

Mr. J. F. Perley, of Newburyport, Mass., a much respected resident of Callao, died about the 25th of March.

A letter from Lima, dated the 25th of March, again calls the attention of the public and our government to the melancholy fate of the nine Americans who were some time since cruelly butchered by Peruvian troops, near Tabatinga.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

We have advices from the Sandwich Islands to the 1st of March. They contain nothing of special importance. Mr. Lee, former Plenipotentiary to the United States, had arrived at Honolulu.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE, Thursday, May 1.—Nicaragua affairs were introduced by Mr. Weller, who called for all extant correspondence of any official nature. He condemned the course of the Administration in not recognizing "the existing Government" of Nicaragua, and defended Gen. Walker from the charge of filibustering.

HOUSE.—The House passed the Indian Appropriation bill, and the bill revising the act of 1852 relative to suspended entries of public lands, and the act of 1846 concerning suspended preemption land claims.

SENATE, Friday, May 2.—Mr. Benjamin made a speech on matters growing out of the Slavery question, in which he declared it to be his intention to join the Democratic party.

Mr. HALE, of N. H., alluding to what, he said, were grossly personal attacks on him in Mr. Clay's recent speech, remarked that he had but one word to submit in reply—that it will take something besides malignity to redeem imbecility from contempt.

Mr. CLAY, of Ala., (springing to his feet greatly excited)—I defy the Senator's malice as much as I condemn his baseness. No man shall assail my rights or those of my constituents, and shirk his responsibility by skulking behind the plea of non-combatancy.

Mr. HALE replied, that if he did eat his own words, he would have a more palatable meal than the Senator from Alabama if he should undertake to eat his. (Laughter.)

HOUSE.—Thirteen private bills were passed, and the House adjourned to Monday.

SENATE, Monday, May 5.—The Secretary of State was called upon to furnish the journal of the proceedings of the Commissioners convened at Paris to adjudicate on the claims for French Spoliations.

HOUSE.—The Senate bill providing for deepening the channel over St. Clair Flats, Michigan, was passed, as was also the bill in relation to improvements in the Savannah River.

SENATE, Tuesday, May 6.—The Senate was engaged all day in discussing the proper location of the District of Columbia Armory, and the bill making appropriation for the construction of harbor works on Lake Superior, but without any definite action.

HOUSE.—The diplomatic and consular appropriation bills were passed. The morning hour was occupied in the discussion of a bill granting alternate sections of land in Iowa in aid of railroads now in progress of construction in that State.

SENATE, Wednesday, May 7.—The Senate appointed a third Conference Committee on the Deficiency Appropriation bill, the two former Committees being unable to agree.

HOUSE.—The entire session was spent in debate upon the propriety of appointing a third Committee of Conference on the Deficiency bill. The principal difficulties were stated to be relative to the Senate's amendments appropriating \$1,800,000 for the Army and \$300,000 for the Washington Water Works.

MUNICIPAL.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN, Monday Evening, May 6.—The nomination of William Goodheart, as Superintendent of Roads, in place of Thomas Starr, was confirmed, Alexander Ward having previously tendered his resignation of the office.

BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.—It was stated by Councilman Van Tine that a letter had been received by certain property owners in Reade street, who are interested in the widening of that street, stating that if \$1,000 were not forwarded to a certain address there would be a minority report of the Committee on Streets against the proposed improvement.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 7, in the Board of Councilmen, an increase was voted of the salaries of the Mayor, the City Comptroller, the Commissioner of Streets, and Deputy Street Commissioner.

WHARVES AND PIERS.—The Aldermanic Committee on Wharves, Piers, and Slips, have decided to visit a number of piers and bulkheads, erected without consent, and a number of slips that are filling up rapidly and likely to cause great expense to the city.

COST OF THE MATSELL INVESTIGATION.—May 4, the Committee on Police of the Board of Councilmen, Mr. Baxter, Chairman, met to hear evidence preliminary to making their report, as to allowing the bill recently submitted to the Common Council by Stephen H. Branch and counsel and reporters for services rendered in the investigation, some time since, into the nativity of the Chief of Police.

MACHINES TO SPRINKLE THE STREETS.—Several new machines for sprinkling the streets with water were exhibited, May 1st, before the Aldermanic Committee on Croton Aqueduct.

STATEMENTS were made by Messrs. Nash and Noyes, of the Council, and by Alderman Briggs and Stephen H. Branch.

WE ARE IN RECEIPT of a number of valuable publications, notices of which we are compelled to defer until our next issue

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT—MAY 5.—Before Judge BETTS.

THE trial of Wm. C. Valentine, indicted for engaging in the slave trade, which was set down for to-day (Monday,) was postponed till Wednesday, May 14, in consequence of the death of Ogden Hoffmann, who was one of the defendant's counsel.

The trial of Joseph L. White, Capt. Tinklepaugh and Joseph Fowler, indicted for resisting United States officers in the service of process on board the Northern Light, was set down for Thursday next.

In the cases of the United States agt. George Law and Marshall O. Roberts, action on Custom-House bonds, a formal verdict was taken, subject to the opinion of the Court.

John Lawrence and John Woods, charged with committing an assault with a dangerous weapon (a sheath-knife) upon the person of one B. F. Johnston, on board the ship Wandering Jew, on her voyage from Liverpool to the East Indies, were arraigned, tried separately and convicted.

Judge Rockwell has delivered an opinion in the Kings County Court of Oyer and Terminer, to the effect that the repealing clause of the Prohibitory law did not touch that portion of the excise law which prohibits the sale of liquor in less quantities than five gallons, or to be drunk upon the premises of the seller.

SUPERIOR COURT.

SALE OF THE NEW YORK HOTEL STOPPED BY INJUNCTION.

May 6.—Edmund Griffin vs. Curtis Judson and Others.

Some few weeks since a decision in this case was given by Judge Slosson in favor of the plaintiff. Mr. H. H. Rice, deputy Clerk of this Court, was appointed receiver to take charge of the lease, fixtures, &c., of the New York Hotel, and was directed by the order of the Court to sell the property for the benefit of the plaintiff.

THE Life of Col. Daniel Morgan, of the Continental Army, has been prepared from his unpublished letters and papers, by his grandson, James Graham, Esq., of New Orleans, and will be issued in June by Derby and Jackson.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

WE have already announced the fact that Mr. Bayard Taylor is engaged in preparing a *Cyclopedia of Modern Travel*. We now learn that this work will comprise the voyages, explorations, and adventures of more than fifty celebrated travelers of the half century between Humboldt's journeys to the equinoctial regions and Dr. Barth's return from Timbuctoo.

DERBY & JACKSON are preparing a uniform edition of the novels that delighted the last generation, "Theudens of Warsaw," "Scottish Chiefs," "Children of the Abbey," "Romance of the Forest," &c., &c. We believe each work is to be complete in one volume.

TICKNOR & FIELDS are bringing out a library edition of the "Waverley Novels"—the original three volume romances to appear in two pocket volumes each. The series is to be executed in the best style of Boston typography.

TICKNOR & FIELDS have also in press an edition of Browning's Poems, more full than any yet published, but not complete—"Sordello" and some other of his least satisfactory productions being omitted.

REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

WAU-BUN, THE "EARLY DAY" IN THE NORTH-WEST. By Mrs. JOHN H. KINZIE, of Chicago, with illustrations: Derby & Jackson.

In the handsome volume before us we have a valuable contribution to the early history of the "North-west," a field which affords more incidents of real interest than any other, and one which can never be alluded to without finding sympathetic readers. It seems strange that an "early history" of any thing should commence in the year 1830! Yet so rapidly has grown up our Western States, that twenty-five years have developed vast empires, where previous to that short period of time all was primitive, and, save the intrusion of the savage all was silence and waste.

LIVES OF AMERICAN MERCHANTS. By FREEMAN HUNT, A. M., Editor of the Merchants' Magazine. New York.

If "Commerce is King," and no one will dispute the adage, then the high officers connected with the sovereign deserve especial notice. Mr. Hunt, fortunately for himself, and for the merchant, entered upon the task of illustrating the vast importance of commercial life, and extending his supervision beyond the details of figures, he has gone on to the interesting field of giving the lives of American merchants, who, after all, hold in a great degree the destiny of the country in their hands.

THE HEROES OF GREEK FAIRY TALES FOR MY CHILDREN. By Rev. C. KINGSLEY, author of "Hypatia," "Ameyr Leigh," with illustrations by the author. Ticknor & Fields, Boston.

We have, in "The Heroes," a very successful attempt to give much of the classic history of Greece, in a style that will meet the comprehension of youthful readers. The task certainly is a difficult one, but has been as far as possible well performed; for if the young, and even the old not familiar with the subject treated, can be induced to read of "the gods" of the most remarkably intellectual nation that ever existed, an appetite may be created for deeper investigation, and consequently greater cultivation of the mind.

COLOMBA. By PROSPER MÉRIMEE. Translated from the French. Phillips, Sampson & Company.

Prosper Mérimée has been esteemed for many years one of the most brilliant of French writers, yet we are not aware that a translation of any of his works has ever been offered to the American public. As a picture of Corsican life and manners, *Colomba* will be greatly appreciated, as it gives a most unequalled picture of Corsican life, made so interesting by its associations with the Napoleon family.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

WATER FOR BROOKLYN.—The Water Committee of the Brooklyn Common Council have reported in favor of the Nassau Water Works Company introducing water into the city of Brooklyn, and in favor of taking \$1,300,000 of the stock. This company proposes to furnish twenty millions of gallons a day, and the whole cost not to exceed \$4,200,000, and to be completed within three years. The report will be considered at a special meeting to be held May 14.

SUGAR.—The prospect of a good sugar crop in Louisiana is very poor. The severity of the winter killed both seed and plant cane to a great extent, and though an attempt has been made to get cane from Cuba for planting, only three ship loads have been obtained—the Spanish government, from selfish motives purely, interdicting further shipment.

DURABLE SNOW.—Till the middle of April the snow-drifts in Connecticut, within two or three hours of this city, were several feet deep, and in some mountainous roads it was extremely difficult to get about, after it had thawed just enough to let a horse "slump in."

A GREAT VOYAGE.—The ship *Abigail* arrived at New Bedford recently, from a whaling voyage, having been absent forty-four months. She had taken during that time 329 barrels of sperm oil, 5,153 barrels of whale oil, and \$1,500 lbs. of bone.

CONSPIRACY AND HEAVY BLACK-MAIL OPERATION.—Another of those infamous conspiracies and black-mail operations which occasionally startle the community has recently come to light—the victim in the case being a gentleman who formerly held a very high official station in this city, and the conspirator and black-mail operator a member of the Brown family.

PROSPERITY OF TELEGRAPH LINES.—We learn that the present season far exceeds all previous years in the amount of business transacted by the various telegraph lines out of this city, and the profits of the company are correspondingly large. The net income of one of the Southern lines, with a paid up cash capital of less than one hundred thousand dollars, has reached as high as five thousand dollars per month.

CASTILLO. CASTILLO is the first place between Greytown and Lake Nicaragua, in which are to be seen houses built American fashion, which form a strange contrast to the bamboo huts occupied by the natives. Two of the American houses are occupied as hotels, and called the National and Nicaragua Houses. They are well ventilated and cleanly.

On arriving at Castillo, and having to remain there until the coming up of Capt. Wilson's company, which was in the second boat, some six hours behind us, and having seen my men quartered out of the sun, guards placed over the baggage, &c., I started for the old castle we had seen, when suddenly steaming round a short curve in the river, frowning on us from the heights, with a solitary soldier at "shoulder arms" pacing to and fro on its topmost walls. This castle is the first point of importance the traveler meets with on his way up the San Juan river, and was built about three hundred years ago to defend the then wealthy cities of Granada and Leon from the approach of the buccaneers, so long the terror of Central America and the Isthmus.

On the outside of the castle, and to the right of the drawbridge is quite a hole, dug under the corner by the soldiers in the hopes of finding buried treasures. The natives around here tell of immense treasures that have at different times been hid by the different chiefs when the castle was about to fall, in order to save it from the conquerors.

The walls of this interesting relic of old times consist of heavy misshapen blocks of stone, held together by some very hard and durable kind of cement so common in all Spanish ruins on our continent, with an occasional row of large red tiles of about a foot square, which seem to have answered the double purpose of binching the mason-work together, and determining the level of the doors and windows.