

The Sabbath Recorder.

New York, February 15, 1849.

OUR FOREIGN MISSION.

Letters have recently been received from our missionaries in China, which show that they are steadily progressing towards a readiness to fulfill the great work for which they were sent to that empire—the preaching of the "everlasting gospel." It is possible that they are already engaged in this work, as they expected to become fitted for it in two years from the time of their leaving America. It is a cause of thankfulness that their lives have been spared, and that they have enjoyed so large a measure of health, thus enabling them to prosecute their studies almost without intermission. Surely, God has much for them to do in that great country. Every communication tends to confirm us in the opinion, that it was of God that we were moved to engage in missions to the heathen, and that the occupancy of that field, in preference to all others, was prompted by the same all-wise Being.

The following is from brother Gardner, dated Shanghai, July 20th, 1848. After alluding to their finances, and some other matters not concerning the public, he writes as follows:

"We are in possession of facts on various subjects, which may or may not be interesting to you. I will note a few at a venture. The Episcopal missionaries from America have erected a large and beautiful building for their school, occupying one of the most delightful locations to be found in the region of Shanghai. It is situated across the river from the English reservation, furnishing them a delightful view of the city, river, shipping, and surrounding country, and at the same time is sufficiently retired. Bishop Boone expects soon to put up a dwelling adjacent to it; and a gentleman in Boston has recently contributed five thousand dollars for building a chapel. Rev. Messrs. McClatchin and Farmer, of the London Episcopal Society, I understand, are expecting to locate near them. The London Congregational Society, we are informed, has become involved to the amount of sixty thousand dollars. Their press is now idle, and all extension of operations is suspended.

"The melancholy news concerning the death of Dr. James and wife, of the Southern Baptist Board, has probably reached you. This stroke of God's providence seems to be deeply felt by their missionaries of this place. Information has lately arrived that Rev. Mr. Johnson, of Canton, who arrived last summer, is soon expected to sail for America as his only hope of recovery, having been sick most of the time since his arrival. Rev. Mr. Piercy, of the same place, is also dangerously ill. The wife of Rev. Mr. Johnson, who lately joined Bro. Dean, of Hong-Kong, died a short time since. Mrs. White, of Fuchau, has also gone. Such are some of the mysterious dealings of Providence with His children. But if for the sacrifice of each earthly tabernacle, a soul is redeemed unto God, the prize is cheaply bought. It is a consoling reflection, that the work of evangelizing the world, does not depend entirely upon human strength or skill.

"These streets often become scenes of quarrels, in which the weaker party is sometimes bound and cruelly beaten. An ancestral hall, situated a few miles distant, was broken open last spring, and a large number of coffins robbed of the jewelry, clothing, and other articles of value, which the Chinese are in the habit of burying with their dead, for their use in another world. About the same time, a young man near Woosung, wishing to sell his wife, and being opposed by his grandmother, became enraged, and murdered her. He was soon apprehended, his hands nailed to the coffin of his victim, and being compelled to kneel in a hole dug by its side, he was buried, with the exception of his head, and thus left to die. Owing to the apathy and want of public spirit among the so-called administrators of justice, such outrages upon humanity are often allowed to pass unnoticed. But how can we expect different things where God and His laws are unknown. They know not what they do."

"On the 10th of May, I saw fields of wheat ready for harvest. Apples, plums, peaches, cucumbers, &c., have been in the market for several weeks, and now green-corn is coming in. Peaches, and some other kinds of fruit, are nearly ruined by reason of the unusually rainy season we have experienced. For the last two months, I should judge, we have had rain nearly every other day on an average, and frequently in large quantities. The highest elevation of the mercury, to my knowledge, has been ninety-two degrees in the shade.

"17th.—Visited the Shanghai military parade. The men were drawn up in ranks of thirty or forty deep, standing far enough apart to allow a file of men to pass between them. Their guns were about six feet long, heavy and awkward, with percussion locks, and managed by two men. They marched to the beating of a gong, and on stepping into the front rank, the one carrying the muzzle end crouched a little, while the other discharged the piece: they then retired to the rear to load, quickening their steps with the beating of the gong, and stopped when that stopped. At the sound of a bugle, the banners would advance or retreat as the case might be. When this exercise was done, they formed a hollow square, in which six men were called out at a time to engage in gladiatorial exercises, with sabres, spears, and shields.

"The chairs of mandarins, and other distinguished persons, are borne by four men, and attended by an escort of from two to six, who carry circular ensigns, about three feet across, with a circle of cloth suspended from the edge, about two feet wide, generally of a scarlet color, and mounted on a pole ten or twelve feet long. All persons in the street are expected to

stop and give the road for them to pass. On approaching their place of destination, the escort, one by one, sing out, each at the top of his voice, as long as he can command breath, when the next catches the sound, proceeding in the same way through the whole.

"A few weeks ago, while in conversation with our cook, I asked him if China people feared to die? He answered, Yes. In reply to the question why, he said, because they knew not what was to become of them. Good men, he supposed, had happiness in another world; but bad men were whipped and tormented. The future was all dark; and consequently they did not like to think of death, but to make the best of the present life. Such are the forebodings of those who know not the Saviour.

"The ideas the common people get from reading, without explanation, are extremely vague. The darkness which overshadows their minds is almost incredible. Repeated and protracted efforts are necessary to make them understand the simplest truths. We make it a point to spend a portion of each evening and Sabbath with our men, separately, reading and explaining portions of the New Testament, and hope to be prepared for operations on a larger scale, as soon as means are furnished for fitting up a chapel.

"On the 6th of June we recited the last of a thousand characters we had been learning with Messrs. Syle and Spaulding. We have also made ourselves familiar with many more by reading. On the same day we visited an establishment devoted to the manufacture of oil from beans. In the first place, were three granite wheels, four or five feet in diameter, and one and a half thick, attached to long sweeps, and drawn by buffaloes. In front of each wheel was a small box, furnished with a valve at the bottom, with an upright rod attached to the valve, and also to a lever which was depressed by means of cogs in the side of the wheel, elevating the valve, by which means the beans were scattered in front of the wheel and crushed by its weight. The crushed bean was again submitted to the action of heavier wheels, six or seven feet in diameter, made narrow at the edges, and running in grooves; whence it was taken, put into small measures, and well strained. It was next put into bamboo-hoops, lined with sea-grass, with a stamp at the bottom, containing the name of the owner and of the establishment. These cheeses were then placed edgewise in vats, made of strong timbers, with an orifice at the bottom for the oil to escape, where they were pressed by means of wedges. The oil thus extracted averages about one-tenth the weight of the beans, and sells for about five or six cents per pound. The cheeses are used for feeding cattle and hogs, and also for manure. Just back of the building is a large vat, filled with water, in which the buffaloes regale themselves after having performed their respective tasks, which seemed to afford them the highest enjoyment.

"There have been two excursions made into the country, the distance of two or three hundred miles, by English and Americans, within a few weeks past. The last paid a visit to the silk country, passing through Loo-Choo twice on their route. Both companies returned in safety, bringing favorable reports of the country, and of the treatment they received from the natives. But the Taouti, as I am informed, was much displeased. A circular was sent round yesterday by Mr. Woolcot, informing the American residents of Shanghai, that a treaty had been ratified with the government, limiting their excursions into the country to a day's journey, going and returning, which will render such excursions more unsafe in future.

"My teacher informs me, that there is a certain star in the constellation Ursa-Major, called the Emperor's star, by which astrologers pretend to foretell, at the time of his election, his character and success during his reign. If the star is bright, the Emperor is a good man, and is to have a prosperous reign. If dim, he is a bad man, and trouble is to be expected. But when the country is without an Emperor, this star is black. Six of these stars are said to be the residences of so many ancient Emperors, by whom the spirits of the dead are obliged to pass in going to the other world. Consequently, when a rich man dies, six dollars are put into his coffin to pay his passport. And six cash are put into the coffin of a poor man for the same purpose. How generally this superstition is believed, I am unable to say."

The remainder of Bro. W.'s letter is devoted to a subject, in reference to which, it is altogether probable, we shall be brought into painful collision with the missionaries of other denominations. If the facts are as they are represented by our brethren, (and we know that they would not be guilty of willful misrepresentation,) they show that we have a double work to perform among the heathen. We have not only to attempt their conversion directly, but also to contend against those perversions of a divine truth already introduced among them, which go far to neutralize its converting power. In such a contest may God make us, and our missionaries, "wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." Besides the present letter from Bro. W., we have more communications touching the same subject, which we shall lay before our denomination as we can find room.

"In your last letter, an inquiry is made in regard to how the term Sabbath is translated into the Chinese language. The extract which I made in my letter last summer, was from a phrase-book published by Rev. Mr. Dean. What farther information I obtained, was from Mr. Macy, teacher of the Morrison Institute, at Hong-Kong, who said that such was the general method of numbering the days of the week among the Chinese by foreigners, both in talking and translating. In addition to what has hitherto been forwarded, I will state a few facts which will speak for themselves.

"In a translation of the Acts of the Apostles, got up by the London Society at Hong-Kong, I find the term Sabbath represented by the Chinese characters, "sa-pa-nyi." On presenting them to my teacher, although a man of good information, I found he could do no more than to pronounce their names. I then presented them to Bro. Carpenter's teacher, who said they meant one day of seven, indefinitely—that it was a word out of use, and understood only by a few.

"In a translation of Matthew's gospel, published by the London Congregational Society of this place, I find that "le-pai-nyi," (ceremony worship day), and "ur-se-nyi," (rest-day) are used interchangeably as a translation of the Greek word "Sabbaton." In the 12th chapter, "le-pai-nyi" is used in the 10th and 11th verses, and "ur-se-nyi" is used in other parts of the chapter, where the word Sabbath occurs.

"The following is from a tract which has been widely circulated, published by Rev. Mr. McClatchin. It is written in the form of a dialogue under the names Yaw and Neo. Neo says, 'To-day I hear there is to be a play at the ching-waung-mau; shall we go to see?' Yaw said, 'To-day is the ceremony worship day; therefore I wish to go to church and worship Jesus!' Neo, having heard this, and not understanding, said, 'Why call it ceremony worship day?' Yaw says, 'In the beginning, the God of heaven, in six days, made all heaven, earth, and all things; arriving at the seventh day, He rested; therefore God established this day to be reckoned a holy day, and called it rest-day; that rest-day is the ceremony worship day,' &c. Pages 2, 3.

"The object is evidently to impress upon the minds of the Chinese, that 'ur-se-nyi' and 'le-pai-nyi,' are synonymous. And as the latter is generally known by the natives, so far as they are acquainted with foreigners, to be applied by them to the first day of the week, and that day only, if this object is attained, both titles will be understood to apply solely to the first day of the week. Such is the doctrine proclaimed both from the pulpit and the press. As yet I have neither seen nor heard any thing addressed to the Chinese about a change of the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day of the week, nor of the Sabbath being abolished at the resurrection of our Saviour. The main object appears to be, to make the fourth commandment sanction Sunday, so that they can enforce that day by a 'thus saith the Lord.'

"In regard to Matthew 28: 10, those translations which I have examined, render it much like our English version: 'After the rest-day, as the first day began to be light,' &c. But as Sunday is represented to be the rest-day, and Monday the first day after the rest-day, it is evident that no Chinaman, on reading that passage, would think of applying the language to any other day. One brother, in conversation, acknowledged to me, that the Chinese, in reading the Scriptures as they have them translated, would naturally understand them to teach that the first day was the Sabbath.

"I learn by a note addressed to Bro. Carpenter from Rev. Mr. Shuck, that the missionaries at Ningpo have adopted the practice of designating their working days by the word koong-foo, (laboring), as koong-foo-yi, (laboring day the first), koong-foo-nyi, (laboring day the second), &c., making the rest-day (Sabbath) of the fourth commandment, laboring day the sixth.

"I think I have already mentioned to you concerning an essay which Rev. Mr. Gutzlaff informed me had been written by a native convert, proving from the nation's history, that the ancient Chinese observed the seventh day as the Sabbath. I have written to him, requesting a copy, but have not received an answer. I intend to repeat my request, fearing the former may not have reached him.

"I see by your report, that at a meeting at DeRuyter, in September last, I had the honor of being made a life-member of the Seventh-day Baptist Missionary Association; for which favor, I wish to express to all who contributed for that purpose my most grateful acknowledgments, praying that our united efforts for the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom may be owned, and abundantly blessed, by the Great Head of the Church."

THE LEARNED SLAVE.—The editors of the New Orleans Presbyterian have received letters from Rev. H. W. Ellis, familiarly known as the learned slave, purchased and sent out by the Synods of Alabama and Mississippi to Africa as a missionary, in which he speaks in the highest terms of the new land of his adoption. He has been carried safely through the acclimating fever, with all his family, and is now engaged in the active duties of a missionary. He says:—

"I preach twice on the Sabbath, attend the Sabbath-school, and superintend a Bible-class. I have been solicited to organize a new church at Kentucky, about ten miles from Monrovia. I shall preach to the people there for the present, but I am not disposed to organize a church until I receive instructions from the Board. I am also studying two of the dialects spoken by Western Tribes, and am trying every means in my power, that I may, soon be able to preach to them in their own language. These tribes are very friendly to me, and I can have easy access to them. The Mandingoes claim me for their countryman, as my grandfather was born in Africa. Some of the priests of this Mohammedan tribe are intelligent, and can read Hebrew, if written in the Arabic character. They have made some excellent promises, if I will visit them, which I intend to do in the proper time."

A RELIGIOUS PAPER IN EVERY FAMILY.

One of our exchanges tells of several churches which have recently determined to supply each family within their bounds with a religious newspaper. The plan is a good one, and ought to be adopted in every church. There is no way in which so much good could be done with so little labor and expense. How many of the pious poor would be comforted, and the ungodly rich admonished, by such a movement! If each family in our churches were supplied with a religious newspaper, from which they might learn what is being done for the renovation of the world, the churches would prosper, and there would be vastly less difficulty in sustaining the various institutions of benevolence. This is not mere theory; it has been demonstrated by facts. Show us a church in which the religious papers are generally read, and we will show you a church in which the calls of benevolence are promptly responded to. Some pastors seem not to understand this; but have a lurking suspicion, that the press is some how inimical to them, and to the spiritual prosperity of the churches. Occasionally such persons are afraid to have the claims of the press, and of benevolent societies, presented to their people, lest it should distract their attention, and hinder their supporting religious institutions at home. This is all wrong. The people who occasionally listen to calls from abroad, will generally be found most ready to supply the calls near home. On the other hand, the people who are in the habit of putting off all applications from abroad, will in most cases be found wonderfully dexterous in resisting home calls. Instances could be given, to illustrate both these positions, if illustrations were needed. But we presume those who desire them can find illustrations within their own spheres of observation.

THE UNITARIAN REVIVAL.—We see a great deal in our exchanges about a religious movement among the Unitarians of Boston. It seems that many of them have become impressed with the necessity of more spirituality, and that they have established a sort of conference meeting, held on Sunday evenings, and attended by ministers and laymen from all the Unitarian churches, at which they talk and pray about the matter. We are glad to hear of such a state of things, and hope it may continue; for we have no doubt it will do more than all their controversies to teach them the need of such a Saviour as Jesus Christ claims to be. Meanwhile we think there is no better course for the orthodox people, so-called, than to leave the Unitarians to themselves, and make their comments at some future day, if ever.

DR. JUDSON'S VISIT TO AYU.—Some time ago, Dr. Judson entertained the plan of visiting Ayu, the capital of the Burman Empire, for the purpose of bringing to a higher perfection his great work, the Burman and English Dictionary. A very favorable opportunity then offered, but he had not funds, and was compelled to give up the plan, to his own grief, as well as the grief of all the Baptist churches in America. He has recently written, that there is a prospect of being able to accomplish the object yet, if funds can be supplied; and accordingly the Executive Committee of the Baptist Missionary Union have appropriated one thousand rupees for the purpose.

SELLING SUNDAY PAPERS IN PHILADELPHIA.—The news-boys in Philadelphia, charged with desecrating the Sunday by vending newspapers, had a trial before the Mayor last week. His Honor, after severely lecturing the boys, and receiving the solemn promise from each that he would sell no more papers on Sunday, ordered them to be discharged, but told the parents of the children, who were present, that if they were brought up again on a similar charge, he would send them to the House of Refuge.

A SAD WRECK.—The London papers announce the death of that child of wondrous promise, Hartley Coleridge, son of Samuel T. Coleridge. Intemperance hastened his disease, and to that vice must be attributed the early decay of powers which promised to link his name with the glory of his father's. How many have already made shipwreck on this rock! And how many will yet fall to profit by their example.

THE MINISTER'S DREAM.

"For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon man, in slumberings upon the bed; then he openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction, that he may withhold man from his purpose, and hide pride from man."

Meeting a first-day minister one day, he said to me, "Well, brother, I had a dream the other night in regard to the Sabbath. I thought I saw the Saviour, and he was the most beautiful and lovely person I ever saw. I asked him which was the day of the week that should be observed as the Sabbath. He would not tell, but said, 'The Bible is sufficiently plain upon that point, and you need not expect a new revelation.'"

The minister continues in the observance of the first day, notwithstanding his dream, although there is neither precept or example in the Bible for his practice. M. L. D.

LATEST FROM THE GOLD REGION.

Robert Atherton, Esq., a California merchant, arrived at New York on Sunday last, in 61 days from San Francisco. He brings 34 days later news, confirming the reports of the abundance of gold in California, but showing that it is not the easiest business in the world to pick it up. The N. Y. Tribune publishes the following items of intelligence brought by Mr. Atherton. Of course our readers will make some allowances:—

The gold region is now understood to embrace a territory a thousand miles in length and three hundred in width. The gold is distributed over this vast extent, though by no means equally, some parts being of surpassing richness, while others are comparatively barren of the precious metal. No limit can be fixed to the number of men who may find employment in extracting it, or to the length of time for which good digging may be profitable. But the business of mining has nothing that is agreeable, except the gold that it sometimes—no always—produces. In short, it requires the hardest kind of labor, such as only strong constitutions and muscles indurated by toil can undertake with a prospect of success. Young men, delicately brought up, and more familiar with the drawing-room, counting-room, or lawyer's office, than the plow or sledge-hammer, had better keep their imaginations free from all visions of placers, rivers floating with gold dust, and big lumps of the real stuff to be had for the picking up. Gold is not to be procured in that way even in California; but yields itself only to strength and skill. Even these are not always successful. Mr. Atherton knew one company which went out from San Francisco with all the proper tools, machines, and accessories, and whose members, after digging some time with better zeal than fortune, came back each with a flea in his ear, and not a jot of gold in his pocket.

However, a man of the right sort in respect to health, strength, and skill, may, with fair luck and hard and steady work, obtain three ounces of gold on an average per day. It is not often found in lumps. Still Mr. Atherton has seen one mass weighing 7 lbs., and a friend of his had seen another weighing 21 lbs. The number of persons who had been to the mines when he left is estimated at 10,000, but there had not been more than 2,500 digging at any one time. One man of his acquaintance, a blacksmith, had got ten thousand dollars worth in three weeks. A good many Indians had been employed as laborers by the miners, but they are poor assistants. They do not work steadily, and never can be kept at it above a month at a time, when they leave for San Francisco to spend their earnings in dissipation.

REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE.—One of the German Colporteurs of the American Tract Society, laboring in the Far West, recently wrote to the Secretaries that he expected his wife to arrive from Germany, via New Orleans, in the spring. A gentleman from the Tract House, well acquainted with this colporteur, was in the office of the German Emigrant Society the other day, when a woman came in and inquired of one of the officers, if he had a letter from her husband for her. The gentleman alluded to, hearing the name of his western colporteur friend, asked the woman if such a man, giving his name, was her husband. She said he was, and she wanted to hear from him. She said she had just arrived from Germany, with four children, having started before the time she had named, and had taken her passage for New York rather than New Orleans. The gentleman in question then handed her a letter which he had recently received from her husband, and singular as it may appear, he was the only gentleman this side of Wisconsin, who could have given her any information concerning him! This resolute woman, with four children, crossed the Atlantic, and after paying her passage, was landed in this strange city, and among entire strangers, with scarcely five dollars in the world.

TEMPERANCE IN IOWA.—For two years past a law has been in force in Iowa, leaving the question of granting licenses for retailing spirituous liquors to be determined by the voters of the different counties. The consequence has been, that no licenses were allowed except in one or two counties. But the law has failed in its beneficial operations on account of the difficulty of finding persons to complain of its infringement, and thus bring the offenders to punishment. The system has been modified by a late act of the General Assembly. The question of granting licenses is now left to the discretion of the several Boards of Commissioners; the penalty of selling without license is much increased, being both fine and imprisonment; the license high; and the prosecution committed to the District Courts by indictment, which, it is supposed, will prove a remedy for the defects of the former bill.

CHRISTIAN LIBERALITY.—The Presbyterian Herald says that a pious member of the Methodist Church in the city of Cincinnati, desirous of exciting his brethren to greater liberality in their contributions to religious objects, has purchased one thousand copies of Harris's great work, entitled 'Mammon,' for gratuitous distribution among them. He desires that every member of the church may be brought to see and feel his responsibility for the use of all his property. The volumes are neatly covered with paper, and are to contain a card, requesting that the reader should return the volume to his minister, to be loaned to others. The donor, who does not wish to be known in the transaction, is said to be a man of moderate circumstances, and was a Sunday-school teacher. In the library of the school was a copy of this volume. Seemingly by accident, without knowing much respecting its character, he took it from the library, became interested in its perusal, and, as the result, has contributed upwards of one hundred dollars to place it before others.

Seraphina—not Seraphim, nor Seraphim—is the name of the instrument mentioned in the Report on the State of Religion in the Rhode Island Churches. So says the writer of the Report.

General Intelligence.

LAST WEEK'S CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

February 5.

In the SENATE, a resolution was submitted, and laid over, calling on the President to communicate certain documents relative to the secret history of the Treaty with Mexico, and inquiring if there is not a Protocol extant which nullifies the amendments of the Senate to the Treaty. Resolutions were presented from the Legislature of Virginia, reaffirming the resolutions which were passed in the same body, in the year 1847, with regard to the Wilmot Proviso, and the question of Slavery in the Territories. The Postage Bill was under discussion, but not acted upon.

In the HOUSE, the principal discussion was upon a resolution, which was adopted, respecting the supposed Protocol to the late Treaty with Mexico.

February 6.

In the SENATE, among numerous memorials and petitions, one was presented from a company of citizens proposing to carry the mail in coaches from St. Louis to the Pacific. Resolutions were submitted from the Legislature of South Carolina, against the application of the Wilmot Proviso to the new Territories, and also expressing the usual sentiments of the South on Slavery. A resolution was passed, providing for ten Assistant Surgeons to the Medical Staff of the United States Army, and ten additional Chaplains. The resolution offered yesterday, in relation to the Protocol, was adopted. The Panama Railroad Bill was then taken up and discussed to the close.

The House received, and ordered printed, a bill in relation to Patent Medicines. The Naval Appropriation Bill was passed, after rejecting the amendment substituting money for spirit rations.

February 7.

In the SENATE, Mr. Benton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, introduced a bill providing for the location and construction of a central national road from St. Louis to San Francisco, with a branch to the Columbia River. Mr. Benton spoke at great length on the subject, after which the bill was referred to the Military Committee. The Pension Appropriation Bill was passed; also a bill making appropriations for the Military Academy at West Point.

The House spent considerable time in discussing a bill from the Senate for an additional Judicial District in Western Louisiana. A debate on the Fortification Bill occupied the remainder of the session.

February 8.

In the SENATE, a bill was presented making farther provision for the widows and orphans of the officers and soldiers who died in consequence of diseases contracted while in the service of the United States in the late Mexican War. A resolution was offered by Mr. Webster, instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the expediency of passing a law authorizing State authorities to exact security from emigrant paupers, so as to prevent them from becoming chargeable upon the Public Treasury. A bill was passed providing for the establishment of a port of entry at Brazos Santiago, Texas.

In the HOUSE, Mr. Ashmun endeavored to introduce a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the expediency of framing a law to prevent foreign paupers arriving in this country, and becoming a public burden. A message was received from the President, in relation to the Protocol, which he regarded as a memorandum, rather than a portion of the Treaty, on which account he did not present it to the Senate.

February 9.

In the SENATE, various petitions were presented and appropriately referred. A resolution was submitted, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, in favor of some plan for improving the condition of the Indians.

The House made the necessary arrangements for counting the Presidential votes. The bill to establish a Commission for the settlement of private claims, was considered, but not acted upon.

February 10.

The SENATE received a message from the President, in relation to the Protocol, spent the session in discussing what disposition to make of it, and finally adjourned without any action upon the subject.

The HOUSE was mainly occupied in discussing a bill making an appropriation for fortifications, which was passed.

NEW JERSEY BANKING LAW.—A bill has been introduced into the New Jersey Legislature, by Mr. Pickett, 'to establish General Banking in the State.' It authorizes any person or association of persons in the State to do banking business by opening offices of discount, deposit, &c., provided they do not issue notes payable to bearer on demand, intended for circulation as currency, nor circulate any other than lawful money of the United States, or specie-paying banks of New Jersey. The aggregate capital shall not be less than one hundred thousand dollars, and the remaining sections are an exact copy of the General Banking Law used in the State of New York, providing that if notes are issued as currency they shall deposit with the Secretary of State Stocks of the United States, or other reliable security, for the full amount of the notes issued, which shall be countersigned by the Secretary of State.

PENNSYLVANIA BANKING LAW.—A bill to authorize the business of Banking, and provide a sinking fund for the gradual extinguishment of the State debt, is now before the Legislature of Pennsylvania. It provides for the issue of registered notes to the amount of four-fifths of the value of United States or State Stocks deposited with the Auditor, said stocks not to be received at above par, or for more than their market value. The dividends on these stocks are to be paid to the owners, with the exception of one-half of one per cent, which is to go towards the formation of a sinking fund for the redemption of the State debt.

FOURTEEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamship Niagara reached Boston on Sunday last, in fifteen days from Liverpool. The intelligence she brings, which is fourteen days later than previously received, is quite important in a commercial point of view. American Stocks had materially improved, cotton had also risen, and the corn and flour markets were active.

From Ireland, we learn that the Queen's Bench had overruled the errors assigned in the case of William Smith O'Brien, and his fellow prisoner. The Court was unanimous in its decision, and it remains to be seen whether they will persevere in carrying their hopeless appeal to the House of Lords. It was confidently stated, that application had been made for the requisite permission from the Lord Lieutenant in the case of O'Brien, but that Mr. Meagher declines to proceed further, and is resolved to submit to his fate. Any hope of overturning the verdict is entirely delusive.

In France, the dissolution of the National Assembly is under discussion. To the surprise of almost everybody, M. Boulay de la Meurthe has been elected Vice President of the Republic.

The German Empire is in trouble about who shall be Emperor, but it is not easy to say exactly what the trouble is.

In Hungary, the Imperial army is having its own way. Pesth has been taken, without firing a shot. Kossuth has retired before the Imperialists, and Windischgratz had captured Count Balthian, one of the principal insurgent leaders; and confiscation and extermination was the order of the day. Martial law has been proclaimed in Galicia, in which direction the notorious Bem had escaped.

The Pope demands the intervention of Austria to reseat him in temporal power, and both Sardinia and France strongly remonstrate against this determination. As to the Roman people, they seem to have lost all reverence for the Pope, as an ecclesiastic, no less than as a prince. The anathemas which he has issued against them have been treated with contempt.

The Sultan of Turkey has taken a great step in religious toleration, having issued a decree, according to Christians the privilege of attaining the highest dignities, even that of Pacha or Vizier.

The California mania has extended to the continent of Europe, and in the ports of Germany and Denmark there are already vessels fitted up for the conveyance of adventurers to that region. The English papers are still full of advertisements of vessels loading, companies organizing, and stock companies forming, all set in motion by the continued favorable news of the marvelous riches of the new discovery.

RAILROAD ACROSS THE ISTHMUS.—It seems to be pretty definitely settled, that a Railroad over the Isthmus of Panama, for the purpose of uniting the two oceans, is to be built without delay. The contract was originally made by the Government of New Grenada with a French Company, and has been recently transferred, with some additional stipulations, to Messrs. Aspinwall, Stephens, & Chauncy, of New York City. The Grenadian Government grants to the Company the exclusive right of constructing and occupying a railroad across the Isthmus for fifty-nine years, including the exclusive use, for purposes connected with the Road, of the two ports at the extremities of it, and also all the public lands required for the Road through the whole extent, together with those which may be wanted as depots, wharves, warehouses, &c. In addition to this, the Government guarantees absolutely upwards of one hundred thousand acres of land, to be selected by the Company, in the provinces of Panama, and Venegus. Any mines on the lands so selected are to be the unconditional property of the Company, by whomsoever discovered. The Grenadian Government is to take possession of the Road at the end of the forty-nine years, in consideration of the advantages offered to the Company, or at the end of twenty years, by paying the Company five million dollars. The Road must be completed in less than six years. It can be done in less time than this; possibly in three years. The Company ask of the United States an appropriation of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars annually for twenty years, in consideration of which certain privileges are to be accorded to this Government, in the transportation of military stores, &c.

CALIFORNIA EXPORTS.—The Dry Goods Reporter publishes a list of articles shipped at New York for California, in December and January last. We know not whether the goods were selected according to the wants of the adventurers, or the expected demands of residents in California, but certainly the proportionate amount of different articles taken is curious, if not characteristic. Thus, it appears that eight hundred and nineteen barrels of rum, and six hundred and one of brandy, were taken, and seven packages of books—eight hundred and seventy-three gold-washers, and forty-seven ploughs—one case of musical instruments, and two hundred and fifty-four packages of medicine—twenty-eight boxes of pipes, and three hogheads, seventeen bales, and nine hundred and ninety-two packages, of tobacco—four cases of umbrellas, and twenty-four casks of crucibles—twenty-one frames of houses, and sixty-four packages of clocks.

THE FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CANADA.—There are about three millions of people in the ancient Kingdom of Scotland, but as the taxes on newspapers range between three and four cents per sheet, not one daily journal is issued there, so far as we have heard. In Michigan and Wisconsin there is no lack of dailies; but, until the present month, Upper Canada, with a population of seven hundred thousand, did not even support one. There was no stamp tax there, no censorship, and yet there was no daily press. Dr. Barker, an enterprising, persevering Englishman, who has been connected with Colonial politics since 1833 or 34, at last supplies the void, in the form of the Daily British Whig, of the dimensions of 24 inches long by 20 broad.

MISSOURI ON FREE SOIL.—The Senate of Missouri, on the 2d instant, passed the following resolution:—

"Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri as follows: That the Constitution of the United States confers on Congress no powers to legislate on the subject of slavery within the territories of the United States, or to pass any laws affecting the right of persons or property, within said territories. That the Wilmot Proviso, by which Congress attempts to prohibit the existence of slavery in certain territories, is an act unauthorized by the Constitution, and therefore void. If it were not so, it would be an act of gross despotism—the people of the territories have the same rights of government over themselves within the territories, that the people of the States have over themselves within the States."

FEAR AND CHOLERA.—The New Orleans Delta relates the following anecdote as an illustration of the effects of fear in producing cholera: "A gentleman who resides in the vicinity of the Calaboose, or Parish Prison, sent his servant, a stout, hearty negro woman, to market one morning. On her return, the woman having to pass by the prison, was attracted by a crowd gathered about a cart. Prompted by the curiosity which she had inherited from mother Eve—the woman forced herself into the crowd; and there—oh, horror! a ghastly object met her sight. It was the head of a collapsed, emaciated corpse, which, by the jolting of the cart over our abominable streets, had been forced out of one end of a rough box or coffin, into which it had been deposited by the keepers of the prison, where the unfortunate victim died. The sight produced such horror in the poor black, that she had hardly strength to drag herself home, when she was immediately seized with all the symptoms of Spasmodic Cholera. Timely aid, however, restored her, after a violent sickness."

TRUE PROGRESS.—The people of Massachusetts voluntarily taxed themselves last year one million dollars for the support of the Common Schools. There is not a native born child in the State, old enough to learn, who cannot read and write. In Boston, two hundred thousand dollars was expended in building school-houses, during the three months preceding April last. Within the past year, individuals have given two hundred thousand dollars to Harvard College. The State is constructing a Reform School, for vagrant and exposed children, at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars. The State educates all the deaf, dumb, and blind, and has also recently established a school for idiots.

VESSELS FOR CALIFORNIA.—The New York Herald publishes a list of the vessels that have sailed for California since December 7, with the number of their passengers and crews. By the Cape route, 80 vessels have sailed with 4,476 persons; via San Juan, 1 vessel; via Vera Cruz, 2; via Brazos, 2; via Chagres, 14, with 807 passengers. Total 99 vessels, with 5,917 persons. This includes all the ports of the country. And there are now nearly one hundred and fifty vessels advertised to sail for San Francisco, which will probably sail within the next six weeks, and carry out 8,000 more gold-seekers.

RATE OF INTEREST IN WISCONSIN.—Both branches of the Legislature of Wisconsin have, by decided majorities, passed the annexed law regulating the rate of interest in that State. SEC. 1. Any rate of interest agreed upon by parties in contract shall be legal and valid. SEC. 2. When no rate of interest is agreed upon or specified in a note or other contract, seven per cent per annum shall be considered the legal rate.

Charles Ellett, a civil engineer, proposes and defends the practicability of a plank road to the Pacific, through the columns of the Philadelphia North American. In ten, or at most, twelve days, one might go from St. Louis to San Francisco on such a road, allowing seven miles to the hour, and in less than eighteen days the Pacific might be reached by a traveler from New York.

Mr. Bacon, of Worcester, Mass., has submitted a proposition to the Legislature of Massachusetts, which, if adopted, may affect more business transactions at the North than may be readily imagined. The proposition is, to declare null and void all future contracts made in that State, the consideration whereof shall be the sale or transfer of slaves in other States or Territories.

'Many a man,' says the Nonconformist, 'has been ruined by hearing of something to his advantage.' Many a nation has been reduced to beggary by discovering a short cut to wealth. It may sound paradoxical, but we verily believe that Ireland will do more to render Great Britain prosperous, than will California the United States."

The Albany Evening Journal, of the 7th instant, says: 'We had a call to-day from James McDonald, who was born in Scotland in 1749; and is now ninety-nine years old. He served through the Revolutionary War, and is happy on his Sergeant-Major's pension. He is now returning from a visit to his descendants in the Western States, traveling alone, and is as active as a man of fifty.'

A new school-house, recently erected in the city of Lawrence, Mass., at a cost of fourteen thousand dollars, was dedicated last week. It is to be called the Oliver School, in honor of General H. K. Oliver, who furnished it with a complete and valuable apparatus in the departments of Philosophy, Astronomy, and Chemistry.

Hon. John L. Snyder, of Cherry Valley, Otsego county, New York, was stunned by a blow from a barn-door, driven by the wind, and fell with his face in the chaff, where he smothered.

Sixteen cars laden with black walnut lumber, arrived recently at Sandusky, O., by the Mad River Railroad.

The tavern and grocery of Peter Valecalt, near Fort Wayne, Indiana, was burned on the night of the 25th ult., and his son, about twenty-one years of age, perished in the flames in endeavoring to rescue a sick brother. A dozen teamsters escaped by jumping from the windows.

The average temperature of the month of January, in Portland, Me., was 17 degrees—two and a half degrees colder than the average of January for the last thirty years. In Philadelphia the temperature of the month was one degree warmer than the average for forty years.

A bill has been introduced into the N. York Assembly, for the suppression of pugilism, providing for the punishment of prize fighting, and extending to parties leaving the State for that purpose, and also to parties training for that purpose, and also to their trainers.

The packet ship Cambridge arrived at New York on the 4th instant, after a stormy passage, with three hundred and thirty-eight steerage passengers from Liverpool and Cork. Twenty-five of her passengers died on the way, from ship-fever, and small-pox, and a large number of sick were taken on shore to the hospital, on the arrival of the vessel.

The Chemung Railroad, a very important branch of the Erie, has been put under contract to Messrs. Brayton, Condon, Carmichael, King, & Co., and is to be completed by the 1st of October next. At the same time the Erie road will be opened to Elmira, and with that branch, and a steamboat on Seneca lake, will furnish the shortest route to Geneva and Buffalo.

Much sickness, of a serious nature, prevails in Jackson county, Indiana. Some fifteen or sixteen persons have recently died in one locality. We learn that the disease is Winter Fever.

It is stated that Professor George W. Green, of Brown University, is writing a biography of his illustrious ancestor, Major General Nathaniel Green, which is to be issued in two octavo volumes.

A fire at Cooperstown, Otsego county, in the extensive publishing establishment of H. E. Phinney & Co. involved a loss of fifty-five thousand dollars, of which only twenty-five thousand was insured.

A Resolution has passed the Michigan Legislature in favor of transporting the United States Mail from Buffalo to Detroit through Canada during the suspension of lake navigation.

The trial of Rev. Ezra Dudley, at Plymouth, N. H., for the murder of his wife, has resulted in his conviction. The murder was committed in March last.

New York Market, Monday, Feb. 12. ASHES—\$6 50 for Pots, and 7 75 for Pearls.—FLOUR AND MEAL—Flour, good Western and State 5 44 a 5 62; pure Genesee 5 37 a 6 00. Rye Flour 3 44. Meal 2 84 a 3 00.—GRAIN—Wheat, Long Island 1 10; Genesee 1 30. Corn, Northern, 62 a 64c. Rye 65c. Oats, Northern 41c.; Jersey 36c.—PROVISIONS—Pork is dull at 11 50 for Prime, and 12 50 for Mess. Beef, 7 50 for Prime, and 12 00 a 13 00 for Mess. Lard 7c. Butter, Ohio and State 11 a 12c. Cheese 64 a 74c.

MARRIED. In Amity, N. Y., by Eld. Rowse Babcock, Mr. SILAS FLINT and Miss ISABELLA ROGERS, both of the above place. In Scio, N. Y., Dec. 30, 1849, by the same, Mr. PHILANDER B. VES, of the town of Wirt, and Miss MARY HAZARD, of Scio.

In Nile, N. Y., Jan. 21st, 1849, by Eld. B. F. Robbins, Mr. GIBSON SPICER, of Friendship, to Mrs. DEMING, of Cuba. By the same, Jan. 25th, 1849, Mr. HENRY C. ROGERS, of Genesee, to Miss SARAH A. ENOS, of Friendship. By the same, Jan. 25th, 1849, Mr. WILLIAM WRIGHTMAN, of Cuba, to Miss AMELIA ENOS, of Friendship.

DIED. In DeRuyter, N. Y., Feb. 1st, at the residence of her son-in-law, Dea. John Maxson, Mrs. MARY STARR, widow of Jesse Starr, of Groton, Ct., in the 88th year of her age. Mrs. Starr became confirmed in her hope in Christ about ten years since, and joined the Seventh-day Baptist Church in DeRuyter; and although, from her advanced age, she has not been permitted fully to participate in the privileges of the Church of Christ, she maintained her profession unwaveringly, & died in full expectation of a glorious immortality. Down to the time of her death, she retained her mental faculties literally unimpaired, and seemed perfectly conscious of approaching dissolution. She was able, till within a few days of her death, to be about the house, and to help herself from place to place. On the evening of the 28th of January, she had an attack of the palsy, which was the cause of her decline. Her mind was active and clear. A few hours prior to her decease, she was asked, if her Saviour appeared precious to her then, at the trying hour? She replied, emphatically, in the affirmative, and exclaimed, "O that I was with him now!" She soon after quietly fell asleep, without a struggle or a sigh. The loss her friends have sustained is doubtless her eternal gain.

In Scio, N. Y., Jan. 29th, Mrs. POLLY WITTER, consort of Clark Witter, aged 55 years. She was a worthy member of the Seventh-day Baptist Church in Scio, highly esteemed by all who knew her, for her piety and amiable disposition, in all the walks of life. She has left a husband, and a large circle of relatives, to mourn their loss.

In Plainfield, N. Y., on the 4th inst., Mrs. ELIZA COON, wife of Daniel O. Coon, and daughter of Benj. Clarke. Near Leonardville, N. Y., on the 4th inst., Mr. NATHAN ROGERS, son of Capt. John Rogers, aged 25 years.

In Stonington, Ct., Oct. 6th, 1848, THOMAS E. son of Emory and Esther Sheffield, aged 9 years.

In Charlestown, R. I., in November last, LYDIA PRIMAS, a colored woman, aged 30 years.

LETTERS. Wm. B. Maxson, R. W. Utter, Wm. M. Fainstock, John Whitford, C. H. Stillman, J. Maxson, Silas S. Clarke, D. Browning, S. P. Stillman, G. M. Langworthy [son], A. B. Crandall (accept. S. V.'s proposition).

RECEIPTS. John Crandall, Hopk'n, R. I. \$2 00 pays to vol. 5 No. 52
O. Langworthy, " " 2 00 " 5 " 52
J. R. Wells, " " 2 00 " 5 " 52
Benj. Potter, " " 2 00 " 5 " 52
W. C. Burdick, " " 2 00 " 5 " 52
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FARM FOR SALE.

THE subscriber offers for sale his farm, situated in the town of Genesee, county of Allegany, N. Y. Said farm consists of 280 acres of first-rate land, 175 of which is level, and the remainder gradually rising upwards; all of which is susceptible of cultivation, mostly adapted to grazing purposes. About 75 acres, however, is a gravelly quick soil, as productive of wheat and corn, as any in the southern part of said county. Upon said farm is about 100 acres, improved, two framed barns, and a large two-story framed house, well inclosed, lately built, and conveniently calculated. There are two good wells of water upon said farm, and it is also abundantly supplied with numerous brooks and springs. Said farm is situated in a good neighborhood, and convenient to school, and the central place of business for the western part of said town; and on the main traveled road from Allegany to Smithport. For pleasantness and locality it is not surpassed by any in the township or vicinity. To those wishing to purchase a good farm, the present opportunity offers rare inducements. The farm will be sold for cash, or, if desired, by paying one-half of the purchase money down, the balance will be arranged to accommodate purchasers for any reasonable length of credit. A careful view of the premises by a discerning individual, is only requisite to a thorough conviction that an investment made under such favorable terms as the subscriber offers, is but safe and a fair speculation. For further information, address the subscriber, P. M. at West Genesee, Allegany Co., N. Y.; or inquire at his house. JARED MAXSON, Agent. Genesee, December 20th, 1848.

DEBUYTER INSTITUTE.

REV. JAMES R. IRISH, Principal. GURDON EVANS, Instructor in Natural Sciences. AURELLA F. ROGERS, Precoptress. MARY M. CLARK, Teacher of Music and Painting. Other experienced Teachers are employed as Assistants. TERMS AND VACATIONS. The Academic Year for 1848-9, is divided into Three Terms of Fourteen Weeks each. First, commencing Wednesday, Aug. 23, ending Nov. 29. Second, " Dec. 13, " March 21. Third, " April 4, " July 11. COURSE OF STUDY. The classic course gives full facilities to Students for an advanced standing in College. The Ornamental and Scientific Departments are such as to meet the advancing demands of this educating age. Each member of the school will be required to write compositions, and read or speak select pieces, at stated intervals.

EXPENSES. Tuition, according to studies, \$3, \$4, or \$5 00. Extras—Drawing, 1 00. Painting, 2 00. Use of Piano, 8 00. Tuition on Piano, 2 00. Chemical Lectures, and Experiments, 1 00. Writing, including Stationery, 1 00. Study rooms, with stove, chairs, table, and bedstead, 1 50. Board in private families, per week, \$1 00 to 1 50.

TEACHERS' CLASSES. Classes will be formed at the opening of the First Term, and middle of the Second Term, to continue seven weeks; with daily lectures and instructions in relation to the duties of those intending to teach, accompanied by a thorough review of the Common English branches. Tuition, \$2 50.

AGRICULTURAL AND ANALYTIC CHEMISTRY. Instructions in this Department, will be equal to any that can be obtained in the State, but will not be fully opened until about the first of January. A circular explaining more fully this Department, will be forwarded to any wishing it; by applying to the Principal, at DeRuyter; or Gurdon Evans, Analytic Laboratory, Yale College, New Haven, Ct. Text books furnished at the lowest prices. N. B. A daily stage leaves the railroad and canal at Chiltonango, for this place, at 4 o'clock P. M. IRA SPENCER, M. D., President of the Board of Trustees. DeRuyter, Madison Co., N. Y., June 12, 1848.

STATESMAN'S MANUAL.

Comprising the Lives, Addresses, and Messages of the Presidents of the United States, from Washington, to Taylor's Inaugural Message, March, 1849; with a History of their Administrations, and of each Session of Congress. Also, various Historical, Statistical, and other important Public Documents, and a complete Index, or Analytical Table of Contents to the whole work. Edited by EDWIN WRILANDS, Esq. Illustrated with Portraits of our 12 Presidents, engraved on Steel, from the most approved authorities, and in the best style of the Art. Printed on the best paper, and handsomely bound in emblematic style. It will also be embellished with Views of the Capitol, President's House, and the Seals of the several States, and the United States. In four large 8vo. volumes. Price \$10.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS, &c. From the President of the United States. "To Mr. E. Walker—Dear Sir:—I have found your Statesman's Manual a valuable work, and exceedingly useful and convenient. Yours, J. K. POLK."

From the Hon. Henry Clay. "My Dear Sir:—Your Statesman's Manual is a very valuable work for reference."

State of New York: Secretary's Office, Department of Common Schools, Albany, Sept. 16, 1848. "I have examined the 'Statesman's Manual,' in two volumes octavo, compiled by Edwin Wrilands, and am of opinion that it is a proper work for school district libraries, and deserving of a place in these institutions, designed for the diffusion of useful knowledge. Signed, J. S. RANDALL, Dep. State Sup't Com. Schools."

From the Journal of Commerce. "This is one of the most important books published in the United States for a long time."

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THE New Collection of Hymns with this title, prepared by a Committee of the Seventh-day Baptist Convention, for sale at this office. It contains over one thousand, more together with the usual table of first lines, and a complete index of particular subjects, the whole covering 576 pages. The work is neatly printed, on fine paper, and bound in a variety of styles to suit the taste and means of purchasers. The price in strong leather binding is, 75 cents per copy; in imitation Morocco plain, 57 1/2 cents; gilt edges, 91 1/2 cents; full gilt, \$1 21 1/2. In Morocco, full gilt, \$1 21 1/2. These writings books will please far more than any other particular directions how to send, to G. B. & C., 272 Broadway, New York.

