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The Eastern Mail (Vol. 05, No. 31): February 19, 1852

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The Eastern Mail.

WATERVILLE... FEB. 19, 1852.

AGENTS FOR THE MAIL.

E. B. SIMONSON, General Newspaper Agent, is Agent for this paper, and is authorized to collect for bills. Office in Augusta, over the store of Messrs. Caldwell & Co., with A. R. Nichols; residence at Brown's Corner.

Pine Grove Cemetery—Marble Work.

Very little improvement has been added to the Fall work in the Cemetery. Some monumental structures have been placed there, which, if taken as a sample, speak well for this department.

But few burials have taken place this winter. Not that even more than the usual mortality has not taken to the narrow house all ages of those who participated in the consecration of the ground last Spring.

Report of Committee on Crops.

The Committee appointed by you to award the premiums of the Society to successful competitors on Crops, Report, that the entries submitted to them were as follows:

BOSTON CORRESPONDENCE.

BOSTON, Feb. 16, 1852.

Winter yet holds on with the tenacity of a bull dog, and were it not for one or two bright spring like days that we have had during the week, I should think it mid-winter still.

In our Legislature, the committee to whom was referred the 'monster petition' on the Maine liquor law have reported a bill similar to that now in operation in your State, but not quite so stringent, I think; although I have not had time to read it thoroughly.

The steamers from Europe bring favorable news, while those from California come laden with gold and good reports from that quarter. I notice that the passenger lists are nearly full for several months ahead in the steamer hence for the Isthmus, and also that the return boats bring large living freights, as well as gold dust.

It is enough to make one laugh to see the contemptible figure the 'Liberty loving' Frenchmen cut about this time, and it shows us at once that the people or serfs of France were never fitted to govern themselves in respectable republican style.

A Distingue, Herr Krausz by name, advertised a concert here a few days since, in aid of distressed 'Hungarian Officers,' and disposed of a large number of tickets for the sum of one dollar each a la 'Bath Lottery'; but the individual was 'non est' on the appointed evening, and the whole thing was an outright swindle.

The splendid new steamship S. S. Lewis, the pioneer of the new line of steam packets, that was to be, between this port and Liverpool, was sold a day or two since for \$150,000. She is said to have cost \$185,000; and was bought by Cornelius Vanderbilt, for the California line. The propellers, Benj. Franklin and William Penn, have been withdrawn from the route to Philadelphia, and now run to the Isthmus; a fact significant that the coast trade will not support a line of first class propellers from all Boston.

The 'Black Swan' has flown to parts unknown. The colored 'Casta Diva' was not appreciated, and 'Cochituate' was found so clear that her shadow was seen at the bottom. Concerts are as plenty as any 'professor of music' could wish; but the season is nearly over, and we are all glad of it.

Business is dull. The spring trade has not opened to any extent as yet. The unusual severity of the winter will tend to retard business operations. For a day or two there has been a slight contraction in the money market; but the tendency is towards ease, and those well versed in financial affairs, speak confidently of an easy money market for some months.

[For The Eastern Mail.]

The Kennebec Dam, &c.

My attention has lately been called to some rather startling disclosures in an article over the signature of 'Equal Rights.' In the Mail, in relation to the Kennebec Dam and Augusta Influence. My attention was further excited by some remarks in the Kennebec Journal of last week, in commenting on the article in the Mail.

It seems almost incredible, that a charter should have been given for a mere private enterprise, in which it was expressly provided 'that the Locks should always be tended by suitable men, and that neither the Company nor persons so employed shall demand and receive any compensation for their services;'

These duties operate on all the articles the farmer above Augusta would have occasion to send off, upon all the sawed lumber carried to a market, and upon all the salt, iron, sugar, and every article used or consumed above Augusta. Under this law, duties to the amount of \$1000 a year, at least, have been levied.

And where were the pledges given by those to whom the charter was granted? Four or five seasons had passed between the time when the locks were first opened and the time of passing this law, so that experience had tested the actual operation of the dam on the up-river interest, and shown it to be most disastrous to these interests; and yet with a full knowledge of all this, sufficient local influence was brought to bear on the Legislature to induce them to pass such a law.

At Waterville, on his return, Capt. Waugh found himself in poor health, caused by exposure in taking a steerage passage, as his scanty funds compelled him to do—having barely enough left to pay expenses to Parkman.—Soon after arriving at his home his illness became more serious; and yesterday we were informed that he died about a week since.

distrust of the justice of their measures, and an agony of terror at the open discussion of them. A suspicion of disloyalty to the peculiar interests of the metropolis is enough to mark the unlucky wight as a doomed man.

The special committee on the subject of temperance, signed by Lawrence, McCarthy and 130 others. The names were principally Irish. The remonstrance itself is a curiosity, and reads, *verbatim et literatim*, as follows: 'To the Hon. the Senate and House of Representatives of Massachusetts in General Court assembled: The undersigned, believing that great evils would result to the People and to friends of Law and order. In this Commonwealth to enact, or Pass, a Law Semblable to that which is called the Maine Liquor Law, your Petitioners Humbly Pray that you Hon. Body may Possess more wisdom than to pass any measure contrary to the Law and Constitution of the U. S.'

Editorial Resolves.

The following resolutions, touching the postal system, were adopted at the late editorial meeting at Augusta.

1. Resolved, That it is for the interest of the people that the country press shall be sustained, and some regard should be had by Congress to its rights and welfare in the construction or amendment of the postage laws.

At the Washington dinner given in behalf of the Irish Patriots, Hon. Samuel Houston rose and proposed nine cheers for the following toast which was given with a will.

Mr. Wallace Smiley, who went out with the late Capt. Brackett and others to Central America, under engagements to the Vanderbilt line across the Isthmus, arrived in Waterville on Tuesday night, in very poor health. The company consisted of Messrs. Brackett, Brown, Craig and Smiley. The three last named are now at their homes in this place, but all in very poor health.

Those who send us poetry with obituary notices, should be careful that their verses have poetical merit. We are compelled to reject a multitude of verses this week, from a conviction that however appropriate they may appear to their authors, they would be judged insipid by others.

Latest from California.

There has been two arrivals at New York since our last, each bringing about a million in gold. The rains on the Isthmus have ceased. The usual complement of robberies, murders and fights are reported. The miners are said to be doing an improving business.

A Valuable Book.

'THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE: designed to be a Guide for Justices of the Peace, for the State of Maine.— By Benjamin Kingsbury, Jr. Portland: published by Sanborn & Carter.

The important changes which have occurred in the laws of Maine for ten years past, indicate a pressing need of such a work as this. The task has fortunately fallen into most competent hands. To such Justices of the Peace as have no professional familiarity with legal proceedings, it seems almost indispensable. The work has a copious and well arranged index, and is, we doubt not, completed with the care and correctness that such a book.

Western Literature.

It is of little consequence whether the literature which hails from the West, through the hands of men born and educated at the East, is called Western or Eastern literature. The Ladies' Repository, Cincinnati, is edited by Rev. Dr. Tefft, of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Some of the aims of the ladies, which are always so pure and philosophical, must go into the Mail when we have room. The Scalpel is a powerful instrument.

A GOVERNMENT EXPEDITION TO JAPAN.—The outrageous conduct of the Japanese authorities towards American seamen (recorded in the Brother Jonathan some time since) has awakened the attention of the U. S. Government at last.

The King of the Belgians, the son-in-law of Louis Philippe, has protested against the recent decree of Louis Napoleon against the Orleans property; and similar protests are expected from other quarters. There is nothing of special interest or importance from other continental countries, except, perhaps, the fact that an unusual mortality seems to be prevailing in the army of Naples, three general officers having recently died.

Horrible! Five children of John Whipple, of Hamilton, were shockingly burned on Wednesday evening, by the bagging of a spirit lamp, about which they were sitting looking over their lessons for school. The lamp burning dimly, one of them took it to see if it needed filling, when it suddenly exploded with a noise like the discharging of a pistol, and enveloped them in a sheet of fire.

'THE NEW CONSTITUTION OF FRANCE:—The whole thing looks so much like a jest that it is difficult to realize that it is a serious verity. The power of the President, who is recognized by the Constitution as the 'Prince'—is absolute, as much as if he had acceded to himself the title of Autocrat or Emperor, or any other than that which he has taken in the abused name of the Republic.

