

## MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

## MASSACRE OF FRIENDLY INDIANS IN TEXAS.

BRAZ'S AGENCY, Texas, Jan. 1, 1859.

A few weeks since a party of Caddo and Anadarko Indians from the Bravos reserve, numbering about nine men and women with their children and grandchildren, went out to the vicinity of a little settlement called Golconda, about thirty miles from here, to hunt. They established a little camp there, and they were in the daily habit of going into the settlement with their peltries—bear meat, venison, &c.—to exchange them with the citizens for other little commodities. They were on the most friendly terms with the people, for these Indians have always been friendly to the whites, and they have never in a single instance been even suspected of committing the slightest depredations. They have lived in this section of the country for many years, and they were the first to settle on this reserve.

It is as well to state here that this was the party of old Choctaw Tom, whom you may recollect as the large, grave looking old man, who wore the shawl on his head when you were here. Tom is one of the "institutions" of this part of the world. He is a Choctaw, and many years ago he married an Anadarko woman, and he has since always been identified with the tribe of his wife.

These Indians had been living in perfect amity with the settlers around them for some weeks, when a party of some twenty men from Eath county, who had determined to "break up the reserves," heard of their being out on this hunt, and they determined, as it appears, that this would be a "good time," as they expressed it, to "open the ball." They came up to the vicinity of Golconda, and they induced a man of that settlement, by the name of Fundebug, to point out the Indian camp, the position of their little shelters, &c.

During the night, they were heard passing near the settlement, and a little after daylight they crept up to the Indians, and shot them in their beds. Three women and three men were killed instantly. A young man named Stevens shot a woman who was lying by the side of her husband. The man rose and fired at Stevens, and killed him; but a moment after the Indian was killed by one of the white men. A little boy was badly wounded, and he will probably die. Eight other children were wounded.

Choctaw Tom was absent from his camp at the time. His old wife was instantly killed, horribly mutilated with a load of buckshot. A nephew of our friend Jose Maria, the jolly little chief of the Adadah-cos, was killed.

All this happened on Monday last (27th Dec.) On Tuesday some of the employees at the reserve, with some Indians, went down to secure and bury the murdered people. When they arrived on the ground, a most distressing scene occurred. There was no outburst of savage feeling against the murderers; but the utter desolation expressed in the countenances of Choctaw Tom and his son, as they sat with tears rolling down their cheeks, by the side of the mutilated body of the wife and mother, and the quiet, stifled sobs of all the relatives as they washed and dressed the bodies in their best attire, made an impression upon these rough frontiersmen that will not easily be effaced.

Tom and his son, distracted with grief and fear, have left the reserve. No one knows where they have gone, but they have taken their little ones, leaving behind them all their cattle, hogs, wagons—everything, in fact, but their children.

I feel very sorry for these poor people. No one has ever suspected any of them of a misdemeanor, and it appears to me that they are deeply wronged.—[Washington States.]

**TRIAL TRIP OF THE WINANS STEAMER.**—SUCCESS OF THE NEW CRAFT.—The Baltimore papers state that the new steamship invented by the Messrs. Winans made a successful trial trip down the Patuxent, Jan. 20. With a pressure of fifty-six pounds of steam to the square inch, about half the capacity of the engine, a speed of twelve miles an hour was attained.

The points of the bow and stern barely touched the water, and the even progress of the vessel caused no commotion of the waves, but left a smooth wave like a groove. The ventilation below decks was perfectly preserved during the running of the machinery, and at no time did the thermometer rise above 65° Fahrenheit.

This steamship is a novelty in mechanics, in several respects. In shape it resembles two cones put together at the larger end, or, to use the N. Y. Post's illustration, it is like an immense well-rounded and sharp-pointed sugar. It has no deck, no masts, no bulwarks, and is, in fact, all surface.

It is supposed that the adoption of this form will quicken the speed, prevent the shipping of seas and the dangers of capsizing, and give greater facility of movement in rough weather. The propelling wheel, which is a compound of the paddle and the screw, revolves completely around the outside of the vessel, amidship, and is driven by four distinct engines, supplied with steam by two separate boilers situated in different ends of the vessel.

Two of the four engines are coupled on to one end of the propelling shaft, and two of them on the other; so that one or more of the engines can be detached without interfering with the working of the others. The arrangement is such that if the crank pin or journal of the shaft should give way on one end, the vessel can be propelled with good effect by the engines which gear on to the other end.

The propelling wheel is better shielded from injury than either the ordinary screw-propeller or the side paddle-wheel, and is, from its make, less liable to damage. Furnished, at the same time, with a rudder at each end, it will go back-

wards or forwards with equal ease.—[Boston Statesman.]

A letter from Washington says—"The present House is now busy in selecting the officers for the next. More than one-third of the members of the incoming Congress remain to be elected. Less than half of those now chosen are members of the present Congress. It is doubtful whether any party will have the controlling power of the next House. Yet, with these facts before them, half a dozen members of the present House are already in the field for the Speakership of the next; while some five or six soon-to-be-ex-members are canvassing for the Clerkship. Nay, more: candidates for Sergeant-at-Arms, and Doorkeeper, are springing up in all directions. Leaving these smaller evils to work out their own cure, we turn to consider the bane of the country in the form of Congressional President-making."—[Boston Post.]

**A NEGRO ELECTED TO A CANADIAN COUNCIL.**—The Detroit Tribune says that at a recent election for councilman in the township of Raleigh, Kent county, near Chatham, C. W., a negro named Shadd was triumphantly elected, beating his opponent, a white man, by a handsome majority. Shadd is "as black as the ace of spades," and figured prominently in a recent slave case as the harbinger of the fugitive.

Chatham is on the Thames, and about eighteen miles from Lake St. Clair. It is not a matter of surprise that Shadd, a negro, should have been returned to the council from the township in which he resides, it being the location of most of the escaped slaves from the South.—[Com. Adv.]

**THE GOLD FEVER.**—We learn from a gentleman from Minnesota, that the gold fever is raging throughout the West, and that hundreds of young men are preparing to start early in the spring for the newly discovered mines of Western Kansas. In many of the large towns, companies of 50 to 100 are organizing, while individuals are hoping to realize fortunes by fitting out transportation trains, to convey provisions to the "diggings," and passengers at a certain price per head. It is expected that large profits will be made on the provisions, which will command the highest prices at the mines.—[Jour. of Commerce.]

**THE CHESS CONTEST** between Morphy and Anderssen took place at Paris, with the following result—Morphy won seven games, Anderssen two, and two games were drawn. According to the agreement, Morphy having won seven games, is the victor. Anderssen won the first game, and is regarded as the best player in Europe. Morphy, having beaten all before him, may haul down his flag, come home and try Paulson, a brother Yankee.

**THE FALIBUSTERS.**—A dispatch from Mobile says that Capt. Maury and others have been tried before the United States Commissioner for obstructing the United States officers in the discharge of their duties on board the schooner Susan, and for violating the neutrality laws, and the Commissioner has held them to bail in the sum of \$2,500 for their appearance at court in February.

## History of the Siege of Boston.

Last Wednesday the sword of Gen. Putnam was presented to the Connecticut Historical Society, when Hon. Henry C. Deming, of Hartford, in the presentation address, delivered in Dr. Bushnell's church, according to the Hartford Courant, settled "forever" Putnam's title to the "honor of having commanded, as General-in-Chief, throughout the fight on Bunker Hill." The Courant says also that a "masterly refutation of the slanders of Dearborn, and the errors of Frothingham" formed "the body of Mr. Deming's address."

After presenting the authorities on this point of command—ignoring entirely the statements to be found in the depositions of old soldiers as utterly irreconcilable—the conclusion which this evidence seemed to warrant is briefly summed up. It is in accordance with what must be inferred from the following extract from a letter from Major-General Ward—the Massachusetts Commander-in-Chief on the day of the battle—addressed to John Adams, dated Oct. 30, 1775:—

"There has been no one action with the enemy which has not been conducted by an officer of this Colony, except that at Chelsea, which was conducted by General Putnam."

This would seem to be positive and conclusive, from the highest military source, that a Massachusetts officer conducted the battle of Bunker Hill.—[Boston Statesman, June 29, 1859.]

**IMMENSE ORGAN.**—The great organ placed in the town hall at Liverpool is one of the marvels of musical mechanism. It consists of four rows of keys, sixty-three notes, and two octaves and a half of pedals, thirty notes. There are one hundred and eight stops and eight thousand pipes, varying in length from thirty-two feet to three-eighths of an inch, ten octaves apart. The grand source of wind is from two immense bellows, each having three feeders, placed in the vault below the floor of the hall. These are blown by a steam engine, with a pair of oscillating cylinders. There are besides, twelve other bellows or reservoirs, each giving its own appropriate pressure of air to those stops or pipes which it supplies.

**STATISTICS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.**—Metropolitan Catholic Almanac for 1859, just issued, contains the following statistics in reference to the present condition of the Catholic Church in the United States, contrasted with its condition in the years 1839 and 1849:

1839.	1849.	1859.
Provinces . . . 1	Provinces . . . 3	Provinces . . . 7
Dioceses . . . 16	Dioceses . . . 30	Dioceses . . . 43
Bishops . . . 18	Bishops . . . 26	Vicars . . . 2
Priests . . . 478	Priests . . . 1000	Bishops . . . 45
Churches . . . 418	Churches . . . 966	Priests . . . 2108
		Churches . . . 2334

## THOUGHTS FOR THE PHYSIOLOGIST.

**EYESIGHT.**—Milton's blindness was the reason of overwork and dyspepsia.

One of the most eminent American divines having, for some time, been compelled to forego the pleasure of reading, has spent thousands of dollars in vain, and lost years of time, in consequence of getting up several hours before day, and studying by artificial light. His eyes never got well.

Multitudes of men and women have made their eyes weary for life, by the too free use of eyesight in reading small print, and doing fine sewing. In view of these things, it is well to observe the following rules in the use of the eyes:—

Avoid all sudden changes between light and darkness.

Never begin to read, or write, or sew, for several minutes after coming from darkness to a bright light.

Never read by twilight, or moonlight, or of a very cloudy day.

Never read or sew directly in front of the light, or window, or door.

It is best to have the light from above, obliquely over the left shoulder.

Never sleep so that, on first awaking, the eyes shall open on the light of a window.

Do not use the eyesight by a light so scant that it requires an effort to discriminate.

Too much light creates a glare, and pains and confuses the sight.

The moment you are sensible of an effort to distinguish, that moment cease, and take a walk or ride.

As the sky is blue and the earth green, it would seem that the ceiling should be of a bluish tinge, and the carpet green, and walls of a mellow tint.

The moment you are instinctively prompted to rub the eyes, that moment cease using them.

If the eyelids are glued together on waking up, do not forcibly open them; but apply saliva with the finger—it is the speediest dilutant in the world—then wash eyes and face in warm water.—[Hall's Journal of Health.]

**MANAGEMENT OF SCARLET FEVER.**—In a recent conversation with one of the most skillful physicians and eminent physiologists of this State, who had had a long and extensive practice, the conversation turned upon the treatment of scarlet fever. "I suppose," we remarked, "that this disease is more dreaded by physicians than any other, from its capricious character?" "Yes—to tell the truth, when we meet with a case, we really don't know what to do—and, therefore, I do nothing." "Would it not be best to use at least palliatives?" "My whole practice is this—when the fever first comes on, and the patient is hot from fever, I have him sponged with cold water; and continue the treatment as long or as often as it is agreeable, or relieves the suffering.

Afterwards, as he becomes weaker, the water is gradually made warmer; the sensations of the patient being the guide. At the same time, he is allowed to drink all the cold water he wants—which he will never do in large quantities (as he should not) at a time, if it is always within his reach. I have known some to drink in this way, by small portions, a quart in an hour. After a while, this produces more or less perspiration, which greatly relieves the symptoms. This is my whole treatment.

Nothing is more pernicious than the practice of giving powerful medicines in this disease. The fact is, many scarlet fever patients are drugged out of existence."

We learned that this physician, with a long and extensive practice, never lost but two patients of scarlet fever.—[Country Gentleman.]

**FISHES TRAVELING BY LAND.**—Dr Hancock, in the *Zoological Journal*, gives a description of a fish called the "flat head hassar," that travels to pools of water when that in which it has resided dries up. Bosc also describes another variety which is found in South Carolina, and, if our memory serves us well, in Texas, which, like the "flat head," leaves the drying pools in search of others. These fishes, filled with water, travel by night, one with a lizard-like motion and the other by leaps.

The South Carolina and Texas varieties are furnished with a membrane over the mouth, by which they are enabled to carry with them a supply of water, to keep their gills moist during their travel. Guided by some peculiar sense, they always travel in a straight line to the nearest water. This they do without the aid of memory, for it has been found that if a tub filled with water is sunk in the ground near one of the pools which they inhabit, they will, when the pool dries up, move directly toward the tub.

Surely this is a wonderful and merciful provision for the preservation of these kind of fish; for, inhabiting as they do, only stagnant pools, and that too, in countries subject to long and periodical droughts, their races would, but for this provision, become extinct.

**MANNERS.**—Young folks should be mannerly. But how to be, is the question. Many a good boy and girl feel that they cannot behave themselves in the presence of company. They are awkward, clownish, rough; they feel timid, bashful and self-distrustful, the moment they are addressed by a stranger or appear in company.—There is but one way to get over this feeling, and acquire graceful and easy manners; that is, to do the best they can all the time, at home as well as abroad.

Good manners are not learned so much as acquired by habit. They grow upon us by use.—We must be courteous, agreeable, civil, kind, gentlemanly and womanly at home and then it will soon become a kind of second nature to be so everywhere.

A coarse, rough manner at home begets a habit of roughness which we cannot lay off if we try, when we go among strangers. The most agreeable

people with whom we were ever thrown in company are those that are perfectly agreeable at home. Home is the school for all the best things.—[Ger. Tel.]

**WHEN TO WEAR INDIA RUBBER.**—We have noticed that many persons wear India rubber overshoes in cold dry weather, to keep their feet warm.

This is an injurious and evil practice. India rubber shoes are very comfortable and convenient for covering the feet during wet and sloppy weather, but they should never be worn on any other occasion; their sole use should be to keep out the water.

They should, however therefore, be put off whenever the wearer enters the house, and be worn as little as possible, because they are air tight and restrain the perspiration of the feet.—The air cannot be excluded from them for any length of time, without sensibly affecting the health.

It is our opinion that no habit tends more to good health than clean feet and clean dry stockings, so as to allow the free perspiration of the nether extremities.—[Scientific American.]

**EFFECT OF TOBACCO ON THE MOUTH.**—Both smoking and chewing produce marked alterations in the most expressive features of the face. The lips are closed by a circular muscle, which completely surrounds them and forms their pulpy fullness. Now, every muscle of the body is developed in precise ratio with its use, as most young men know who endeavor to develop and increase their muscles in the gymnasium. In spitting and holding the cigar in the mouth, this muscle is in constant use; hence the coarse appearance and irregular development of the lips, when compared to the rest of the features, in chewers and smokers.—The eye loses its natural fire and becomes dull and lurid; it is unspeculative and unappreciative; it answers not before the world; its owner gazes vacantly, and often repels conversation by his stupidity.—[Scalpel.]

**SINGULAR CASE.**—The Altoona (Ill.) Tribune notices a remarkable cure of deafness, by electricity. A citizen of that place suddenly lost his hearing and, after every means known to the fraternity had been exhausted, electricity was resorted to. An instrument was produced and, placing the end of a piece of wire in each ear, the electric current was let on lightly at first, and gradually increased. After continuing the operation for some time, the hearing of the man was so much restored that he could hear a heavy rap upon the table. Again the wires were inserted in his ears and the fluid applied. On removing them the second time, the patient could hear loud talking in the room. This operation took place in the afternoon, and the patient was then allowed to rest until the next morning, when the wires were again inserted and, after applying the fluid for a few minutes, the hearing of the man was perfectly restored.

**WHY EVERYBODY IS CROSS.**—One day little John Wilson came running into the house where his sister Mary was sewing. He held something in his hand which he had found in the back yard.

"Oh, sister Mary?" said he "I have found a pretty thing. It is a piece of red glass; and when I looked through it, everything looked red too?—The trees, the houses, the green grass, your face, and everything is red."

Mary replied, "Yes, it is very beautiful; and let me show you how to learn a useful lesson from it. You remember, the other day, you thought every person was cross to you. Now you were like this piece of glass, which makes everything red, because it is red. You was cross, so you thought everybody round you was cross, too—If you are in good humor, and kind to every one, they will seem kind to you."—[Ger. Tel.]

**INFLUENCE OF OUT-DOOR AIR AND SUNSHINE ON LONGEVITY.**—A writer in one of the medical magazines urges that the more out-door air and cheery sunshine a man can use the longer he will live. Go along any of the fashionable streets of New York, says the writer, and you will find not less than three, and often six distinct contrivances to keep out sunshine and gladness. First, the Venetian shutter on the outside; second, the close shutter on the inside; third, the blind which is moved by rollers; then there are the lace curtains, the damask or other material, etc. Then comes the exclusion of external air by means of a double sash, and a variety of patent contrivances to keep any little stray whiff of air from entering from the bottom, sides and tops of the doors and windows.—[Albany Journal, Nov. 27.]

**LINGUISTIC ACQUIREMENTS.**—The *Courier des Etats Unis* gives a letter written in bad French, by a lady tourist now in Paris, and abounding with eccentricities of language. We give a literal translation of the last startling sentence.

"I think you will be very much astonished at my progress, when you hear that I have learned the French language all alone without opening a single time my grandmother!"

The writer meant "grammar," but unfortunately put "Grand mere for Grammaire."

This is not any worse than the French attempts to write English. Some time ago a Frenchman wrote a book on England, that was published at Paris, in which the author became poetical, and talked mongrelously of a distinguished warrior who died away from home, as "laying his ash in a foreign land."—[N. Y. Evening Post.]

**THE POVERTY OF BLINDNESS.**—We say of the blind man, from whom the visible world is shut out, that he is poor by half the world than the man who sees. O ye spiritually blind, ye indeed are poorer than we by a whole world!—[Tholuck.]

No single act of a man's life can distinguish him as either very good or very bad. His motives and his daily life will show him as he is.