THE STAR.

EASTON, Md.

TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 29, 1845

☞ Mr. V. B. Palmer is our authorized agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the "Easton Star," in the cities of Baltimore and Philadelphia.

NOTICE.

The Democratic Republican voters of Talbot County are requested to meet at the Court House in Easton, on Tuesday the 5th of August, at 12 o'cl'k M. for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices——Three for the House of Delegates—Two for County Commissioners for District No. 1, and one for Sheriff.

All persons disposed to unite with us are respectfully requested to attend.

Central Committee.

July 12th, 1845.

Reform Convention.—We are authorized to say that the Convention for the purpose of remodeling the Constitution of the State of Maryland will not be held until the *Fourth Wednesday in August.* The committee who report this fact, also say in their communication, that they believe the present period auspicious to the success of any reasonable plan for a Reform in the Constitution of our State, whereby the expenses of its administration, now so burdensome to the people, may be effectually reduced,—whereby a vigorous, and yet economical system of Courts of Justice may be established,—whereby the compensation to Clerks, and other Public Officers may be justly apportioned to the merit of their services,—and whereby that unwise and improvident legislation, which in its large appropriation to Works of "Internal Improvements" has wrecked the faith and credit of the State, may be effectually arrested by wholesome restrictions upon the legislative power.

We call upon the people to get to action!

Reform.—We are pleased to see that our friends in Caroline have appointed delegates to the Reform Convention. We hope the voters of Talbot will act promptly in this matter, and also be represented. The Baltimore Argus, in an article on the subject of reform, says—"We need a rigid economy in the State government, less law and more justice, smaller salaries and no emoluments from office, and a strict accountability of all public officers. Our little State "is governed too much," far more than States of ten times her size and resources, and our judiciary costs more than any State in the Union, and no one will pretend to say that we have a better or as good a system of law. Then let us take the pruning knife and lop off all these rotten branches, which only tend to injure the body, and let us try a new and more popular Constitution. The Democracy of the State are moving, let them go on, and if any of our neighbors will join us, let them come, for it will need a strong and energetic effort to accomplish our purpose; but let not our opponents think for one moment, that we will wait for them to accomplish this, for their old prescriptions are known too well to hope for any efficacy from their virtues. Then, Democrats throughout the State, and friends of Reform rally for the approaching contest, and send a Reform delegation from every county to the Legislature, and we will start a ball that Whigery will not dare oppose, and which will break down the barrier of opposition."

THE QUESTION of ALL QUESTIONS.

The question before all others at the present time in Maryland, should be *reform—reform—reform!* Let it be sounded in the valleys, on the mountain tops, on the bay shores, and in every nook and corner, until the people are fully aroused to action on the subject. Let neither promises nor persuasions, heat nor cold, rain or sunshine, cause us to stop or pause one moment in the holy work. It is a duty the people owe themselves;—it is a duty we owe to the age in which we live—it is a duty we owe to our sister States—to go shoulder to shoulder and keep up with them, in wrenching power from the few and distributing it more equally among the many! The wasteful extravagance which is carried on under the piece of shreds and patches, which disgrace the name of 'Constitution,' is alarming and startling; it behooves us, therefore to be up at once—no more procrastination—no more holding back—no more waiting for the tide. The press must speak out—the forum must send forth its awakening appeals—the soul of the cause must be touched and quickened, and the power will follow in lightning like rapidity.—Let the friends of the cause meet on one platform of common brotherhood, and let them be only known as the champions of thorough Reform in Maryland. On this subject, we copy the following from the Somerset Gazette, which paper has devoted itself in the right spirit to the work:—

"We believe that every body, except perhaps, those who occupy the Bench and their particular friends and relatives, is in favor of Reforming the Judiciary system of the State, so as to render it less expensive and oppressive to the people, and in harmony with that declaration of the Bill of Rights, which says, that "every man ought to have justice and right, freely without sale, fully without denial, and speedily without delay."

It is apparent that the present cumbrous and impolitic system of three judges, when one would answer every purpose, often operates, without any intention on the part of the judges, to a denial, or at least, a shameful and ruinous delay of justice.—They must have time for consultation even after the lawyer has poured a flood of light upon the question and exhausted every means of illustration. Oftentimes, too, the Bench is not full, and then no matter how important the case, if any principle of equity arises, or any point of law is to be decided, it must be postponed for another term or until the Bench is more full. But perhaps the advocate of the present system will reply that the consequence of this delay is, that "no where on earth has law been more sacredly regarded, and liberty and human rights more strongly secured." Well, then, admitting the truth of this assertion for the sake of argument, (and unless the author of it can show that law is better administered in Maryland, than in the States of New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky, we are still entitled to a decision in favor of the system of those States. If law is to be estimated according to the price which is paid for it, then we ought to have in Maryland better laws than they have in New York in the ratio of *ten* to *one.* In other words the law of Maryland ought to be ten times as good, as that of New York, as it costs just ten times as much. It is needless to ask if this is really so, for every body knows that the New York Reports stand higher than those of any other State in the Union. Away, then, with these puny efforts to reconcile the people to the present odious and oppressive system!"

The Revenue Service.—We have another to add to the many instances of the efficiency of this branch of the public service in a recent case coming within our immediate notice. On Monday, the 7th instant, the Cutter Madison, commanded by Capt. Webster, when off Patuxent, discovered a brig with her ensign flying, union down, as a signal of distress. A boat from the Cutter, commanded by the First Lieutenant, was immediately despatched to the assistance of the brig, which proved to be the Argo, Captain Reed, bound to Rio Grande, the crew refusing duty and in a state of complete insubordination.

After fully satisfying himself that their grounds of complaint were without reason and their conduct unjustifiable, they were transferred by the Lieutenant to the Madison, where Captain Webster, after vainly remonstrating with the ring-leaders and urging them to return to their duty, under the imperious necessity of the case, found that the safety of the service required prompt measures at his hands, which were immediately and efficiently accorded to the two ring-leaders, who, with the rest of the crew, now consented to return to their duty. But for this well-timed aid, the Argo would have been obliged to return to Baltimore, her voyage interrupted, or what would have been infinitely worse, perhaps, have gone to sea with a crew ready at a moment to commit any deed of violence to which their lawless dispositions might prompt them.—[American.

MEETING OF SLAVE HOLDERS.

At Port Tobacco, Charles County, Md., a large meeting of citizens was held on Friday last to consider what measures were most likely to put a stop to the elopement of their slaves, the recent gang arrested in Montgomery County, being owned in that vicinity. A preamble and series of resolutions were adopted recommending the appointment of an additional police, and the watchful care of their masters. Votes of thanks were tendered to the citizens of Rockville for their promptness and energy, and all free negroes were notified that their presence would not be tolerated within the limits of the county after the first of December next—the meeting pledging itself to purchase all their property at fair prices. Ministers of the Gospel are hereafter positively prohibited from holding night meetings, for the attendance of slaves, who are not to be allowed to leave their quarters after dark, on any account without a pass from their masters. Religious instruction during the day is not prohibited, provided one or more of their masters should be present; and the employment of free negroes at the fishing landings hereafter will not be allowed.—Funds were raised to secure the enforcement of these resolves, and the meeting empowered the President to call them together again at any time that he may deem such a course necessary. A committee was also appointed to endeavor to procure from the Legislature additional legislation for the protection of their property and civil rights.

☞ Speaking of the dangers apprehended in the case of war with Great Britain from her war steamers, the Charleston Patriot very truly says, the same power is here at our hands affording the most admirable means of protection. The ordinary river boats of the Mississippi, and, indeed of all our inland waters, are quite equal to the purposes of harbour and river defence; and armed with Paxhain shot will answer just as well as the thickest ribbed vessel in the British navy. For one of those vessels that Great Britain could send against New Orleans, 100 American Steamers could be collected at a moment's warning—of equal and superior size—prepared to defend it. And so, proportionally, of every accessible river, lake or water course, in the U. States. The Government has nothing to do for this purpose but to provide at convenient places the military armament—the shot and powder.

Mexico.—The Washington Union says: "We should consider the chances as against war; and yet we are not at liberty to assign our reasons for this opinion."

Naval.—*The Insurrection at the Bay of Islands.*—We find in the Patriot, the following extract of a letter from an officer on board the U. S. ship St. Louis:

"The U. S. ship St. Louis, Capt. J. Mc Keever, anchored at the Bay of Islands, New Zealand, and on the 3d March, being 7 days from Sydney, New South Wales. She left the East Indies in November, '44, when, after rendering most important services with her sailors and marines in quelling an attempt by a Chinese mob, to destroy the northern Coast of China, the St. Louis proceeded to Manilla, Batavia, Hobart's Town, Van Dieman's Land, and Sydney, N. S. Wales, and thence to New Zealand. Her arrival at the Bay of Islands has been most opportune, the natives having risen upon the Europeans, headed by their intelligent New Zealand Chief, John Keki. Captain McKeever, from his neutral position, and the happy influence he was enabled to exercise over Keki, in his personal interviews with him, exacted a pledge that he would spare and protect the women and children of the inhabitants, as well as the whole missionary property at Pahia. The natives, at day break on the 11th, made an attack upon the English village at the Bay, took it, and burnt it the following day—killing the commander of her Majesty's ship Hazard, and eight others who fell in attempting to defend the place: upwards of a dozen more wounded. The natives lost about the same number as the English. The St. Louis leaves this morning to proceed to Aukland, the seat of Government, with the defenceless inhabitants on board. After landing them, she will proceed to join the U. S. ship Brandywine at the Society Islands. All well on board."

A Meteor.—A friend on board the U. S. schooner On-ha-dyse, has favored the Norfolk Beacon with the following:—On the night of the 26th of May, 1845, about 11 o'clock, we then being in lat. 13 N. lon. 75 W., there appeared one of the most brilliant meteoric phenomena that I have ever witnessed. The whole heavens were illuminated, and seemed for a moment as if about to break out into one extended sheet of flame. The meteor itself was about one-third the size of the full moon; it appeared nearly in the zenith, and travelled with an accelerated velocity from N. W. to S. E., performing an area of about 25 deg; it then exploded, dividing into several fragments, looking like so many shooting stars. Between eight and ten minutes after the explosion, we heard a report resembling a distant gun, but more prolonged, like the rolling sound of distant thunder. I should judge that we were about 120 miles from the spot where the explosion took place. What sensations it would have produced in one who could have been [illegible] or two of it, can be but faintly imagined. I have no doubt that it was an Ærolite of the first class.—The captain, officer of the deck, and myself were the only officers that had the pleasure of witnessing this phenomenon; and both concur with me in pronouncing it to be truly, awfully grand.

Progress of the Magnetic Telegraph.—Arrangements between New York and Philadelpeia are recorded in the N. York Tribune. It says the posts through the city are to be 20 feet in height; 60 miles of the wire for this telegraph is already finished. The Boston and New York line will probably be the first completed, as Pomeroy has been liberally seconded by Boston capitalists, and the work is to be vigorously pushed. A meeting was held in Utica yesterday for making final arrangements for extending the line to Buffalo—east of that, to Boston, things being already definitely fixed. Southwardly there is no progress. The initial arrangements for prosecuting the work north from New Orleans have fallen through.

A Working Cabinet.—The experience of more than eleven weeks confirms "our first impressions." Every day satisfies us that no administration ever better deserved the name of a working cabinet than Mr. Polk and all his secretaries. We do not speak at random.—We describe what we have seen. We affirm what we particularly know. We state it in simple justice to the men whom a ruthless press and a reckless corps of correspondents are continually assailing with idle devices and fabulous legends. It is not to burn incense under the nostrils of the great, but to parry shameless falsehoods with honest truths.—*Union.*

Mississippi.—The Democratic Convention which assembled at Jackson, on the 7th inst. made the following nominations.

Governor—A. G. Brown, (present Governor.)

For Congress—Jefferson Davis, Stephen H. Adams, Robert W. Roberts, and Jacob Thompson.

Attorney General—John D. Freeman.

Auditor—James E. Mathews.

Treasurer—Wm. Clark.

Secretary of State—Wilson Hemingway.

Reported for the Republican and Argus.

New Wheat and Oats.—A large quantity of new wheat, from the Eastern Shore counties principally, is coming to market and sells very well. The grain generally is said to be very fine and large, and will produce a good quantity and quality of flour. Some of it is rather damp, which is the only objection we have heard against it, but which can be obviated by permitting it to dry, before it is placed on board the vessels to send it to market. New oats are coming in some quantities, and bring a fair price for the season.

Death of Mr. Pigman.—The Hon. Bene S. Pigman, formerly, a Senator of Maryland, died at Cumberland on Sunday night the 20th, in the 70th year of his age.

THE NEW YORK FIRE.

The terrible fire in New York, though not so extensive as the great fire of 1835, is still a severe one, and the loss of property great. The number of houses destroyed is about 300; the loss is estimated at about $5,000,000. The people of that city are possessed of two elements of character, energy and perseverance, which rise superior to every affliction and enable them to recover from disasters which would hopelessly prostrate many other cities. With this spirit in operation, joined to the active sympathy of sister cities, N. York will soon be placed in as good condition as ever.

Every year is distinguished by some peculiarity, some incident which marks it as an epoch. The year 1845 will be known as the year of great fires. There never was a period of a single year which has been marked on this side of the Atlantic by so many fires of a disastrous character, sometimes destroying the best part of large and populous cities. They commenced in April last with the great fire in Pittsburgh, which destroyed 1200 houses, and have spread to Quebec on the North, destroying two thirds of that city, to Mantanzas and Barbadoes in the West Indies, and leaving traces of its destructive course at various points between. The destruction of property amounts to $20,000,000, a sum properly expended, large enough to educate all the children in the United States.

We annex a list of the losses experienced, in the order in which they occurred.

Barbadoes,	$2,000,000
Pittsburg,	3,500,000
London, Conn.	500,000
Fayetteville,	500,000
Quebec,	7,500,000
Mantanzas,	1,000,000
New York,	5,000,000
Rochester, last week,	50,000
Total,	$20,050,000

INHUMAN CONDUCT.

The N. Y. News from which we publish the following inhuman and brutal conduct, on the part of the keeper of a public hotel, should publish the name of the establishment as well as that of the keeper.

"We regret to hear, that while the proprietors of Howard's Hotel, and other public houses in the section of the city, have displayed great consideration and generosity in furnishing refreshments to the firemen and others who have been engaged at the arduous duties of the two past days, an exception to this liberal and humane spirit should be found on the part of the keepers of one of our Hotels. It occurred early on Saturday morning, when the alarm and dismay occasioned by the terrific explosion was at its height. The concussion produced by the explosion demolished the windows of the chamber of an invalid lady, the wife of a merchant in Maiden lane, then absent from town, who boarded on the west side of Broadway near the Globe Hotel. She was so frightened by the crash and the excusable apprehension that the house would tumble down upon the heads of all within it, that she rushed into the street in her night clothes—even barefooted—with her nurse, who bore her infant, in the same state of *dishabille*, accompanying her. Scarcely conscious of their situation, or of aught save their apprehended danger, they fled up Broadway to a large hotel and applied for shelter; but they were most inhumanely *refused even admittance within the doors*, and were obliged to seek a refuge elsewhere."

A PETRIFIED WOMAN.

A Mr. Woodward, of Warren co., Ohio, said to be a man of veracity, gives the Eaton Register the following account of a petrified woman. It occurred near Lebanon.

"On the 6th day of last month, our venerable and much esteemed friend, John C. Irwin closed his earthly career, in the full hope of a happy immortality. On the following day an appropriate funeral discourse was delivered by Elder W. Clark. His remains were decently interred in the grave yard near West Lebanon. Some time previous to his death, he had expressed a desire that the body of his first wife should be removed to this grave yard. Accordingly, on the 24th ult., the citizens of Lebanon and the vicinity, removed the remains of Mrs. Irwin. I went with others in search of her grave. We found it on a very high point of white oak ground where they had formerly lived. And when we had opened the grave down on the coffin, we found it about one fourth in water, and the plank of the coffin very rotten; however, we got several pieces of bark under it, to bind it together and lift it out. From the great weight of the coffin, we were curious to see it opened; and to our utter astonishment, there lay the body in full size! It was covered with a thin scum of black dirt, which appeared to be alive with very little worms of a yellow color, but they soon disappeared when exposed to the air. When we came to examine more minutely, we found that the body had became petrified, and became a smoothe white limestone in appearance. The head and neck had petrified, and nothing remained but the naked bone, and the hairs of the head, and some feathers which had been in a pillow. The arms are petrified at the elbow joint, and nothing remained of the lower part of the arms and hands but the naked bones. The feet had also petrified, and fell off at the ankle joint, and the stone appeared shelly. At the knee joints the legs appeared to be as solid as stone. Around each leg, where she wore her garters—being a very fleshy woman—the garters had made a very deep impression, and this impression was plainly visible in the stone, except some parts where it appeared solid. The thickness of the stone was about that of common Spanish sole leather."

Tennessee.—A letter from Tennessee says: "We are in fine spirits about the governor's election in this State. Brown, I think, is certain to be elected. Johnson will be elected in the first, and Blackwell in the third districts. This district doubtful."

The Chinamen.—The Boston Transcript gives the following account of the celestials brought to N. York by Mr. Peters of that city:

"Among the strangers now in Boston are three real Chinamen, good specimens of the inhabitants of the Celestial Empire.—They appear in full Chinese costume, long black queue and all, and the *attaches* of the famous Chinese Museum, which is soon to be opened here, and will form an interesting part of that exhibition.

We have already stated that one of these Chinamen was a professor of music. His name is Lekoking. He is about thirty-five years of age, and has much more the appearance of a philosopher than a musician. He has a very sedate and imperturbable look; and we understand he has never, since leaving China, manifested any symptoms of excitement, except when he first got into the cars upon the railroad, on his way from New York to Boston.—He is, in fact, an inveterate Chinese; and seems determined not to become a 'barbarian' if he can help it. Mr. Weed, supercargo, and Captain Kilham, of the ship Bazaar, in which the Museum and the Chinese gentlemen were brought out, took considerable pains to instruct Lekoking in some of the facts of European science, but in vain. He obstinately persists in his oriental notion of the perfection of the human race; has no idea of the march of mind and all that sort of thing; and in spite of the testimony of his own eyes, still doggedly maintains that the world is not round, but as flat as a pancake, and as long as from China to New York.

Tsow Chaooing is much more tractable: and takes great delight in the developments of the New World. He is charmed with this country, and says he means, after he has fulfilled his three years' engagement with the proprietors of the Museum, to go to China and see his father and mother, and then come back here and live. He is about 25 years old, speaks Canton-English pretty intelligibly, and writes a fair English hand. We have before us a specimen of Tsow Chaooing's chirography, which shows that he has already made considerable proficiency in his European education.

The other one appears to be of humbler rank, and to have fewer Chinese peculiarities. He comes, we believe, in the capacity of a servant, and as a matter of convenience has assumed the European dress. They all visited Mr. Simpson's factory at Saxonville a day or two since, and were marvellously affected by the operations of Yankee labor saving machinery.

THE MINT.

The United States have three mints for the coinage of money. One at Philadelphia, one in North Carolina, and the other at New Orleans, and although the two latter are called mints, yet they may be more justly considered as Branches of the Parent Institution at Philadelphia, established in that city almost immediately after the government was established. The coining of money is not generally understood, and the Philadelphia Chronicle has been at some pains to collect some account of the process: "Bullion is brought to the Mint in every form; amalgamations from the ore, bars, plate, jewelry, and foreign coin. All these present a great variety as to quality. The Assayer brings this heterogeneous mass into a proper condition and fineness for coining, and returns the metal in ingots or small bars. These bars, or ingots, are then annealed, to soften them for rolling; when they are passed through the rolling machine, worked by a steam engine, and come out long thin strips—of the width and thickness most convenient for use. In order to reduce those strips of metal to their proper size for the press, they are drawn through nicely graduated "drawing dies." In the next place, they are passed through the cutting press, which is also moved by steam, and pieces of the true size are cut out. The punch moves so rapidly that one hundred and sixty pieces, on an average, are cut out in a minute. The pieces thus prepared are next put into the milling machine, in which the edge, to afford protection to the surface of the coin, is forced up. In this machine, one hundred and twenty half dollars, or five hundred and sixty half dimes, can be milled in a minute. The pieces of metal thus prepared are then tested, as to their weight, and if found correct, are again softened for the dies. The stamping machine is moved also, by steam power. The pieces are put into an inclined tube at one side of the machine, from which they reach the coining dies in regular order, receive the impression, and fall into a box below—upon the opposite side—a perfet coin, ready for circulation. The coining presses are of various sizes, to suit the various denominations of coin. The usual speed of striking is sixty pieces per minute for the half dollar, seventy-five for the quarter, and ninety for the dime. The Mint, with a few additional hands, is competent to coin ten millions, half gold and half silver, annually."

Nursery Philosophy.—The New Haven Herald exclaims:—

"Woman, what are you whipping that child for?—For crying do you say? That is an original mode of closing the little creature's tear ducts,—a new way of assuaging infantile grief. Little Breeches is crying because he feels bad, and he as much right to feel bad as you. His only plaything has sustained irreparable damage, and his grief is poignant. Did you experience but a tithe of grief which now agitates his little bosom, you would skulk and sob for whole days, while he blows it straight out, and in fifteen minutes it is over with. How would you like to be whipped for indulging in your peculiar griefs in your own way?—And what though his mode is somewhat clamorous?—What if he does stand astraddle in the middle of the room, a flood of tears washing clean streaks down his countenance, his mouth wide open, shouting forth to the whole neighborhood his lamentations?—his go cart *has* broken down and he don't care who knows it."

VALUE OF TEXAS.

We are looking out every moment for some decisive intelligence from the Convention of Texas. Should they ratify our propositions, the territory may be considered as reunited to our republic, and incorporated with our territory. What, then, is the value of the acquisition we have made? All accounts concur in representing its land as very luxuriant and productive, and the acquisition as extremely valuable. But we have two authorities to confirm it: one is the more ancient declaration of Mr. Clay, twenty-five years ago; the other is the description of an intelligent traveller published in the "Nashville Whig" of the 15th instant:

Mr. Clay's speech in the House of Representatives, April, 1820, on the Spanish treaty.

"I presume the spectacle will not be presented of questioning, in this branch of the government, our title to Texas, which has been constantly maintained by the executive for more than fifteen years past, under their several administrations. I am at the same time ready and prepared to make out our title, if any one in the House is fearless enough to controvert it. I will, for the present, briefly state, that the man who is most familiar with the transactions of this government—who largely participated in the formation of our constitution, and all that has been done under it—who, besides the eminent services that he has rendered his country, principally contributed to the acquisition of Louisiana—who must be supposed, from his various opportunities, best to know its limits—declared, fifteen years ago, that our title to the Rio del Norte was as well founded as it was to the island of New Orleans."

"All the accounts concur in representing Texas to be extremely valuable. Its superficial extent is three or four times greater than that of Florida. The climate is delicious; the soil fertile; the margin of the rivers abounding in live oak; and the country admitting of easy settlement. It possesses, moreover, if I am not misinformed, one of the finest ports in the Gulf of Mexico. The productions of which it is capable, are suited to our wants. The unfortunate captive of St. Helena wished for ships, commerce, and colonies. We have them all, if we do not wantonly throw them away. The colonies of other countries are separated from them by vast seas, requiring great expense to protect them, and are held subject to a constant risk of their being torn from their grasp. Our colonies, on the contrary, are united to, and form a part of, our continent; and the same Mississippi, from whose rich deposite the best of them (Louisiana) has been formed, will transport on her bosom the brave, the patriotic men from her tributary streams, to defend and preserve the next most valuable, the province of Texas."

From the Nashville Whig.

"Description of Texas.—We account it a piece of good fortune in being able to present our readers at this conjuncture with a description of the country of Texas, by a gentleman who has recently visited it, and on the accuracy of whose statements entire confidence may be placed.—We know the author *well*, and can vouch for the conscientious regard to *facts* with which his sketches have been drawn."

"The outline of this great country, as claimed, and as shown on maps—that is, from the Sabine to the Rio Grande, and from the Gulf of Mexico to the 42d degree of north latitude, embraces within its limits every variety of climate, from a heat equal to that of the tropics at the mouth of the Rio Grande, to the intense cold of the northern parts of the United States, and probably every diversity of vegetable and mineral production found within the limits of the latter country."

"The average latitude of Red river in its eastern course, and until it enters the State of Louisiana, is about 34 degrees; while that of the Gulf coast, from the Sabine to the Rio Grande, is about 28 degrees; and the average distance between those two rivers is about five hundred miles. These boundaries will be found to enclose an area of more than two hundred thousand square miles, or a tract of country about five times as large as the State of Tennessee. The course of Red river (the northern boundary) is scarcely above the parallel of the best cotton lands in the United States; whilst that of the coast is considerably below that of the best sugar lands in Louisiana. It thus appears that Texas, throughout its whole extent, is adapted to the production of one or other, or both, of these great southern staples."

"I have no doubt that the southern portion of Texas is more fertile than any country of similar extent upon the face of the earth. I have never seen any lands which are worthy to be put for a moment in comparison with those to be found there. This fertility manifests itself to the eye, by the character of the growth of timber, by the pitchy blackness of the vegetable mould (light as ashes) which composes the surface, and extends to the depth of several feet beneath, having usually a substratum of red clay. When tested by its productiveness, it is found, in favorable seasons, and with good culture, to yield 3,000 lbs. of cotton, 2 hogsheads of sugar, and 3 barrels of molasses, or 12 barrels of corn, to the acre; whilst other vegetable products grow with equal luxuriance."

A NOVEL PICKLE.

The farmers' dames in Hampshire, England, and perhaps in other countries, when eggs are too plentiful for profitable sale in the neighboring markets, adopt the following plan of preserving them, and the condiment is said to be very relishing. Take from four to six dozens of eggs newly laid, boil them tolerably hard, divest them of the shells, place them in large-mouthed earthen jars and pour upon them scalding vinegar, well seasoned with whole pepper, alspice, ginger and, for those who like the flavor, a few cloves or garlic. When the pickle is cold stop the jars quite close, and the eggs will be fit for use in a [illegible] *N. Y. Com. Adv.*

WILLIS'S LETTERS FROM LONDON.

No. 1.

What the writer has seen of this world for twenty four days—the passengers of the Britannia—the difference between the American and English custom-house officers—the working classes—female dress—hustles—writing against the doctor's orders; &c.

My dear Morris:—All I have seen of England for the last twelve days, has been the four walls of a bed-room; and, as all I saw of the world for the twelve days previous, was the interior of a packet's state room, I may fairly claim, like the razor grinder, to have "no story to tell." You shall have, however, what cobwebs I picked from the corners.

If the "Britannia" had burnt on the passage, and a phœnix had arisen from its ashes, the phœnix would have been a well-compounded cosmopolite, for—did you ever see such a variety of nations in one ship's company as this?

From England	16	From Mexico	1
Scotland	6	West Indies	1
Ireland	3	East Indies	3
Wales	1	Brit. Guiana	1
Canada	2	Gautemala	2
U. States	12	Demark	1
France	4	Poland	1
Spain	1	Germany	9

Of the Germans, 2 were from Hanover, 2 from Hemburgh, 1 from Baden, 1 from Lubec, 2 from Bremen, 1 from Hainault.—Mr. Robert Owen was one of the Scotchmen, and he was the only one on board, I fancy, for whom fame had made any great outlay of trumpeting. Six clergymen (!!) served as our protection against the icebergs. I doubt whether the Atlantic had, ever before, such a broad wake of divinity drawn across it. Probably the true faith was in some one of their keepings!

I wish to ask a personal favor of all the friends of the Mirror who are in the offices of American custom houses, viz: that they would retaliate upon Englishmen, in the most vexatious manner possible, the silly and useless impediments thrown in the way of passengers landing at Liverpool. We dropped anchor with a custom-house steamer alongside, and our baggage lay on deck two hours (time enough to be examined twice over) before it was transferred to the government vessel. We and our baggage were then taken ashore, and landed at a custom-house. But not to be examined there! Oh, no! It must be put into carts, and carried *a mile and a half to another custom-house*, and there it would be delivered to us, if we were there to see it examined! We landed at ten o'clock in the morning, and, with my utmost exertions, I did not get my baggage till three. The cost to me of porterage, fees, etc., was three dollars and a half, besides the theft of two or three small articles belonging to my child. I was too ill to laugh, and I therefore passed the matter over to my resentments. I trust my particular share will be remembered in the coming wars of Oregon.

During the four or five hours that I was playing the hanger-on to a vulgar and saucy custom-house officer at Liverpool, one or two contrasts crept into my dull eyes—contrasts between what I had left, and what was before me. The most striking was the *utter want of hope* in the countenances of the working classes—the look of dogged submission and animal endurance of their condition of life. They act like horses and cows. A showy equipage goes by, and they have not the curiosity to look up.—Their gait is that of tired donkeys, saving as much trouble at leg-lifting as possible.—Their mouths and eyes are wholly sensual, expressing no capability of a want above food. Their dress is without a thought of more than warmth and covering—drab, covered with dirt. Their voices are a half note above a grunt. Indeed, comparing their condition with the horse, I would prefer being an English horse to being an English working man. And you will easily see the very strong contrast there is between this picture and that of the ambitious and lively workingmen of our country.

Another contrast strikes, probably, all Americans on first landing—that of female dress. The entire absence of the ornamental—of anything, indeed, except decent covering—in all classes below the wealthy, is particularly English, and particularly un-American. I do not believe you would find ten female servants in New York without (pardon my naming it) a "bustle." Yet I saw as many as two hundred women in the streets of Liverpool, and not one with a bustle! I saw some ladies get out of carriages who wore them, so that it is not the fashion, but simply because the pride (of those whose backs form but one line) does not outweigh the price of the bran. They wore thick shoes, such as scarcely a man would wear with us—no gloves, of course—and their whole appearance was that of females in whose minds never entered the thought of ornament on week-days. This trifling exponent of the condition of women in England has a large field of speculation within and around it, and the result of philosophizing on it would be vastly in favor of our side of the water.

As this letter is written on my first day of sitting up, and directly against the doctor's orders, you will give my invalid brain the credit of coming cheerfully into harness.

Yours, faithfully, N. P. Willis.

The Nothingness of Man.—The N. Y. Commercial referred to the shower on Monday afternoon, as an event conveying an impressive homily on the moral feebleness of mankind. It is said some 300 and 50,000 people, the entire population of this great city, were lifted from a condition of almost misery—from helpless, nerveless, hopeless prostration of mind and body—from a state in which they confessed themselves good for nothing, without enjoyment, without purpose, almost without the power to think—from all this they were rescued by a breeze, a few clouds, and some drops of water!"

What a lesson this should teach the proud the haughty and overbearing—what must such think, when they reflect upon their "nothingness!"

Suicide.—We learn that Mr. Feigley, a respectable citizen of Hagerstown, committed suicide on Sunday, by hanging himself with a bed cord in a stable adjoining his premises. No cause is assigned for

PARTY NOMI

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Baltimore

[Prices of Grain &c.

Baltimor

Grain.—The marke
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sales of Maryland white
flour, at 95a98c; good to
ordinary to good 80a85c;
Pa. wheat brings about
Sales of Corn at 42a44c
for yellow. Pa. yellow
45c. Oats have declined
25a26 cents for new, a
Rye 51a53 cents.

DIED

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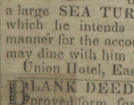

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