

ways weigh more than you would suppose. For the same reason dress has much effect on the eye in judging of size. A lady with wide stripes in her gown looks larger than in one of a uniform colour. A man in striped pants and coat looks larger than plain clothes. Speckled oxen and horses look larger than they really are. Irregularity of colour, as well as of form, makes the eye wander and distracts the judgment.

It is important to a purchaser to know how a colt has been bred; whether to stand on a plank or stone floor; or on loam or litter that would not injure his feet. It is believed that corns or ring-bones are produced by standing on hard and dry floors. Dealers are sometimes so cunning that they will put off ring-boned horses in seasons when their lameness is not observable. Press your hand on the upper edge of the hoofs of the fore feet, and see if the horse flinches—at the same time look the dealer in the eye, and see if he does.

Color of Horses.—This point may be thought a mere matter of taste, but it is not so. Who ever knew a black and white horse to earn his living! The iron grey is a very good colour for a horse. It is a strong indication of health as well as activity. Bay, or chestnut, is a handsome and promising colour; the mane and tail being black. A deep sorrel is not a bad colour, but a light sorrel is indicative of a want of strength and endurance. White horses often prove good; and black ones are not to be rejected on account of colour.

The quality of the hair is quite important as indicating the stamina of the horse. Fine glossy hair denotes a good skin and a good constitution. Fine haired horses and oxen will endure heat and fatigue much longer than others. A coarse yellow haired ox makes the tenderest beef; but such haired animals are not good for labor; nor will their hides make so tough leather as hides covered with the finest hair.

In regard to white spots and marks as indicative of valuable qualities we can say but little, though we have seen dealers who value them. One white foot and three white feet are said to be good signs while an even number of white feet are said to be bad signs—those may be as uncertain as the signs in the almanac. A white star in the forehead, or a narrow streak of white in the face, is not considered a bad sign; but a white faced horse is never sought for if regard is had to beauty, speed, or endurance.

United States News.

From the New York Sun.

A Day later from Mexico.—By an arrival at New Orleans on the 28th inst. from Vera Cruz, we have papers of the 13th inst. from that city, and of the 10th from the city of Mexico.

Santa Anna was in Queretaro, with less than four thousand troops, and surrounded by the army of Paredes, the Revolutionary General, on one side, and the Government Forces on the other. It was doubtful whether he would be able to succeed in making a retreat. A correspondent justly remarks, that "Santa Anna occupies a position incident to the career of all great and good Chiefs, and all aspiring despots—the smallest turn of fortune may elevate him to the throne of Mexico or consign him to the garrote to be strangled as a malefactor. Escape now seems impossible. He and his troops must fight or die. On their prowess in war, their valor, skill and bravery, hangs their fate.—Paredes and his wild army of hungry mountaineers pant for the conflict. The sucking of Queretaro and the horrible usage of its beautiful daughters, will fire the army of Paredes with superhuman energy, but they will be met by desperate men."

The struggle is therefore drawing to a close, and we shall probably know who are to be the future rulers of Mexico before many weeks.

Another Steamboat Burnt—Loss of Life.—We have to record another afflicting accident near St. Louis, by which the steamboat Capitol, from Pittsburgh, was destroyed and three lives lost. The St. Louis Republican of 30th says, the fire was discovered by some of the officers of the Lancer, which lay immediately above the Capitol. It originated about midway of the boilers probably from some defect in the furnaces, and spread with incredible rapidity. The alarm was instantly given, and the passengers, most of whom were asleep with the exception of three succeeded in making their escape.

Cast-Iron Stereotype.—Experiments under the superintendance of Herr Dasse

inspector of mines at Ribeland, in the Duchy of Brunswick, with a view to make cast iron, as the cheaper and more durable material, applicable to the preparation of stereotype plates, have resulted in the publication of a cast iron stereotype edition of the Bible, published at Nordhausen, the price of which, with marginal readings, is 9 ggr., or 26 cents.

Discovery of a vast Catacomb.—The Austrian Ambassador, M. Prokesch, and Professor Rooz, in exploring the island of Miros, have discovered a vast catacomb, containing at least a thousand tombs cut in the volcanic tufa. The walls of this subterranean cemetery are covered with Greek and Roman inscriptions, of from the second to the sixth century. Most part of the tombs themselves have been opened and are empty. This was done, no doubt, by the barbarians of the north, who in the middle ages destroyed so many Hellenic monuments, respecting the dwelling places of the dead as little as those of the living.

Massachusetts and South Carolina.—The Quattleboms of both—The anti-slavery mission of Mr. Hoar to South Carolina; and his summary expulsion from Charleston, form the theme of a political message of some length from the Governor of Massachusetts to the Legislature. All a waste of words. The great conservative masses of the people of both states, and of the Union heartily despise these Jesuitical schemes of small politicians to disturb the harmony of the Republic.

The Governor's Message to the Senate.—is decidedly the longest Message ever written, and certainly five columns too long. In giving it to nearly all our readers yesterday morning in a second edition, we divested it of statistics. We are paragraph readers in this country, and nothing so startles the busy man as an interminable State paper. He throws it aside when in fact, like this Message, it contains valuable matter. Experience however will correct this error. The Governor will learn to state facts and not reason upon them—he will give up special pleading, and leave the Legislature to form its own conclusions, and the people to exercise their own judgment. Separated from its length, however, the Message is a valuable document.—It shows to the fullest extent the power and resources of this State, its present enviable position, and future prospects, and what may be its destiny in the hands of able and patriotic men. Governor Wright makes it a *sine qua non*, to preserve credit of the State, by adhering to the measures of 1842,—the preservation of the mill tax, and the gradual but sure extension of public improvements, rendered more certain the Governor thinks, from their being gradual and corresponding with the actual ability of the State to meet the expenditure. A remnant of the old Canal debt is due and the money on hand to pay it. The Common School system is dwelt upon with great satisfaction in reference to its value and importance, and the means required to make it universally available—it is a branch of the public good, which the Governor considers an important feature of State policy. In relation to the anti-rent difficulties, something new in our peaceable State, the Governor takes a view of the whole ground, referring to the rights of tenants and landlords—looking to the equity as well as the law, and while he deems it essentially necessary to sustain the laws, he appears to be favourable to some arrangement, by which this vexed question may be amicably settled. The Governor's remarks on the purity of our elections, the necessity for making betting a criminal offence and of providing safe guards against bribery, are sound and judicious. Altogether there is much to admire and approve, and little to condemn, and we shall be surprised if the Message itself is not approved, by all parties throughout the State.

Colonial News.

Canada:

Montreal Transcript, January 2.

We are sorry to learn that the spirit of insubordination which has so much infected the workmen employed on public works is not yet extinct. We are informed that within the last few days the lives of some of the parties who contract to supply stone for the Canal have been threatened, because these persons have thought it necessary to reduce the price of wages during the short days of winter from 3s. 6d. to 3s. It is known that these contractors have been sought for by men armed with pistols, who swore they would have their lives. A representation has in consequence been made to the

Board of Works and it is trusted that the Government will take some steps to protect the lives of parties thus situated, and prevent such violent proceedings.

Quebec Gazette, January 6.

Daily Line of Steamers.—A numerous meeting, called by His Worship the Mayor, was held on Saturday evening, at the Albion Hotel, on the subject of forming a Joint Stock Company, with a Capital of £20,000, to run a daily line of Steamers between Quebec and Montreal. Several Resolutions were passed to that effect, and a Committee of twenty-five appointed to solicit subscribers to the Stock. Mr. J. Ryan showed a list of persons who had already subscribed to the amount of upwards of £5000.

Boston and Canada Railway.—The sum of \$500,000 having been unconditionally subscribed for the construction of this Railway, the following persons have been chosen Directors of the Company:—

Messrs. Nathan Rice, of Boston, Alvah Crocker, of Fitchburg, Jacob Forster, of Charlestown, Henry Timmins, of Boston, John Jay Low, of Boston, H. Weld Fuller, of Boston, Gardner H. Hall, of Brattleboro', J. R. Blake, of Brattleboro', Calvin Townsley, of Brattleboro', Joseph Davis, of Templeton, Joseph Goodhue, of Brattleboro', Thomas Lamb, of Boston, Isaac Livermore, Boston.

Quebec Gazette, January 10.

The Montreal papers of Wednesday state that Mr Harrison is about to be appointed Judge of the Home District, in the place of Mr Cartwright, whom ill health compels to resign. This will occasion a vacancy in the representation of the county of Kent. The candidates, it is stated, will be, on the part of the administration, Mr Woods, former member for the county; and for the opposition, Mr W. H. Boulton, who was rejected at Niagara.

Montreal Courier, Jan. 8.

We understand that some disturbances have taken place at Wolf's Island, among the Cannallers employed by Mr Crawford on the Cornwall Canal, these worthy members of society having commenced a series of wanton outrages towards the neighbouring inhabitants. Verily, we have to pay a pretty price for improving our inland communications.

Nova-Scotia.

Halifax Post, January 15.

Important from the South!—The Packet brig Acadia arrived yesterday in 5 days from Boston, bringing dates six days later. We clip the following item of news from the New York Herald:—

Important from Mexico!—Banishment of Santa Anna!—The Ventura, 14 days from Vera Cruz, arrived at New Orleans on the 25th ult.

She brings the important news—important to Mexico—that Santa Anna has been banished from that republic.

This news may be considered authentic. His army first deserted him, and then Congress by a decree, formally banished him for his political and financial crimes.

It is thought that his late cabinet has probably met the same fate.

Black Iniquity.—In 6 months, 36 vessels under American colours, have been brought into Rio Janeiro, with average cargoes of 500 slaves each—making in all 18 eighteen thousand.

Halifax Herald, January 7.

Mormonism.—It appears that this sect has lately sprung up in New Brunswick. In the vicinity of Woodstock highly respectable farmers have actually sold out their establishments for the purpose of proceeding to Nauvoo, in the State of Missouri.

Incident at the late Fire in Salem.—A little babe, in one of the houses destroyed, whether through accident, we know not, was enveloped in a feather bed, thrown from the window, and the bed removed to a distance from the conflagration. The poor mother from the fate of her innocent, was almost distracted, and filled the air with her shrieks, until the child was found uninjured and unconscious and sleeping safely in its novel quarters in the street.

New Brunswick.

Saint John Chronicle, January 17.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor arrived in this City on Wednesday evening, and has taken lodgings at the Saint John Hotel.

Murder.—We regret having to record a most melancholy and afflicting circumstance, which has resulted in the cruel murder on Sunday night last of a respectable and inoffensive inhabitant of this

city. The circumstances as far as we have been able to collect them are these.—It appears that on the evening above named, Mr. C. Yerxa, who kept the Semiscouta Hotel, in this city, accompanied by two other persons, were returning home in a sleigh, and when about four miles from town they fell in company with three persons on a sled, whom they passed, it would appear rather against their wishes, and by whom they were closely followed until they reached the house at the head of the marsh kept by Mr. Leitch, into whose horse-shed both parties turned. Here words ensued between some of the parties, on which a wretched named Patrick Mullen seized a stake from his sled and struck Mr. Yerxa, without we believe the slightest provocation, several blows on his head, which felled him to the ground and of which he died in a few hours afterward. This has another peaceable man fallen a victim to the hellish machinations of that reckless gang who have lately infested this City and the Parish of Portland, and whose crimes have too long been allowed to go unpunished.

The other two men with Mullen were William Lantrinham, and Richard Dineen. Having immediately decamped, they were on Monday pursued towards Black River, where traces were found of them, but was not until Wednesday that the two named were taken and brought to town; they were found concealed in the house of a man named Riley. The principal aggressor, Mullen, having left his companions, and approaching near the city on Wednesday night, struck off the Kennebeckacis Island, where he was traced to the house of some of his relations and there captured by the high constable, Mr Stockford, whose indomitable perseverance in pursuing and hunting out these murderers is beyond all praise. He was accompanied by his brother, Stockford.

On Monday a Coroner's Inquest was held on the body of Mr Yerxa, which continued its examinations until yesterday when a Verdict was returned of Willful Murder against Mullen.

The Supreme Court being now sitting the trial of these parties will no doubt take place in a few days.

From the Halifax Nova Scotia RAILROAD FROM HALIFAX TO QUEBEC.

Messrs. Editors,

This may appear at first view, a gigantic and altogether preposterous scheme, but the very magnitude and importance in various points of view, deserve to be at least, consideration and enquiry. Most of the civilized nations are pushing forward a system of improved internal communication by rail-roads, evidence aware that they run the risk, by delay being outstripped by more alert rivals. Foremost on the Continent of Europe, Belgium, and Austria, generally considered among nations rather a slow country is anxiously attentive to the subject, and will probably have the communication complete from the German Ocean to sea port of Trieste on the Adriatic, before France has finished the line from the English Channel to Marseilles; if so, road to India from England, may possibly leave the latter route for the former. A letter recently in the London Times from an Englishman settled near Vienna speaks of the great increase of the iron manufacture in Austria; and that before long British manufactured goods will not be wanted in that part; which change where recently nothing of the kind existed. Russia has it in contemplation to make a line from Petersburg to Moscow, a distance of 500 miles. It is less to refer to the Railroads of England with one exception, which may bear the present subject, viz:—the line from Chester to Holyhead, a distance of 90 miles, for which an act was obtained in the last Session of Parliament, the object of which railroad is, to save a six hours sea passage to Dublin, the age from Holyhead to Dublin being six hours, and from Liverpool twelve. While nearly the entire distance of the railroad is so much additional land, through a rough country, the route of towns, and parallel to the coast. Before the railway was in operation Liverpool, the coach traffic to Holyhead consisted of the two mail coaches, one London, one through Shrewsbury and other through Chester, and two day coaches from Shrewsbury, and a steamer from Liverpool to Beaumaris, in Anglesea.

The postage of the Menai Bridge, which cost £200,000, was only £100,000 for five years, which sum is to be renewed if necessary, that is, if the dividend does not amount to five per cent, but