

The Seat of the Affections and Dr. Schwartz.

The day begins inauspiciously hotly. The steam bath could not be more prolific of calorific. The day star smokes again. The dog star is raging. August is usually our hottest month of summer. It seems as if, going out, summer is resolved to make herself felt in fiery remembrances. Shuddering at the prospect of the day before us, we are reminded that we have to make a grateful acknowledgment that should have been made several days ago. We have had a rare gift of ice. It was Sunday last, we think, when a dapper Ganymede came to our wigwam, bringing a neat little basket with a neat little napkin over it, and saying, with a pleasant Ethiopian smile, betraying a double row of teeth, white as a shark's, and an immense territory of white of eye, "Col. Shiver's compliments, sir." What was in the basket? Could it be a baby? What do we want with babies in hot weather—in any weather? We were relieved, as the archon added, "And sends you some ice." "Blessings upon Colonel Shiver! Say we thank him from the bottom of our souls!" Thanks for all blessings that come in a lump. We divided the lump in many parts. We put it into various receptacles of food or drink. We made it endure throughout the day. We snapped our fingers at the sun, and kept refreshingly cool in spite of the dog star. We made appeal to the Northern Thor, from the verdicts of Sirius! We overthrew the altars of Capricorn and Cancer—we demolished the goat, we took the claw-made nation, of the latter a rare salad, and, by way of completing our victory, we consumed it, with the last of our ice lumps, a delicious tumbler of punch—Coke furnishing the lemons, Bedell the Bourbon, and Zealy, Scott & Bruns the fort sugar. We finished our day by moonlight, and a capital caber, slept in a sea of delicious fancies, untroubled by a mosquito. Ice is a warmer; ice is a charmer; ice is, doubtless, of all care a disarmer. Percival, the moody poet, who wrote a thousand love verses, yet never ventured to say love to any woman, sings disconsolately of a "lump of ice in the clear cold moon." We prefer a lump of ice in a good large spoon. He compares the aforesaid lump of ice in the moon to "a smiling eye and a broken heart." What nonsense! Ice the similitude of a broken heart. Fiddlesticks! Ice is significant of a healthy stomach, and a healthy stomach is the best sign of a sound heart and an honest conscience. The true seat of the affections is in the stomach, not the heart. Whoever takes cures of the former may be always sure of the integrity of the latter. It deals in the solids. It has a faith in oysters and champagne. It swears perpetual devotion over a bowl of punch; and so far from being chilled by a lump of ice, or even an iceberg, it derives new life from its grateful admixture with sundry of our creature comforts. Once more—our thanks to Col. Shiver; and when he next hath ice to spare, may we suffered still to share. But talking of ice reminds us of a secret for keeping it from waste—a most important secret when the quantity is small and the weather hot as the innermost cavities of Vesuvius and Stromboli. A brother editor tells us that to keep ice from melting you have only to place your lumps, big or little, in a deep vessel—jar or jar—large enough to hold it. You then place the vessel on a well stuffed feather pillow. Yet cover the top with another jar, well stuffed with feathers. Fortais are non-conductors. By this simple plan, Dr. Schwartz states that he has kept six pounds of ice eight days without loss. We should not care to keep so small a quantity quite so long. But there are people who may wish to do so. Let them try the process. You probably know Dr. Schwartz as well as we do. It is to be hoped that you know him better, for we never heard of him before this moment. To determine the value of his authority, try his experiment—and keep in equal cool your ice and temper.

Particulars of the Defeat of Cortinas near Matamoras.

As our readers will remember, the brigade of Gen. Lopez left our city last Saturday, at 10 o'clock, A. M., having in guard a convoy destined for Monterey. Cortinas, who had previously been informed of the matter, and, no doubt, surmising that the convoy contained a large amount of specie, spared no exertions in making preparations to overpower and make himself master of the train. The imperialists had not proceeded many leagues from the city when they came upon a portion of the enemy, who harassed their march, and skirmishing commenced. These skirmishes continued more or less on the way, when our troops were finally attacked by the enemy in force, numbering 600 men, who made several vehement charges on that part of the brigade covering the convoy. The bandits, were, however, bravely repulsed. Finding all their efforts to capture the convoy fruitless, the rage of the bandits became indescribable; and having succeeded in rallying a part of the scattered forces, numbering about 100 men, one of the leaders made another desperate dash on the train, which again proved a failure, the bandits being this time more severely punished than before. After this last attack, the forces of Cortinas became terrified, and being seized by a panic, they broke ranks and fled in all directions, endeavouring if possible to save themselves from being captured. The loss of Cortinas in his several charges was not less than 100. Those of the bandits who fell into the hands of our troops alive were indiscriminately shot. The loss of the imperial forces during the whole of this time was only five or six wounded; most of them slightly. None were killed. Lieut. Salvan, of the imperial army who was so unfortunate as to become separated from the rest of his companions, fell into the hands of the bandits, and was murdered in a most unmerciful manner. The report circulating in our city the past few days, that Cortinas had with him 900 negroes of the Federal army, 400 of whom had either been killed or captured, is a mistake. It is gratifying to state that no such negroes participated in the engagement. The bandits were commanded by Gen. Cortinas, Col. Canales and Coma. The forces of Cortinas having been thus effectually routed, no more apprehension was felt for the safety of the convoy, which continued on its way to Monterey, having been placed by Gen. Lopez in charge of the troops commanded by Col. Finjero and Lieut. Col. Montejano. After these arrangements for the safety of the convoy had been completed, the remainder of the troops under Gen. Lopez recommenced their march to Matamoras, arriving in our city day before yesterday at noon.

Monitor of the President, 22d ult.

A ticket of twenty names, called the Union ticket, is announced as candidates for the Convention from Charleston. Subsequently, the name of Theodore D. Wagner is also announced. The names are as follows: Hon. H. D. Lesesne, Geo. S. Bryan, Hon. A. G. Mackey, James B. Campbell, R. W. Seymour, Col. A. O. Andrews, Daniel Horbeck, F. A. Sawyer, Geo. W. Dingle, G. W. Williams, J. Hart, H. W. Schroeder, D. Barrow, Bernard O'Neill, Rev. J. B. Seabrook, C. R. Brewster, H. J. Moore, R. S. Flamm, G. S. Hacker.

MEETINGS OF A CERTAIN KIND PROHIBITED.—A meeting of the planters of Franklin County, Virginia, in which the wages of negroes and their status as freedmen were under discussion, was thus summarily treated by the United States officer commanding: I am directed by the commanding officer of this district to notify the presiding officers and members of said meeting that their proceedings have been disapproved by him, and that their resolutions, or any part of them, will not be carried into effect.

The commanding general also directs that hereafter no public meeting for the purpose of discussing the status of the freedmen will be permitted in any part of this district; that status having been decided on and announced in proclamations and general orders by the United States Government.

Nor will the citizens of any district or county be permitted to band together for the purpose of agreeing on any certain remuneration for the labor of freedmen, that being in the hands of the Freedmen's Bureau, organized by authority of the Government, the officers of which alone will decide in those matters.

An investigation into charges of mal-administration against Gen. Hatch is about to be made in Charleston. Witnesses are invited to present their testimony.

Is the Atlantic Cable a Failure?

The day, which should have announced to us the union of Europe and America by the telegraphic wire has come and gone with a message of very different import. It cannot be truly said that the news which yesterday reached us was entirely unexpected. Neither here nor in England were the confident anticipations of the telegraphic company thoroughly shared by the general public. All men hoped, indeed, that the experience of the first great attempt to accomplish this mighty undertaking might not be repeated now; but few men felt any positive assurance that the conditions under which the first cable failed to hold and work had been so thoroughly revised and modified as to guarantee the success of the second. Wherever in the world submarine cables have been laid it has been universally found that perfect effective isolation cannot be very long maintained; and to this risk, attendant upon all similar experiments, were added in the case of the trans-Atlantic line the enormous difficulties born of the necessarily immense length of the cable itself, and of the comparatively blind way in which the cable must be laid over a deep-sea bottom imperfectly known, but known at least to be not less craggy and broken than the wildest mountain tracts of either continent; a very Switzerland, in fact, buried beneath the waves of the Atlantic.

Still a great company of capitalists had been found to look all these uncertainties, all these perils, fully in the face, and to risk vast sums of money upon the energy and the science applied to solve the one and to overcome the other; and so the unheeded public, whatever their own doubts and misgivings, were well content to render the bold adventurers the scanty justice of being in the possibility of their triumph.

Shall we still believe, and still hope? The story of the enterprise up to the last moment of which we have any authentic account, forbids a decisive answer to this question, but darkly prognosticates the probable final answer it is destined to receive. It is thus told in the despatches of the Associated Press:

By the Danians, at Weather Point, up to July 29, 12 m., 500 miles of the cable had been payed out, and the electric current was good. By the Cuba, via Queenstown, July 29, 150 miles additional had been paid out, making in all 650 miles. The Danian report is dated 29th ult. Another despatch says that 700 miles had been payed out.

If this last statement be true, the connection must have continued for a further period of eight hours, unless the day ended at midnight. In that case, the accident must have occurred at 8 o'clock, on the morning of the 30th. No account of the accident could possibly be known except on board the Great Eastern. We might as well expect the man struck dead by lightning to tell the cause of his death as to look for an explanation of the misfortune through the cable after it ceased to breathe.

The current flowed up to the last moment, consequently the last pulsation marked its death.

The cable must have been part of as payed out, otherwise no despatches could have passed through. At one moment all is right, the next the current fails. The last end of time which marked a perfect current also, up to that point, marks a perfect cable, and the first moment at its beginning without a current marks the spot where the deflection exists, and that must be either on board of the ship or between the ship and the bottom of the ocean.

Having found the place, can the damage be repaired? This depends on the ability of the cable to support itself in the attempt to raise it.

The cable is intended to be equal to a strain of seven tons. Should the damage be repaired, it cannot take long to accomplish it. If the force fails, it is reasonable to suppose that the cable will return to Ireland and run from the shore end, and, if sufficient cable be found perfect, with that on board of the ship, to reach Newfoundland, a splice would be made, and another attempt begun to accomplish this great enterprise.

The news is damaging, and will disappoint our citizens, but yet it is neither final nor fatal.

In laying the old cable, on one occasion, for more than three hours, no current could be obtained, yet the point of trouble was found and the cable landed, although eventually unsuccessful in its workings.

The Boston Post says that in that State, apothecaries are forbidden to sell medicine Saturday evening that is liable to work on Sunday.

Cotton.

From the various accounts of the quantity of cotton in different parts of the country, we make the following extracts:

The Herald's correspondent, who has lately been through Northern Alabama, states that that region is almost one continuous field of cotton. The planters have given their attention to the business again this year almost as much as in anti-rebellion, and the growing crop looks very fine. The negroes are working for their former masters for wages, and the new labor system appears to progress very well.

COTTON IN TEXAS.

From a recent letter from a prominent and well informed house in Galveston, Texas, we are permitted to take the annexed facts. The writers estimate the stock of cotton now on hand in Texas at 70,000 bales, exclusive of that bordering on Red River and tributary to New Orleans. Their figures are as follows: Stock September 1st, 1861, 75,000 bales, three years crop, 222,000; total, 300,000. Exports direct, 38,000; through Mexico, 100,000; home consumption, 20,000; damaged, 50,000; total, 208,000. Of the growing crops, they say, about three-fourths of an average have been planted, which would give 180,000 to 200,000 bales. The total, therefore, we can expect from Texas, both of the old and new crops, is 270,000 bales. This is exclusive of what reaches the market by way of Red River. All accounts state that there is quite a large quantity of the old crop still along the line of that stream. Of the new crop growing in the Red River country, we have heard nothing as yet.

GEORGIA COTTON AND RICE CROPS.

Late advices from Georgia state that the cotton crop this year will be exceedingly light—not more than one-sixteenth of the average yield. Unless the labor system becomes more settled, it is feared that next year's crop will be even smaller. The rice yield on the Altamaha will scarcely exceed one-fourth of the usual yearly crop, the unreliability of labor having proved ruinous to that delicate product.

A MONTHLY CRISIS OF SUPPLY OF COTTON.

The Mobile Tribune says the amount of cotton in the South is greatly over-estimated in the North. Comparative little cotton has been grown the last two years. Enough for seed and family consumption covers the whole of it. Of the large crop raised prior to the war, very little remains. When the amount destroyed by fire, deterioration by time and exposure, consumed in domestic manufactures and run through the blockade, is considered, an estimate of one million bales for 1865 will more than cover all that will find a market.

Gen. Shelby, with Five Hundred Men, NEAR MONTE REY.—LAWLESSNESS OF CORTINAS, &c.—An officer who accompanied Shelby's party to Mexico arrived at Galveston on the steamer Francis, direct from Matamoras. He came to that place from Monterey, where he left Margarita, Leon Smith, Walker, Sh. Bay, and all the Texans from this State. The party intended going to the city of Mexico, and thence to Vera Cruz, where they would separate. Shelby was accompanied near Monterey, with four or five hundred men. His men were all quiet and orderly, and were not disturbed by the authorities. Shelby had sold his artillery and other plunder, and each of his men had about \$150. Shelby was trying to get a grant of land, or inducements to emigrate. The officer who brought this information was halted by Cortinas and eighty men, about twenty miles from Matamoras. The passengers on the stage were required to remain with him all night. All their papers were examined, and a few taken from them. After a short detention the party was sent on, with the assurance from Cortinas that they were fortunate to have fallen into his hands, as another party a few miles distant would have hung every one of them. The party mentioned by Cortinas were looking for Confederate officers above the rank of colonel, but would have killed them if they had caught them.

[Houston Telegraph, July 27, 65]

GREAT RUSH OF EMIGRANTS TO AMERICA.—Emigration en masse to North America is contemplated by the fifteen thousand Polish refugees now dispersed among the Swiss cantons, and they are in active communication with Washington, through their delegate, Kownalski, about the terms on which they would be received as agricultural laborers in the States. The Helvetic Diet has already voted a subsidy to each emigrant of one hundred and eight francs, and it is expected that the French Government will place some of its transport ships at their disposal for conveyance to their place of destiny. [Paris Cor., London Globe, July 25, 65]

Local Items.

To insure insertion, advertisers are requested to hand in their notices before 2 o'clock p. m.

COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.—The many friends of this institution will be gratified to learn that the exercises will be resumed on Wednesday, first November.

Geo. L. Pratt is the agent in Columbia for the sale and circulation of the Charleston Daily News. The full number of this journal has reached us, a neatly printed paper of the same dimensions and appearance with the Courier. We shall refer to it hereafter more especially.

Still the clock of the hammer on every broad Columbia telegrapher. New buildings go up almost like magic; and if not so brilliant as the palace of Aladdin, they seem to grow up rapidly. In a single day, the vacant lot is covered with a house, and in another day, you behold a flag sign protruding into the street, announcing the completion, such as you'll perceive Alderman Curtis to build and smelt his crops, and some for the year and attempt to beat the best all round—a Pennsylvania bellows new and daily come from the Columbia world, bringing young men down to and up, with a world of business interest in their eyes and at their finger's ends. The competition is growing desperately earnest, and, continuing at this rate, we shall not only get our goods for nothing, but shall soon be asked to be made by one class of our merchants, and to be sold by another. Now, clients may be looked for also, when the contest is at its height, and we note that South-Sea Islanders, Brazil nuts and all the essential of a good dinner are among the articles announced in our advertisements.

THE ADVERTISING BUREAU.—Notices called to the following advertisements, which are published for the next time, including: Willis & Co.—For Advertisers. J. S. Coates—For Advertisers. Zeph. Scott & Co.—For Advertisers. Geo. L. Pratt—For Advertisers. A. M. Phillips—For Advertisers.

The Charleston General Convention article to the collegiate institutions of Charleston—urges the maintenance of the local college—refers to the annual donation, recently, of Mr. Eppstein beyond of \$100,000, engages the High School, but without saying a word of the object of the Henry S. Bruns, the principal beneficiary, to whom it owes so much for its prosperity—and announces the resignation, in November, of the systems of the South Carolina Medical College.

Mayor Gilmore's address in Mexico.—EX-GOVERNOR MURPHY IN A MEXICAN.—A large number of distinguished Confederate names have passed through Monterey for the city of Mexico. Among those steering for the capital are Gen. E. Kirby Smith, Price, Wilson, Magruder, Walker, King, Preston, and Leadbetter. Col. Flannery and O'Bannon; Gov. Allen and ex-Gov. Moore. Still at Monterey are Gen. Shelby, Bee, and Hindman; Col. Leach, Broadwell, and Kelly; Gen. Reynolds, Clark and Murch, (the latter very sick,) and Maj. Watkins and Russell. We regret to announce that the talented and gifted lawyer, Pendleton Murray, late governor of Texas, was on Saturday lying at Monterey dangerously ill. Those with whom we conversed, had very little hope of his recovery. Mr. Murray is a South Carolinian, and was a devoted, honest, patriotic secessionist from the first. He is a man of acknowledged ability.

TROUBLE IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—A misunderstanding between the civil and military authorities of South Carolina has arisen, in consequence of Governor Perry having, in his proclamation, re-appointed the old county officers who were in position under Confederate rule. The sheriff of Charleston has demanded the surrender of the county jail from General Bennett, post commandant, who returned a prompt refusal, stating that South Carolina is still under martial law, and that he will deliver up no property in his charge until ordered to do so by his superior officer. The military generally and the Union men of the State are declared to be indignant over the proclamation. Many considered that Governor Perry had exceeded his power, while others asserted that he was acting in accordance with the President's instructions. Gen. Gilmore has started on an inspecting tour into the interior, and was expected to proceed as far as Columbia and have an interview with the Governor. It is said that the General has recommended to the War Department the retention of a considerable military force in the State for some time yet.—New York Herald.

By a steamboat collision on Lake Huron, a hundred lives are computed to be lost.