

New York, 5.
Beatty Brothers & Co., tea merchants, have suspended; liabilities \$600,000.

Washington, 5.
The Mexican Minister has received intelligence from El Paso, concerning important successes by the Liberals, and announcing the expectation that Juarez will at once establish the seat of government at Chihuahua.

Liverpool, 25.
The ex-Queen of the French, the widow of Louis Phillip, died at Claremont yesterday.

Shanghai advices, to Feb. 21, represent that the Nienfi rebels were less threatening towards the northern parts; they had occasioned great alarm, and vigorous preparations had been made for resisting them.

The French municipal council at Shanghai had been imprisoned, for refusing to give up certain documents.

Chicago, 6.
A special to the *Tribune* says the civil rights bill has passed the Senate by 33 ayes, 15 nays. Dixon was absent. Morgan and Wilkey voted aye, and Wright voted no.

Morgan's vote was received with cheers, and the final announcement with wild enthusiasm. The chamber was densely crowded.

New York, 6.
The *Tribune* ridicules the President's proclamation, and says its only effect will be to cut down extra war rations and allowance to officers, amounting, probably, to \$2.50 a day.

Washington, 6.
In the House a vote was taken declaring Brooks not entitled to a seat, yeas 84, noes 35; and a vote was taken declaring Wm. E. Dodge entitled to a seat; Dodge appeared and was sworn in. Alexander H. Stephens had a long conference with the President yesterday.

The War Department publishes a long list of volunteer organizations, both white and colored, to be mustered out immediately. It is believed that the 1st of May will see the whole volunteer force discharged.

Charleston, S.C., 5.
An extensive conflagration this morning destroyed the block on King St., known as Robb's Range; loss \$100,000; insurance \$75,000.

Chicago, 6.
The Canadians are again in great alarm. They have reliable reports that war vessels and convoys, including two schooners loaded with cannon, are fitting out at Chicago. There are rumors that an expedition under B. Doran Killian, consisting of three steamers with 5,500 men, has sailed from New York for New Brunswick; another report gives Bermuda as its destination, and it is believed that Sweeney designs an attack on Central Canada.

An official proclamation from Col. O'Mahoney announces the escape of James Stephens from Ireland, his arrival in Paris, and his speedy arrival in the United States, to heal the dissensions unfortunately prevalent in the ranks of the Brotherhood here.

A great fire among the Pennsylvania oil wells last Saturday, including the famous Coquette well, destroyed fully 25,000 barrels of oil in tanks and 20 barrels loaded for shipment; the loss is estimated at \$125,000.

Reports from Wisconsin estimate the damage by freshets at \$2,000,000. Some important railroad bridges carried away will require several weeks to replace; travel is very much impeded.

New York, 6.
A Markland has been appointed special mail agent for the Pacific Coast. An immense fire is raging this forenoon on the corner of Broadway and Battery Streets.

Chicago, 7.
The Postmaster General says it may be interesting to know that of 2,259 mail routes in operation in the disloyal States at the breaking out of the rebellion, the services of only 757 have been restored; and that of 8,902 post offices in these States only 2,042 appointments of post masters have been made; and of the whole only 1,177 have qualified for office, 747 of them being males, and 420 females.

The Senate, on the 3d, passed a bill to supply the deficiency in land granted to the State of Oregon, to aid in the construction of a military road from Eugene city to the eastern boundary of the State.

The Senate, on the 4th, passed a bill relieving the Justices of the Supreme Court from circuit duty, and creating courts of appeal in each circuit. The bill provides for ten circuits, whereas the House has passed a bill reducing the number of circuits to nine. The House will probably amend the Senate bill in that particular.

Buffalo, 7.
Dispatches from Boston, Philadelphia and other cities report firing salutes by the Republicans, commemorative of the passage of the civil rights bill by the Senate over the President's veto.

St. Louis, 7.
The steamers Majors, Effie Dean, Nevada, Fannie Ogden and Frank Bates were burned at the levee this morning; loss \$225,000 on the boats and \$300,000 on their cargoes. The Bates belonged to the Northwestern Fur Co., and was heavily laden with supplies for the trading posts on the Upper Missouri.

Washington, 7.
Raphael Semmes, of the pirate, Alabama fame, was released on the 6th, by order of the President, on his original parole under Sherman and Johnston's arrangement.

Miscellaneous.

LAUNCH OF THE CIGAR-SHAPED STEAMER.

For many months past those who have passed up and down the river have had their attention attracted by a curiously-shaped vessel in course of construction at Mr. Hepworth's works at Cubitt-town. This vessel, which is in the shape of a cigar, or, to speak more accurately, of a spindle, each side being an arc of a circle, the chord of which, forming the screw shaft, is 256ft. in length, was launched Feb. 19th. It was built for Messrs. Winans, from designs for which they are the patentees.

One was built several years since for them at Baltimore, and from this, which was propelled by a large screw in the centre of the ship, they obtained a speed of fifteen knots per hour. Two smaller ones, each about 70ft. in length and 8ft. in breadth and height, have lately been launched at St. Petersburg, and Havre. The present ship is 256ft. in length and 16ft. in breadth, being of the same breadth as that built in America, and 26ft. longer. Her shape along the sides and bottom is that of two arcs of a circle, the screw shaft running from end to end along the centre, being the chord of both arcs, and she floats exactly up to her centre in the water. Up to the water line she is constructed of the finest iron plates $\frac{3}{4}$ in. thick, and above this she is of steel plates $\frac{5}{16}$ in. in thickness.

She is divided into twenty watertight compartments, and 18ft. at each end is fixed to the screw shaft and revolves with it. The shaft is $\frac{7}{4}$ in. in thickness in the centre, but near the screws is 15in. thick. It is worked by three upright cylinder high-pressure condensing engines, supplied with superheated steam by four boilers, of a construction similar to those of locomotive engines. A fourth cylinder is added, whose work is to shift twenty tons of lead to counteract the tendency to roll from the motion of the screw. The engine room is in the centre of the vessel, and the boiler room and furnaces are below—the first being 20ft. in length and the other 25ft. In front of the engine room is a smoking saloon 12ft. in length, and behind which are sundry state rooms, with berths, &c.

Further forward is the cook's galley, and yet further, the fore-castle, where are the berths of the firemen and engineers. Aft the engine-room are the saloon, 15ft. in length, and several state rooms. There is accommodation on board for thirty passengers. Proceeding further aft you come to the sleeping apartments of the crew, where is the windlass, a long crank to be worked by hand, and here also are the anchors, which are like two great clock weights suspended in a couple of canisters, which rise from the bottom of the ship, and are open below. Through these tubes the anchors, weighing a ton each, are lowered, and are supposed to be quite strong enough to hold a vessel giving so little resistance to the water as this vessel is expected to offer.

The engines are in all of about 250 horse power, nominal, but it is intended to work them to 1,500 to 1,800 horse power. The screws will protrude beyond the widest part of the vessel 3ft. on each side, being 22ft. in diameter, and are constructed with nine blades. Near the screws, and about 6ft. in towards the centre of the ship, are the rudders, which are worked by machinery placed between the funnels. The deck is 130ft. in length by 20ft. in width, and from it rise two telescope masts. The idea of her inventors is that such vessels would be of the utmost value for carrying mails and passengers; would travel with great speed and steadiness; and that, were such vessels employed, we might have daily mails to America.

The vessel is not yet down to her load line, so that it is impossible to form a decided opinion upon her appearance, while the matter of her speed must remain for some time a problem. She now lies in the West India docks.—[*News of the World*.]

[From the Albany Evening Journal.]

REMARKABLE DISPLAY OF AURORA BOREALIS.

During a portion of last night and this morning, a peculiar aurora appeared in the northern heavens. At 12 P.M. of the 20th, an auroral cloud was visible near the northern horizon, and occasional streamers were given off from the cloud; being mostly confined to the east and west limits. But it was not until 5 A.M. of the 21st that we noticed anything unusual in this phenomenon. At that time, a black auroral cloud lay piled up in the north, extending along the horizon about 120 degrees. This cloud increased in darkness as it approached the horizon, and we have reason to believe it was an auroral cloud; since the sky was perfectly clear, and not a single vapor cloud was visible in any portion of the heavens. This cloud had an altitude of about 30 degrees on the meridian, and the upper margin was fringed with the auroral light, forming at times, a complete arch.

The streamers or flakes of light were thrown off from the northeast and northwest ends of the cloud with astonishing rapidity. We estimated the motion from the horizon to the zenith at less than the one-tenth of a second of time.

At 5h 10m the streamers seemed to jet in one constant stream from the northwest and northeast portion of the cloud, while all along the north the auroral arch threw off waves of light every two or three seconds.

At this time it was truly a grand and magnificent phenomenon. These detached flakes formed in such a rapid stream from the cloud as almost to bewilder one in trying to follow them.

At 5h 20m the flakes and streamers continued to appear and disappear in remarkably quick succession. And occasionally an immense wave of light was rolled from the whole northern horizon and disappeared in the zenith.

DUDLEY OBSERVATORY, Feb. 21, 1866.

A NEW METHOD OF REPRODUCING LITHOGRAPHS.—A new method for the reproduction of either new or old lithographs has been described by M. Rigaut. The lithograph to be transferred to stone is first laid face uppermost on a surface of pure water, and thus all those portions not covered with ink are allowed to absorb the liquid. It is then put between two sheets of blotting paper, which carry off the excess of water, after which it is laid face downward on the stone, to which it adheres perfectly. Another sheet is laid on this, and moistened with diluted nitric acid; the acid penetrates both sheets, and eats away the stone in accordance with the lights and shades of the original picture.

PAINFUL INCONSISTENCIES.—Some men talk like angels, and pray with fervor, and meditate within deep recesses, and speak to God with loving affection and words of union, and adhere to Him in silent devotion, and when they go abroad are passionate as ever, peevish as a frightened fly, vexing themselves with their own reflections; they are cruel in their bargains, unmerciful to their tenants, and proud as a barbarian prince! They are, for all their fine words, impatient of reproof, scornful to their neighbors, lovers of money, supreme in their own thoughts, and submit to none. All their spiritual fancy is an illusion. They are still under the power of their passions, and their sin rules them imperiously, and carries them away infallibly.—*Jeremy Taylor*.

SLEEPING WITH THE HEAD TO THE NORTH.—Herr Dr. Julius von Fischweiler, an eccentric German physician, recently died, leaving in his will what he considered a secret for increasing the years of our life. His own age was 109, and he attributed it to the fact that he always slept with his head to the north, and with the rest of his body as nearly as possible in a meridional position. By this means, he thought, the iron in his body became magnetized, and thus increased the energy of the vital principle.

Just as one John Elton had closed a most fervid exhortation for sinners to flee from the wrath to come, at one of the Baptist churches at New London, Conn., on Sunday night, the sheriff arrested him for stealing a minister's overcoat. After considerable lying, the overcoat was produced.

ISRAELITES IN SALT LAKE CITY.—Mr. N. Boukowsky, a valued friend of ours, now on a visit to San Francisco from Salt Lake City, has furnished us with a few items, which will be of interest to our readers. We learn, through him, that there are not less than forty of our co-religionists resident in the Mormon city. They have formed a congregation and established a benevolent society, and can be considered as in a flourishing condition, generally. Perfect amity is represented to exist between the Israelites and the Latter-Day Saints; though differing in faith, they dwell together in harmony and peace. Mr. B. avers that these people have been misrepresented and villified in different ways, of which they are not deserving. He assures us that in business transactions, they are honest and upright; while as neighbours, they are friendly, courteous, and anxious to render assistance in need of distress. Mr. Boukowsky has traveled extensively, and his assertion that they are, collectively, as social, generous and hospitable a people as he ever met with, is deserving of due consideration by unprejudiced minds.—[*The Hebrew*.]

A WORD ABOUT THE NILE.—And the river, of what color is it, and the bank, of what aspect? The great river or "the ocean" as the Arabs call it, is of a muddy brown color, holding perpetual mud in solution, but it washes past in pretty glittering waves this breezy morning, when the wind ruffles it. And the bank is now a green wave of sugar-canes—now a strip of desert sand—now a patch of millet—now a mile of acacia groves. That mud fort is the village of Golasany, and those mud pillars are used for supporting the Arab water-raisers counterpoise. That intensely green strip of ribbon is clover; that endless black margin is Nile mud. These half-naked brown men, with short and heavy shipwright adzes, are fellaheen, or peasants, hoeing up the ground for a new crop. Those net wigwams are hung up there by fishermen, and those big-headed fish, with long heads, are their finny spoil. Those long knotted purple batons the children carry on their shoulders, and which are three times as long as themselves, are ripe sugar-canes, which all young Egypt seems now to be munching, munching.—*Once a Week*.

A ONE YEAR CLOCK.—A young man named G. W. Hendrick, a foreman in E. H. Welch's clock manufacturing establishment of Forrestville, has, after immense labor, succeeded in making an Astronomical Clock, or Regulator, that will run one year without winding, and with weights that only weigh twenty pounds. The pinions are made of steel, leaves cut, highly polished and hardened, the pivots all run on jewels made of agate, chrysal, sapphire, garnet and ruby. It has a mercurial compensation pendulum, with four glass jars, containing about fourteen pounds of mercury.

The escapement is probably the best in the world. It was invented and patented by Mr. Fay of Troy, N. Y. It is anti-friction—requires no oil, and is almost noiseless—the only sound that can be heard from the beat, is the faint fall of the pallets from the swinwhell to the guides.

A year clock owned by Noah Pomeroy of Bristol, requires one hundred and thirty pounds to drive it.—[*Times*.]

ACCLIMATIZATION OF THE OSTRICH.—In a letter of April, 1861, I have spoken of the attempt to acclimatize the ostrich. The Society of Acclimatization continues to watch and encourage these efforts. They now begin to hope that even in temperate climates, the ostrich may figure amongst the useful animals. The following are the facts upon which these hopes are founded. We have already seen that these animals can reproduce in captivity, but as yet only in the warm regions of Europe, at Florence, Marseilles, Madrid, or in Algiers. This year, however, a birth of ostriches has taken place in the cooler region of Grenoble, in the garden of acclimatization of the Regional Society of the Alps.

The ostriches at the time of breeding were kept in a chamber. After 46 days two young ones appeared, to which the female seemed as devoted as she had been indifferent to the eggs. On this occasion, as has been before observed, the little ones placed themselves only under the male, and received no nourishment from the parent.

After the results obtained in Spain, and since in England, we may hope also to acclimatize the cassowary.—[*Silliman's Journal*.]