

Maryland to Bahia—were nearly all born in Pennsylvania, and several of them got their backing from Pennsylvania. Spencer is a distinguished instance of luck and perseverance. He had lived in Paris many years before his appointment, and came back just before your election in 1856, having no right to vote, and really no politics. He carried off the prize for which hosts of young democrats were contending.

Colorado Exploring Expedition.

Lieut. Ives, the commandant of the expedition for the exploration of the Colorado of the West, has made a preliminary report. He left San Francisco in November, 1857, with materials for building a small iron steamer, which was ready on the 30th of December following, when his ascension of the river commenced. By the 11th of March he had got up 500 miles, beyond which boats could not go. He then proceeded with a pack mule train to explore the Upper Colorado and its tributaries, visiting the region of the 35th and 36th parallels, arriving about the 1st of June at Albuquerque, on the Rio Grande, after traveling about 900 miles from where he left his boat.

During his exploration the water was unprecedentedly low, so that he tried the navigation of the river at its worst stage. The banks at the mouth of the Colorado are flat and muddy, and the bars and shoals changeable. For thirty miles up, navigation is frequently made dangerous by the strength of the spring tides, which rise and fall 25 to 30 feet. This rise is preceded by singular tide-waves from four to seven feet high, which rush up the river with tremendous velocity. The map tides fall only 10 feet. Between tide-water and Fort Yuma, the principal obstructions are sand bars which grow more frequent as you ascend. The channel is very crooked, and consequently changing with an average depth of about eight feet; yet there are frequent shoals of less than two feet. These bars and shoals are mostly of soft and loose materials. Below Fort Yuma there are no rocks, but numerous snags.

The average velocity of the current is 2½ miles an hour, and during the July freshet five to six miles, when the river is ten feet higher than in winter. For 180 miles above Fort Yuma, the navigation is in character very similar to that described. During the next 100 miles, gravelly bars occur frequently, but the channel is better than below. For the next fifty miles, the river bed is coarse gravel and stones, with swift rapids. Then comes the Black Canyon, 25 miles long, with numerous and difficult rapids.

Above this gorge the river is wide and shallow, so that this canyon may be considered the head of navigation. There is plenty of wood for fuel along the banks.

The examination from the Black Canyon toward the Utah emigrant road showed that a wagon road might be opened between that trail and the head of navigation. For 16 miles the country is rather rough but after that the remaining 25 miles is easy.

The navigable part of the river runs nearly north and south. Near the gulf the country is flat and unbroken, but further north broken into deep valleys with rugged mountains of volcanic origin. The canyons formed by the passage of the river through the mountains are wonderfully wild and grand.

Above the Black Canyon is a most sterile and barren region, with no trace of vegetation for miles. This is a vast table land hundreds of miles in breadth, extending east to the Sierra Madre, and north into Utah, rising in immense plateaus like successive steps, the most elevated being 7,000 to 8,000 feet above the level of the sea. This sterile and rocky surface opposed insurmountable barriers to traveling in any fixed direction, and the want of water rendered explorations difficult.

West of the Little Colorado, some cedar and pine forests relieved the barrenness; but eastward toward the towns of the Moquis Indians, the country is almost a desert. The Indians along the lower part of the river are not very numerous, but idle and inquisitive. The Mohave tribe is the most numerous. They are so symmetrical and stalwart that they are considered, physically, the finest race upon the continent.

The country east of the Colorado, along the 35th and 36th parallels, is almost uninhabited. A few Indians wander over it, but they are a wretched race, living on fish, and occasionally a little corn grown in some dismal ravine. They are exceedingly stupid and ignorant. The Moquis are about 3,000 in number and live in tolerably constructed towns. They have reservoirs to save water, orchards of peach trees and other fruit; fields of cotton, corn and melons; sheep and poultry. Men and women labor in the fields, clad in garments of home manufacture. They are an ill-made, shambling race; but perfectly peaceable and inoffensive. They are sometimes plundered by their neighbors, the warlike Navajoes. But little can be said of this country as an agricultural district. In the Mohave valley the atmosphere was balmy and delicious. There were fields of grain in the Spring season promising luxurious crops, comfortable houses and granaries overflowing with last year's stores; but whether the country will ever be of value to the whites is doubtful, owing to the difficulty of river navigation. The seasons also are very variable. Crops are frequently lost by frost.

Geologically, the soil is bad, it being impaired by excess of alkaline substances. The same remarks apply even stronger to the rest of the country on the river, and also to the valley of the Little Colorado. The latter region abounds in ruins and vestiges of a former population, but is now uninhabited. Al-

together, it appears that over this great territory, the population has died out and the country has for ages been growing more and more sterile and difficult for human habitation.

Along the 35th parallel there are some bright spots; yet these are subject to seasons of drouth so excessive as to render habitation doubtful. The mineral resources in some places are considerable, promising gold, mercury, silver, copper, lead and iron. A copper mine is being worked 46 miles above Fort Yuma. Coal, rock-salt and marble are also found. In natural history, several new species of fossils, minerals, plants and animals were collected. A careful survey of the navigation was made, and meteorological, tidal and topographical observations were made.

The work of reducing the notes of this report are in progress.

The amount of land transportation saved by sending supplies by the Colorado route would be, to Salt Lake, 700 miles; to Fort Defiance, 600 miles; and to Fort Buchanan, 1,100 miles; and Lieut. Ives sees no reason why the river should not be used as the medium of communication to the greater portion of New-Mexico, east California and Utah.—[N. Y. Tribune, Dec. 25.]

SINGULAR BALLOON INCIDENT.—On Friday last a man named Wilson made an ascension from the Fair Grounds, at Centralia, Ill., in a balloon belonging to Brooks, the aeronaut. He descended about eighteen miles distant, at the farm of a Mr. Harvey. After the grappling-iron had been made fast, Harvey, to amuse his children, one a boy aged about four years, and the other a girl of eight years, placed them in the basket-car and permitted them to ascend several times as high as the rope would allow. Unexpectedly the grappling-iron slipped from the father's hand, and the balloon, with its precious freight, was wafted out or sight. The distress of the parent knew no bounds. The peril of his children he considered imminent, for what assurance had he that they would not be borne into some dense forest, where they would be overtaken with hunger before they could be found, or perhaps descend into some lake or stream and be drowned? As soon as it was possible an extra was issued at Centralia, and the whole neighboring country placed on the alert to watch for the balloon and children.

Saturday morning at day-break, a farmer near New Carthage, forty three miles distant from Mr. Harvey's place, discovered the balloon suspended in the air, attached by the grappling-rope to a tree in his yard. He immediately hauled the balloon down, and found the youngest child asleep in the bottom of the basket, and the eldest carefully watching over her little brother. They had been wafted about by different currents of air throughout the night, and had come to a halt but a little while before they were relieved.

The story the girl told was that as the balloon ascended she cried piteously to her father to pull it down. She said she passed over a town where she saw a great many people, to whom she likewise appealed at the top of her voice. This place was Centralia. The balloon was seen to pass over there, but the people little imagined it carried two persons in such danger. Her little brother cried with cold, and the heroic girl took off her apron, covered him and got him to sleep. In handling the ropes she happened to pull one which had the effect of bringing the balloon down, and although not understanding the philosophy of the movement, she was quite content to keep the valve open, so long as by so doing she found she approached the earth.

HOW THEY LIVE IN ST. PETERSBURG, FRUITS, ETC.—An American who has spent some years traveling in Europe, writes to the New York Times:—

The most exaggerated accounts prevail in the United States, and elsewhere, in relation to the cost of living in St. Petersburg. It is quite true that many articles cost enormous prices, but they are the superfluities, and not the necessities of life. The markets here are numerous and excellent, furnishing an abundance of meats and fruits, at very reasonable rates. Even gloves, silks, and imported dry goods and cloths generally, cost very little if any more in St. Petersburg than in New York. Comparatively the most expensive articles of consumption are tobacco and cigars. A good Havana cigar cannot be purchased for less than twenty cents. The reports of the high cost of living in Russia arise from the prodigality of wealthy Russians, and the disadvantages under which foreigners who visit this country labor, in not understanding the language and knowing nothing of the people. The same may be said of all countries. Experience must be paid for.

In some parts of Italy one may live luxuriously on a few hundred dollars per annum; yet nowhere in the world, perhaps, is the inexperienced stranger so imposed upon and fleeced as in the Italian States. I repeat, the expense of living quietly and unostentatiously in St. Petersburg is not greater than in New York. If a foreigner comes here and attempts to rival in style and profusion the grands seigneurs of the Empire, who spend hundreds of thousands a year, and can afford to do so, that is a very different matter—quite une autre paire de manches. It is another mistake to suppose that we have no good fruit. I have found here an abundance of apples, pears, plums, strawberries, raspberries, etc., at moderate prices and of excellent quality. I have tasted, too, within a week past, something which, during a residence of nearly four years in Europe, I had not before seen—a fine large watermelon, worthy to have ripened on the richest (!) sand hill in Jersey.

Sketches of Nova Scotia.

The Province is well provided with secure and capacious harbors. On the Atlantic shore, within a coast line of about one hundred miles, there are no less than twenty-six good harbors, capable of floating the largest merchantmen, and which are open and free from ice the whole year. The shore of the Bay of Fundy has, also, numerous harbors, though not generally so well secured, nor so deep, yet sufficient for the purposes of a general navigation.

The Basin of Minas, or Minas Bay, at the head of the Bay of Fundy, is perhaps the most singular of all the indentations on the coast of Nova Scotia. The tides here rise to a tremendous height, sometimes to 60 or 70 feet, and never less than 35 feet. The sea comes in in three tidal waves, which travel with such velocity, that where the shore is nearly level, sheep, swine, and even horses feeding on the shore are sometimes overtaken and drowned. It is interesting to a stranger to witness the signs of sagacity evinced by those animals that are used to these fluctuations of the sea. You may be looking on a number of pigs feeding on the offal along the shore. On a sudden, you see one of them raise his head, look toward the sea, give a knowing grunt, and, without apparent cause, turn and make for the high land as fast as his legs can carry him. The others follow suit, running as though a good dinner waited for their never-satisfied stomachs. Arriving at the more elevated land, they stop suddenly and begin rooting and feeling as though they had never had a thought of uneasiness. Some time elapses after the pigs have showed alarm, before the stranger can divine the cause for the stampede. Then a dull, roaring sound seaward, enlists his attention, and presently a black, unbroken ridge many miles in extent, capped with white foam, catches his eye. With inconceivable swiftness it moves toward the land. Its front, 20 feet high, shining and smooth, looks like some wall of porphyry or ebony crowned with snow. Not a fleck of foam on its face, not a streak of green or blue to relieve its intense blackness, on it comes as though to submerge the doomed land. It reaches the land, and acres are instantly covered, making what was solid land but a wild sea of boiling, bubbling waters. This first wave is followed by two others, neither of them so high or swift. It is a singular fact that the brutes can hear the roar of the incoming sea sooner than any man, though he may have lived on the shore from infancy.

The shores of the Bay of Fundy along its whole length, are also subject to what may be termed intermediate tides. At half tide, for instance, while the regular tide is receding, the water will come in with such rapidity that men at work on a vessel's bottom have not had time to pick up their tools, but have saved themselves with difficulty by running or climbing the vessel's side. These tides, however, disappear as quickly as they come. Large vessels have been lifted suddenly by the water, and when deposited again, been careened on a different side from that they lay on before.

The vicinity of Minas Basin and the valley of Annapolis is a paradise for farmers. Here are raised all the products of the more favored districts of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Fruits, with the exception of peaches, are raised in great plenty, and the grains, and especially the vegetables, are very superior and abundant. Large tracts, rich with the deposits of the tides, are reclaimed from the sea by means of dykes, and team with the products of the husbandman.—[Cor. of Hartford Times.]

LENGTH OF THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA.—Huc ("Christianity in China") represents the Great Wall, Wan-Li-Tchang-Tehing, as 10,000 leagues in length. Instead of leagues, it should be li, a Chinese measure of 1,750 feet. Ten thousand leagues are more than the earth's circumference, while ten thousand li are equal to 3,315 miles, more than twice the real length of the wall, an extension of masonry, however, sufficiently marvelous without supposing it in fact, what it is not, continuously of the same dimensions and material throughout.—Were the wall double for its whole length—it is partly so—the 10,000 li of the Chinese would be a sufficient approximation of the truth. Nine li are nearly equal to one league. 1,500 English miles are very nearly the actual length of the Great Wall.—[Notes and Queries.]

A MONSTER PRINTING OFFICE.—The Paris Imperial printing establishment possesses the type of fifty-six eastern languages, being all that are known of the characters of Asia, ancient or modern. Also the type of sixteen European tongues which do not use the ordinary Latin characters. As to the latter, the establishment has the type of forty-six different forms and sizes. The number of presses on the premises is such that 556 reams of paper, equivalent to 9,266 octavo volumes of thirty sheets, could be struck off in a single day. About 500 workmen are employed by the establishment throughout the year.

¶ A noted chap once stepped into the sanctum of a venerable and highly respectable editor and indulged in a tirade against a citizen with whom he was on bad terms. "I wish," said he, addressing the man with the pen, "that you would write a very severe article against R—, and put it in your paper." "Very well," was the reply. After some conversation, the visitor went away. The next morning he came rushing into the office, in a violent state of excitement. "What did you put in your paper? I have had my nose pulled, and been kicked twice." "I wrote a severe article, as you desired," calmly replied the editor, "and signed your name to it, of course."

[Correspondence of The Boston Journal.]

A New Sect.

CONCORD, N. H., Nov. 23, 1858.

New-Englanders have always been obliged to take the credit of every new fanaticism, religious or political. No matter where its origin may be, sooner or later it is discovered that some emigrant from puritanic shores is deeply interested in the primal movements. However true this may be in general, it is certain that our city has always been favored with a large share of new lights. In '43 Miller had an immense congregation of disciples; the late excitement of Second Adventism had its origin here, and now we have another new sect.

For the past week they have been holding a prolonged meeting in Phoenix Hall. Men, women and all have lived and slept in the building. They have not fully decided on their name, but are inclined to call themselves the "Orthodox Catholic Church." Altogether they number about one hundred. Their next meeting is to be held at Dover.

They believe in community of goods. Civil law they do not regard, and endeavor, so far as they are able, to separate themselves from its influence. Their laws are Bible laws. Human authority is weak, and, consequently, cannot be perfect. To avoid acknowledging the law of the land, they do not intend to buy any real estate, but, in the spring, they will hire farms, where all the brethren and sisters may live together in peace and harmony.

They hold that after one has once received the reviving influences of the Holy Spirit, it is impossible for him, not only to fall from grace, but even to be tempted. Absolute perfection seems to be their expectation. As an offshoot of the old Second Adventists, they believe in the speedy coming of the Savior. The time is not yet revealed, but soon will be. They intend that when he comes, He shall find His Church ready and waiting, apart by themselves. They respect the marriage covenant. Three apostles, who are to have charge of their affairs, have been chosen, the chief of whom is Elder J. Cummings.

This constitutes a brief summary of the faith of this "new sect." What will come of it remains to be seen. If we may infer anything from the past success of these same preachers as Second Adventists, we might safely say they would yet be heard of.

"KEEP COOL."—It is much easier to advise than to practice calmness and patience under all circumstances, but every illustration of the advantage of "keeping cool," and the perfect uselessness of getting into a stormy passion or excitement at every adverse turn of fortune or crossing of our wishes, has a tendency to fortify and prepare us against the time of trial. Here is an item from our drawer, picked up we know not where, which strikes us as a good example. Who would not prefer the undisturbed serenity of Farmer L., as detailed below, to an opposite state of feeling? One day while the black-tongue prevailed he was informed that one of his oxen was dead.

"Is he?" said the old man, "well, he was always a brachy old fellow. Take off his hide and take it down to Fletcher's; it will bring the cash."

In an hour or two the man came with the news, "Lineback and his mate are both dead."

"Are they?" said the old man, "well I took them from B—, to save a bad debt. I never expected to get. Take the hides down to Fletcher's: they will be as good as cash."

In about an hour the man came to inform him the "high brindle was dead."

"Is he?" said the old man, "well, he was a very, very old ox. Take off the hide and take it down to Fletcher's; it is worth more than any of the others."

Hereupon his wife, taking upon her the office of Eliphaz, reprimanded her husband severely, and asked him if he was not aware that his loss was a judgment from heaven for his wickedness.

"Is it so?" said the old gentleman; "well, if judgment be only taken in cattle it will be well for me, as it is the easiest way I could settle my account."

COTTON SEED OIL—A GREAT DISCOVERY.—The manufacture of oil from cotton seed has been carried on to some extent for several years, but the process of clarifying the oil so as to fit it for illuminating or lubricating purposes has attracted the attention of those skilled in chemistry for a long time, but all attempts have failed up to within the last few months. The Cincinnati Price Current, however, says:—

Mr. Davies of this city has, we have no doubt, at length solved the problem. A sample of this oil prepared by him has been in our possession the past week, and we, having tested its illuminating properties thoroughly, feel no hesitation in saying that it gives a light far clearer and brighter than lard oil; does not crust or gum the wick, and is freer than any other oil from any disagreeable odor while burning. We regard Mr. Davies's discovery as a most important one, the value of which cannot be well estimated in dollars or cents. We learn the process is at once cheap and simple, increasing the cost but a trifle, as the article, when clarified, is sold at 90 cts. per gallon. It will remain liquid at as low a temperature as the best sperm.

STRANGE FACT.—During the reign of Edward I, according to the London records, a man was tried, convicted and executed for the crime of burning coal in that city! It was by law made a capital offence to be found burning coal in London, and it has taken three centuries to efface the prejudice.—[Weekly Wisconsin.]