

Special Correspondence of the Picasune.

FROM THE ARMY OF GEN. TAYLOR.

SALTILLO, Mexico, May 21, 1847.

A short time after my last letter closed, the town was thrown into a fever of excitement by the arrival at Gen. Wool's camp of two Mexican officers from San Luis Potosi, charged with despatches for General Taylor. They professed to be ignorant of their contents, but to believe that they had come from the city of Mexico, and contained the intelligence that an armistice had been granted, and that negotiations for peace were under discussion between General Scott and Santa Anna. Extatic was the joy of many who are "in for the war," and pine for the day when they shall again rejoin their friends and families.

The despatches were immediately forwarded to Gen. Taylor by Lieut. Franklin, and the Mexican officers treated with the most marked courtesy by our officers at this post. They professed ignorance of the character of the despatches, but believed that the above was their purport. Singular to say, this idea was generally believed; for myself, I have so little confidence in any Mexican, that I believed it to be a paper from the Department of San Luis—a remonstrance against the advance of General Taylor, or something of that character.

Private letters received from San Luis by citizens here, brought by the Mexican officers, announced that the inhabitants were in a state of excitement from the expected approach of our army from this quarter, which was looked for by the 28th inst. The despatches arrived here on Tuesday, and were immediately forwarded, and the protracted absence of the bearer, Lieut. Franklin, tended to excite the curiosity felt to be apprised of their contents.

About 1 o'clock to-day he returned, and lo! the bubble burst! The important despatch was a communication from the Governor of San Luis Potosi, announcing that he has heard of the intended approach of the American army, and begging to inquire whether it was the intention of the commanding general to conduct the war according to the usages of civilized nations, or according to the manner adopted by the Camanches. What reply Gen. Taylor will make to a question and communication of so insulting a character I cannot say, but I am told his usually even temper was considerably ruffled upon reading it, and he is said to have remarked that he should think the Mexicans had become pretty well acquainted with our manner of conducting war before this. If they have not it is certainly not his fault, for he has tried hard enough to beat it into them.

There is no doubt that we shall march upon San Luis at a very early period, as soon as a sufficient number of troops arrive from below, and from San Luis to the city of Mexico. A communication received from Gen. Scott by Gen. Taylor a few days ago, giving a brief account of the battle near Jalapa, directs Gen. T. to march at once, or as early as possible, from San Luis, where he expected the letter would reach him, to the city of Mexico. So that Gen. Taylor will not probably remain any time at San Luis, unless he receives orders there, but leaving a garrison for the place, will proceed with the residue of his command to the city of Mexico. The command will probably never retrace its steps this way, as there will be no occasion for it. I have, therefore a fair prospect of "reveling in the halls of the Montezumas," as well as some other people, and if I live through the campaign and return via Vera Cruz, I shall have seen quite as much of the country as I care about. As soon as my health will permit my going to Monterey, I shall apprise you more in detail of the plan of operations, number of troops to be taken, and all other particulars likely to be interesting.

A Mexican was stabbed in the back a few days since in the plaza by a fellow countryman, and has since died. Col. Doniphan, with the residue of his command arrived at camp this morning and reported to General Wool. It is thought that the artillery companies under Captain Wrightman, attached to this command, will consent to remain during the war, but I hardly think such will be the case. The regiment is under orders to march on Sunday, the 23d, for the Brazos, there to be discharged. The two Illinois Regiments will march from here on the 30th or 31st inst., and the Arkansas Cavalry on the 1st of June. The two Indiana Regiments, 2d and 3d, will proceed on Monday. The troops then of the old stock, will all be gone except Ben McCulloch's company of Texas Rangers, now commanded by Lieut. Tobin, and not a company will go on to San Luis, except the artillery batteries, that have been in any of the hard fights with Gen. Taylor. Well! let us hope that the new regiments will stand up to their work quite as well as the old, and, if an opportunity occurs, distinguished themselves as their predecessors have done. We cannot doubt them. It is scarcely probable that there will be any resistance at San Luis, yet the Mexicans may make a stout one. An order has just been received from Gen. Wool, by the two Mexican officers who brought the despatches from San Luis, to report to him to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock, for an answer to their despatches.

THE FRUITS OF VICTORY.—Our late operations in Mexico have opened to us the fruit markets of Jalapa. We observed several varieties of melons, figs, and other fruits in our markets, and at the fruit stores, which being different in appearance from similar products of our soil, and much more forward than such fruits are with us, we were led to inquire where they came from, and were answered that they were from Vera Cruz. Large quantities are brought over by every ship. They find a ready sale in our market. The valley of Jalapa is famous for its delicious fruits. The pine apple produced there is the finest in the world, and other of its fruits are fully equal to those of Cuba.—N. O. Delta.

Over 40,000,000 pounds of sugar were made in the United States during the year 1846.

Important from the City of Mexico.

In the city of Mexico everything is manifestly in a state of confusion and almost unlicensed anarchy. Gen. Bravo has resigned not only his command of general-in-chief, but also his commission of general of division. Gen. Rincon is said to have done the same thing. More of the causes in our next.

It is true that Gen. Almonte is under arrest though the cause of his imprisonment are not avowed. He is confined in Santiago Tlalcalolco.

The death of Gen. Scott was, for several days, reported in the city of Mexico, and generally credited. The error was discovered, however, prior to the latest dates.

Gen. Ampudia has been directed to await further orders at Cuernavaca. What suspicious thing he has done or contemplated we are not informed.

Gen. Valencia and Gen. Salas were ordered to leave the city of Mexico on the 24th ult. for the city of San Luis Potosi, to take command of the army of the North.

The accounts we find in the Mexican papers of the disaffection in Zacatecas confirm those we published a few days since. The official paper of the State publishes wrong representations made against Santa Anna and in favor of the Americans—Gen. Scott's manifesto among the latter. This latter document is also given in all the papers of the capital.

Gen. Arista has refused to resume his military functions until his conduct should be investigated by a military tribunal. He demands that his trial may take place at once, in order that he may take part in the defence of the country.

[From the N. O. Bee of the 14th inst.]

We have more than once had occasion to translate portions of the letters from the City of Mexico, written for the Patria, by an intelligent and seemingly impartial and well informed correspondent. In that paper of yesterday, we find another communication dated the 22d of May, parts of which are extremely interesting. The writer adverts in the strongest terms to the deplorable disorder and confusion that prevail in the capital. Mexico, says he, seems in a more desperate state than ever. No one knows what is to be done, and those who hold the reins of what is called Government, neither know what steps they should take, nor what they are themselves able to effect.

We have at length an account of the circumstances attending the return of Santa Anna to the Capital. It appears that on the 17th, the Republicans published a complete and triumphant vindication of Gen. Minon, in which Santa Anna's conduct was exhibited in a most odious light. The populace were furious against their lately idolized general, and when two days after, Santa Anna entered the city, he was received by the rabble with indignant cries of "Death to Santa Anna," "he sells us to the Yankees," and volleys of stones in all directions. The General-in-chief made his way to the National Palace with all convenient speed, and the guards were doubled to prevent more dangerous outbreaks. Thus far, observes the writer, the press has been prevented from making public these outrages.

The Capital is nearly defenceless in spite of Mexican fanfare, and, it is thought, that if Scott were to present himself, he would enter without resistance from a population of nearly 200,000 souls. Almost all others than the military are in favor of peace, and do not care to conceal their opinions. The soldiers are for war, not through patriotic motives, but that they may give full vent to their licentiousness and respect.

With respect to the Clergy, they have wonderfully modified their views since the promulgation of Gen. Scott's proclamation. Perceiving that the Americans pledge themselves to respect the Church property, and observe their pledges, the Clergy have determined not to render their wealth for the benefit of the Republic, arguing that when they agreed to deposit themselves before, they imagined that the Americans would strip them, and that therefore they had better help their own countrymen.—Now, however, that they do not fear being molested, the Clergy keep their purse strings tightly drawn.

The returns for the election of President had not, of course, been fully received at the date of the writer's letter. He is confident, however, that Herrera has been chosen, and thinks that he is disposed to commence negotiations for peace. Gen. Scott will probably be in Mexico by the time the result of the election is ascertained.

THE INDIANIAN AT BUENA VISTA.—Surgeon Chamberlain, in a recent letter to the editor of the Sunday News, relates the following incident, as illustrative of the power and influence of Gen. Taylor over the troops under his command. During the retreat of the Indians, General Taylor, riding up to the rear of the retreating regiment, thus addressed them:—

"Men—soldiers—fellow countrymen—I fought for you and your country before you were born. I fought for you when you were boys. I have fought for you since you were men. Now I want you to fight a little while for me. Will you do it?"

"Huzza for old Zack! Turn out! To the death of old Zack!" was shouted by more than two hundred of the gallant fellows, (for such they subsequently proved themselves,) who immediately rallied under an officer, and fought bravely during the rest of the engagement.—Cincinnati Signal.



THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, June 26, 1847.

Democratic Nominations.

FOR GOVERNOR, FRANCIS R. SHUNK,

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER, MORRIS LONGSTRETH,

OF Montgomery County.

WHIG NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR, GEN. JAMES IRVIN.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER, JOSEPH W. PATTON.

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

THE CORNER STONE of the new German Reformed Church will be laid on Sunday next, in this place. The workmen are busily engaged in the erection of the building.

GEN. TAYLOR A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY.—There can be no longer any doubt but that Gen. Taylor, in all human probability, will be our next President. The only question heretofore has been, whether he would suffer himself to become a candidate for that high office. This is no longer a matter of doubt. It is now a "fixed fact" that he will be a candidate, and his election is a necessary consequence, as every body seems to be in his favor. We saw, a few days since, a letter from Col. Jefferson Davis, the son-in-law of Gen. Taylor, and the gallant soldier who led the Mississippi regiment at Buena Vista, on this subject. The letter is dated at Monterey and addressed to a distinguished Pennsylvanian, of high standing in the democratic party. Col. Davis states that Gen. Taylor had no desire to become a candidate for the Presidency, but as a large portion of his friends were putting him forward for that station, he did not think it proper to resist their wishes, but that he will not accept the nomination of any party or convention; that he was no politician, and if elected he must be elected as the candidate of the people, whose interests and the interests of his country alone, would be his rule of conduct. The Colonel further states that Gen. Taylor has always been the warm friend of Gen. Jackson, and also of Thomas Jefferson. His views on the tariff are in accordance with his own. The whole tenor of the letter is such, as would be highly satisfactory to every liberal minded democrat. And judging from his firmness; his intelligence and integrity; his republican simplicity and his coolness in the hour of danger, he is as successful in the cabinet as he has always been in the field, and that too, often under circumstances of the most trying nature, and which could only have been surmounted by a degree of heroism and moral courage that seldom falls to the lot of man.

THE PRESIDENT left Washington on Tuesday last, on a visit to the cities of Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston. From the preparations that have been made in the different cities, he will meet with a warm reception by the people, without distinction of party.

DEATH OF MR. O'CONNELL.—The arrival of the Cambria, last week, brought the news of the death of Daniel O'Connell, the Irish Liberator. He died at Genoa, on the 15th ult., having went to Italy for the benefit of his malady. The news of this great man's death was not unexpected, as previous arrivals brought the intelligence of the decline of his health. His remains were to be buried in Ireland, but his heart was to be deposited at Rome.

PEACE.—There appears to be as much diversity of opinion in regard to the prospects of peace as ever. The views of letter writers in Mexico and those at Washington are widely different. Mr. Kendall, the correspondent of the Picasune, who is well acquainted with the Mexican character, and the feelings of the people of that country upon the war, says, in one of his last letters, that "he who thinks that a lasting and beneficial peace can be made with Mexico, or believes that the American troops are soon to be withdrawn, is some one who has not been over the country—he starts in his belief from false premises, and judges a race of people by the ordinary rules which govern human nature, while it is notoriously a fact that they have long since thrown all ordinary rules at defiance."

"Observer," the Washington correspondent of the Ledger, it will be seen by the following extract, looks upon the subject in a different light, altogether.

"I have no means of judging of the views and purposes of the administration, other than many in common with himself; but still venture on expressing my belief that the war will not last three months longer, and that the hardest fighting, and in fact all the fighting of any consequence is over. We may not have an actual treaty signed three months hence, but peace we shall certainly have, and perhaps some kind of a convention, which may even give it the form of a law."

PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE FIELD.—Capt. R. B. Marcy, of the 5th infantry, received, in Harrisburg, in eleven months, three hundred and forty of his fine troops, the Harrisburg Union says, as ever entered the army—all healthy, stout, and well behaved young men. All entered the service of their own free will, without any improper inducements being held out to them, and all enlisted when they were perfectly sober and free from the influence of intoxicating liquors.

Later from Vera Cruz.

The Vomito Increasing.—Attack on a Large Train by Guerrillas—Thirty Americans Killed.

Specie Carried off—Forty Wagons Destroyed.—Two Hundred Miles Captured—Reinforcements Sent For.—Gen. Cadwalader in the Field.—Communication with General Scott Cut Off.

The New Orleans Picasune of the 17th, containing later dates from Vera Cruz, brought by the arrival of the U. S. steamship Massachusetts, Capt Wood.

The Massachusetts brings over 155 sick and wounded soldiers, under charge of Dr. Tuller. The vomito is represented as on the increase at Vera Cruz.

Quite the most important intelligence brought by this arrival relates to an attack upon a large train by the Mexican Guerrillas, which has been partially successful. By the Fanny we learned that a train was to leave Vera Cruz on the morning of the 5th inst. for Puebla, under the command of Lieut. Colonel Mackintosh. The train had in charge \$225,000 in specie, of which \$100,000 belonged to the Paymaster's department, and the remainder to the Quartermaster. One hundred and twenty five wagons and six hundred pack mules were in the train, which was escorted by 800 troops.

The train left Vera Cruz on the night of the 4th inst., and on Sunday, the 6th, when it had advanced about 25 miles it was attacked by a large party of Guerrillas. The place was well selected for the purpose by the Mexicans, being represented as a defile broad enough for a single wagon only. It is said that slight works had been thrown up by the Mexicans to obstruct our advance.

The attack was made upon each extremity of the train and upon the centre at the same time, the principal point, however, being the wagons which were supposed to contain the specie. The attack was so far successful that forty of our wagons were destroyed.

Those containing the specie and two hundred mules loaded with subsistence were taken and thirty of our men killed.

No later dates from the train had been received. On the morning of the 11th, the day the Massachusetts left, no later news had been received from the army of Gen. Scott. The reason of this is however obvious, for the present at least, as the communication has been entirely cut off.

We do not regard this as at all alarming, for Gen. Cadwalader will open a passage to Jalapa at once.

CONVICTION OF MURDER.—Martin Shay, who was tried last week, at Pottsville, charged with murdering John Reese, in that borough, in December last, has been found guilty of murder in the first degree. The jury retired at 8 o'clock, on Thursday evening, and brought in their verdict at half past eleven. When the verdict was rendered the sister of the unfortunate man gave a heart piercing shriek, and fainted away. The prisoner was much more composed than was anticipated. Application has been made for a new trial.

THE UNITED STATES GAZETTE, under the control of J. R. Chandler, Esq. for the last forty years, one of the most valuable establishments in the State, has been purchased by G. R. Gram & Co. of the North American, for the sum of 47,000 dollars. Mr. Chandler will retire from the press with the good wishes, and high opinion of whigs and democrats.

INLAND TRADE.—The number of boats towed to Philadelphia, since the opening of the Tidewater Canal to June 1st, was 1045, and to Baltimore 261 boats.

COL. WYNSHOOP.—Col. Wynkoop, of the 6th Pennsylvania regiment, has been appointed Governor of Perote, by Gen. Scott, and Lieut. Kärcher of the same regiment, has been appointed postmaster of that place. So says the Pottsville Emporium.

GEN. PATTERSON has been tendered a Public Dinner by the citizens of Harrisburg without distinction of party, as a mark of respect for the highly valuable services he has rendered his country in the war with Mexico.

A dinner it is said, is to be given by the citizens of Washington to Col. May, the brave dragon, to which Mr. Secretary Marcy is to be invited.

THE FOURTH OF JULY.—The Common Council of New York have appropriated \$1500 to celebrate the Nation's birthday. The celebration by the city draws strangers enough into that place to more than pay the expense.

POSTAGE STAMPS.—The Washington Union says that the Postmaster General has made arrangements by which he will be enabled, about the 1st of July, to furnish the large offices in the Union with postage stamps. They may then be procured in any number by persons desirous of preparing their correspondence. To such they will doubtless prove a great convenience, as a letter with one of these stamps on it may be deposited in the office at any hour, day or night, in the same manner as letters on which the postage is not pre paid.

FARMERS have commenced cutting their grain in several parts of Virginia. The harvest will be more than an average. The quality of the wheat is said to be very superior. The grain is ripening fast in the vicinity of Fredericksburg and along the Rappahannock. Preparations are making to commence harvesting in all quarters.

MEMORANDUM BY AN INTELLIGENT GENTLEMAN FROM MAUMER CITY, OHIO.—On the borders of Lake Michigan, there are now in store, ready for transport on a million of bushels of breadstuffs. It is estimated that the means of transportation will not clear out the old stock before the new comes in. The crops in Ohio bid fair for a full average.

WHEAT IN WISCONSIN.—Notwithstanding the high price of wheat in the Atlantic cities, it is selling for thirty-seven and a half cents the bushel in Wisconsin, at the present time. That's the country for bread eaters to go to.

Mr. Whitney, the projector of the railroad to the Pacific Ocean, recently gave a lecture before the members of the Legislature of Maine, in favor of his scheme, and the Legislature passed resolutions approving it and expressing a hope that Congress would accede to Mr. Whitney's demand, which is to grant to him the land for thirty miles on each side of the contemplated road, the whole distance. Last week, Mr. Whitney repeated his lectures before the New Hampshire Legislature. The Senate passed resolutions approving the scheme, similar to those passed by the Legislature of Maine. When these resolutions came up for action in the House, General Wilson spoke against them. He was acquainted with much of the territory through which this road would pass, if it was ever made, and he said to grant to a company a tract of land sixty miles in width, extending from the Lakes to the Pacific Ocean, would be to create one of the most powerful monopolies that ever existed. His speech had a powerful effect; for when he sat down the question was taken, and the resolutions were laid on the table by a unanimous vote.

THE PRODUCE OF THE WEST.—Some idea of the cost of getting the produce of the West to market may be formed from the copy of an account of the sales of 13,580 bbls. of flour by a commission house in Boston, received from St. Joseph, Michigan, and which is published in Hunt's Merchants Magazine. The flour sold for \$90,657 21. The charges upon the same, including \$4,115 31 on the St. Joseph river, amounted to \$21,067 17, nearly half of the net proceeds.—The charges occurred on last season's freights, and would have been nearly or quite a third more this spring.

The value of the products received at New Orleans from the interior, in the course of the single year of 1845, is set down at over fifty seven millions of dollars; and this too, during a year peculiarly unfavorable, by reason of the low stage of the rivers. The number of steamboat arrivals at New Orleans during that same year, was 2,530, and their united tonnage was estimated to have been 632,500 tons. An amount of steamboat tonnage greater than that of the whole of Great Britain. The whole steamboat tonnage employed on the Mississippi in 1845, was over three and a quarter millions of tons, while the whole foreign tonnage of the United States was only 4,089,463 tons. The very expense of running these boats is estimated at nearly eighteen millions of dollars a year.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer says that a single merchant of that city paid the sum of \$200,000 for Wheat and Flour, between the 17th and 27th ult., being an average of \$30,000 a day.

Mr. Astor has, in his will, left nearly a half million of dollars for the establishment of a free library in Philadelphia. He made this legacy, the Mail says, not expecting, from his great age, to survive long.

Gen. R. Jones, Adjutant General of the U. S. Army, has informed Brig. Gen. Brooks, Com'g Western Division of the Army, at New Orleans, that the sum of \$500,000 appropriated by Congress for the comfort of discharged soldiers, who may be landed at New Orleans or other places within the United States, so disabled by disease or by wounds received in the service, as to be unable to proceed to their homes, is now available. The letter stating this fact instructed Gen. R. to draw on the Quartermaster at New Orleans for any funds that he might think necessary, to be placed in the hands of the persons authorized by the Act of Congress to receive and distribute it.

GEN. TAYLOR'S COMMAND now consists of the 2d Mississippi, the Massachusetts, the Virginia and the North Carolina Regiments of Volunteers, the Texas Cavalry, the 10th and 16th Regiments Regular Infantry, a detachment of the 2d and 3d Dragoons, with the batteries of Washington, Dragg and O'Brien.—N. O. Picasune.

GEN. TAYLOR AND COM. PERRY.—The brevity of the despatch which Com. Perry sent to Gen. Harrison, after the battle of Lake Erie, in the words—"We have met the enemy, and they are ours," elicited general remark and admiration; but no less laudable was the following postscript contained in one of Gen. Taylor's letters to a friend, after the battle of Buena Vista—"Santa Anna, with twenty thousand men, has given us battle, and we have maintained our position."

BRAGG'S BATTERY.—It is stated that each gun of Bragg's Battery, at Buena Vista, was discharged upwards of two hundred and fifty times during the battle!

THE VOMITO.—The Vomito is spreading at Vera Cruz. A letter from that place says:—The yellow fever, *el vomito*, as it should be called, is now getting really serious among us. Thirteen cases terminated fatally yesterday, and to day, already, I have heard of the death of three individuals whom I personally knew. Colonel Kearney, the Government contractor, is now lying in a very dangerous state, and people are thus falling around me. Such things, to an unacclimated man, like myself, are calculated to make one feel ugly.

Not far from \$5,000,000 are yearly earned in Massachusetts, by females employed in the various factories and manufactories of straw hats, stocks, &c. About 40,000 females are thus annually employed.

A slave when being flogged at Holly Spring, Tenn. lately, by a young man named Carpenter, turned suddenly upon him and literally chopped him to pieces with an axe.

The tonnage of the United States on the 30th of September last amounted to 1,562,984.

HANGING OF A SON FOR THE MURDER OF HIS MOTHER.—William H. Stepler, a young man 17 years of age, was executed in Greensburg, Kentucky, on the 5th inst., for the murder of his mother. Nearly five thousand persons assembled to witness the closing scene. The act for which he has suffered was committed some weeks since as every one thought, by the boy's father. He was arrested, and would unquestionably have been hanged, if his son, to whom no suspicion whatever attached, had not voluntarily come forward and released his father by declaring that he alone was the guilty person. The son was accordingly convicted on his own confession.—He had always previously borne the character of an inoffensive boy. He was of a very weak mind—occasionally insane, it is said.

GEN. TAYLOR AND INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.—The Common Council of Detroit, at one of its late meetings, passed a resolution to appoint a committee to ascertain the opinions of Gen. Taylor on the subject of lake, harbor and river improvements.

SERVED HIM RIGHT.—Doing without a newspaper, in order to save its subscription price, is false economy, as the experience of some one every day shows. A farmer in New York recently sold his crop of corn considerably below market price—by which operation he lost the snug sum of \$160. He was too poor to take a paper, and consequently was easily imposed upon. Who pities him!

A FAITHFUL MESSENGER.—Mr. Sol. Haynes, who is in the service of Messrs. Livingston & Wells, Express forwarders, has travelled on railroad and river since 1820, without accident, 482,560 miles! He has never missed a trip, and has carried safely for his employers, at a moderate calculation, during those 18 years of service, 558 millions of dollars, without the loss of a single cent.

The Springfield Gazette tells the following story, it may be possibly true, but it is certainly a most extraordinary coincidence:—A man was sentenced to the House of Correction, by Judge Wells, on Thursday, for stealing a watch from the store of Jonathan Bangs. The same man was sent to the State Prison 16 years ago, for stealing the same watch from the same man in the same store belonging to the same man.

HOW TO TRAVEL OUT WEST.—Cost of travel from Boston to New Orleans by a recent traveler.

Boston to New York, time 12 hours, \$4
New York to Philadelphia, 6 hours, 4
Philadelphia to Harrisburg, 8 hours, 4
Harrisburg to Pittsburg, (canal) 2 1/2 days, 9
Pittsburg to Cincinnati, (by steam) 2 1/2 days, 8
Cincinnati to New Orleans, 7 to 9 days, 15
Add to this about \$2 for package, &c. 3

From Boston to New Orleans, only \$17
Ten years ago one could not reach New Orleans under \$100.

THE EXTRAORDINARY FACT of a black woman turning white has recently occurred at Cairo.—The woman is married to a black soldier belonging to Ibrahim Pasha's guard, and according to the evidence brought forward, it is during the last two years that her black skin peeled off by degrees and without any inconvenience to herself, and has been replaced by a white skin.—Her features distinctly belong to the Ethiopian race, and her flat nose, thick projecting lips, woolly hair, peculiar cheek bone, accent, and the shape of her feet, all denote her origin.—Five European medical men at Cairo have certified to the above facts.

A RIP VAN WINKLE.—The Railroad Depot at Auburn is situated, as everybody knows, very near the State Prison. A few days since, while the cars were making their usual stop of twelve minutes, a passenger from the city strolled near the gate of the prison yard. It was the grey of the morning, and just then it happened that a prisoner, who many years before had entered that gloomy portal, was liberated. The posts and wires of the telegraph instantly fixed his attention. After some moments of puzzled contemplation, he ventured to ask the gentleman above mentioned what they were. It was not easy, of course, to explain at once to one so wholly ignorant, the nature and uses of this great wonder of the age; but a brief statement was given to the astonished inquirer. When, however, he was told that he might send a message by these wires to New York and receive an answer all in the course of a few minutes, he expressed his total incredulity, and went away indignant that after so long a confinement the first man he met should attempt to dupe him by a tale so utterly incredible.—Rock. Am.

HATCHING FISH.—Hatching eggs by artificial heat is well known and extensively practiced in China, as is also the hatching of fish.—The sale of spawn for this purpose forms an important branch of trade in China. The fishermen collect with care, on the margin and surface of the water, all the gelatinous matters that contain spawn fish, which is then placed in an egg shell, which has been fresh emptied through a small hole, which is then stopped, and the shell is then placed under a settling fowl. In a few days the Chinese break the shell in warm water; (warmed by the sun) The young fish are then kept in water until they are large enough to be placed in a pond. This plan in some measure counteracts the great destruction of spawn by troll nets, which have caused the extinction of many fisheries.—Martin's China.