TWENTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

From the U. S. Telegraph.

In the Senate, on Monday, various petitions and memorials for and against Sunday mails were presented. The resolution submitted by Mr. Webster, in relation to the public printer, was decided by the Chair to be out of order: and the resolution of Mr. Grundy directing the Secretary to postpone the subscription to Gales and Seaton's Compilation of the Public Documents, was debated by Messrs. Grundy and Chambers, and on motion of Mr. McLean was laid on the table. Mr. Benton resumed his argument on Mr. Foote's resolution in relation to the Public Lands, and continued to a late hour, when the Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives, on Monday, the greater part of the day was occupied in the presentation of petitions and resolutions; and among the latter of which, were some submitted by Mr. Wickliffe, requiring information respecting the allowances to public officers in the years 1828 and 1829. Mr. McDuffie, from the Select Committee, reported, in part, a joint resolution for an amendment of the Constitution of the United States, in relation to the election of President and Vice President; which with an amendment proposed by Haynes, was read a first and second time, referred to a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed. After the transaction of further business, according to the usual routine, the House, in Committee of the Whole, resumed the consideration of the Maine election question. Mr. Sutherland concluded his observations, and was followed by Mr. Coke, until, on motion of Mr. Mercer, the House adjourned.

The Senate was again occupied on Tuesday with Mr. Foot's resolution in relation to the Public Lands. Mr. Benton having concluded his able and powerful argument, Mr. Sprague following in reply, but the Senate adjourned before Mr. Sprague had finished, and without taking the question on Mr Webster's motion for an indefinite postponement of the resolution which has been for so many days pending.

Mr. Tyler, of Virginia, on Tuesday resumed his seat.

The subject which first came under discussion in the House of Representatives, subsequent to the transaction of the usual business of the day, was the resolution, previously submitted by Mr. Conner, of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, passed on the 4th of January, 1830, for the purpose of procuring the repeal of the Salt Tax. Upon the question of its reference to a Committee,—whether to the Committee of Ways and Means.—or to the Committee on Manufactures, an interesting and animated debate took place; in the course of which Mr. Hoffman, Mr. P. P. Barbour Mr. Wilde, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Bates, Mr. Davis, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Cambreleng severally addressed the House until the termination of the allotted hour. Mr. Strong has the floor for next day upon this question. The Maine election case was then taken up, and argued by Mr. Coke, in conclusion of his observations of the preceding day, and by Mr. Goodenow, Mr. Spencer, of New York and Mr. P P. Barbour. It was ultimately decided by a majority, taken by yeas and nays, of 111 to 70, that the sitting member, the Hon. James W. Ripley, was duly elected.

In the Senate on Wednesday, Mr. Hendricks reported a bill to authorize a subscription to the stock of the Louisville and Portland Canal Company. After an hour spent in the consideration of Executive business, Mr. Foote's resolution was taken up, and Mr Sprague concluded his remarks in reply to Messrs. Benton and Hayne, and in defence of New England men, measures and character.

In the House of Representatives the resolutions of the Legislature of North Carolina, on the subject of the reduction of the duty on Salt, were, after a brief discussion laid on the table. Mr McDuffie having stated that the Committee of Ways and Means would to-day report a bill on the subject. The House then took up the bill to provide for taking the Fifth Census, being a special order of the day. In Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, sundry amendments were made, after which the Committee rose and reported progress, and the House then adjourned.

The resolution which has been so long pending in the Senate, contemplating the supervision of the survey of the public lands, was on Thursday again taken up as the unfinished business; and Mr. Rowan, who was entitled to the floor, addressed the Senate at length, principally in reply to Messrs. Webster and Sprague. The Senate previously acted on several bills from the House of Representatives, and several Senate bills, some of which were referred to the appropriate Committees, and some were ordered to a third reading. Mr. Tazewell of Virginia, appeared and took his seat.

In the House of Representatives a number of Bills was reported and passed through the usual steges. Among them was one from the Committee on Military Affairs, introduced by Mr. Drayton, authorizing the Secretary of War to purchase additional land for the fortifications at Fort Washington, on the Potomac River; another by Mr. Buchanan from the Committee on the Judiciary, in reference to certain frauds upon the United States' Bank; and a third by Mr. Cambreleng from the Committee on Commerce making an appropriation for building a Marine Hospital, at Charleston, South Carolina. The resolutions submitted by Mr. Wickliffe, on Monday in relation to the allowances made to public officers in the years 1828 and 1829, were after some debate agreed to by the House, with a slight modification. After numerous resolutions had been proposed and offered, the Census Bill was taken up by the House on the state of the Union, Mr Buchanan in the chair and occupied the remainder of the day. A variety of amendments were submitted, and the Committee was addressed upon the subject of them by Messrs. Speight, Storrs, Goodenow, Wickliffe, Coulter, Richardson, Clay, Lamar, Wilde, Johnson, of Kentucky, Jennings, Sterigere, Johns, Johnson, of Tennessee, Lea, Crockett, Polk, Blair, of Tennessee, Ramsey, Davis, of South Carolina and Haynes. The Bill was reported to the House on the rising of the Committee and the further consideration of it postponed until Monday. After which, on motion of Mr. Warner R. Davis the House adjourned.

The Senate on Friday, passed the bills for the relief of Jonathan Chapman; and the bill for the relief of Payser Perrin. A number of bills from the House of Representatives were ordered to a third reading, and several Senate bills were ordered to be engrossed. The resolution in relation to the public lands which has occupied so much the attention of the Senate, was not considered; Mr. Hayne having moved its postponement until Monday on account of the lateness of the hour at which it came up in order. The Senate adjourned over to Monday.

In the House of Representatives, a bill was introduced by Mr. Drayton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred that part of the President's Message relating to the merging of the Marine Corps in the Artillery or Infantry of the United States, to alter and amend the organization of that body. Mr. McDuffie, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill for the reduction of the duties on tea and coffee; which was read a first and second time, and referred to a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union; and, also, a bill to reduce and modify the duties upon certain imported articles, and for other purposes. Embodied in the latter, was, among various provisions enumerated in it, one for equalizing the duty on bar and rolled iron, and fixing it at 90 cents per hundred weight, the effect of which, should it be adopted, will be to place foreign hammered iron upon an equal footing in the American market with British rolled iron, the duty upon which amounts, at present, almost to a prohibition. It contained also, other clauses, providing that the imposts on Hemp and Flax, and on Cotton and Woollen manufactured, should be the same as those levied previous to the passage of the late tariff bill. It provided, also, for a reduction of the duty on molasses to five cents per gallon; and for a drawback upon Rum distilled from foreign Molasses; for a diminution of the impost upon salt, from twenty to ten cents, per fifty-six pounds, of that upon Wool, a gradual reduction until it was diminished to fifteen per cent. *ad valorem;* and to fix a similar per centage upon indigo, and hemp, rope and linseed oil. The bill was read a first first time; and, after some discussion, the second reading was postponed until a future day. The report of the Committee of Elections, in relation to the contested election for the Twentieth Congressional District in the State of New York, was concurred in by the House; and the Hon. Silas Wright was declared to be entitled to the seat occupied by Mr. Fisher. The Speaker presented to the House a communication which he had received from the Secretary of the Treasury, respecting the foreign commerce of the United States; six thousand copies of which were ordered to be printed. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on private bills, the consideration of which occupied the remainder of the day.

THE DEAD SEA.

We have extracted from the London New Monthly Magazine, the following account of the river Jordan and the Dead Sea:

On leaving the hills of Gebel Shinah, we came down on what we termed the first banks of the Jordan. It was a gentle descent into a marshy piece of ground, marked up and down with a few starved trees. There, at last, we stood gazing on the sacred river. Our whole host halted, and dismounted. Two of our Arabs girding themselves, instantly plunged in, and swam across. One of the party followed: the water was cold, and the torrent strong. We sat down for a few moments to enjoy the scene. It is a pleasing spot. The river makes a short turn to the west, and then flows on due south. A small island, formed probably by the trunks of the trees, &c. some of which we saw rushing down with the recent rains, cleaves the stream in two. We found the waters of a lurid olive, extremely rapid and eddying, the bottom a fine chalky soil, easily disturbed, and easily subsiding. In summer the river is quite clear. The Arab who crossed was obliged to swim about one-third of the way; the stream was much swollen; at other times of the year, particularly during the hot months, it is easily fordable on foot. The banks on the west side are precipitous, on the opposite much broken by trees, &c. their general height about 15 or 20 feet; their breadth about one hundred and fifty feet, and depth about twelve. A little down, the river altogether loses this character. It is still confined by high banks but they are quite bare both of trees and herbage: the river assumes a dead dim hue; a few scatterred reeds are almost sufficient to impede its course, which is remarkably sluggish, and may remind the traveller of some parts of the Tyber.

The sea is discoloured by the waters of the Jordan for about two hundred yards, and at least four hundred feet up the stream, the water tastes extremely salt and brackish. The south side is covered with a quantity of low shrubs, and about one hundred yards from the river, a low line of sand separates its *debordement* from the sea. Here, also, are a few trees, the greater part shrunk up and withered. We now proceeded to the shore. The view from this point is singularly striking. The mountains of Moab on the east, and the continuation of the chain Gebel Nalse on the west form a vast basin. They appear, generally speaking to run parallel,—are of the same character of soil—the western lower than the eastern chain their forms much broken, affecting the conical, and running down in ridges, shivered and pointed, to the water. In some places they break off bluffly and unexpectedly, and are cloven by earthquake or time into perpendicular precipices.

The colour of the eastern range, somewhat interrupted here and there by deep valleys, is of a dun red; no symptoms of wood, and very little of herbage are to be seen. Each of these valleys are traceable by their openings towards the sea, and almost every opening is consecrated, in some manner or other, in the pages of sculpture. On the west, the hills stand like a confused crowd of tumult, ploughed and torn and slashed by the action of inward fire, but with a great resemblance to each other, and of a whitish, chalky soil, here and there greened over with a scant and sickly herbage. A very near exemplification of the same appearance may be seen, both in the neighborhood of the Solfatara at Naples and close to the city of Sciennia. No plains of any extent intervened between the mountain and the sea. The sand plains of Jericho stretch off, blank and waste, to the north. We sat down for a time, in silent astonishment, and gazed, strongly impressed by the sight, on the universal desolation which weighed like a curse on every thing around us. We were seated on a withered trunk, which had been carried down by the river and afterwards rejected by the sea.

Large fragments of a similar kind lay scattered around us, half buried in the slimy sand; beyond those were long crusts, or shells of salt, glistening and cracking under the feet of our horses, that were wandering about in search of some sour herbage, and finding none, had at last approached to where we were placed. A few sickly plants, half-smothered in the mud and salt of the frequent inundations, made a sort of wood. Near dronped one or two squalid knots of tulips, mixed with glaring yellow flowers; and we heard, from time to time, the melancholy song of a few lonesome birds on the stunted trees.—After a short repose, we stripped, and rushed into the waters. They bore us up with great force as we advanced. We took precautions not to wet the head. The travellers who had preceded us had suffered from neglect in this respect. The water seemed tolerably clear until taken up in the hand, when it looked oily, and resembled brandy when first mixed with water. The general hue was a dead, palish green, approaching to blue; the bottom slippery and slimy, cleft strongly up and down for several feet together, and here and there scooped and sunk into pits and holes. This slime, on the shore, assumed the appearance and consistency of stone. The sensation on leaving the water was disagreeable in the extreme. It did not, indeed, produce that contraction of the skin mentioned by most writers, but we felt instead, a clammy, oily feeling, not unlike honey half washed off. I saw no asphaltum floating on the surface of the sea; but we picked up some particles (the largest not longer than an inch) and perfectly black, on the shore. The water tasted particularly salt, bitter, and poignant, and left a strong, sharp, stinging sensation on the tongue, nose, and eyes. The salt deposit, too on our beards and skin was very considerable and most unpleasant. The whole scene was one of utter desolation. Not a human being was visible in the neighborhood; not a single symptom or vestige of man. The few straggling birds I have mentioned, and the fragments of a few shells in the sands, were the only evidence of life. After an interval of about an hour we resumed our journey. On leaving the lake, and crossing some brackish water at no great distance from the shore, we took a N. W. direction and re-entered on the same description of desert mountain we had been traversing the day before.

THE FURLOUGH.

"Time was called."——Roxiana.

In the autumn of 1825, some private affairs called me into the sister kingdom, and as I did not travel, like Polyphemus, with my eye out, I gathered a few samples of Irish character, amongst which was the following incident.

I was standing one morning at the window of 'mine Inn,' when my attention was attracted by a scene which took place beneath. The Belfast coach was standing at the door, and on the roof, in front, sat a solitary outside passenger, a fine young fellow, in the uniform of the Connaught Rangers. Below, by the front wheel, stood an old woman, seemingly his mother, a young man, and a younger woman, sister or sweetheart; and hey were all earnestly entreating the young sodier to descend from his seat on the coach.

'Come down vid ye, Thady'—the speaker was the old woman—'Come down now to your ould mother. Sure it's flog ye they will, and strip the flesh of the bones I give ye. Come down Thady, darlin!'

'It's honour, nother,' was the short reply of the soldier; and with clenched hands and set teeth, he took a stiffer posture on the coach.

'Thady, come down—come down now, ye fool of the world—come along down wid ye!' The tone of the present appeal was more impatient and peremptory than the last; and the answer was more promptly and sternly pronounced: 'It's honour, brother!' and the body of the speaker rose more rigidly erect than ever on the roof.

'O Thady, come down! sure it's me, your own Kathleen, that bids ye. Come down, or ye'll break the heart of me, Thady, jewel; come down, then!' The poor girl rung her hands as she said it, and cast a look upward, that had a visible effect on the muscles of the soldier's countenance. There was more tenderness in his tone, but it conveyed the same resolution as before.

'It's honour, honour bright, Kathleen!' and, as if to defend himself from another glance, he fixed his look steadfastly in front, while the renewed entreaties burst from all three, in chorus, with the same answer.

'Come down, Thady, honey!—Thady, ye fool, come down!—O Thady, come down to me!'

'It's honour, mother!—It's honour brother!—Honour bright, my own Kathleen!'

Although the poor fellow was a private, this appeal was so public, that I did not hesitate to go down and inquire into the particulars of the distress. It appeared that he had been home, on furlough, to visit his family—and having exceeded as he thought the term of his leave, he was going to rejoin his regiment, and to undergo the penalty of his neglect. I asked him when the furlough expired.

'The first of March, your honor—bad luck to it of all the black days in the world—and here it is, come sudden on me like a shot.'

'The first of March!—why, my good fellow, you have a day to spare then—the first of March will not be here till to-morrow. It is Leap Year and February has twenty-nine days.'

The soldier was thunder-struck.—'Twenty-nine days, is it!—You're sartin of that same!—Oh, Mother, Mother! the Divil fly away wid yere ould Almanack—a base cratur of a book, to be deceaven one, after living so long in the family of us!'

His first impulse was to cut a caper on the roof of the coach, and throw up his cap, with a loud hurrah! His second, was to throw himself into the arms of his Kathleen, and the third, was to wring my hand off in acknowledgement.

"It's a happy man I am, your Honour, for my word's sake, and all your honour's name. Long life to your Honour for the same!—May ye live a long hundred—and leap years every one of them!' [Hood's Annual.

ARCHITECTURE IN THE U. STATES.

Under this head a writer in the 35th. number of Silliman's Journal of Science, makes the following remarks:—

'Place in a village a handsome public monument, or pillar, or church, and I do not hesitate to say that, all other things being equal, those villagers will be bound more to one another, and to their village, than those of another. Place by another a group of trees, with a fountain playing in their midst: have beneath them tasteful seats, and make it a place to which experienced age and prattling infancy will go for company or amusement; a spot where the villagers will assemble in the evening for cheerful conversation, and I venture to say that these people will love their homes more, and thinking less of changing, will improve them more; that they will be wiser; that their taverns will be less frequented; and that every good feeling will prevail more among them, than would have been the case without. Place in a town or city, a spot with spreading trees, and pleasant walks between, a spot which would serve as an agreeable promenade, and the feelings of that people will flow in a kinder and smother channel; there will be more cheerfulness and more happiness than there would otherwise have been. It is a delightful amusement to saunter along the French *promenades* about sunset, and observe the happy groups of all ages, that throng them; to watch the rapid sale of bouquets, at the platforms which line the sides; (flowers only are admitted there) and as an American looks at the cheerful scene, he must think with pain of his own cities, where every thing seems calculated for dull labour, or lynx-eyed gain. It is doubtless owing, in some degree, to the provision of such places, in foreign countries, that their natives resort less to taverns for amusement than with us; and that intoxication consequently is less frequently seen. The French have their Boulevards; the Spaniards their Prado; the Italians their Corso; all of these have their public gardens; and we—we have our tippling shops, the bane and disgrace of our land, and shall have them, I fear, till we provide more innocent places of resort. All attempts to check this current of feeling are vain; the stream must flow; and if we give it a channel, will refresh and beautify the land, it would otherwise have desolated and destroyed.

So much for the effect on the morals of a people. The recreation on the mind is also of very great consequence.—A flourishing state of Architecture, it is true, implies a good degree of previous mental culture; but no cause, perhaps, operates with more quickness, certainty and power, in refining the mind thus prepared, than this. It is placing objects of taste before the public, which they cannot help seeing, about which they must converse, whose beauties they must analyse, on which, in short, all will turn critics, and the sure consequence will be, a refinement of taste, an elevation of mental character which will carry itself into all the concerns of life. The principle of accommodation is one of the most powerful and useful in our nature. Place a civilized man among savages, and his thoughts, feelings and habits, will, before many years be strongly assimilated, to those of the savage; place a savage in refined society, and his character will in a short time undergo a change. Place a number of tasteful public edifices in a town, and the private buildings of that town will become classic and tasteful; build private edifices on the principles of good taste, and I do not hesitate to say, that their interior will correspond—that in cleanliness, good order and regularity of the system within, there will be a sure and rapid improvement reacting strongly on the mind, as well as on the moral character of the occupants.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.

SUPREME COURT.

Tobias Watkins' petition for habeas corpus.—Mr. Coxe, on Saturday, for the petitioner, read the petition and the record of the proceedings of the Circuit Court.—He then contended that all the proceedings of the Circuit Court had been void, because that Court had no jurisdiction of the matters charged as an offence. The proceedings of a Court beyond its jurisdiction are nullities, and this was the foundation of his application. He cited Wise vs. Withers, 1st Cranch, 231, Rose vs. Himely, 4th Cranch; Ben vs. Harden, 1st Payne. He contended that whenever an error is committed by any Circuit Court of the United States in assuming a jurisdiction in a case alleged to be criminal which was not so, the only remedy for the party under the sentence of the Court is by writ of habeas corpus to this Court: cited 3d Cranch, 448; 1st Peters' condensed Reports 594, Bollman and Swartwout 4th Cranch 35, Ramsay's case, 7th Wheaton 38. He admitted that the only question was whether the Circuit Court had jurisdiction of the alleged offence. If the jurisdiction existed, then no examination of the proceedings could be entered into, however irregular they might have been. He then proceeded to argue the question at large upon this point, and upon the principles presented on the trial in the Circuit Court.

The Attorney General, for the United States stated that the Government had no disposition to prevent the examination of the case, and he would be prepared to discuss it at large on the return of the habeas corpus, if the writ should be awarded; but he would discuss as a preliminary question whether this Court could issue a habeas corpus to revise the sentence of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia in a criminal case. The relator was in confinement under the sentence of the Circuit Court, and the object of the habeas corpus was to release him from that imprisonment. He contended that no decision in favor of issuing a writ of habeas corpus in such a case could be found. Bollman and Swartwout's case was an application to be released on bail; Kearney's case was one in which the defendant was under sentence for contempt, and the Court considered this equivalent to a conviction, and refused to allow the habeas corpus. He went into an argument to shew, that, if the Supreme Court would entertain an application for a habeas corpus in such a case, they would have power to review the judgments and sentences of the inferior courts of the United States in all criminal cases. No writ of error would lie to the Supreme Court, in a criminal case; and yet upon the principles contended for, under the writ of habeas corpus, the Court would exercise the same authority. He argued these points at large, and is to be followed by Mr. Jones for the relator.

HONOR AMONG INDIANS.

There is no class of human beings on earth, who hold a pledge more sacred and binding, than do the North American Indians. A sample of this was witnessed during the Winnebago war of 1827, in the person of Dekker-re a celebrated chief of that nation, who, among four other Indians of his tribe, was taken prisoner at Prairie du Chien. Colonel Snelling, of the 5th regiment of infantry, who then commanded that garrison despached a young Indian into the nation, with orders to inform the other chiefs of Dekker-re's band, that unless those Indians who were the perpetrators of the horrid murders of some of our citizens, were not brought to the fort and given up within ten days, Dekker-re and the other four indians who were retained as hostages, would be shot at the end of that time. The awful sentence was pronounced in the presence of Dekker-re, who, though proclaiming his own innocenee of the outrages which had been committed by others of his nation, exclaimed that he feared not death, though it would be attended with serious consequences, inasmuch as he had two affectionate wives, and a large family of small children who were entirely dependent on him for their support; but if necessary, he was willing to die for the honor of his nation. The young Indian had been gone several days, and no intelligence was yet received from the murderers. The dreadful day being near at hand, and Dekker-re being in a bad state of health, asked permission of the Colonel to go to the river to indulge in his long accustomed habit of bathing, in order to improve his health. Upon, which Col. S. told him that, if he would promise, on the honor of a chief, that he would not leave the town, he might have his liberty, and enjoy all his privileges, until the day of the appointed execution.—Accordingly, he first gave his hand to the Colonel, thanked him for his friendly offer, then raised both his hands aloft, and in the most solemn abjuration, promised that he would not leave the bounds prescribed, and said, if he had a hundred lives, he would sooner loose them all than forfeit his word, or deduct from his proud nation one particle of its boasted honor. He was then set at liberty. He was advised to flee to the wilderness, and make his escape.—'But no,' said he 'do you think I prize life above honor! or that I would betray a confidence reposed in me, for the sake of saving my life!' He then complacently remained until nine days of the ten which he had to live had elapsed, and nothing heard from the nation with regard to the apprehension of the murderers, his immediate death became apparent; but no alteration could be seen in the countenance of the chief. It so happened that on that day Gen. Atkinson arrived with his troops from Jefferson Barracks, and the order for the execution was countermanded, and the Indians permitted to repair to their homes.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.

FROM COLOMBIA.

The packet brig Montilla, Captain Beekman, arrived last evening from Carthagena, having left that port the 9th ult.

Gen. Harrison, late Minister of the United States to Columbia, his son, and his Secretary, Mr. Van Rensselaer, of Albany, and Col. Torrens, late Charge d'Affaires of Mexico, to the same government, have arrived in the Montilla.

A correspondent of the Mercantile Advertiser writes under date of the 9th ult. from Carthagena, that 'all eyes are fixed on the Liberator, and great anxiety is manifested to know what course he will pursue. Guayaquil and Quito have declared in favor of his being proclaimed monarch of Peru. The news of the separation of Venezuela, causes much excitement.'

The English Minister, Mr. Turner, and his family, arrived at Carthagena on the 4th ult. The brig Medina was to sail on the 11th for Chagres, to bring up a part of Bolivar's army, which was at Panama.

Troops had already marched for Venezuela, and the army from Peru, which was at Panama was ordered for the same destination.

The Journal of Commerce contains a translation of a letter written by Paez to the Secretary of War, written in reply to a communication from him, announcing the insurrection of Cordova. Paez declares his intention to keep Venezuela, his department, in order, and sustain the then existing organization. Venezuela was at the last dates, however, 'in a state of opposition;' and is said to have taken up arms. It is not unlikely that it is fostered by Paez, with a view of making it apparently expedient to invest Bolivar with still greater authority.

Intelligence received previous to the arrival of the Montilla stated, that General O'Leary, who lately quelled the insurrection in Antioquia, has been appointed Minister from Colombia to the United States, and may be expected to arrive here soon. An insurrection broke out in the province of Choco, subsequently to the defeat and death of Cordova, which was speedily put down.

NEWSPAPERS.

The following observations are so just, that we cannot forbear inserting them here: 'Newspapers'—There is hardly any thing so much needed in a family as a newspaper, and yet nothing comparatively speaking, is esteemed of so little value. If a man undertakes to retrench his expenses, instead of lopping off, what is really useless and extravagant, the first thing to be amputated is the newspaper. He will not drink a bottle of wine less, nor smoke the less tobacco, nor divest himself of a single unseemly habit; but he sits down and demonstrates to a certainty that a paper neither feeds nor clothes him, and therefore it is a great tax, and then a note is despatched to the printer:—'Sir, I cannot afford to take your paper any longer;' or, 'Times are hard, money is scarce; ergo, you may discontinue sending my paper;' or with any other excuse that may come uppermost. Now we believe that every one who will make a fair trial, and observe the influence of reading over his family, will find at the end of the year, that he is not a shilling the poorer for having been a subscriber to a good newspaper. He will have accumulated more real intelligence of the every day concerns of life and the movement of nations—we take it for granted, that he has perused every number with avidity—than he would have done in a series of years deprived of the sight thereof. His wife will have picked up much information relative to the government of her children, many useful lessons of household economy, and no small share of instruction suited to her situation. The children acquire a habit of reading, and, a degree of intelligence worth the price of subscription ten times told.—In fact, a good, well conducted newspaper in a family, is the best economist of time and aptest instructor of the mind.

The following is part of a letter from a gentleman in the city of New York, to the Editor of the Rochester (New York) Courier. It has reference to the late act of rudeness in the streets of New York, to a lady, with the particulars of which our readers are acquainted.

'It seems, or rather it is said, that one of the men concerned was a suitor of the young lady, against the advice and consent of her friends, and that it was he who met her, and conveyed her to the carriage, under the pretence that her father (who he said was dying) had sent for her.—[I never knew a young lady's father to die when she wanted to marry, and he was averse to the match.] Well, who do you think was inside of the carriage? A parson, by all that's canonical—prepared to *tie* the *knot*, although he did *not tie* it. There he sat, the demure codger—smiling in the dark at the prospect of his ten dollar fee, and determined upon working the rule of arithmetic which says *one* and *one* make *one*. However the twain did not become one flesh—the lover had been too rash in his measures, and the lady's motto was 'men not measures,' instead of 'measures not men.' She did not like the Napoleon style of *doing* things, and so the whole thing was *undone*. The lady lost her self-possession, the parson lost his ten dollars, and the swain lost his wife that might have been. She burst from the carriage—the lover burst into tears, and the parson burst into a passion. Of a truth—no blame can be attached to the young lady, and not much to the young man; he is not the first who attempted to run away with a beauty, and she is not the first fair dame that did not choose to be run away with. We have no regular Gretna Green as yet on Manhattan island—but we think of establishing one at Greenwich on the scite of the old state prison, and appointing your old friend the Recorder master of ceremonies, allowing him at the same time to grant discharges under the insolvent act.'

HEN WITH A HUMAN FACE.

The Lancet gives an account of a curious hen, which existed at Moscow, in the year 1815, having a human face. The knowledge of the circumstance is derived from a paper written by Mr. Von Martins, a physician from Berlin. The doctor describes the fowl as having been hatched in a village of the district of Belewsk, department of Tula, in the spring of 1815. It was of the middle size, and, except the head, resembled other hens; its face, however particularly the profile, resembled that of a toothless old woman. The beak was entirely wanting, the maxillæ being much shorter than usual, and terminating at the place of the nostrils. The rudiments of the maxillæ were covered with flesh, which had quite the appearance of lips; the comb was very different from that of other hens, and greatly resembled a human nose; the lower jaw had a fleshy appendix or chin partly naked, but in some places covered with small feathers; the eyes were very large and had a bright red iris; the skin below the eyes was of a flesh colour, with a blueish tint in some places, and, as well as the chin, covered with small bristly feathers, which, at the side of the face, were particularly dense, and resembled whiskers. The animal appeared fond of the society of men and shunned that of fowls, always hanging down its wings and trembling when in the society of other hens. It was very domesticated, and became fearful when taken into the air. The account concludes by showing the impossibility of this appearance having been caused by accident or artificial means.

RULES OF THE WEATHER.

A wet summer is always followed by a frosty winter, but it happens occasionally that the cold extends no father. Two remarkable instances of this occurred in 1807–8 and 1813–14.—With these exceptions every frosty winter has been followed by a cold summer.—The true cause of cold, or rather the direct cause, is to be found in the winter excess of west wind—every winter with excess of west wind being followed by a cold summer; and if there is no colder before, or during a first excess, then a second excess of west wind in winter occasions a still colder summer than the first.—It also appears, by repeated experience, that cold does not extend to more than two years at a time.—Again, if the winter excess of the east wind be great, in the first instance, the winter will be mild, and followed by mild summer; while the summer excess of east wind, is itself, in the first instance, always mild, but uniformly followed by cold winters and cold summers, which continue, more or less, for one or two years according to circumstances.—Mag. of Nat. History.

STEAM PLOUGH.

Mr. Henry Handley of Culverthorpe, Sleaford, has offered a premium of one hundred pounds for the invention of a steam plough. In his letter he says he expected ere this, to have seen the wonder working power of steam applied to general agricultural purposes, and that locomotive engines would have smoked on our fields even before they had established themselves upon our roads. An enormous expense is attendant on the cultivation of strong natural wheat lands, four horses and two men being frequently employed in tearing up the tenacious fallow, and it is often insufficiently done, tho' the cost cannot be less than 12s. to 14s. per acre. Were steam applied, in place of the all consuming draught horse Mr. Handley calculates that ere long clay lands might be plouged as from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per acre, and other lands in proportion. Should this man of genius succeed in his invention, one of the ideas of Mr. Goodwin, that were especially exposed to ridicule, will be realized. [Glas. Chron.

A young lady (says the Philadelphia Chronicle) preparing a doll, *a la Vestris*, for the fair at the Masonic Hall, had some trouble with part of her drapery, and was advised by her brother to send for her mantua-maker. 'Lord, brother, yout think we girls can do nothing; I'll send for no *man to make her*.

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