

THE FREE CITIZEN.

E. A. WEBSTER, Editor and Proprietor.

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TIMELY TOPICS.

The recent Trecan flood is swelling the streams in a manner calculated to do much damage through the country.

Moody and Sankey concluded not to go to Paris, and will probably be back in the United States by the middle of August.

EMIGRATION to California fell off nearly three-fourths in the month of June, which was lucky for the stay-at-homes.

The Baltimore American says the grasshoppers have made their appearance in Frederick county, Md., where clover and rye crops are particularly abundant.

The Chinese have, for the first time, whipped the Formosan savages. These aborigines number 20,000 only, and yet they have kept in terror about two millions of Chinese settlers.

The revenue officials have abandoned the idea of placing a revenue stamp on every cigar, and smokers can still inhale the dreamful vapor without the discomfort of the burnt paper taste.

JAY GOULD intends to remain king of Wall street. He proclaims his power by allowing the New York Tribune to publish the facts that he owns 100,000 shares of the Union Pacific stock. The present value of this amount of stock is \$7,500,000; but no doubt much of it is bought with borrowed money, and held on a margin. Gould is of Jersey birth, and is now past sixty. He was brought up a leather dealer in what is called "The Swamp."

Orders have been sent by Gen. Terry to the commander at Fort Randall, to expedite the departure of a cavalry force at that point, under orders to proceed direct to the Black Hills, and bring out all persons found there without authority. Meantime, so far as we can observe, the gold excitement seems to have almost entirely died out.

The monument for Edgar Allan Poe's hitherto neglected grave will be completed in October. A small stone half a foot high and three inches square now marks the poet's resting place in the Baltimore graveyard. The new monument will be surmounted by a bust of Poe, which is said to be an accurate likeness.

In addition to the shortage in the United States treasury caused by the theft of the \$47,500 package, there is a \$1,050 shortage in the redemption division, which was discovered in January. This was reported by treasurer New when he took charge. Otherwise the funds are all straight, and Spinner is to be congratulated.

Arnors of the recent shipment of Florida fruit direct to Chicago, the Mobile Register says that, with some improvement in railroad facilities and proper co-operation among the shippers, prudent and industrious farmers could realize more from vegetable gardens in Alabama in six weeks than they could make in a twelve-month upon an Iowa or Illinois farm.

The British government has fulfilled its pledge to appoint a royal commission to inquire into the subject of vivisectional experiments. The instructions to the commission are to inquire into the practice of subjecting live animals to experiments for scientific purposes, and to consider and report what measures, if any, it may be desirable to take in respect to any such practice.

Mr. JOHN BRIGHT writes thus sensibly to a Glasgow workman: "A book, and not a small one, might be made up of the strange doings of the trade unions. Monopoly is hard to teach, and I fear the workmen will only learn through suffering, and they may do mischief which cannot afterward be repaired." The advice applies equally well in this country, and the recent Pennsylvania coal troubles afford an apt illustration of its truth.

KING GEORGE, of Greece, seems to be in an unhappy predicament. His kingdom is threatened with a revolution; he is unpopular, and nobody takes his hat off to him on the streets; the queen has been insulted, and he is afraid to go to the Hellenic Long Branch, at Dekeleia, because he thinks it quite probable he will not be able to get back into his capital again. Two Russian ships are ready at the Pirous to carry him away in case of a revolution.

This trial of the notorious John D. Lee for complicity in the Mountain Meadow massacre of 1857 will not come

off until the 15th inst. The difficulty in this case will be that of obtaining a proper jury, as the Mormon element is very strong and prejudiced in Lee's favor. Lee was indicted last October, and the witnesses against him will be persons who witnessed the massacre when children, seventeen years ago, Lee and his fellow-murderers having spared that number. The Mormons claim that the Indians did the killing, but this, it is said, can be entirely refuted.

On Ascension Day there was a horrible row in Jerusalem between some Greek and Armenian priests who had been allowed by the Latins to make use of a chapel built over what is believed to be the Savior's footprint. The quarrel arose on a question of precedence, and ended in a fight. The priests went at it "tooth and nail," fighting up and down the sacred edifices with such fury that they had to be separated by Turkish soldiers. Two Greek priests were wounded, and one of the soldiers, in trying to restore peace, lost his eye. The Mussulman population look upon these sectarian shindies at Jerusalem as peculiar illustrations of the brotherly love which is the distinguishing mark of their Christian fellow subjects.

The statue of Lafayette, the gift of the French government to the city of New York, reached that port on Wednesday. It is the work of Frederick Bartholdi, a native of Alsace, and is seven feet high exclusive of the pedestal. The project of its presentation to New York originated with the Thiers government and nearly \$30,000, gold, was appropriated for its execution in bronze. The Tribune says the design of the sculptor represents Gen. Lafayette in his twentieth year, at the time when he joined the continental army. He stands upon a ship as if in the act of speaking. His right arm is extended, and the left is thrown across his chest, with the hand grasping the pomel of his sword and a mass of drapery which falls at his feet. The body is firmly posed upon the right foot, while the left leg is extended. The head is slightly turned to the right. The statue will be placed in Central Park, and the unveiling will probably take place early in the fall.

Mrs. SEAYER is, or was, a materializing spiritualistic medium. She gave sances in Boston of the Eddy and Katy King kind, and was making dollars in great numbers. One night there was an unusually large audience, and the exhibition was uncommonly startling. In the dim light forms emerged from the cabinet, and some of them were at once recognized by persons present as reanimations of dead relatives. At length the form of a child appeared at the doorway of the cabinet, and a woman said that she readily recognized it as her baby that had died a few weeks before. Then a young fellow, full of earthly realism, sprang forward and grabbed the infantile form, and was promptly knocked down by the man who conducted the show. The investigator held fast to the baby, however, which, upon examination, proved to have been materialized with rags and a mask.

Look out for more earthquakes. An examination of the history of these subterranean disturbances shows that each great earthquake—say of the dimensions of the recent one at Cucuta, in which ten thousand lives were lost—has been followed for a certain period by innumerable lesser ones. In the summer of 1868, the coast of Chili and Peru were shaken by terrible earthquakes, in which many lives and a vast amount of property were lost, and, just two months later, on October 21, San Francisco was shaken so violently that buildings cracked from top to foundation, and fissures throwing forth jets of water opened in the streets. In the same year the Hawaiian volcanoes had violent eruptions, and the subjects of Kamehameha were made sea-sick by the continued swaying of their islands. In the same year Vesuvius opened out with a fresh eruption. The great earthquakes of Caracas, in Venezuela, and New Madrid, in the United States, occurred just six months apart. If we are to regard these precedents, another great upheaval may be expected somewhere on the American continent between this time and the 1st of January. Tice has booked us for cataclysms, cyclones, and earthquakes, and similar lively occurrences during the month of October. Taking it altogether, the prospect for the remainder of 1875 is decidedly uncomformtable for everybody except Elder Thurnman and his followers.

THE ARCTIC EXPLORER.

From leafy England far away,
His home is hid;
Not where the lark salutes the day,
Nor where white lambs in meadows play,
In the green shade.

He lies within a leafless land,
In the cold snow;
Where no kind foot or kindler hand
Can visit him, or weave a band
To soften woe.

The white drift whirling all around
On sea and shore;
They took him from the ship ice-bound,
And laid him gently in the ground
For evermore.

And though no English larks shall throng,
Above his grave,
To soothe his slumber with their song,
He lies secure from mortal wrong—
O sweet and brave!

The secret of the Polar Sea
Is yet concealed;
But to thy vision, pure and free,
The secret of eternity
Has been revealed!

THE GREAT DELUGE.

Three Thousand Houses Down—Sixty Millions of Dollars in Property Known to Have Been Lost.

From the London Post (Editorial), June 23.

The geographical position of France, although in many respects highly favored, is such as to entail upon large districts of the country a liability to be suddenly deluged by the overflow of flooded rivers. At Toulouse, such inundations have occurred every twenty years—or, at least, in 1815, 1835 and 1855—although never before to the same extent as at present, or with the calamitous consequences to life and property which we are now called upon to record. In 1856 the whole valley of the Rhone was visited in a similar manner. The streets of Lyons were for many days traversed by boats, and not only trees and cattle, but bridges, churches, houses, even whole villages, were swept away, and great numbers of people were either drowned or buried amid fallen ruins. But when compared with the inundation which has now, we hope, subsided, all others sink in to comparative insignificance. A week ago to-day, our correspondent tells us the river Garonne, at Toulouse, was unusually high, but no serious danger was apprehended, and no precautionary measures were taken. On Wednesday the waters rose rapidly, and by ten o'clock in the morning they had reached the level of the flood of 1855. At two o'clock two arches of a bridge and twenty houses were swept away, and the floating swimming baths and lavatories were torn from their moorings and hurried down the torrent. At five the water overflowed the parapet which protects the populous quarter of St. Cyprien; at six it was ten feet deep in the streets, and before night this quarter was cut off from the rest of the town, the three bridges of communication being destroyed. All night the crash of falling houses and the cries and shrieks of sufferers were heard. On Thursday the flood began to abate, and the water had fallen six feet by the evening. In the town of Toulouse alone, it is said, nine hundred persons have perished and 20,000 are left destitute. Nearly three thousand houses have fallen, and the destruction of property is roughly estimated at from £12,000,000, to £15,000,000, sterling. The whole valley of the Garonne is said to resemble a vast lake, covered with fragments of the ruins of the town, as well as with wreck brought down from higher districts, and dotted with corpses, some of them wearing the costume of places twenty leagues away.

Although it is upon this particular district that the calamity has fallen with the greatest force, yet the neighboring departments have also been terrible sufferers. In Ande the crops have been extensively destroyed. At Bagueres de Bigorre the Adour has carried away bridges and cottages. At Verdun (Ariege) more than fifty houses have fallen, and many persons have been drowned. In Tarn-et-Garonne crops have perished; and at Eperonillet, a village six kilometres from Toulouse, only three houses out of four hundred are left standing. The railway between Bordeaux and Toulouse is cut in a dozen places, and the whole country is submerged. The power of the surrounding districts to assist the greatest sufferers is crippled by their own losses, and the communication with distant parts of the country is greatly impeded. It is doubtful whether the description of what has actually happened will include even the greater part of the calamity. As the waters recede a surface saturated with moisture will be exposed, and this surface will be strewn with the corpses of men and animals in every stage of decomposition. Exposed to the exhalations hence arising there will be a large population reduced to absolute want—dependent upon charity for all the necessities of life, destitute alike of clothes, of food, of shelter and of employment. To communities thus situated disease comes with footsteps that are neither tardy nor uncertain, and it is only by the most prompt and energetic aid from external sources that the inhabitants of Toulouse can be saved from even greater ills, if such be possible, than those which have already befallen them.

THE CAUSE OF THE CALAMITY.

In order to form an idea of the causes of the inundation it is only necessary to glance at the physical geography of the departments in which it has occurred. They lie on the northern slopes of the Pyrenees, and are intersected by numerous and rapid rivers, of which at least four unite to form the Garonne before it reaches Toulouse. There has been heavy and continuous rains over the whole of the mountain range, and a fall of snow at Luz, where it would directly swell the head waters of the Ga-

ronne. It is said that at least a contributory cause is furnished by the great destruction of timber in the district during the last century. Trees not only absorb water largely from the soil, but they also prevent the surface from being baked and hardened by the sun, and they check the rapidity and abruptness with which rain would otherwise reach the ground. When it falls unimpeded upon dry and barren hillsides, it will run from them almost as freely as from the sloping roofs of houses, and a few hours will carry the water of the mountain storm to swell the volume of the nearest river. It is easy to be wise after the event; but in a district so situated there is great room for measures of prevention, and the riparian authorities, whoever they may be, should be intrusted with powers commensurate to the magnitude of the recurring evils, which, by wise precautions, they might do much to mitigate or avert. Even the tiny floods which sometimes occur in this country are often greatly aggravated by local neglect, by some silting up of the channel of a stream, or by some ill-placed bridge, which forms an obstacle to the passage of an unusual body of water. In rivers in which are liable to be swollen by mountain torrents the channels should be made the objects of unceasing solicitude, and the span and construction of bridges should be determined by other than purely local considerations.

South America.

Advices from Salvador state a dreadful riot took place at San Miguel, a town of forty thousand inhabitants, in the southern part of the republic. A great deal of discontent has been excited against the government by its refusal to allow a pastoral of the bishop of Salvador, written in a tone hostile to the laws, to be read in the churches. There had also been considerable hostile feeling among the lower classes, owing to some regulations requiring dealers to use a new market place. While matters were in this condition, a priest named Palacios, preached a violent sermon against the constituted authorities, on Sunday, the 29th ult. That evening the mob arose, attacked the Cabildo, and liberated some two hundred prisoners. They then proceeded to assault the small garrison, and took the Cuartel, killed Generals Espinosa and Castro, out the former to pieces and threw the pieces at each other, split the skull of Gen. Castro, and threw him over a wall, where he was picked up by his mother and died in three days. The garrison were nearly all assassinated, and many prominent citizens killed. After this the fanatic mob set fire to some sixteen houses with kerosene. Before the town was entirely destroyed, it fortunately happened that her Britannic majesty's ship Fantome was at La Union, when she landed her marines, which allowed the garrison there, united with some troops from Amapala, in Honduras, to march to the relief of San Miguel and put down the mob.

The Curate Palacios, at last accounts, was arrested, with others that had participated in the outbreak, and a good many of the inferior rioters had been shot by an order of President Gonzalez, who had arrived with troops. With the houses destroyed and pillaged, the damage is estimated at \$1,000,000, and commercial failures are looked for in consequence. The country has been declared in a state of siege, and President Gonzalez is taking measures to establish order and bring the perpetrators of this disgraceful outbreak to punishment. The *Diario*, the official organ of the state, and all public prints, abound in indignation against the priests, who were the instigators of this savage and sanguine affair. The Capitular Vicar of the district published his order appointing Jose Manuel Palacios celebrant of the cathedral of San Salvador. The municipality of this city asked to have said Palacios removed, but the Curia Ecclesiastica paid no attention to the petition. He was continually exciting hatred between lower and well-to-do classes, and the result has been described. One curious and incredible discovery was made after the murderous affair was over, and that was that on the persons of the dead rebels were found passports which read, when translated, "Peter, open to the bearer the gates of heaven, who has died for religion." Signed, "George, Bishop of San Salvador," and sealed with the seal of the Bishopric of San Salvador.

A brood mare heavy in foal, owned on Long Island, broke her hind leg, and instead of destroying her, as is the almost universal custom, a veterinary surgeon placed her in slings, set the leg, and in six weeks the mare was turned out all right and none the worse for the accident. Many valuable horses that are killed because they have the misfortune to break a limb might be saved by following this humane and sensible example.

It has been generally supposed that the wings of a grasshopper are grown at a certain stage of its growth, but this theory is now shown to be erroneous. Mr. Knight, mayor of St. Paul, Minn., has observed a great many grasshoppers' skins supposed to be dead hoppers. He caught a fully developed hopper with wings and watched it. In a little time it crawled out of its skin, legs and all. The new hopper as "born" had a full set of wings, and was quite lively, but not enough to fly. Mr. Knight is of the opinion that after this change takes place one day is time enough to acustom it for its new existence and fit it for emigration.

BRIGANDS.

A Band of Robbers Board an Express Train in Illinois—The Engineer Shot Dead, and Engine and Express Car Detached.—The Express Messenger Defends His Car Successfully.

One of the most high-handed attempts at robbery that has ever occurred in Illinois took place at Long Point, a station on the Vandalia railroad, on the night of the 8th inst. The dispatches to the Chicago papers give the following particulars of the affair:

As train No. 6, eastward bound, in charge of Conductor Fraley and Engineer Milo Ames, came up to Long Point station for water, two men boarded the locomotive, one from each side, and said to the engineer: "Pull out!" The engineer was at first somewhat bewildered, when they said again, "Pull out!" At this he, seeming to comprehend the situation, said: "All right, I'll pull out." The men then said: "We will run the thing ourselves," and at that both of the robbers fired. One of the shots killed the engineer instantly, and the other lodged in the cab. The fireman, who was on the tank, taking in water, immediately jumped and ran to the rear of the train, to notify the trainmen, he having heard the conversation and comprehending the situation.

During these proceedings at the engine, a confederate had detached the Adams Express car, and then, pulling the engine wide open, ran her about two miles east and stopped, blowing "off brakes" to deceive the express messenger.

They then came to the door of the car and said: "Let me in Jack." He replied to them: "You s—s of b—s, I'm ready for you! If you ever come in here, you are dead men!" The robbers then commenced firing into the car. The messenger, Burke, said it seemed to him that there were a dozen of them, as the shots seemed to come from all directions.

The conductor of the train-men, after the shots were fired, saw the situation of affairs, and at once set about to pursue the robbers. They could only find one revolver on the train, but found two soldiers on board a car, who were armed with carbines. With these weapons the train-men and the soldiers started in pursuit of the train and robbers, but when they came up to the train all was quiet, the robbers having fled. They found the engineer in the bottom of his cab, cold and stiff.

There chanced to be a freight engineer, Jack Vanclue, on the train, and he, with the fireman, immediately ran the engine back to the train and brought it in.

The robbers failed to get any entrance whatever into the express car, it being one of the close kind, and having no windows, and very strong every way. Had they detached the American express car also, which was immediately in the rear of the Adams, they would undoubtedly have accomplished their object, as it was an open car, having windows, and doors not very strong.

Engineer Ames was one of the best engineers on the road, about thirty-five years old, and had been married but a short time.

The robbers who boarded the locomotive wore long linen dusters. Conductor Fraley, and all the trainmen, in fact, did all they could under the circumstances.

An Ohio Narrow Gauge Experiment.

The Painesville and Youngstown narrow gauge railroad, in Ohio, is nearly completed to the latter place, and has already begun transporting coal to its northern terminus at Fairport, on Lake Erie. It will soon be in full operation and the test it will afford of the relative economy of the three-foot and ordinary gauges will be watched with interest. The line is about sixty miles long, and runs nearly a little west of north from Youngstown to the lake. It will have in the coal traffic the active competition of three roads of the usual gauge of five feet. According to the claims of its officers, the advantage of the narrow-gauge is that on a car weighing only four tons it can carry eight tons of coal, while the five-foot gauge roads transport only ten tons on a car weighing ten. Thus the narrow gauge gets pay for four tons as freight on each car which its competitors must haul for nothing in the shape of rolling stock. The cost of building the line was about \$20,000, probably one-fourth less than a wide gauge road would have cost. There is not much saving in operating expenses, as it takes just as many hands to run a narrow train as a wide one. Considerable saving is effected, however, in the equipment. As a passenger road the line answers all the requirements of the country it traverses. Its cars are comfortable, and as soon as the road-bed becomes firm the trains will run with as much steadiness as on other roads.

BONE FELON.—The London Lancet—very high authority—gives the following remedy for the cure of this very painful malady: "As soon as the pulsation which indicates the disease is felt, put directly over the spot a fly blister about the size of your thumb nail and let it remain for six hours; at the expiration of which time, directly under the surface of the blister may be seen the felon, which can be easily taken out with the point of a needle or lancet."

Sometimes people write a postal card full, and then turn over and finish what they have to say upon the face. They ought to know that in such cases the party to whom the card is addressed has to pay six cents postage. Cheaper to use a three-cent stamp in the first place.

FACTS AND FANCIES.

"Gently the dues are o'er me stealing," as the man said when he had thirteen bills presented to him in one day.

A darky called at Owensboro, Ky., the other day, and wanted to know "Does dis postoffice keep stamped antelopes?"

Perkins suggests that the racing crews of our boat clubs might balance their shells better if they parted their hair in the middle.

Precoocious boy, munching the fruit of the date tree: "Mamma, if I eat dates enough, shall I grow up to be an almanac?"

"I go through my work," as the needle said to the idle boy. "But not until you are pushed ahead," as the idle boy said to the needle.

A market house philosopher says: "The race is not always to the strong," because if it was, the onion would be a head instead of cabbage.

The Columbus Journal, describing an Ohio politician, says: "He is honest man by profession, and he tugs bread by the sweat of his jaw."

The people of Georgia cited a few days ago over the discovery of a gold mine. I ward found that the deposit of gold foil stuck around the maulage.

A test was recently made of the buoyant power of a leaf of a water lily, known as the Victoria Regia, in the botanic garden at Ghent. Bricks were heaped over its entire area, and before it was submerged in the water a weight of 761 pounds was floated.

Fred Douglas, in a fourth of July address at Hillsdale, Pa., advised his race to cultivate independence. The cultivation of independence is well enough, but they should not make it a specialty. They should reserve a mere garden-spot for independence, and devote the far greater amount of their acreage to the cultivation of corn, cotton, and cabbage.

Feathers are shooting all over the toilets. The gossypus say feather fans, feather parasols, and feather hats are all the go. Feather trimmings are now arranged with so much lightness and beauty that they are considered as suitable for summer as well as winter wear. They are mounted with fringe as well as bands, though as bands they are used for the trimmings of bonnets and parasols.

To be read by moonlight only: "On the Erie railroad, between Port Jervis and Buffalo, there is a conductor known as the 'Rosebud Conductor.' Many years ago he was engaged to a beautiful girl, and their wedding day was fixed. She was taken ill and died a few days before she was to become a bride. On her deathbed she said to her lover: 'If you will always carry a rosebud in your button-hole, no accident will ever befall you.' He has carried a rosebud ever since, and no ill has befallen him. He is still a single man."

Thomas Carlyle has numerous admirers on this side of the Atlantic, but probably California does not take much stock in his philosophy. He blurted out to a lady of that State, the other day: "You are doing no good service there; you are harming the world. Cover over your mines, leave your gold in the earth, and go to planting potatoes. Every man who gives a potato to the world is the benefactor of his race; but you, with your gold, are overtaxing society, making the ignoble prominent, increasing everywhere the expenses of living, and confusing all things."

Our Riflemen in Old Ireland.

The account of the dinner given by the faculty of Trinity College, Dublin, to the members of the American team will be found full of interest. Nothing could better illustrate the profound friendship all classes of the Irish people feel towards Americans, than this banquet offered to our riflemen. Among all the conservative institutions of Ireland, old Trinity has ever been the most rigid and exclusive, and that fellows of that institution should throw open their banquetting halls to a number of republican American riflemen shows that the kindly feeling entertained by the masses of the Irish people toward our institutions begin to be shared even by the most conservative element in Ireland. The banquet itself gave occasion for a display of after-dinner eloquence at once graceful and effective. Toasts were drunk to the health of the president of the United States, an honor never before paid to any foreign ruler. The value of all this is in the lesson of unity and good fellowship it teaches. If these peaceful contests at Creedmoor and Dollymount should do no other good they will have removed many ingrained prejudices from the minds of many persons. Irish gentlemen will learn from the testimony of men of their own caste that the American people do not at all resemble the typical Yankee, and Americans who have been drawn to Ireland will find that the staid Irishman has no existence except in the fertile brains of dramatists. Their vice will also demonstrate to them the existence of a cultured and refined Irish society, as distinct from the whiskey-drinking, riot-loving creatures pictured by foreign caricaturists as could well be imagined. With the disappearance of these and kindred prejudices we may hope that the bonds of sympathy between the Irish and American people will continue to multiply. And if these frequent visits and interchanges of sentiments do no more than this, they will have amply repaid the time and attention devoted to them.