

### THE ISTHMUS RAILROAD.

The New York Journal of Commerce calls attention to the proposed Isthmus Railroad route to the Pacific, and to the surveys recently made. Results of survey, thus far, show the following unexpected facilities for a railroad, viz:

Whole length from sea to sea not exceeding 46 m.  
Summit level, under 300 ft.  
Curvatures, with no radius less than 1,500 ft.  
Grade for about 26 miles, from Atlantic to Chagres river, nowhere exceeding (per mile) 1 1/2 ft.  
From Chagres river to summit level, about 10 miles, nowhere exceeding per mile 20 ft.  
From summit level, for about 3 miles, nowhere exceeding per mile 50 ft.  
And thence descending about seven miles to the Pacific.

Materials of stone and timber abundant, and of good quality, and an excellent harbor at Navy Bay, six miles distant from Chagres.

The cost of the road will be much less than was anticipated. A million dollars, it is owned, will undoubtedly put it in operation from Panama to the navigable waters of Chagres river. This being done, the company will come at once into the receipt of a large revenue, and can take their own time, within six years, to construct the section from the point where the road crosses Chagres river to Navy Bay, the intended terminus on the Atlantic side. The excellence of Navy Bay as a harbor, and also of Panama harbor, on the Pacific side, is shown in a letter published from Lieut. Porter, of the U. S. navy, who has personally examined both. The Journal says:

At the very outset the gentlemen who undertook this matter deposited a large sum of money as a pledge for the fulfillment of the undertaking. Then they sent out a large and efficient corps of engineers, to make an accurate survey of the whole line. This object has been accomplished, and it is ascertained that the route is more favorable than any one had dared to hope. No grade will exceed 50 feet to the mile, while for much the greater distance (say 36 miles out of 40) no grade will exceed 20 feet to the mile. Some of the grades on the Boston and Albany Railroad are 83 feet.

The grantees propose now to distribute a portion of the stock among the public, after reserving to themselves \$50,000 and an interest in the lands as a consideration for the value of the grant, their risks and services, &c. For this purpose the commissioners have invited sealed applications to be made to them, at the Bank of the State, on Wednesday next, enclosing \$10 on each share (of 100) subscribed.

A project of such vast importance to the world, yet so cheap, will no doubt attract great attention.

**MEXICAN PROTOCOL DIFFICULTY SETTLED.**—A Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia American, gives the following:

"It is confidently asserted in high democratic quarters, that Mr. Buchanan has received a letter, from Mr. Clifford, the U. S. Minister at Mexico, stating that the Mexican Congress had approved of the principles and arguments advanced by Mr. Clayton in the discussion with Señor de la Rosa, touching the matter of the Protocol, and to that extent had disapproved of the ground assumed by their representative. For the authenticity of the fact, I profess to give no better authority than the declarations of gentlemen occupying high social and political positions, and who were intimate in the councils of the late administration."

[From the Baltimore Sun.]  
NEW-YORK, June 26.

We have dates here from San Jose to the 30th of April, from which we learn that over seven thousand Mexicans have left lower California for the mines.

The Americans who desire engaging in mining on the Gila river, have been prevented by the disparity of their numbers and the constant fear of encroachments upon them by the Mexicans.

Fifteen thousand stand of English muskets have been sent to the mouth of the Gila river from Mazatlan. A rumor is prevailing, which has caused much excitement, to the effect, that the Mexican government intend disputing and contesting the decision and action of our American Commissioner in relation to the boundary.

The Mexicans profess to claim all the rich mines of Gila and its tributaries.

**THE AMERICANS AND THE ROMANS.**—A correspondent of the tribune announces the fact that \$250 were contributed by the Americans in Rome towards defraying the hospital expenses of the brave Italians wounded in the endeavor to defend their city from French invasion. Mr. Brown, our Consul, contributed a handsome portion of this amount. The correspondent comments upon this fact as follows: "I value this mark of sympathy more because of the irritation and surprise occasioned here by the position of Mr. Cass the Envoy. It is most unfor-

tunate that we should have an Envoy here for the first time just to offend and disappoint the Romans. When all the other ambassadors are at Gaeta, ours is in Rome, as if by his presence to discountenance the Republican Government, which he does not recognize.—Mr. Cass it seems, is limited not to recognize the Government till it is sure it can be sustained."

### KEOWEE COURIER.

Saturday, July 7, 1849.

With a view of accommodating our subscribers who live at a distance, the following gentlemen are authorized and requested to act as agents in receiving and forwarding Subscriptions to the KEOWEE COURIER, viz:

MAL. W. S. GRISHAM, at West Union.  
EDWARD HUGHES, Esq., " Horse Shoe.  
E. P. VERNER, Esq., " Bachelor's Retreat.  
M. F. MITCHELL, Esq., " Pickensville.  
J. E. HAGOOD, " Twelve Mile.  
T. J. WEBB, for Anderson District.

### FOURTH OF JULY.

At the hour appointed a respectable number of citizens (including a goodly number of the fairer part of creation) had assembled in the Court House. The Society was called to order, and the Declaration of Independence read by J. W. NORRIS, Jr., after which Mr. EASLEY was introduced to the audience, which he entertained with an oration of 30 minutes, delivered in a style highly creditable to the Orator.

As we have not room to report the speech entire, we propose to give to our readers the substance of the passing tribute paid Mr. Polk with which we have been kindly furnished by the author.

"Mr. Polk, that great man whose wisdom has done so much for the glory, prosperity and power of our country. Who, having taught the nations of Europe to respect our character, court our favor, and fear our resentment, and having added to the area of freedom the immense regions of New Mexico and California, rich in exhaustless mines of silver and gold, in a salubrious climate and exuberant soil and girdled by rivers and seas in whose capacious harbors the navies of nations may ride in safety, has died in the meridian of his usefulness—in the vigor of manhood, before the prejudices of party had sufficiently subsided to do justice to his character, or to acknowledge the greatness and glory of his achievements. It was a mournful hour for our country when Polk departed, for none greater or nobler has he left behind. Combining the wisdom and moderation of Washington and Jefferson with the daring enterprize of Jackson, he directed the counsels of Senates and planned the victories of armies; and though he sat at the helm in a stormy time, when the ship was blown about by the winds of discord and tossed on the waves of faction, he brought her safely into port, laden with a cargo of countless wealth. No long list of noble ancestors, by shedding a fictitious lustre around his birth, opened the road to his elevation; like Marius, his great deeds were his ancestors, and the truth of his heart the evidence of his nobility. By the force of native genius he arose from obscurity to power, and side by side with the greatest of the great, has inscribed his name on the tablets of fame. It matters not that envy sought to mangle, or ambition to destroy him, for long after his petty enemies shall have been lost and forgotten in the dimness of the gone by time—long after the names of whig and democrat shall have ceased to be party distinctions, his memory shall be cherished by millions of freemen, the golden palaces of California shall stand the imperishable monuments of his patriotism, while the winds that shall blow over the blue depths of the Pacific, wafting the navies of commerce to her shores, shall tell of his fame."

### LAST ILLNESS OF MR. POLK.

We learn from the Nashville True Whig, that Mr. Polk's disease, of which he lingered about two weeks, was of a chronic nature, having been troubled with it more or less for more than 27 years, probably aggravated by the cholera epidemic which had been raging in that city sometime previous to his arrival.—He bore his suffering with fortitude and resignation. He retained his consciousness, almost to the moment of his dissolution. At a period when his physicians considered his case very critical; he said he felt satisfied, that the end of his earthly career, was fast approaching; that he wished to send some word to his beloved mother, whom he understood was so unwell, that she might not be able to come to see him; he spoke most affectionately of her and other members of his family; he requested a friend to tell his mother, that should they not be permitted to meet on earth again, he had an abiding hope, through Divine mercy, they would meet hereafter.

"Early in his sickness, we understand, he connected himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church. A funeral sermon was delivered by the Rev. J. B. McFerrin, of that church, and his remains followed to their resting place by a large concourse of citizens. He was interred with Masonic ceremonies, having been a member of that fraternity.

It is said he leaves an estate valued at about one hundred thousand dollars; the greater part of which is settled upon his amiable lady.

### GEORGIA WHIG CONVENTION.

A Whig Convention assembled at Milledgeville, Ga., on 25th ult., and on the 2nd ballot chose Hon. Edward Y. Hill, as their candidate for Governor.

### THE GIRLS OF BATESVILLE.

The Batesville Eagle, Arkansas, in speaking of the fair, lately given in that place for the benefit of the M. E. Church, uses the following language in reference to the young ladies of that place: "As to our girls, we have something under a legion, most of whom have more purity in their nature, more music in their soul, more magic in their step, more grace in their mein, more woman in their form, more flowers in their fancy, more ease in their manners, more influence in their acts and more of everything comely in their policy, than any circle within the sphere of our acquaintance. The married ladies need not suppose themselves overlooked, for all must know that it takes genuine mothers, to raise such daughters."

### ILLNESS OF GEN. SCOTT.

We regret to learn (says the Baltimore Clipper) from our Washington Correspondent, that Major Gen. Scott is lying quite ill at West point, from an attack of chronic diarrhoea, with which he has been troubled ever since his return from Mexico.

Artemas Gould has been elected President of the Mechanics' Bank of Augusta, to fill the place of Mr. A. Sibley, deceased.

Col. T. L. Crittenden, who has been appointed Consul at Liverpool, we are informed, is on his way to enter upon the duties of that office.

### CHOLERA IN PHILADELPHIA.

The Cholera in Philadelphia is abating from the 30th May to 23rd June there were only 54 cases, of which 23 were fatal.

### RAIL ROAD DIVIDEND.

The Charleston Courier of the 28th ult., says the Directors of the South Carolina Rail Road Company, have declared a dividend of \$1 50 per share, exclusive of the Bank dividend.

### Correspondence of the "Keowee Courier."

PONTOTOC, MISS., June 10th, 1849.

Messrs. Editors:—Before leaving "the old South State" I promised to write you, and am now seated to jot down a few of my observations in this quarter, as being more worthy of note than anything I saw in other States through which I have travelled. You perceive by my locality at this time that I have not progressed in my journey according to expectation when I left home. But the reason, I hold, is a very substantial one: that terrible scourge of the human race, the cholera, is making sad havoc of human life all along the valley of the Mississippi River and in Texas, and one has but poor security for life who travels through the infected region. And indeed the inland towns are not free from an occasional case; but these are generally persons who have been infected with the contagion elsewhere, and who get home only to die, or who die on the road home from the markets, as New Orleans, Memphis, &c. It really touches the heart to hear the sad fate of the poor waggons, who have fallen victims on the road side to this direful pestilence, with no kind hand near to do the offices of affections in the last melancholy scene of life, or drop a friendly tear upon the cold sod which covers a husband or a father. Yet notwithstanding the fate of many who have gone before them, you see the roads still plied with waggons, laden with cotton, bound for market. I was in a days ride of Memphis the other day, and in coming back almost every waggoner I met inquired for a waggon ahead, anxious, no doubt, to overtake his fellow-waggoner and get company; so that if they should take the cholera, they would not at least die alone.

"Without a grave, unknelt, uncoffined and unknown."

But although there are few bona-fide cases of Asiatic cholera originating in the inland country, yet there is an epidemic now prevalent here which has some of the symptoms of cholera. It is a diarrhoea of an inflammatory character, and in many cases proves fatal. It has created something of a panic here, and some persons have left the town and gone to the country in consequence. Physicians say that the same causes which produce this disease, would produce cholera, if powerful enough. From this, I take it, that this disease is nothing less than cholera in a modified form. I have never known anything so general, almost every individual being more or less affected with it.

The face of the country here presents an appearance very different from the upper part of South Carolina. The country is new, part of it quite broken and hilly, and generally covered with very rich vegetation. The timber is large and tall, and stands very thick on the ground; here the farmers have great

difficulty in keeping their ground clear of fallen trees. Mr. H— shewed me a white oak on his plantation near this, that would measure 9 feet in diameter at its base. I observed that it was dead, as were also many others in the vicinity that were nearly as large. Upon enquiring the cause, he told me they had been killed by a hailstorm a year or two ago. So it seems they have hail in this country in proportion to the size of the trees. The soil here is rich, so much so that the richest bottom-growth is not unfrequently met with on the summit of the highest hills. The farms generally lie very conveniently for the purposes of tillage, but it is in some of the lower counties in the prairies, that the most beautiful farms are to be seen. Crops look badly and are quite backward.—Farmers are complaining a great deal about the lice eating up the cotton, and some say the crop will be cut short. One of the most distinctive features of this country, perhaps, is the vast quantity of sea-shells that lie scattered all over the country, in the prairies, on the hill sides, and in the beds of water courses. How these shells ever found their way into this back country, I shall not at present undertake to explain. The only hypothesis, however, that is at all satisfactory in relation to them, is, that at some period of the world, this whole country must have been under the dominion of Neptune, and when the sea receded, the shells remained. There are likewise many petrifications of various shapes to be found here. The water is limestone, and in the summer season is quite scarce, as most of the streams dry up entirely. The country is settled up by an industrious and thrifty population, a considerable portion of which are South Carolinians. In short, this is a fine country in an agricultural point of view, and one highly favored by nature, but cursed with a wretched system of legislation, a sketch of which I will give you in my next. In haste, yours, &c.,

VIATOR.

[COMMUNICATED.]

### RETREAT ACADEMY.

An Examination came off on Thursday and Friday, 28th and 29th inst., Exhibition on the last day. A very large audience was present on the occasion. The Pickens Band had been invited and were present. A bountiful picnic was provided in the grove, near the Academy, by the friends of the school. The progress of the students in their several studies was highly satisfactory to their friends. The performances in declamation and in the dialogues, excited much interest in the audience; leaving a happy impression in favor of the cause of education. The meeting was characterized by excellent order—much sociability. At the close of the exercises Rev. Mr. Mullinix, by request, delivered an address to the young men, which was appropriate and highly interesting.

### LIST OF SPEAKERS AND SUBJECTS.

W. T. Goley, Riley S. Honea, F. M. Leathers, Elijah Daltou—Washington's Answer to the French Ambassador.  
John R. Dixon—American Independence.  
J. B. Johns—Public Spirit and Love of Virtue.  
P. S. Kanady—Military Glory.  
Thomas H. Hughes—Self-Conceit.  
B. F. Perry—Dignity of Human Nature.  
C. A. Smithson—No Excellence without Labor.  
W. D. Perry—Influence of Knowledge.  
D. E. Smithson—Importance of the study of History.  
G. W. Fullerton—Education.  
Jas. W. Perry—Eloquence.  
J. C. Fullerton—America.  
ORIGINAL.  
W. R. Harbin—Bad effects of Idleness.  
S. H. Johns—Agriculture.  
E. R. Doyle—Mental Improvement.  
By order of the Trustees.  
E. P. VERNER, Sec'y.

ADVERTISEMENT.—It is said quite often, "O, people do not read advertisements." "Every body knows what we keep." Do they? Here is a case in point. Some friends of ours, who gave us to understand that they consider our notions on this particular subject as little better than moonshine, obstinately refused even to give us the opportunity to prove the truth or falsity of these assertions; consequently, in the kindness of our heart, we gave them the benefit of a couple of squares, free gratis, for nothing at all. But it so happened, whether designedly or not we will not say, that in drawing up the ad-

vertisement we inserted some articles which were not upon their shelves. The constant calls for these very articles became so annoying after a time, that we were requested to suppress the advertisement. We did so, of course; though we could see no reason for suppressing a portion of a column which no body reads.—*Cambridge Chronicle.*

**A FREAK OF NATURE.**—A communication in the Boston Courier, from the late editor in that paper states that Mr. William Carter, of Cambridge, has a healthy and well-formed calf, having a coat of wool instead of hair! There is no perceptible difference in the appearance of the animal's hide from that of a sheep of the same age. Like the sheep, the face and the lower parts of the legs are covered with short and not very pliant hair; the rest of the body has a covering of wool, which, to all appearance, may afford as liberal a fleece as a true Saxon or Merino.

NEW ORLEANS, June 26—2 p. m.

The Matamoras, Texas, paper publishes a document purporting to be a Declaration of Independence from the Northern States of Sierra Madre, Mexico, and we shall probably have some stirring news from that quarter soon.

A rumor prevails that upwards of 72 emigrants from Rapides, La., en route for California, had been attacked this side of the Rocky Mountains, and all, with the exception of six, had been murdered.

The Concordia Intelligencer says that the cotton crop in the Mississippi valley must be remarkably short.

MONUMENT TO THOMAS JEFFERSON.

The Charlottesville Advocate says, the Students of the University of Virginia have determined to erect a monument to Thomas Jefferson, as a token of their respect for his memory and their appreciation of the benefits which they have derived from his labors. They propose to raise the necessary funds by publishing a monthly periodical, to be called the "Jefferson Monument Magazine," and to be edited by a committee of four students, one elected by each of the Literary Societies, and one by the body of the students not connected with the Society.

**THE EX-KING OF THE FRENCH.**—Louis Philippe has not been talked of much lately. You have heard of his poverty and of his debts. I have now in my possession the most indisputable evidence that he is still the richest private individual in the known world. His agent in New-York, M. Lafarge, has bought for him in houses, stocks, shares, &c., producing an annual income of ten millions of francs. It is perfectly useless for any of his friends to deny this fact, perfectly well known on the N. York Exchange.—*Paris Cor. Glasgow Daily Mail.*

CINCINNATI, June 25.

Our city still continues to be in a very unhealthy state, and the number of interments reported by our cemeteries, is frightfully increasing. To-day they reported one hundred and twenty-four burials for the preceding twenty-four hours. Business, of course, is little or nothing thought of—the transactions that are made, are to supply our immediate wants. We have had considerable rain, but the atmosphere is still oppressive.

**COFFEE, A DISINFECTANT.**—It may be well to remind the people, says the Boston Transcript, in these times, that the odor of roasting coffee is the most powerful disinfecting agent. Take a red hot shovel, with a few kernels of coffee upon it, and it will remove entirely the most offensive odor arising from decaying animal or vegetable matter, or from any other source—a fact worth knowing where the cholera prevails. A gentleman who has thoroughly tested this quality in coffee assures us that there is no mistake as to the virtues ascribed.

PHILADELPHIA, June 25—2 p. m.

The extensive importing jewelry establishment of Messrs. Watson & Hildeburn, 76 Market st., was entered between twelve and 1 o'clock yesterday, and robbed of over two hundred gold and silver watches and some one hundred or more gold chains of various descriptions, besides a number of diamond rings, breastpins, pencils, and other valuable jewellery.—The property stolen is estimated at about \$20,000.

The thieves made their way into the building through a sky-light window, and thus went down to the store. They are yet undetected, though the police are in pursuit. The robbery was a bold and daring one.

**GOLD FISH IN THE HUDSON.**—The gold fish, originally from China and hitherto chiefly known in ornamental ponds or glass globes in this country, has become quite naturalized in the Hudson river, near Newburg. Fishermen have caught specimens from eight to ten inches long, both in the Hudson & Matamoras creek. Some were placed in the latter about ten years ago, and they have so multiplied as to fairly stock the creek and river in that vicinity.