

# The Oxford Democrat

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## MISCELLANY.

### THE ARKANSAS TRAVELER.

In the early settlement of Arkansas, a  
traveler, after riding some eight or ten miles  
without meeting a human being, or seeing a  
human habitation, came at length, by a  
sudden turn of the road, to a miserable  
"shanty" the center of the clearing, in  
what had originally been a "Black-jack-  
thicket," whence the only sound that pro-  
ceeded is the discordant music of a broken  
fiddle, from the bowels of which the occu-  
pant is laboriously extorting the monotonous  
tune known as "The Arkansas, or  
Rackensack Traveler." Our traveler rides  
up within a few feet of the door, which was  
once the bed frame of a cart body, now  
covered with bear skins, and hung upon two  
wooden hinges. After much shouting, the  
inmate appears, fiddle in hand, and evidently  
"washed" at being interrupted in the exer-  
cise of his art. The following colloquy  
ensues, the indefatigable fiddler still play-  
ing the first strain of "The Arkansas Traveler,"  
which in fact he continues, at sudden  
intervals, until the dialogue, as will be seen  
is brought to an unexpected conclusion. If  
this be not "seeking lodgings under diffi-  
culties," we should like to know what  
might be legitimately so considered:

Traveler: "Friend, can I obtain accom-  
modations for the night with you?"

Arkansas Artist: "No, sir—nary 'com-  
modation."

Traveler: "My dear sir, I have already  
traveled thirty miles to-day, and neither  
myself nor my horse has had a mouthful to  
eat; why can't you accommodate me for to-  
night?"

Ark Artist: "Just because it can't be  
did. We've plim out of everything to eat in  
the house. Bill's gone to mill with the  
last rubbin of corn on these premises, and  
'll be nigh on the shank of to-morrow  
evenin' afore he cum a home, unless suthin  
uncommon happens."

Traveler: "You surely must have some-  
thing that I can feed to my horse; even a  
few potatoes would be better than no food."

Ark Artist: "Stranger, our eatin'-roots  
gin out about a week ago; so your chance is  
slim thar."

Traveler: "But, my friend, I must re-  
main with you any way. I can't go any  
further whether I obtain anything to eat or  
not. You will certainly allow me the shelter  
of your roof."

Ark Artist: "It can't be did, old hoss. You  
see, we've got only one dried hide on the  
premises, and me and the old woman  
allus occupies that; so whar's your chance?"

Traveler: "Allow me to hitch my horse  
to that persimmon-tree, and with my saddle  
and blanket I'll make a bed in the fence  
corner."

Ark Artist: "Hitch your horse to that  
'summon tree?—in a horn! Why, you must  
be a nat'ral fool, stranger! Don't you see  
that's me and the ole woman's only chance  
for 'summon beer, in the fall of the year?  
If your hoss is so farnal hungry as you say  
he is, he'd girdle it as high up as he could  
reach afore mornin'. Hitch your hoss to  
that tree! I s'pect not; no, no, stranger,  
you can't come 'nary sich a dodge as that!"

Our traveler, seeing that he had an origi-  
nal towel with, and being himself an ana-  
tour performer upon the instrument to which  
the settler was so ardently attached, thought  
he would change his tactics, and draw his  
determined not-to-be 'host' out a little, be-  
fore informing him of the fact, that he too  
could play the "Arkansas Traveler," which  
once being known, he rightly conjectured,  
would be a passport to his better graces.

Traveler: "Well, friend, if I can't stay,  
how far is it to the next house?"

Ark Artist: "Ten miles; and you'll  
think they're mighty long ones too, afore  
you get thar. I came nigh once to forgettin'  
to tell, the big creek is up; the bridge is  
carried off; there's nary yearthly chance to  
find it; and if yer bound to cross it, yer'll  
have to go about seven miles up the stream  
to ole Dave Lode's puntion bridge, thro'  
one of the biggest bamboon-swamps ever you  
see. I reckon the bridge is standing yet—  
'twas yesterday mornin', though one cend  
had started down stream fifteen feet, or sich  
a matter."

Traveler: "Friend, you seem communi-  
cative; and if it is no offense, I'd like to  
know what you do for a living?"

Ark Artist: "No offense on yearth,  
stranger; we just keep a grocery."

Traveler: "A grocery! Where in the  
name of all that's mercantile do your cus-  
tomers come from? Your nearest neighbor  
is ten miles distant?"

Ark Artist: "The fact is, me and my  
ole woman is the best customers yet; but  
we s'pect these diggings will improve, and  
in course business will improve too. How-  
ever, we do suthin now, even. Me and the  
ole woman took the cart 'tother day,  
and went to town; we hort a barrel of  
whiskey; and arter we came home and 'gin  
to count the balance on hand, we found thar  
want but just one solitary picayune left, and  
as the ole woman allus carried the puz, in

course she had it. Well I sot the bar Tag in  
one side the room, and shortly arter the ole  
woman sez: 'Supposin' you tap your end  
of the bar?' and I did; and she bought a  
drink, and paid me picayune. Pretty soon,  
I began to get dry, and says I: 'Ole woman,  
spozen' you tap your end of the bar?'  
and she did; and then she sell me a drink;  
and the way that picayune has traveled  
back'ards and for'ards over the bung of  
bar'l is a caution to them as love 'red eye.'  
But stranger, losses is apt to come with ev-  
ery business; and me and the old woman  
has lost some in the grocery line; and I tell  
you how 'twas. The boy Bill, our oldest  
son, he see how the licker was goin', and  
he didn't have nary red to jine in the retail  
business; so one night he crawled under  
the house, and taps the bar'l atwixt the  
cracks in the puncheon-floor; really believe  
he's got more than me or the ole woman ih-  
er; the good for nothin' vagabon', to come  
the 'gaiff' over his natural born parents;  
it's enuff to make a man sour agin all crea-  
tion; that boy'll be the ruination of us yet.  
He takes to trickery jist as natural as a hun-  
gry possum takes to a hen roost. Now,  
stranger, what on yearth am I to do? He  
beats me and the ole woman entirely."

Traveler: "It would be difficult for me  
to advise in regard to your son, and I have  
no family of my own. You say it's ten  
miles to the next house; the big creek is  
up; the bridge carried away; no possibility  
of fording it; and seven miles through a  
swamp to the only bridge in the vicinity!  
This is rather a gloomy prospect, particu-  
larly as the sun is about down; still, my  
curiosity is excited, and as you have been  
playing only one part of the "Arkansas  
Traveler" ever since my arrival, I would like  
to know, before I leave, why you don't play  
the tune through?"

Ark Artist: "For one of the best rea-  
sons in the world, old hoss—I can't do it.  
I ain't learnt the turn of that thune, and  
drat me if I believe I shall."

Traveler: "Give me your instrument,  
and I'll see if I can't play the turn for you."

Ark Artist: "Look 'o'ere, my friend,  
do you play the turn of that thune?"

Traveler: "I believe I can."

Ark Artist: "'Lite, 'lite old hoss!—  
we'll find a place for you in the cabin, sure.  
Ole woman! (a halloo) within the shanty  
was the first indication the traveler had of  
any other human being on the premises)  
stranger plays the turn, of the "Rackensack  
Traveler." My friend, hitch your hoss to  
the 'summon tree, or any where else you  
please. Bill'll be here soon, and he'll take  
care of him. Ole woman you call Sal, and  
Nance up from the spring; tell Nance to go  
into the spring-house and cut off a good  
large piece of bear steak, to broil for the  
stranger's supper; tell Sal to knock over a  
chicken or two, and get out some flour, and  
have some flour doin' and chicken fixin's  
for the stranger. (Bill just heaves in sight,  
twenty-four hours earlier than he was ex-  
pected a half hour before.) Bill, O Bill!  
there's a stranger here, and he plays the  
turn of the "Rackensack Traveler;" go to  
the corn-crib and get a big punkin, and  
bring it to the house, so the stranger can  
have suthin to sit on and skin a 'tater' with  
me and the ole woman, whil' the gals is  
getting supper; and Bill, take the boss and  
give him plenty of corn; no nubbins, Bill;  
then rub him down well; and then, when  
you come to the house, bring up a dried  
hide and a bear skin, for the stranger to  
sleep on; and then, Bill, I reckon he'll play  
the turn of the "Rackensack Traveler," for  
us."

The "punkin" was brought; "taters"  
were "skinned" and eaten; the "turn" of  
the "Rackensack Traveler" was repeatedly  
played, to abundant edification; and the  
"gal" finally announced that supper was  
ready; and although instead of "store-tea,"  
they only had "sax-ix-ix tea-doin'," with-  
out milk, yet the repast was one to be long  
remembered. The traveler remained all  
night, and was pitched safely over the "big  
creek" early the next morning. Of a truth,  
"music has charms to soothe the savage  
breast!" [Knickerbocker Magazine.]

About the time the temperance reforma-  
tion began, a well disposed farmer told one  
of his men that he thought of trying to do  
his work without whiskey, and asked him  
how much more he should have to give him  
to do without it. The man told him what  
he pleased. "Well," said the farmer, "I  
will give you a sheep if you will do with-  
out it." The eldest son then asked if he  
would give him a sheep if he would do with-  
out whiskey. "Yes," said the farmer, "I  
will give you a sheep if you will do with-  
out it." The youngest son then asked if he  
would do the same by him. "Yes, Sandy,"  
was the reply; "you shall have a sheep too,  
if you will do without whiskey." Presently  
Sandy asked, "Father hadn't you better  
take a sheep, too?" This was a home ques-  
tion; the father had hardly thought that he  
could do without the "good creature," but  
this direct appeal was not to be disregarded,  
and the father took a sheep too.

[Exchange.]

### Speech of Gen. Butler on the Election and the War.

Gen. Butler was the recipient of an elegant  
ovation at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, Mon-  
day evening. Being called upon for a  
few remarks he spoke as follows:—

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned  
than war; and all the peaceful victories  
ever yet achieved in the interests of human  
freedom, that achieved in the peaceful quiet  
which almost brooded over this land on the  
8th of November was the greatest."

"Before we proceed for a moment to  
look at the material results, let us look at  
the moral. It has taught the world who  
shall look on—and it can now be said that  
it is no vain boast in America that the eyes  
of the world are upon her—it has told all  
the world that we are able, in the stress and  
strain of civil war like that never seen be-  
fore, to carry our institutions in peaceful  
quiet, change or re-elect our rulers as we  
weigh them in the balance to find them ei-  
ther meritorious or wanting, without so  
much of trouble or disorder or riot or of  
commotion as attends a constable's election in  
a parish in England."

"The moral, then, is, that the govern-  
ment, embathed in the hearts of the people,  
dependent on the intelligence of the people,  
is the strongest government on earth—  
strong in the affection, stronger still in the  
right arm of the people. And when we  
have been told heretofore that it was neces-  
sary that there should be either monarchy or  
despotism to wield bayonets, we see bay-  
onets wielded by hundreds of thousands  
where other countries have been able to  
wield them by tens, and they entirely sub-  
servient to the people's will. [Applause.]

"The material results are not less strik-  
ing; first in the fact that all disputed ques-  
tions which have divided the country are  
now settled by the almost unanimous verdict  
of the country. Does any one complain  
that in the conduct of military operations  
there should be the arrest of a traitor?  
That question has been argued and settled,  
and the verdict is guilty—arrest him when  
he is guilty. [Bravo.] Does any one com-  
plain that the true theory of our constitu-  
tion has not been carried out which enrolls  
all able-bodied men and holds them to mili-  
tary duty in defence of their country's life  
and liberty? That question has been set-  
tled, and hereafter it will be more honorable  
to be drafted than to volunteer. [Laugh-  
ter.]

"Does any one complain that the govern-  
ment in its wisdom, has organized troops  
irrespective of the color, and believes that  
a black man would fill as large a grave as  
though his color was whiter, when he falls  
in battle in defence of his country's liberty?  
That question has been settled, and has  
passed away forever to be amongst the  
things that are passed. Does any one now  
claim, as was claimed in 1860, that Abra-  
ham Lincoln is the President of a minority?  
That question is settled by an overwhelming  
majority. [Applause.]

"Let us look for a moment at the fact  
that if we count every rebel against him, as  
he was; if we found every sympathizer  
with rebels against him, as he was; if we  
count every untrue and disloyal man against  
him as they all were; yet he is re-elected  
by a majority only second to that with  
which Jackson swept the country in the  
hour of financial peril. Those material re-  
sults have been achieved. Now, then, what  
is the duty of the government in the present  
future? War cannot always last."

The history of nations, the experience of  
the world has shown this. War, therefore  
must come to an end, but how? In what  
way? A war of this kind is to be prosecu-  
ted for the purpose of breaking down the  
power of those opposed to the government,  
and bringing them into the fold of the gov-  
ernment, under the supremacy of its laws.  
In view, therefore of the unanimity of the  
American people, in view of the strength  
and majesty of the law, in view of the might  
of the nation, might it not be suggested  
that now is a good time for us once again to  
hold out to the deluded men of the South  
the Olive Branch of peace and say to them,  
'Come back, come back, now. This is the  
last time of asking. Come back, and leave  
the feeding upon the husks, and come with  
us to the fat of the land, and let by-gones  
be by-gones if by-gones are by-gones, and  
our country will live in peace hereafter.'"

Were we not able to afford that now?  
Do we not stand strong enough? Do we  
not stand with the Union enough to be able  
to afford that to the leaders and to all?  
There might have been reasons, I think,  
among a proud and chivalrous people that  
they would not desert their leaders in an-  
swer to the amnesty of President Lincoln;  
but now has come an hour when we can say,  
'Come back, come back, and submit to the  
laws and you shall find exactly such laws as  
before, except so far as they are altered by  
the good judgment of the legislatures of the  
land.' [Applause.]

"We are in a condition now, not taking  
counsel from our weakness, but taking  
counsel from our magnanimity and our  
strength, again to make an offer for the last  
time; to call upon them; and then shall we  
not in the eyes of the country, have exhaust-  
ed all the resources of statesmanship "in  
the effort to restore peace to the country."

[Laughter.] Who shall hinder? Not for  
the rebel to come back after he has fought  
as long as he can, and then chooses to  
come; but to set some time, perhaps the 8th  
of January, for the association will be as  
good as any, for all to come back. And  
when that time has come to every man, who  
shall scout the proffered amnesty of a great  
and powerful nation? Speaking in love, in  
charity, in kindness, in hope of peace and  
quiet forever, we say to them, to him who  
scouts that proffered love and kindness, let  
us meet him with sharp, quick, decisive  
war that shall bring the war to an end, to  
the extinguishment of such men wherever  
they may be. [Applause.]

"But how is that to be done? Blood  
and treasure have been poured out, spent  
without measure, until taking advantage of  
supposed depletion of treasure, first, bad  
men have banded together by speculating  
in that which ought to be the circulating  
medium, and raised upon the poor man the  
price of coals upon his hearth, and the  
bread upon his table. Let some measures  
be taken to stop that, or perhaps a better  
measure than any other is to let it be under-  
stood that hereafter we pay no more boun-  
ties from the taxes of the North, but taking  
counsel from the Roman method of carrying  
on war, we say to the young men, look  
to the fair fields of the Sunny south, and  
unless they take our amnesty, let us go  
down there and you shall have whatever  
you get by a fair division: we will open  
new land offices wherever our armies march,  
distributing lands among the soldiers to  
be theirs and their heirs forever."

"A harsh measure, everybody will say;  
but it is not quite as just as it is that we  
should tax ourselves, and raise the prices  
of the necessities of life for the purpose of  
giving bounties and support to the soldiers  
in fighting these men whom we have three  
times over solemnly called to come and be  
our friends; in 1862, to come in June; in  
1863, to come in Sept.; and in 1864, to come  
by the 8th of January, 1865. And when  
the clock strikes the last knell of that par-  
tial day, and then all hope of return for  
those who have not made progress toward  
that return shall be lost forever. No longer  
can they live in the land of America.  
Mexico, the West India Islands, or some  
place I care not to name, because I know  
no land large enough to be cursed with their  
presence, shall be their dwelling place. These  
shall never come here again."

"The Cat in Ancient Times. The  
palm days for cats were in the time of  
Egypt's power as a nation, some five hun-  
dred years B. C. They were there as sac-  
red as dogs or crocodiles, and death was  
the penalty for killing them. From their  
nocturnal habits and glossy fur, the Egyp-  
tians deemed them symbolical of the moon,  
and a golden cat was worshipped at Syene.  
Herodotus tells us some marvels about them.  
The "toms" it seems, in his time, had a  
peculiar liking for making away with kit-  
tens—a very fortunate thing, too, or the land  
would have been overrun with cats. Crown-  
ing wonder of all, when a fire breaks out,  
the sole care of the natives is to keep the  
cats from it, to do which they post them-  
selves as guards around the burning house,  
and take no thought for putting out the  
flames. A divine impulse, however, says  
the chronicler, divines the cats; they dart  
under the cren, or leap over them, and fling  
themselves into the flames. Then great  
mourning takes possession of the land. If  
a cat were found dead in any one's house,  
the inmates had to shave off their eyebrows.  
The defunct animals were carried into the  
temples where they were embalmed and  
solemnly deposited in the city of Bubastis.  
Specimens may be seen in the British Mu-  
seum. Very different is their fate at mod-  
ern Rome. A recent traveler tells us that  
they are as highly esteemed for culinary  
purposes as puppy dogs in China. If you  
have roast hare for dinner, you had better  
not make too many inquiries as to what kind  
of "possy" it was before it came into the  
chief's hands."

We learn from the Brunswick Telegraph  
that Seth Adams, Esq., of this city, the well  
known inventor of the Adams Power Press  
has given \$9000 in aid of the Medical De-  
partment of Bowdoin College, and will do  
more for the same object.

The missionary ship John Williams, was  
recently wrecked on a reef in the Pacific.  
No lives were lost.

Rev. Abner Morrill, of Turner, is to re-  
move to Mechanic Falls, to become pastor  
of the Baptist church in that town.

An old widow says: "Always pop the  
question with a laugh; if you be accepted,  
well and good; if not, you can say you were  
only joking!" Here's wickedness.

There is many a good wife that can't  
sing and dance well.

Beautiful Answers. A pupil of Abbe  
Sicord gave the following extraordinary  
answers:—  
"What is gratitude?"  
"Gratitude is the memory of the heart."  
"What is hope?"  
"Hope is the blossom of happiness."  
"What is the difference between hope  
and desire?"  
"Desire is a tree in leaf, hope is a tree  
in flower, and enjoyment is a tree in fruit."  
"What is eternity?"  
"A day without yesterday or to-morrow  
—a line that has no end."  
"What is time?"  
"A line that has two ends—a path  
which begins at the cradle and ends in the  
tomb."  
"What is God?"  
"The necessary being, the sum of eter-  
nity, the merchant of nature, the eye of  
justice, the watchmaker of the universe, the  
soul of the world."  
"Does God reason?"  
"Man reasons, because he doubts; he  
deliberates—he decides. God is omniscient;  
He never doubts—He therefore never  
reasons."

Can Travel Like Pizen. The electric  
telegraph is bound to remain a mystery to  
the millions and ludicrous conceptions of  
its modus operandi, which some of the most  
ignorant people have formed, are as north-  
proving as anything out of Rabelais or  
Smollet. The last illustration of this that  
has fallen under our eyes, is the following  
story:

Not long since, an old lady entered O'-  
Reilly's office in Pittsburg, and said she  
had a message to send to Wheeling. In  
a few minutes her note was deposited in a  
dumb waiter and ascended in a mysterious  
manner through the ceiling.

"Is that going straight to Wheeling,"  
inquired the old lady, with her eyes bent  
upon the ceiling.

"Yes, ma'am," answered the clerk.

"I never was there," continued she, "but  
it hardly seems possible that their town lies  
in that direction. When will I get an an-  
swer, Mr. Telegraph?"

"I can scarcely tell, ma'am; it may be  
two or three hours."

The old lady went away, and returned  
in exactly two hours. Just as she entered  
the door the dumb waiter came down  
through the ceiling.

"There is your answer, ma'am," said the  
clerk.

The old lady took the neat yellow envel-  
ope in her hands, with a smile of mingled  
gratification and astonishment.

"Now that beats all," exclaimed she.  
"Bless my heart. All the way from  
Wheeling, and the wafer still wet. That's  
an awkward looking box—but it can  
travel like pizen."

Daniel Webster had an anecdote of old  
Father Searl, the minister of his boy-hood,  
which is too good to be lost. It was cus-  
tomary then to wear buckskin breeches in  
cold weather. One Sunday morning in au-  
tumn, Father Searl brought his breeches  
down from the garret; but the wasps had  
taken possession during the summer, and  
were having a nice time in them. By dint  
of effort he got out the intruders, and dressed  
for meeting. But while reading the  
scriptures to the congregation, he felt a dagger  
from one of the enraged, small-waisted  
fellows, and jumped around the pulpit, slap-  
ping his thighs. But the more he slapped  
and danced the more he got stung. The  
people thought him crazy; but he explained  
the matter by saying:—"Brethren, don't  
be alarmed; the word of the Lord is in my  
mouth, but the devil is in my breeches!"  
Webster always told it with great glee to  
his friends.

An old Connecticut newspaper contains  
this announcement:—"Married.—In the  
public highway at Green Hollow, in Volun-  
town, Ct., on Sunday, the 5th inst., about  
1 o'clock P. M., the rain pouring in torrents  
from the clouds, with high winds from the  
southeast, by Elder Charles Weaver, while  
on the way to attend the funeral of Mrs.  
Amy R. Gallup, wife of Benjamin Gallup  
2d, Esq., of Voluntown, who died Novem-  
ber 3, aged 26 years, Mr. John Tanner of  
Hopkinton, county of Washington and  
State of Rhode Island."

General Butler, in a recent general or-  
der to the Army of the James, says:  
"The colored soldiers, by coolness,  
steadiness, and determined courage and  
dash, have silenced every cavil of doubters  
of their soldierly capacity, and drawn to-  
kens of admiration from their enemies, have  
brought their late masters even to con-  
sideration of the question whether they will  
now employ as soldiers the hitherto despised  
race. Be it so. This war is ended  
when a musket is in the hands of every  
able-bodied negro who wishes to use one."

There is many a good wife that can't  
sing and dance well.



Thanksgiving.

This paper goes to press a day earlier than the usual publication day, so that it will be read by most of its subscribers, before or on the day designated by the President of the United States as a day of National Thanksgiving; and also by the Governor of this State, as a day of Thanksgiving, in accordance with time-honored custom. We like this plan of giving a national character to this festival which has been cherished with such pious veneration, and is one of the most characteristic and joyous of New England institutions.

There have been few seasons when the heart has had greater reason to be thankful, and to raise a song of thanksgiving than may be done this week. The usual avocations of our people have been particularly blessed the past summer. The seasons have been propitious, in producing abundant harvests in most articles, and those of good quality, so that now the store-houses of the husbandman, are filled with plentiful supplies; we have been free from storm and tornado, from panic, from disease and death in unusual form; in short we as a local people have been peculiarly blessed, in all the walks and avocations of life.

As a nation, too, have we been prospered. To see this, let us look over the map, and calculate wherein we have retained our grasp in some quarters, have made substantial advances in others; and still further, have hurled destruction upon the borders of our enemies in other quarters, and are even now, if we can believe the signs of the times in subdued whispers, and rapid decline of gold, scattering in panic the militia who guarded a territory not yet invaded. The military position, though not having accomplished so much as some home generals would have had done, presents the strongest reasons for joyful thanksgiving to the giver of every good and perfect gift.

Not less important than either the above reasons for thanksgiving, are the elections that have been held, and which have decided that the National existence so ardently hoped for, and for which christians have united in days of fasting and supplication to pray for, is secured. That leader who seems to have been raised up to lead this people through the most bloody war of modern times, to a peace more glorious than any the sun ever rose upon, inasmuch as it will be the crowning of the greatest victory over crime and oppression, ever celebrated, has been almost unanimously retained by the votes of the people. The result has been peacefully procured, over the threats and machinations of base men, which well-near cost us another and more bitter outbreak than followed the previous national election. And not the least of these triumphs will be found that majority in the National Legislature, which shall initiate a change in the constitution which shall blot slavery from existence. SLAVERY IS DEAD! Shall not the people rejoice with exceeding great joy?

There are homes that have been made desolate by the clutches of the monster in his death struggles. Their grief is holy. They have laid upon the altar the living sacrifice which has been accepted as the cost of renewed national life. Let those be remembered; and let our joy be tempered with knowledge of good deeds done to them, and the expression of sympathy for them, and let prayers for the healing of their wounds go up with the song that shall be uttered, that even those shall be made thankful in the strength that God shall give them.

Chief Justice of the United States.

Ex-Senator Hale not many years since declared in his place, that the Supreme Court of the United States was the great citadel of slavery in this country. The infamous Dred Scott decision subsequently made, confirmed this opinion of Hale. At this time only two members of the Bench dissented from the opinion of Judge Taney. One of them (McLean) has since died and the other (Curtis) resigned. Notwithstanding all this, the Court has now a majority and will have when a successor of Judge Taney is appointed, sound upon the great questions of slavery now agitating the country.

It is important however that the right man should be placed at the head of the Court. It is fortunate for the country that we have got that man, who towers head and shoulders above every other man in the country in ability and peculiar fitness for that exalted, responsible position. We need not say to our readers that we mean Salmon P. Chase, of Ohio. As a statesman and jurist, Ex-Gov. Chase stands second to no man in the Union and the wonder is that President Lincoln or any other man in or out of authority should for a moment look in any other direction for a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the nation. We trust the President will never permit quasi traitors, old logies and wry land conservatives to successfully interpose between himself and a plain, positive duty. Neither should any old cabinet bickerings or the factious opposition of such men as the Blairs be allowed to stand in the way. The voice of the country is for Chase against any or all other men. Let the President "dare to do right" and he will be in the future as he has been in the past, triumphantly sustained by a generous, loyal, law abiding people.

The January coupons of the U. S. gold paying bonds, are now paid by the Assistant U. S. Treasurer in Boston.

Portland & Oxford Central Railroad Co.

Through the politeness of Albert S. Adams, Esq., the Superintendent of this railroad, the Annual Reports of the President and Superintendent of the Company have been placed in our hands. They present the first exposition of the management of affairs since the late opening of the road that we have seen; and as it is a matter of considerable local interest, we will give an abstract, embracing the most important facts:

With the preliminary facts of the charter and building, and unfortunate career of the Buckfield Branch railroad, our readers are already familiar, and not a few painfully so, up to the time it came into the hands of F. O. J. Smith. The new President says of the prejudice existing against the management of the extension through Sumner and Hartford, that the fault, so far as he has been able to ascertain, lay more with the contractors than with the owner of the road.

In Jan. 1863, A. R. Morrill, who was a master mechanic on the Vermont Central road, acting for himself and E. P. Bancroft and others of Boston, and a party from New York, entered into an agreement to purchase the property and chartered rights of Smith, and open the road. It was at this time that Mr. Pelton was called in as an attorney, and after examination was induced to take an interest in the road, and become President of the company. Mr. Bancroft, when the first payment became due, for some unexplained reason, abandoned the enterprise.

In April, 1863, the present company completed the purchase, paying Mr. Smith for his right \$120,000, and Mr. Morrill, for the repairs he had made, \$10,000. In May of the same year, the company created mortgage bonds to the amount of \$240,000 for ten years, with coupons payable semi-annually; and subsequently created stock to the amount of \$360,000, equivalent to \$8,000 of bonds, and \$12,000 of stock per mile when the road shall be opened. The same due Messrs. Smith and Morrill were paid in these bonds at their par value. The residue of the bonds and stock are held in trust for the finishing and equipping of the road, contracts for which were made for \$467,000, payable in stock and bonds as the work progressed. Up to Aug. 1864, there had been expended for this purpose in bonds, \$63,000, and \$5,000 in stock. Till October, 1863, the road was operated by Mr. Morrill, whose connection with it is reported to have been unfortunate to all interested.

During his connection with the road a portion of the sleepers were relaid, the bridges repaired and partially rebuilt, a new turn-table built at Mechanic Falls, a side track at Minot, the short platform cars built over the engines repaired, the road bed cut through the clay hill at Sumner, and a pile bridge built at Hartford. Of the income and expenditures it is not possible to make any statement, the accounts are so imperfectly kept, though it is stated that the income was quite inadequate to meet the expenditures, and a large floating debt was created.

In October, 1863, Mr. Albert S. Adams, formerly in the employ of the Boston and Worcester railroad, was appointed Superintendent. He at once introduced order and system, raising the credit of the road from contempt to respectability, and it has now the appearance of a regular and well managed corporation. Under his direction, the assignees of the contract for completing the road have laid down more than 40,000 sleepers, have built and nearly completed the pile bridge across Boggs Pond in Hartford, have built a side track and turn-table at Sumner, and have purchased and received twenty new first class box and platform cars. The claims for land damage have been extinguished, and satisfactory arrangements made for carrying passengers over the Grand Trunk railway, the Eastern and Boston & Maine roads, and also by steamboat to Boston, so as to sell through tickets.

A satisfactory contract has also been made with the Grand Trunk company, for running their cars to Portland, a daily settlement being effected at Mechanic Falls. From the time the new cars were received to July 1st, the earnings of the road averaged \$1600 per month, with an expenditure of \$900 per month. The surplus has been applied to the payment of the floating debt; and has paid the coupons of \$20,000 of the bonds. The iron engaged in Cuba rose so rapidly before they could secure transportation that the parties broke their contracts, so that now the difficulty of procuring rails will prevent for some time the opening of the line. It is believed that after the first of October, now past, that the earnings will reach \$2000 per month, with an expenditure of \$1000 per month; when it reaches Hartford, \$3000 per month; and when opened will reach a net income of \$36,000 per year, which will pay the coupons and six per cent. on the whole stock. The business will increase with the increased prosperity of the towns through which it passes. The Superintendent says that the prospect of the road is encouraging, and he predicts for the stock and bonds a value now unexpected. We hope all the anticipations may be realized; and the business seems to be in the proper hands to secure such a result.

A few evenings since, the keys of several stores in Bethel were stolen during the evening. New locks were substituted, or guards set, where the keys were missing so that no trouble was experienced there. The store of Messrs. M. Mason & Co., however, near the depot was opened, but we do not learn that anything was stolen. A key was found broken off in the lock.

Buckfield Village School.

ED. DEMOCRAT: A very pleasant and profitable term of study, under the direction of Mr. A. E. Besse, has just closed. Much credit is due to the efficient teacher for infusing that interest and vigor into the minds of all his scholars, so necessary to a profitable school. The full attendance was a matter of much encouragement to the community as well as to the teacher; the whole number being about eighty, including the primary department under the charge of Mrs. Besse.

Unusual satisfaction has been expressed by all patrons of the school. The term closed with an exhibition of pleasing variety, consisting of declamations, select readings, dialogues, songs, &c. A little stimulus was brought to bear upon the performers by prizes being offered for excellence in declamations, reading, and composition. The select readings were of rare excellence, and showed that this branch of learning, second to none in importance, had received its due share of attention.

We hope that the success of this term of study will encourage this community as well as others, to offer the same advantages to the young, during each succeeding Autumn. Would it not be a great improvement for every community of any considerable size, to have at least three terms in a year, — one in the fall or spring, — instead of making the winter and summer schools so long?

Buckfield, Nov. 16th.

CELEBRATION AT BUCKFIELD. A correspondent informs us that the citizens of Buckfield held a congratulatory meeting at Buck's Hall, on Tuesday, 15th inst. Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather the hall was well filled, and much enthusiasm was manifested. The meeting was organized by the choice of W. H. Atwood as Chairman, and A. P. Bonney, Secretary. Prayer was offered by L. A. Bumpus, after which short speeches were made by Rufus Prince, Esq., of Turner, Capt. C. H. Prince, Hon. Thomas Chase, and Capt. J. E. Bryant. Messrs. Bicknell of Hartford, Robinson and Barrett of Sumner, Moore and Waite of Buckfield, spoke with earnestness and effect. A gleeful club, — Mr. Heald and Miss Barrett of Sumner, with Capt. Prince and a lady from Buckfield, — enlivened the occasion with patriotic songs, making altogether an interesting occasion. The meeting adjourned with cheers for Lincoln & Johnson.

VOTING IN So. CAROLINA. For the first time in her history, polls were opened in So. Carolina, for the Presidential election. At Hilton Head, the soldiers at that station voted. The colored native population opened a poll at the Market House, and carried on an election in true democratic style. Any one endeavoring to deceive with a Mac Clellan was hustled off the ground instantly, though without injury. The great "unwashed" had a high time. The vote at the latter poll stood, Lincoln 715; McClellan 2.

Horatio Seymour does not take his defeat kindly. His Thanksgiving proclamation, to be sure designates the day of the National Thanksgiving, for the reason that he knew the people would observe that day, whether he appointed it or not. He opens by saying that "by virtue of law, he designates, &c." and the balance is a wall-betting a last day call. We do not wonder that one of the copperhead persuasion does not see particular reason for thanksgiving about these times.

The trial of the St. Albans raiders has been postponed to Dec. 13th. This it is stated is to enable them to send to Richmond to verify their statement that they were acting under genuine rebel commissions. They have made a statement to the court, admitting all that has been charged; and say they did it in retaliation for the acts of Sheridan, in the Shenandoah valley. It looks as though the Canadian courts acted a foolish part in postponing the examination, since the production of the evidence that these men are in the rebel service, but proves the organization of hostile parties within the borders of a friendly state, which they were bound to repel, and will place them in a less enviable position than they have heretofore occupied.

CHRISTIAN COMMISSION. This noble organization makes its appeal for a million dollars to enable it to carry forward its winter operations; and calls for a generous thanksgiving donation for immediate use. This State has been distracted, and we presume systematic effort will be made to conduct to the treasury of the society, the donations of the people. This County is included in the Portland District. We suggest the importance of auxiliary societies in all the towns. Those who have friends in the army need no urging, while those who have not should respond with greater alacrity to the call. Let every dollar that can be spared go forward. It is the best chance for investment now offered.

The Eastern Mail said that some lovers of the "crater" completely cleaned out a liquor saloon in that village, during Tuesday night of last week. It says everything serving to make up the stock and paraphernalia of such a place was thrown into a general hotch-pot. A good result, and the Mail is glad that no cleaner hands were engaged in the business.

According to the Observer clothes-line thieves have been making free with the dry goods of the people of Dover and Foxcroft. The editor don't relish the idea of having his shirt stolen, and we don't blame him.

VOTE OF OXFORD COUNTY.

	1864	1864	1864
	Lincoln	McClellan	Hayes
Albany,	74	74	63
Andover,	99	56	98
Bethel,	268	208	265
Brownfield,	103	164	196
Buckfield,	192	171	190
Byron,	41	16	32
Canter,	127	110	131
Danmark,	82	140	91
Dixfield,	105	153	103
Fryeburg,	207	151	189
Gilead,	40	16	41
Grafton,	6	19	1
Greenwood,	88	101	90
Hanover,	94	24	27
Hartford,	156	97	152
Hebron,	151	48	139
Hiram,	161	123	171
Lovel,	156	117	151
Mason,	17	15	19
Mexico,	53	39	54
Milton,	33	26	31
Norway,	239	178	242
Newry,	43	58	36
Oxford,	167	143	171
Paris,	421	216	411
Peru,	000	00	138
Porter,	116	116	134
Remond,	224	77	208
Roxbury,	00	00	10
Stow,	41	47	48
Stoneham,	56	27	52
Sumner,	145	102	132
Sweden,	94	53	94
Waterford,	129	169	136
Woodstock,	150	40	15
Andover N. Surplus,	6	2	5
Franklin plantation,	00	00	11
Hamlin Gt.	14	4	10
Lincoln plantation,	0	0	8
	4038	2109	4101

ANOTHER VETERAN. Jas. Hobbs, Esq., of Fryeburg, 90 years of age, went to the polls on election day, and deposited his ballot for Abraham Lincoln. He voted for Jefferson, and at every Presidential election since. He always acted with the democratic party until 1856, when he voted for Fremont, and has since continued to vote with the Republican party, believing that party upholds the principles of the true Jeffersonian democracy of 1801.

POTATOES FOR THE SOLDIERS. The people of this village and within this post office delivery, sent forward this week, fifty barrels of potatoes and apples for the soldiers. The sum of \$20.00 cash was sent at the same time.

We are requested to state that in the report of the committee, at the Cattle Show, the first premium for working oxen should have been given to Jonathan Clark, South Paris. The error in the official report has been corrected.

GEN. SHERMAN. There is no news from Sherman through the reticence of the rebels indicates that they know of his whereabouts; and that he is not benefiting them. Rumor has it that he is aiming at Mobile, or Pensacola, or Savannah, or Charleston, or Beaufort, or Lynchburg, or somewhere. He has a splendid army, well-disciplined, and apparently not much to oppose him, so that when the news does come there is every reason to suppose it will be worth the hearing.

THE BRIGHTON MARKET. There were at market on Wednesday, 16th, 3800 cattle; 5000 sheep; 2500 swine. Prices ranged as follows: extra, \$13.00 and \$13.25; first quality, \$12.00 and \$12.75; second quality, \$10.00 and \$11.50; third quality \$7.00 and \$9.00 per hundred on total weight of hides, tallow and dressed beef. The Ploughman says the number of cattle at market was larger than the week previous, with no improvement in quality. Drivers were of opinion there would be a decline before the close of the market. Working oxen sold at from \$120 to 180, two pairs going at the latter figure, that weighed 2800 pounds. Yearlings, \$12 to \$17; two-year-olds, \$20 to \$30; three-year-olds \$30 to \$50. Milk cows \$35 to \$118; stores \$25 to \$35. Sheep, \$3 to \$6. Swine, 12 to 13 1/4 cts per pound.

WHO FILL OUR PRISONS. We are informed by Horatio Austin, Esq., Jailor of this County, that during the two years since he took charge of the jail, all the persons he has had under his care have been copperheads. The last one, Oakes, released on bail last week, was not notified of the election, and thus Little Mac. lost a vote.

Ex-Gov. Fairbanks of Vermont, died at St. Johnsbury, on Sunday last, after an illness of nearly three months. He was 72 years of age. His funeral was to be attended on Wednesday.

COPPERHEAD RELICS. One town only, Bradford, in Vermont, voted for McClellan. In Massachusetts, the Senate is unanimously Union, with six copperheads Representatives from the Irish districts in Boston, and one other in the whole State.

The Congressmen—sly old rats—are pre-paring to their wares that living is so dear in Washington the ladies must remain at home this season. [Boston Post.]

Another evidence how some papers are given to speaking without a full knowledge of the facts.

The new mortgage deed of the A & St. L. Railroad, executed in Portland last week, required stamps to the amount of Fifteen Hundred Dollars.

It is said that a wealthy democrat at Washington had three rooms splendidly fitted up, intending to invite ex-Presidents Pierce, Fillmore and Buchanan to occupy them next March, when they should visit Washington to see McClellan inaugurated.

PETERSON'S MAGAZINE. We are in receipt of this popular Lady's Magazine, for December. Notwithstanding the enormously increased price of paper, and the rise in all printing materials, "Peterson" will still be furnished at TWO DOLLARS A YEAR. Its stories and novelettes are by the best writers. In 1865, Four Original Copyright Novelettes will be given. Its fashions are always the latest and prettiest. Every neighborhood ought to make up a club. It is the Magazine for the times! Its terms to clubs are unprecedentedly liberal, viz:—8 copies for \$12.00, or 14 copies for \$20.00. To every person getting up a club, (at these rates,) the Publisher will send, as a premium, that superb engraving for framing, size 27 inches by 20 inches. "Washington parting from his Generals," or an extra copy of the Magazine for 1865. Address, post-paid Charles J. Peterson, 306 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

There were three banks robbed at St. Albans, Vt.—the Franklin County, St. Albans, and the first National Bank. The bills on these banks do not pass readily; but the public should bear in mind that those holding bills of the National are perfectly secure. If not redeemed at the counter of the bank, it will be in Washington.

The sleighing enjoyed last week was of transitory character, the sun soon melting the snow away in the roads, and subsequent rains have extinguished nearly all traces of it.

The Boston Journal says that remarkable old negro woman, Sojourner Truth, called on President Lincoln recently, and told him he was the only President who had done anything for her people. Mr. Lincoln rejoined, "And the only one who ever had such an opportunity. Had our friends in the South behaved themselves I could have done nothing whatever."

A patent has been issued to C. P. Kimball, Portland, for improvement in wagons.

A correspondent of the Calais Advertiser states that Mr. Knowlton of Liberty, a commissioner sent to the army of the Potomac by Gov. Cony to take the soldiers' votes, was arrested by Gen. Foster on suspicion of being one of the bogus agents from New York, but he was able to afford satisfactory evidence of his authority, and of course his arrest was brief.

It will be seen by the advertisement, that slight changes have been made in the running of trains on the P. & O. C. railroad.

The ship Anna Schmidt, which was destroyed by the Alabama off the coast of South America, had on board a quantity of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for California. Dr. Ayer & Co. now appeal for redress direct to the British Government, as the responsible party in this wicked business, and base their claim for payment and protection on the ground that their commodities are wholly for the sick. Their point is well taken, and will doubtless be pressed with the pluck and persistency which characterize the operations of these celebrated chemists. [Baltimore Clipper.]

POLAND MINERAL SPRING. The Poland Mineral Springs in this State have been leased to parties in Boston for ten years, at \$1000 per annum. [Price Current.]

ANOTHER OF "OUR BOYS." At the masquerade party on Thursday we met Lieut. M. L. Stearns, of the 12th Me., formerly of Waterville College, class of '63. He lost his right arm at the battle of Winchester, Sept. 19, and received a ball through the left wrist at the same time. He had a furlough for 30 days, and seemed in no degree discouraged in serving his country. [Wat. Mail.]

"In the dark day, when it is stormy without, it is well to set going a cherry fire within, by reflecting that the roughest rinds fold over sweetest fruitage; heaviest clouds rain the most ample harvests on the fields; the grass grows greenest where the wintry snows have fallen deepest, and the fairest flowers spring from old, dead decay."

Exactly so!—and what do you think is the best dressing for Rohan potatoes? [Mad.]

The Argus, through correspondents and otherwise, has opened its small batteries upon Zion's Advocate, the Baptist paper of this city. It is suspected that the "principal gun is aimed through an embrasure in the 3d story front of the Custom House building. The shot is not that of a Ferrott or a Dahlgren, but rather of an Emory smooth-bore. [Press.]

W. H. Simpson, Editor of the Belfast Journal, offers that establishment for sale. The Franklin Patriot is deceased. Very many weekly and daily papers all over the country are suspending. The extreme high price of paper, labor and material, and the comparatively low price at which newspapers are now furnished are the causes of the demise of so many papers. The present is a hard time for newspaper publishers to make both ends meet. [Lewiston Journal.]

Hon. Lewis Barker, being called upon for a speech at the Union celebration in Bangor on Wednesday, prefaced his remarks by repeating some lines dedicated to "Three Dead Snakes," called McClellan, Pendleton and Seymour—to be sung to the tune of "Three Blind Mice," which was greeted by tremendous applause.

THE PRESIDENT'S LAST SPEECH. A deputation of Marylanders waited on the President on Tuesday afternoon to congratulate him on his reelection, and to express their sense of the obligations of Maryland to him for his assistance in her advance to her present position as a free State. The report given by telegraph of Mr. Lincoln's speech in reply contained certain expressions which have caused some remark. We give below the fuller and more accurate report given by the Washington Chronicle on the next morning, which places the President's diction in a light somewhat more favorable:

"He had to confess that he was fully notified of the intention thus kindly to call upon him, and by that means he had a fair opportunity offered to be ready with a set speech; but he had not prepared one, having been very busy with his public duties; therefore, he could only speak as the thoughts might occur to him. He would not attempt to conceal from them the fact that he was gratified at the result of Presidential election, and he would assure them that he had kept as near as he could to the exercise of his best judgment, for the promotion of the interests of the whole country, and now, to have a seal of approval marked on the course he had pursued, was exceedingly gratifying to his feelings. He might go further and say that, in as large proportion as any other man, his pleasure consisted in the belief that the policy he had pursued would be the best and the only one that could save the country. He had said before, and would now repeat, that he indulged in no feeling of triumph over any one who thought or acted differently from himself. He had no such feeling towards any living man.

"When he thought of Maryland in particular, it was that the people had more than double their share of good that had occurred in the elections. He thought the adoption of their free State constitution was a bigger thing than their part in the Presidential election. He could any day have stipulated to lose Maryland in the Presidential election that comes every four years, and the adoption of the constitution, being a good thing, could not be undone. He therefore thought in that they had a victory for the right worth a great deal more than their part in the Presidential election, although he thought well of that. He once before said, and would now say again, that those who had differed from us and opposed us would see that it was better for their own good that they had been defeated, rather than to have been successful. Thinking them for their compliment, he said he would bring to a close that short speech."

THE RESULT OF THE DANISH AND PRUSSIAN WAR. Denmark cedes the three duchies of Schleswig, Holstein and Lauburg to the victors, and pays the duchies a fixed sum (about eight and a half millions of rigsdallars), for their claims to the common property of the former danish monarchy. Schleswig and Holstein will be held by the Prussians and Austrians until the German Diet shall have decided the rival claims of the Prince of Augustenburg to succession in the two duchies, and Denmark will also pay for the shipping captured and destroyed by her fleet. The Prussian troops will evacuate Schleswig-Holstein twenty one days after the ratification of the treaty. Holstein and Lauburg are generally favorable to the German rule, while the population of Schleswig is only in some part Danish, and will readily submit to the dismemberment.

A prominent bachelor politician on the Kennebec remarked to a lady that soap stone was excellent to keep the feet warm in bed. "Yes," said the young lady, who had been an attentive listener, "but some gentlemen have an improvement on that, which you know nothing about." The bachelor turned pale and maintained a wistful silence. [Lewiston Journal.]

The Pekin Gazette publishes a report from the Chinese government on the extinction of the rebellion, which ends with the following words:—"It is therefore most needful that thanks be offered to the gods for their assistance. Wherefore the Board of Rites is directed to examine into the services rendered by the different gods, and to report to us."

LOOK OUT FOR GEORGIA! Judge Wright of Georgia, formerly a member of the United States Congress, and recently a member of the Richmond Congress, has passed through Nashville to Washington, to see what can be done toward bringing about a peace. He reports the common people as for peace. The Georgia Legislature convenes in a few days, when efforts will be made to save the State by coming back into the Union.

[Nashville (Tenn.) Whig]

The total value of foreign exports from Portland for the week ending Nov. 18th, \$117,308 07.

Dr. McLeer of Bangor removed an ovarian tumor from the person of Mrs. W. E. Tolman, Rockland, lately, weighing 28 lbs.,—a dangerous operation but the patient bids fair to recover.

A copperhead clergyman in Burnham, who was drafted, has sheddled, says the Belfast Age.

The baggage-master at New Yarmouth had his foot very badly jammed by the cars last week. It is feared that it will have to be amputated.

Mr. Albion Hisey of So. Paris, has been appointed Station Agent, at Yarmouth Junction.







