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## MISCELLANY.

### MARRYING A CONVICT.

I had served twenty-five years on board  
an East Indian, and for the last ten  
years had commanded the Belle, one of  
the finest crafts that ever floated. I was  
an old sea dog, who had dwelt so long on  
salt water that I had almost a hatred of dry  
land.

On the 30th of October, 1823 I received  
orders to put myself in readiness to sail  
for Cayenne. I was to transport seventy-  
five soldiers and a convict. I had orders  
to treat this individual well, and the letter  
I received from the Directory enclosed  
another, with a huge, red seal, which I was  
not to open until between 27 and 28 west  
longitude; that is, just before we were  
about to cross the line.

The letter was a long packet, so well  
closed upon every side that it was impos-  
sible to catch the slightest glimpse of its  
contents. I am not naturally superstitious,  
but there was something in the look  
of the letter that I did not altogether like,  
though I could give no reason why. How-  
ever, I carried it into the cabin, and stuck  
it under the glass of a little shabby English  
clock, which was fastened above my head.

I was busy fixing the letter under the  
clock, when, about come into my  
cabin but the convict and his wife! This  
was the first time I had seen either of  
them, and I may say that a more prepos-  
sessing couple I never met. The woman  
was scarcely more than fifteen, and as  
handsome as a picture; while the husband  
was an intelligent, magnificently-formed  
man, on whose features nature had never  
written "villain!"

His crime, to be plain, was the misfor-  
tune of being a hundred years ahead of  
his age. He and others had called upon  
something which our government had named  
treason, and which it punished with  
death. It therefore occasioned me con-  
siderable wonder that he should be placed  
under my charge. But more of this after-  
wards.

He had, as I said, his wife hanging upon  
his arm. She was as merry as a bird; she  
looked, indeed, like a turtle dove, cooing  
and nestling beneath his great wing.

Before a month had passed over our  
heads, I looked upon them as my own  
children. Every morning I used to call  
them into my cabin. The young fellow  
would sit writing at my table, that is to  
say, at my chest, which was my bed. He  
would often help me at reckoning, and  
soon learned to do better than I could. I  
was amazed at his ability. His young wife  
would sit upon one of the round stools in  
my cabin working at her needle.

One day we were all three sitting in this  
way, when I said:

"Do you know, my young ones, as it  
seems to me, we make a very pretty family  
picture? Mind, I don't mean to ask ques-  
tions, but may be you have not much money  
to spare, and you are both of you, as I  
think, too handsome to dig in the burn-  
ing sun of Cayenne, like many a poor  
wretch of a convict before you. It's a bad  
country, take my word for it. I, who have  
roughed through tempest, wind and sun-  
shine, tell I have the skin of a rhinoceros,  
might get along there; but you—I'm afraid  
of it. So, if you should chance to have a  
bit of foolish friendship for your old captain  
why, I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll get rid  
of this old brig; she's not much better than  
an old tub after all; so I'll settle myself  
down there with you, if you like. You see  
I have not a living soul in the world to care  
for, or that cares for me. I want relations  
I want a home, I want a family. I should  
like to make my home with you, my pretty  
ones! What say ye?"

They said nothing at all, but kept look-  
ing at each other, and then at me, as if  
they doubted whether they understood what  
I said.

At last the little girl threw her arms  
around my neck and cried like a baby.

"But," said she, suddenly pausing, "you  
have not looked at the letter with that big  
red seal!"

I felt a queer creeping come over my  
flesh as she said this.

"Hang it!" I exclaimed, "it has slipped my  
head entirely!"

With a cold, dreading sensation, I went  
to my chest to see where we were. I found  
that we had several days remaining before  
we should reach the proper longitude for  
opening the letter.

Well, there we stood, all three of us,  
looking up at the letter as it could have  
spoken to us. As it happened, the sun  
was shining upon the glass of the clock-  
case, and fell upon the great staring red  
seal of the letter. I could not help fancy-  
ing it looked like a great big monster, an  
ogre's face, grinning from the middle of the  
fire; it looked!

"Could not one fancy," said I, to make  
them laugh, "that the great big eyes were staring  
out of its head?"

"Ah, my love," said the wife, "it looks  
like blood!"

"Pooh, pooh," said her husband, taking her  
arm under his, "it looks like a letter or in-  
vitation to a wedding. Come leave the let-  
ter alone if it troubles you so. Let's go to  
our room and prepare for bed."

And off they went. They were upon the  
deck and left me with this boat of a letter.  
I remember that I kept looking at it as I  
smoked my pipe; it seemed to fix its great  
red eye upon mine fascinating like the eye  
of a serpent. It was red, wide, raw, staring  
like the maw of a fierce wolf. I took my  
great coat and hung it over both clock and  
letter, and went upon deck to finish my  
pipe.

We were now in the latitude of the Cape  
de Verde Island—the Belle was running  
before a fair wind at the rate of ten knots  
an hour. It was a splendid tropical night  
the stars large and shining; the moon rising  
above the horizon, as large as a sun of sil-  
ver, the line of ocean parting it, and a long  
stream of pale, shimmering light, falling  
upon the waves, which, as they broke,  
sparkled like jewels. I sat upon the deck,  
smoking my pipe and watching them.

All was quiet still, except the footfall of  
the watch, paced the deck—gazing as I did  
upon the shadow of the vessel, stealing over  
the silent waves.

I love silence and order—I hate noise and  
confusion. The lights should all have been  
extinguished by this time; but when I looked  
upon the deck, I thought I saw a little  
red hue of light just beneath my feet. At  
another time and place this would have  
made me angry; but knowing the light came  
from the cabin of my little *deputee*, I de-  
termined to see what they were about.

I had only to look down—I could see in-  
to the cabin through the sky-light.

The young girl was on her knees; she  
was saying her prayers. A lamp swinging  
from the ceiling lighted her room. She had  
on a long white night dress, and her fair  
golden shining hair floated over her shoul-  
ders, and almost touched two little bare  
feet, which were peeping from under her  
white dress, so pretty. I was turning away  
but perchance I said, I am an old soldier!  
What matters it? So I stayed.

The husband was sitting upon a little  
trunk, his head resting between his hands,  
looking at her as she prayed. She raised  
her face to heaven, and I then saw her large  
blue eyes were filled with tears.—She look-  
ed like a Magdalen. As she arose, he said:

"Ah my sweet Laurette, as we approach  
America, I cannot help being anxious—I do  
not know why—but I feel that this voy-  
age has been the happiest part of our lives."

"So it seems to me," she replied, "I only  
wish it could last forever."

Suddenly clasping his hands in a trans-  
port of love and affection, he said:

"And yet my little angel! If see you always  
cry when you say your prayers, and that I  
think if our marriage had only been de-  
layed five days, that then I should have  
been arrested and transported alone, I  
cannot forgive myself."

"Repeat," she replied in a sad rebuking  
tone, "Repeat of having come with you.  
Do you think because I have been yours  
only such a very, very short time, that I  
should not love you? Was I not your  
wife? How can you be sorry that I should  
be with you, to live with you if you are to  
live, and to die with you if you are to  
die?"

The young man began to sigh, striking  
the floor impatiently with his feet, while  
he kissed repeatedly the little hand and arm  
which she was holding out.

"Oh, Laurette, Laurette! When I think  
if our marriage had only been de-  
layed five days, that then I should have  
been arrested and transported alone, I  
cannot forgive myself."

At this the pretty little one stretched out  
her pretty white arms, clasped his head,  
pressed his forehead, his hair, his eyes  
smiling like a cherub, and murmuring all  
sorts of little woman's fond things. I was  
quite affected, and considered it one of  
the prettiest scenes I had ever witnessed.

And besides we are so very rich—look!  
said she, bursting out laughing. "Look at  
my purse, one gold Louis d'or—all my  
worldly wealth."

He began to laugh too.

"Yes, dear, I have spent my last half-  
crown. I gave it to the fellow who carried  
our trunk on board."

"Ah, poor," cried she; "what matters it?  
Nobody so merry as those who have nothing  
at all; besides I have my two diamond  
rings that my mother gave me, they are  
good for something all the world over, we  
can sell them when you like, and besides I  
am sure that captain means kindly by us,  
and I suspect that he knows very well  
what's in the letter. It's a recommendation  
to the Governor of Cayenne."

"Perhaps so," said he, "or knows?"

"To be sure it is," continued the charming  
wife. "You are so good I am sure the Gov-  
ernment has banished you only for a short  
time. I know they have no feeling against  
you."

It was high time that the light should be  
stricken out I now rapped on the deck  
and called to them to do so.

They instantly obeyed, and I heard them  
laughing and chattering like two innocent  
school fellows.

One morning when I awoke, I was sur-  
prised not to feel the slightest motion of  
the vessel. Hurrying on deck I found we  
were becalmed. Latitude, 1 degree north;  
longitude, between 27 and 28 degrees west.

I waited until night, when I descended  
into the cabin. I opened the letter with a  
dull, awful feeling. I held my breath  
while I broke the great red seal and read:

"Captain Fontainebleau: The convict,  
Antoine Hindesclaire, stands convicted of  
high treason against the Republic. The  
Directory order that he be shot on mid-  
ocean, and you are hereby instructed to  
see that these orders are carried into ef-  
fect."

I read the letter backward and forward.  
I rubbed my eyes; I could not believe it;  
my knees smote together. I rose up with  
a gasp as if I were choking; I hated my  
self for my weakness.

Forcing down my emotion, I went on deck.  
There they were, she looking upon the  
ocean and he gazing at her with an expres-  
sion of unutterable fondness. Catching his  
eye I signed to him to come into the cabin.  
Bidding her good-by, he came down, his  
face all smiles.

I was bathed in a cold sweat; I felt as if  
I were sick; I handed him the order, and  
he read it, together with the death warrant  
which was drawn up in due form and at-  
tached. I gathered voice as he finished.

He colored slightly, and bowed.

I ask nothing Captain! In the same gen-  
tle voice that always characterized his  
speech: "no man can be expected to swerve  
from his duty; I only wish to speak a few  
words to Laurette and to entreat you to  
take care of her, if she should survive—but  
I hardly think she will."

"All that is fair, my good fellow," said I.  
"If you request it, I will carry her back to  
France, to her family. I won't leave her un-  
til she wishes to be rid of me, but I do not  
think she will survive it."

He took my hand and pressed it.

"Most kind captain, I see you suffer more  
at me, and I do in this business—but there is  
no help for it. I trust you will preserve what  
little property of mine is left for her sake,  
and that you will take care she gets what  
her poor old mother in your hands. She is  
put her life, her honor, in your hands. She is  
(and how fondly low his voice became) a  
delicate little creature—her chest is often  
affected; she must keep the two diamond  
rings her mother gave her, I should be so  
glad; but, of course, if the money is needed,  
they must go. My poor Laurette—how  
pretty she looks!"

It was getting too much for me, and I  
began to knit my brows.

"One word is as good as a thousand, said  
I. "We two understand one another. Go  
to her."

I squeezed his hand; he looked wistfully  
at me, and I added: "advise a moment, let me  
give you a word of advice. Don't say a  
word to her about it. We will settle the  
thing for her; be easy; that's my business.  
It shall be managed in the best manner."

"Ah!" said he, I did not understand; yet,  
much beside this leave-taking! this  
leave taking!"

"Yes," said I, "don't behave like a child,  
much better, much better. No leave-taking  
if you can help it, or you are lost."

I kept my seat. I saw them walking  
arm in arm upon the deck for about half an  
hour.

I called the mate to me, and when he had  
read the letter I said:

"Garley, this is bad business—bad  
business. I put it into your hands, I  
obey the orders, but I remain in the cabin  
till it is over."

"How do you wish the thing done?"  
he asked in a nonchalant manner.

"Take him out in a boat; out of sight;  
do it as quick as possible; don't say any-  
thing of this till the time comes."

Garley sat five minutes looking straight at  
me without saying a word. He was a  
strange fellow I didn't know what to make  
of him. He then went out of the cabin  
without saying another word.

Night came at last. I called Garley:  
"Mann a boat; go a quarter of a mile; be  
quick!"

To obey a slip of paper! for it was but  
a slip after all. Something in the very air  
must have driven me on. I saw him. I  
saw the young man kneel down before his  
Laurette; kiss her knees! her feet! her gown  
I cried out like a madman:

"Part them! part them this instant! Part  
them—curse the Republic—curse the law-  
yers! you may tell them if you will."

She was dragged into her berth, and the  
boat was rowed away in the darkness.

Some time after, a dull volley came over  
the sea to the vessel. It was a silver. Fool,  
undown, how I paced the deck and cur-  
sed myself. All night long I paced back  
and forth, and all night long I heard the

moaning of the poor stricken bird.

Often I halted, and was tempted to throw  
myself into the sea, and so end this horrid  
torment of the brain and heart.

Days passed. I saw nothing of Lau-  
rette. I would not see her. She avoided  
me, and I was glad of it. I could not bear  
the sight of that woe-stricken face.

The mate Garley, how I hated him? He  
was as cool and unconcerned as though he  
had no remembrance of shooting the poor  
wretch.

At Cayenne I resigned my ship. Going  
to the city, I made all arrangements, and  
took the steamer for New York. I placed  
ample funds in the hands of a trusty  
friend and told him to send Laurette to me  
at the end of six months. I could not see  
her until grief had lost its edge.

Wearily, careless of any ate, I wandered  
into the interior of the State of New York,  
and finally bought a little place, where  
I hoped I should lie down and die.

I sent for Laurette. Poor bird, I must  
see her. I could wait no longer.

One summer night I sat in the porch of  
my house, smoking my pipe and gazing  
down the road. Soon the rumble of wheels  
was heard, and the stage halted.

The next moment a pair of white arms  
around my neck, and the heart of the sob-  
bing Laurette was on my bosom.

"Oh! you dear excellent Captain!"  
"Heaven! who is behind you?"

There stood the fine manly form of An-  
toine Hindesclaire, the convict.

"What does this mean?" I demanded,  
hardly knowing whether I was dreaming or  
awake.

"Are you glad to see me?"  
"Thank God! thank God!" was all that  
I could ejaculate.

I soon understood it all. The mate  
Garley had read my heart better than I did  
myself. After leaving the brig, in the boat  
he arranged the whole affair. The volley  
was fired, but no bullet touched Antoine  
Hindesclaire. He was smuggled into his  
berth again and took good care to avoid  
my sight. The whole crew were in the  
plot, and, thank God, I was duped.

I sent Garley a thousand dollars as a  
reward.

I am an old man; but I am happy. My  
children and my grand-children (I call them  
nothing else) seem to think old Captain  
Fontainebleau is not such a wretch after all.

ORIGIN OF BEEFSTEAK. "The discovery  
of the chief source of human enjoyment  
has all been attributed to some fabulous  
origin in the ancient world. The story of  
that important feature of dinner, the beef-  
steak, was thus given in the middle ages;—

Lucius Plancius a Roman of rank, was or-  
dered by the Emperor Trajan, for some of-  
fence, to act as one of the menial sacrificers  
to Jupiter. He resisted, but was at length  
dragged to the altar. There the fragments  
of the victim were laid upon the fire, and  
the unfortunate senator was forcibly com-  
pelled to turn them. In the process of  
roasting, one of the slices slipped off the  
coals, and was caught by Plancius in its fall.

It burned his fingers, and he instinctively  
thrust them into his mouth. In that mo-  
ment he made the grand discovery, that  
the taste of a slice thus caracinated was in-  
finitely beyond all the old sordid cookery  
of Rome. A new expedient, to save his  
dignity, was suggested at the same time,  
and he at once received his oblation to the  
emperor, by seeming to go through the  
sacrifices with due regularity, and his scorn  
of the employment, by turning the whole  
ceremony into a matter of appetite. He  
swallowed every slice, devoured Trajan, de-  
founded Jupiter, and invented the *beefsteak*!

A discovery of this magnitude could not  
be long concealed; the sacrifices began to  
disappear with a rapidity and satisfaction  
to the parties too extraordinary to be un-  
noticed. The priests of Jupiter adopted the  
practice with delight, and King of  
Olympus must have been soon starved if  
he depended on any share of the good  
things of Rome."

Sorrow sobers us, and makes the mind  
genial; and in sorrow we love and trust  
our friends more tenderly, and the dead  
become dearer to us. And just as the stars  
shine out in the night, so there are bless-  
ed faces that look at us in our grief, though  
before their features were fading from our  
recollection. Suffering! No man cheats  
it too much, because it is good for him,  
and it will help to make him sure of his  
being immortal. It is in sorrow—the night  
of the soul—that we see farthest, and  
know ourselves natives of Infinity and sons  
and daughters of the Most High.

As old bachelor geologist was boasting  
that every rock was as familiar to him as  
the alphabet. A lady, who was present,  
declared that she knew of a rock of which  
he was wholly ignorant. "Name it, mad-  
am," cried Coelebs, in a rage. "It is rock  
the erudite, sir," replied the lady. Coelebs  
vanished.

MORE EXCAVATIONS AT POMPEII. A  
correspondent, writing from Naples, April  
2, says: "On last Friday there was an ex-  
cavation in the presence of the Minister of  
the Royal Household, when a wonderful  
discovery was made. It was a kitchen  
that was disinterred, and on one of the *for-  
nelli*—small square holes or fireplaces, such  
as are in use at the present day, and are  
fired with charcoal—was found a copper ves-  
sel, supported by a tripod. The vessel or  
saucepan was hermetically closed, and in-  
crusted all over with *lapilli*, so that it re-  
quired considerable force to open it. But  
how great was the surprise of those present  
to find that it was nearly full of water! The  
interior of the vessel presented no signs of  
oxidation, so that no one hesitated to taste  
the water, when it was found perfectly sweet  
and good. Pompeii, then, which has en-  
riched us, after a lapse of nearly two thou-  
sand years, with jewels and paintings, and  
sculptured marbles, which has almost sup-  
plied our tables with bread and honey, eggs  
and figs, and a variety of other luxuries,  
has now slaked our thirst with water de-  
posited in a vase as far back as the reign  
of Titus, and by one of the victims, per-  
haps, of the fires of Vesuvius. How curi-  
ous are these revelations of the inner  
life of a people long since mouldered into  
ashes."

WHAT A TIGHT MAN DID. A Philadel-  
phia gentleman of festive tastes, who takes  
a "fair shake" at the obtainable pleasures  
of the town, last week assisted at a heavy  
dinner, took much potable, and did not  
leave for home until ever-so-many o'clock.

On reaching his doorstep and fishing up  
his night-key, he dozed and aspired that he  
was essentially convivialized and not precis-  
ely in that condition which a good husband  
should be in to meet a good wife. Cauti-  
ously entering the hall he stopped, listen-  
ed a moment, heard no noise, and con-  
gratulated himself that the family were as-  
leep. Quietly he took off his coat, drew  
off boots, turned off hall-light, slowly as-  
cended stairs to family bedroom, hesitated  
at door, believed he was reasonably right,  
stealthily entered, found gas turned low,  
wife asleep, sat down, listened again, no stir;  
began to undress; got coat, vest, pants,  
drawers, stockings all safely off; was jour-  
neying carefully toward couch when wife  
of bosom quietly asked:

"Coming to bed, dear?"  
"Yes, love."

"Well, dear, hadn't you better take off  
your hat?"

A TEXT AND ITS APPLICATION. The  
English Independent tells a story to the ef-  
fect that the late Rev. William Thorpe of  
Bristol, was so stout on one occasion, when  
about to take part in an ordination service,  
it was found that the pulpit was too narrow  
to admit him in the ordinary way, and he  
had to be assisted over the side into his  
seat. He then rose to deliver his address.

It was on "The Importance of a Right In-  
troduction into the Christian Ministry," and  
he founded his discourse on the para-  
ble in which it is declared that "he that  
entereth in by the door is the shepherd of  
the sheep, while he that climbeth up some  
other way, the same is a thief and a rob-  
ber."

HUMAN NATURE. During the recent  
passage of the steamer *Chicago* from Liver-  
pool to New York, an iceberg was en-  
countered which stove a hole in her bow;  
and for several days she was in imminent  
danger of sinking. During the excitement  
one of the steerage passengers furnished  
a little melancholy amusement by follow-  
ing the officers about and offering them money  
if they would let him go into the boats  
with them. He was perfectly willing his  
wife should remain on the ship. She was  
a good Christian, he said, and prepared to  
die; but he was not ready to go; and would  
rather get to New York first, where he  
would have time for repentance.

The Boston Journal says, that after many  
years of experimenting and many years of  
investigation, Mr. George Jaques of that  
city has perfected a soap which is certain  
destruction to insects and slugs, worms,  
other garden, farm, and nursery parasites.  
Dr. Charles T. Jackson testifies  
to its chemical properties, and Messrs.  
Hovey & Co., the eminent horticulturists,  
acknowledge that it accomplishes all that  
the inventor claims that it will do.

A gentleman the other day asked a young  
lady what she thought of the married state  
in general? "Not knowing, I can't tell,"  
was the reply: "but if you and I were to  
put our heads together, we could soon ar-  
rive at a definite answer."

"A lawyer," said Lord Brougham, "is  
a learned gentleman, who rescues your  
estate from your enemies and keeps it  
himself."



# The Oxford Democrat

PARIS, MAINE, MAY 17, 1867.

## The Amendments.

As the time is rapidly approaching for the vote upon the amendment to the liquor law, the question should be discussed, and the people be prepared to take intelligent action at the ballot box. We have information that they are very much in earnest in the matter throughout the State, and that a large vote will be cast in this County in its favor. We have not seen a more complete statement of the case than that given in the Lewiston Daily Journal of Friday evening, which we reproduce in this issue, in preference to any remarks of our own, and to which we call special attention. Placed in the same category with other crimes, liquor-selling is certainly deserving the most severe penalty, that can be provided.

## Academy Lectures.

The concluding lecture of the course delivered during the present term at the Academy was given Friday evening last. The lecturer compared the Glacial and Iceberg theories, as means of accounting for the rounded hills, crested valleys, and lake basins, furrowed and polished rocks, transported boulders, and drift. Each of the theories was found to be supported by many facts; while other facts seemed to support the Glacial theory rather than the Iceberg explanation. The lecturer preferred, however, to believe in the submergence of the northern part of this continent during the Glacial period, as told by the advocates of the Iceberg theory, to the other modes suggested for accounting for the low topography required; and produced abundant evidence to show that continents not only had been subject to great oscillations during the remote Geological ages, but that the same operations had gone on during the human period, and were even going on now. Mr. Vose appeared to be a decided believer in the more recent Geological doctrine of long continual gentle operations, so strongly advocated by Sir Charles Lyell, rather than in the violent convulsional doctrines held by the older Geologists. The five lectures delivered this term, with the one given in this place last fall, made a very interesting course, and show in a most satisfactory manner the close connection between all of the various natural phenomena. The granite boulders perched upon the flanks of Jura point back through a long series of operations to the clouds which ages ago were drawn up from the Mediterranean Sea; while the minute animal remains in the recent formations of New England offer their evidence as to the Geographical and climatic conditions of the country before man was created. The subject of the lectures being one with which people in general are but little acquainted, and with an entertaining one. The course has been very well attended throughout, and, to judge from appearances, by an interested audience.

**RAILWAY ACCIDENT.** Thursday, when the down train from Montreal was within a quarter of a mile of Danville Junction the pay-master's car and one passenger car got off the track in consequence of defective sleepers. The engine, baggage car and one passenger car remained on the track. The conductor ran these down to Danville Junction, in order to connect with the Maine Central train, but just before getting on to the switch off went the baggage and passenger car, in consequence of a defective rail. The baggage car was got on the track as speedily as possible and the engine started with that and the Maine Central train, arriving here just in season to connect with the train for Boston. All the passenger cars of the Grand Trunk train were left where they ran off the track, but the passengers were brought in on the Maine Central cars. [Press.]

**STABBING.** The Lewiston Journal reports a stabbing affair, at Auburn, last Sabbath. A gathering around an encampment of Indians, a negro and white man fell to quarrelling. In the affray the negro drew a knife and stabbed the other in the back, making a gash two inches in depth, but not a fatal cut. The assailant was arrested, and bound over for trial.

It is now supposed that the trial of the persons under arrest for the Auburn murder will be commenced next Monday. So we learn from the Journal.

According to the Lewiston Journal, Miss Hathaway hired a horse of Mr. Cobb of Mechanic Falls, to go to Lewiston, and was run away with. She and Mr. C. and last week recovered a verdict of \$787.50. Stable keepers must be careful what horses they let to ladies, because when one of the sex goes to law, she almost invariably wins her case.

The Trustees of the Reform School have appointed Mr. George Woodbury, assistant Superintendent of that Institution. Mr. Woodbury is a native of Sweden, but has tarried for some years in Massachusetts. He served for four years in the army with credit. The little time he has been at the school, has demonstrated his efficiency, as well in the discipline of the boys, as in the discharge of the other appropriate duties of his position.

We learn that Hon. R. S. Stevens is building a store, at Minneapolis, Minn., which looks very much as though he intended to locate there permanently.

## The Rumford Water Power.

Mr. Editor: Capitalists who are putting their money into manufacturing, seem in the opinion of many, to overlook the most important water power in New England. Oxford County has within its limits many water privileges, some of them of immense power, but that at Rumford far exceeds any in New England. I say this not without the expressed opinion of competent judges to sustain me in the assertion. Practical men, whose lives have been spent in woolen and cotton manufacturing,—who have seen all the great manufacturing cities and towns of New England and Scotland, and also of the England States, whose experience gives their statements weight, claim that for greatness of fall and susceptibility of control, this water power exceeds any they ever saw. That this great water power has so long remained unused, while the privilege and surrounding land can be purchased for so small an amount of capital—while its whole force can be employed with so little outlay of capital, and all kinds of building material can be furnished for so small an amount of money comparatively—all kinds of timber being so easily procured, clay brick existing in abundance within a short distance from the Falls—the granite being of the best kind for masonry—the town of Rumford being willing to exempt manufactures from taxation for a term of years, is strange indeed. That some parties are not awake to their own interests and do not see the future importance of these falls, is a wonder.

One reason why these waters have been allowed so long to run to waste, is, that no adequate means of transportation have existed. Now, the prospect is very favorable towards the extension of the railroad from Sumner to Canton, and that during the coming summer. With no more than that accomplished, transportation from the Falls to a railroad by horse power would only be for the distance of sixteen miles. I am informed that very many important manufacturing establishments in the New England States are compelled to transport material and products a longer distance by horse power than that. Moreover, with this immense power only partially employed, with only the prospect fair that a manufacturing village was about to be built thereabouts, an energy would be awakened in this place—the towns of Peru, Dixfield, Mexico, Roxbury, Byron, Rumford, Hanover, Andover and their immediate surroundings would arouse to a sense of their importance—would see plainly their own interests, and would see to it that the whistle of the engine and rattle of cars should startle the "bird in bush," and fill with terror beasts of the forest.

**MINING IN PISCATAQUIS.** A few days since, a gentleman exhibited to us specimens of the ores recently discovered in Piscataquis County, which are just now causing so much excitement in that locality. They did not look particularly rich; but we learn that the analysis of several experts, proves them to contain a large per centage of precious metals. Dr. Hamlin puts it at \$175 per ton, while New York assayers report over \$200 per ton. We have specimens from New Hampshire that look much more valuable, but the wealth obtained in that locality has not yet reduced the standard to a great extent.

**THE NEW ENGLAND FAIR.** Extensive arrangements are being made for the New England Agricultural Fair, which takes place at Providence, R. I., early in September. The entire amount of premiums offered will be from \$10,000 to \$12,000. The grounds upon which the fair will be held embrace 150 acres, and a covered gallery capable of seating 4000 people. About \$200,000 will be required to prepare the grounds and buildings.

**Probate Court at Paris, on Tuesday of next week.** Judge Woodbury will hold the May and June terms, his resignation not taking effect till the 30th of June.

We learn that a chapel is to be erected at Hebron, during the present season, for the use of the Academy Students. It will be dedicated September 11th at 10 A. M.

Messes Brown, Parker & Rowe, have leased the property at Steep Falls, Norway, formerly owned by John Tucker Esq. They have refitted the carding machine, and will be prepared for business the ensuing season. They have also all the planing and other machinery, and are prepared to do a grand jobbing business.

The Post office address of Rev. T. J. Sweet is Mechanic Falls instead of Bryant's Pond. Bro. Sweet still preaches at Bryant's Pond; but has been compelled to move his family to the Falls on account of the scarcity of dwelling houses at the Pond.

The reported sale of Back's Hotel at Buckfield to Messrs. Young is incorrect. There has as yet been no sale.

The unfavorable weather Wednesday eve did not prevent a full attendance at the exercises at the Universalist church, in connection with the closing of the school. Prayer, by Rev. Mr. Walker, Singing, by the Universalist choir. The Oration and Poem were well delivered, and listened to by an attentive and appreciative audience.

Mr. Riggs has removed the shop formerly used as a marble shop, to the lot between the Atlantic House, and Messrs. Shurtleffs, Shoe Manufactory. He has fitted it up as a shoe store. It makes a very neat addition to that side of the "square."

## Oxford Items.

**Bunajah Pratt Jr.** who for many years resided near the Oxford Station on the G. T. R. subsequently removed to Watertown, Mass., has returned to Oxford and purchased the dwelling house of Frances A. Read, in Oxford village. He is fitting it up with the adjoining grounds in good taste, and when completed, it will be one of the best situations in the village. Mr. Pratt is one of our most wealthy and enterprising citizens.

The citizens of Oxford village have organized their Fire Department under the Charter obtained last winter, and have voted to build an Engine House. They have bought an eligible lot, of Mr. Amos Wardwell, upon which to set the same, and chosen a building committee to put the same under contract. They already have an excellent Engine purchased by the citizens last summer, and paid for.

The Methuist Church and Society have secured the services of Rev. Samuel Paine for the ensuing year by appointment from the late Conference at Bath. Mr. Paine was a soldier in the English army in the Crimean War and participated in nearly all the great battles before Sebastopol. He subsequently came to this country, obtained a good education, fitted for the Ministry, and entered the Maine Conference. The opening of the Rebellion found him the Pastor of the M. E. Church, at Cape Elizabeth. Upon the organization of the 21 Maine Battery, he was appointed by Gov. Washburn its 1st Lieutenant. His friends and parishioners presented him with an elegant sword which he never dishonored. After faithfully serving with his Battery in its arduous and eventful Campaign of 1862, his health failed and he was obliged to resign. After another year, which he spent in study, he reentered the Ministry. Mr. Paine is a fine scholar and an effective and eloquent preacher.

The Congregational Church in Oxford has its pulpit supplied, alternately, by Rev. A. C. Herrick, the popular Principal of Hebron Academy, and Rev. Mr. Ricker, teacher of the Languages in said school.

Mr. O. G. Andrews, assisted by Mrs. Cushman of Phillips, has opened a fine Millinery Establishment, in the shop formerly occupied by Mrs. Sanderson.

## Andover Items.

Dresser & Adams are erecting a Starch Factory on Gardner's brook at So. Andover, and the farmers are all engaged in planting potatoes to supply it.

During the past winter timber has been prepared to rebuild the bridge across Ellis river, at So. Andover. They intend to erect a substantial covered bridge.

Silvanus Poor, Esq., intends to reopen his large and pleasant boarding house and fill it with summer company.

Mr. Gregg, the gentlemanly and accommodating landlord of the Gregg house, is repairing and enlarging his house preparatory to filling it with his usual summer guests.

Dresser & Gould have sold out their large new store to a firm from Boston. They are now selling off at cost and the new firm have goods on the way to fill it ready for the summer trade.

Mrs. R. E. Small is this week filling her store with her usual assortment of desirable fancy and other goods.

Clark & Co. intend to repair their starch factory, and the farmers are preparing to supply it with their usual amount of potatoes. It was supplied with about 25,000 bushels last year.

Mr. Amos Purinton, Postmaster, has bought the Andrews property and repaired the house. He is about moving in.

Mr. E. Bedell has purchased the old Merrill farm lately occupied by the Postmaster.

Dr. Ingolls has sold his stand to J. W. Clark, and has moved into the house lately occupied by Mr. Bedell. The Dr. is about building him a new house on the lot which the Temperance Hall recently occupied.

Mr. F. Dresser has sold his house, store and stable to Mr. Ripley of Canton. We understand he intends to occupy it for a carriage manufactory.

The Mills are supplied with an unusual amount of lumber, and the owners are engaged in sawing it into boards, shingles, &c.

Wm. Talbot, Esq., bought at auction, the farm owned and occupied by the late Silvanus L. Akers.

Col. Nathan Dresser and Joseph L. Chapman, Esq., are building a substantial stone dam on Black brook, preparatory to erecting mills.

## Gorham Items.

We have had rain in abundance here for a week past. Except on the summits of Mt. Washington and Jefferson, the snow has disappeared earlier than usual.

Dr. True repeated his Course of Lectures on Geology here successfully last week in spite of unfavorable weather.

Rents are exceedingly difficult to obtain, while real estate is high.

The Orthodox Society have recently engaged the services of Rev. Mr. Johnson, a graduate of Princeton Seminary. Rev. Mr. Gifford supplies the Methodist Society for the year to come.

A. S. Twichell, Esq., has been employed as counsel for the defence of Lary, who is in jail for trial.

The little son of Mr. York, whose leg was badly crushed by the cars a few weeks since, is in a fair way of recovery. Not one in a thousand saves a limb under similar circumstances. He is under the care of Dr. E. M. Wight.

## Penalties for Rumselling.

On Monday the third of June the people of this State are called upon to vote whether or not the penalties for defying the law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage shall be increased, more particularly where convictions are obtained (as in a large proportion of cases they are) by search and seizure. The penalties at present and the additions proposed are as follows:—

1. The penalties for the illegal sale (single sale) of intoxicating liquors, under the 7th section of the act of 1858 for the suppression of drinking-houses and tipping-shops, is now, on the first conviction, five dollars and costs. It is proposed to add to that fine a further penalty of thirty days' imprisonment.

2. The penalty, on the first conviction of being a common seller, or of keeping a drinking house and tipping-shop, under the 5th and 10th sections of the same act, is \$100 fine. It is proposed to add to this fine imprisonment for three months.

3. The penalty under the search and seizure clause of this act (under which a large proportion of the evidence against rum-sellers is obtained) is only \$20 and costs for each and every conviction. It is proposed to add to this fine a penalty of imprisonment for three months.

These three points embody the substance of the proposed amendments, but practically the changes have particular reference only to the third mode of conviction, by search and seizure; for generally violators of the law who can be convicted under the first two provisions, can be convicted under the nuisance act of 1858, which imposes a penalty of \$1000 dollar or imprisonment not more than one year on any person convicted of keeping a tipping shop. It will be observed therefore that one of the series of acts against rum shops, which the people had before them when they voted so unanimously for prohibition in 1858, imposed even a severer penalty on one class of liquor sellers than is now asked for against other classes convicted under another law. The enormity of the crime of dealing out liquor to be used as a beverage, is no greater when committed under circumstances where the violator can be convicted under the nuisance act than where the evidence can only be obtained by search and seizure. Therefore there is no reason why the penalty imposed on rum-sellers by the nuisance act of 1858, be extended to other acts against the same law-defying class of criminals.

We might rest the case of the friends of temperance here, and to the charges of our opponents that the proposed amendments introduce a new, harsh and unpopular penalty into our laws against rum shops, point to the penalty imposed by the nuisance act of 1858 as conclusive and convincing proof to the contrary. We prefer however to argue the question on its merits. We confidently aver that there is no crime, or, to use a term more acceptable to our opponents, no misdemeanor (if that can be called only a misdemeanor which includes and is the prolific source of nearly all other crimes,) which is punished so lightly as is that of rum-selling by the act which is proposed to amend—none indeed which will be punished so lightly in case the proposed amendments are approved. We ask our readers to turn with us to the statutes and for a few moments consider what penalties the sober sense of the people has thought it just and wise to impose for the commission of other crimes.

If any person having charge of a steamboat or locomotive boiler, through ignorance or neglect, should supply boilers with the lives of others, he is liable to imprisonment not less than one year; if he actually causes loss of life he is liable to imprisonment not less than two or more than four years. Now the person who deals out intoxicating liquors may not only be the direct means of causing an engineer to become incapacitated for his duty, and thus imperil or destroy the lives of others, but every time that he sells the soul-destroying beverage he imperils not only the life, health, happiness, and even the soul of the victim to whom he sells, but also the lives, happiness and rights of wives, children, friends and communities.

Can any reasonable man say that there is any justice or wisdom in sending the violator of one law to prison for a long time, while the rum-seller is let off on the payment of \$20 and costs? Is it too severe to add to the fine three months' imprisonment?

A person convicted of kidnapping another is liable to imprisonment not more than five years. Ought not a rum-seller who endures and fastens upon him chains which drag him down to destruction, to be subjected to a penalty of at least 30 days' imprisonment? One who steals a shawl to cover perhaps her chafed body, or five dollars to buy food for a child off hunger, is liable to imprisonment at the discretion of the judge, not to exceed two years. Ought the law to account one whose business it is to steal from others their hard earned money, their good name, their honor, their virtue, their reputation, not deserving of a greater penalty than twenty dollars and costs?

A person who commits assault and battery is subjected to imprisonment not exceeding one year; and shall the person who liquor that maddened his brain and incited him to commit the assault, get off with a small fine in case he is caught? Cruelty to animals is also punished with imprisonment not exceeding one year, and shall the subject of the rum-seller to his human victim inflict him only to \$20 fine? A person that receives stolen goods is liable to imprisonment not exceeding five years, and one who passes counterfeit money to imprisonment not more than three years. A person who illegally removes a dead human body from its resting place is subjected to one year's imprisonment. Shall one who sends human beings to untimely graves, whose business it is to make living men dead to every noble sentiment and a reproach to themselves, and a curse to their friends, be returned to his damnable work on paying a fine of \$20 and costs?

The keeper of a house of ill fame and the seller of obscene books and prints each subject themselves to imprisonment of one year. One who sells diseased meat or unwholesome food, subjects himself to imprisonment not exceeding five years. Can anything be more deleterious in its effects on the human system than intoxicating liquor taken as a beverage? Whoever maims or disfigures a domestic animal subjects himself to imprisonment not more than four years. Shall the villain who socially, morally and spiritually disfigures and maims a human being be subjected to only a paltry fine of \$20 and costs? Is imprisonment for sixty days too severe punishment? Even a shade tree willingly destroyed or injured a shade tree willingly to another is liable to imprisonment not exceeding one year, is a man, a human being created by God in His own image, not of as much consequence

as a dumb animal or a shade tree? Does a State perform its duty to its citizens when it does not protect them from the assaults and vile arts of the wicked and corrupt as carefully as it protects dumb animals and even trees?

The State is careful to protect its public buildings and parks from vandal hands, its treasury from peculation, and its direct sources of revenue from deterioration by the most stringent provisions. Now here is a traffic which robs the State of its industrious citizens and puts in their place not simply non-productive but positively destructive and dangerous men and women, which makes wastes of fertile farms, which reduces the taxable valuation of property, which destroys the public spirit of her citizens, which puts waste and wretchedness and woe in place of fertility and plenty and happiness, which increases taxation by filling up jails and poorhouses. Does the State do justice to herself unless she prohibits such a traffic and enforces the prohibition by penalties as well calculated to compel villains to respect the laws, as those with which she compels obedience to her mandates in other respects?

We might multiply these points of comparison, but we forbear.

## Bethel Items.

Mr. Geo. W. Haskell & Mr. Chas. B. Keith have entered into partnership as manufacturers of Monuments and Tablets and other Stone work.

Dr. Gordon has bought the house of Benj. Freeman, Esq., on Church street.

Mr. S. W. Kilburn of Watford, has bought the house formerly occupied by Wm. Gerrish on Kimball Park.

There is a very great scarcity of tenements in the village, while house lots are so high that few persons are induced to purchase for the sake of building.

The three religious societies in the village are without pastors, a thing of unusual occurrence.

## Buckfield Items.

T. R. Devoster has sold his house and land connected with it lying just out of the village, to Capt. William Harcus, and has bought a stand in Turner village. He realized one thousand dollars more than he paid two years since for his stand here.

Many houses are being repaired, newly shingled, painted, and yards brushed up, and the village wears a growing aspect. Real estate has increased very much in value for the past two years, and has taken decidedly a fresh start this spring.

Mr. Ashton Wilson, an enterprising young Apothecary from Topsham, has bought the store formerly occupied by Wm. Atwood, also the stock of medicines and good will of Atwood & Spaulding, and will open a first class drug store in a short time. He thoroughly understands his business and will satisfactorily supply a want long felt in our community of a reliable Druggist in this place.

**TRIAL OF DAVIS.** The Washington special correspondent of the Boston Journal telegraphs as follows:

Official intelligence was received here this afternoon that Gen. Barton had been served with the writ of habeas corpus for Jefferson Davis, and that he would escort his prisoner to Richmond and there surrender him to the United States District Court on Monday. Chief Justice Chase will not be present in Richmond next week, as has been stated in this correspondence, but it is understood to-day that the counsel for Davis will demand that he be tried at once. J. Randolph Tucker of Middleburg, Loudoun county, was summoned from his home last night and has left for Richmond. It was announced in the Richmond papers of this morning that United States Marshal Underwood, with Jefferson Davis in custody, would arrive on Sunday morning, and that quarters had been fixed up in Libby Prison for the prisoner.

**BETHEL STEAM MILL.** It is estimated that the Bethel Steam Co. Mills will turn out 8,000,000 feet of long lumber, 1,250,000 shingles, 125,000 clapboards, this season. This company have had 300 men in the woods this winter, cutting nearly 10,000,000 feet of lumber.

**NEW CHURCH IN PORTLAND.** The third Parish church have voted to rebuild on the spot occupied by their former church. The building is to be of rough free stone, and will cost \$17,000.

The first Baptist society was obliged to take up the foundation of their church laid last fall, in consequence of changes made in the street. The spot is cleared, and they are now laying the walls again a few feet back.

**A RAILROAD WAR.** The Boston & Maine and Eastern railroad have been indulging in a competition that resulted in a material lowering of the fares between points where their lines came into competition. Package tickets were sold at very low rates; and outside parties invested largely in them for purposes of speculation. On Saturday the matter was compromised, and former rates resumed, but such quantities of tickets are in the market that probably the companies will find the sales extremely small for some months to come.

**CORRECTION.** In the Bryant's Pond items, last week, the firm of True & Whitman should have read Trull & Whitman.

The late season has brought hay up to famine prices. We have seen it quoted within a week, from \$5 to \$47. It has sold in this State at \$40.

A Rumford correspondent says, Mr. Wm. Kyle of Rumford, has this winter, cut and split suitable for the fire thirty cords of hardwood, by measure, besides doing other chores about the house. Mr. Kyle is 81.

## Summary of Telegraphic News.

Hon. Samuel S. Marshall, member of Congress from the 11th district of Illinois, died at his residence at McLeansborough a few days ago.

The Court of Claims has had before it a large number of claims for captured cotton, involving vast sums of money. Ex Senator Cowan is specially employed to defend the interests of the Government.

A boy and girl, aged only six and eight years, who had come along all the way from Shasta, California, made their appearance at a hotel in Troy, a few evenings since, where they stayed over night, en route for New Hampshire.

Mr. R. J. Walker is the authority for a statement that Russia America was offered to the United States under Mr. Folk's administration for nothing, and refused. The Russian consul general at New York says that the failure of the company rendered the territory a real incumbrance to Russia, and that the opportunity of throwing off the burden will be felt as a great relief.

Orders have been received at the United States Armory in Springfield for a large and immediate increase in the production of breech loaders of the latest model. The force of workmen will be greatly enlarged, and the old muskets, of which the government now has over 5,000,000, remodeled at the rate of 500 or 600 per day.

Col. Tate of Memphis heads a delegation to Washington to urge the President to send troops to Tennessee to preserve the peace, claimed to be threatened by the organization of Gov. Brownlow's colored militia. Col. Tate says: "We must have them there to overawe Brownlow's niggers, and give a chance for a good election."

Senator Doolittle is about to start for Russia on a secret mission, probably connected with the treaty.

It is announced that the great Eastern will not return to New York, the number of passengers offering not being sufficient to pay her expenses.

A telegram from Berlin announces the death of Gov. Wright, U. S. minister to Prussia, on the 11th inst. of diphthery.

The iron-clad "Dundreary" has been sold to a European government. France is stated to be the successful bidder.

The receipts from internal revenue for the week were \$2,573,429; disbursements of the Treasury for the week were as follows: War Department \$2,011,347; Navy Department \$77,554; Interior Department \$144,535.

The eight hour bill has become a law in New York. The only solution of the labor question that seems practical, is, to contract by the hour.

Commodore Pabding of the U. S. Steamship Watnee, died at Panama, on the 10th ult.

S. H. Wentz, who with his accomplices stole \$300,000 from a bank in Baltimore, has been sentenced to six years in the city jail.

It is reported that a wholesale system of buying off has been in practice on Blackwell's island, by which means the length of two years' sentences depended upon the depth of the pockets of the prisoners.

**LOAN, MAY 12.** The treaty which was signed yesterday by the members of the peace congress has been ratified by their respective governments. By the terms of the settlement the Fortress of Luxembourg is to be evacuated by the Prussians within a month from the date of the treaty.

**MR. MOTLEY'S REMOVAL.** It is reported that Secretary Seward has notified Mr. Motley, our Minister to Austria, that his mission is ended and that he may hand over his archives and papers to the American Consul at Vienna. This is putting a man out of office in a peculiar way. It was evident to every sensible man that Mr. Motley tendered his resignation in a moment of wounded pride, because he apprehended that the McCracken calumnies were credited at the State Department. Any high spirited man would have been likely to do the same thing under the circumstances. If Mr. Seward did not believe the story of McCracken, as he assured others of our diplomats that he did not, he ought, in the spirit of manly generosity, to have considered Mr. Motley's resignation as mistakenly tendered, and to have refused its acceptance. But both the Secretary and the President seemed to have a grudge toward Mr. Motley, and endeavored to fill his place at once by several successive nominations, which the Senate rejected, on the ground that the office was not vacant. The President might have ended this doubt by formally removing Mr. Motley. But instead of doing this, the Executive chooses to wait till the Senate adjourns and then notify the late incumbent of the American mission to hand over his papers. This case will probably be subjected to a careful investigation when Congress meets again. As to Mr. Motley, he may have lost his office, but his manly and excellent letter to Mr. Seward has so endeared him to the American people that he will probably never have occasion to regret the occurrence.

**THE DOMINION OF CANADA.** A dispatch from Ottawa, C. W., says it is understood that the Queen's proclamation creating the Dominion of Canada and appointing members of the Senate, will shortly be issued. The act will take effect in the first week of July, when Lord Monck will be sworn in as Viceroy or Governor-General. Then will follow the appointment of privy councillors four lieutenant-governors, and general organization of confederate and local governments. The elections will probably not take place before August or September.







