Weekly American.

Auburn, Wednesday, May 26, 1859.

WILL OUR FRIEND SEATH BE DRAWN INTO THE WAR?

Some of the correspondents of the seaboard cities are speculating upon the probabilities or possibilities of the United States becoming involved in the pending European war. So long as hostilities are confined to the three Powers already engaged in it, we can see but little danger of any interference with our commerce; and if that is left unmolested, we do not see what other cause there is to disturb our peaceful relations with any part of Europe. If our merchants shall deem it for their interest to load their ships for the French or Italian markets, Austria will be entirely helpless to resist it, unless she shall enlist some maritime powar in her cause, as an active ally in the war. Austria is so situated Geographically, that there would be no direct trade with her attempted. But if shipments should be made with the view of an *ultimate* Austrian market, they would probably be taken to some German port in the first instance, and sold to resident merchants, and through them, if at all, find their way into Austrian magazines and storehouses. No just complaint against the United States would grow out of this, so long as Germany should maintain a position of neutrality, although this course on the part of Germany, might afford just ground of complaint on the part of France and her allies.

We are of the opinion, therefore, that there is but one contingency in which our country would be drawn, even incidentally, into the war. That contingency is, that the war becomes general, and that England engages in it, in opposition to France.

In that event, our trade would not be likely to escape an attempted interference on the part of one or both of those powars. Every supply which we might carry to one, would be looked upon as an injury to the other, and would, if possible, be prevented.

But neither England nor France would wantonly provoke a war with us while they were involved in a general war on their own continent. America is the only accessible granary from which to feed their troops, and furnish provisions for their subjects. It would be almost as rational for them to send out their armies without magazines, as to quarrel with us, when, if the war continues, they must depend upon us for bread, and to a considerable extent, for other supplies also.

Besides, we do not believe that England is likely to be drawn into the war adversely to France. It would be damaging to the interests of both nations to have such a result. We feel assured that it will be avoided.

We are confident in the belief, therefore, that nothing in the present European war is likely to occur by which we of necessity, shall be drawn into it. On the contrary, we are firmly of the opinion that we may reap great advantages if our farmers shall, during the present season, succeed in raising heavy crops for sale at the high prices they will certainly command in the European markets.

ANOTHER WAR WITH MEXICO.

A rumor is afloat that orders have been issued by the War Department to concentrate troops on the Mexican frontier, and that the Navy is making a movement towards the Gulf for the purpose of forcing the Mexicans to settle up some of the claims for indemnity which this country has against them. It will be the easiest matter in the world to get up a war with Mexico, now.—There are plenty of reasons to excuse it, if the President thinks he needs a fight for the benefit of his Administration. The Paraguay difficulties ended in smoke because Paraguay lacked pluck, but Mexico may be more inclined to "pitch in." Mexico can't pay, and if old Buck crowds matters, there will, of course, be a "muss."

DEATH OF BARON HUMBOLDT.—The news of this not unexpected event was brought by the Canada. For the past year, the accounts of his health which have been given by visitors at Berlin, have all indicated, that after a long life of unusual physical and mental vigor, the time had come when age was rapidly weighing him down to his final rest. He had almost completed his ninetieth year.

Baron Humboldt, as a traveler and scientific man, enjoyed the enviable and deserved reputation of being the greatest of his age. He was equally famous in every civilized country in the world. He received an early and thorough education, and his independent mind began a system of original investigations into natural phenomena, while he was still a student. His first published scientific work was on Geology, under the title of "The Basalt on the Rhine." His geological explorations brought him into immediate acquaintance with the fossils of the soil and the rocks; and he next published a work on "Fossil Botany." Physiology was an interesting study to him, and he so thoroughly mastered its science, that he next published a work on the nerves and muscles. In 1799, he visited America for the purpose of making scientific explorations; during which time he traveled in all the principal countries of both portions of the continent, and made his examinations and observations at his leisure. He has since traveled over Europe and Asia for the same purpose. There is now no scientific man living, who has seen with his own eyes so much of the earth as he had.

For the last few years he has resided at Berlin, under the immediate patronage of the King, and has occupied himself with the composition of his "Cosmos," which is the legacy he leaves the world, as the summary of all his learning. Such are a few of the incidents of his life. No man was ever more widely venerated while living, or more generally and truly lamented at his death, than is the good and wise Humboldt.

EDUCATION IN PRUSSIA.—There is no country in the world in which the people are so generally educated as in the kingdom of Prussia. Fourteen years ago, it was found by a census, that but one person in fifty of the whole population could neither read nor write. Of 2,900,000 children in the kingdom between the ages of seven and fourteen years, 2,300,000 were attending the public schools. In a standing army of 126,000 soldiers, there were but two who could not read. In our country, education by means of the common schools has been widely disseminated, but it is not equal to Prussia.

SARDINIA REFUSES AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS.—The resident Italians of the city of New York, caused it to be made known to the Sardinian authorities, they were ready to volunteer and become soldiers in the Sardinian army during the present war.—To this offer, Count Cavour has returned the answer that they are not in need of more soldiers. That their only want is money, and that Italians in America can as well assist the Sardinian cause by remaining where they are, as by joining the army of Italy. He states that there is no lack of men at home for military purposes.

RELIGIOUS BIGOTRY.

A recent excommunication of an official member from the Presbyterian Church of Cortland, has furnished a text to the Tribune, for some severe satire upon the narrow-mindedness and bigotry which is often exhibited in small communities upon religious topics.

It seems that during the last winter, the people of that community, in imitation of the practice of the larger cities and towns in the State, had made arrangements for a course of popular lectures, and that among the lecturers who were invited, and who did actually deliver discourses to them, were Ralph Waldo Emmerson, Wendell Phillips, and Geo. W. Curtis. As was to have been expected, these men spoke their own sentiments, without any particular regard to the views or doctrines of any other person or persons, whether as individuals, or as religious associations.

The good people of Cortland became divided in their views regarding the propriety of permitting these lectures, and especially were they disagreed as to the propriety of allowing members of the Church to listen to them. Among certain classes, the discussion seems to have waxed hot, and as is usual, even in the discussion of Church matters, when men forget their religion in their zeal to carry their own ends, they waxed wrathful also.

Elder Brewer was on the side of allowing and attending the lectures. Not that he approved all that they might say, or did say, but because he thought that on the whole, free discussion should be permitted, and believing also that the cause of truth would not suffer in an intelligent community, even if the lecturers should advance wrong notions, and doctrines contrary to his own.—He believed the effect of such lectures would be to stimulate inquiry, and establish truth, rather than to overthrow it. He accordingly attended the lectures himself, notwithstanding the strong opposition of some of the brethren of his own Church.

Elder Kingsbury and Elder Lucas took the other side of the controversy, and finally preferred charges against Elder Brewer, for attending these lectures, on the ground that he was "thus countenancing teachings that are plainly of a secular and unchristian character." The whole gist of the accusation is in the fact that he attended the lectures, and that the lectures were not orthodox, according to the creed of the Church to which the accused and the accusers belonged. For this he was excommunicated from his Church.

We trust that at the present day, and in this country, there are not many places, nor many Churches of any denomination of professing Christians, where this example will find advocates or imitators. In our own city the same men have spoken, and have no doubt uttered to us substantially the same things which they said at Cortland, and were listened to by mixed audiences, embracing in them more or less of the members of every Church, and most of the clergy of the town. We have never yet heard a whisper of an intention or desire, on the part of anybody, to terminate their connection with their several religious associations, for this reason. Nor have we learned that the doctrines of the lecturers have poisoned the morals, or shaken the religious faith, of either people or clergy.—If they had put forth aught of dangerous error, there were enough ready and able to expose it, by an exhibition of facts, and by the strong and convincing arguments of reason, as we trust is the case in other places also. The day for persecution and bigotry has passed, and those who indulge in the one, or encourage or practice the other, will deservedly receive the censure of every enlightened and really religious community. The cause of liberty requires that there should be such an expression of disapprobation on the part of the public, that there will be no disgraceful repetitions of such cases in Cortland, or anywhere else in the country.

THE PROPOSED UNION OF THE DEMOCRATIC FACTIONS.

Several of the Democratic organs in this State are becoming jubilant over the prospect of a re-union of the divided elements of their party. They have repeatedly been equally sanguine of accomplishing such a result on former occasions, and have, in every instance, been wofully disappointed. They could *talk* as if the whole thing was effected, and that thereafter there was to be no more dissension in their ranks. Barnburners and Hunkers, free soil and proslavery men, Congressional sovereignty, and squatter sovereignty advocates, interventionists and non-interventionists, were said, all at once, to have come to the determination to hold their own peculiar opinions in such light esteem, that for the sake of success in the elections, they were ready and even anxious to swallow down the whole set of adverse doctrines, against which they had been contending with a vehemence and virulence which had drawn them from their party associations, without even a wry face at the nauseous dose. Yes, even better than that; they were ready to swallow the very doctrines they had condemned, with a most relishing appetite, and with the blandest smiles of satisfaction at the inestimable privilege of eating their own words, and stultifying all their former professions.

But after we were told that all of Democracy had been re-united again into one "happy family," and that all was sunshine and felicity in the party from its head to its furthest serpentine extremity, we have been surprised to find that the Democratic Engine which was to draw them all into the Depot of official consequence and official pay, did not exhibit any new strength of steam, nor any increased rate of speed on the Democratic road to power. In fact, the increased number of passengers in the coach seemed rather to overburden the locomotive, and retard its motion, contrary to the expectations of the Directors and engineers.

Little by little, however, the true state of the case would come to light. Talk with a Hunker, and he would tell us that everything was all right, that the Barnburners were now content to give up their factious opposition to true Democracy, as expounded by Hunker authorities. Talk with a Barnburner, and he too would say that everything was all right; but would felicitate himself that the Hunkers had been compelled to yield their old fogyism and accept the more liberal Democracy of his division of the party. Each branch of the party would be found to be indulging the blissful hope that the other branch had been conquered and captured by themselves. Hunkers and Barnburners would each claim for themselves that they still remained unchanged, but that the other faction had come over to their side.

This delusion never could last long, and in every case, so far, it has been found that neither Barnburners nor Hunkers have surrendered anything, nor have they been able to act together any better than before.—Repeated treacheries to one another have embittered their differences, and a cure now is more difficult to effect, than it has ever been before.

WILL AUSTRIA RECEDE?

From the Sardinian account of the attempt of the Austrians to cross the river Po, near Gunbla, it appears that there was commenced big fifteen minutes on the 3d of May, and during all the afternoon of the 4th, the Austrians suffering severely and the Piedmontese slightly. The same account also states that the Austrians have increased their forces at Vercelli, and constructed defensive works there, and have sent forward a van guard as far as Tronzano, have ordered the houses on or near the fortifications to be demolished, and have actually burnt seven arches of the bridge over the river Scrivia. The first pitched battle is looked for at Novi. Francis Joseph was preparing to take the chief command with Gen. Hess. Austrian vessels in the port of Genoa, have been seized as prizes by order of the King of Sardinia.

This amounts to a commencement of hostilities. There have been cannonading, destruction of property by order of government and the spilling of blood—acts of war which commit the Emperor of Austria, in the eyes of the nations, to the maintainance of his policy and position by the sword!—Will he—can he now recede with honor to himself or nation, without further bloodshed on any pretext which is likely to be offered? We answer from history that no monarch ever did desist at such a crisis in any recorded war, and we do not believe Francis Joseph will be the first to depart from precedent.—No. We think he has gone altogether too far now to back out without disgrace and ignominy—too far, we think to leave the question to be adjusted by arbiters. We had supposed, as our readers well know, that Great Britain would be potential enough on the continent to prevent any conflict of arms between her allies. She had been so heretofore; we saw no reason why she did not retain her former influence; so that we expected that the suggestive mind of Lord Cowley, would discover a way this time, as formerly, to preserve the peace. It seems that we were mistaken, however, and that there were deep laid three year old plans of Napolean at work, which Austria intended to circumvent if she could, irrespective of the wishes even of the mistress of the seas. Italy is so much of a bugbear to Austria, all the while, that Francis Joseph has evidently resolved that his throne is in constant danger from that quarter as well as from the uprising of Hungary, unless he can make Sardinia lay down her arms; and that he has resolved also to hazard a war to accomplish the latter object. We shall expect now that he will endeavor to carry this point by the sword—that the war will go on to the end. We do not see, indeed, how he can recede voluntarily one single inch now.

"RIDE YOUR TIME."

The full experience of one of the wisest monarchs of the Hebrews, taught him that there was a time and a season for every thing under the sun, and that a word spoken, or an act done, out of its proper time and season, is ill said or done, and is productive of evil. In nothing is this saying better verified than in the times and seasons for placing men's names before the people as a candidate for their suffrages. Many a worthy man has been ruined, politically, by being nominated too soon, for an office for which he would have been properly and successfully nominated several months afterward. This may appear strangely to some people; but so it is, and so goes the political affairs of this part of the world.

Ignoring this great lesson of wisdom, some of our cotemporaries about the country are nominating one and another of their friends for President of the United States. The names of Fremont, Chase, Crow, Crittenden, Bell, Banks and Foot, are to-day flattering at the mast head of one or more newspapers near their respective residences, as candidates for the National Convention to nominate. We think this demonstration not only *premature*, but very *damaging* to the prospects of those candidates. It is not time yet to put up men as targets, unless it is expected that they will be riddled with arrows before they come before the National Convention for endorsement. Candidates for that high office should "bide their time."

We are sorry to see the New York Express so uneasy on this Presidential question, especially when we know that one of the distinguished editors of that paper has himself suffered enough by a premature nomination for the office of Governor, to be wise now on this particular subject. If that paper is sincere, as it professes to be, in its expressed desire to gather all the elements of opposition to Buchanan's Administration into one army, under one banner, and one principal leader, it ought not to be anxious to have any candidate in the field now. It is not time for such demonstrations to be made yet, for we are not yet prepared, and thousands upon thousands are not yet prepared, to make a choice of their candidate for President now. We rather like the following remarks of the Providence Journal:

> The Express is quite mistaken in the opinion which it attributes to this paper.—We deprecated the bringing forward of Gov. Chase, or any other candidate at this early day. In this the Springfield Republican fully concurs, as it seems to us everybody must who regards the success of the party as more important than individual preferment. We hold aloof from all Presidential entanglements, whether openly avowed or secretly intrigued for. We are neither for nor against any candidate who shall be selected by the Convention charged with that duty. If we had a particular hostility to any candidate, we might attempt to bring him forward to the prejudice of his competitors, and thus array against him the friends of all the others.

We concur also with the Albany Evening Journal, who responds to the above paragraph as follows:

> "So say we all." There is an difference of opinion among Republicans on this point. The time for the decision of the question, who shall be the Republican standard bearer in 1860, has not yet come. That question is left to the National Convention; and whoever that body shall nominate, all true Republicans will support—AND ELECT.

CAP. PILLSBURY.—This gentleman so long known to the people of this State, as the efficient Superintendent of the Conn. State Prison and Warden of the Albany Penitentiary, and who more recently, has had charge of the Emigrants Refuge, on Ward Island, has been appointed Chief of the Police of the city of New York, in place of F. A. Tallmage, resigned. This appointment is regarded as a judicious one, and meets with general approbation.

SMITH O'BRIEN.—This distinguished Irish gentleman has completed his tour through the United States and Canada, and will take passage in the Vigo for home on the 28th instant. Mr. O'Brien has travelled over the country very quietly, and has left a decidedly favorable impression towards himself personally wherever he has been.—There is to be a parting demonstration on the part of his countrymen on the occasion of his departure.

——Liszt, the distinguished pianist, and director of the Ducal Chapel at Weimar, has received a vacation of two years, which he proposes to spend in Paris.

THE RIGHT OF SEARCH.

The authoritative declaration of Count Sartiges the French Minister, just before he left Washington, that if a war ensued in Europe, Great Britain would re-assert her right of search, has been taken by the Cabinet at Washington, as an indication that he possessed some knowledge on that subject which has not been officially promulgated.—This is an old and sore subject to the United States, which we had supposed was put at rest last winter by the declaration of the first Lord of the British Admiralty, that the Queen would never undertake to enforce the right, if it existed—a declaration which was construed at the time, as amounting to an abandonment of the claim.

This claim of the right of search led to the war of 1812-15 with Great Britain, and one which that Government should have been compelled to abandon as a condition precedent to the treaty of peace, by which that war was terminated. It is one of the strangest passages in our history, that that war was ended by a treaty which did not allude, even remotely, to the cause of it—by a treaty which, not only failed to settle, but which failed to mention the only question in dispute between the two Governments.—Such a passage exists, however, as an anomaly in diplomacy in the civilized world. All the guaranty we had after the treaty of 1815 was executed, that Great Britain would not continue to search our vessels for British subjects, was the belief of our treaty makers, that the Government of Great Britain would never dare to assert that claim again, as against the United States. After that treaty was concluded, this question rested until 1842, when Gen. Cass was at Paris, and Webster was in the State Department at Washington. At that time, whilst Webster was adjusting the northern boundary question with Lord Ashburton the former mentioned the old "right of search" claim as one which the United States would never admit nor submit to have enforced against their vessels at sea.—In one of the diplomatic notes of Lord Ashburton on that occasion, that plenipotentiary said: "Mr. Webster is aware that Great Britain has uniformly denied the right of expatriation." In reply, Mr. Webster said he was aware of the fact, but felt it to be his duty to say, that the United States considered the position, "once a subject always a subject," a most *"absurd dogma."* Lord Ashburton gave it the *go by*, however, by saying that the settlement of that perplexed question formed no part of his mission; and so it was not adjusted then.

It came up again, three years ago, in the meeting of plenipotentiaries, held at Paris, on the 30th of March, 1856, when a proposal was made to our Government to join in the following declaration:

1. Privateering is and remains abolished.
2. The neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war.
3. Neutral goods, with the exception of contraband of war, are not liable to capture under enemy's flag.
4. Blockades, in order to be binding, must be effective, that is to say, maintained by a sufficient force really to prevent access to the coast of the enemy.

Mr. Marcy declined to agree to this, except upon the condition that private property of the citizens of all the contracting parties should be respected in time of war by the naval forces of each. As this condition was not acceded to, the matter again fell through.

One year ago the right was exercised by British Commanders in the Gulf of Mexico, where forty four different American vessels were boarded, to ascertain whether they were engaged in the Slave trade. That brought the whole matter before Congress, where it was debated again and again, until Lord Napier procured authority from his government, to say that it was unauthorized and would not be repeated. This was followed by the declaration in the House of Lords above refered to, that "the Queen would never undertake to enforce the right, if it existed."

This, then, is the posture of this old question now. It seems to be regarded by Sartiges as yet unsettled, and likely to be revived again at any moment. We shall hope that some way will be found in the present embroglio to settle it, so that it will "stay settled."

CAUSE OF THE WAR.

It is leaking out from various sources, that the present war in Europe is the fruit of a deliberate plan begun by Count Cavour, the principal minister of Victor Emanuel, as long as three years ago, and that the scheme had the concurrence of the French Emperor and the Bonaparte family.

A society known as the Italian National Society, was organized at Turin in 1856, under the eye, and with the secret sanction and countenance of the Sardinian Government. This association was extended by means of auxiliary societies all over Italy, and into France, Hungary, and England.—The purpose of this organization was to redeem Italy from the power of Austria, whenever a proper opportunity should be presented. The attempt on the part of Austria to extend her authority in Italy, has afforded the occasion for which they were waiting.

In the meantime, Sardinia, with this object in view, had formed an alliance offensive and defensive with France, and had cemented that alliance by first sending important aid to France in the Crimea, in defence of Turkey. All this has been a matter of deliberate management with the single purpose of achieving Italian independence. Italy and France want nothing but that the war shall go on, sure that they can attain their objects. Austria evidently sees difficulties and dangers which were unexpected and alarming, and hesitates to act with decision and energy. To advance in the present condition of affairs, is to her almost certain defeat—to recede is dishonorable and disgraceful. How she will try to extricate herself from this dilemma, is yet to be seen. But in any event it would seem that Italy and France must secure their ends.

A RIGHTEOUS VERDICT.—Doctor Schmidt and Doctor Adam live in Chicago, and they quarreled. Dr. Schmidt enwhided Dr. Adam. Dr. Adam sued Dr. Schmidt. The case was tried before a highly intelligent jury, who, after a thorough search of the evidence, "found" the following righteous verdict:

> We, the jury, find that the defendant, Dr. Schmidt, should make three boxes of pills and that the plaintiff, Dr. Adam, should swallow them.

The Court, however, refused to receive the verdict, and muttering something about its own dignity, contempt thereof, &c., sent the jury back to "find" a better verdict. Their task is hopeless of results.

SUCCESSOR OF BISHOP DOANE.—The annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocesse, of New Jersey, will be held at Burlington on the 25th of the present month. This Convention has the duty devolved upon it of electing a successor to the lamented Bishop Doane, lately deceased.

MAN MISSING FROM BATAVIA.—The Batavia Herald mentions the mysterious disappearance of a young man named J. A. Ray wood.

KOSSUTH IN SARDINIA.

A letter from Turin, published in the N. Y. Herald of Saturday, and evidently written by some person of correct information, respecting the causes of the pending European war, states that Kossuth is in Sardinia, and by means of secret emissaries, is in communication with the Hungarian troops in the Austrian service in Italy. These Hungarian soldiers are the same that were under the command of Kossuth, in his struggle with Austria in defence of the nationality of his country. As a matter of policy, they were, after being incorporated into the Austrian army, sent into Italy, in order to remove them from all temptation and opportunity to aid in any future rebellion of their countrymen against the authority of their conquerors. They are therefore ready to listen to any practicable scheme for the benefit of Hungary, which may be suggested by their former Governor and successful commander.

If the statement of this letter is true, that Kossuth is really in Sardinia, we must conclude that he is there with the knowledge and approbation of both the Sardinian and French authorities. The important and which the disaffection of the Hungarian troops in the Austrian service, and a revolt in the Hungarian provinces, would afford to Victor Emanuel and Louis Napoleon against Francis Joseph, certainly gives probability to the statement that Kossuth is in Italy, and also to the conclusion that both of those Sovereigns are willing to allow, if not to assist him, in another attempt to recover Hungarian independence. If the war goes on, we shall be likely to find Kossuth again in Hungary, with the strong support of France and Italy. Americans will rejoice if such an opportunity shall be offered him to work out the liberation of his country, and the re-establishment of her independent nationality.

THE SLAVERY QUESTION.

We had intended to day to have taken notice of the resolution of the Southern Commercial Convention. But we find an article in the Evening Journal which so completely embodies our views that we give it in place of any strictures and comments of our own. It is worthy the attention of every voter in the State:

> "A Southern Commercial Convention assembled at Vicksburg recently. The press has wisely neglected to burthen its columns with its doings, and it had quite slipped our memory until we met the follow in the Philadelphia North American:
>
> After four days of exciting debate, the Convention adopted a resolution declaring that the laws against the Slave Trade ought to be abolished.
>
> Thus we go. Five years since such a proposition would have been hissed out of any Convention, North or South. The idea would have been too revolting to be entertained for a moment.
>
> But since then, many strange things have happened. The National Administration has cast its entire influence into scale of Slavery. It has proclaimed to the world its purpose to sustain it as a National Institution, and it has dignified it by giving to it a great deal more attention, and extending to it a great deal more favor, than to any or all other subjects which have agitated the public mind. Offices have been awarded for votes cast to extend it. Bribes have been paid for influence employed to foster it.—Courts have been coerced into decisions to legalize it. Ballot boxes have been "stuffed" to acquire power to strengthen it. Lynch law has been brought into requisition to silence those who were laboring to curtail it; and the pulpit and the press have been polluted to place the impress of "Divinity" upon it. It is "treason" longer to speak of it as an evil! To hope for its ultimate extinction is to desire the demolition of the chief pillar of the Republic! And to denounce the Slave Trade as "Piracy" is to cast disrepute upon a traffic which is already practically encouraged by the General Government!
>
> The Slave trade is already resumed. The fact is of record. Cargoes have been openly landed, and fresh imported "Congo Niggers" are to-day a staple commodity in several of the Southern States. Where the traffic has been too brazenly pursued, the officers of the General Government have for decency's sake, affected to take notice of the offence; but no single offender has yet been convicted, while the chief criminals walk, unmolested, in open day in the streets of Charleston.
>
> In voting to "repeal all laws prohibiting the traffic," the "Southern Commercial Convention" has but embodied a sentiment which is already potent at the South. This sentiment has grown up under the encouragement extended to the institution, and to all who favor it, by the General Government. The revival of the slave trade is but one of the few steps which yet remain to be taken by the friends of slavery. Everything which they have thus far asked has been granted. Solemn compacts have been annulled. The barriers of Freedom have been broken down. The Constitution has been distorted into a shield for slavery. The institution, hitherto deemed local, has been given a National character by the highest Courts of the land. A Code for its protection where no law has ever given it a being, is demanded by the South and promised by the Democratic party. Piratical aggressions upon nations with which we are at peace, are encouraged in order to "lengthen its cords and strengthen its stakes," and why should not "the laws against the slave trade be abolished?" What more can the Democracy do for its ally if not this?
>
> Slavery is as insatiable as the grave.—With every concession it makes new demands. Everything which it has demanded up to this point has been conceded. Why should it refrain from demanding this?
>
> It is not enough to say that the revival of the Slave Trade never will be sanctioned, because it would be an outrage upon the spirit and sentiment of the age. So it was said when it was proposed to repeal the Missouri Compromise, to enable Slavery to go upon soil from which it had been "forever prohibited." So it was said when it was proposed to enact a law imposing pains and penalties, fines and imprisonment, upon whoever should give a crust of bread to a fleeing fugitive from service." So it was said when it was intimated that the power of the General Government would be exerted to force a Pro-Slavery Constitution upon the People of Kansas; and so it was said when it was first demanded that Congress should enact a Slave Code for the Territories. And yet all these infamous things have been done, or are in the process of doing by the Democratic party. Not one of them, when first broached, seemed more likely to be consummated than this that is now proposed by the "Southern Commercial Convention."
>
> After the Congressional Slave Code for the Territories is enacted, then will come the abolition of all laws against the Slave Trade! This is the Southern Democratic Platform; and the Democrats of the North have neither the courage nor the disposition to refuse what their Southern masters demand.
>
> "The end is not yet." It was once said by the great Napoleon that the time was not far distant when Europe would be either "all Cossack or all Republican." It is still more distinctly written upon the page of the future, that this Republic must one day be either "all Slave or all Free." The Slaveholders will not be satisfied until every barrier against slavery is broken down; and provoked by their wicked and impudent pertinacity, Freemen will retaliate by making counter demands, until some Constitutional process shall be devised to end the strife by securing, as its Founders intended, the Republic to Freedom.

BUSINESS ON THE CANAL.—We learn from the Statesman that the receipt from tolls on the Canals this year are about $70,000 behind the receipts for the same number of days following the opening of navigation last year. But the amount of merchandize transported this year largely exceededs the tonnage of last year. We believe that in the first twenty days of navigation, the tonnage is equally to the total up to the first of June, 1858.

Correspondence.

For the Auburn American.

WESTERN JOTTINGS.

NO. XVII.

Spring Prospects! The world is so agitated by the stupendous questions of the day that the angel of thought has once more descended into the pool of our intellect, and now our *kalt* pen moves quickly forth, seeking renewal of life and friendlier associations, among those once congenial companions, in the sober walks of healthful, eastern, social life.

While the Old World is disturbed by rumors of wars, and the rapid preparation for stern conflicts steadily approaching, the West is suffering the gloom contingent upon dull and unpropitious weather. All men are jealous of the weather, and manifold are the anxieties that make the almanac the sole text book of the studious farmer, and the mutable moon the only orb shining in the astronomy of agriculture. The moon seems very capricious, and its changes and phases have become the acknowledged smiles or frowns of Providence upon the tillable land. Surely, the earth's satellite, conjointly with the sun's influence, causes the tidal ebb and flow; but is it true, that the weather is controlled by the coquettish moon?

By the way, we wish the Rev. John A. Bowman, the eastern lecturer on astronomy, would publish his views on the subject of whether the moon makes the weather, or whether the weather is governed by the all-ruling hand of the All-Maker. If the moon makes weather, is not the mythological goddess, Minerva, the presiding genius of all storms and sunshine? And would not this arrangement make Jove, the thunderer, a degraded minion, dependent upon the fitful tempers of the inconstant Minerva for his privileges to exercise his high functions as chief artillerist to the fabulous hosts of heaven's giants?

But we see that Bowman has been lecturing in nervous Buffalo, on the subject above mentioned, so we suggest that Bonner should merchandize Bowman, as he has Everett, the Hon., and serve up a refined dish of astronomy in that great humbug, out-Barnuming Barnum—a la Alexander Smith, quem vide, "out Antony, Antony"—the New York Ledger, for the benefit of western farmers.

If Bonner is a philanthropist, he cannot serve humanity more extensively than by putting at rest this much mooted question of the moon's eccentric ideas of propriety, in a time's weather log. We concur that it would be a great speculation for some nervy wealthy corporation, to secure, in this day and age of omniscient legislation, a charter from some State, and obtain the service of that inveterate clown,

> "The man in the moon,
> Who came down at noon,"

and undertake to regulate the weather, to order, in patches to suit customers, provided that Bonner should show, to a demonstration, that the moon does make weather.—Much more would it be to Bonner's credit to rest this great subject, than it has been to support the degenerate and speculative descendant of the great and good Washington.

We suggest, Bowman might furnish his thoughts to Everett, and Everett might produce them as a "Mount Vernon Paper."—Certainly, a discourse on astronomy would be as relevant to Mount Vernon as have been some of Everett's rail road excursions. We of the west are so proxy in our imagination, that we are unable to discover anything romantic or picturesque in the fact that Everett has been so flattered and praised by the American public, that he began to *feed himself sweet*, perhaps into the stature and propensity of John Van Buren, and to believe that his not over large *corpus* so approximates the magnitude of a certain fe-fi-fo-fum giant we used to read of in our boyhood days, as that he needed a double portion of sleeping accommodations upon the Central rail road. And then, the magnanimous Everett, complaining in a Mount Vernon Paper, (?) of a double charge for the luxury of a double amount of sleep; God bless the man who invented sleep, vide Sancho Panzo, we believe,—was foisted into public attention by the newspapers of the day, as a victimized Everett, an outraged Everett, a swindled Everett, and the curse belonged, as usual, to a corporation, when, in fact, it proved that the gigantean Everett was for once a mere *Hitchety-hatchet* Jack, making enormous strides in borrowed *league boots*.

We desire to cast no contempt upon Everett's eloquence and rhetoric, for we are morally certain that he can make excellent use of the English language in extemporaneous speeches, previously carefully written and well conned. But we do think that the great Everett—the eulogizer of the great Washington—has, indeed, descended from his much-deserved eminence in the critical *American* sentiment, in merchandizing himself to Bonner.

But such thoughts are tangent out-shoots from our regular plan. Everett and Bonner, though the centres of two grades of intellect, do not control the orbits of crops and western finance. There is a promise in which christians and infidels trust that "seed time and harvest" cannot fail. But the few rays of a spring's sun, that condescendingly visited us, four or five weeks ago, causing smiles to play upon the countenance of man and soil, in the farming districts, seem to have been but fitful love-glances of old Sol, playing the fop again.

And now the old-maidish moon needs the regenerating results of the fabled "spring of youth," to give her heart of warmth propitious to human cares and toils. Snow flakes fell last night; they must have come from the weeping eyes of the old moon. Is it not true, that old maids weep frozen tears—splinters from their icy hearts? But the phases are in travail again, and it is hopeful that the month of flowers will be smiled upon by a gracious maiden youth—a rejuvenated crescent.

Weeks ago the sloughs were rife with the dissonant croakings of myriads of frogs; but many a time have their windy throats been hushed, by the pinching hand of the frosty Jack. The grateful robin sang beneath our window its melody of returning spring, above a month ago. Sand-hill cranes have commenced to stalk the prairies with their wierd forms and dismal hoot. The blue bird, too, a surer messenger of spring, has commenced her annual toils; and our careless foot treads upon the modest grey bird's nest, concealed beneath the tufts of prairie grass. Yesterday we saw the first man, solitary and lonely, but not having forgotten his spring a warble. The grouse long ago began to strut and "boo" upon the winter-seared highlands; and now, thousands of pigeons sweep through the air, watching with envious eye, the golden wheat, as it falls from the sower's hand.

But the wind still roars, bearing the frosts of winter's lingering breath; and this morning there is ice upon the pools, and frost pictures upon the windows. Cold rains and slight falls of snow are frequent, and old winter seems reluctant to give place to the youngest of the sea ons—the smiling and beauteous spring.

We have looked longingly for the first flowers, with its worshipful up-turned look—but no plaintive color, apparently hugging mercy of the uplifted foot, has yet greeted our vision. In spots, the grass is green.—We are thankful for such relief from winter's sere monotony; but we search in vain for the infinitesimal animal life, that creeps in summer time beneath each spear of grass.—A few days ago we saw a white miller, with golden spots upon his delicate wings; and such tiny work of the great God's creative hand, brought grateful joy bounding into our heart.

Now, there goes buzzing past the very nib of our pen, a great-like fly, floating through the more subtle element, upon variegated wing. These are all signs of spring.

S. S. McGONIGLE.

Northern Illinois, April 15, 1859.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FARMERS' CLUB.

MONDAY, May 16.—At the third weekly meeting at the new repository to-day at noon John Bruce, of Williamsburgh, was called to the Chair.

Judge Meigs, the Secretary, read a number of interesting papers upon miscellaneous subjects, of which we notice the following:

Strawberries.—From the Prairie Farmer he read that Samuel Edwards, of Bureau county, Ill., produced 100 bushels of strawberries per acre as cheap as an acre of corn.

Birds.—The same paper says that some gentlemen of Chicago have established an Audubon Club, for the preservation of birds.

New Flowers.—The *Revue Horticole* speaks highly of the new flower, *Jasminium Grandiflorium*, as a very hardy and beautiful flower. Another new flower, a new variety of *Araucea*, from the Himalaya Mountains, is also spoken of as very much resembling rich silk in its appearance.

Wheat in Chili.—Wheat is a luxury to the common people in Chili; they live principally upon vegetables. The country formerly raised great crops of Wheat, at very low prices. The Wheat is grown by irrigation, and when the snow falls on the mountains, the Wheat fails on the plain. Wheat is stored in holes in the ground, also in the skins of cattle, out of which the carcas has been squeezed, as it were, out so as to leave the skin almost whole. This is then filled with earth, and dried, and the skin thus cured. These hides are buried in the ground, with the horns out, to mark the locality.

Solon Robinson suggested that the plan of storing wheat in the ground was a good one for the prairie farmers. Not, however, skins of cattle; but pits could be dug and cemented exactly like cisterns, with only a small mouth, and there is no doubt grain could be kept safely in this way—probably more so than in any other way.

Judge Meigs—It is the old Egyptian way of storing grain, and a very good way, it is too.

Solon Robinson—Yes, in a country so destitute of wood as the great prairie wheat region of the West.

The Curculio.—Dr. Trimble, of Newark.—What will cure the curculio is an important question. Dr. T. exhibited some live curculio, and also some limbs of plum trees with black knots, which he contended were made by the same insect that affects the fruit.

This, he says, he has proved to his full satisfaction by repeated experiments. The plum rot, he also thinks, is produced by the curculio. He says the whole subject of curculio seems to be misunderstood. He has bred the insect from the larvæ found in the black knot and from the fruit, and found them identical. He thinks that the race may be propagated in the bark, and thus continued in existence when the fruit entirely fails. By watching the trees at this season the commencement of the black knot may be detected, and that is the time to cut off the branch. If the egg is taken out of the limb or fruit, it will go on to perfection. There is no poison from the perforation—it comes from the growth of the insect. He has never found any remedy, except shaking the insects off upon a sheet and killing them, and by so doing he has raised one hundred bushels of apricots a year. The insect never touches the apple and peach as long as it can find plums or apricots. For want of its favorite fruit it will take apples and other fruits, and it is the cause of so many defective apples as we find in market. To keep curculio out of an orchard, requires constant attention for six weeks. The trees want shaking some days several times a day, and it is by that alone fine plums and apricots can be grown.—Sometimes in a very severe drouth at the time the stung fruit is falling, the larva perishes, because unable to penetrate the earth. The sting of a curculio is known by a peculiar crescent shaped mark where the perforation is made. The insect has a peculiar shaped and strong proboscis, with which the wound is made in which to deposit the egg. It takes from four or five days to two weeks for the eggs to hatch, and if it is desired to take out the egg it must not be neglected until it hatches. The insect seems to have the power of secreting a sort of wax, which it cements over the egg. I have never found any advantage in the use of all the nostrums recommended to prevent the curculio.

John G. Bergen—I have apricot trees on my place that are never attacked. They stand trained against the south-west side of a building. My plum trees, in open ground, are severely effected. Mr. Steele of Jersey City stated here, the other day, that he saved his fruit by using whale oil soap. A neighbor of mine saved his fruit by the same application, with a little sulphur added.—He went up a ladder with a watering pot, and poured it over the trees, with such good effect that he now intends to apply it with a proper syringe.

Andrew S. Fuller—We have had a great many remedies, and some men want great sums for their discoveries how to prevent curculio, yet all fail. While oil soap is recommended to kill bugs, yet I have tried it, and found the bugs would live in the soap; of course it would not kill them. Some simple remedies will answer one year and fail next. I remember when I could not sell green gage plumbs in Rochester at 25 cents a bushel; that our trees were covered with black knot, but the fruit was not affected. Why was this, if the same insect stings both limb and fruit? I don't believe it is the same curculio that stings the fruit that makes the black knot. The pea bug is a curculio, but I don't think it would live if the egg was inserted in a pumpkin. I can easily see the egg of curculio in fruit, and the crescent shape puncture, but I never could see either in the limbs of trees. I believe that the same insect stings the plum and Morelli's cherry, but is not the same that stings the apple.

Prof. Nash—At what rate of advance over a country do the curculio progress?

Dr. Trimble—I don't know; they fly rapidly, and go from one orchard to another, and always attack the outside rows first, and progress into the interior of the orchard slowly. I have seen plum trees at Hudson growing on a stiff clay, entirely unaffected with curculio, while upon light soil around all were destroyed. To shake off the insects, make a square sheet, and cut it to the centre to straddle the tree, and sew on sticks upon the ends to carry it by from tree to tree.—A few jars of the tree will bring them down upon the white sheet, where they are easily seen and caught. This shaking must be done every day, except cold, rainy ones, when the pests keep quiet