

The Gardiner Claim.

The National Intelligencer refutes an erroneous impression that Corcoran & Riggs had a personal interest in the \$90,000 recently handed over by them to the Government as part of the funds received by Gardiner for his fraudulent claim.

When suspicions were aroused as to the fraudulent nature of this claim, Mr. Corcoran was the first to give information to the Government that he held in his fire-proof safe, for safe keeping, these stocks belonging to Gardiner, and also stated where the \$140,000 were deposited in New York.

The whole amount actually received by Gardiner for his three-fourths of the claim was about \$320,000, and it is principally if not entirely, owing to the prompt information given by Mr. Corcoran that the Government has been able to regain a large portion of it as this \$90,000 of stocks and the \$140,000 in New York.

The New Postage Law.

Every person being interested in the amended act of the 3d of March, 1855, in regard to postages, a synopsis of its provisions will not be unacceptible.

Under this law all single letters mailed for any distance not exceeding three thousand miles are to pay three cents, and for any distance exceeding three thousand miles, ten cents.

Half an ounce in weight will constitute a single letter; and double, triple, and quadruple letters to be charged in the same proportion.

All letters must be prepaid, except such as are to or from a foreign country, or those addressed to officers of the Government on official business.

The law is to take effect from and after the next quarter.

After the first of January next the postmasters are to affix stamps upon all prepaid letters upon which none are placed by the writers.

A registration of valuable letters is required to be made upon the payment of a fee of five cents in addition to the prepaid postage, but the Government will not be responsible for the loss of any registered letter or packet.

The franking privilege is to remain as heretofore.

Sealing postage stamps for a larger sum than their marked value is to be punished as a misdemeanor.

The London New Monthly Magazine publishes a letter purporting to be written in the tranches before Sebastopol by Tom Pepper to his Fanny Green, which is quite punckery. We give an extract:

The war's going on with us at a swimming pace. The chief officers have been divided into three divisions; one division's dead, one's sick and one lying in mud, under damp blankets (the water-cure system is going upon here), and the third has hooked it and gone home.

The same with the food; they indulge us with one entire meal per diem. To day we have dinner (raw pork and wet biscuit); yesterday it was a supper (raw pork and wet biscuit); the day before breakfast (raw pork and wet biscuit). Our tents have been ingeniously contrived to let in and retain the rain, so that we have the luxury of a perpetual shower and cold vapor bath; but we cannot try, as we will, get the water to remain more than three inches above ground, so that when we lie down in it at night we are not quite covered.

SOUTHERN ENTERPRISE.



GREENVILLE, S. C.

Friday Morning, March 16, 1855.

AGENTS.

E. W. CARR, N. W. cor. of Walnut and Third-st. Philadelphia, is our authorized Agent.

A. M. PEDEN, Fairview P. O., Greenville Dist. Wm. C. BAILEY, Pleasant Grove, Greenville.

THE FIRE COMPANY.

The engine, belonging to our village, and which has been for a time at the shops of Messrs. GOWENS, COX & Co., was brought out and exercised by the company attached to it, on Saturday evening last. It has been completely repaired, and appears handsomely as "Neptune, No. 1." With such a company, and with such an engine, we think the fiery element could be successfully managed.

WIND AND FIRE.

On Friday last occurred one of the most disagreeable and oppressive wind storms we have ever known. From all parts of the county we hear of fires originating from sparks thrown by the wind to distant places.

Our village in different portions of it was several times in danger of being burned. The steam saw Mill of Messrs. GOWENS, COX & MARBLE was observed to be on fire one time but was fortunately discovered in time to prevent its further progress.

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NEW CHURCH IN PETERSBURG.—The Petersburg (Va.) Intelligencer says that workmen have commenced laying the foundation of a new Episcopal Church, (St. Paul's) on Union street, in Petersburg.

Correspondence of the Enterprise.

LETTER FROM COLUMBIA.

COLUMBIA, March 15, 1855.

Dear Sir:—On Monday last, Judge O'NEAL delivered his opinion in the case of "Commissioners of State Capitol vs J. D. ASHBOURNE, Comptroller General." His Honor decided that Col. BENDS, Prof. McCAY, and Dr. GOODWIN are bona fide Commissioners to superintend the erection of the new State House; and an absolute mandamus was issued requiring the Comptroller to pay to the order of said Commission all drafts upon the Treasury to the amount of unexpended appropriation.

A GERMAN FAMILY were recently poisoned by eating raw bacon ham. Two of them, a wife and her child, are dead, and the third person also an adult, is not expected to recover. Hams are not infrequently poisoned by the means employed to preserve them, but the poison is drawn out in the act of boiling—this mode of cooking them, then is regarded the safest.

Since Tuesday the woods around Columbia have been burning and great damage done. At night the red glare of burning trees illuminated the horizon, and Columbia appeared encircled with fire.

We were exceedingly well pleased with the editorial on the "Know Nothings and Americanism" which appeared in the last "Enterprise." It reflects our views faithfully in most respects.

The College Catalogue is out at last.—From it we glean the following intelligence that may be interesting to some of your readers: Whole No. of Students, 195. No. of Graduating Class, 69. No. that left College in 1854, 27. No. marked "meritorious" at December examination 1854, 73. No. of Students from Greenville District, 0.

When the Rail Roads through and to this place are completed which are now under contract new life and increased prosperity will be given to the trade of the village and instead of being a "one horse Town" as it is often unjustly called will become a handsome city.

The population of Anderson seems to be of a high and orderly character, and he is said to their praise that out of the large concourse thronging the Public Square to day, scarcely a man can be found intoxicated.

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It is to be hoped that such may continue to be the case on public days and that the good citizens of the adjoining districts will follow such a commendable example of order and sobriety.

Yours Respectfully, BENNINGTON.

For the Southern Enterprise. To write—or not to write, "that is the question." Whether it is nobler in the mind to suffer The wrongs and resentful of mankind— "Or to take" my pen against a multitude of errors.

Yours truly, BAYARD.

LETTER FROM ANDERSON C. H.

ANDERSON C. H., March 13,

W. P. PIERCE, Editor of the Enterprise:

Dear Sir:—The Court of Common Pleas for Anderson District is in Session this week, Judge WARBLAW presiding.

There is a good deal of business in Court, and several interesting Cases to be tried.—There are not many cases on the Sessions Docket, or at least but few bills of indictment have as yet been handed out to the Grand Jury. There was a case of an assault and battery taken up yesterday which occupied the time of the Court until late in the night in the examination of the witnesses.

The assault and battery occurred at a muster ground a few minutes after Col. Ours had made a warm and enthusiastic political speech and Mr. Sol. REX in his argument to the Jury remarked that the defendant wrongfully exhibited the feelings the Col. had evinced in his bosom by his speech, and as he felt like fighting, and no enemy being near upon whom he could war, he pounced upon one of his own fellow citizens in a manner which would have done him infinite honor had he been battling against an enemy of his country on the gory field of strife.

The Solicitor did not admire such exhibitions of courage towards a fellow countryman, and in a country too, renowned for her laws and the peacefulness of her citizens.

charge alleged. The testimony both in favor of the prosecution and defense was very conflicting and presented fully the uncertainty of human evidence.

It is but seldom that two witnesses exactly agree in their version of an affair of this kind, though they may both be standing together, and equally disinterested towards the parties.

Last night I was awake from my slumbers by a band of Music in the public square. It sounded sweetly in the stillness of the night, and the tune they played, (a national air Yankee-Doodle) never fails to recall to mind the stirring scenes of the revolution as impressed by the graphic pen of the historian, and to thrill with patriotic emotions the bosom of every true American.

Gradually the sound of music died away in the distance, and a death-like stillness reigned around.

I learned next morning that a large concourse of the citizens of the village and country headed this band and marched from the public square to the residence of Col. Ours to welcome him back to his native place, and express their approbation of his course in Congress during the last Session.

Col. Ours replied, and gave a brief review of his course in Congress during the last Session, and returned them his thanks for this renewed evidence of their respect towards him.

Well may the citizens of Anderson be proud of such a man as Col. Ours. His speech on the French Spoilation Bill prove, him to be true to the trust reposed in him and his clear exposition of the attempted fraud upon the Public Treasury shows that he has enlarged and statesman-like views, and great powers of demonstration and analysis.

The area great many new buildings, in progress of erection in various parts of this village which bespeak the flourishing condition of the place.

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And by writing end them—to write, to publish, perchance to be reviewed and criticised, ay, there's the rub: "For in that" review what criticisms "may come." When we have "shuffled" into the newspaper our crude cogitations, "Must give us pause." There's the respect! That makes writing "of so long calamity!" "For who would bear the whips and sneers of critics.

The reviewer's thrusts, "the proud man's contumely."

The pangs of unred pieces, the printer's hotches, "The insolence of office" holders, and the sprays "That impatient scribblers must of a reading community take.

"When he himself might his quietus make," By laying down his pen.

"Thus fear makes "cowards of us all," "And thus the native" intellect of genius is sickled o'er with the pale east of doubt, And authors "of great pitch and moment," "With this regard" their productions throw away, "And lose the name of" writers.

A Wandering Typo.

We received last evening the Maryville (California) Express, a large, elegantly printed and well filled newspaper. One of its proprietors is Geo. W. Bloor a printer whose fortunes have been even more varied than those of his class of artisans.

Mr. Bloor is a man of very decided natural talent, fine good humor, eminent social qualities; and we wish him all manner of good fortune on the Pacific.

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The Magnet and Cold.

History informs us that many of the countries of Europe which now possess very mild winters, at one time experienced severe cold during this season of the year. The Tiber at Rome was often frozen over, and snow at one time lay for forty days in that city.

The cause of these changes is an important inquiry. A pamphlet by John Murray, civil engineer, has recently been published in London, in which he endeavors to account for these changes of climate by the changeable position of the magnetic poles.

The magnetic variation or declination of the needle is well known. At the present time it amounts in London to about 23 degrees, West of North, while 1659 the line of no variation passed through England, and then moved gradually west until 1816.

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Facts in Human Life.

The number of languages spoken in the world amounts to 3065—587 in Europe, 895 in Asia, 276 in Africa, an 1264 in America. The inhabitants of the globe profess more than 1000 different religions.

The number of men is about equal to the number of women. The average of human life is about 28 years. One quarter die previous to the age of seven years; one half before reaching 17; and those who pass this age enjoy a facility refused to one half the human species.

After Dinner enjoyment of a Roman Emperor. Caligula must have been a most unpleasant person to dine with. He entertained himself and guests with the sight of men tortured on the rack, and he got up private executions on these occasions to enliven the scene.

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Blue Beard was the wisest of Quaker gentlemen compared with this Caligula. A lady might as well have been wooed by a bouconstritor.

From the Journal of Commerce. Thomas Paine.

Is a recent article on the celebration of Thomas Paine's birth day, we alluded to Grant Thorburn as a living witness of his dissolute and disgusting habits. The last New York Observer contains a letter from Mr. Thorburn, written on his eighty-third birthday, February 18, and dated at Watford, Connecticut, where he expects to pass his remaining days.

He married a respectable lady, who died eleven months thereafter, in consequence of brutal treatment. He then married a daughter of the Collector of the Port of Lewis; after three years she obtained a divorce for the like treatment.

In 1773, while he held an office in the custom-house, (given him by his father-in-law) he was detected in taking from the smugglers and fled to America. He was made Secretary to the private Committee of Congress, and took an oath of office to keep their secrets. He broke this oath by divulging the project of a secret mission to the Court of France by Silas Dean. He was dismissed with disgrace. (See the Journal of Congress in 1774 '5.) This treachery was the cause of much trouble in Congress; and in the Court of Louis XVI.

He next fled to Paris, helping Robespierre in his labors of love to establish the freedom of the press, and the right of speech, by means of the guillotine. He quarrelled with Robespierre, and was chalked for guillotine. God, willing to make the wrath of Paine to praise Him, sent an angel who delivered him out of prison. (For particulars of this miracle, see the Life of Thorburn, 101st page.)

In 1801, when King Thomas the First ascended the throne of his kingdom, he instantly dispatched a national frigate to convey to our shores the regenerated Thomas Paine. He arrived early in the year 1802. I spoke with him at the City Hotel, Bowery, a few hours after his arrival. He found letters urging him on to Washington, (then a four days' journey.) He started next morning.—At Georgetown a messenger was sent forward to announce his approach; a feast was got ready, and all those of like thinking were invited. Paine entered late, his shirt unwashed, his beard unshorn, and reeling like a drunken man. A lock of consternation—none forth on every face; mirth ceased; one by one they went out, leaving Paine alone on his chair fast asleep. Next day he received letters and instructions to return to New York.

When Aaron Burr returned from Europe whither he fled after his duel with Hamilton, he kept his office in Nassau street near my seed-store. From him I received the account above stated.

Paine, on his return, was unable to find lodgings. Carver took him in for an old acquaintance sake. He died at Greenwich of delirium tremens in 1809.

Origin of Phrases.

He's cut a Dido! It is told in history, that Dido, a Queen of Tyre, about 870 years before Christ, fled from that place on the murder of her husband, and with a colony settled on the North coast of Africa, where she built Carthage. Being in want of land, she bargained with the natives for as much land as she could surround with a bull's hide. Having made the agreement, she cut the bull's hide into thin strings, and tying them together, claimed as much land as she could surround with the long line she had thus made. The natives allowed the cunning Queen to have her way, but when anybody played off a sharp trick they said he "cut a Dido," and the phrase has come to our day.

He's caught a Tartar! In some battle, between the Russians and the Tartars, who are a wild sort of people in the North of Asia, a private soldier called out, "Captain, hold on there, I've caught a Tartar!" Fetch him along then, said the captain. "Aye but he won't let me! said the man; and the fact was, the Tartar had caught him. So, when a man thinks to take another in and gets bit himself, they say, He's caught a Tartar."

Carrying the war into Africa. In one of the famous wars between Carthage and Rome, about two thousand five hundred years ago, Hannibal, the Carthaginian leader, and one of the most wonderful men of antiquity, led his army into Italy, and for several years continued to threaten the city, and lay waste the surrounding country.—Scipio, a Roman general, saw the necessity of getting rid of Hannibal, and his forces. So he determined to lead an army into Africa, and threaten Carthage; and thus make it necessary for Hannibal to return home for his defence. The scheme had the desired effect; and in all time this retreating upon an enemy, by adopting his own tactics, is called "carrying the war into Africa."

Prohibitive Law Stamps.—The following is the list of States that have enacted laws entirely prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage:

Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, Michigan, Wisconsin, Connecticut, Indiana and Illinois.