

# The Sumter Banner.

DEVOTED TO SOUTHERN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY, NEWS, LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE AND THE ARTS.

WILLIAM LEWIS, } PROPRIETORS.  
JOHN S. RICHARDSON, JR., }

"God and our Native Land."

TERMS—\$2 IN ADVANCE

VOL. VIII.

SUMTERVILLE, S. C., MAY 3, 1854.

NO. 27.

## THE SUMTER BANNER

IS PUBLISHED  
Every Wednesday Morning  
BY  
Lewis & Richardson.

**TERMS,**  
TWO DOLLARS in advance. Two Dollars and Fifty Cents at the expiration of six months or Three Dollars at the end of the year. No paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid, unless at the option of the Proprietor. Advertisements inserted at SEVENTY-FIVE Cents per square, (12 lines or less,) for the first, and half that sum for each subsequent insertion. (Official advertisements the same each time.) The number of insertions to be marked on all Advertisements or they will be published until ordered to be discontinued, and charged accordingly. ONE DOLLAR per square for a single insertion. Quarterly and Monthly Advertisements will be charged the same as a single insertion, and sent monthly the same as new ones.

### Highly Important Treaty With England.

Our private advices brought by the Europa are of a very important character. They inform us that, while General Pierce, Secretary Marcy, Caleb Cushing, and the other members of the Cabinet were engaged in the distribution of the spoils, and in turning clerks and tide waiters out of the custom houses, Mr. Buchanan, our Minister to the Court of St. James, employed his time in preparing for the great struggle that is on the eve of bursting forth throughout Europe.

We learn that either the Herrmann, from Southampton, or the America, from Liverpool—the next steamers due—will bring the draft of a convention concluded between Mr. Buchanan and Lord Aberdeen, on behalf of their respective governments, by which England submits, in the approaching European war, the doctrine that the flag covers both ship and cargo, and that free ships make free goods; also renouncing the right of search for the impressment of seamen so far as American vessels are concerned, and conceding the restriction as to the law of blockade.

In return, the United States is pledged to strict neutrality and non-interference in the coming contest between the Western Powers and Russia.

This is a most important convention, and has been negotiated by Mr. Buchanan without instruction from Washington. It is important as it affects our rights and our commerce, and places us in the position that we should have occupied years and years ago.—It secures our neutrality without any treaty stipulations, as it removes the cause of war, and at once enables us to become the great carrier on the seas of the world.

Mr. Buchanan has achieved a diplomatic triumph; and his success exhibits its importance to the country, of having able men to represent us abroad. In 1812 the doctrine of the right of search led to the war with Great Britain. The treaty of Ghent left the matter unsettled. In 1818 Lord Castlereagh unsuccessfully endeavored to obtain our consent to the doctrine by special treaty stipulations; but it continued unsettled. When Messrs. Webster and Ashburton were arranging the treaty at Washington, in 1842, all reference to the doctrine was studiously avoided for fear of a rupture in the negotiations at that time.

But now, in the face of the impending war in Europe, and in the necessity of our neutrality in this tremendous struggle, the great principles for which we have for a half a century contended are obtained. The recent debates in the British Parliament show the reluctance with which the concessions were made. To that part relative to the rights of our sailors, we desire to call the especial attention of the New York Chamber of Commerce.

The convention, and the correspondence connected with it, will probably be submitted to the Senate as soon as received, for the immediate action of that body.

ask of having the neck broken, and the painful feeling of excessive sleepiness, obliged to be borne without the hope of relief. The contrivance of Mr. Hammit consists of a seat placed in the same position in the cars as the present style of seats usually occupy. It is made, however, on the reclining principle, and its occupant, by moving a simple knob, can throw himself back in a recumbent posture, without any other exertion than moving his hand. The backward movement of the seat throws up a padded leg-rest, and the traveller is then to all intents and purposes reclining on a luxurious lounge, with the single exception that he has no pillow. But this difficulty Mr. H., has also overcome. Each seat is furnished with a sliding, self-adjusting head-rest, which can be moved without the slightest trouble, so as to suit the stature or caprice of the traveller.—These rests are made to conform to the shape of the head, and being covered with velvet, and nicely padded, they form a very comfortable pillow. This entire arrangement is neat, compact, simple and effective, and will excite every taste. The machinery by which the desirable object of converting a seat into a coach is effected, is so simple in its construction, and is made upon such correct mechanical principles, that its becoming deranged or broken with ordinary usage is almost impossible.

These seats we learn have been introduced into the night cars on the Baltimore and Philadelphia Railroad, and have given the fullest satisfaction. We are also informed that the patent seats have been or are about to be introduced upon the Wilmington and Raleigh and the Wilmington and Manchester Railroads. Indeed, we learn some of them have already been put on the Manchester road, and are all that is claimed of them. If so, there can be no question of their general adoption in cars running at night.

*Wilmington Journal.*  
DESPERATE ENCOUNTER ON THE STEAMER S. F. J. TRAUBER.—We have often heard of meeting a murderer on the high seas, but seldom have to record such scenes of violence as occurred on the steamer S. F. J. Trauber, on the Mississippi river, during her recent trip from New Orleans. As is usual at this season of the year, the boat was crowded with passengers, chiefly flatboatmen from the Wabash and coalboatmen from Pittsburg.—Among the latter was a set of turbulent, quarrelsome men, who were about half drunk when they got on the boat at New Orleans, and had a fight or two among themselves, before the boat left port. Captain Tucker was notified by a friend, who recognised one or two of the men, that he would have trouble with them, and they would try to take the boat.

Soon after the boat was under way, and before she had proceeded many miles up the river, one of the Pittsburg coal boatmen attacked a Wabash man who was quiet and peaceable, and had said nothing to him, and he knocked him down and beat him dreadfully. Two of his friends interfered to save him from further ill usage, when they were beset and nearly beaten to death, and one of them had his arm broken by a blow of an axe in the hands of one of the rioters. The deck was open, and another passenger, a small man, stepped up after the first fray and called for a drink. While he was in the act of drinking, a burly fellow, a bully among the coal boatmen, stepped up and seized him by the neck, choked him, and threw him to the deck as if he were a chicken, and then stamped on him. He was sufficed to get up, and as soon as he regained his feet he drew a knife and inflicted a terrible wound in the big man's breast, which placed him on his back during the rest of the trip, and on the arrival of the boat he was sent to the infirmary.

Not long after this occurrence, the coal boatmen became perfectly wild with liquor, or their anxiety for a fight, and were heard to swear that they would take the boat and do as they pleased. The deck was crowded with passengers, and the quiet and orderly man who had just been beaten, was determined to quell the riot, and summoned his crew, among whom were twenty-one Spaniards, and arming them with short clubs, hatchets, and whatever weapons he could, he marched to the lower deck and endeavored to restore order, and put the rioters on shore. The rioters laughed at him, and one big fellow shook his fist under his nose and defied the whole crew. The Spaniards, in solid phalanx, armed with a club and a long knife, were ordered to advance and seize the ringleader. Then ensued a scene of strife and confusion seldom seen on the Mississippi. The Spaniards, however, were victorious, and managed to secure four of the ringleaders who were tied neck and

and, and peace was at once restored. The chief of the mob was not caught, and for several days could not be found and it was thought that he, together with four or five others, had jumped overboard and either drowned or swam ashore. Several of the cabin passengers aver that they distinctly saw three or four men in the river, and as the affair occurred soon after the boat left New Orleans it was impossible to tell who was lost.

During the melee, a coal boatman of the name of Blakely, was much hurt and dangerously stabbed in the rear. He was taken care of by the officers of the boat, and sent to the hospital. The mate of the Trauber received a cut in the head from a knife, which he caught just as one of the mutineers made a lunge at him. The four that were arrested were put off of the boat soon after the affair was quelled, and when the boat was in the neighborhood of Milliken's Bend, the big fellow that had been missing, was found, and was forthwith set ashore. He had been secreted under the cylinder timbers. No further outbreak occurred during the trip, though many threats were made just before the boat reached port.—The discipline of the Spaniards, and the determination of the officers of the boat, put an effectual stop to the lawlessness of the coal boatmen.

*Louisville Courier.*  
**Forced Blossoms.**  
"No danger of Harry's making himself ill with study; and as he will learn, I shall let him. He is head in all his classes, and his teacher tells us that the boy is really a genius. He came yesterday for permission to commence French lessons—but as he had a long task in Latin, I hesitated."  
"How old is Harry, sister?"  
"Nine last month; and for a boy of his age, I must say he is doing uncommonly well. He has gone through Blake's Philosophy, and now is delighted with an abridgement of Ward's Moral Science. I confess I do not understand it all myself; but he must, for he repeats chapter after chapter without missing a word. There are boys in his class seventeen and eighteen years old. Why what are you doing Laura?"  
"Her sister was busily employed and did not look up at first. As the conversation progressed, she seemed quite unconscious that she had taken a waxen lid from a rich cluster of tube-roses, that stood in a vase upon the table before her—and had forced the pure petals outward, until the bud became a blossom."  
"Is it not beautiful?" said she giving it to her sister; "and out so long before the rest?"  
"Yes, very beautiful just now; but how long do you think it will stay so? It droops a ready, why could you not let it be till it was developed naturally?"  
"The remark was just—beautiful as it was at first, the petals soon became brown, then shrivelled. Its freshness and fragrance were fast passing away. Just then a fine little fellow came into the room, and taking a book from the centre table, threw himself languidly upon the sofa, and brushed his back the wavy hair from a full, pale forehead, commenced reading very intently."  
"Why do you not go and play with your cousins, Harry?" said his mother.  
"Oh, they are so rude, so noisy. I mean I am in a hurry to finish this, too;" and the boy's eyes were once more fastened upon the page before him.

His mother smiled, well pleased at his studiousness; but his aunt looked grave, and pointed to his flushed cheek, and the peculiar brilliancy of his eyes. "He needs exercise; you should insist upon his going out," said she. "I do not wish to alarm you needlessly, but you will find the truth of your own words," and she held up the withering blossom.

"Beautiful just now; but how long think you it will stay so. It droops already; why could you not let it be until it develops naturally?"  
"Harry," said his mother, starting as if a new light had flashed upon her mind, "I insist that you go into the air, for half an hour at least. You can finish your book this evening."  
She had seen the justice of her sister's delicate reproof; and we trust that if this little paragraph falls under the notice of parents who are given to the "forcing system," they also may be warned in time. Harry is not an imaginary example, neither is he a solitary instance where the mind is suffered to develop itself at the expense of the physical powers.

A boy who was sent to inquire how an old lady named Wilkins was in health, said to her servant,  
"Missus wants to know how old Missus Wilkins is, today," to which the latter replied, "She is just 74 today."

### Remarkable Trees.

**THE SACK TREE.**—There is said to be a tree in Bombay called the sack tree, because from it may be stripped very singular natural sacks, which resemble "felt" in appearance.

**THE TALLOW TREE.**—This tree is found in China. It is called the tallow tree, because a substance is obtained from it resembling tallow, and which is used for the same purpose.—It grows from twenty to forty feet in height.

**LACE BARK TREE.**—In the West Indies is found a tree, the inner bark of which resembles lace, or net-work.—This bark is very beautiful, consisting of layers, which may be pulled out into a fine white web, three or four feet wide. It is sometimes used for ladies' dresses.

**THE BREAD FRUIT TREE.**—This tree is found on the islands of the Pacific Ocean. The trunk rises to the height of thirty or forty feet, and attains the size of a man's body. The fruit grows about the size of a child's head. When used for food it is gathered before it is fully ripe, and baked among ashes, when it becomes a wholesome bread, and, in taste, somewhat resembles fresh wheat bread.

This is a very useful tree to the natives; for besides its fruit, which supplies them with food, its trunk furnishes timber for their houses and canoes; its gum which exudes from it serves as pitch for the vessels, and from the fibres of the inner bark a cloth is made to cover their persons.

**THE IVORY NET-TREE.**—The ivory net tree is properly called the Tagua plant, and is common in South America. The tree is one of the numerous family of figs, but belonging to the order designated as screev pine tribe. The natives use their leaves to cover their cottages, and from the nuts make buttons, and various other articles.

In an early state, the nuts contain a sweet milky humor, which afterward assumes a softness nearly equal to ivory, and will admit of a high polish. It is known as ivory nut, or vegetable ivory, and has recently been brought into use for various purposes.

**THE CANNON-BALL TREE.**—Among the plants of Guinea, one of the most curious is the cannon-ball tree. It grows to the height of sixty feet, and its flowers are remarkable for beauty and fragrance, and contradictory qualities. Its blossoms are of a delicious crimson, appearing in large bunches, and exhaling a rich perfume.

The fruit resembles enormous cannon-balls, hence the name. However, some say it has been so called because of the noise which the balls make in bursting. From the shell, domestic animals are made, and the contents contain several kinds of acids, besides sugar and gum, and furnishing the materials for making an excellent drink in sickness. But, singular as it may appear, this pulp, when in a perfectly ripe state, is very filthy, and the odour from it is exceedingly unpleasant.

**THE SORROWFUL TREE.**—Near Bombay, India, there is a singular vegetable—the sorrowful tree—so called because it only flourishes in the night. At sunset, no flowers are to be seen; and yet, half an hour after, it is quite full of them. They yield a sweet smell, but the sun's power begins to shine upon them, then some of them fall off; and on its close up; and thus it continues flowering in the night all the year.

**THE COW TREE.**—This tree is a native of Venezuela, South America. It grows on rocky situations, high up in the mountains. Baron Von Humboldt gives the following description of it:  
"On the barren flank of a rock, grows a tree with dry and leathery leaves; its huge woody roots can scarcely penetrate into the stony soil. For several months in the year, not a single shower moistens its foliage. Its branches appear dead and dried; yet, as soon as the trunk is pierced, there flows from it a sweet and nourishing milk."  
"It is at sunrise that this vegetable fountain is most abundant. The natives are then seen hastening from all quarters, furnished with large bowls to receive the milk, which grows yellow, and thickens at the surface. Some drain their bowls under the tree, while others carry home the juice to their children; and you might fancy, as the father returned home with the milk, you saw the family of a shepherd grazing around, and receiving from him the production of his kine."  
"The milk obtained by incision made in the trunk is tolerably thick, free from acidity, and of an agreeable and balsmy savor. It was offered to us in the soil of a calabash tree. We drank a considerable quantity of it in the evening, before we went to bed, and very early in the morning, without experiencing the slightest injurious effect."

**THE ASSASSINATION OF THE DUKE OF PARMA.**—The most important news from Italy which we announced yesterday, was the assassination of the duke of Parma. All the intelligence which we can gather of the occurrence is this, that the Duke was attacked in the street on Sunday evening, March 27th, at half past five o'clock. The assassin having plunged a knife into his abdomen, wounding it, it is supposed the stomach, fled and escaped, and yet remains undetected. The Duke died on the afternoon of the next day.

Ferdinand, Charles III, Joseph Maria, Vittoria Balthazar de Bourbon, Duke of Parma, Placentia, &c., infant of Spain, was the long name and title of the defunct prince. He was borne on the 14th January, 1823, and was, consequently, thirty-one years of age at his death. He succeeded his father upon his abdication in 1849, in the Duchy of Parma. He was connected by marriage with the French Bourbons. His wife was the daughter of the Duke de Berry, who was assassinated at the opera in Paris, and accordingly sister to the Duke de Chambord, called by the French legitimists, Henry V., of France. The duke leaves four children, the second of whom, his son Robert Charles, &c., who is only six years old, succeeds him. During his minority, his mother will be regent.

Baron Ward, who was the prime minister and favorite of the late Duke has been ordered to quit the country. He is an English adventurer, and his life is full of strange contrasts and alternating fortunes. He was originally a common groom, and was promoted by the royal Duke from the stables to the cabinet.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

**THE GOLD FIELDS OF THE WORLD.**—Gold abounds, to a greater or less extent, in almost every country. It has been found in small quantities in Spain, Portugal, Sweden, the Germanic States, Turkey, and even in England. The produce of the Russian gold mines is from fifteen to twenty millions of dollars annually. Besides Australia, Borneo, New Guinea, and New Zealand, it has also been discovered in considerable quantities in and about the Chaudiere River, in Lower Canada.

The eastern gold region of the United States is considered as beginning in Virginia, extending through North Carolina, along the northern part of the Piedmont, and thence northwesterly into Alabama terminating in Tennessee. The diggings are supposed to be pretty well worked, although productive at times. In 1843, \$1,200,000 was dug from the gold mines in Virginia. The west coast of America, both north and south of the equator, is perhaps the region having the greatest number of gold deposits. The precious metal is found in considerable quantities in all the South American States. Gold is procured also from various parts of Africa, to the amount probably of \$250,000 yearly. It is estimated that the total stock of gold and silver bullion now in circulation is twenty-five millions of dollars.

**HOVELY TRUTHS FOR WIVES.**—Although your husband may neglect to give you a good dress, do not seek revenge by giving him a good dressing. Do not hesitate between the choice of an expensive mantle and your husband's affection; the former may be dear to your back, but the latter should be dearer to your bosom.

Should your husband bring a friend home to partake of the remains of yesterday's beef, do not be churlish, but let a warm smile season the cold repast.

Prefer country rambles to town lounges; the colors of the rose are brighter than the hues of silks, and the dewdrops outline the jeweller's gems. Never deny your husband the pleasure of smoking the cigar by the fire-side is the domestic cabinet of peace.

Be careful in buying the cup which cheers, but not inebriates; strong tea is better than weak arguments.

The hand which was pledged at the altar is not disgraceful in sewing on a button; and, remember—as you sow so shall you reap.

**CORROS IS KING.**—Charles Dickens, in a late number of his "Household Words," after enumerating the striking facts in relation to Cotton, says:  
"Let any social or physical convulsion visit the United States, and England would feel the shock from Land's End to John O'Groat's. The lives of nearly two millions of our countrymen are dependent upon the cotton crops of America; their destiny may be said, without any sort of hyperbole, to hang upon a thread."  
"Should any dire calamity befall the land of cotton, a thousand of our merchant ships would rot idly in dock; ten thousand mills must stop their busy looms, and two million mouths would starve for lack of food, to feed them."

*Evening News.*

**RAIL ROAD ACCIDENT.**  
*Editors Courier:*—Gentlemen:—On Tuesday morning, the 18th inst., the morning train from Petersburg to Weldon, met with a terrible accident the particulars of which are as follows:  
At about twenty-five miles from Weldon, a passenger car was thrown off the rails, the locomotive killing two cows, which ran over the lines just before the train came along in speed, before it could be stopped. The bottom of the car next to the baggage car, broke literally into pieces, and the passengers, ten or twelve in number, fell through it, all of them bruised, and their clothes torn into patches. One, however, did not escape as well as his fellow-sufferers. He is an agent of Adams' Express Company. His left leg and arm, were entirely broken, and otherwise bruised very badly. The Conductor was dragged along by the detached locomotive and baggage cars more than twenty yards, and miraculously escaped, even without serious bruises. The man with his broken limbs was sent back to Petersburg; when we saw him he was very calm, but he pressed his hand to his head, and said: I feel death is coming. There was a physician in the same car, who fell also through, and he too, was seriously bruised. He had a young negro boy, who was tied to the first seat near the platform, who despite of his fall did not hurt him at all.

It seems to us that the bottom of the car was rotten, else it might have resisted the shock, as we who were in the next car to that one which broke, scarcely felt the shock.

**AN EYE WITNESS.**  
**TRAGICAL SCENE.**—Mr. editor: As I have seen no published account of the following strange and heart-rending scene, I take the liberty of sending you a brief sketch, as related to me by my brother-in-law (who resides in Wau-paca Co., Wisconsin, and in the same neighborhood) a day or two previous to my leaving the State, which was about two weeks ago.

A farmer sold a yoke of oxen to an individual in the neighborhood, and received his pay in paper money. The man who purchased the oxen, being in a hurry to start off, requested the farmer to assist him in yoking them up. He accordingly went to the yard with the men for that purpose, leaving the money lying on the table. On his return to the house, he found his little child had taken the money from the table, and was in the act of kindling the fire in the stove with it. From the impulse of the moment, he lit the child a slap on the side of the head, so hard as to knock it over; and, in the fall, it struck its head against the stove with such force as to break its skull.

The mother, who was in the act of washing a small child in a tub of water, in an adjoining room, on hearing the fracas, dropped the child, and ran to the room whence the noise proceeded—and was so much terrified at what she there beheld, that she forgot the child in the tub for a time, and upon her return to the room found the little one drowned! The husband after a few moments reviewing the scene before him, seeing two of his children dead, without further reflection, he took down his gun and blew his own brains out!—*Clearland Leader, C. F.*

The town of Quechola, Mexico, has been the theatre of a frightful tragedy. On Sunday the 29th of January, Don Jose Arenas gave a dance, at which was present a large company from Quechola and the neighboring villages. All were so pleased that they agreed to have another on the 31st. At this a still larger company assembled, and still greater gaiety prevailed. After 11 o'clock at night the ladies were invited to go to the supper room, and threw aside their mantles for that purpose. As they were passing through a passage which led to that room, one of them fell dead from the stroke of a dagger; the murderer was the master of the house himself, Arenas.

The shriek of the victim and the sight of the crime, produced the wildest confusion. All attempted to seize the criminal; but he, armed with a dagger and a six barreled pistol, placed his back to the wall and defended himself desperately. Among others, he wounded the son of the slain lady. Suddenly, however, finding it impossible to escape, he applied the pistol to his mouth and blew out his own brains. It seems that the lady and he were adversaries in a law suit of much importance, and that, on her having the impudence to show herself in her adversary's house, he had in his rage committed the crime.—*Ex. Paper.*

For the space of 500 years physicians were prohibited in Rome. The city was never more healthy than during that period.

**THE PROPERTIES OF TEA.**—A writer in Blackwood's Magazine, in a lengthy article on "The Beverage," writes as follows on tea:—  
"The peculiar effects of tea upon the systems—its exhilarating but non-intoxicating properties—are due to three chemical substances: an aromatic, volatile oil—a slightly bitter principle; rich in nitrogen—and tannin or tannic acid. Its odoriferous volatile ingredients do not exist in the natural leaf, but are produced in drying and preparing it. And this is true also of the coffee and the cocoa. All are nearly void of taste and smell in their natural state; while all are highly flavored and aromatic when used, deriving these properties from chemical substances produced within them by processes of drying and roasting. An equally singular fact has also been ascertained, and as equally true of all our usually infused beverages viz: that the peculiar nitrogen-containing principle which they hold in solution, lessens the natural wear and tear of the body, and thus to a certain extent saves food.

Another interesting and singular fact connected with the subject is, that the tea leaf contains a very large proportion of gluten, a nutritious ingredient of plants. This substance forms one fourth part of their weight in leaves, and were they palatable; so that we could eat them in mass; as we do the cocoa, tea leaves would be nearly as nutritious as beans or peas, and more strength-sustaining than wheat.

**A BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATION.**—From the "Scripture Reader's Guide," by Caroline Ely:—"Have we never sailed upon the water, and looking behind us, seen the waves bright and glittering in the sunshine; and before us, and seen them veiled in the deep gray of evening? Did we, think the sunshine terminated exactly where we stood? It seemed so; but when we had gone further, it seemed so still; and still the same as we proceeded onward."  
"Such is our position in the course of divine revelation. As it passes, it becomes clear and simple to the plainest understanding—that which is to come is only obscured because our vision receives not the light that is upon it. And by the manner of its past fulfillment we may best judge of the manner of fulfillment to be expected for what remains."

**MORE DIPLOMATIC REVELATIONS.**—As an offset to the publication in England of the secret correspondence, the announcement is made that the Russian government will publish a batch of secret English letters on the Oriental question, and among them several from Prince Albert. If these letters should establish the Russian proclivities charged against the Prince consort and to which was charged the halting indecision of the Ministry, it may expect to see a great tumult of popular indignation in England, which will add to the complications of the Eastern question.

From the Charleston Courier.

### Rail Road Accident.

*Editors Courier:*—Gentlemen:—On Tuesday morning, the 18th inst., the morning train from Petersburg to Weldon, met with a terrible accident the particulars of which are as follows:  
At about twenty-five miles from Weldon, a passenger car was thrown off the rails, the locomotive killing two cows, which ran over the lines just before the train came along in speed, before it could be stopped. The bottom of the car next to the baggage car, broke literally into pieces, and the passengers, ten or twelve in number, fell through it, all of them bruised, and their clothes torn into patches. One, however, did not escape as well as his fellow-sufferers. He is an agent of Adams' Express Company. His left leg and arm, were entirely broken, and otherwise bruised very badly. The Conductor was dragged along by the detached locomotive and baggage cars more than twenty yards, and miraculously escaped, even without serious bruises. The man with his broken limbs was sent back to Petersburg; when we saw him he was very calm, but he pressed his hand to his head, and said: I feel death is coming. There was a physician in the same car, who fell also through, and he too, was seriously bruised. He had a young negro boy, who was tied to the first seat near the platform, who despite of his fall did not hurt him at all.

It seems to us that the bottom of the car was rotten, else it might have resisted the shock, as we who were in the next car to that one which broke, scarcely felt the shock.

### AN EYE WITNESS.

**TRAGICAL SCENE.**—Mr. editor: As I have seen no published account of the following strange and heart-rending scene, I take the liberty of sending you a brief sketch, as related to me by my brother-in-law (who resides in Wau-paca Co., Wisconsin, and in the same neighborhood) a day or two previous to my leaving the State, which was about two weeks ago.

A farmer sold a yoke of oxen to an individual in the neighborhood, and received his pay in paper money. The man who purchased the oxen, being in a hurry to start off, requested the farmer to assist him in yoking them up. He accordingly went to the yard with the men for that purpose, leaving the money lying on the table. On his return to the house, he found his little child had taken the money from the table, and was in the act of kindling the fire in the stove with it. From the impulse of the moment, he lit the child a slap on the side of the head, so hard as to knock it over; and, in the fall, it struck its head against the stove with such force as to break its skull.

The mother, who was in the act of washing a small child in a tub of water, in an adjoining room, on hearing the fracas, dropped the child, and ran to the room whence the noise proceeded—and was so much terrified at what she there beheld, that she forgot the child in the tub for a time, and upon her return to the room found the little one drowned! The husband after a few moments reviewing the scene before him, seeing two of his children dead, without further reflection, he took down his gun and blew his own brains out!—*Clearland Leader, C. F.*

The town of Quechola, Mexico, has been the theatre of a frightful tragedy. On Sunday the 29th of January, Don Jose Arenas gave a dance, at which was present a large company from Quechola and the neighboring villages. All were so pleased that they agreed to have another on the 31st. At this a still larger company assembled, and still greater gaiety prevailed. After 11 o'clock at night the ladies were invited to go to the supper room, and threw aside their mantles for that purpose. As they were passing through a passage which led to that room, one of them fell dead from the stroke of a dagger; the murderer was the master of the house himself, Arenas.

The shriek of the victim and the sight of the crime, produced the wildest confusion. All attempted to seize the criminal; but he, armed with a dagger and a six barreled pistol, placed his back to the wall and defended himself desperately. Among others, he wounded the son of the slain lady. Suddenly, however, finding it impossible to escape, he applied the pistol to his mouth and blew out his own brains. It seems that the lady and he were adversaries in a law suit of much importance, and that, on her having the impudence to show herself in her adversary's house, he had in his rage committed the crime.—*Ex. Paper.*

For the space of 500 years physicians were prohibited in Rome. The city was never more healthy than during that period.

**THE PROPERTIES OF TEA.**—A writer in Blackwood's Magazine, in a lengthy article on "The Beverage," writes as follows on tea:—  
"The peculiar effects of tea upon the systems—its exhilarating but non-intoxicating properties—are due to three chemical substances: an aromatic, volatile oil—a slightly bitter principle; rich in nitrogen—and tannin or tannic acid. Its odoriferous volatile ingredients do not exist in the natural leaf, but are produced in drying and preparing it. And this is true also of the coffee and the cocoa. All are nearly void of taste and smell in their natural state; while all are highly flavored and aromatic when used, deriving these properties from chemical substances produced within them by processes of drying and roasting. An equally singular fact has also been ascertained, and as equally true of all our usually infused beverages viz: that the peculiar nitrogen-containing principle which they hold in solution, lessens the natural wear and tear of the body, and thus to a certain extent saves food.

Another interesting and singular fact connected with the subject is, that the tea leaf contains a very large proportion of gluten, a nutritious ingredient of plants. This substance forms one fourth part of their weight in leaves, and were they palatable; so that we could eat them in mass; as we do the cocoa, tea leaves would be nearly as nutritious as beans or peas, and more strength-sustaining than wheat.

**A BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATION.**—From the "Scripture Reader's Guide," by Caroline Ely:—"Have we never sailed upon the water, and looking behind us, seen the waves bright and glittering in the sunshine; and before us, and seen them veiled in the deep gray of evening? Did we, think the sunshine terminated exactly where we stood? It seemed so; but when we had gone further, it seemed so still; and still the same as we proceeded onward."  
"Such is our position in the course of divine revelation. As it passes, it becomes clear and simple to the plainest understanding—that which is to come is only obscured because our vision receives not the light that is upon it. And by the manner of its past fulfillment we may best judge of the manner of fulfillment to be expected for what remains."

**MORE DIPLOMATIC REVELATIONS.**—As an offset to the publication in England of the secret correspondence, the announcement is made that the Russian government will publish a batch of secret English letters on the Oriental question, and among them several from Prince Albert. If these letters should establish the Russian proclivities charged against the Prince consort and to which was charged the halting indecision of the Ministry, it may expect to see a great tumult of popular indignation in England, which will add to the complications of the Eastern question.