cell. A piece of glass is broken from the window, and from the roughness of the wounds it is supposed he must have made use of this, and perhaps thrown it out, or into the pipe.

TREASURY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.—The receipts into the National Treasury for the quarter ending March 31st, were \$14,067,950, of which from customs there were \$6,300,000, public lands \$210,000, Treasury notes \$6,215,450, loans \$1,295,500. The expenditures were \$13,147,174, as follows:

For account of the army, \$6,081,839 62; Indian department, 52,339 11; fortifications, 155,334 48; pensions, 738,273 49; navy, 1,929,760 59; interest, &c., on public debt, 15,617 63; redemption of loan of 1841, 3,000; reimbursement and interest of Treasury notes, 2,345,016 67; reimbursement of Treasury notes purchased, including interest, 6,631 20.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE PATENT OFFICE is full of new and interesting facts. The Commissioner speaks of the existing law by which a subject of Great Britain is compelled to pay into the treasury the sum of \$500 before his application can be examined, and the citizens and subjects of all foreign countries to pay \$300 on their respective applications, and says the effect of this provision is unquestionably to prevent the introduction into this country of many useful and valuable discoveries which would otherwise be patented and introduced. During the year ending December 31, 1845, there were 1272 applications for patents. The number of patents issued during the same period was 619, including 13 re-issues, 5 additional improvements and 59 designs. The number of patents expired, 473. Three applications for extensions have been made, two of which were rejected, and one is still pending. Two patents have been extended by Congress. There has been received by the commissioners \$50,204 16, of which sum \$11,089 99 have been repaid on applications withdrawn, and for money paid by mistake. The amount of money in the treasury to the credit of the patent fund, on the 1st of January, 1845, was \$182,459 69. The balance paid in on the 1st of January, 1847, increases it to \$186,505 15.

THE VOTE OF THANKS TO GENERAL TAYLOR is handsomely acknowledged in a letter to Governor Shunk, dated the 27th of March.

DEATH OF MR. DRUMGOOLE CONFIRMED.—The death of Mr. Drumgoole, recently elected to Congress in Virginia, is confirmed. He breathed his last on Wednesday evening, after a severe attack of pleurisy for eleven days.

THE HON. HENRY CLAY has given his consent to the interment of the remains of his lamented son in Louisville. It is the intention of the people of that city to erect a monument in honor of the deceased.

RAM'S HORN NOMINATION.—The "Ram's Horn," New York city, a paper devoted to the colored population, has nominated Gerrit Smith and Frederick Douglass, for President and Vice President at the next election.

LEGACY FAILED.—Reference to our law reports will show that a legacy of \$300 per annum, given by the Rev. Ezekiel Cooper, deceased, for the benefit of superannuated and worn out Methodist preachers has entirely failed, in consequence of a neglect of legal formalities by the testator.

THE LICENSE QUESTION.—The Albany Argus says,—"We have returns from more than 300 towns, in which two to one of the towns, and a large preponderance of the popular vote, are in favor of license."

ACCIDENT BY GEN. COTTON.—A serious accident occurred at Spencer's Mines, East Norwichee, on Thursday last, by which a miner, named Francis Thomas, was very badly injured on the breast and face.

MAJOR BLISS, Gen. Taylor's aid and amanuensis, is a son of the late John Bliss, of Whitehall, N. Y., who was a Captain in the U. S. Army in the war of 1812—and is not, as the papers have it, from New Hampshire. He was educated at West Point, where his superior abilities obtained for him the sobriquet of "Perfect Bliss." Major Bliss is chiefly regarded in the army on account of his literary attainments, being one of the best writers of the day, and a finished German, French and Spanish scholar.

PARDONED CONVICTS BROUGHT INTO THE UNITED STATES.

A captain of a merchant vessel from Bermuda was arrested in New York, on Monday, on a charge of having brought into the United States eight convicted and pardoned felons from the island of Bermuda, knowing them to be such. One of these, William Scholes, was convicted at Salford, England, of highway robbery, on the 30th of August, 1841, and sentenced to be transported for ten years, put on board the bulk Thames, at Bermuda, where he was kept at work until the 23d of April last, when he and Samuel Parks, who was convicted of burglary at Birmingham England, on the 22d of October, 1841, and sentenced also to be transported for ten years together with six others of the same sort, were pardoned by the Queen and placed on board the brig Triton by G. J. Kirkland, the acting overseer at Bermuda. Parks having knocked down Scholes and robbed him of twenty-one sovereigns, at the Walton House, New York, a few nights ago, was committed to prison to answer for highway robbery. The captain was held to bail in \$2000 to answer. This is a kind of immigrants that will not add much to the honor or reputation of the country. The poor of other countries bring their industry, with which they supply their own wants, and add to the national wealth, and are therefore to be welcomed; but foreign criminals bring nothing but their vices, and add to the country nothing but their crimes.

A JUDICIAL MURDER.—A young man, named Chas. H. Smith, was hung or rather butchered, at Hickman, Ky., on the 20th inst., for the murder of Abraham O. Tyler.

A small cotton rope was placed around his neck, which of course broke when the drop fell. The victim lay stretched on his back for some minutes upon the ground, in great agony and apparently dying. But he recovered sufficiently to ascend the platform. This time the Sheriff went to the other extreme, using a rope or cable so large and rough that the noose would not tighten. In ten minutes after he was swung off the tortured man was still kicking, apparently in great agony. Horrible!!

The Whig papers of Richmond now concede the election of Mr. Thompson, the Democratic candidate for Congress in the Kanawha district.

The following despatch from Lord PALMERSTON was communicated to Mr. BUCHANAN, Secretary of State, through the Hon. Mr. Pakenham, and conveys the thanks of the British government, and the British nation, to the citizens of the United States, for their liberal contributions to relieve the sufferings of the Irish people: FOREIGN OFFICE, March 31, 1847.

SIR: I have received your despatch, No. 8, of the 12th ult., stating that measures have been taken for the purpose of raising a subscription in the United States for the relief of the destitute Irish poor. And I have to instruct you to take every opportunity of saying how grateful Her Majesty's government, and the British nation at large, feel for this kind and honorable manifestation of sympathy by the citizens of the United States for the sufferings of the Irish people. It might, indeed, have been expected, that a generous and high-minded nation would deeply commiserate the sufferings which an awful visitation of Providence has inflicted upon so large a population, descended from the same ancestors as themselves.

But the active and energetic assistance which the people of the United States are thus affording to the poor Irish, while it reflects the highest honor upon our transatlantic brethren, must tend to draw closer, and to render stronger and more lasting, those ties of friendship and mutual esteem, which Her Majesty's government trusts will long continue to exist between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon family—separated, indeed from each other by geographical position but united together by common interests, to which every succeeding year must add increasing extension and force. I am, &c. PALMERSTON.

To the Right Hon. RICHARD PAKENHAM, &c., &c. GENERAL TAYLOR, in the year 1841, purchased, it is said, a plantation, stock, &c., near Rodney, in Mississippi, for which he paid, in cash, ninety-five thousand dollars. An exchange paper learns from Hon. W. M. Gwin, of New Orleans, a personal friend of Gen. Taylor, that some miscreant opened a breach in the levee, about two miles above the plantation named above, and it is now wholly under water! The loss of the crop follows, as a matter of course, and a moderate estimate would set this loss at about thirty thousand dollars.

A BAPTIST CLERGYMAN KILLED AT BUENA VISTA.—Among those killed at Buena Vista, says the St. Louis Republican, was a Mr. Roundtree, of Illinois, whose attachment to the army occurred under very singular circumstances. "He was a preacher of the Baptist persuasion. At the commencement of the war, three persons of the same name volunteered and went to the place of rendezvous at Alton. Two of them were near relatives, and the third his son, who went along, seemingly, to take care of the other boys. When examined, it was found that the son was excluded by the regulations of the army having lost the fore finger of his right hand. It became a question who should supply his place and the care over the two young men. This was soon decided. Mr. Roundtree stepped forward and enrolled himself among the volunteers, did duty as such throughout the campaign and was killed on the battle field."

SLAVS SYMPATHY.—A wealthy planter, in Lowndes county, Alabama, called his negroes together, a short time since, and told them of the distressed condition of the Irish poor, when the slaves immediately raised a subscription among themselves, amounting to \$30, which was duly applied.