

"Who is He?"

Mr. Editor: On the 15th of June, 1851, might have been seen standing on one of our wharves a small, delicate, and friendless looking young man, who, as we have learned since, had just arrived in our city. His lonesome and much distressed appearance attracted our attention; but being a stranger to us, we therefore made no inquiries concerning his distress or destination. Time rolled on, and after the lapse of some months we again met this mysterious person. He looked well and buoyant, as though he was more happy than when we first saw him on the wharf. We then came to the conclusion that we would make some inquiries respecting the individual who had so mysteriously attracted our attention. But our inquiries were in-fact, for everybody was in the dark, and, besides, no one seemed to care about him. We then gave up the matter; but very recently we met this same mysterious person again. Now, reader, where did we meet him? That's the question. Was it at a grog-shop, an eating saloon, a bowling alley, the theatre, the circus, the races, the concerts, the exhibition of the Nova Scotia Giant Boy, or any other place of amusement where are generally found young men of his age? No. It was somewhere else; and meeting him at this unlooked-for place, we were induced to renew our inquiries of "Who is he?" "What is he?" and "Where from?" After repeated inquiries, we had the good fortune to meet with a highly respectable gentleman of our city, whose name it is not necessary to give, who readily gave us the information we desired. This gentleman informed us that the young man alluded to, was from Raleigh, N. C., or its vicinity, that he had just come to our city on the evening we first saw him standing on the wharf, that our eyes then beheld a young man who was entirely destitute, penniless, not a cent of money to his name; he knew nobody, and nobody knew him. Under such circumstances it could hardly be expected otherwise, but that he should seem to be, what he was, a distressed, pale, care-worn, friendless youth; he looked as though he was convinced, "that the foxes had holes, and the birds had nests, but that he not where to lay his head?" Where he slept that night, we are not exactly prepared to say; but at the same time, we are satisfied that it was a place where the mosquitoes, (which had just successfully made their advent into our city by millions,) had full access to their unhappy prey! Our informant further said, that this young man on the next day, happily procured a situation in our city, where he has ever since been steady at work, as you may say, both day and night every night until midnight, and many until one, two or three o'clock in the morning.

But, reader, we have not yet told you where we met him the third time. This third time of our meeting was at the door of one of our Banks; he had his little earnings. For he is borne in mind that his occupation, though arduous, is one that commands no big salary. On farther inquiry, we have good authority for saying, that this young man has in the Bank at his command from \$300 to \$400.

And this, Mr. Editor, is the poor young man who, but a short time ago, stood on our wharf with not a penny in the world. Now, if he continues to save, from his weekly earnings, five or six hundred dollars per year, how long will it take our citizens to find out "Who is he?" Twenty years is not long, and they would suffice to place him beyond the reach of all the mosquitoes. Young men of Charleston, take warning. Instead of going to the dram shop and other places so well adapted to spending money, procure for yourselves a book and go, and do likewise; if your weekly earnings are small, no matter, they will grow so large after a while as to astonish even the old capitalists. A CHARLESTONIAN. Feb. 26th, 1852.

COL. FREMONT'S SPECULATIONS.—A Washington letter in the Columbus Times says:

"We are about to have a great muss in Congress, over certain transactions (recent) of Fremont, in California. You may recollect that at every session for the last three or four years, an effort has been made to get Congress to authorize the appointment of a board of commissioners, to admit certain claims for horses, provisions and all sorts of things, purporting to have been furnished for the use of a regiment of California volunteers, illegally raised by Fremont during the Mexican war. He issued certificates or scrip in the shape of drafts on the Government for these things, to the amount of perhaps half a million of dollars, which, ever since, have been as much the subject of speculation throughout California, as Texas scrip ever was in New Orleans. Among these purchases was one of a stock of 7,000 head of cattle, bought at \$5 each, from one Abel Stearns. For these he gave certificates for \$35,000, which, with the rest, were refused payment by the Government. He used about two thousand of the cattle, and left the rest running wild on the prairies. Not long since the Government sent out commissioners to treat with the various tribes of California Indians—on their arrival out, under the persuasions of Fremont, these gentlemen undertook to feed the various tribes at the expense of the Government, on beef at from 15 to 20 cents per pound, giving Fremont the contract to furnish the beef. According to the account prevailing here, he went to Stearns, purchased his claim on the Government, and at once sent on an agent to withdraw the papers; taking the rest of the stock of cattle with the increase as his property, which he had a perfect right to do, after prevailing on Stearns to look to him, rather than the Government, for payment, on account of the original transaction. Having obtained the cattle thus, he is feeding it away in grand style—the Indians doing his driving and butchering free of cost. Already drafts in his favor (for beef so fed away) have been presented here, to the tune of near \$200,000. The Government has refused point blank to pay a dollar on this account. According to the estimate of Californians here, Fremont's whole bill will run well up on to \$600,000 for this beef. The Commissioners, however, knowing that they had no authority to make any such bargain, were careful to express in the papers, the understanding, that Fremont run the risk of a refusal on the part of the Government to assume the transaction. On the whole, it is a "big speculation" on the Treasury, and is destined to make a noise."

WASHINGTON, FEB. 28.

Mr. Rhett gave notice on Thursday that he would yesterday take an occasion, with the leave of the Senate, to reply to some reflections on his course, which he had found in the speeches made during his absence by Mr. Clemens and Mr. Cass, on the compromise resolution.

The galleries were of course thronged in anticipation of a scene. Mr. Rhett occupied about two hours in vindicating his own position and course, repelling certain charges which were, he said, made against him in the speech of Mr. Clemens, and bringing facts to discredit, as he said, the credibility of the author of those charges, and accusing him of political tergiversation.

Mr. Clemens spoke briefly in reply, but with the most unrestrained personality. He was once called to order by several Senators, but he said he would keep in order, and he was suffered to proceed. He used such epithets, as you will see, in marked application to his antagonist, as are usual in Senatorial discussion, or even altercation. He had concluded the personal portion of his reply, when he yielded the floor to Gov. Jones, who on account of the lateness of the hour, moved an adjournment.

To-day, Mr. Clemens will continue his discourse. The House, after having matured the land bounty warrant bill, after long discussion and deliberation, have, becoming disinterested with the result, hid it on the table.

The United States mail steamer *Baltic*, of the Collins' line, arrived yesterday, and saluted the city from her anchorage ground about seven miles below. It is thought that she cannot come safely further up, because she is too long, (300 feet) to turn in the channel. The channel is deep enough and it is proposed to back her up or down. More than a hundred visitors came aboard in her as invited guests, who were most liberally entertained by Mr. Collins on the passage. Among these passengers are many persons distinguished by position in the society of New York. The greater portion of the passengers attended the President's drawing room last night, and were very cordially received. Gen. Scott and Mr. Douglas were present, as they generally are at public places here.

When the *Baltic* came in sight of Mount Vernon she commenced firing minute guns. All the officers, crew and passengers uncovered their heads and stood in utter silence, unbroken except by the booming of the cannon, as the ship passed the hallowed spot.

Mr. Collins wishes the members of Congress or a large party of them, to take a trip in the ship around to Annapolis.

WASHINGTON, FEB. 29.

The Senate Chamber was crowded yesterday morning by great numbers of members of the House and others, all anxious to see the sequel to the altercation between Mr. Rhett and Mr. Clemens. Intense interest was felt in the matter.

Mr. Clemens continued his speech, and, in allusion to the personal remarks which he had made yesterday, stated that he should retract nothing that he had said. He continued, in defence of his course on the compromise question, to argue that it was one thing to oppose the enactment of laws, and another to resist them after they were made, and that the latter was treason. He declared that the Democratic party of the South was true to the Union, and explained the circumstances of his election as Senator from Alabama, in reply to the charge that he had obtained it by a pledge to support Gen. Taylor.

Mr. Rhett, in his rejoinder, said that the Senator's course in reply to him was just such as he expected; one who had wantonly committed an insult would, he knew, when convicted of it, aggravate the offence. It was very clear to him (Mr. Rhett) what his course, as a man of the world, ought to be. If governed by the code of honor, he must fight; but, for the last twenty years, he had professed the religion of Christ, and was governed by its precepts. Mr. R. proceeded to dwell briefly on the subject of his moral obligations in this respect; and declared that his religious scruples should not prevent him from performing his duties here, nor from maintaining his opinions and rights. "Before whom of you," exclaimed Mr. Rhett, "have I quailed? Let any of you answer."

Mr. Rhett proceeded at some length, to review and enlarge upon the topics of his first speech in reply to Mr. Clemens. It was only a few days ago, he said, that he had obtained a copy of the speech delivered in his absence, by Mr. Clemens; and he found there a passage, which he had read, stating that his (Mr. R.'s) speech had been applauded and cheered by those who were associated with him in knavery and treachery—Chase, Hale and Sumner. This statement was utterly untrue, and was insulting to him, and he had repelled it. Mr. Clemens here rose and explained that everyone could see that this passage conveyed no charge of knavery and treachery upon Mr. Rhett, that was not applied also to the other three Senators—to whom he had not the least thought of applying it. Mr. Rhett continued and said that every man of common sense must see that this was intended as a charge against him, or it had no meaning at all. Mr. Rhett took occasion to show that he could not commit any treason by maintaining the laws and rights of South Carolina, to which State he owed allegiance. It was those who maintained the principles and measures of consolidation who were traitors to the Constitution of the United States, and not those who maintained the Constitutional rights of the State.

This matter is now dropped. The compromise resolution, left as a legacy to the Senate by Mr. Foote, will, however, be again taken up occasionally, for the purpose of personal and political explanations and discourses. I learn that Mr. Cobb, of Georgia, is expected to arrive here in a few days. There are now a great number of leading politicians here—all intent upon President-making. We have telegraphic rumors of importance. One is that the people and authorities of Utah have declared their independence of the United States Government. The other is that dispatches from France to Mr. Webster show that Louis Napoleon has assumed an unfriendly attitude towards this Government. A day or two will probably dissipate these rumors.

Hon. Geo. Bancroft has been elected President of the American geographical and statistical society.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL.

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 5, 1852.

THO. J. WARREN, Editor.

Our Market.

With an increase in the receipts, the Cotton Market has been brisk, but without any change in the figures of Tuesday, extremes ranging from 5 3-4 to 7 7-8. Charleston quotations, 6 3-4 to 8 1-2.

Return Days.

For Kershaw, Saturday, March 13. For Sumter, " " 20. For Lancaster, " " 27.

We have received from a Mercantile Firm in New York, the copy of an advertisement accompanied by a note "payable in goods," to defray the expense of a few insertions of it in the Journal. We should like very much to accommodate the firm, but dislike to trouble our friends who go North, to do our shopping, and as New York is rather too far for us to go to trade out so small an amount, we must decline the offer—but if our friends will send on the "shiners," we shall be happy to give them the benefit of our circulation.

Meteorological Journal.

Table with 2 columns: Meteorological Journal, FOR FEBRUARY. Greatest height of Thermometer, 82 deg. Least, 20. Mean, 49.99. Prevailing Wind, N. E. Clear days, 2. Fair, 15. Cloudy, 12.

Editorials.

If our readers want editorials, we reckon the only way they can get them this evening, will be to do as some of our friends, who sometimes tell good jokes at other peoples expense—draw liberally upon their imagination. By this process there is no telling what might not be accomplished.

The Homestead Law.

We desire to call attention to this law lately enacted by our Legislature, not for the purpose of discussing its merits and propriety, but in order to remind our readers that the commencement of its operation dates from the 1st inst; and that hereafter, all notes, bonds, or other obligations for debts contracted prior to the 1st March inst, should be taken in such a form as to show that reference is had to them as debts, before the Exemption was a law. A little care and particularity in this respect, may avoid a vast deal of trouble hereafter.

We have on a former occasion given our views somewhat at length upon this new legal feature; believing as we do, that the law is a just, humane and proper one—intended for the common good, and illustrating the old democratic doctrine of "the greatest good to the greatest number." If a man is disposed to act wrong and defraud his creditors, there is no way to prevent it. Make all the laws which human ingenuity could contrive, and you cannot prevent a dishonest man from being so. For our part, we are satisfied with the Homestead law, believing it consistent with right and reason. Others who think differently, are as much entitled to their opinion as we are, but, until better reasoning is given us, why it should not be a law, we must be counted in as one of its advocates.

General Matters.

If our readers can find anything of interest in the papers, either to talk or write about, they are ahead of us. The present time presents an unusual dearth in the news, as well as the money market.

The intelligence which we are in receipt of from the Old World, develops no feature particularly new or interesting; merely a recapitulation of what we have already heard. LOUIS NAPOLEON maintains his present elevation with remarkable pertinacity; and unless he is assassinated, we suppose his "reign of terror" will continue for some time yet to come. His condition is a very precarious one, and he is liable at any moment to be hurled from his great elevation, to the lowest depths. The cord by which his power is suspended, is uncertain. The "peeps" (as the Frenchman says) can't be trusted.

In our own country there seems to be a dead pause, and each antagonistic element seems afraid of the other. The watch and wait policy is being carried out, and the political lions of the day are lying in ambush, in order to watch the movements of each other. The wire-pullers are busily engaged adjusting the strings, and making all necessary preparations for the Presidential game, soon to be commenced. The aspirants are themselves hard at work—making hay while the sun shines; and, according to our notion, Mr. FILLMORE has about as good a chance for the nomination as any of them.

Congress is in a state of glorious inactivity; an occasional quarrel in the Senate, and personal war of words make up its proceedings—disgraceful to the nation and unworthy the name of men. In regard to the recent controversy between Senators RHETT and CLEMENS, we must say, that Mr. CLEMENS had no right to make the attack which he did upon Mr. RHETT, and that of all men to talk of inconsistencies, he is the last who should refer to the subject.

The Kossuth fever seems to be cooling off, and we are occasionally reminded of his excellency, by now and then, a beaver *ala Kossuth*, of the latest tip. These hats are said to be made of felt, and are much more comfortable than the ordinary silk or prepared beaver. If any of our friends desire to see us under such circumstances, by furnishing one of these hats, we shall then be better able to speak of their superiority, after having felt one on our head.

The idea is only thrown out as a *feeler*, to be acted on or let alone as suits the parties best.

Extraordinary Despatch.

The U. S. Mail steam ship *Arctic* had arrived at Liverpool from New-York, which port she left on the 7th ult., in nine days and eighteen hours—the shortest passage yet on record.

Mr. Thrasher Coming Home.

Mr. THRASHER is on his way home. A letter from Gibraltar, dated January 20th, states that he was there, and about to proceed to Madrid. Letters from him mention the kind treatment he has received ever since his arrival in Spain, and other Americans in their letters home, bear testimony to the same fact.

The New-York *Commercial Advertiser* of Friday, denies the truth of the statement that Mr. WEBSTER had been summoned to return to Washington on account, as it was alleged, of important despatches received by the *Athletic* from France, and says he would not leave New-York that week.

Presidential Electors.

The New-Orleans *Picayune* cites acts of Congress to show that the apportionment of electors will be regulated by the census of 1850, and that the number of electors for each State will be the number to which each will be entitled when the President and Vice President come into office, which will be on the 4th of March, 1853.

Hon. J. L. Orr.

We are indebted to this gentleman for a copy of Patent Office Report—Agricultural, for 1850—51.

The following subscriptions have been received for the Camden Journal, commencing with the 1st January last, up to this date. To wit:

Table of subscriptions for the Camden Journal, listing names and amounts. Includes Major A. H. Boykin, William Boykin, Hon. F. I. Moses, Wm. R. Johnson, Adam Arthur, Mrs. M. H. C. Arthur, Dr. Joseph Lee, Major John McClelland, Peter McCaskill, Henry R. Brown, Capt. W. A. Anerum, Dr. E. A. Salmund, Mrs. Cantey, Joseph Charlesworth, W. C. Workman, Col. J. C. Halle, A. R. Dulin, Maj. J. M. Desaussure, J. Little, Ga., to 30th April, Judge Withers, Capt. D. H. Montgomery, Capt. T. Lang, Miss Susan Lang, J. L. Geddes, Thos. Whitaker, Col. Thos. J. Anerum, Capt. Thos. E. Shannon, Capt. G. R. Miller, L. M. Cauthen, John Truesdale, Osborne Floyd, Capt. B. McCoy, J. J. McLaurin, M. Drucker & Co., Dr. F. L. Zemp, Workman & Boone, W. E. Johnson, Jr., J. B. F. Boone, E. W. Bonney, Capt. J. B. Mickle, Est. G. M. Perry, J. R. Dye, Angus McCaskill, Bank of Camden, John C. West, John McLure, C. Halle, (Camden), Dr. W. H. Holleyman, Robert Smyrl, Lancelin McKinnon, G. G. Bell, (Ala.), J. R. Shaw, G. W. Kelly, Jno Kelly, (Red Hill), John McKain, Samuel Webb, W. M. Connors, Hugh Hood, A. Adderson, Capt. B. Clements, L. McCandless, Capt. A. N. Bell, K. McCaskill, George Alden, L. L. Whitaker, W. W. Lang, Capt. W. G. Stewart, Major E. Curston, P. T. Villepique, George Stratford, George M. Barnes, L. Boykin, R. J. McCroight, B. T. McCoy, J. H. Carlisle, Thos. Duren, Mrs. Jane D. Young, Samuel Benson, William Dixon, B. H. Robinson, T. L. Dixon, William Duncan, David Gaskin, Rev. T. F. Davis, Capt. B. Boykin, W. E. Johnson, Sr., L. W. Ballard, Capt. C. J. Shannon, William Kirkland, Capt. L. W. R. Blair, Wm. Robertson, Charles Perkins, Andrew Graham, Capt. J. B. Consart, W. J. Grant, F. E. McKenzie, Uriah Funderburke, Thompson Harrall, Anderson Cauthen, J. W. Bradley, Thos. Wilson.

Payments made prior to 1st of January, are credited on our books, and not included in the above list.

Hereafter, acknowledgments will be made monthly of all monies received on subscriptions. Payments are only considered in advance, where they are made within three months from the time of subscribing. Over that time the addition will be required.

Democratic Review.

The February number of this valuable monthly contains a portrait of Mitchell, the Irish patriot, a sketch of whose political life is contained in the first article of the present number, denominated Revolution or Migration—The Irish Question—A general Review of the English system in Ireland. We are informed by the advertisement of the Review, that after April it will appear regularly on the first of the month. The editor further states—"We shall chiefly discuss new and unsettled subjects, of present and immediate prospective interest. The past, except as it offers monuments of guiding wisdom, will be ignored. WE SHALL DEFEND THE STATES FROM THE ENCROACHMENT OF THE

FEDERAL POWER. We shall always endeavor to present truth, and shall not strive to mould it to suit the caprices or individualities of any one."

We have taken the liberty of placing the sentence relating to the federal power, in capitals; let the Review adhere to this position, and it is all we ask.

We have no doubt this work will be continued with its usual ability.

The descendants of Baron De Kalb are residing about thirty miles from Paris. Among them, there are five of his great grand-children, who by the recent death of both their parents, have been thrown for support upon their aunt, a grand-daughter of the gallant Baron, who is herself the mother of a large family. They have been petitioning Congress, for five or six years, for the arrear of pay indisputably due to their ancestor, who devoted himself to our Revolution, and fell a martyr on the field of battle near Camden. Reports have been made in both Houses, in favor of the claims; but that is all.—The family is said to be highly estimable.

A Washington Letter in the Baltimore Sun says—

Some kind of compromise Resolutions were attempted to be gotten up by a prominent Southern Whig; but the opposition to them was so great that their introduction into the House had been temporarily abandoned. Gen. Scott, I understand, has no objection to giving his views on the slavery question but his Northern friends will not permit him. They desire him to be untrammelled, as then should he be elected, they could use him either on the Northern or the Southern slope of politics. Gen. Scott if he runs, will run uncommitted either way, just as Gen. Taylor did. It is Gov. Seward I believe, who has discovered that principles are the most embarrassing things in politics.

At New Orleans a man who had but recently commenced business found his creditors rather too prompt in urging the payment of their little bills. "What is the matter," he at length asked. "Do you fear me?" "Yes," was the hesitating reply of a modest dun. "Fear me?" he exclaimed, "on what grounds? Has any one said I am not honest?" "No, no," replied the other; "but"—"But what sir?" "Why, to be candid with you, we have no confidence in your business capacity, seeing you do not advertise!" The man immediately made annual contracts with three papers, and is now in excellent credit, and prospering finely.

The London Post says of Kossuth's visit to the United States—

"With the most wonderful talent for self-exhibition, we find him reduced by American ingenuity to ministering merely to the magnifying of others." With the most singular tact, and the most unflinching flow of oratory, he is yet no match for American audacity and perseverance. His most fervent appeals and glowing periods have no chance against the enthusiasm of American vanity. Truly, that must be a great nation in whose school for Democrats Louis Kossuth must be content to learn rather than lecture."

HORRIBLE MURDER.—Theodore Nye, of Cincinnati, en route for San Francisco, was murdered at the Entaw House, Mobile, on Thursday morning last, by his travelling companion N. P. Coleman. Nye had deposited \$200 in gold with the clerk of the Hotel for safe keeping. After the murder Coleman pretending that Nye had gone down to the boat, asked for the money but was refused, the clerk stating that he could pay the deposit only to the person who had made it, and that his friend must come for it himself. On this Coleman left the house saying that he would send Mr. Nye for the money, and nothing further was thought of the matter till 11 o'clock, when one of the servants of the House reported that there was a person dead in one of the rooms. On repairing to it the dead body of Nye was found in the bed in the room that he and Coleman had taken. His skull had been broken with a hammer which was lying near the body covered with blood, and two napkins were tied closely around the throat and mouth of the deceased.

At the last accounts the murderer had not been apprehended. The officers, however, were in pursuit of him.

TERRIBLE FIGHT WITH A BEAR.—The following account of a fierce struggle with a bear is from a California paper:

In passing by a little thicket, the hunter heard a tremendous crash, and out rushed an enormous bear with open jaws and flashing eyes; she met directly at him, and, instinctively presenting his rifle, he pulled the trigger and missed—his aim disordered, no doubt by her startling rush—yet, manfully standing his ground, he clubbed the piece by the barrel, and struck desperately at his terrible assailant. For a little time he kept her at bay by the sweep of his heavy gun, but at length, making a violent blow at her, the gun flew out of his hand, and he stood defenceless. There was no chance but to run for it, and turning, he "made tracks" down the hill. Then commenced a fearful race. The hill was steep, and covered with loose stones, and upon their sharp edges his feet fell at every jump. The bear kept pace with him leap for leap; striking at him with her enormous claws, barely reaching him, and the impetus of the blow would cause her to fall forward on her knees; meanwhile he continued his flight. They were now nearly at the foot of the hill, and the fugitive's strength was failing fast, great beads of agony stood upon his forehead, and his trembling limbs tottered beneath him, death, a frightful death, stared him in the face, he could do no more, he wheeled, confronted the monster, and cried Hoo—ey. The bear astonished, halted, drew back, and then fairly turned tail and sloped.

SAD ACCIDENT NEAR NEW-ORLEANS.—We learn from the New-Orleans *Picayune* that on the 26th ult., near the mouth of the river, the large ship *Trinmountain*, 1031 tons, Capt. RAE, bound to Liverpool, turned over on the towboat *Yankee*, crushing the boilers and otherwise injuring the boat. We regret to learn that Mr. DENNIS McCABE, the engineer, was killed, and that some of the firemen were scalded. The *Trinmountain* afterwards righted and proceeded down the river.