The New-Orleans Bee.

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TERMS OF THE BEE.

DAILY PAPER (one year in advance).....$12 00
COUNTRY PAPER, semi-weekly (one year, in advance).....5 00

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☞ The privilege of Annual Advertisers is limited to advertising strictly within the line of their business, and in extent to one square every other day.

The New-Orleans Daily Bee.

Thursday Morning, May 23, 1850.

THE NORTHERN MAIL failed yesterday from beyond Baltimore.

THE SOUTHERN CONVENTION.

We had hoped that an enlightened public sentiment had well nigh exploded the silly project of a Southern Convention; but as the period proposed for the convocation of that assemblage approaches, spasmodic efforts are made by its advocates to galvanize the Convention into activity. We perceive that in South Carolina, where alone the scheme has found much favor, delegates have been regularly appointed from the several Congressional Districts. In other States, despite the overwhelming majority against the Convention, feeble coteries convene, and assuming the privilege of outraging public opinion, proceed to nominate delegates. It is clear that such factious and unwarrantable conduct is the result of a rooted determination to effect mischief. Thus we see that quite recently in Nashville, after a large public meeting had decided by a vote of ten to one, that the appointment of delegates was inexpedient, a mere fraction of citizens, seventeen in number, took upon themselves the responsibility of naming no less than twenty-nine delegates. Should the nominees accept the doubtful honor conferred upon them, we shall be told that Nashville was largely represented in the Convention; when in reality these 29 gentlemen will represent exactly 17 citizens and no more. What a preposterous farce do these mischief-mongers play!

The circumstance just mentioned will enable the reader to form a tolerably correct idea of the composition of the forthcoming convention! If the management of the leaders in this game has been elsewhere less transparent, it is only because they have been cunning enough to call together none others than those who are in favor of the Convention. Ten men might for instance be readily found in a voting population of some thousands; and this considerable handful might bear the ignorious title of a District Convention, might profess to echo public feeling, pass the necessary resolutions approving of the Southern Convention, and name the individuals appointed to represent the District. This has been extensively practised in Virginia and North Carolina [illegible] the attempt to take the sense of the people on the question [illegible] a lamentable defeat, but nevertheless the slender minority in the various Districts will take care to send delegates, who will absolutely claim to represent a State which utterly repudiates them and their designs.

Should the Convention agree to assemble under auspices so unfavorable and with a perfect foreknowledge on the part of the people that as it does not represent the South, its decrees cannot bind the South—what a truncated and forlorn convention it will be! Maryland will be unrepresented; Louisiana will be unrepresented; Kentucky will be unrepresented; Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Texas, Florida will be misrepresented by men claiming to be expositors of views and opinions to which two-thirds of the citizens of those states are radically opposed. South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas—four of the Slave-States, or less than one-third of the number, will alone send delegates who probably represent a majority of their constituents.

Now, we ask, what will be the aspect of the Convention—what authority will it wield—what moral influence can it exert? Who will respect its edicts? How is to un te the South? How is it to affect the North? Its solemn resolutions will be a mockery, its organization a bombug. Instead of commanding the attention of the country, it will elicit its ridicule. It will be looked upon as a contemptible failure—a mere convocation of persons acting for the most part in defiance of the will of their constituents, gravely debating questions never entrusted to their authority, suggesting measures they were never empowered to consider, venturing officious and uncalled for counsel to those who never confide in their judgment, nor ask for their opinion. Such a convention may injure but cannot possibly benefit the South. The amount of its influence for evil will depend upon the number of those who are disposed to stand by its organization and obey its commands. It will prove simply innocuous, if wholly unsupported by the community. It may possibly tend to distract and divide the South, and thus prove a potent element of evil. Certain is it that no self-styled Southern Convention can be of the slightest utility, unless it s ring spontaneously from the people and represents the undoubted sentiment of the people.

☞ We understand that the ladies and gentlemen connected with Orleans Theatre, propose on Saturday next to give a performance at the St. Charles Theatre, for the benefit of E. CHAISSAGNAC, a musician and vocalist of our city, whose compositions have attracted much attention. The entertainments on this occasion will embrace parts of several favorite operas.

NEW WORKS.—Our thanks are due Appleton & Co., publishers, through J. B. Steel, No. 14 Camp street, for the following new publications:

Women in America, her work and her reward, by Maria J. McIntosh. This is an exquisite essay on the duties, the sphere and the influence of woman, by one of the gentlest, purest and wisest of her sex.

Byrne's Dictionary Mechanics and Engineering, No. 7.—A work of vast industry and very decided merit. We have noticed it before.

CONCERT.—The grand farewell Concert of Mesdames DEVRIES and BESSIN will take place this evening, at the Lyceum Hall. Mr. STRAKOSCH has tendered his valuable aid on the occasion, as also Messrs. Remenzi and Bianchi. The programme comprises several of the most choice morceaux from the modern operas.

☞ We have been requested by Mr. J. L. FARRE, chairman of the Police Committee of the First Municipality, to state that the Committee will meet this evening, at 6 o'clock, for the purpose of verifying whether the police officers and watchmen recently appointed by the Council, are [illegible]

[illegible] This excellent [illegible] celebrated its anniversary yesterday by a handsome turn-out. Several hundred of the members were in attendance, and marched through the principal streets, under the supervision of the Grand Marshal, John W. CROCKETT, making a highly imposing and pleasing appearance. The members then proceeded to the Lyceum Hall, and were eloquently and appropriately addressed by the Rev. Mr. TWICHELL and Mr. HALLORAN.

DEATH OF ZENON CAVELIER.—In our columns this morning will be found recorded the decease of this aged and respectable citizen—one of the oldest residents of the State, who, after a long and honorable career, has been gathered unto his fathers.

MR. MCALLISTER.—This gentleman, whose remarkable magical performances and feats of legerdemain, attracted such large audiences at the St. Charles Theatre, has engaged the Orleans Theatre for a limited number of nights, and will commence a series of his highly amusing and interesting exploits on Saturday evening.

☞ Auction Columns, our readers will find that J. A. ard, Auctioneer, sells THIS DAY, at 12 o'clock, at the St. Louis Exchange, without reserve, several Valuable Stores and Warehouses, now rented to the United States for Custom-houses Stores, situated in the First Municipality.

Also—A substantial built Store and Dwelling on [illegible] street, Second Municipality, my23

By Telegraph.

A despatch to the Merchants' Exchange, dated New York, 18th inst., states the Cotton market was very firm, with sales of 2,000 bales. Middling Orleans, 12 2-4. Sales for the week, 18,000 bales. Sugar had advanced 1-4c. per lb. Flour, $5 37 1-2.

THE VIRGINIA REFORM CONVENTION.—The Richmond *Enquirer* states that official returns have been received, in the office of the Secretary of State, of the vote on the question of holding a convention, from all the counties but thirty-three. Thus far the vote stands:

For the Convention,	28,838
Against Convention,	14,673
Majority for Convention,	24,165

Most of the counties to hear from have probably given a majority for a convention, and (adds the *Enquirer*) we may safely set down the majority in the whole State for the convention as from 20,000 to 25,000. This is a very handsome vote; the majority for the convention of 1829 did not, we think, exceed 6000.

DR. JUDSON.—This revered Burman Missionary, we regret to learn, was not expected to live at the date of the last advices from Maulmain. In a letter to Mr. Haswell, dated December 21st, he says:

"I was plodding on in the dictionary when arrested by the fever, and know not now when I shall be able to resume my labors. I should be glad to live long enough to finish that work on which I have spent so much time, but our times are in the hands of Him who doeth all things well."

His case has no doubt been decided before this, and if he has been removed with this great work unfinished, the providence would seem truly mysterious.

INCENDIARISM.—The *Delta* says that at about half past nine o'clock on Tuesday night, the watchman on the Front Levee beat, discovered a fire in the TEXAS Exchange Coffeehouse, on Front Levee street, between Gaiennier and Suzette streets. He immediately broke into the building and found on the third story floor five fires, set in various parts of the premises, and on the fourth floor, three seperate fires. Rosin, corn husks saturated in spirits of turpentine, and various other inflamable materials were scattered over the establishment, for the purpose of producing a general and complete conflagration. The lower part of the building is occupied as a Coffeehouse, and the remainder as a Boardinghouse. Attempts have been made to fire this house on two previous occasions. Lieutenant Petrie informs us that the stairway was so provided with combustibles as to render exit impossible. The preservation of the building is said to have been alone owing to the unparalleled exertions of watchman Carroll, who threw the burning materials out of the window. Carroll had to be lowered from the fourth story by a rope. Mr. John Decker, is, we believe, the owner of the building, and at the time of the fire, he was at the fire-works with his family.

COUNTERFEIT COIN—*Interesting Decision.*—In the Supreme Court of the United States on the 14th, was decided a case, involving the power of Congress to pass laws to prohibit the circulation of counterfeit coin, and punish the persons circulating it. The case came up before the Supreme Court, on a certificate of division of opinion of the Judges of the U. S. Circuit Court for New York. The case was argued before the Supreme Court, by Mr. Johnson, the Attorney General, in favor of the power of Congress in the matter, and by Mr. Seward against it. The decision of the Court was in favor of the power, and thus established the full authority of Congress over the whole question.

REFORM IN MARYLAND.—The Baltimore *Clipper* states that enough is known of the vote given on Wednesday last, in that State, on the question of calling a convention, to allow that it has been carried by an overwhelming majority. In few counties was the vote against the convention. This point being settled, the attention of the people will be directed to the selection of candidates for the convention; and in doing this, great caution should be observed. Men who are conservative in their views, not rash politicians, should be chosen. The effort should be to frame a constitution which will not only be acceptable to the people, but of lasting duration.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT—*Judge McHenry.*—This tribunal was occupied yesterday up to half past one o'clock with some petty trials, the particulars of which are of no interest. The Court being then about to adjourn, directed the Sheriff to enquire of the jury whether they had agreed upon a verdict in the Rey case, or desired any instructions. The Sheriff returned and informed the Judge that the foreman had stated that there was no chance of rendering a verdict, as the jury was equally divided; nor did they desire any instructions, but begged to inform the Court that one of the members, Mr. Platte, was suffering from indisposition. The District Attorney, Mr. Reynolds, remarked that he would have no objection to the discharge of the jury, and Mr. Colleau, on behalf of the accused, likewise consented to the course. His Honor, however, intimated that he was most desirous of obtaining a verdict, and nothing but the absolute sickness of one of the jurors would induce him to discharge the jury. In order to ascertain the condition of Mr. Platte, the Court directed the Jury to be brought in. Accordingly the twelve gentlemen—somewhat fatigued in appearance—presented themselves, when, to the question of His Honor, Mr. W. T. Mayo, the foreman, responded that there was no chance of the Jury agreeing. The Court then interrogated Mr. Platte as to the cause of his complaint, whereupon the gentleman stated that he had suffered from fever on the day preceding, and was at the moment debilitated. The Court remarked that doubtless the whole of the Jury was worn out in consequence of their protracted deliberations, but that it was also highly desirable to obtain a verdict, and unless under a case of great emergency, he could not consent to part with the Jury. The case presented no difficulties, and His Honor doubted not, that by diligent consultation they would ultimately come to an understanding. He had no desire to try the case over again, and when his successor took the Bench it would be hardly possible for him—the counsel for the accused—to sit in judgment on the matter. So that if not decided now, the prospect was that no decision would ever be had. As to the particular case of the Juror who was indisposed, the Court did not consider the attack a very serious one, and if suffering from slight fever, a little fasting and abstinence from such temptations as we are ordinarily exposed to out of doors, would be rather beneficial than otherwise. People were apt to be bilious at this season of the year, in which case the disorder is accompanied by a slight lassitude. It was due to the Court—due to the community, and due to [illegible] conscience, that the Jury should [illegible] duct. The gentlemen were then marched [illegible] their close quarters, but up to a late hour [illegible] evening—the third night by the bye—[illegible] no further progress with the case.

POLICE ITEMS.—The cases [illegible] were not very numerous, and mostly [illegible]ant. Francis Humphreys, charged with having assaulted J. W. Merwin, on the 12th instant, was sent for trial, by Recorder Genois, before the First District Court. P. Aube, accused of having stolen $230, at the Strangers' Hotel, in Chartres st., on the 6th inst., was examined, but as no evidence was adduced to criminate him, he was discharged. Angel Martinez was charged, before Recorder Genois, with having stolen $35 from the coffin house of Manuel de Llano, at the corner of Toulouse and Bourbon sts., and a warrant was issued for his arrest. Ann Malvina alias Proctor was arrested on a charge of larceny, preferred against her by Charlotte Banisner, who keeps a millinary establishment at the corner of Bienville and Royal sts. The accused had been in her employ, and is alleged to have purloined from time to time some $300 worth of silks, ribbons, &c. Esmeline Gibeon, a colored person, was charged with having committed an assault on a white person. John Anderson, charged before Recorder Caldwell, with having stolen a ladies' chemise, was committed for trial before the First District Court.

Catalogue Sale of Dry Goods.

☞ We call the attention of city and country purchasers of Dry Goods, to the fine assortment of seasonable goods to be sold THIS DAY, by F. B. Fontaine, at his auction sales room, No. 8 Canal street.

FORTY-EIGHT HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MAIL.

By an arrival from Louisville we have received papers as late as the 17th inst., containing intelligence from New York and Washington, TWO DAYS in advance of the mail.

The advices by the steamship HIBERNIA are substantially the same as those published by us a few days since, with the exception of this single item:

FRANCE.—Eugene Sue received the votes of fully one half the army at Paris, and beat his opponent by 8,000 votes. The election passed off quietly. The Socialists were greatly elated.

The following are the proceedings of Congress on the 15th and 16th inst.:

WASHINGTON, May 15.

After the presentation of various petitions and the transaction of the useful morning business, the bill to promote the progress of the useful arts was was taken up and made the special order for to-morrow.

The bill for the relief of Gen. Roger Jones was taken up and passed.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the bills to admit California as a State and to establish territorial governments in Utah and New Mexico.

Mr. DAVIS, of Miss., modified his amendment, submitted yesterday, by substituting a proviso to the tenth section, giving to the Territorial Legislatures power to pass laws necessary for the protection of slave property of citizens of the territories.

Mr. FOOTE resumed and concluded his speech of yesterday, in reply to Mr. Yulee, and in vindication of his position that the abolitionists in Mexico are repulsed.

Mr. YULEE desired that the rights of the South should be expressly guaranteed by the bills before he could support it. He asked no compromise, but only that the constitutional rights of the South should be secured.

Mr. FOOTE replied at great length in pungent and sarcastic remarks in defence of the bill; and, in the course thereof, expressed his confidence that the day was not far distant when the compromise bill would pass both Houses of Congress, and be hailed by universal shouts of public rejoicing throughout the country.

Mr. CLEMENS desired to say that the bill never would pass in its present form.

Mr. FOOTE replied to Mr. CLEMENS. He was not opposed to amending the bill.

Mr. CLEMENS said that unfortunately they never could get any amendments which were satisfactory. He proceeded with some remarks to show that Mr. FOOTE's course had not been consistent on this subject. He compared Mr. FOOTE's declaration yesterday, that the South had no right to complain of the admission of California with the position assumed in a letter, by him and his colleagues, in which that measure was pronounced to be equivalent to the Wilmot Proviso.

Mr. FOOTE interposed, and a triangular cross fire ensued between him and Messrs. Clemens and Jeff. Davis, which was continued until 5 o'clock, when the Senate went into Executive session, and soon after adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE.—Various reports from committees were presented.

Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill to admit certain articles of the growth and production of Canada free of duty into the United States.

Accompanying the report was the correspondence between Mr. Clayton and Sir H. Bulwer.

Mr. JONES moved to lay the bill on the table, which motion was negatived.

On motion, the bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. BROOK's motion, heretofore made, was so amended as to refer that portion of the British Minister's letters to Mr. Clayton protesting against the increase of duty on iron and other British productions, to the Committee on Ways and Means, instead of the Committee on Manufactures, and the part asking for British coasting trade from the Atlantic to the Pacific, to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. BAYLEY moved to re-consider the vote, but the motion was laid on the table—yeas 88, nays 80.

The Senate's amendment to the resolution to facilitate the coinage of the mint was concurred in. It authorizes the transfer of such moneys from the treasury as can be spared from time to time.

After some further business, the House adourned.

CLEVELAND, O., May 16.

The steamer America is now burning in this harbor. She caught fire three miles out from this port.

CLEVELAND, May 17, 4 P. M.

The steamer America, from Buffalo to Cleveland, was discovered to be on fire near her boilers when within about five miles of this port. She reached her dock about 12 o'clock, and by the aid of the fire department and assistance of the citizens the flames were extinhuished after working about three hours. She leaves in the morning, to resume her regular trips in the Buffalo and Sandusky line. The world is confined to her hold in the vicinity of her boilers.

PITTSBURG, May 16.

The river is rising with 12 feet 8 inches water in the channel. Weather pleasant.

CINCINNATI, May 16.

The weather is warm. The river is falling.

ST. LOUIS, May 16.

No cholera here. Weather very pleasant.

The flouring mill and distillery of Robinson & Higbee, at Dallas, Ill., was destroyed by fire on the morning of the 13th. Loss $15,000. Insurance $6,000.

NEW YORK, May 17.

The news per Hibernia has as yet had no effect on this market except by checking transactions. Cotton continues buoyant. In breadstuffs and provisions a moderate business is doing. For the last three days the sales amount —of coffee, 1,500 bags; of molasses, 1,300 bbls; and of sugar, 1,700 hhds. Hemp is dull at $115 a $120 per ton for American dew rotted.

LATE MARRIAGES IN POLITICAL CIRCLES.—Our representative, Hon. Linn Boyd, was married at the Catholic church in Harrisburg, Penn., some three weeks since, to Mrs. Dickson, sister of the Hon. John S. Rhey, member of Congress from Armstrong county, Penn. The fair lady is a relative of the Vice-President, Hon. Millard Fillmore, at whose house Mr. Boyd made her acquaintance. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Patrick Mahon. A large crowd of persons were present on the occasion, and the event created quite an excitement in Harrisburg.

On the evening of the 22d April, the Hon. James L. Johnson, member of Congress from the Cumberland district, was married to the daughter of Philip N. Triplett, of Daviess county.

Whatever may be said of other members, Messrs. Boyd and Johnson have given an indisputable evidence of their attachment to the UNION.—*Paducah (Ky.) Journal.*

A CONSIDERATE POSTMASTER.—The Postmaster at New Bedford appears to be a very careful, benevolent and pains-taking officer. In his advertised list of letters he prefixes an asterisk to a certain person's name, and appends the following note:

"* This man lives down South, and goes to Brother Dean's meeting."

A New Bedford paper is obliging enough to add to the postmaster's explanation, by saying that "down South" does not mean North Carolina, but only that section of the city of New Bedford where the colored population mostly live, and where, also, "Brother Dean's meeting" is located.

DEATH OF A POETESS.—The New York papers of Monday record the death of Mrs. Frances Sargent Osgood, which occurred at her residence in that city on Sunday afternoon. We are indebted to the Express for the following brief sketch of her life and character:

"Mrs. Frances S. Osgood, one of the sweetest of poetesses, one of the loveliest of women, of whom her country, as well as a wide circle of appreciating friends, have long been justly proud, is dead. She was born in Boston, where she resided up to the time of her marriage with the accomplished painter, whose works are so well known by all the lovers of art in this city. She began quite early in life (when Miss Locke) to contribute to the periodicals, and from a child gave tokens of the abilities which in her maturity she so brilliantly displayed.—She accomplished a great deal, in the course of her literary career, as the examination of the very handsome volume of her works recently brought out will abundantly prove.—That book, we may remark, has now a double value, in affording to the admirer of her works and her worth a speaking likeness of that intellectual and charming face which they can never look upon again. Mrs. Osgood died of consumption. Though always delicate in health, the cheerfulness of her manners, the playfulness of her fancy, the fascination of her conversation, which, glowing with wit, was yet ever tempered by quietness, rendered her as delightful a companion as was her muse to those who personally knew her not. Her husband, who a short time before her disease had returned from California, where, with some privation, he had acquired a handsome competence, is left with two daughters to lament a loss which to all of them will be found irreparable. We have not words at command now, while the intelligence is new to us, to do justice to a character that, to be fully appreciated, must have been familiarly known. We copy a touching, truthful paragraph from the *Tribune*:

"In the prime of life, the light and joy of a loving household, with a literary position, not lofty, but creditable, and fairly and faithfully won, the cloudless sky of worldly care and just breaking away from her onward path, we know no one to whom continued life might seem more desirable to her. But though life opened brightly before her, the grave was not dark nor desolate, for it was lighted by the sun of a blissful immortality."

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 14.

The Virginia Insurrection of Slaves—Editor of the New Southerner Organ.—A letter has been received in this city, stating that in Nelson County Township, Monroe county, Va., had almost matured a plot to murder all the white inhabitants in the above township. Their purpose was then to effect their escape to the State of Ohio. A colored girl, however, gave information of the plot, and up to the last accounts, sixty of the ringleaders had been arrested and imprisoned. The affair has produced great excitement, and a Vigilance Committee formed.

I understand upon good authority that Edward Fisher is to be editor of the paper to be established in this city, which is intended to be the organ and exponent of Southern principles.

We have a wet and disagreeable day.

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 14.

It is currently reported here that Edmund Burke, Esq., retires from the editorial charge of the Union, on the 20th inst.

HORRIBLE ASSAULT UPON A MEDICAL GENTLEMAN.—A most violent assault was on Tuesday night, 14th inst., committed on the person of Dr. Barrett, of New York city. It appears that a tailor named Wm. H. Steinmetz, T. W. Faulkner, and an actor, named Fleming, called at 11 o'clock at night, at the doctor's house, when Steinmetz seized him by the neck, and his accomplices beat him in a most violent manner with a cane, which they broke in five or six pieces over his person. They went off, leaving him nearly dead. His physician states that his recovery is doubtful. The parties were arrested on Saturday evening. Steinmetz, it appears, was incensed at the Doctor's charge against him for medical attendance.

CONFLICT OF JURISDICTION IN CALIFORNIA.—By the last accounts from California, it seems that there are two persons claiming to hold the office of harbor master there, namely, one Mr. Hagan, holding his appointment under the State government; and the other Mr. King, exercising the same office by appointment of the United States military. Hagan demanded of Mr. King the surrender of the office to him, but he was informed that he could not be recognised as entitled to it in that capacity. The dispute was confirmed by the collector of the port and by Commodore Jones, the former declaring that he should clear no vessels which pay fees to any other harbor master than the one who holds his appointment under the government of the United States. Both officers were bombing vessels in the harbor. This is one of the consequences of delay in the admission of California into the Union.

DELEGATES OUTNUMBERING CONSTITUENTS.—As soon as the late meeting at Nashville, Tenn., which refused by an overwhelming majority, to appoint delegates to the Southern Convention, had adjourned, the chairman requested the *friends* of the convention to remain and appoint delegates. The Nashville Gazette says they did remain to the number of *seventeen*, and appointed twenty-nine delegates to the Southern Convention.

THE POWER OF THE PRESS.—The St. Louis *Herald*, in speaking of President Louis Napoleon, justly remarks:

"This gentleman has a passion for carrying on open warfare with the press. Every despatch from France contains some new ally of the kind. His doom is sealed. The time has long since passed for gagging the press of France, and it has well nigh arrived for unfettering the press of all Europe. Mind has acquired an irresistible influence over human affairs, and *he who has the madness to resist it must be crushed in the encounter.*"

FRED. WEBSTER.—It is asserted on good authority, says a despatch from Boston, that, to the family of Prof. Webster, all efforts for a mere commutation of the unfortunate Professor's sentence will be distasteful to them, as they desire at the Governor's hands an unconditional pardon.

FRESHET IN THE PEE DEE.—The Charleston *Courier* says:

A private dispatch from Cheraw, dated at 12 o'clock M., yesterday, gives information that a great freshet has been experienced in the Pee Dee River and that the water is higher in that stream than it has been for the past five years. The River planters will be great sufferers by this calamity.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN CHARLESTON.—We learn from the *Courier* of the 17th inst., that at an early hour in the morning an alarm of fire was sounded which was found to proceed from the cotton shed at Adger's South Wharf, in which was stored a large quantity of cotton. The fire soon enveloped this building and extended West, to a large storehouse, also filled with cotton, and made its way up the block between Adger's North and South Wharves. To the South, the large wooden shed fronting Tradd street, was burned down, and other new stores on Vanderhorst's Wharf are in flames, with little hope of saving them. The *Courier* adds:

We have no time to enter into particulars as to the destruction of property, or who may be the sufferers. It is believed that some 4,000 bales cotton will be burned, of which are some 3 or 400 bales Sea Island, also about 300 bbls. rice, most of which, it is reasonable to calculate, is insured.

We can give not the slightest idea of the origin of the fire, but can bear witness to the almost super-human exertions of our gallant firemen, and are happy to say that at this time there has been no personal injury to any one.

Four o'clock, A. M.

At this hour, the fire is progressing westward, up Adger's wharves. The large Dry Goods warehouse of Messrs. Johnson, Crews & Brawley is enveloped in flames, and the stores of Thomas and McDowell & Co., and E. A. Pringle will, it is feared, be involved in the destruction. The fire, it is believed, will be stopped before reaching the buildings fronting on East-Bay, corner of Tradd street.

On Vanderhorst's wharf, the range of counting houses fronting the water, are in flames, and falling, but there is now no fear of its extending much further westward, towards East-Bay.

Time will not allow us to say more than that the loss, by this conflagration, cannot be estimated at less than two hundred thousand dollars.

P. S.—1 o'clock.

We can now state that the building on East-Bay st., viz: Messrs. McDowell & Co.; Pringle, Murray, and Masterson will be saved, and on Vanderhorst's wharf, also, the firemen appear to have the flames under control.

SIR HENRY BULWER'S LETTERS.—A Washington letter to the New York Tribune says:

I learn to-day from a source entitled to credit that the authenticity of the Bulwer letter to Chatfield is placed beyond any reasonable contingency. I also learn that when speaking of a "weak government," &c., the British Minister simply alluded to the fact that there was a majority in Congress opposed to the administration, and that no personal disrespect was intended toward either the President or any member of his cabinet. You may set it down as a fixed fact, that Bulwer will notice the matter, and give such an explanation as will supersede the necessity of any Cabinet notice in the premises. It was an objectionable act. It is a silly production; and for impertinence is only equalled by his letter to Mr. Clayton, protesting against the duty on iron being increased during the Congress.

MATCHES.—Does the reader suppose that the manufacture of Lucifer Matches is a subject of too little importance for the columns of a grave political journal? Perhaps so: yet after perusing the following, copied from the Detroit Tribune, he will learn that the production of even these little insignificant though useful things exhibits a beautiful achievement of science, affording employment and good remunerance to many persons, and supplying the human family with an article of convenience of which they would be very unwilling to be deprived.

"A few years ago the process to obtain fire was as rude as the effort of the Indian to procure a flame by the friction of chips. The tinder-box was the companion of house-keepers. Chemistry discovered that the tinder-box might be abolished. The first chemical light produced was sold for five dollars. In a year or so, they were portable in phials, at a dollar. By and by, they were sold for a shilling. The fire revolver was slowly approaching, and had their day. At length, a bold adventurer saw chemistry in matches—that matches in themselves, the vehicles of fire without aid of spark or heat, might be made on the factory system—that all classes could produce them. When chemistry saw that phosphorus, having an affinity for oxygen at the lowest temperature, would ignite upon slight friction—and so linked and united sulphur, which required a much higher temperature to become inflammable, thus making the phosphorus do the work of the old tinder-with far greater certainty: or when chemistry found that chlorate of potash, by slight friction, might be exploded so as to produce combustion, and might be used safely in the same combination—a blessing was bestowed upon society that can scarcely be measured by those who have had no former knowledge of the miseries and privations of the tinder-box time. The penny-box of lucifers, or Congreves, or by whatever name called, is a real triumph of science, and an advance in civilization.

"The land of wooden nutmegs was not slow to turn an honest penny. Connecticut, in reality, became the seat of Lucifer. A large factory was soon going up, and the smoke of new engines was noticed wheezing long before daylight. Norway deals are cut into splints by machinery. These little pieces, beautifully accurate in their minute equareness, and in their precise length of three to an inch, are put up into bundles, each of which contain eighteen hundred. Without being separated, each end of the bundle is dipped into sulphur. When dry, the splints adhering to each other by means of the sulphur must be parted by what is called dusting. They have now to be plunged into a preparation of phosphorus or chlorate of potash, according to the quality of the match. The phosphorous produces the pale, somewhat fiery, but cheap match; the chlorate of potash the sharp, cracking illumination. After the application of the more inflammable substance, the matches are separated, and dried in racks. The series of movements are performed with a rapidity almost unexampled, for in this way, two hundred thousand matches are cut, and two thousand boxes filled in a day, by one boy, at the wages of three half-pence per gross of boxes. Each dozen boxes is then papered up, and they are ready for the retailer. The number of boxes daily filled at this factory is from fifty to sixty gross.

The wholesale price per dozen boxes of the best matches is fourpence—of the second quality threepence.

"There are now Lucifer match factories in almost every city; and we were told by a Connecticut vender in New York last fall, that the match trade of the United States was over two millions of dollars a year.

"The excessive cheapness is produced by the extension of the demand, enforcing the division of labor, and the most exact saving of material. The scientific discovery was the foundation of the cheapness. But, connected with the practical principle of cheapness, there are one or two remarkable points which deserve attention.

"It is a law of this manufacture that the demand is greater in the summer than in the winter. The increased summer demand for Lucifer matches shows that the great consumption is among the masses—the laboring population—those who make up the vast majority of the contributors to daily comfort and convenience. In the houses of the wealthy there is always fire; in the houses of the poor, fire is economised. Lucifer match to supply the want—to [illegible] the candle to look into the dark cupboard—to light the afternoon fire to boil the kettle. It is now unnecessary to run to the neighbor for a light, or, as a desperate resource, to wake a fire in the next door. The Lucifer matches sometimes fail, but they cost little, and so they are freely used, even by the poorest.

"And this involves another great principle. The demand for the Lucifer match is always continuous, for it is a perishable article. The demand never ceases. Every match burnt demands a new match to supply its place. This continuous demand renders the supply equal to the demand. The peculiar nature of the commodity prevents any accumulation of stock; its combustible character—requiring the simple agency of friction to ignite it—renders it dangerous for large quantities of the article to be kept in one place. Therefore, no one makes for store, but all for immediate sale. The average price, therefore, must always yield a profit. The essential quality limits the supply. The manufacturers cannot be rich without secret process or monopoly. The contest is to obtain the largest profit by economical management—The amount of skill required in the laborers, and the facility of habit, which enables them to act with the precision of machines, limit the number of laborers, and prevent their improvement. Every condition of the cheapness is a natural and beneficial result of the laws that govern production."

A MEMBER.—The ceremony of unveiling the daughter of a Priest and Scribe of Thebes, in the shape of an imperial mummy brought to that place by Professor Gliddon is to take place in Boston shortly. A body of "learned Thebans" of that city are to make scientific examinations and explanations during the enquiry. Speaking of the affair, the *Advertiser* says:

The name of the person buried was ANCH —ph— [illegible], daughter of a priest and scribe of Thebes, GOT-THROT-Thanes; and from the style of the hieroglyphics and fashion of the embalmment, there are strong reasons, which however, cannot be settled until the *mummy* is opened, why the lady lived between the 18th and 15th centuries B. C., that is within a hundred years of Moses; whom, for aught we can assert to the contrary, she may have known.

On the front of the outer case, the deceased, resuscitated in the flesh, is introduced, after death, into the Judgement Hall of Osiris, where her heart and brains are mystically weighed in the balance of truth. It is the 125th chapter of the "Book of the Dead," to be detailed hereafter; reminding us of Job, XXIII, 6—"Let me be weighed in an even balance, that God may know mine integrity,"—and Daniel, v. 27; "weighed in the *balances*."

Beneath, in vertical columns, the deceased addresses the 42 assessors, or grand jury-men of the nether world; to each of whom she makes her attestations of *innocence*, 42 in number; which under another form, contain much of the morality enjoined in the Mosaic *Decalogue*, thus, "I have not committed perjury," says the deceased lady, "I have not slandered; —I have not committed adultry;—I have not grieved the spirits of the Gods;" &c. &c.

It appears then that

"Perhaps this very hand now pinioned flat,
Has hob-a-nobbed with Pharaoh glass to glass."

But it is quite certain that it never

"Dropped a half penny in Homer's hat.
Or doffed *her* own to let Queen Dido pass."

Because ANCH—ph— was buried and her hand pinioned flat, before Homer sung or Dido was born.

Every being which died in Egypt, from the meanest upwards was embalmed, in accordance with a happy knowledge of Physiology which saved the world from the *plague*, until monkish ignorance brokeup the custom, and left decaying bodies, beneath annual inundation, to breed that terrible pestilence of which Egyptis the home. Such millions of mummies were there, therefore, that common ones are easily obtained and often seen.

ROYAL SWINDLING.—King Ferdinand, of Naples, with the royal view of replenishing his exhausted exchequer, issued a proclamation declaring Messina a free port. Those who were simple enough to believe the word of a king, entered the port and stored their commodities; but when they attempted to sell or export them, they were politely informed that his majesty had changed his royal mind, and would tax every cent's worth of foreign produce in the port. The merchants remonstrated, but in vain; they even asked permission to withdraw their goods and depart as they had entered, but this was also denied.—His majesty would not allow anything that had entered Messina, agreeably to his proclamation, to be either withdrawn or sold without first paying an enormous duty of over 100 per cent. on its value. Among those who have been thus entrapped and swindled are several merchants of this city, some of whom have paid the duties under protest. We understand that they have represented their case to our government, and claim its protection against the outrageous proceedings of the royal robber.—*Boston Atlas.*

[illegible] Bonneval & Benit will sell THIS AFTERNOON, at half past 4 o'clock, at the corner of [illegible] and Burgundy streets, the Furniture belonging to the estate of Bosque.

[illegible] WHITE WINE, &c.—88 barrels Rust Sauterne Wine; 100 do, do, good ordinary do; [illegible] Claret; [illegible] sundry brands; 108 boxes Haut Sauterne; [illegible] Claret; [illegible] Chateau Margaux; [illegible] Medoc; [illegible] Barsac; [illegible] Preignac; [illegible] Grave; [illegible] Lafitte; [illegible] Latour; [illegible] Larose; [illegible] Leoville; [illegible] Margaux; [illegible] Pontet Canet; [illegible] Lafitte; [illegible] Flower [illegible] Lafitte; [illegible] Ducru Beaucaillou; [illegible] Rauzan; [illegible] Gruaud Larose; [illegible] Lascombes; [illegible] Malescot; [illegible] Dauzac; [illegible] Cantenac; [illegible] Pichon Longueville; [illegible] Pichon Lalande; [illegible] Mouton; [illegible] Lafitte; [illegible] Rothschild; [illegible] Brane Mouton; [illegible] Carruades; [illegible] Pichon Baron; [illegible] Leoville