

The Oxford Democrat

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MISCELLANY.

THREE TIMES A DAY

"Adela, my darling! Adela!"
"She has gone out, grandpa."
"Gone out; with whom? Has she left me here alone with you, Julietta?"
"Little Mary is here, grandpa, playing with the dog; and Marianne is in the kitchen, getting dinner ready."

This conversation was held between a little girl about nine years, and the Baron St. Andres, an old man of eighty. He was a knight of the order of St. Louis, and had received his knighthood and insignia from the hands of Louis Sixteenth, King of France. He was now, however, quite blind, and consequently almost helpless. Little Mary, a child six years of age, made the third one of the party.

"Julietta," resumed the old man, after a short silence, "did Adela say anything to you when she went out?"

"Yes, grandpa," replied Julietta, "she said to me, 'Take care that little Mary doesn't trouble grandpa, and if he wishes to go into the garden, give him your hand, and take care not to let him stumble over anything, because he can't see, poor grandpa! and God has given him to us, his children, to take care of him, and to obey him, and make him as happy as we can. Oh! I know it all by heart, grandpa, because Adela tells it to me three times before she goes out.'"

"How! every time she goes out! Does she often go out?" asked the old man, whose venerable brow seemed ruffled by some painful thought.

"Three times every day," answered Julietta, in some surprise; "three times every day—once in the morning before you come down, from seven to nine o'clock; another from eleven to one; and the third from three to five, when you are asleep. You see, three times a day. Did you think I could not reckon?"

"What o'clock is it now?" asked the old man, rather with the hope of finding some discrepancy in Julietta's reckoning.

"It struck one just now," Julietta answered. "And here comes Adela! I hear the gate opening; and she is speaking to Mary and the dog. They have gone to meet her."

In a few moments Adela entered. She was a young and lovely girl; so young, she seemed as if she had scarcely emerged from childhood, and yet so serious and so thoughtful was the expression of her countenance, that the premature cares of life had, as it were, brightened the flower of youth.

"Adela," said the old man, in a tone so sad and serious that it brought the quick color to the young girl's face "whence come you?" And stretching forth his hand, he seized that of Adela, which she had extended toward him, took it between both his own, gently stroked it and at last said in a mournful manner, "You are agitated my child; you are troubled; you tremble. Whence come you?"

The young girl did not reply.

Obtaining no answer, the Baron St. Andres continued, and the slow, solemn accent with which he uttered each word showed the sad feelings of his heart.

"In 1811, I was a widower, Adela, and of all my numerous family, only one was left me, my sainted daughter Henrietta, your mother. . . . Your father fell at Waterloo; you were then only twelve. Adela, Adela, what can I say? By all my past miseries—by my unceasing grief—by my gray hairs—I entreat you, to tell me whence come you? Whither go you three times a day?"

"My father," said Adela, "I am only seventeen years old, it is true, and yet, young as I am, sorrow and care have already left their impression on my brow. Three years ago my mother died, yet the sad scene is still ever present to my mind, as vividly as if it had been but yesterday. I still hear her weak voice regaining momentary strength, address me; Adela, she said, I leave you two daughters; be a mother to them. And my poor father—I intrust him to you. Guide the two first in their course through life; show them its thorns and its dangers; hide from the second everything that would pain him. Such were her words, and I have tried to obey them. I go out three times a day, and that troubles you; but you do not consider that I am the Mistress of a family—the housekeeper; and yet more, I have to take care of you all. Are not these duties enough to call me out three times a day. Have confidence in your Adela, my dear grandfather—trust in her."

"That is all I desire; it is all my heart wishes, my daughter. Well, well you have been out to-day—you will not go out again. Am I right? You do not answer, Adela."

Adela, as if she had not heard his last words, turned to Julietta, and questioned her concerning the studies which she had to

recuse to her in the evening, and thus adroitly changed the conversation. She then remained for some time with the little party on the piazza, until Marianne summoned them to the dinner-table. Notwithstanding her efforts to please and entertain her grandfather, she observed with pain that his mind was still troubled; and fearing that he would resume his attempts to dissuade her from again venturing out, she controlled her own feelings and chatted incessantly with the little ones—all the time, however, ministering to the old man's wants. As soon as the meal was finished, she directed Julietta to lead her grandfather back to his seat on the piazza, while she herself remained, as if to attend to her household duties. At the end of half an hour, Julietta saw her with her bonnet on her head, and her gloves on her hands, walk quickly through the garden and pass out of the gate, which she closed behind her with the least possible noise. The old man's fine sense of hearing, however, had instantly detected, and if we may so speak, had followed all the movements of his grand-daughter; and when the gate closed behind her, he said, with a deep sigh, and as if speaking to himself, "She has gone out again!"

Then, probably to divert the solicitude which was tormenting him, he directed Julietta to go and tell the servant to take little Mary out for a walk and, added:

"Bring with you when you come back the newspaper that you will find on the table in the saloon, and come and read to me the article upon the public rejoicings of last week. That will amuse both you and me."

Julietta obeyed. A short time afterward Marianne and Mary went out for their walk, and Julietta returned, and seating herself upon a stool at her grandfather's feet, began to read the article which he had mentioned. It was a very long one, and she had to stop now and then to spell some of the longer and most difficult words. She had not quite finished it when several knocks on the garden gate were heard.

"There is no one to open it, grandpa," said the little girl, interrupting her reading.

"You must go then," said the baron.

The garden gate was not far enough from the piazza to prevent the old man from hearing the following dialogue which took place between his niece and a lady—a stranger:

"Does not a young lady, a teacher of the piano, live here?" asked the latter.

"No, madam," Julietta replied.

"It must be here, certainly, my dear. I had the exact directions to this house given me. She may be a boarder, whom you do not know, my little one."

"In the whole house there is no one but my grandpa, who is blind," answered Julietta, in the impatient tone of a little girl who liked not her word to be doubted.

"And Adela, my older sister, and Marianne, the cook and her husband, the gardener, and my little sister Mary and the dog, and I; and no one else. But sometimes a young lady comes here who teaches the piano, and perhaps she is the one you want to see."

"I wish to see Miss Adela St. Andres, who teaches the piano in the family—"

"I never tell fibs, ma'am," said Julietta, impatiently interrupting her; "my sister Adela is not a teacher of the piano. Don't you think I ought to know?"

"Does Baron St. Andres live here?" asked a young man, stopping also at the half-open gate.

"Yes, Sir."

"Then, certainly, the young lady for whom you are inquiring lives here, madam," he said to the lady who was questioning Julietta; and, doubtless, the Baron St. Andres, whom I seek, is her grandfather."

And to the intense surprise, and even anger, of Julietta, who still insisted that her sister was not a teacher of music, the young man made his way to the piazza, approached the blind grandfather, and having assured himself that he was speaking to the Baron St. Andres, said:

"Baron, I have the pleasure of announcing to you that your pension is restored."

"Sir, sir, you must certainly have taken me for some one else," the baron answered, his surprise almost as great as that of Julietta, "for my pension has never been taken from me. How, then, can you say it is restored?"

"Are you not the Baron St. Andres who served in the reign of Louis the sixteenth and Louis the sixteenth, in the Vendean wars, and who has lost five sons in the wars of the empire?"

"Yes, Sir," the baron answered.

"Your grand-daughter—the young lady—Adela St. Andres—does she not give lessons on the piano in the house of the Minister of War—in fact, to my sisters?"

"Explain yourself, Sir, explain yourself!" the old man exclaimed.

"My pension lost! Adela! Three times a day! Explain, I entreat you, explain!"

"It is a very simple matter," the young man said; "but how can you be ignorant of all this? It is a fact that I have two sisters, and about a year ago, when they were seeking a teacher of music, your grand-daughter, the young lady Adela, offered her services; she was recommended by the Countess de Bricourt, whose daughters she was also teaching. After some months had passed, knowing that I was in the war office, and that I am the minister's nephew, she told me that your pension had been discontinued for two years, and that no cause had been assigned for it; and she added, 'Neither a blind old man, nor a young girl like me, can take the necessary steps to ascertain the reason.' 'Make your mind easy upon that point,' I said to her; 'I will take charge of the matter.' I have fulfilled my promise; and now I have the pleasure of communicating to you the pleasing intelligence that orders have been given not only for the restoration of your pension, but also for the payment of all arrears."

"Oh, Adela! noble and worthy girl!" exclaimed the old man, raising his sightless eyes to heaven. "Oh, my daughter! so unjustly accused—you have concealed all this from me—all—even the labor which your filial love induced you to undertake. Oh! where is she? why does she not come? Go, go and seek her!"

Julietta went out as if for that purpose, and the baron, gradually overcoming his emotion, related to the young man and to the stranger lady all that had passed that morning—his fears and his anxieties for his grand-daughter. The praises and blessings which the old man lavished upon the absent Adela, met full sympathy from at least one of his hearers.

"Oh, baron, my dear Sir," the young man said, "you do not know me yet; I am a stranger to you, but I will give you ample satisfaction concerning my family. I have long loved your grand-daughter; she does not reject me; give her to me, I implore you, for my wife."

At this moment, a cry of joy from Julietta announced the return of Adela. When the latter saw the two persons who were standing near her grandfather, she blushed deeply, and hesitated in her approach; but the old man called her to him, and fondly embracing her, said:

"Everything is discovered, you darling, your little rogue! and here is one who claims the right to be your husband, and to separate you from me."

"He who claims that right," the still blushing girl answered, with a strange mingling of timidity and firmness, "must also take upon him the charge of an old man and two little ones, for whose welfare and happiness I am responsible in the eyes of God."

"All, all whom you love, shall be most dearly welcomed, dearest lady."

Adela educated her two sisters, and saw them happily married—as happy as herself, and none could wish a happier lot. The blind old baron lived to an extreme old age, and at length died in the arms of his beloved grand-daughter, bequeathing her his last fond blessing.

Squills and Soda.

Some time since a countryman and recently espoused wife visited the city for the purpose of seeing the volunteers. While strolling through the streets they thought they would indulge in the luxury of a glass of soda. Entering an apothecary store, they made known their wants.

"Well, I guess I'll take some of the syrup of squills," said greeny.

"We don't use that kind of syrup," said the clerk.

"I know you don't, because it's costly. I'll have the syrup of squills."

The druggist remonstrated, but all to no purpose. His customer would have the squills, remarking:

"All the other syrups are made of sugar, lemon drops, sarsaparilla and such things, to lull the folks."

The squills were procured, and our hero requested to pour out for himself; and he did so, taking a bountiful quantity, in order to get his money's worth.

The heroine being asked how she would have been raised herself to the supposed dignity of a city belle, and said:

"Reckon as how I'll try mine without any squills and soda."

Her wish was complied with, for the druggist was nonplussed at the independence of the apparently happy pair. They finished their glasses, drank, and sat down, as they remarked, "to let it settle."

In passing their own opinions on the drinks, they gave anything but a favorable decision. In a few moments our hero began to experience a new internal sensation.

"Jerusalem!" he exclaimed, "what's the matter with my stomach?" and before an answer could be returned, up came the squills and soda.

"I'm pissened!" he moaned. "Only married three days, and got to die! Pump it out of me somebody! I'll give a doctor fifty cents to save my life."

The wife fell on her knees and attempted to comfort her husband, but he was not to be cheered—and not until the last of the squills had left his stomach did he entertain a hope of remaining in this world. The couple left the store, vowing vengeance to the man who told them to call for squills to sweeten their soda.

For The Oxford Democrat.

Slavery, the Rebellion, and Emancipation.

Conclusion of Part IV.

Seventhly, the slaveholders rebelled and made war against the government. The slaveholders did this, we say, because it is they that have ruled the south and the country for so many years. In 1855, a gentleman then residing in the State of Georgia, and who had travelled in all the countries of that State, and seen the workings of slavery in all departments of society, in the cities and in the country, and who well understood the sentiments of the people with regard to the institution, told us that full four-fifths of the people regarded slavery as an evil, and would be glad to be rid of it, would vote against its introduction if that could be submitted to them as a new question, but the other fifth made gain by it, held the power and ruled with despotic will. And so when the three hundred and fifty thousand slaveholders of the South saw by the sure signs of the times, and the rising spirit of freedom in the North, and especially in the growing, mighty West, that the days of their dominion were numbered, and that the sceptre of their power was passing from their grasp, conscious that the spirit of the age and of advancing civilization was opposed to their institution, they were nerved in desperation and despair, to link themselves together, and form a solid square around their institution, resolved to make it national or perish in the ruins of the Republic. With a unanimity, skill and zeal worthy of a better cause, they made their preparations for rebellion; made the Union their watchword while plotting to destroy it; filled the cabinet and other offices at Washington with traitors; made themselves friends, and as far as possible corrupted public opinion at the North and in Europe; transferred the arms and munitions of war, (115,000 muskets by a single order of the Secretary of War,) to southern ports and arsenals; scattered the army and navy to the remotest points possible; plundered the public funds; and did all that could be done to lay the nation prostrate and helpless at their feet. When, at the Convention at Charleston in 1860, they failed to get the principle of the Dred Scott decision and the constitutional right of slavery to enter and possess the territories, incorporated into the platform of the democratic party, the rebellion was a foregone conclusion; and after the election of the present Chief Magistrate in strict accordance with the provisions of the constitution, without a single right of the South violated, without a single immunity withheld, without a single privilege denied, without a single interest threatened; but all their constitutional rights and privileges assured and secure, they made war upon the best and most patient government in the world, and evoked that spirit of carnage which for 20 months has now been raging in the land, and will not cease till either the rebellion or the government is crushed; till the slaveholders or we are subjugated.

Such in short have been the growth and aggressions of slavery in this country, and such its present attitude and purpose. From an evil of but slight and trifling magnitude, and one which our fathers thought they could easily control and remove, which they thought would die out of itself and disappear from the land, it has increased and spread itself, acquired power and tyrant's sway, controlled political parties, religious associations, (gave at publishing societies that issued 24,000,000 pages a year not daring to say a word against slavery,) Presidents and Cabinets, the offices and patronage of the government, the Supreme Court and its decisions; and in spite of that article of the constitution which guarantees to all the citizens of all the States, the privileges of citizens in every other State, ruled throughout the South with a worse than Austrian despotism, so that for years no northern man was safe there, without southern instead of national principles; and now the fatal seeds of slavery, sown two hundred and forty years ago, have ripened into rebellion and war, and almost two millions of men have been called to arms to determine which shall rule, slavery or freedom, the principles of the Declaration of Independence, or the opposite principles of slavery.

If, now, there are any doubts in any minds, as to the correctness of these views, of slavery and the rebellion, as to its being the cause of the rebellion, or as to the views of the founders of the Union and the leaders of the rebellion respecting it, we think they will be removed by the following southern testimony. First, in the early progress of the rebellion, Mr. Stephens,

Vice President of the Confederacy, in a speech at Savannah, made the following declarations: "The new constitution has put to rest forever the agitating questions relating to our peculiar institutions,—African slavery as it exists among us,—the proper status of the negro in our form of civilization. This was the immediate cause of the late rupture and present revolution. Jefferson in his forecast, had anticipated this as the rock upon which the old Union would split. The prevailing ideas entertained by him and most of the leading statesmen of the time of the formation of the old Constitution, were that the enslavement of the African race was in violation of the laws of nature; that it was wrong in principle, socially, morally, and politically. Our new government is founded upon exactly the opposite ideas; its foundations are laid, its corner stone rests upon the great truth that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery, subordination to the superior race is his natural and normal condition." This is a most remarkable confirmation of what we have now been saying, that the fathers of the Republic disapproved of slavery, regarded it as an evil and an injury; and that the present rebellion of the slaveholders is a conflict between the principles of the Declaration of Independence, the Union and the Constitution on the one hand, and slavery on the other. But secondly, Col. Hamilton of Texas, made a speech in New Orleans, on the 14th of January last, in which he said that "of all the fathers who framed the government, there was not one solitary man who did not believe that the day would soon come when slavery would be a reproach. Well did he remember when there was not a slave owner in his native State who would not, in the presence of all his slaves, say that slavery was an evil, a great, a social, political, a moral evil. But you and I know that within the past few years, under the manipulations of politicians, that sentiment has been materially changed; and whereas, twenty-five years ago, I might have said in this presence, that slavery was an iniquitous wrong, and that in the providence of God it was bound to be removed, the opinion has been industriously inculcated in the public mind, and imposed upon the people, that the mind that dared think upon this subject, or to question one single right of the slave owner, was a foe to the peculiar institution and to be looked upon with distrust. And while this change was going on, while I could not look down the stream of time to catch the shadows reflected upon its broad and even bosom, I did see that trouble was coming; I did see that I was ceasing to be a freeman." From this, as from every source of information, we learn that the rebellion is a step towards which the slave power has long been tending; and all ought to understand that it is a desperate conflict to determine whether slavery shall rule the land or freedom, whether slavery, or the Union and freedom with it, shall die.

E.

THE CROWNED SKELETON. Aix-la-Chapelle in Germany, derives its name from the tomb of Charlemagne. He gave instructions that when he died he should be buried in a royal position; prostrate as a slumbering monarch, but seated in the attitude of a ruling monarch. He had the mausoleum erected over the sepulchre of his Savior at Jerusalem. In a tomb within this chapel he was placed upon a throne. The gospels, which I suppose he had often read while living, he would appear determined to study thoroughly after he was dead. He directed that they should be laid upon his knees before him. By his side was his sword; upon his head was an imperial crown, and a royal mantle covered his lifeless shoulders. Thus was his body placed, and did his body remain for about 100 years.

One of his successors resolved he would see how Charlemagne looked, and what had become of the riches that had adorned his tomb. Nearly a thousand years after Christ, the tomb was opened by Emperor Otto. The skeleton form of the body was found there, dissolved and dismembered; the various ornaments I speak of were all there too; but the frame had sunk into fragments, the bones had fallen disjointed and asunder, and there remained nothing but the ghostly skull wearing its crown still! The various relics were taken up, and are now preserved at Vienna; and they have often since been employed in the coronation of the Emperors of Germany, in order to satisfy their greatness and their being successors to Charlemagne.

[Dr. Massie's Summer Rambles.

TURTLE EGG BUTTER. One of the peculiar productions of Brazil, described by Mr. Fletcher, was "turtle egg butter." There are innumerable turtles on the sand bars of the Amazon, and the natives make it a business, at the proper season, to collect their eggs, which are deposited in the sand. These are thrown into a boat, and when a sufficient quantity has been collected, they are trampled by the feet of the Indians. After a short time an oily substance rises to the surface and is skimmed off, and this is "turtle egg butter." Many millions of eggs are consumed in this way every year, and the article is largely consumed. But Mr. Fletcher confessed that he had partaken of many strange dishes in the course of his travels, and had learned to relish his, he never could taste turtle egg butter. He didn't exactly like the manner of churning.

Editorial Correspondence.

Augusta, March 16, 1863.

The Legislature is yet dragging its slow length along, and from present appearance, will not adjourn before about the 30th inst. The National Resolves have not yet been discussed in the Senate, and when taken up will occupy considerable time. The resolve granting three half townships of land to the Free Will Baptist Seminary at Lewiston, on condition the friends of that institution will raise seventy-five thousand dollars more, last week passed the House by thirteen majority—but a motion to reconsider was made the next day, and the whole matter warmly debated. The question goes over until to-morrow, when it will probably be further discussed and a vote taken in that branch. Judging from present indications, the final result is somewhat in doubt. The two reports, (majority and minority) from the committee on Agriculture in relation to an Agricultural College, are now before the Senate. The majority of the committee favor the acceptance of the grant of land voted by Congress, and recommend that the institution be located independent of any existing institution of learning. The minority recommend the acceptance of the proposition of Waterville College—to connect the new College with that School. Mr. Josselyn of Franklin, last week made a long speech in favor of the views of the minority, which was ably answered by Senator Barrows, of Oxford. Both speeches are highly spoken of. Much debate will inevitably follow upon this question in both branches. It is really one of the most important matters before the Legislature. This munificent grant of 210,000 acres of the public lands from the general government should certainly be accepted, and then such judicious arrangements with regard to the location and putting into operation of the College, as will carry out the original designs, should further be made. It is designed as a school for such of the sons of our farmers and mechanics, as intend hereafter to engage in these two great industrial occupations.

The joint standing committee on the Militia have reported a long bill, almost entirely revising our Militia Laws. Not having had time to examine into its new features, we can of course express no opinion upon its merits or demerits. One thing is quite certain, that in these perilous, belated times, something should be done to put our Militia system upon a better footing. We are a border State, and in case of a collision with Great Britain, should be ready and in a condition to call out an effective military force on a short notice. To the accomplishment of such an object, our present Militia law is sadly deficient. The "Dog" law is again before the Legislature, in the shape of an act to tax the canine race almost indiscriminately. The bill before the Legislature has some dozen sections, and is understood to be very nearly a copy of the "Dog law" of Massachusetts. A bill to tax dog stock owned out of the State, will probably become a law during the present session. It meets with a strong, determined opposition, but its friends are determined to put it through, if possible. There is also a bill before the Legislature to establish two State Normal Schools. This is understood to be a favorite scheme of the Superintendent of Common Schools. These institutions are designed for the better education of teachers of common schools. The object certainly is a commendable one—but its success at the present season is a matter of doubt. There is a strong opposition to the continuance of the agricultural and scientific survey of the State, not on the ground of its want of usefulness—but because of its expense. Mr. Hammond, the able Representative from Paris, has made a minority report from the committee having that matter under consideration. But so far as we can judge of the feeling in the Legislature upon this question, we are inclined to the opinion that the survey will be continued.

An amendment to the Maine Liquor Law is also before the Legislature, as its friends say to carry out the original intention of the framers of the law—to include "Ale and Beer" among the drinks that intoxicate. A large number of Petitions have been received in favor of such an amendment—containing the names of many of the most influential, respectable citizens of the State.

A bill to abolish the office of "Trial Justice" in the State, and return back to the old system, giving all Justices of the Peace their former jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters—has been substantially defeated in the House. An amendment to the old law, giving the Governor and Council power to appoint an additional number of Trial Justices, was passed, instead of the bill providing for a repeal of the law.

William G. Barrows, of Brunswick, has been nominated by the Governor for Judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, in place of Judge Fox, resigned.

The municipal election in Augusta was hotly contested by the copperheads, but resulted in a Waterloo defeat of that party. Wm. T. Johnson, Esq., was elected Mayor, by a handsome majority.

Augusta has had any quantity of Lectures last winter. Cyril Pearl on the War, Weston on Education; S. W. Hewlett on "Rom and Rebellion"; Prof. Chamberlain on Greenland; Dudley on the Emancipation Proclamation; and others, have all by courtesy occupied the Representatives Hall. But our communication is already too long, and we will stop.

Who are Prolonging the War?

This is a great and serious question. There is a responsibility somewhere in this matter, and in justice to all it should be ferreted out. If it is said the southern rebels are prolonging the terrible contest by still fighting against the federal government—the question comes up why do they not lay down their arms and cease their unholy warfare against the Union? To this interrogatory we have a response which places the responsibility just where it belongs. The self styled democratic party, as now managed and controlled by the copperheads in the free States, is the guilty culprit in this matter. Every convention they hold, every resolution they pass, every public speech they make, are all contributing to lengthen out this bloody, infernal war. It is all giving aid and comfort to the Jeff Davis dynasty. Warring against the national administration is joining the southern rebels in garring against the government. The copperhead democracy have placed themselves directly in the way of peace. If this party would wheel into line, and give the administration an unconditional support, so as to make a united north—the rebels would give up, and we should have an end of the war in less than three months. Now to the proof. The rebel papers all say that the northern copperheads are their allies and friends, that their object is to overthrow the administration in order to bring about southern independence, and a permanent sundering of the Union. This encourages them to hold on and hold out and continue the war. The copperheads stand in the way of peace—they are guilty before high heaven of continuing this terrible war. Their hands are red with the blood of our fathers and brothers and sons. Instead of standing up for their country and defending the old flag, they hoist the black banner of the pirate and rebel; instead of laboring to bring about a permanent, honorable peace, they lift up their treasonable hands and in full sympathy with a hell born rebellion, strike their deadly blows at the government, the Constitution and the Union. Before this rebellion can be finally ended, northern treason must die the death it so richly deserves. Strike down this infernal demon at the north, and southern treason will flee away in hopeless despair, and the angel of peace will again spread its dewy wings over a united country.

New Hampshire Election.

Whatever may be said to the contrary, the late election in the old Granite State is a triumph of the administration and the Union. When it is recollected that the republican majority in that State has always been comparatively small—that of the soldiers gone to the war, at least two-thirds are republicans—that the copperhead democracy in New York and every other hot bed of secession and treason, raised and sent into New Hampshire large sums of money to corrupt and carry over to their views the people—that the same treasonable party overrun the State with leeches and stumblers, who with lies and false show of speech labored to deceive and cheat the freemen of that old Commonwealth,—we say when we take all things into consideration, the Union men have achieved a glorious victory. We have elected two, if not three, members of Congress—a majority of sixty in the House, and two-thirds of the Senate and Council. There is no choice of Governor, which secures the election of Gilmore, the republican candidate. All hail! to the gallant republicans and Union democrats of the old Granite State, who have breasted the fury of the storm, rallied around the old flag, and defended it with all the heroic bravery of the ancient Spartans. In the recent contest the traitors have ingloriously fallen, while secession and Jeff Davis democracy have gone down to ignominious grave. Glorious old New Hampshire stands like her granite hills for the administration, the Union, and a vigorous prosecution of the war, until southern rebellion and northern treason are both crushed out and sent back to their native perdition.

PORTLAND AND OXFORD CENTRAL RAILROAD. At the meeting of the Company, held at Backfield, on Monday, the following officers were chosen:

Directors, F. W. Pelton, E. P. Bancroft, and A. L. Frothingham, Boston; and A. R. Morrill and Ambrose Bock, Backfield.

The Board was organized by the choice of A. L. Frothingham, President; F. W. Pelton, Treasurer; S. C. Andrews, Clerk.

Work will be commenced on the extension, when the sum required of the inhabitants on the line shall be secured. It is expected that the full sum will be raised in a short time.

PROBATE COURT.—At the term on Tuesday last, some changes were made in the time of holding the Courts in this County. Hereafter there will be a term on the third Tuesday of each month except April. The annual circuit to Bethel, Rumford, Dixfield, and Canton will hereafter be omitted, there being so little business that this change meets with no objection. The Courts in Western Oxford will be held immediately after the January and June Terms, as before, except that the term for Watford will be hereafter held at South Watford.

A steamer just leaving San Francisco was stopped, Saturday, on the charge of being intended for a privateer. It has since been admitted that she was the property of rebel owners; and that it was the intention to capture the treasure steamers, and thus organize a piratical fleet on the Pacific coast.

Letter from Rev. Mr. Southworth.

MATANZAS, Feb. 20th, 1863.

This morning have been to visit an "ingenio" or sugar estate. It is at the falls of the San Juan river. While the men were filling the water casks with pure fresh water for the homeward voyage, the Capt. and myself walked over the sugar establishment. Here we see the whole process of manufacturing sugar from the cane. These carts, each drawn by a yoke of Spanish oxen, driven by a Coolie or negro, bring the cane from the field. It is thrown upon an endless chain, which carries it up an inclined plane twenty feet, to the cylinders; these are driven by water power. Passing through these it is terribly crushed, so that every particle of juice is forced out, and runs into a long spout which conducts it to the various boiling vats and caldrons; conducted from one to another of these at last it is set away to cool, and what was once a hard stick is good sugar. It would be interesting to dwell at length upon the process in its different stages; but there are sights on one of these plantations which awaken more interesting subjects of thought than any of a more material kind. We see here the system of slavery in its home. Get a glimpse of its real nature. There are two races of men who share the yoke of servitude, in this island. The Negro and Chinese. There are not far from 600,000 negro slaves in Cuba, scattered over the whole island; in city and country. A large minority of these are Africans, taken from their native land in recent years; and there may be seen on the same plantation slaves from many different tribes, speaking various dialects. The condition of these men and women is of course sufficiently terrible and hopeless. And yet there are some reasons to believe that it is not so hopeless as the lot of the slave in our own country. There are some things which mitigate the ill of life and which open the door of hope to the slave of Cuba. All the laws which regulate the relation of a master and slave are made in Old Spain. There is no slavery known in that land, and this fact has operated favorably to the interest of the slave here. The Cubans believe, and it irritates them much, that the home government design to favor the negro and depress themselves. For example, while all arms are taken from the Cuban's, and they are forbidden except in very special cases to learn the art of war, they have seen weapons put into the hands of black regiments. The laws also favor emancipation. If a slave wishes to buy himself, he can compel his master to sell him. He can go and have himself appraised and the master must abide by the price adjudged. If the slave buy a part of himself he is considered by the law as owning so much of himself, and the master can never sell that part of him. The slave has so much capital. Or if the slave goes and persuades an other to buy him, then his master must sell him at the price above stated. Then again, there is a law that a master may buy his child, and the master must sell it to her. I think she can redeem her child for fifty dollars. The master is not allowed to whip the slave above so many lashes. Nor can he use him and not be accountable to answer for it at the civil tribunal. And there are other things which work to a certain extent to relieve the slave. 1. While he has no voice or influence in making the laws or in any civil concern, he has the comfort of feeling that neither does his master or any other Cuban have any. Politically all are on a level. 2. He is equal with his master and the whites religiously. The law compels the master to have every one of his slaves "baptized soon after he is born, and give him christian burial when he dies. It also says he shall be instructed during his life in the Catholic faith. 3. The system of national lotteries which everybody has a right to buy a ticket in, give him a hope and chance to secure his liberty. For this lottery is got up and administered on such honor able grounds that the poorest man is as like to draw the prize as the wealthiest. And the cases are not wanting where slaves have drawn their liberty and a fortune at the same time. 4. The holy days of the Catholic church, which are very numerous, give the slave much time for rest, for plea sure, or to be used in raising funds to secure his freedom. And socially, the slave in Cuba is so far removed from the lower class as of the whites, or even the higher class as, as he is in our own country. A curious but universal fact in this direction, will illustrate a great deal, which I cannot write. The blackest, most degraded slave, with a sugar in his hand, will meet a Spanish gentleman in the street, and stop him in his most busy or fashionable walk, and claim the universally accorded right to take a gentleman's sugar in his hand, and light his own by it. Everybody smokes here, and everybody stops every other body who has his own smoke pipe every body has it. Notwithstanding all these mitigating circumstances of Cuban servitude, it is a horrible state to all engaged in it, and a blight upon this fairest of islands. But the worst to be pitied beings are the Coolies. They bought not by force but by fraud as had as forces from their homes and kindred; without any females to share their lot with them, and make the hard path easier. Of a peculiarly sensitive nature; conscious of the superiority of their nation and its history when compared with those of the Negro, beside whom he is doomed to work; intelligent—hardly one but can read and write. Much weaker in muscular power, being slightly built, and in constitutional endurance. Abhorring the work he is most frequently commanded to do, and hating with a perfect national antipathy the black slave, he is forced to mingle with him, but will die rather than in family relation mix with. Often

abused, chained, driven. Not able to bear the intolerable burden of life, throwing it away as a hated thing; fancying that through the gateway of death he will return to his loved and native land. This is the man for whom humanity may weep. It is probable that there are not far from seventy-five thousand of these people on the island of Cuba, and so far as I know not one woman among them all. Hence they are a doomed race. In a few years they will all have passed away, for none are now brought on to the island. Like the first inhabitants of this land, they will perish beneath the cruelty of the Spaniard. We are told that one of the brave native chiefs of Cuba being taken and condemned to be burned to death for defending himself with such desperation; one of the Catholic priests approached and besought him to embrace the cross, that he might die in the Catholic religion and go to heaven. He aroused himself and asked with deep emotion, if there were any Spaniards in heaven. Being told that there were, he replied: "I do not want to go where such cruel men are. I prefer hell to heaven if there are Spaniards in heaven." As one contemplates the wrongs and cruelties these people are called to endure, it is no wonder that there is such an antagonism between them and their oppressors; or that it should display itself in murder and suicide. God grant his pity to the oppressed, and a better spirit to the oppressor; then shall this be a fairer and happier land than now.

A. SOUTHWORTH.

Supreme Judicial Court.

WALTON, J., Present.

In the action, Abner Davis et al. vs. Ezekiah Winslow et al., (incorrectly given Gerrish vs. Brown, last week,) the jury returned a verdict for plaintiff of \$1029.00. Exceptions filed.

Preston Robinson libt vs. Mary S. Robinson. Divorce decreed. Kimball & Bryant, for libt.

380 Franklin N. Field vs. James H. Pratt. Action for repulsion of a yoke of steers valued at \$50. Verdict for plaintiff.

Black. Hammons and Davis. 213. Seth B. Newell vs. Phineas Stearns appt. Action on note and account—appeal from magistrate. After the evidence was all out the case was taken from the jury and referred to presiding Judge. Entered neither party.

Hammons. Frye. 334. George E. Bowley vs. D. Knapp. Action or repulsion, brought against debt as deputy sheriff, to recover a conclusion which was attached as the property of defendant's father, and which plaintiff claimed to be his. Verdict for plaintiff.

Black. Rawson. 339. Silas P. Maxim, appt vs. W. W. Bowler, et al. Action for trespass, on an appeal from magistrate. Plaintiff brought an action against defendants for allowing cattle to run at large in the highway. Magistrate decided for deft. After the evidence was all out the case was referred to the Judge. Judgment for plaintiff—\$1.50 damage.

Goodnow, Hammons. Black. Addine Hall libt vs. Daniel Hall. Divorce decreed. Bolster & Ludden for libt.

222 Lorenzo Larabee vs. Samuel R. Brigham. Action of trover. Plaintiff lived with his father on the homestead, and avers that he bought the neat stock about the time he went to live with him. Some difficulty arising between father and son the father requested the defendant to sell the stock, which he did and paid the money to plaintiff's father. Action brought to recover the value of the stock.

Sampson. Andrews. The Grand Jury came in on Friday, and reported five indictments.

CRIMINAL.

The criminal docket was called on Saturday.

Joseph E. Gallagher plead guilty on two indictments for horse stealing, and was sentenced one year in State's Prison on each.

Charles Miller of Bridgton plead guilty on an indictment for horse stealing, in Denmark, and was sentenced to one year in State's Prison.

In the action State vs. Charles T. Cotton; John's of Rumford; Ellbridge G. Osgood; Simon E. Buck; Elihu T. Cotton; "not proven" was entered.

The President has issued an order requiring all soldiers absent from their commands to return. All deserters who report before April 1st, will suffer only loss of pay—Those who do not, will be punished as the law provides. He calls upon all patriotic and faithful citizens to aid in restoring to their regiments such soldiers; and to resist the treasonable crime of enticing and procuring soldiers to desert.

MILITARY FASHIONS.—The Spring number of Mad. Demorest's Mirror of Fashion has been issued. It contains a great variety of illustrations, exhibiting the fashions which are to prevail during the Spring, with the usual full size patterns. As a novelty, illustrations of the wedding dress of Mrs. Gen. Tom Thumb are given, with representations of the ring, brooch, watch, etc.—The price of the Magazine is \$1.00 per year.

A New York man has recently presented a paper to a Geographical Society in N. Y. in which he shows that the climate of Maine and Canada will in time become as salubrious as that of Southern France.

Four freight trains have been taken off the Grand Trunk Road, probably on account of the condition of the track. We learn that new rails are to be laid in the Spring.

THE VICKSBURG CANALS. In connection with the news from the Yazoo, demonstrating the success of one of Grant's canals, the following from the Memphis correspondence of the Philadelphia Inquirer (9th) will be of interest:

"All the canals are now pronounced successful, notwithstanding the sage prediction of a rebel newspaper that the Yankees would fail in the Williams Canal, because they would not dig deep enough to cut through the strata of blue clay found beneath the subsoil. It would appear from recent accounts that even that ditch may yet be of some service to us. It seems the Yankees did dig through the clay, struck the quicksand under it, and as soon as the dam shall be removed from the upper mouth of the canal, the river, now upon the rampage, will rush through it with great force and quickly delve a channel large enough and deep enough to float our heaviest gunboats, and what more do we need? Vicksburg may surrender or hold out, if she can, after this. We can afford to bide our time. But she cannot much longer hold out.

The Republicans of the 1st District in Connecticut, have nominated Col. H. C. Deming, a War Democrat, for Congress. In his letter of acceptance, he says:

"I will give him [the President] all the power which he demands, while contending with his mutinous crew. I will place full faith and confidence in his honesty and fidelity to the country. I will not criticize over-nicely the mode he has adopted to crush the Rebellion. I shall turn my back upon no war measure he has chosen to inaugurate, but will adhere to and follow him for the cause he represents. Slavery I have always hated morally. I have deemed it my duty, in the course of my political career, to defend what I regard as its political rights under the Constitution. But when the Rebels themselves took Slavery from beneath the wings of constitutional compromise, and immediately placed it outside of the Constitution, they absolved me from being any longer its apologist or defender. They have themselves destroyed their cherished institution by their own act, and I have no tears to shed over its grave."

The agent of the Associated press obtained the following paragraph at the Bureau of the Internal Revenue:

"It would seem to be a reasonable construction of section 6 of the act of March 3, amendatory of the Excise Law, that promissory notes, not exceeding 33 days, including the grace days, should bear a one cent stamp; exceeding 33 days and not exceeding 66 days, including the grace days two cents; exceeding 66 days and not exceeding 99 days, three cents; consequently, a note at 63 days including the grace days, would possess a legal value by having a two cent stamp affixed thereto. The same rule will apply to notes having a longer time to run."

Gov. Colburn has appointed Dr. H. L. K. Wiggins of Auburn, to visit the various military hospitals in New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, in which there may be Maine soldiers, to examine into the condition of the sick and wounded connected with our regiments, to do all in his power to obtain discharges or furloughs for such of them as in his judgment will be benefited by returning home, to advise with them in reference to their arrearsages of pay, to call the particular attention of hospital surgeons to their wants and to report to the Governor all facts relating to the same.

[Lewiston Journal.]

The U. S. Supreme Court has rendered an opinion in the case of prizes, seized by the blockading vessels. It sustains the legality of the blockade. A dissenting opinion was given by Judge Nelson, who held that a capture was not legal, unless the vessel had before been boarded, and warning entered upon her register. It understood that Judges Taney and Clifford concurred in the latter opinion. Perley writes the Journal that the dissenting opinion is severely commented upon, and it is intimated that Mr. Black, the present Clerk of the Supreme Court, has had a hand in its special pleadings against the authority of the Federal Government to crush out rebellion.

A PATRIOTIC FAMILY. A Father and his Sons in the Army. Mr. James McKimsey of Bethel, in this State, aged 54 years, and his six sons—seven in all—have enlisted in the service of the country. One son has died in the hospital, and one has returned home, sick. The father and two sons enlisted in the 6th Maine; two in the 7th Maine; one son in the 10th, and one in the 11th. There was still one remaining son who was prevented from enlisting in consequence of having lost some of his fingers. He was so anxious to go that he wanted his father and brothers to get him a situation as a teamster, but they declined, urging that he ought to stay at home and take care of the old cattle.

[Bethel (Me) Age.]

RIOT AT DETROIT. On Friday of last week, in Detroit, Mich., while attempting to take a negro criminal from the hands of the officers, the crowd was fired upon and several wounded. A terrible riot followed. The negro quarter of the city was attacked and thirty-five houses burned. Several persons were wounded, but the great loss of life first reported was untrue. The military were called out, and mob finally dispersed.

BETHEL ITEMS. Twelve cases of small pox have occurred at North Bethel within a few weeks. Of these, but one has died. There have been no new cases for some time past.

Things may be sometimes found in odd situations. We have received a present from Col. Edwards, of the Maine 3th regiment, of a huge Latin Dictionary, which he found in a deserted negro shanty, near Fredericksburg, Va. It is about 200 years old, and is in a pretty good state of preservation. We are also indebted to him for a fine specimen of fossil wood. Our soldiers are encamped in Virginia where many fossil shells abound in the clay, and which would be of great interest to their scientific friends at home.

Col. Edwards has been at home on a furlough for a week past. In spite of the hard service through which he has passed, the Col. looks better than ever we saw him. He brought home the flags used by the regiment. One of these, well perforated by bullet holes, shows of itself to what the regiment has been exposed.

Temperance meetings have been held every Monday evening in the village, for some time past, at which addresses have been delivered by the clergymen of the place and others. These meetings are evidently doing good, in checking the evils of intemperance, which have been on the increase of late.

STATE ITEMS. The Lewiston Journal is informed by a gentleman who deals largely in groceries in that vicinity, that he sells less dollars worth of tobacco now at 75 cents per pound, than he did three years ago, at the old prices.

A Court Martial is assembled in Portland, for trial of military offenders in this State. Quite a number of cases have come before the court.

FRANK SMITH GETTING RAMPANT. The Augusta correspondent of the Boston Journal says F. O. J. Smith intimated in his late speech that if a Provost Marshall should attempt to arrest him, he would find in such a commission "his death warrant, and his passport to the grave." Smith has grown bold since he didn't fight that duel in Washington with Leonard Jarvis.

HEBRON OFFICERS. Moderator, Samuel Sturtevant.

Clerk, Samuel P. Cushman. Selectmen, C. C. Cushman, John C. Hutchinson, Henry Bonney. School Com, C. C. Bicknell. All republicans.

The returns from the town elections held last week, came in as favorably, as those of the 1st inst. The copperheads have precious few crumbs of comfort in this State this year.

SENATOR ELECTED. Hon. Luther Sanborn has been elected Senator, for York County, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Senator Colby.

The Bridgton Reporter says that Capt. Enoch Knight, of the Maine 12, is coming home on a brief furlough. He has been suffering from a severe illness.

Capt. J. E. Bryant, of the Maine 8th, has our thanks for several copies of the "New South," a paper recently established at Beaufort, S. C.

"GREENBACKS." It is said that Secretary Chase has effected a loan in N. Y., that will reduce the wants of the government and there will be no additional issue of legal tender notes. It is reported that he has been tendered a hundred millions in gold by parties in Europe, on such terms as to make the Exchange bring it about at par.

THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR. Perley in a letter to the Journal, says:

"It is rumored at the capital that the testimony recently taken before the Committee on the Conduct of the War is anything but favorable to Gen. McClellan. Not only is that officer condemned by Gen. Hooker and other military men, but the evidence of Hon. Lemuel J. Bowden (the newly elected Senator from Virginia, who resided near Williamsburg) shows that Gen. Magruder had a small force at Yorktown, and that it would have been an easy task for the Army of the Potomac to have marched directly up the peninsula to Richmond."

A SELL. A wag got an awful sell on the Democrats of a town out West. He telegraphed that Gov. Yates of Illinois and Gus Morton of Indiana were going through with a large delegation of Democrats, and when the faithful got to the depot to see when they found only a train loaded with jackasses, which greeted them with brotherly brays.

DECLARATION. Ex-Governor Hoppin of Rhode Island has declined the nomination of the Democratic and Constitutional of that State as candidate for Governor, his "expectations of uniting the Democratic and Conservative strength of Rhode Island in support of the General Government not having been realized by the proceedings of the conventions." [Journal.]

At the close of a recent inspection of Gen. Hooker's army, the 10th and 11th regiments were specially commended for their good condition. It was recommended that the proportion of furloughs to the men should be increased.

Both Janies were discharged Thursday forenoon. The court will adjourn Friday morning.
