

Stop and Think.

Is it not time, that we, as a nation, began to stop and reflect upon our perilous condition? America is, at present, "Big with the fate of Cæsar and Rome." The shadows of Egypt are distinct upon the walls of our seeming strength. We are clobbered by vice and corruption. In spite of this stern fact, which ought to be noticed by every one who wishes the permanency of institutions bequeathed to our ancestors, we find stump speakers, Congressional fulminators and Fourth of July orators, ranting and sweating with great swelling words of eloquence, about American liberty and the permanency of American institutions, as if this nation, yet in its swaddling bands, was as immutable as the throne of God. Ideal France is set all in the shade, by self laudation of American greatness, power and permanence. Like the ancient Greeks, we imagine that we possess the garden of the earth, and are the only cultivated people upon the earth—every thing outside of us entirely barbarian.

But is it not time, I ask, for us, to cease such fulsome, delectable twaddle, and look at stern, existing facts,— "To see ourselves as others see us." While in some things we are strong, in many others we are very weak. While our national domain is inviolable, our nationality is too much endangered by suicidal hands. Like the Church in the dark ages, we are in danger of being engulfed by our own corruption.

The current of our own depravity, is rapidly bearing us to the fearful vortex of destruction. Corruption in its most malignant forms, has seated itself upon the vitals of the nation, while the sores are continually breaking out upon every part of the body politic. We are not only a nation of dyspeptics, physically, but also morally. Vice has hushed the voice of conscience, and we are almost lost to all sense of shame. In illegitimate money making, we are growing very wise, but sadly ignorant as regards intelligent morality. Schemes of the most daring villainy, are concocted and deliberately carried out, and the nation winks with expressions of approbation. Theft, swindling and bribery, constitute the legitimate business of men in high places, who have sworn to support the constitution of the state rather than that of heaven. The amenities of scoundrelism have usurped the place of pristine honesty, and right and justice are sacrificed at the infernal shrine of selfish Mammon.

Scarcely any ramifications of society is free from such unwholesome and deleterious practices. Political knavery has become the sine qua non for political distinction; and the so called salary of the office, mere spending money; while the bribery purse, and stealings in, constitute the consideration of the greatest importance. Legislation for the people, is a perfect farce, while legislation for self aggrandizement, keeps the sage legislators continually upon the qui vive. Scarcely a bill, in any of the legislative departments, passes upon its own merits. Planning of bribery and unmentionable chicanery constitute the basis of legislative action. Even the judicial ermine has been so defiled with corruption, and the virus of partizan malignity that it is considered by many as only suitable for those who would even dare to "Steal the livery of Heaven to serve the Devil in."

The corruption of the present time, in our nation, is without a parallel. Mr. Toombs declared in the American Senate only a few days since, that this was the most corrupt government under heaven. Several Senators responded in the affirmative, and the whole body acquiesced. Thus the North and South, have found one principle on which they can unite, and that is the principle of corruption. The rather singular trio of failures, corruption and revivals, will form the materials for the historian of the present time.

In Church, in State, and Social Society, the condition of morals is woful. Honesty, frankness and sincerity are almost strangers among us, while trickery and double dealing, stalk in our midst. The shake of the hand no more than the kiss of Judas, is not always an index of friendship and good will. A rough, blunt, outspoken honesty, is always preferable to a smooth, exacting, hypocritical piety. "An honest man," said John Q. Adams, "is the noblest work of God."

With such a state of things, is it not time that we ceased gazing at idealities? and take the sober second thought upon stern existing realities. As Citizens, as Patriots, and Christians, it becomes us to cast the viper out of our own bosoms, and then penetrate even to the nation's core, with the healing balm of truth and righteousness. Without a deep and universal reformation, the hand-writing will soon be seen upon our national walls, and Ichabod stamped upon our national escutcheon.—CHAUCER.

Hon. Williamson R. W. Cobb.

As Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands, this gentleman has won for himself a wide spread reputation for energy, industry, and a thorough, practical knowledge of the important duties of his position. Mr. Cobb is not a showy man, dazzling for a moment, by his brilliancy, and anon sending forth no light; but as a constant, unremitting worker, he has few equals and no superior. It is to be regretted that such men are more numerous in the Halls of Congress. They are truly "the salt of the earth," who by their quiet, unassuming labors, keep the machinery of government running and in good order. Corruption which would otherwise twine its slimy folds around the very pillars of the Republic, stands rebuked in their presence, and skulks at their chiding, to its dar's hiding places. Mr. Cobb has introduced and succeeded in having passed through Congress, more bills of usefulness to the country, than any other member. Whilst others have been wrangling and contending for individual favor, he, with a watchful eye and hopeful heart, has attended to the general interest. We repeat that Mr. Cobb is an emphatic and successful worker; and the position which he occupies to-day, before the nation, is a glorious eulogy upon labor which brings fame out of obscurity, and success from the midst of difficulty and harshness. We pay this tribute to Mr. Cobb because we have known him intimately and long, and have for him warm hopes for the future. A.

LATEST NEWS FROM THE ARMY.

The Salt Lake Mail, under charge of Alex. Burnes, reached this city, yesterday morning, seventeen days out from Camp Scott. The Mail started on the 6th inst. and has thus made remarkable time.

From Mr. Burnes, (who is a most intelligent observer,) we gather the following affairs at the Camp of Johnston, and in the Valley.

The advance supply train had gotten in, and consequently the wants of the troops had been supplied. The soldiers were in excellent health and good spirits. Capt. Marcy had not yet reached the Camp, but was at Pilot Butte, twenty-five miles this side, on Hams Fork. Gov. Cumming and Commissioners Powell and McCulloch, Post Master, &c., had gone back to the city. Brigham Young and the principal Mormons, had removed to Provo City, some forty miles South of Salt Lake City; not to fortify themselves, as it has been rumored, but, as is probable, to secure a retreat, if such an event shall become necessary. The Mormons are constantly trading to Camp Scott, and are occasionally driven off by Gen. Johnston, which they take very tamely. Gen. Johnston will move on to the City at an early day.

The impression prevailed that there would be no fighting. Such at all events are the views of our informant, and all the facts elicited warrant the belief.

The mail met Col. Hoffman in twenty-five miles of the Camp. He says no difficulties are experienced on the plains. The Indians are remarkably quiet. The grass is good, and the roads are getting good. North Platte was very high. Had to swim South Platte, which stream, tho' receding, was yet quite high.

Henry F. Mayer, formerly of this city, came a passenger in the stage. Mr. Mayer gave it as his opinion that there will be no fighting, but thinks there may be some treachery in the course of the Mormons. He is perhaps as familiar with the Western movements and the character of the Saints as any gentleman who has been upon the plains. From him we learn Perry's train was met forty miles of Ft. Laramie; also one of Majors and Russell's trains, ten miles below Chimney Rock. He says the whole route was lined with trains from Fort Laramie to Kinnekuk, and all seem to be getting along remarkably well. The roads, which have been very bad, are now getting good.—St. Joe Gazette, 24th.

The Salt Lake Mail, in charge of Mr. T. P. CORNER, arrived in this city yesterday about 10 o'clock A. M. The mail came through in sixteen days, having left on the 12th inst. Mr. C. H. Martin accompanied the Mail from Camp Scott, and to him we are indebted for the following particulars.

Genl. Johnson was to start into the city with three thousand men, in three divisions—the first division to leave on the 12th, the second on the 13th, and the third on the 14th inst. The army would enter the Valley via Soda Springs on Bear River. Col. Hoffman had arrived at Camp Scott—his troops were in excellent health, and anxious to march to the city. Capt. Marcy and Command, had also arrived from New Mexico with 1500 head of loose mules for the use of the army. St. Joe Gazette June 29th.

CAIRO INUNDATED.—Private dispatches to the editor of the Alton Courier, received Sunday evening, state that the levee at Cairo, on the Mississippi river, gave way on Saturday afternoon, and that the entire place was soon flooded to the depth of several feet, causing the greatest consternation and alarm. The crevasse continued to widen, and on yesterday afternoon at three o'clock, the water was running over the Central Railroad track into the Ohio River, near the mill of Williams, Stevens & Co., and great fears were felt that the mill itself would move down and carry destruction before it. Over one thousand feet of the railroad track, north of cross levee, was washed away. The houses were tumbling over and washing away. The south wing of the new brick hotel fell about twelve o'clock, yesterday, and the balance of it was expected to go last night. The most sanguine do not expect that any buildings will remain standing, as the river was rising rapidly. It had reached a point last evening two and a half feet above the floor of the dining room of the Taylor House, which is in the second story.

The B. M. Runyan, which boat arrived here yesterday morning from below, lay at Cairo all Saturday night, and left for this port on Sunday morning.

The citizens were in the greatest excitement, and carrying their goods hurriedly to the top of the levee. On Sunday morning, the exertions of two hundred men were directed to the stopping of the gap, but all their attempts failed.

Those on the boat could hear the rushing of the water through the gap when they were five miles above Cairo.

THE CROPS.—In conversation with gentlemen from the various parts of the country, we learn that the prospect for good crops is excellent and brightening daily. In the timber, the wheat crop has been damaged by rust, but on the prairie the prospect is most promising. St. Joe Gazette.

THE LATE SENATOR HENDERSON.—The Hon. J. Pinckney Henderson, U. S. Senator from Texas, who died at his lodgings in Washington, on Friday evening, was a North Carolinian by birth, having emigrated to Texas in the year 1836, and participated in the revolutionary difficulties and early formation of that government, when an independent republic. He afterwards filled numerous high positions of trust and honor, and on the admission of Texas into the Union, was its first Governor as a State of the confederacy. He was unanimously chosen by the Legislature last year to succeed the lamented Thomas J. Rusk, in the U. S. Senate. He was a sound lawyer, a brilliant orator and a good man.

NEGROES AND COTTON.—The New Orleans Delta estimates the number of slaves at the south at over three and a half millions, and their aggregate value, at present prices, at full sixteen hundred millions of dollars. The cotton plantations in the south it estimates at about eighty thousand, and the aggregate value of the annual product, at the present prices of cotton, is fully one hundred and twenty-five millions dollars. There are over fifteen thousand tobacco plantations, and their annual products may be valued at fourteen millions of dollars. There are two thousand six hundred sugar plantations, the products of which average annually more than twelve millions. There are five hundred and fifty-one Rice plantations, which yield an annual revenue of four millions of dollars.

ROMANTIC MARRIAGE.—By the Golden Age, a young lady arrived in search of a truant lover, whom she had not heard of for three years. Determined to ascertain the cause of such silence, she undertook the voyage. Yesterday, in passing through Second street, she espied a person bearing some faint resemblance to her former swain, and nothing daunted, questioned him, and was gratified to learn she had put her finger on the right man. He did not recognise her, however, and could scarce realize the truth of her avowal. Explanations were had, and it seems that meeting with reverses in fortune incident to California, and a heavy spell of sickness had driven him to desperation, and conceiving his name to be his evil genius, he improvised another, and, in changing the same forewore all kindred and former friends until he had once again gained a pile. In the joy of the recovery of her old love, woman like, she forgot and forgave all, and last night the twin were made one.—San Francisco Alta Californian.

A Country Editor, speaking of a member of the New York Assembly, says:—The first year he went to Albany he was so conscientious that he utterly refused to receive his allotment of stealings, in the shape of books and stationery. The next year he did not hesitate—and finally came home unable to tell the truth, even under the most favorable circumstances.

The appointment of Gen. Harney to the Brigadier Generalship, left vacant by the death of Gen. Persifer F. Smith, has been made after a decided opposition, and in the face of an unusual exertion to obtain the honor. His lineal rank and present command were strong arguments in his favor, against moral objections, which were urged with no little persistency.

An entire Chinese regiment, for having abandoned an untenable fort, during the recent attack on Canton by the French and English forces, has been sentenced to wear women's clothes for five years.

The damage to plantations, by the last flood in the Mississippi, is estimated at \$30,000,000.

Local & Territorial.

Rev. Mr. Good, Presiding Elder of the M. E. Church, will preach in the School House in this city this evening at 8 o'clock.

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION.

Our citizens will celebrate the 82d anniversary of American Independence, in this City, on Saturday, next, July 3d, under the management of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. The celebration will be held in the Grove on the plateau, just west of the trading post. The citizens will assemble at 10 o'clock, A. M., at what is known as the Hillyard house. At 11 o'clock, the assembly, under the direction of the Marshal, will be seated in the Grove. The following order of exercises will then take place:

- 1. Music.
2. Prayer by the Rev. Wm. Hamilton.
3. Music.
4. Reading of the Declaration of Independence, by Stephen D. Bangs.
5. Music.
6. Oration, by A. B. Steinberger.
7. Music.
8. Dinner, at 2 o'clock.

OFFICERS OF THE DAY.

- President,
SILAS A. STRICKLAND.
Vice Presidents,
Mrs. C. K. Mark. Wm. Robinson.
Miss L. Derst. Chas. L. Lehow.
Mrs. H. Rogers. John A. Nye.
Marshal,
F. M. DAVENPORT.
Assist. Marshal,
SAMUEL P. MARTIN.

By order of Mrs. L. R. ROBINSON, Chairman Com. Arrangements.

The County Commissioners will meet at Judge Cook's Office, on Monday next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

We understand that B. P. Rankin has been appointed Clerk of the Courts, for the First Judicial District, in this Territory, in place of J. W. Paddock, removed.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Below will be found our Thermometrical Record for June. It will be seen that June has been much warmer than the preceding month.

Table with columns: June, 1858, A.M. Dg., P.M. Dg., P.M. Dg. Rows 1-30 showing temperature data.

We have just received the Atlantic Monthly, for June. It is conducted with much ability, and ranks high with the list of Monthlies. The following is the table of contents:—Chesuncook; La Cantatrice; Gouffred Wilhelm von Leibnitz; Loo Loo; Letter Writing; The Catacombs of Rome; Beatrice; Metempsychosis; Crawford and Sculpture; Asiradam the Brahmin; What are we going to make? Shipwreck; The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table; The President's Prophecy of Peace; Literary Notices.

Published by Phillips, Sampson & Co., Boston, Mass. Terms, \$3 per annum. We will furnish one copy of the Gazette and one copy of the Atlantic Monthly, one year, for \$4, in advance. Now is the time to subscribe.

DAILY MAIL.—The new contracts for carrying the Mails in this Territory, for the next four years, go into operation to-day. We are to have a Daily Mail, direct from Council Bluffs, arriving at 12, M., and departing, we believe, at 2, P. M. There are several important changes, in the arrival and departure of the Mails, on other routes, of which we will speak in our next. The Mail arrived to-day, on time, from the Bluffs.

UNION SUNDAY SCHOOL PIC NIC.

On Monday next, July 5th, several of the Sunday Schools of this County, are to celebrate the Birth-day of our National Independence, at Bennett's Grove, near Bellevue. The Schools will assemble at the place designated, at 10 o'clock, A. M., where seats will be provided. The exercises will consist of Prayer, Singing, Reading the Declaration, Exercises by the Children, and several short Orations. The Opening Oration will be delivered by Hon. Augustus Hall, Chief Justice of the Territory; after which, a recess will be taken for Refreshments. Each School will be under the supervision of its Superintendent, who, together with the Agent of the American Sunday School Union, constitute the Committee of Arrangements. All friends of Sunday Schools and lovers of Freedom, are invited to be present.

The Pacific City Enterprise has been sold to ALFRED TOMPSON. It has been enlarged and its name changed to Pacific City Herald, and henceforth it is to be a Republican journal. From present appearances, we conclude the Herald will not be second, in ability, to any paper published on the Missouri Slope. Its editorials certainly have the ring of the true metal.

ICE CREAM.—Drop into Rawitzer's and call for the Creams. We have done so, and found them "not bad to take." He knows how to get up a first rate article.

GREEN PEAS.—Wm. H. Hillyard will please accept our thanks for a mess of Green Peas.

Charles Childs, has recently put another run of stone into his Mill, and is now prepared to grind wheat to order.

The District Court for this County, adjourned on last Saturday, to Aug. 16, at which time C. L. Mathews will be tried for the murder of Thomas Noonan. Mathews is now in jail at Omaha. Indictments have been found against 11 others, as accessories, to the murder. We understand that none of the others have yet been arrested.

The brothers George and D. E. Longsdorf, Mrs. Jas. Gow, and Miss Frances Swain, will leave to-day, on the Steamer Isabella, for a short visit in the east.

BOATS.—The WATOSSA come up, Friday June 25.

The new and light draft steamer Isabella, arrived at our Levee Sunday, June 27th, and discharged passengers and freight for this City. The Isabella is a first rate boat, and her officers are favorites with the travelling public.

The Dan Converse came up last evening.

The Missouri River which has been rising rapidly for sometime past, commenced to fall yesterday. The River was higher yesterday noon, than it has been since the great flood of April, 1856.

The Wyoming Post has again past into the hands of its former editor and proprietor, J. W. Dawson.

PRESBYTERY OF NEBRASKA.—The following was adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which has just closed its session at New Orleans. Certain papers which have a necessary connection with each other, viz. Paper No. 1, which is the petition of certain ministers of Nebraska Territory, asking to be set off into a new Presbytery. Paper No. 2, which is the petition of the Presbytery of Council Bluffs, asking that the ministers in Nebraska Territory, with the Rev. D. L. Hughes of Huntington Presbytery, be attached to the Presbytery of Council Bluffs; and Papers No. 3 and 4, which are petitions of the Presbyteries of Des Moines and Iowa, in favor of strengthening the Presbytery of Council Bluffs, and against the organization of a Presbytery in Nebraska Territory.

The Committee, after consultation with the parties interested, recommended the following action as the best under all the circumstances.

Resolved, 1. That a new Presbytery be erected out of the Territory of Nebraska, to be called the Presbytery of Omaha, which shall consist of the following ministers and churches, viz. Rev. William Hamilton of the Upper Missouri Presbytery, Rev. George P. Bergen of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, Rev. Simeon Peck of the Presbytery of Findley, Rev. William Young Brown of the Presbytery of New Lisbon, Rev. Charles Sturges of the Presbytery of Long Island, Rev. William B. Hall of the Presbytery of—, together with all the churches in Nebraska Territory.

Resolved, 2. That the Presbytery of Omaha be connected with the Synod of Southern Iowa; and that it meet for organization on the second Wednesday of July next, at eleven o'clock, A. M., at Omaha City; and that the Rev. William

Hamilton preach the opening sermon, and preside until a Moderator be appointed, and that the Rev. G. P. Bergen be his alternate.

Resolved, 3. That the Rev. D. L. Hughes of the Presbytery of Huntington, be transferred to the Presbytery of Council Bluffs, and that the latter Presbytery be directed to meet at Pacific City, Iowa, on the third Tuesday in July next, at eight o'clock, P. M.; and that the Rev. John Hancock preach the opening sermon, and preside until a Moderator be appointed, and that the Rev. D. L. Hughes be his alternate.

MEMPHIS, June 14.

The railroad steam packet Pennsylvania exploded her boiler Sunday morning, at six o'clock, at Ship Island, seventy miles below Memphis, and burned to the water's edge. There were about 350 passengers on board, and it is believed a hundred of them are killed and missing. The steamers Diana, Imperial, and Frisbee, picked up all they could find in the water and took them ashore.

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.—This body adjourned on Monday evening June 14. The Senate, however, has convened on Executive business, but will probably adjourn in a few days.

ST. JOHNS, N. F. June 21.

The steam yacht Victoria, Captain Slaughter, boarded the Royal steamship Persia, Captain Judkins, yesterday, off Cape Race, and arrived this morning.

The Atlantic Telegraph fleet took its final departure under sail, from Plymouth, on Thursday, 10th inst. We do not learn that Captain Judkins passed the fleet near enough to speak any of the steamers.—The weather is understood to be favorable for submerging the cable. The fleet expected to reach mid ocean on the 24th inst., and we shall probably hear of the arrival of the Niagara at Trinity Bay on or about the 29th inst.

Capt. PATRICK CALHOUN, a son of the late Hon. John C. Calhoun, died in Pendleton, South Carolina, a few days since.

The New York Tribune says that Sewing Machines are being made at the rate of one thousand per week, and sold as fast as made.

Quills are things that are sometimes taken from the pinions of one goose to spread the opinions of another.

It is about as hopeless a task to get a rich woman to live a life of common sense, as it is to get a rich man into the kingdom of heaven.

In one of our city schools, not long ago a member of the committee asked the members of a class which was under examination, "What is the cause of the saltiness of the ocean?" Soon one little girl raised her head, flushed with the discovery which had flashed upon her mind. "You may tell," said the committee-man. "Salt fish, sir," said the pupil.

STILL THEY COME.—An item of news from England, states that Queen Victoria is in a fair way to add still another to the royal family. There is something too much of this.

A VIRGINIA paper records the marriage of Miss Jane Lemon to Mr. Ebenezer Sweet; whereupon an exchange moralizes as follows:

"How happy the extremes do meet In Jane and Ebenezer; She's no longer sour, but Sweet, And he's her Lemon squeezer!"

FORTY thousand dollars worth of horses were sold in Cincinnati at the various stables during the last week. Cincinnati is the most important horse market in the United States.

THE WEATHER IN EUROPE.—May in Europe seems to have been as unpleasant as it has been in America. Snow has fallen in some parts of France. Madrid was similarly visited on the 4th. In the provinces the mountains are all covered with snow, and acris hiems appears to have made up his mind to pass the Spring in Spain. A fortnight past the heat was so intense that it drove the Queen and Court from Madrid to Aranjuez.

THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF NAPOLEON.—The French Napoleon has no "lean and hungry look" but grows stout upon the fears and anxieties which are so plentifully attributed to him. No "fat and greasy citizen" thrives better in flesh than his Majesty Napoleon III., whose figure on horseback has assumed a rotundity of proportions altogether incompatible with any pretension to the graceful or elegant.

HIT AT HOOPS.—Punch has the following severe cut at crinoline:

A PERILOUS POSITION.—A lady swooned the other day before one of the horrible Cawnpore pictures in the Royal Academy. Owing to the preposterous circumference of her dress, it was found impossible to approach within several yards of her. It was apprehended at one time, that she would perish within sight of several hundred sympathizing by-standers, owing to the difficulty of conveying assistance to her; and it was not before the greater part of her skirt (more than sufficient, we are informed, to fill the founccins and trimmings, three good sized wheelbarrows) had been cut away, that restoratives could be administered to her. One minute more delay, and the case might have been fatal!