

vue was considered a fixed fact, and advertisements in the paper referred to a banking institution in full operation, next door to the Capitol Building, with quite a number of Mercantile houses scattered over the city, apparently doing a Land Office business, when there was "nary" house built by any other than the Mission and the Government cabins on the whole plateau.

The Acting Governor then assumed the position of Chief Executive of the Territory, occasioned by the death of Gov. Burt, and soon evinced by his corrupt tendencies the policy by which he was actuated. An overwhelming array of evidence was furnished of the stupendous frauds practiced, and chicanery used by Omaha to secure the Territorial Capitol, which eventually proved successful.

An indignation meeting was called at the Mission House, at which the stockholders of the Town Company and his Excellency were present. Gov. C. assured the people that heavy bribes had been offered him at various points on the river to induce him to locate the seat of Government, and that Omaha was only proof against such deep corruption; that he was not influenced by sinister motives, but from firm and honest convictions of his duty, and considered that he was best subserving the interest of the whole Territory in preferring that town, being more central, to others as eligibly situated in many respects, and possessing as good natural advantages. He promised this end of Douglas County a Representative District, providing the people would endorse all his political schemes, and vote in conformity with his dictatorial rule. At the close of his speech he retired from the room. It kindled a perfect blaze of excitement, and was replied to by a number of stump orators, who hurled the bitterest shafts of venomous scorn and contempt upon his devoted head; the papers proving his duplicity were exhibited and exposed in all their hideous deformity, and after a raking fire, and tearing asunder the Omaha clique with a perfect avalanche of sarcasm, they sat down highly gratified at the performance.

At one time I was really fearful that some one of the crowd would not survive the shock, "but time works wonders," and before I left they had gradually cooled down, and a Committee was appointed to draft resolutions expressing the sentiments of the meeting to be forwarded to Washington without delay.

I regarded their explosive eloquence as the effervescence of a weak brain, repeated for mere buncombe, and was satisfied in my own mind that many of his opponents were as deep in the mud as he was in the mire.

Christmas-day was heralded in with a gorgeous flood of light from old Sol, dispelling the gloom of solitude, and peeping viciously thro' the curtains of Miss Phoebe's bed chamber, rousing her from an absorbing reverie, shining with perspicuity on her fair face and grizzly hair, trying to steal a kiss from her ruddy lips; and playing such fantastic in ages upon the opposite wall, that she became seriously apprehensive that thieves were in the house and screamed with nervous tremulousness, "Thieves! Murder! &c., until I ran to her assistance, and soon restored our worthy landlady to her usual equilibrium, when she emphatically declared, "I was never so scared in my life."

Old Grif was up with the sun, suspicious of some evil genius parading in the cellar and abstracting his whisky; the Yankee was dealing ponderous snores on the unoffending bed pillow, and your humble servant was beating time to the melodious notes of a creaking coffee-mill. Towards noon "a sudden change came o'er the scene."

The morbid sensibilities of several old bachelors were restored to activity by the arrival of wagons with a good sprinkling of the fair sex from the sacred precincts of Mormondom, Council Bluffs. They came over to enjoy a picnic excursion on the beautiful soil of Nebraska; to see the germ of Popular Sovereignty, and to pay a transient visit to the wigwags of the Omahas. I was introduced to the party by an acquaintance, and on account of my age and experience was privileged to act as guide to their destination at a grove of timber on the south side of the Pappison, about 2 miles from the Omaha village.

The roads were dry and dusty from the excessive drought, and many of the party were almost blind and suffocated from its effects. We halted at the Omaha village, four miles above the Pappison, and an old centenarian invited us into his wigwag; we crawled under with some difficulty, and Mr. Wash-sum-ne extended his hand with a cordial, "Cage-ah-ow!" He had been Chief of the Omaha tribe when Lewis and Clark performed their journey up the Missouri river. He handed us a pipe filled with "K'-n-e-kin-nick" to smoke

and was anxious for us to partake of some "Carlo soup," but the ladies were disgusted at the idea and could not be persuaded to taste, touch or handle. His attenuated figure, bent down with age and infirmity, drew largely upon the sympathies of all present; he was rewarded with several silver pieces by his visitors. We then went into the inclosure of the circle of wigwags, and witnessed quite an interesting war-dance. Among those who figured conspicuously, we notice White Cow, Standing Hawk and Yellow Smoke. We then saw Shun-gus-ka, or White Horse, their head Chief, a man about 30 years old, with an eye full of electric fire, hair black as a raven, possessing an amiable expression of countenance, and carrying a noble bearing in his manner. He spoke English fluently and was a general favorite with the ladies, who were ignorant of his being a Polygamist, and were not aware that four squaws recognized him as their lord and master. The sun was fast receding in the western horizon as we reached Saling's Grove, and partook of a delicious repast furnished by our lady friends. Music and dancing, jokes and witticisms and frolics was the order of day. Night closed in upon as pleasant a time as I ever enjoyed.

UNCLE FULLER.

THE PRESS IN FRANCE.—The press in France has a delightful time of it. The journals are suspended when they say anything unpalatable to the emperor, and they are interdicted when they keep silent upon subjects which he wishes them to discuss in the way pleasing to himself. One newspaper has just been interdicted, because it did not denounce the assassins who attempted the emperor's life. This is one step in despotism a little further than any other ruler has dared to attempt.

THE WINTER IN EUROPE.—The following is an extract from a private letter received from Guernsey, (English Channel,) dated February 4th:—"The winter with us has been so mild that many of the oldest inhabitants do not remember such a one for the last fifty years. I saw raspberries and hawthorn blossoms last month, and the vale had gooseberries as large as green peas, not more than a month since."

M. Gavarni, a French machinist, has perfected his aerial ship, at a cost of 300,000 francs, and made a voyage to Algiers, Africa, and back with it, a distance of 1500 miles from his starting point. The average speed was about 160 miles an hour, the voyage out occupying 18 hours, and the return 16 hours. M. Gavarni is to make the attempt from Havre to the city of New York, as soon as he has tested the character of his invention, by a few short trips over the Mediterranean and its neighboring provinces. The time consumed from Havre to New York would be but thirty hours, breakfasting at the former city and supping at New York on evening of the next day.

The report of the Board of Public Works of Ohio, for the year 1857, shows that the canals did not pay their expenses by over nine thousand dollars. The decline of income from these canals for the last three years has been gradually increasing.

John K. Kane, Judge of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, died at his residence near Philadelphia, on Sunday evening, Feb. 25th, of inflammation of the lungs. Judge Kane was of Irish descent, his grandfather, John Kane, having emigrated from that country. He was bred to the law, and was for many years a member of the Philadelphia Bar. He was known as a "land lawyer," a branch of the profession which may be very lucrative, but requires little forensic talent. He never was called eloquent or profound but he made money. In 1845 he was appointed by President Polk to the position he held at his death. Judge Kane had greatness (in a small way) thrust upon him. What little note he had is due to two cases—one, that he was the father of Dr. Elisha Kent Kane; and the other, that he was the Judge of Passmore Williamson. The latter had commenced a suit against him for false imprisonment, which, of course, is terminated by his death.

IS KANSAS TO HAVE ANOTHER NEW GOVERNOR?—There are rumors afloat both in and out of Kansas, that the President contemplates the removal of Denver, present Governor of Kansas, for the reason that he refused to "go the whole hog" in favor of the pro-slavery election frauds.

The Pittsburgh Dispatch learns from a "perfectly reliable source," that Francis McKee, of Cookstown, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, had received the offer of the Governorship of Kansas. Mr. McKee is an ardent friend and devoted admirer of Mr. Buchanan.

The Tribune correspondence says: "It is well understood here in the most intimate circles of the President's friends, that immediately on the adjournment of Congress, Mr. James Gordon Bennett will receive his commission as U. S. Minister to Austria. This will be the simple fulfillment of one of the conditions on which the New York Herald gives its support to the Administration." The Herald has for some time been a faithful supporter of the Administration.

B. R. Güssinger, the oldest printer in Charleston, died on the 18th Feb.

## BELLEVUE GAZETTE.

HENRY M. BURT,  
News and Local Editor.

BELLEVUE, N. T.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1858.

### JUDGE FERGUSON'S PRE-EMPTION SUSTAINED!

Decision of the Commissioner of the General Land Office!

#### CHAPMAN'S LAST DODGE!

By the latest news from Washington, we learn that the Commissioner of the General Land Office had decided the case of Judge Ferguson's pre-emption, sustaining the Judge's pre-emption; who ever expected any other decision? The testimony in the case, in the first instance, in the Judge's favor was sufficient to have driven any decent man from further prosecution of the case had it not been prosecuted as all know it was for the purpose of reflecting upon the reputation of Judge Ferguson, and for the further and most rascally and despicable purpose of prejudicing the Judge's claim to his seat in Congress. To what measure would not this man Chapman resort, to advance his own ends of corruption, and to further his wicked and vile objects of self-aggrandizement? To say nothing of the fair fame and untarnished reputation of one of our purest and best public men which he has so maliciously and unscrupulously labored to destroy; for only a temporary effect, he has shown the honest pioneer settlers of Nebraska, that his threat made during the canvass, to the effect that "if he was not elected to Congress he would use his influence to defeat every appropriation for the Territory," was perfectly consonant with his character, and in perfect keeping with those treacherous acts of duplicity and double-dealing which have characterized Chapman's conduct in an eminent degree. And in the case of the pre-emption he cared not for the best interests and most sacred rights of the squatter, who left a state of plenty and comparative ease to pioneer and settle a new Territory that they might by the early and judicious exercise of the right and privilege granted them by Congress, secure a competency for themselves and families, toiling and sweating beneath a burning prairie sun, enduring the chilling winter blasts, to avail themselves of this pre-emptive boon while he was promenading Pennsylvania Avenue, with his pockets crammed with Dakota shares, Brownville lots, Nebraska City blocks, and 40 acre school lots, bright with thoughtful expectation of where he would next commence to farm out the interests of Nebraska, (himself and his brother-in-laws.) And again after having raised the hue and cry about the pre-emption of Ferguson for no other purpose than to cast a most false and foul imputation upon the reputation of the Judge, and finding three men base enough to assist him, prompted by personal animosity and a bitter vindictive spirit of revenge, and grossly ignorant of the consequences of such a disreputable course of conduct. They make affidavits to the effect that all they know of Ferguson's pre-emption is, that they know nothing about it; whereupon Mr. Chapman employs a lawyer in Washington City, and leaves his brother-in-law, Lockwood, in Omaha City to attend to it here, (having failed, he it said to the credit of the lawyers of Omaha City, to find any one but the brother-in-law who would descend from their high calling, to dabble in this low and disreputable affair.) and with his little soulless, niggardly illiberality, refuses to pay his lawyer in Washington.

The case is sent back to Omaha for a re-hearing, where the brother-in-law of Chapman can appear as counsel, and where he did appear as such, and after a long and tedious trial, with the usual degree of small, practical consummate meanness, the prosecution refused to pay the clerk his usual fee for writing down testimony. Having satisfied himself that there is now no possibility of getting a seat in Congress, he has taken the last dodge he will most likely ever be in a position to take. With the Douglas men, he is with them on the Kansas question, and with the friends of the Administration, he is with them, of course. This he does hoping to secure votes enough in the sequel to get his mileage and part salary; whether this will win we shall see.

The steamer Henry A. Jones, took fire recently near Augusta, Ky., and was burned to the water's edge. No lives lost. The boat was valued at \$15,000, and insured for \$10,000.

### The Nebraskanian and its Editor.

Nothing can be more gratifying to us than to observe the palpable change in the tone of the Nebraskanian of week before last, and for once free from the vulgarity and twaddle so emphatically peculiar to itself. Its tone for once has breathed a compliment for which we might feel gratified, if we did not understand the object. But though the language does perceptibly change, the spirit still remains, plunging blindly onward, with the vain and malicious hope of contaminating where you dare penetrate.

No sooner do the scales fall from your eyes, and a gentle rebuke creep in upon you, staying for a moment the rapid dissolution of a diseased spirit, ere the cancer worm prompts you to rise like the fabled Titan, with strength redoubled to your labors of disgrace and infamy. How vainly idle are your paltry attempts to hurl back our weapons upon ourselves. You charge us with "baseness and indecency," who, for your wanton offense of delicacy, received the crushing rebuke of the Senate of the Territory. Do we say rebuke? that alone, would insult that body, who refused to breathe the same atmosphere with yourself. Your insignificant charges are couched in an improved style of speech, thus fastening the charge, (which you so shrewdly anticipated,) that not one, but many seek the privacy of your sanctum; if it were not so it would be but another reason why we should pay no heed to your simple aspiration; for in that case we would know full well that you have as yet had by far too little practice to improve in your mad attempt at decency.

You "have no desire to bandy words with puppies." We, with less assumed dignity, and eminently far more fraternal feeling, will not permit you to exercise the one degraded and characteristic habit of the canine tribe, without a parting word. The word "puppies," savors much of your former self, and former speech. We think his Excellency, the President, would find but little trouble in properly interpreting the word. We think your many schemes with nothing to recommend them, but the model articles of your model paper, and their complete overthrow, and the final great Post Office dodge, proves the truth of this assertion. Your excoberation having run away with your reason, many have also affected your memory. For your benefit we will revive it by simply calling to your mind the numerous malignant articles in your paper which so justly provoked the indignation and contempt of Mr. Buchanan, thwarting your nicely pre-arranged Post Office scheme at Omaha.

"Puppies," "scoundrels," the "base and false," adorn your "set phrase of speech," in rare antithetical confusion; all of which you violently, even menacingly claim the authorship of; your assertions we heed not, knowing them to be the workings of a morbid imagination. Were men to assure us we were "false and base," we would smile in scorn; then what grief must affect us when we hear the mere say-so of one who dare not claim affinity with such.

HON. T. B. CURTIS.—We regret exceedingly to learn that the Secretary's health is still precarious, and that his physician deem his recovery more than doubtful. At the last issue of our paper, we were under the impression, and in fact were so advised by his friends from Omaha at the time, that he was rapidly recovering, and would soon resume the duties of his office. Under that impression, we penned the article of last week, which we are free to admit, under the circumstances, appear harsh and unfeeling. We hope to be the last to deepen the wounds of hearts already bleeding, or to make light of the ills and woes which afflict humanity whenever Providence may visit them. We say this much in justice to our feelings with a proper consciousness of duty and justice to others, uninfluenced by the course of others toward us.

There are now 590 convicts confined in the Illinois Penitentiary; 9 of which are females. Owing to the crowded state of the prison, 150 of the prisoners are unemployed. These are supplied with school books, and a regular school is now in progress, under the supervision of one of the guards. This is indeed an example worthy of imitation in all prisons. We hope the time will come, when every prison will be supplied with a good library and the best newspapers published in the country; and a portion of each day set apart for the moral and intellectual improvement of the prisoners. It does not seem to us to be the best method of reforming convicts to keep them in ignorance of what is transpiring in the world around them.

### CHICAGO MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

At a recent Municipal Election, held in Chicago, Haines, Republican candidate for Mayor, was elected by 1161 majority. The Council stands Republicans 17, Democrats 7. The total vote cast, was 16,123 against 10,645 for Mayor last spring, and 11,343 for President in 1856.

Washington, Feb. 26.

Horace Greeley was examined this morning before the Tariff Investigating Committee. All the members were present. The examination was concluded in forty minutes, when Mr. Greeley was informed that the Committee would not require his further attendance. He expressed his high appreciation of the candor and courtesy of the Committee and thanked them for calling him before them. He says they asked him no question which he did not deem pertinent, and which he was not very glad of an opportunity to answer.

The purport of his testimony is understood to be, that no man ever proposed to put any money into his hands to influence in any way the action of Congress on the Tariff or any other question, and no one suggested anything of the sort with his consent or knowledge. He never knew until the late expose in Boston, nor ever heard or believed that money was paid or proposed by Lawrence, Stone & Co., or any one else, whether to members or others, to influence the last Congress on the Tariff.

March 2.

The War Department has received despatches from Col. Johnson, dated Jan. 4th. As it is a matter of absolute necessity that supplies should reach him by the first of June, measures for that purpose have been taken by Gen. Scott. His order, dated Feb. 28th, directs that a train, to consist of at least 200 mule wagons, shall be organized with the utmost despatch at Fort Leavenworth, to go immediately with Col. Hoffman to Fort Laramie, and to transport from thence to Col. Johnson's command in Utah; commissary stores, men's shoes and such other supplies as may be known to be much needed. Two extra mules to provide for casualties are to be taken for each wagon.

The wagons and mules and everything for the train will be the best that can be got together at Fort Leavenworth, or within convenient reach of it. A company of cavalry and infantry will act as an escort beyond Fort Laramie. The train will start as early as the 18th of March. In an order dated March 1st, to the commanding officer at Fort Leavenworth, Gen. Scott directs that the following be sent to Gen. Garland in New Mexico by express:

"Col. Johnson reports that the Mormons intend intercepting Capt. Marcy on his return with the mules and horses, he was ordered to obtain in your department. Notify the Captain of this, and see he is strongly escorted on his return march, and well provided with whatever he may require and you can spare."

The above orders from Gen. Scott were telegraphed to Booneville, Missouri, and from thence they are to go to their place of destination by express.

March 3.

In a former dispatch it was stated on the authority of leading Democrats, that the calculation was that the Kansas bill would pass the House by 15 majority, but on the contrary the leading anti-Lecomptonites are sanguine of its defeat, and are working industriously to that end.

Mr. Grow's Land Bill.

"About the best bill that has been submitted to either House of the present Congress with any chance of being passed, is that of Mr. Grow, of Pa., by which it is proposed to forbid the proclamation by the President of Public Lands for sale until fifteen years shall have expired from the date of their survey. The object of this bill, as we judge from its title, is to allow the pioneer actual settlers fifteen years' pre-emption of their respective quarter-sections before they can be compelled to pay for them or surrender them to any speculator who may see fit to buy over their heads. We do not consider this so good as an absolute free land bill, but it is probably easier to pass; and we entreat all earnest advocates of land for the landless to unite in support of this, if a more radical measure cannot be carried at this session.—N. Y. Tribune.

Five Steamboats Burned at New Orleans.

A very destructive conflagration occurred among the steamers opposite New Orleans on the morning of Feb. 21. The Virginia, Montauk, W. V. Sherman, S. S. Prentiss, and the small steamer Montgomery (not James Montgomery) were destroyed. The loss by this fire reaches \$70,000, which is partially covered by insurance, but the precise amount is unknown. The ship Andover from New York was considerably damaged, and one or two other vessels were injured. The whole of the shipping in port was at one time in a precarious condition.

The friends and partisans of Santa Anna are expecting his arrival at Havana, whence he will proceed in a Spanish war steamer to assume the Presidency of Mexico.

The Leavenworth Times says the judges and clerks of the election at Shawnee, had been arrested, and testified under oath before this Investigating Committee, that the poll book of Shawnee was taken to Westport, and 300 names added thereto in that place.

Gen. Comofort, late dictator of Mexico, arrived in Baltimore, Feb. 28.

## Local & Territorial.

Edward Lerew, one of the early settlers of this place, who has been spending some months in Pennsylvania, arrived in this city the early part of this week, much improved in health.

Read the new advertisements in another column.

The ground has settled, and in a few days the roads will be in first rate traveling condition.

DISTRICT COURT.—The District Court for the First Judicial District, in Douglas County, is now in session at Omaha. There are 359 cases on the docket.

The weather is fine—the river in good boating condition, and rising slowly; no boat arrived yet—one expected soon.

Chief Justice Hall arrived at Omaha last Saturday.

The farmers of this County have commenced in good earnest to fence their lands. Piles of posts and rails are to be seen scattered over the prairies, in every direction. More than double the quantity of land will be cultivated in this County, this season, than in any previous year.

The Sheriff of this County, John M. Enoch, is now assessing the taxable property of Sarpy Co.

Foundations for several new buildings have been commenced in this city.

L. G. Jeffers, has retired from the editorial chair of the Plattsmouth Jeffersonian.

About 1000 wagons will leave Nebraska city, this spring, with supplies for the army in Utah. The first train will leave about the first of April.

From an abstract received at the County Clerk's office, in this city, from the Land Office in Omaha, we learn that 86,000 acres of land have been pre-empted in this county; leaving 70,000 acres subject to pre-emption, 60,000 of which have been filed on.

An effort is being made to establish a public library in this city. We hope it may prove successful.

Through the liberality of a number our citizens, Mr. Lane, whose shop was burned last week, has been enabled to erect another, and will soon be in readiness to resume business.

A severe thunder storm occurred last Monday afternoon accompanied with hail of generous dimensions.

OUTRAGEOUS RASCALITY.—DARING ATTEMPT TO KIDNAP A FREE COLORED WOMAN.—A most infamous attempt to kidnap and reduce to slavery, an intelligent free colored woman, has just come to light here. As we learn, the circumstances are briefly these:

A man named Thomas Radcliffe, an Englishman, of Toronto, C. W., arrived in this city on Friday of last week, in company with a colored woman also from Toronto, who had accompanied him with the intention of going into the restaurant business in this city. They stopped at the Massasoit House, the woman, Hannah Blackson, passing as his servant.

Soon after their arrival the fellow Radcliffe made known to a man named Burke of this city, that he was on his way to St. Louis with the woman Blackson, an experienced cook, who would bring a handsome sum; that all their baggage had been sent through to St. Louis; that if Burke would go with him, he, Radcliffe, would return to Toronto for a yellow girl whom he would persuade to join Hannah here, and the two would sell for high prices.

Burke divulged the fact to some colored people, among whom the report spread like wild-fire, and on Monday evening they came to the Massasoit House and caused Hannah to accompany them. Radcliffe took the alarm and made off, no clue to his present whereabouts existing.

He had induced the woman to trust him with her watch, baggage checks, and \$200 in money, and she is left penniless here. It is hoped that the scoundrel will yet be arrested. The woman will return to her friends in Canada.—Chicago Jour.

It is stated that Mr. Saunders, the sculptor, has just completed a fine bust of Gen. Cassimir Pulaski; in Italian marble. It has been executed after the best and most authentic portraits and engravings, and represents him in his Polish costume; his fine head and countenance expressive of the kindness and courage which were so predominantly his characteristics. This bust is of colossal size, and will probably be placed in the rotunda of the Capitol at Washington.

The Boston Ledger says: That John Hancock, Esq., nephew of Gov. John Hancock, of Revolutionary memory, will complete his 84th year on the 22nd inst., when the "Hancock House" will see one of those hearty old fashioned times for which it has been heretofore so famous. Mr. Hancock, wears his years well, and walks about every day.