



12-27-1849

The Eastern Mail (Vol. 03, No. 23): December 27, 1849

Ephraim Maxham

Daniel Ripley Wing

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Recommended Citation

Maxham, Ephraim and Wing, Daniel Ripley, "The Eastern Mail (Vol. 03, No. 23): December 27, 1849" (1849). *The Eastern Mail (Waterville, Maine)*. 126.
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The Eastern Mail.

A Family Newspaper.....Devoted to Agriculture, Literature, the Mechanic Arts, and General Intelligence.

VOL. III.

WATERVILLE, MAINE, THURSDAY, DEC. 27, 1849.

NO. 23.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING, BY

BY E. MAXHAM & D. R. WING.

At No. 3 1-2 Boutelle Block, Main Street.

TERMS.

If paid in advance, or within one month, \$1.50

If paid within six months, 1.75

If paid within the year, 2.00

Most kinds of Country Produce taken in payment.

No paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the option of the publishers.

POETRY.

[From the National Era.]

TO FREDRICKA BREMER.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

Welcome from the dusky Northland,

Daughter of the Vikings hold!

Welcome to the sunny Vineland

Which they sought and found of old!

Soft as lap of Silga's waters

When the moon of summer shines,

Stronger winter from the mountains

Roaring through the Northern pines,

Swan of Ahol we have listened

To thy saga and thy song,

Till a household joy and gladness

We have known and loved thee long.

By the mansion's marble mantel,

By the log-walled cabin's hearth,

Thy sweet thoughts and Northern fancies

Met and mingle with our mirth;

And o'er weary spirits keeping

Sorrow's night watch, long and chill,

Shine they like the sun of summer

Over midnight vale and hill.

Sweet eyes smile for us in Norland,

Household forms we love are there;

In their bitter grief of parting

And their bridal joy we share.

We alone are strangers to thee,

Thou our friend and teacher art;

Come and know us as we know thee,

Let us meet thee heart to heart!

To our household homes and altars,

We, in turn, thy steps would lead,

As thy loving hand has led us

O'er the threshold of the Swede.

Amesbury, Nov. 1849.

THE QUAKER AND ROBBER.

[Translated from the French for the Boston Museum.]

BY ALFRED GAUDELET.

The most honest of all Quakers, Quaker

Simpson, inhabited, in London, a small, pretty

house, with his daughter, a young girl scarcely

eighteen years of age. Mary was a beautiful

blonde, with large blue eyes, as wise as she was

beautiful; she was constantly surrounded by a

host of admirers, anxious to win her heart, but

their efforts were in vain. Mary was not a

coquette, and far from enjoying the effect

produced by her charms, she was often annoyed

by it. Edward Weresford, a young artist, in-

imate in the family, was the only one whose

society she really enjoyed.

A very simple occurrence had been the

cause of this intimacy. A sudden and un-

expected death had carried away the Quaker's

wife, still young and beautiful, and anxious

to preserve the image of one so dear to him, he

had called the young artist to her death-bed.

It was there that Edward had seen, for the

first time, the young and disconsolate girl, and

where their attachment first sprang into life,

amidst the tears of one and the heartfelt sym-

pathy of the other. A year had scarcely elapsed,

when the young artist made known to the fa-

ther of Mary his desires and hopes.

The good Jonathan saw no reason to oppose

the mutual inclination of the two lovers.—

Without being rich, Edward, with the aid of

his father, Mr. Weresford, one of the oldest

merchants of the city, had retired from busi-

ness with a large fortune; his was a rare in-

stance of rapid success in speculation, so rapid,

indeed, that few had been able to follow its

progress. Weresford, whose manners were

rough and uncouth, lived alone in the outskirts

of London, without troubling himself about his

son; he was one of those peculiar men who

trouble nobody in order not to be troubled

themselves, and was tolerably good natured if

no favors were required of him.

Edward, sure that his father would readily

consent to his marriage with the pretty Quak-

ess, was anxiously awaiting the day that

should seal their union.

Jonathan, who owned large farms in the

neighborhood of London, started, one morning,

to collect a large sum of money, which he

designated for the expenses of the wedding. He

was absent only through the day, and as he

was returning, after dark on horseback, he

perceived, at a short distance, a man standing

in the middle of the road, in a position of

no good purpose. He stopped, hesitating whether

to go on or turn back. In the meantime the man

was advancing towards him, and light seemed

the best of it, and so slowly on. As he ap-

proached nearer, he perceived that the man

was masked. The unknown drew a pistol and

'Whoever thou art,' replied he gravely,

'thou hast guessed that I am a Quaker, and

that not even for my life, would I forsake the

truth. Now, I must tell thee that I have, un-

derneath my saddle, two hundred pounds ster-

ling.'

'Two hundred pounds!' exclaimed the thief,

whose eyes flashed under his mask.

'But if thou art good, if thou art human,'

continued the Quaker, 'thou wilt leave me this

money; my daughter is going to be married,

and I will not be able again to dispose of such a

sum for a long time. The dear girl loves her

brother, it would be cruel to put off their

union; thou hast a heart, thou hast loved, per-

haps, and thou canst not commit such a wicked

action.'

'What in the d—! do I care for thy daugh-

ter, her lover or their marriage? I want the

money and must have it at once.'

Jonathan, with a sad heart, lifted the saddle,

took a heavy bag from underneath it, gave it

to the thief, and started on a gallop.

'Stop a minute, my friend,' cried the rob-

ber, seizing the bridle. 'As soon as you ar-

rive home, you will go straight to denounce

me to the magistrates; that is all right and I

have nothing to say to it, but it is important

you know, that I should go ahead of you. My

horse is tired and almost worn out, yours, on

the contrary, seems strong and vigorous, and

much more able to carry this heavy bag of

gold; alight then, I pray thee, and let me go

on thy horse, you may take mine afterwards

if you choose.'

It was too late to offer any resistance; Jon-

athan quietly dismounted, saying to himself,

with resignation, 'If I had known it before,

how easily I might have escaped from the ras-

cal, for with such a horse, he could certainly

never have overtaken me.'

In the meantime, the masked man, thanking

him ironically, for his kindness, started at full

gallop and soon disappeared.

Before reaching London the unhappy trav-

eler had time to think of his misfortune, and

of the poor lovers, so fond of each other, and

whose happiness must unavoidably be postpo-

ned. The money of which he had been robbed

was forever lost to him, for he had no means

of identifying the robber, should he ever hap-

pen to come across him. A sudden idea

struck him, however; he stopped:

'Yes!' he exclaimed, 'I may yet succeed.

If the rascal stops in London I may perhaps

discover him. How could he be so imprudent?

His spirits thus raised by, I know not what

hope of success, Jonathan reached home, as if

nothing had happened and whispered not a

word of his adventure. He did not go to the

magistrate, but kissed his daughter, who sus-

pected nothing, went to bed and slept soundly

till morning, trusting, in Providence, for the

rest. The next morning, however, he thought

he might, perhaps, help Providence, and began

make inquiries. He took the horse out of the

stable where he had remained all night, and

threw the bridle loose upon its neck, in hopes

that it would naturally go straight to its mas-

ter's house. He allowed the poor animal, who

had had nothing to eat, to wander through the

streets of London, and he followed after. But

soon poor Jonathan gave up all hopes of suc-

cess, and made up his mind that the robber

had never inhabited London. 'What a fool I

was,' thought he, 'not to have complained to

the magistrate while it was yet time, instead

of trusting to the instinct of this stupid animal.'

He was interrupted in his reflections by the

cries of some children who had nearly been

run over by the horse. The animal was just

starting off at full speed,

'Stop him! stop him!' was heard on all

sides.

'Do not stop him—let him go!' cried the

Quaker. 'For mercy's sake let him go!' and

closely following on the track, he saw him en-

ter the gate of a mansion in the outskirts of

the city.

'He must be here!' thought the Quaker,

who lifted his eyes towards heaven to thank

Providence. He passed the house and per-

ceived in the yard a servant, who, patting the

horse's neck, was leading him into the stable.

He then inquired of a neighbor the name of

the owner of the house.

'That house belongs to the rich merchant,

Weresford,' was the reply.

The Quaker stood amazed.

'Weresford,' continued the man who tho't

he had not been understood. 'Weresford, you

must have heard of him—the man who made

such an immense and rapid fortune.'

'Thank thee, my friend, thank thee,' replied

Jonathan.

'Whoever thou art,' replied he gravely,

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The Eastern Mail.

WATERVILLE, DEC. 27, 1849.

V. B. PALMER, 8 Congress-st., Boston and at New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, is our advertising agent.

LAW OF NEWSPAPERS.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue their subscription.

2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers, the publishers may continue to send them until all arrears are paid.

3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the office to which they are directed they are held responsible till they have settled the bill and ordered the paper discontinued.

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5. The courts have decided that refusing to take a paper from the office, or removing and leaving it unopened, is "prima facie" evidence of intentional fraud.

The Agony is Over.

Our readers will not be less pleased than we are to learn that the contest for Speaker is at an end! The House resolved on Saturday to elect a Speaker by plurality, and on the 64th ballot Mr. Cobb of Georgia had 102 votes and Mr. Winthrop of Massachusetts 100. Mr. Cobb was therefore declared elected, took the oath of office from Mr. Boyd of Ky., and was led to the official chair by Mr. Winthrop. So this whig administration stands with a democratic Speaker in the House—as the late democratic administration was favored with a whig Speaker!

The message was delivered on Monday, but was not received here till yesterday.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

[We believe the majority of our readers are ready to thank us for an abstract of the message, rather than the entire document, which is as usual, unreasonably long. The following embraces every topic of the message, and its perusal will make the reader fully acquainted with the whole matter of President Taylor's first annual communication to Congress.]

The President congratulates the country on being at peace with all nations; that we have been greatly blessed by Providence, and that the scourge of cholera has been stayed.

Our relations with Great Britain are of a favorable character. He approves the reciprocity act, and thinks it would be beneficial to both countries should it be carried out.

The diplomatic intercourse with France has been slightly disturbed, but the disturbance is happily terminated, and the two sister republics are bound together by the strongest ties of amity. The policy pursued by the government in regard to the German war steamers I approve, and herewith transmit the correspondence connected therewith. Our minister to the German Empire has been recalled, in consequence of the union of the German States not being complete. I deemed it due to our friendly relations with Spain to suppress a contemplated invasion of Cuba. A foreigner having been forcibly carried from our shores to that island, I immediately demanded his restoration, and it has been conceded. As there is no law in existence for the punishment of persons guilty of extradition, I recommended to Congress to supply the deficiency. I have scrupulously avoided any interference in the wars and contentions which have recently distracted Europe. I sent an agent, however, to Hungary to recognize her independence in the event of her being able to sustain it. The claims against Portugal have not yet been adjusted, and this omission has assumed so serious a character that I shall shortly make it the subject of a special message.

With Russia, Austria, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, and the Haytian States, we still maintain our accustomed relations. Our Charge d'Affaires at Rome has not yet presented his credentials, owing to the unsettled state of affairs in that country. It is our duty to cultivate the most friendly relations with Mexico. I submit the correspondence in relation to the protocol of May, 1848. I recommend to your early attention the claims of American citizens on Mexico, provided for by the late treaty.

I have directed arrangements to be made for facilitating the transmission of the mail across Panama, which will remove the present evil. During the Venezuelan civil war, the rights of some of our citizens have been violated, but the restoration of order will afford opportunity for the redress of these and other grievances. It is probable that our intercourse with Chili and other countries on the Pacific will prove advantageous for the interests of California and Oregon.

Our relations with those States should be strengthened, for the U. States is their natural ally; and in the event of a collision, with the ocean between them and any other power, they will look to us for mediation and assistance. Whenever the faith of our treaties with any of them shall require our interference we must necessarily interpose.

Negotiations for the settlement of American claims against Brazil, with whom our relations are amicable, will be submitted to the Senate. I earnestly invite your attention to an amendment in relation to the African slave trade, with a view to the suppression of that barbarous traffic. In relation to this, I recommend the passage of some law by which the present system of sea-letters will be abolished, and this abuse of our flag prevented.

Five States of Central America have separately negotiated treaties of amity and commerce with us. I have directed the negotiation of a treaty with Nicaragua, pledging both governments to protect those who have contracted for the construction of a ship canal through that State. Nicaragua invites all nations to enter into the same treaty stipulations with her to protect this inter-oceanic communication, against any power seeking to obstruct or monopolize its advantages. All states entering into such a treaty, will enjoy the right of passage through the canal, on payment of the same tolls. Instead of this project proving a bone of contention, it promises to be a bond of peace. I also recommend a consideration of the route across Tehuantepec and Panama. I shall not renew any proposition to purchase money, a right which ought to be equally secured to all nations. I have reason to hope that the railroad across Panama will be speedily constructed.

It is our duty to encourage the authorities of the Sandwich Islands in their efforts to improve and elevate the moral and political condition of the inhabitants, and we should make reasonable allowances for the difficulties inseparable from this task. We could in no event be indifferent to their passing under the dominion of any other power.

The accounts and estimates which will be submitted to Congress in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, show that there will probably be a deficit occasioned by the expenses of the Mexican war and treaty, on the first day of July next, of five millions eight hundred and twenty-eight thousand one hundred and twenty-one dollars and sixty cents; and on the first day of July, 1851, of ten millions five hundred and forty-seven thousand dollars and seventy-three cents—making in the whole, a probable deficit to be provided for, of sixteen millions three hundred and seventy-five thousand one hundred and twenty-two dollars and thirty-three cents.

The extraordinary expenses of the war with Mexico and the purchase of California and New Mexico, exceed in amount this deficit, together with the loan heretofore made for those objects. I recommend that authority be given to borrow whatever sum may be necessary to cover that deficit. I recommend the observance of strict economy in the appropriation and expenditure of public money.

I recommend a revision of the existing tariff, and its adjustment on a basis which may augment the revenue, believing that to that attainment a system of specific duties is best adapted. I strongly recommend to Congress the adoption of that system fixing the duties at high rates enough to afford substantial and sufficient encouragement to our own industry, and at the same time so adjusted as to insure stability.

The question of the continuance of the Sub-Treasury system is respectfully submitted to the wisdom of Congress. It continued, important modifications appear to be indispensable. No direct aid has been given by the general government to the improvement of Agriculture, except the expenditure of small sums for the collection and publication of agricultural statistics. I respectfully recommend the establishment of an Agricultural Bureau, to be connected with the Department of the Interior.

Our latest advices from California inform us that they have adopted a State Constitution, and will shortly apply for admission into the Union. Should such be the case, and should their Constitution be conformable to the requisitions of the Constitution of the United States, I recommend their application to the favorable consideration of Congress. The people of New Mexico will also, it is believed, at no very distant period, present themselves for admission into the Union. In relation to these sections of the Union, and with a view of maintaining the harmony and tranquility so dear to all, we should abstain from the introduction of those exciting topics of a sectional character which have hitherto produced painful apprehension in the public mind; and I repeat the solemn warning of the first and most illustrious of my predecessors, against furnishing any ground for characterizing parties by geographical distinctions.

A Collector has been appointed at San Francisco, under the act of Congress extending the revenue laws over California, and measures have been taken to organize the custom-houses at that and other ports mentioned in that act, and at the earliest practicable period.

The party engaged on the coast survey was despatched to Oregon in January last, but they have not left California, and directions have been given to them, as soon as they shall have fixed on the sites of the two light houses, to make reconnoissances of the most important points on the coast of California, and especially to examine and determine on sites for light houses on that coast.

I have transferred the Indian Agencies from upper Missouri and Council Bluffs to Santa Fe and Salt Lake, and have appointed sub-agents in the valley of the Gila. Further provision will also be necessary.

I recommend the establishment of a branch mint in California. I also recommend that commissions be organized, to examine and decide upon the validity of the present land titles in California and New Mexico, and for the establishment of offices of Surveyors General in New Mexico, California, and Oregon, and for the surveying and bringing into market the public lands in those territories.

In order that the situation and character of the principal mineral deposits in California may be ascertained, I recommend that a geological and mineralogical exploration be connected with the linear surveys, and that the mineral lands be divided into small lots suitable for mining, and be disposed of by sale or lease, so as to give our citizens and opportunity of procuring a permanent right of property in the soil.

I recommend a careful reconnoissance of the several proposed routes for a railroad to the Pacific, on our own soil, by a scientific corps, and a report as to the practicability of making such a road, with an estimate of the cost of its construction and support, believing that the construction of such a line of communication would be a material benefit to the prosperity of the whole country.

I recommend early appropriations for continuing the river and harbor improvements, which have been already begun, and also for the construction of those for which estimates have been made, as well as for examinations and estimates preparatory to the commencement of such others as the wants of the country and especially the advance of our population over new districts, and the extension of commerce, may render necessary.

I recommend to the favorable consideration of Congress an increase of the several corps of the army at our distant western posts, in order to fulfill our treaty with Mexico. Great embarrassment has resulted from the effect upon rank in the army heretofore given to brevet and staff commissions. The plan proposed for retiring disabled officers, and providing an asylum for such of the rank and file as from age and wounds, occasioned by service, have become unfit to perform their respective duties, is recommended as a means of increasing the efficiency of the army, and as an act of justice due from a grateful country to the faithful soldier. The naval force at present in commission is as large as is admissible by the number of men authorized by Congress to be employed. I invite your attention to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy in his various grades of officers, and the establishment of a retired list for such of the officers as are disqualified for active and efficient service.

It is submitted whether a further reduction of postage should not now be made, more particularly on the letter correspondence. This should be relieved from the unjust burden of transporting and delivering the franked matter of Congress, for which public provision should be made from the treasury. I confidently believe that a change may safely be made, reducing all single letter postage to the uniform rate of five cents, regardless of distance; and I respectfully recommend such a reduction. Should Congress prefer to abolish the franking privilege entirely, it seems probable that no demand on the treasury would result from the proposed reduction of postage. Whether any further diminution should now be made on the result of the reduction to five cents,

which I have recommended should be first tested, I submit to your decision. Since the commencement of the last session of Congress, a postal treaty with Great Britain has been received and ratified. The attempt to extend the same arrangement through England to France, has not been equally successful, but the purpose has not been abandoned.

The arrangements for taking the seventh census have been completed, and it now rests with Congress to enact a law for carrying into effect the provision of the constitution which requires an actual enumeration of the people of the United States within the ensuing year.

In relation to the trust committed to Congress, as the exclusive legislator and sole guardian of the interests of the District of Columbia, I beg to commend those interests to your kind attention. As the national metropolis, the city of Washington must be an object of general interest; and its claim to the fostering care of Congress whatever can contribute to its prosperity, must enlist the feelings of its constitutional guardians, and command their favorable consideration.

The Executive has authority to recommend, not to dictate, measures to Congress. Having performed that duty, he cannot rightfully control the decisions of Congress on any subject of legislation until that decision shall have been officially submitted to the President for approval; the check provided by the constitution, in the clause conferring the qualified veto, will never be exercised by me, except in the cases contemplated by the fathers of the Republic. I view it as an extreme measure to be resorted to only in extraordinary cases. Our government can only be preserved in its purity by the suppression and entire alienation of every claim or tendency of one co-ordinate branch to encroach upon another.

In my judgment, dissolution would be the greatest of calamities; and to avert that, should be the study of every American. Upon its preservation must depend our own happiness, and that of countless generations to come. Whatever dangers may threaten it, I shall stand by it and maintain it in its integrity, to the full extent of the obligations imposed, and the power conferred upon me by the constitution.

Z. TAYLOR.

"Merry Times on the Back Route."

So says the editor of the Maine Farmer—and we wish he would "be there to see." Indeed, our good will would give him a life ticket in the cars, for his generous course towards that road; but as we don't have much to do with that department, he must excuse the absence of the deed. But, Doctor, we are having merry times, and the business of the road is making a merry lot of stockholders. But the merriment of the season, was the way we "went it" for Merry Christmas. You would have thought that old Santa Claus had crawled into the boiler, and was stirring up the steam at a double rate. In the morning train went a large party of the back-bone of our social circle, with a small but choice reinforcement from our near neighbors; destined to grow fat and wise at the expense of the generous people of Lewiston. Their report of the beauty and thrift of the place, and the fatness of its pigs and turkeys, would give you the stomach-ache! There followed, in the afternoon train, a goodly multitude of the actual flesh and blood of that same social circle; and if you had seen them dance at Winthrop you would have concluded a fair portion of muscle, too. Why, sir, some of the "old uns" actually shook the corns through the toes of their pumps. Nothing but the scream of the engine would stop them—and one of its loudest screams, too. But it did stop them; and precisely at "the noon of night" they were on their way home—for though they stick to it that there is a time to dance, they don't pretend that it comes after honest folks are in bed. Besides it don't take all night to dance, when the business is done as it was there.

Yes, yes, "merry times on the back route!"—and, by the way, as a little matter of neighborly kindness that we feel delicate about, won't you just whisper to the editor of the Banner, "Merry times on the back route!"—will you?

[For the Eastern Mail.]

Explosion of Steam Boilers.

Feeling a deep interest in preventing, if possible, the explosion of steam boilers, I feel constrained to offer a few suggestions. The cause of these explosions is most universally attributed by engineers to a deficiency in the construction of boilers, and an exhausted state of water. The water becoming low in the boiler, exposes the iron to undue heat, and thus diminishes its strength. I would inquire if the heating of any part of a boiler so as materially to diminish the strength of the iron at the heated point, does not produce the same results, by reducing the equality of strength, and creating an inevitable tendency to give way at that point—in principle operating as a safety valve? I would suggest a parallel case. A boiler is constructed to bear a pressure of 100 pounds to the square inch. I will apply a pressure, say of air, with a force pump, sufficient to cause it to explode. I would inquire the nature of that explosion? If an exact equality of strength existed in the construction of the boiler, there would evidently be danger from the flying fragments. If there was a point deficient in strength it would there give way, causing no danger in other directions. The air condensed under a pressure of a hundred pounds to the inch, contains the same elasticity as steam under the same pressure, and no more danger to be apprehended from the fragments of the boiler. A low state of water in the boiler is beyond a doubt the cause of all disastrous steam boiler explosions. I am informed that no accidents of the kind occur in France, there being a law in force requiring all boilers to be furnished with a fusible plate or plug, of metal, so constructed as to cause a small aperture in the boiler, permitting steam to escape at a fixed temperature; which temperature is never attained except the water falls to a low point in the boiler, causing the fusible plug or plate to melt out. This safeguard is placed entirely beyond the control of the engineer—a perfect tell-tale, exposing, every act of negligence, and saving the lives of thousands annually. This is a cheap, simple and effectual provision against the destruction of life and property. The fusing of the plate occurs at a

temperature lower than a decomposition of water can be effected, obviating all danger of the formation of explosive gas. I firmly believe that a few shillings worth of fusible metal, thus used, would have saved the awful destruction of life and property that occurred on board the steamer Louisiana at N. Orleans. Will this wholesale destruction of life be tolerated by enlightened Americans? Are not our lives as valuable as those of Frenchmen? In this balance we are found minus.

A PASSENGER.

A charming winter we are having on the Kennebec. The weather is mild, and the quantity of snow just what the most fastidious regulation of such things would make it. Business of all kinds is merry, and everything looks well for a fine winter—but some who have seen more winters than we have, are predicting dreadful things. In the best weather, God is thanked with the croaking prophecy, "Well, we shall get our pay for all this yet!" The one-eyed prophets are not all dead yet!

THE INDIANS. The reader is referred to the advertisement of Mungwudaus, the Ojibway Indian, who proposes to entertain our citizens, with the aid of his three sons, this and to-morrow evenings. Their exhibitions are commended in high terms where they have been given, and we feel well assured that this will be found both useful and interesting.

[For the Eastern Mail.]

Who are You, and who am I?

Mr. Editor: A gentleman now resides in your village who was born September 30th, 1803. I was born June 1st, 1803; which make us, as may be seen, very near the same age. In our school-boy days we were very intimate. From the age of 18 to 21 and some part of the time since, we have been engaged in similar business. For the last 20 years, have seen each other but seldom. At the present time we are engaged in the same business. For the sake of some little amusement it may afford, I take the liberty to ask that gentleman to inform me (if he can) through the Mail, who he is, and who I am.

A RESIDENT OF SOMERSET.

Farmers, see the notice for the Annual Meeting of the N. Kennebec A. & H. Society.

Railroad from Waterville to Bangor, Me.

One of the most important projects, in all its bearings, ever set on foot by the people of Maine, is that of connecting the two great rivers of that State, (the Kennebec and Penobscot) by a line of railroad from Waterville to Bangor. A survey of the proposed route has been made, and it is ascertained that such a road can be constructed at a cost comparatively light, as the nature of the country is favorable to such a work. The land damages also, would amount to very little, as the route lies just back of the cleared land of the farmers, and in passing through villages, it interferes with very few buildings or house lots. But no matter what the cost may be—the benefits to be derived from it are almost incalculable. Let us look at the route for an instant. It is evident that a direct line from Waterville to Bangor would encounter many obstacles, as in the intervening region many streams have their sources, and here, also, are situated the formidable hills of Dixmont. But by following up the valley of the east branch of the Sebasticook, we come to the head waters of the Sowadabcock, the valley of which we follow down to Bangor, (a little below which place the stream empties into the Penobscot,) thus having a route well defined by nature, and thro' a track of the richest agricultural land in Maine. The general direction of the line from Waterville through the valley of the Sebasticook, is north-east, and is within half a mile of all the villages it passes, viz:—Sebasticook, Clinton, Burnham, Pittsfield and Detroit, at each of which villages water-power is already brought into use, and between which there are splendid sites, which will probably soon be occupied. At Clinton and Pittsfield, immense quantities of lumber are annually manufactured—at Burnham and Detroit are extensive tanneries, and at Newport several kinds of manufacturing are carried on. Thirteen miles north of Newport is Dexter, a large manufacturing town. From here, the line trends south-east, near Etna village, Emery's, Fuller's, and Chamberlin's Mills, Carmel, Hermon and Hampden, entering Bangor, near Denne's Cove, from whence the grade can be readily extended all along the wharves of the city, thus discharging and receiving freight at once, to and from vessels.

Let it be understood that this route does not interfere in the slightest degree, with one proposed to connect Waterville with Belfast. Both roads are greatly needed; and the fact that the surveyed route to Bangor is extended north, rather than directly across the country, is an immense advantage in itself; for, if both routes are completed, they are just far enough removed to avoid competition, and just near enough to benefit each other. While the line from Waterville to Belfast commands the trade of the seaboard, that from Waterville to Bangor will command the inland trade.

The completion of the road to Bangor, in connection with the Androscoggin and Kennebec and the Atlantic & St. Lawrence Railroads, presents a line of unbroken communication through a country rich in agricultural resources, with an inexhaustible amount of water power, blessed by a people celebrated for energy and perseverance. The road terminating at either end at a splendid seaport, will, in a few years command a vast amount of freight and passenger transportation; which, with its local traffic, will in a short time enable it to pay for itself. The advantage of this road to Waterville, will be beyond calculation. We already behold in that place an embryo city, destined to be to Maine what Springfield is to Massachusetts; holding the key to the different lines of railroad, all radiating to one common point. Waterville is admirably situated for the station which she is destined to hold, and we are heartily glad to perceive that her people are moving in the right channel, and that their efforts are so ably and readily seconded by men of discrimination and capital.

With this line completed, Bangor will vie with her sister, Portland, and will be brought into direct communication with other Atlantic cities. We sincerely hope the people of Maine will not let this grow cold, for we are not alone in the belief that it is for their welfare and interest. Let them take, as examples, the success of other roads in Maine,—roads which have been commenced and prosecuted, under more unfavorable auspices than it is possible for them to labor,—let them do this we say, and their task is completed.—[American Railway Times.]

Water and Steam Explosions, and Engineers.

Many bodies possess the curious property of taking a spheroidal form under certain circumstances, and in this state they possess very different properties from what they do in any other. Water in a red hot boiler becomes spheroidal, and the evaporation, strange as it may appear, is fifteen times slower than in its ordinary state; and what seems very singular, the water is only 206 deg, while the boiling heat is 212 deg; but if the boiler is allowed to cool a little, the whole suddenly passes off into steam. When an engineer, in charge of a boiler, unacquainted with this law, found that the water was too low, and the bottom plates red hot, was then to let in a little water, this would, on contact with the red hot plates, assume a spheroidal state; but when he would let in a little more, to cool the plates to the required temperature, the whole would suddenly pass off into steam, and an explosion would be the result. It is a curious property of water that it generates steam at 212 deg. of heat, and will give off only a certain amount of steam, according to the amount of heat continually imparted to it in a given time. Were not this the case, but that water at 212 deg. was suddenly to assume the steam state, it would be as unmanageable as gunpowder, for a machinery propellant. As it is, no other substance, (fluid or gas) can equal it for safety and beautiful economy, as a laboring force to drive machinery. The great difficulty that science has to contend against, in its safe application and use, to prevent heart-rending and terrific accidents, is carelessness and ignorance on the part of those entrusted to guide and master it. When the steam boiler becomes the master of the engineer, instead of the engineer master of the boiler, then in a divine interposition alone, out of the common course of nature, is an accident prevented. It would be a good plan for every State to appoint a faculty of competent engineers, to examine all engineers, and to grant them diplomas of competency, without which no one should be allowed to take charge of a steamboat, locomotive or other engines. We do not like to advocate any measure that appears aristocratic, but this is not. Every engineer should possess certain qualifications to be entrusted with the management of what concerns public life and property. The qualifications should be known, but we advocate no rule or service to be qualified—the knowledge and ability is what the public wishes, to take charge of all that is dear to them while traveling on steamboat or railroad. [Am. Railway Times.]

Delaware and Slavery.

We gave (says the Baltimore Sun,) a paragraph, a day or two since, from the Wilmington Del. Republican, to the effect that slave owners there were selling their slaves as fast as they could—first to Maryland, thence to the South, to prevent loss from their running away. Now this, it seems, is not so. The North American says: Slaves are not sold to the South in Delaware, for the simple reason that the laws forbid it; nor do they run away—a circumstance which we may almost ascribe to the fact that there are scarcely any there to do so. In reality they have, and they have long had in operation in Delaware, a system of laws the wisest and most effective perhaps, ever devised for the gradual and silent extinction of Slavery; The basis of which is a statute rendering it a misdemeanor punishable by a heavy fine, to sell a slave out of the State, while the superstructure consists of acts giving the strongest encouragement to the practice of manumission. The number of slaves in Delaware in 1840 was 2,605, and these were slaves only in name, the vast majority—probably three-fourths or nine-tenths, as being estimated by different intelligent Delawarians—being manumitted, and therefore, not slaves at all, and the remainder nearly all old people whose masters would be delighted to have them run away, since they would relieve the former of the legal obligation of supporting them.

PERPETUAL MOTION.—A correspondent of the N. Y. Journal of commerce confidently asserts that perpetual motion has been at last discovered by a German named Ritcher, a resident of the little village of Madison, Georgia! The following is a description of this machine, which is alleged to possess this wonderful property:

Within a glass case about the size of a common Yankee Clock, is held a brass wheel and its adjuncts composing the machine. The motive power is gravitation, operating upon weights thrown off from the side of the wheel. Lead weights slide along the circumference of the wheel; to each of these is attached an arm, coupled with a brass bar, in such a manner as to throw out the bar with a brass weight attached to the extreme end, unfolding these bars in turn, much as if the hand had been held drawn up to the shoulder, were thrown outward from the body by the straightening of the elbow joint, the extended clenched fist occupying the position of the brass weight. The brass weights carry their side of the wheel downward, and as each leaden weight, which had slid down and downward upon its passing the vertical point, passes the opposite point below, past which it is carried by the gravitation of the brass weights, it slides or falls back, and this movement in turn moves the inner end of the bar to which the brass weight is attached, in such a manner as to cause the bar and weight to fold themselves up. This position they occupy within the circumference of the wheel, until again the leaden weight passes the vertical point, and they are in turn acted upon through the coupling joints, and thrown out from the wheel as before. A cord passing around the shank of this lower motive wheel, is carried over a wheel above, carrying what may be called the escapement works of a clock with a pendulum. Stop the pendulum and the motive wheel below will continue its revolutions; stop the motive wheel below, and the pendulum above stops, showing that the motive power lies in the wheel with its weights below, and not in the works above. Loosen the cord that passes over the shank of the motive wheel below and carries the work above, and at once the motion of the large wheel below is accelerated, consequently increasing in speed with its own revolutions, and throwing off the weights with a rapidity and force that, unchecked, would soon cause the machine to tear itself to pieces. The inventor finds it necessary to keep the cord quite tight around the shank of the great wheel, in order to prevent his machine, when in motion, from destroying itself by the mere force of its own propelling power.

AMERICAN TEA.—The New York Journal of Commerce publishes a letter from Dr. J. Smith, dated at Greenville S. C., by which it appears that he still entertains sanguine hopes of being able to compete successfully with the Chinese in the cultivation of tea. Dr. Smith says that his expectations are fully realized, and gives an interesting history of his first experiment in the culture. He at first limited himself to one acre, and having obtained satisfactory results from this, his plantation was enlarged, and he now states that he expects next spring to plant out forty acres. In a pamphlet published in 1848, on the subject of tea, Dr. Smith estimates that 547 pounds may

be grown upon an acre, and that at this rate it would require only 20,109 acres to supply the total consumption in the United States. Experiment has proved that the plant will stand cold weather without injury.

Railroad to Waterville.

We publish in our columns to-day, the notice of a majority of the persons named in the first section of an act passed by the Legislature of Maine, granting a charter for the Penobscot and Kennebec Railroad, that the books of subscription to the stock will be opened at Bangor, on the 4th of Feb. next, at Augusta, on the 5th, at Portland on the 6th, at Salem on the 7th, and at Boston on the 8th day of February next.

The importance of the road, not only to the stockholders, but also to all that portion of the State through which it will pass, and to other interests connected with these, cannot fail to awaken a deep interest in behalf of the enterprise. Indeed, we find that there is a growing interest felt by the people in behalf of the speedy construction of the road, and an increasing desire to avail themselves of the benefits which the iron river can confer. It is getting to be the subject of general discussion, and the public mind is fast coming to calculate upon the amount of stock which each town can invest in the work.

We also publish to-day, a notice to the citizens of Unity, Troy, Dixmont, Newburg, Harmon, Bangor, and adjoining towns, for a Mass Meeting, to be held at Troy Corner, on the 29th of December, inst., to consult together upon the matter of a route for a road, south of the lines heretofore mentioned.

It is said of this route, that it is nearly a direct line from Bangor to Waterville; that it is the shortest route, saving some ten miles in distance from the Newport route, and some twenty odd over the northern route—that it passes over a very level country. It avoids the Dixmont hills altogether, by passing between the villages of Dixmont Corner and North Dixmont, about midway, where there are no hills or other difficulties.

This prospect seems favorable in many ways for a handsome subscription to the stock of the road between this city and Waterville. Men begin to feel that the road is necessary, and that some exertion on their part is necessary to insure its speedy construction.—[Bangor Whig, 20th inst.]

RAISING THE WIND.—Of all the expedients resorted to by rogues, we put this down as one of the latest out. Yesterday four boxes, in apparent good order and well put up arrived by railroad at this city from Albany, consigned to Messrs. Ford & Brothers, jewellers, &c., East Oswego. The package had the appearance of containing clocks, an article Messrs. F. & B. deal in to a considerable extent. Not being advised of any such consignment, and as there were back charges on these boxes, paid at Albany, amounting to \$22.87, and the freight from Albany to Oswego to be added, Messrs. F. & B. concluded to open the boxes before they paid the charges, now amounting to nearly \$30. The lid being raised, lo and behold, nothing but square pieces of pine joint was contained therein! or in other words, about half a cord of wood in the four boxes! The boxes and the wood must have cost the scamp something like \$2.87, leaving a "clear profit" of \$20, received in Albany for advance charges. We understand some forwarder of Syracuse was taxed something over \$30 for back charges on similar boxes, a few days since. [Oswego Com. Times.]

CANADIAN AFFAIRS.—A number of Justices of the Peace have recently been dismissed from office by the Governor General of Canada, in consequence of their having signed the address to the people of Canada, in favor of annexation to the U. States. In the circular sent to these magistrates, communicating to them their discharge, the Governor General says:

"There can be no desire to question any one upon mere abstract speculations regarding different forms of government. It is for parties to satisfy themselves to what extent they may proceed with such speculations without the risk of compromising themselves by a breach of the laws of the land."

"When, however, an individual arrives at the deliberate conclusion that what he deems the evils under which his country labors require not merely a reformation of the constitution, but its entire overthrow, and when such person entertains this opinion, not as a speculative theory, possible to be realized in some remote and undefined future, but actually takes measures directly intended to bring about such revolutionary change, it appears perfectly obvious that, apart from all considerations or inquiry as to consequences of a still more serious character, such party should not be permitted to remain in the anomalous and invidious position of holding a commission during the pleasure of a Sovereign power which he desires to subvert."

ROBBERY. The house of Mr. Timothy George, at East Brewer, was entered on Sunday last, and a gold watch, buffalo coat, pair of boots, and other small articles stolen. Constable Walker was put on the track, and arrested on Thursday John Barton and John Nickerson, and on searching their premises a part of the stolen property was found. They were brought before the Police Court and ordered to recognize in the sum of \$200 for their appearance before said Court on the 20th inst. They gave bail.—[Ban. Whig.]

ANOTHER BOLD ROBBERY. We learn that on Thursday night last, the house of Mr. S. Thurston, in Brewer, opposite this city, was entered by a robber who went into the room in which Mr. Thurston was asleep with his family, and took his pantaloons from the bed post, his watch, and key to the store. About twenty dollars in money was taken from his pockets, and the pantaloons left in a field near by.

The robbers also went to the store, and stole therefrom a quantity of goods.—[Ban. Whig.]

BREK.—There is an ox in Cambridge which now weighs 3700 pounds, and it is thought by good judges that in less than three months time he will weigh nearly if not quite 5000. His owner, Justin Marvey, Esq. states that the animal has never been starved, and that he intends to fatten him during the present winter. He was raised in Stanstead, Canada, by Lewis E. Rose, Esq., and measures eleven feet from his nose to his rump, six feet in height, and nine feet six inches in girth, and is but seven years old.—[Daily Advertiser.]

NOW 'PULL UP' BOYS.—We are rejoiced to learn that a company of journeymen printers have purchased the printing department of the old Boston Type and Stereotype Foundry, and that they commenced operations yesterday morning. We are also happy to learn that they yesterday engaged a heavy job of work. [Boston Bee.]

The Governor and Council held a session at Augusta on the 27th inst. The appointment of several sheriffs is to be made, and also the appointment of a Warden to the State prison &c. The session will be an important one.

