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THE ARGUS.

Vol. 2.

Marysville, Union County, Ohio, Wednesday, February 10, 1847.

No. 39.

On the Old Year.

With mournful tone I hear, the say,—
"Alas, another year hath sped!"
As if within that circle lay
Life's garland dead.

Vain thought! thy measure is not Time's;
Nor thus yields life each glowing hue;
Fair fruit may fall, the tangle limbs,
And claps anew.

Time hath mute landmarks of his own;
They are not such as men may raise;
Not his the rudely numbered stone
On Life's broad ways.

The record measuring his speed
Is but a shadow softer spread,—
A browner leaf—a broken reed,
Or mildew shed.

And if his footfall crush the flower,
How sweet the spicy perfume springs!
His mildew stain upon the tower
A glory brings.

Then let the murmuring voice be still,
The heart hold fast its treasure bright;
The hearth glows warm when sunbeams
Life hath no night.

A Predicament.

How queerly does a lady feel
A walking in the street,
When she's aware her stocking heel
Makes visible her feet.

She lifts her foot up awkwardly,
And puts it down again,
And tries to pass that none may see,
But labors all in vain.

FROM THE NORWICH COURIER.

A Tale from Real Life.

BY H. L. R.

The various incidents comprised in the following narrative are substantially true. The facts are gathered by the writer from one who was at that time residing in the immediate neighborhood, consequently possessed knowledge of the whole transaction.

In the year 1814, a Mr. W. of Watertown, Jefferson county, New York, was appointed paymaster general of the army, then stationed at Sackett's Harbor. He was a man quite above mediocrity with respect to intelligence, and of unimpeached moral character. He was a leader in society, and enjoyed the confidence and respect of all with whom he was associated.

His wife, of whom a more particular account is necessary, was rather above middle stature, and of somewhat beautiful appearance; she possessed a mind of extraordinary capability, cultivated by the most assiduous application; and her refined taste and polished manners gave her access to the best society. She was honored with the most conspicuous place at all social gatherings and was regarded as a model of all feminine virtues and accomplishments. In entering upon his new office, Mr. W.'s sureties were Judge K. and Mr. F. of the same town. The former was a lawyer of much distinction, and had for a number of years been Judge of some of the higher courts for the State of New York. He was a man rarely equalled for soundness of judgment, and was especially characterized by a discriminating penetration, which qualified him well for the part he bore in the tragical affair I am about to relate.

He resided in the neighborhood of Mr. W., and possessing unbounded confidence in his integrity, did not hesitate to affix his name to the bond. Mr. F., a less conspicuous character, was a plain, honest, upright farmer, of considerable wealth, and maintaining a high standing in society. Nor did he hesitate to sign the bond of Mr. W. with Judge K. In the discharge of the duties of his new office, Mr. W., accompanied by his wife in the Spring of 1814, left Watertown for Albany, to receive there the amount of public funds necessary to meet the demand of the year. The reason of his wife's accompanying him is not known, and whether the course taken by her premeditated, the reader must judge. They arrived safely at Albany, and after spending a day or two there, Mr. W. received money to the amount of \$30,000, and they left for home. They had travelled on their return as far as

Schenectady, when, at a public house, where they had passed the night, the trunk containing the money was opened, and \$3000 abstracted. What must have been the feelings of Mr. W. thus to find one-tenth of the amount entrusted to him stolen! The house was immediately searched, and every measure promptly taken for the recovery of the funds and the apprehension of the robbers, but it is all in vain—no clue that might lead to its discovery could be obtained.

No one dared to suppose, or deemed it were possible that the beautiful and accomplished person accompanying Mr. W., who seemed equally afflicted by his misfortune, could be in any way concerned in the deed. Nor could the slightest suspicion enter his own mind, after the matrimonial intimacy of years, of the guilt of his bosom companion. After making every possible effort for the recovery of the lost sum, and all proving ineffectual, they proceeded on their return, and arrived at Watertown, where all gave credence to their statement of the occurrence at Schenectady; and the missing funds having been satisfactorily accounted for to the Government, nothing worthy of note transpired till the spring of 1815, when Mr. W. again made preparations for going to Albany, to receive the Government Funds. In order to be secure from any felonious attempts, he decided to go on horseback, and return with the money in his portmanteau. Strange as it may appear, his wife again persisted in accompanying him.

What were Mr. W.'s own wishes with regard to the matter, I know not; a deeply laid plot, which had been years in maturing, could not otherwise be consummated, and consequently no refusal on his part could be effectual.

Accordingly they again left home for Albany on the same errand, arrived there, and Mr. W. with all possible despatch, procured the money, (the same amount as before,) and immediately left for home. They had proceeded on their way as far as Trenton, when the portmanteau containing the money was cut open, and \$12,000 taken. No sooner had the robbery been discovered by Mr. W. than by what device I know not, Mrs. W. persuaded her husband, that as the \$12,000 were actually stolen, and as they could not by any means make amends, (for it was more than they were worth,) it would be better to appropriate the remainder to their own use, and pretend, as they right with equal propriety, that the whole had been taken. The counselling of his wife, sided as we must believe by the spirits of darkness, finally were effectual, and the unhappy man, till then upright in all his deeds, consented.

The reader must ere this be well aware where the \$3,000 were, but Mr. W. did not know, nor did he learn the full iniquity of the scheme in which he had suffered himself to become involved, until considerable time had elapsed, and the excitement of the transaction had in a measure subsided; not till then did Mrs. W. dare to disclose to him the full depth of her guilt. But to resume the narrative at the point where we left it, the robbery at Trenton. After the remainder of the money had been safely concealed about the person of Mrs. W., the alarm was given, and the extent of the robbery was shown by the rent and rifled portmanteau, the house was searched, individuals apprehended upon suspicion, rewards were offered, and every measure which the fertile mind of Mrs. W. could invent, to give plausibility to the statement was carried into effect.—As we may suppose, all was ineffectual for the recovery of the missing funds were missing still.

After the return of Mr. and Mrs. W. to Watertown, in great apparent dejection, at the loss of such an amount of money, their plain and unvarnished tale, agreeing perfectly when told by either, their well affected sorrow, and above all the character previously sustained by Mr. W. for honesty and integrity, left to the minds of most no room for doubts of the truth of their statement. The bondsmen of Mr. W., though ruined in property, deemed it policy to affect to believe the whole, at least till some discovery might be made

to justify suspicion. About this time an invalid officer of the army at Sackett's Harbor, not being able to perform his duty, came to Watertown for medical aid, and took lodgings in the family of Mr. W. In a few days after his arrival he died. His remains were interred in a decent manner, and as the place of his nativity was not known and no friend was there to honor his memory with a tear, he was soon forgotten.

The exceedingly swollen and unnatural state of his body excited remark; but it was attributed to disease. A few days after his decease, Mrs. W. went to a merchant in an adjacent village, and requested him to receive as a loan \$600. She said it was a present from a friend to her children, and she did not wish Mr. W. to know any thing of the matter.—His circumstance is mentioned here in consequence of the indirect bearing it has on the sequel of our tale. But to return. Judge K. was a near neighbor of Mr. W. and a very familiar man in his habits; he often visited his house at the most unexpected hours, and though he discovered nothing that would have excited the suspicion of a less perceptive mind, he saw many things that forced upon him the conviction that the lost money must be in their possession.

Though both would converse with perfect ease on the subject of their misfortune, and lament with apparent sincerity their loss, still a guilty conscience would betray itself in some slight way not perceptible to the multitude. Accordingly he left his chamber, unknown to his wife, who by reason of ill health occupied another bed in the same room; and on fourteen nights in succession lay upon the piazza of Mr. W.'s house, directly under the window of their sleeping apartment.

He could perceive the talking in a low tone at intervals, at night, but so indistinctly that he could make out nothing of any consequence. However, by some means or other he came to the conclusion that they were about to leave the country; and he immediately determined upon a desperate effort to ascertain the correctness of his suspicions. Accordingly he imparted to Mr. F., his associate bondman, a full account of all he had been witness to, and his strong belief that they had, or knew something of, the money. They immediately concerted a plan to test the truth of their suspicions; as a precautionary measure, a physician of eminence was consulted as to how long a person might be kept under water and be resuscitated. As it might be that they were about to remove, no delay in executing the scheme was considered safe.—The same morning, there ore, Judge K. sent to Mr. W. wishing him to come to his house some time in the day and make a final settlement.

About 11 o'clock, Mr. W. arrived at the house of the Judge, and under the pretence of talking the matter over free from interruption, he proposed a walk. They, in company with Mr. F., left the house and proceeded across the lots towards a piece of wood. They walked on till they were nearly half a mile from the house, and had come to the side of a muddy brook, entirely hidden from view by surrounding hills and woods. Wholly unsuspecting of what awaited him, what must have been Mr. W.'s astonishment when Judge K. stepped before him, and in a countenance and in a tone of voice not to be misunderstood, told him the intent for which they had brought him there, and charged him with the embezzlement of \$33,000 of public money, their reasons for thinking so, and telling him if he did not disclose where it was they would drown him on the spot. Unawed by these threats, the hardened man, with a look of innocence, exclaimed, "I know nothing of the matter." No sooner was this said, than with a promptness characteristic of the man, Judge K., throwing off his coat, seized Mr. W. and plunged him into the water.

Mr. F. held a watch, and counted seconds, that they might not drown the man. After as much time had elapsed as could with safety to the unhappy man, he was raised from the water. It was some time before he

could speak—but when he did, it was only to protest his innocence, but in a manner and tone of voice that bore witness to the certainty of his guilt. All efforts to make him confess proving vain, he was again plunged by the powerful arm of Judge K. in the water. This time it did not fare as well with him. He was kept under water so long that when taken out he appeared a lifeless corpse. It was a long time before they were able, by their utmost exertions, to restore him sufficiently to speak. When he did speak, it was to repeat the same denial as before. The heart of an ordinary man must have failed, in either situation—that of Judge K. or Mr. W.—but the former was well satisfied that the other must know something of the lost funds.

Placing himself in a position where he could note the expression of the features of the twice-drowned man, he thus addressed him:—"Mr. W., we know that you have in your possession, or know something of, that money. Now disclose every thing, or we will sink your body, trembling under the weight of a guilty conscience, in that water never to emerge with life, and we will hurry your guilty spirit, without one moment for repentance, before the tribunal of Heaven, to receive the recompense of your crimes. Disclose at once or you die." This was uttered in a tone and with an emphasis that forced upon the mind of Mr. W. the absolute certainty of its fulfilment. The guilty man trembled. For a time utterance failed him. His terrible adversary was still sounding in his ears the certain doom that awaited him. He could conceal the truth no longer.

The power which had aided him in the commission of the crime, and till now kept him from the disclosure, had forsaken him, and the thought of rushing into the presence of his God, with his sins unrepented, forced him to reply:—"I will tell you all I know about it—your suspicions are correct; the money is in our possession, or at least \$30,000. Of the remaining \$3,000, I know nothing. You will find it, either in a black trunk, in our bedchamber or under the hearth." Judge K. leaving him in care of Mr. F. till he should ascertain the truth of this statement, started for the house. He was seen by his wife, and the lady by whom the tale was related to the writer, coming across the fields covered with mud, and, to use the words of the former, "appeared like a murderer." Alarmed at such a sight, his wife, though her feeble health hardly able to walk, met him at the door with the inquiry—"Husband, what have you been doing?" As calmly as the circumstances would permit, he replied—

"We have had the old fellow under water, and made him own where the money is." Judge K. proceeded to the house of Mr. W. and inquired where Mrs. W. was. He was told that she was in her chamber, but did not wish to see any one. Without ceremony Judge K. ascended the stairs as we may suppose, in no careful manner, and knocked at the door of the apartment pointed out. He heard a rustling within, but no step. He called, but no voice was heard. In a rage he set his foot against the door and burst it open, and entered. Mrs. W. was sitting on the bed. He immediately explained the object of his visit, and concluded by telling her that the money must be forthcoming. Seeing the black trunk, he proceeded to open it, and examine its contents, when she exclaimed—"it is not there!"

Her position upon the bed, at this moment, excited suspicion that the money must be about her, and he immediately commenced pulling off the bed clothes; in total disregard of all she could say of the impropriety of such conduct in a lady's bedchamber. Decorum was out of the question; she next attempted to accomplish by force what she could not by reason, but with the ease and strength of a giant, he lifted her from the bed, and removing the covering, he saw a quilted garment that appeared as though it might contain the money. He seized it, when Mrs. W. exclaimed, "you have got it!" He immediately left the house and proceeded with his prize to a neighbor's, when the whole amount, \$33,000, was found quilted between two pairs of gentle-

OUR TERMS OF ADVERTISING.

Advertisements will be inserted at the rate of \$1 per sq. (14 lines, or less,) for 3 weeks, and 5 cents per square for each subsequent insertion. A liberal deduction to those who advertise by the year.

All communications must be post-paid, to insure attention.

Marriages, Deaths, and Religious and Political notices published gratuitously.

man's drawers, the property of the officer who died at Mr. W.'s a few days before, and to use the words of Judge K., when he seized the drawers, in her bedchamber, she seemed to be more troubled about the name on them than the money; as that would furnish abundant evidence of her guilt in the death of the officer.

Mr. W. was released, and returned to his home; but his wife—she who had instigated to the commission of the crime, now known to the world was nowhere to be found. Search was made in all the apartments of the house, but in vain. As soon as her absence was known, intelligence was brought that a neighbor had seen her crossing the fields with a hurried step, in the direction of the river—(Black River.) The truth flashed at once on the minds of all, that she had in all probability found a water grave. The river was searched, and a little distance below where she was seen crossing the fields, her body was found, with such a look of unutterable anguish depicted on her countenance, as plainly told the depth of the struggle which had taken place in her bosom. Home she had rendered desolate, a husband's reputation she had blasted, and with a hand more withering than the touch of an envenomed serpent, she had plucked from the associate name of both, every thing that was worth living for. She could bear the thought of existence no longer. The dreadful act was meditated. The discovery of her guilt drives her to desperation—desperation hurries her footsteps, and as from a projecting cliff she casts herself into the deep and rushing current below, the scene closes forever over a being, who, but for that first fatal yielding to temptation, might have shone conspicuously in the halls of earth.

LISBON, N. Y., Nov. 14, 1846.

Teacher—Class in geography come forward. What is jography?

First Pupil—Gerography is a description of the sun, moon, and stars.

T.—You can take your seat, and stay in after school's out.

T.—Jonah Spriggins, what is jography?

2d P.—A description of the United States and Mexico?

T.—How is the United States bounded?

P.—Bounded on the North by the North Pole, on the East by Europe, Asia, and Africa, on the South it is not bounded at all, and on the west by all Creation.

T.—That's a good boy, you shall be elevated. What is the most remarkable productions?

3d P.—Live Yankees, punkins and tobacco.

T.—What is said of the inhabitants?

4th P.—'Tis said they're liking the Mexicans.

T.—Where is Mexico?

P.—Down by General Taylor.

T.—How is it bounded?

P.—On the North by the American army, on the East by the yellow fever and Com. Conner, on the South by earthquakes and burning mountains, on the West by Com. Stockton.

T.—What is the chief production?

5th P.—Revolutions and changes of Government.

T.—What is the Government?

P.—Lunar—it changes monthly.

T.—What is the inhabitants remarkable for?

6th P.—Locomotion.

T.—You can dodge.

An American in Mexico.

A letter writer from Gen. Worth's says:

"There is but one American residing in Parras—Dr. Woodworth, formerly citizen of the State of New York.—He is married to a Mexican lady and lives in luxurious style; the interior of the house is spacious and magnificent. There is a piazza around the court yard supported by heavy columns and connected by arches; between the columns is a stone through about two & a half feet high, filled with earth and planted with choice flowers. The court yard is crowded with tropical trees and flowers, in the centre of which is a large orange tree loaded with ripe fruit."—Boston Trans.

January's Exit.

"Old January," prime minister to his majesty, "Old King Winter," makes his final bow on to-morrow. His excellency has been in a rather capricious humor during his annual visit. He came in wreathed with smiles, and his long grey locks twined with the first blossoms of spring, which no doubt, the merry old fellow stole from the blooming "May," as she showed her bright cheek for his paternal regard. He left the quiet retreat of the seasons to take his annual tour of terrestrial guard duty. His jocose mood, since been clouded by several fits of the "vapors," and once or twice, the old gentleman has so far lost his good humor as to storm a "file"; but upon reflection, we do not know but that his administration of the weather has given as general satisfaction, ought to be excepted, from the list of tyrants of sunbeams appropriated to his use, and like other financiers, when the wherewith happens to fall short of the demand, his sudden attacks of the "blues" may, no doubt be accounted for. Yesterday morning, the old man flung on his night cap, in a most intolerable fit of the sulks, which lasted throughout the day. As we feel quite certain, however, that the venerable guardian of winter, has really at heart an affection for us children of earth, we may yet hope that our old friend will so far forget his equanimity, as to bid us adieu to-morrow with a smile upon his countenance. - Baltimore Sun.

Fashionable Glossary.

The following quizzed glossary, from a publication called the *Parterre*, is one of the richest specimens of pithy satire that we have seen for years. The follies and views of the fashionable world are, especially, hit off with much point and spirit:
Age. An infirmity nobody owns.
Baying. Ordering goods without purpose of payment.
Bore. Any thing one does not like; any person who speaks of religion.
Conscience. Something to swear by.
Common Sense. A vulgar quality.
Charity. A gold ticket to the opera, or any other fashionable performance.
Debt. A necessary evil.
Duty. Doing as others do.
Drunk. Happy.
Dressed. Half-naked.
Death. A very disagreeable thing; not to be mentioned.
Day. Night; or speaking from 1 P. M. till 4 A. M.
Economy. (Obsolete.) Fashion.
The ne plus ultra of excellence.
Husband. A person employed to pay one's debts.
Honor. Standing fire well.
Home. Every body's house but your own.
At Home. The domestic arrangement of receiving three hundred people in a small room, to yawn at one another.
Not at home. Sitting quietly in your own parlor, learning the last new song.
Love. Meaning not known; the word to be found in novels.
Modest. Sheepish.
Music. Execution.
Matrimony. A bargain.
Morality. A troublesome interruption to pleasure.
Nonsense. Polite conversation.
New. Delightful.
Old. Insufferable.
Prudence. Parsimony.
Prodigality. Generosity.
Piety. Hypocrisy.
Quiz. An inoffensive person out of your own circle.
Religion. Going to church every Sunday Morning.
Style. Splendid extravagance.
Spirit. Contempt of decorum and modesty.
Truth. Meaning uncertain.
Time. Only regarded in music.
Vice. Only applied to men-servants and horses.
Wicked. Irresistible agreeable.

AN EXTRACT FROM THE ANOGRAPHA OF BLACKSTONE.—Question.—What is the relation of Husband and Wife?
Ans.—Variable.

Ques.—Is the Husband answerable for wilful absence and neglect of the wife?
Ans.—Yes, in the court of Exchequer Chamber, where the pleadings are *esperte*, and *irregular*, but *never dilatory*. The culprit denied the incontestable right of trial by jury, and aid of counsel. On conviction, sentenced to close confinement in the Kitchen parlor; sentence often commuted to "agitating the responsibilities," or other hard labor in the nursery department. If sentence not commuted, judgment reversed by a writ of *Error* from the Supreme Court of Tears and Repentance, or set aside by a supersedeas from the Sky-lark Club.

Ques.—What are the rights and liabilities of Infants?
Ans.—They have a right to a wet nurse, a sugar-teat and soaked crackers. Liable to the crop, sore-mouth and the measles, and to,—(the rest is so blotted as to be illegible.)—Sry.

THE ARGU



Marysville, Ohio.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1847.

The Legislature, at the last accounts, had passed resolutions to adjourn on Monday of this week; and we suppose the members are, generally, on their way home at this time.

The Bill allowing members of the Legislature \$3 per diem, for the first 60 days and \$1 per day for the balance of the session has passed both Houses and is now the law.

The Lower House of the Legislature, on a test vote, decided in favor of abolishing Capital punishment.

Mr. Bean, the Senator from this District, delivered a very able speech a few days ago in the Senate, against a bill to repeal Bank charters. It is a clear, forcible and convincing argument against the hard money doctrine.—If we had room we should publish it.

The Black Laws.

A bill to repeal these laws was defeated in the lower House of the Legislature, on the 8th inst. by a vote of 31 in favor of repeal to 37 against it. Among those who voted in favor of the bill are the members from the Western Reserve.—We also notice the name of Vallandigham, a loco from Columbiana county in favor of it.—Among those in the opposition to repeal we see the names of Mr. Noble, of Franklin, Mr. Lawrence, of Logan, and several others. The name of our member, (Mr. Richey) does not appear on either side. We suppose he was not present when the vote was taken.

Bank Taxes.

The State Bank of Ohio through the President of the Board of Control have petitioned the Legislature to have their stock taxed, according to its value, the same as other property—and not upon their profits as heretofore—and the lower House, being Whig, has passed a bill amending the Tax law granting the Banks that request. This move is *unfair* and *unfair* in the Bankers and the Whig members—as it destroys a large quantity of Loco-foco political capital.—Their incessant denunciations of the exclusive privileges and unequal taxation of the Banks must now cease. "Locofoco" occupation is measurably gone."

New Jersey Senator.

The Legislature of New Jersey, on Thursday, re-elected the Hon. Jas. W. Miller, whig, to the United States Senate, for six years from the 4th of March next. The vote stood for Jas. W. Miller, 49; for Garrett D. Wall, dem., 23.

The Legislature of Iowa has passed a bill authorizing a loan of \$50,000 to pay the debts contracted by the new State.

Arithmetical Question.

Suppose a square field to be surrounded by a fence eight rails high, two panels to the rod—how many acres are there in the field that every rail may fence an acre—or that there may be as many acres in it, as there are rails in the fence. Answer next week.

J. A. S. Marysville, Feb. 10, 1847.

Answer to question of last week, 1,238... inches.

Rule.—Cube the diameter, divide it by 2; extract the cube root of that number which gives the diameter of the inner circle; subtract the less diameter from the greater, and divide the difference by 2 or the thickness.

Proof.—Multiply the cube of the different diameters by 0.5236 for the solidity of each. J. A. S. Marysville, Feb. 10, 1847.

Telegraphic Dispatches.

By the Pittsburgh Gazette of the 1st inst., (says the Journal) we have advices from Washington to the 31st ult. The Southern mail brings dates from Tampico to January 14th.

The report Santa Anna had thrown himself between Generals Worth and Taylor is doubted.

Gen. Quitman had arrived at Victoria with his column on the 9th—the Mexicans having retreated before him. Generals Wool, Butler and Worth were still at Saltillo. A body of Mexicans had destroyed the water tanks.

Capt. May had a skirmish with a large Mexican force in the narrow pass. The rear guard was cut off. Large stones were rolled down from the mountains on either side. May made a gallant charge and drove them back—the Mexicans succeeding in carrying off a number of prisoners.

Generals Taylor and Patterson are both reported as having arrived at Victoria.

The tow boat Phoenix burst her boiler below New Orleans on the 20th ult. killing 11 persons on the spot, and scalding others.

Polk's War.

A late number of the Union contains this remarkable declaration—"the war is clearly and undeniably popular!"

It can hardly be otherwise—it has cost at least sixty millions of dollars—five thousand lives—left upon the charge of the country twenty thousand orphans—made many a hearth-stone desolate—and the length and breadth of the land—how could it be otherwise than clearly and undeniably popular.

Horse Thief.

A man of the name of Swartz, alias Boyer, was arrested at Dayton a few days ago for horse stealing, and committed to jail. The Urbana Citizen says it seems from the account that the scamp stole a couple of horses in Champaign (both of which have been recovered). Swartz is an old offender, and has engaged in a pretty extensive business in this way, in Montgomery, Greene, Clark, Champaign, and other counties. He stole a valuable horse from the vicinity of Columbus, and in passing through the city, fixed himself up with harness and wagon.

The Springfield Republic says, Gov. Bobb has issued Proclamation, dated Jan. 21, authorizing the Mad River Valley Branch of the Branch of the State Bank, to proceed to business. The Bank will commence the receipt of deposits, and the transaction of business generally, to-day. Monday next, and each succeeding Monday, will be discount day.

One of the New Orleans editors says that "Santa Anna cannot, even at the head of 30,000 men, enter the city of Saltillo." But what if he present himself at the gate at the head of the army and exhibit a pass from MISTER POLK? says the Louisville Journal.

On the 16th ult., a fire broke out at Norfolk, Va., which destroyed property to the amount of \$60,000. One boy was burnt to death, and another is not expected to survive, by a vessel of carbine or spirits of turpentine exploding.

During a gale at Troy N. York, on the 15th ult., the Clinton Foundry was partly demolished, and a number of workmen buried in the ruins. Three were killed outright, and seven others wounded more or less severely.

The peach trees are in bloom at Washington, N. C., and all the evidences of Spring are displayed in that neighborhood. House flies, butterflies and spring birds are to be seen in the gardens at New York.

A New Tex.—An old lady while reading the papers just after the Whig Vice Presidential candidate, suddenly paused and exclaimed—"Well, I've heard of tyeen skin, old tyeen, and tyeen tyeen tyeen, but never heard of Free Lingo Hysen before!"

We learn by a notice in the Logan Gazette, that the office of the Mad River and Lake Erie Rail Road Company, is to be removed from Bellefontaine to Sandusky City early this month.

A fire broke out in Chillicothe, Ohio, two weeks ago last Saturday, and destroyed some 15 or 20 buildings before it was got under.

Mexican Proposition for Peace.

An American Minister asked for. Letter from Santa Anna to General Worth. We learn from Washington that the rumor prevailing at Tampico the last week, to the effect that the Mexican Congress had agreed to receive an American minister to treat for peace, and had sent a messenger to Gen. Taylor to that effect, is believed to be well founded in that city. The following letter from our correspondent at Saltillo, also shows that the same rumor, in a pretty strong form, had reached that place:—

[Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.] SALTILO, (Mexico), Dec. 21, 1846.

Dear Sir: Since I closed my letter to you yesterday, another batch of news has arrived here from San Luis Potosi, which, if true, is certainly important. I believe it can be relied on as correct, coming, as it does, very straight. The Mexican Congress has agreed to accept a minister from the United States to treat for peace! Some say, however, they are only disposed to receive one, whilst again it is confidently asserted that they have agreed to make peace at all hazards.

General Worth received yesterday, through a courier, of General Santa Anna, a letter which is said to be of a very pacific character. An individual in Saltillo who says he has seen the bill passed by the Mexican Congress, authorizing the appointment of a commissioner, to meet one from us, to treat for peace, and that he saw it distributed in the form of a handbill, and posted up in the city of Mexico and at San Luis Potosi. Report says there is a copy in this place at this time. From the confidence with which some of my Mexican friends speak of the matter, I am myself disposed to believe it true—though not without misgivings.—God grant it be true—should it turn out so it will be a great cause for rejoicing, no doubt, throughout the U. S., as well as Mexico, and prove most acceptable to the army.

Santa Anna is still at San Luis Potosi, and I believe now, without an intention of advancing. His army there is represented to be inactive—this is a good omen.

The Misunderstanding at Rio Janeiro.

The New York Journal of Commerce has received a letter, dated Rio Janeiro, November 25th, which confirms the former report of a difficulty between Mr. Wise and the Brazilian Government, the author stating that his information is direct from Mr. Wise and Com. Rousseau.—One of the men seized is said to be still in custody on the charge of carrying concealed weapons. The letter concludes with the following postscript giving some items of interest relative to the slave trade, and the cause of the prejudice against Mr. Wise:—

"The Brazilian government dislike Mr. Wise, because he has been very instrumental in breaking up the slave trade,—refusing to allow American merchantmen, sold here notoriously for slaving, to sail under a sealed letter with the American flag. You know the laws about licensing vessels, and understand what I mean. Mr. Wise has, in doing this, incurred the displeasure of the Brazilians, and hence their disposition to make difficulty & have his recall. Mr. Wise says the United States schooner Enterprise, that was condemned at the navy Yard (Brooklyn) two years ago, has made three successful voyages to Africa after slaves, and is now on the fourth. She sold for \$1,500, and in three months cleared her owners, to his knowledge, \$9,500. I believe he is a slaveholder in the United States.

Santa Anna's Estate.

General Waddy Thompson, in his "Recollections," states that the road from Vera Cruz to Puebla, a distance of seventy miles, lies nearly all the way through the lands of General Santa Anna. Much of these lands are excellent, and suitable for the cultivation of Sugar and Cotton; but are uninhabited, with the exception of some poor little villages. He has some fifty thousand cattle of his own, and rents other lands for feeding cattle, at fifty dollars per hundred. For such an estate it is almost worth while to fight. [Cincinnati Chronicle.]

Yankee Doodle says that, judging by the proceedings in Congress, Uncle Sam should be indicted at once for keeping a disorderly house.

Treason of the President.

We have no where found (says the Ohio State Journal) Polk's treason, committed by permitting Santa Anna to pass through our Gulf Squadron unmolested, set forth in plainer terms than in the following, from Hon. Garrett Davis' speech in the House. With this act fresh in his own memory, and in the memory of an outraged country, how rust Polk's cheek have burned when his pen gave utterance to the charge of treason against all who dared to think and speak against his war! If the oath which they took to support the Constitution was a particle more than wasted breath, the Loco-foco members of Congress themselves would be the first to impeach him for his treasonable act.

"But let us look a little to this imputation of treason, with which Polk has thought proper to dignify his most grave and formal official communication. The constitution says: "Treason against the United States shall consist in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort." Any assistance given to aliens in open hostility to the United States, as by surrendering a fort to them for reward, or selling them arms, sending them men, provisions, &c., comes clearly within the latter branch of treason. Now let us see how the act of Polk himself comes to the guilt of this crime. The Constitution makes him commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, and as such has the power to order and direct the acts of every military and naval officer. The United States were at war with Mexico, and in the prosecution of it were blockading her principal port on the Gulf, Vera Cruz. Santa Anna had been banished, and, with Almonte and a large suite of able military men, was living in exile in the neighborhood of Havana. They were still Mexican citizens, and by one of the plainest principles of national law, each one of them, and every other citizen of Mexico, wherever he might be, was an enemy to the United States and every one of her citizens. As soon as any absent citizen of Mexico returned, it was his duty to render, and it was the right of her government to claim his services in the war against the United States. Well, Captain Conner commanded the blockading squadron and directed its operations. Suppose he had received no orders to permit Santa Anna to pass the blockade and land at Vera Cruz, and Polk had taken no steps to that end, Capt. Conner, notwithstanding, communicates with Santa Anna, and informs him, that if he and all the able and experienced men that are with him, will present themselves, they shall pass the blockade without molestation, and land under the castle of San Juan de Ulloa. Santa Anna accepts the invitation, and he and his suite sail into Vera Cruz, and Capt. Conner as Commander, with watchful faith, secures him and his retinue a free passage, and interposes to prevent all his subordinates from intercepting them. What would be the crime of Capt. Conner? Aroused and indignant America with one voice would answer TREASON! and speedy justice would doom the naval commander to perish by the halter for his crime. Has not POLK committed this identical crime; and what principle of justice or law would enable him to escape where any other must perish with infamy."

THANKS TO GEN. TAYLOR.—In the Massachusetts Legislature, two weeks ago, resolutions were introduced, returning the thanks of the State to Major General Zachary Taylor, his officers and men, for the fortitude, skill and courage which have distinguished their successful operations in the campaign of Mexico.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot, asks this significant question: "Why should our Congress refuse to give Mr. Polk a Lieutenant General, when he has been so kind and obliging as to furnish Mexico with a Captain General?" That's a peccer!

A fire broke out on the 31st ult in Chesnut street, Philadelphia, corner of Strawberry Alley, destroying a block of stores, filled with valuable goods. The fall of the wall injured several members of the fire company as well as the Engine. Another fire in Boston destroyed some dozen houses.

