

THE REVIEW.



CRAWFORDSVILLE.

Saturday Morning, April 25, 1857.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING BY
CHAS. H. BOWEN.

The Crawfordville Review, furnished to subscribers at \$1.50 in advance, or \$2.00 if not paid within the year.

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Crawfordville.

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E. W. CARR, U. S. Newspaper Advertising Agent, Evans Building, N. W. corner of Third and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.
S. H. PAVIN, South East corner Columbia and Main streets, Cincinnati, Ohio; is our Agent to procure advertisements.
Y. B. PALMER, U. S. Advertising Agent, New York.

For several weeks past our cotemporary across the way has been regaling his readers with articles commenting upon the decision given in the Dred Scott case.

His strictures upon the character and legal abilities of Chief Justice Taney were so nearly akin to the street-corner declamations of Fisher Doherty and Mademoiselle Filkins, that while they only excited a smile of derision from our citizens, seemed hardly worth our time to notice.

We will venture the assertion that Joseph Addison Gilkey, the great bard, (peace to his illustrious memory) could never have originated in his brain a more palpable hit at this decision of the Supreme Court, than the article of Mr. Cantrell, in which he styles Chief Justice Taney's decision in the case as "infantile and windy."

Now it is not our intention to go into any discussion upon this matter for two reasons. First, the decision of Mr. Taney has not yet been published and consequently we are not posted as to how far it protects our southern brethren in their property.

Second, from all we can learn from Abolition sources, it only allows the owner of a slave the constitutional privilege of passing through a free State with his slave property, and declares the Missouri Compromise unconstitutional. Of course no national man will find anything in the decision that he cannot heartily approve of. The silly and idiotic assertion that the decision virtually establishes slavery in the free States is too ridiculous to notice, and nobody but a consummate ass would make it.

If our neighbor expects to revolutionize Montgomery county by laborious efforts to prove that a nigger is the equal if not the superior of the white man, he will find that his career will be as inglorious as the great bard's.

The faculty of Wabash College we opine are laying it on a little too thick when they boldly assert, as in the last issue of the Journal, that the "negro is the equal of the white man and susceptible of the highest intellectual culture and refinement."

That sentence has proved as sickening as an emetic to some of the Republicans in Crawfordville, who openly denounce the man that penned it. They say that the man proprietors of the Journal are managing things worse than Gilkey, and that if such is to be the doctrine taught by that organ the Republican party in the county will dwindle into a minority so miserable that it will lose all identity. Now, there are many good, honest, well-meaning men in the ranks of the Republican party who were led off from the Democratic and Whig parties by that old hobby "slavery extension."

When they joined the faction they never dreamed that they were allying themselves to a miserable set of Abolitionists and aiding in the dismemberment of the Union. That fact, however, is beginning to dawn upon them, and they are already denouncing the negro worshippers.

The future of the Democracy is bright and cheering. We predict that Kansas will come in as a free State notwithstanding the efforts made by Black Republicanism to the contrary.

A NOISE.

We notice that a miserable dirty doggerly has recently been reopened in the alley immediately north of the Court House.

Regularly every Saturday it is the scene of disgraceful brawls and fights. We think that our citizens should take some steps to abate this evil.

Every prosecution with but one exception for misdemeanors in our last Court failed. The gambler and disturber of the peace went scot free.

We notice that FRANK HEATON has just received a very large supply of new books and stationary at his periodical depot. Among the selection we notice a fine assortment of school books. Mr. H. is deserving of much credit for establishing what has been long needed in our town—a first-class book store, where not only all the standard books can be purchased, but where can always be found the very latest literature of the day. We shall publish a catalogue of his books in our next issue.

MORE ABOUT THE COMET.

A distinguished astronomer of New Jersey is said to urge the following objections to cometic collisions generally, and the foolishly apprehended collision now talked of particularly. There is nothing new in these ideas, but they may tend to quiet the nerves of the very weak.

1st. The earth and the comet would have to arrive at the same part of the earth's orbit exactly at the same time—if either were a little too soon, or a little too late, there would be no collision. Now the probability of their keeping such time is very small. In the year 1836, a comet crossed the path of the earth's orbit about a month before the earth arrived at the place where it had crossed, and was some millions of miles distant at the time of the crossing.

2d. Even if the collision should happen, it would not injure the earth. A comet may be said to be almost all tail; now the quantity of matter proved to be contained in any comet is small, say diffused over a large space; indeed, some says that the tail is due to electrical action and its density cannot much exceed air. Stars have been seen, by means of a telescope, when the tail of a comet was directly between them and the observer.

It is a fact known to all astronomers, that about the year 1700, a comet passed so near the planet Jupiter, as to be more strongly affected by his attraction than it was by that of the Sun, and therefore it was turned out of its orbit: but the planet and his satellites moved on, taking no notice of the intruder, or being at all disturbed by it. The only effect a comet might produce, if it came in contact with the earth, is this:—It might leave behind some of its matter, and thus poison our atmosphere. However, the probability that a comet will ever come in contact with the earth is about one chance that it will, and two millions that it will not happen.

MINISTER TO ENGLAND.

Harper's Weekly, after discussing at some length the question of who will be Minister to England under the administration of Mr. Buchanan, thus mentions the name of Hon. Stephen A. Douglas in that connection:—

"But there is one name which has not yet been heard in connection with the mission to England, a name known to every school boy in this country, and quite familiar to statesmen in every nation of Europe. That name is Senator Douglas, of Illinois."

A ripe statesman, tried in every sphere of domestic employ, a laborious Senator, a brave man, undoubtedly the chief of his party under the President—Stephen A. Douglas is entitled, politically, to the mission to England if he would accept it, and among the Democrats to whom the Presidential choice is necessarily limited, perhaps no one is so likely to be chosen as he.

The Chicago Daily Times expresses the opinion, and we presume correctly, that Judge Douglas would accept no foreign appointment. He can scarcely be spared from the Senate, and we presume does not desire to change his position, at least till the close of the present administration.

THE NEXT CONGRESS.

The gain of two members of Congress to the Democracy in Connecticut dispels the last lingering hope of the Republicans that the Democracy would not have a working majority in the next House of Representatives at Washington. Thus far sixty-six Democrats and ninety-three opposition of all shades have been elected to the House. The remaining States and districts were represented in the last Congress by 49 Democrats, 25 Southern Know Nothings and one Republican—in all 75. Of this number one is to fill a vacancy in Missouri, occasioned by the resignation of John S. Green, Democrat, and one in Indiana, by the death of Samuel Brenton, Republican. Should all these return men of the same politics as before, the new House will be divided politically as follows:—

Democrats, 115
Southern K. N.'s, 29
Rep. & Northern K. N.'s, 92

Leaving an opposition minority of four; but there can be no question but that there will be very considerable gains to the Democracy in elections yet to be held in the South, and it is not at all improbable that the vacancy in this State may be filled by a Democrat. There can be no reasonable doubt of a Democratic majority sufficient for all practical purposes.

A NEGRO BABY IN A MOLASSES BARREL.

The Wheeling (Va.) Times says that a short time since a man who keeps a grocery in the vicinity of Fairview, Va., some distance out on the national road, west came to Wheeling and bought a barrel of molasses. He took it home and commenced retailing it in small quantities to his customers, all of whom were attacked with a strange sort of sickness, from which, however, they speedily recovered. No one could account for this singular circumstance until the molasses barrel was pretty well drained and the head knocked out of it, when the whole community was astonished at the discovery of a negro child, about eight days old, inside the barrel in a state of partial putrefaction.

PANORAMA OF THE OVERLAND ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA.

This magnificent Panorama will be exhibited at the Christian Church this (Friday) evening. We notice that it is very highly spoken of by our exchanges. We recommend everybody to go early so as to secure good seats.

ALF HOWARD, THE GREAT VIOLINIST.

Alf Howard, the great Violinist gave a concert in the Universalist Church on Saturday Evening last to a large audience receiving rounds of applause from every seat in the house. His performances upon the violin far exceeded our most sanguine expectations and we have no hesitancy in saying that he stands preeminent in the rank of the first Violinists of the age.

THE DEPOSEMENT OR INTRIGUES OF A COLLEGE HUCKSTER.

Next week we shall commence the publication of the above original and thrilling tale. Persons wishing extra copies of the Review will leave orders at our counting room.

Major Elston's fishing-club starts for the Kanakake next week.

MAMMOTH LUMP OF COPPER.

The Lake Superior Miner, the editor of which is himself a practical miner, contains the following interesting description of the big "copper midget":—

"Since our last publication we have been twice into the Minnesota Mine, to look at this wonderful piece of copper. A few tons have already been taken from it, and there are some thirty men at work cutting it up, more parties will be put on soon. The lower end of the copper was raised by the powder from the rock in which it was enclosed—the upper end being very little disturbed. This leaves it inclining but little from the horizontal, and in an excellent position for cutting to advantage. They are cutting in some ten places, two of which are already in to where the copper is five feet thick. Another is four feet and a quarter. Eighteen inches further will bring one of the cuts to where the copper is seven and a quarter feet thick. Its greatest thickness is between eight and nine feet but the cuts driven in from the edges very soon reach the thickness of 3, 4 or 5 feet, and its average thickness will be three and a half to four feet. Its greatest length is forty-six feet. Greatest width eighteen and a half feet. We make the following measurements of its width at several points, in feet and decimals:—11—12.5—18.5—16.2—12.7—10.9—6 showing a mean of about 12-12 feet. We cannot think its average thickness to be less than three and a half feet. These dimensions give it a cubic content equal to about 2,000 feet, and this amount of pure copper would weigh 549 tons.

Large masses from this mine have generally been of high purity, and the exterior of this is quite clear of rock and the cuttings thus far show it to be remarkably pure. In the five feet cuts scarcely a speck of rock is to be seen, but the copper is as bright as a new polished penny. Unless it should prove to be a great shell enclosing rock, its purity must be very high, probably more than 90 per cent; and we think there is no ground for such an apprehension. On the contrary its solidity, but also by the manner in which it is cut, the action of the powder, and rose from its bed without the slightest crack or bending at any point. There is scarcely a possibility of its being anything else than almost solid metal. If it is 91 per cent, and this is not a high estimate for such a mass, it contains about 500 tons of pure copper, and will be worth when prepared for the market, about \$300,000.

This we respectfully submit, is the largest mass of metal of any kind ever yet exhibited in a single piece upon this planet. Indeed it is only here upon Lake Superior that pure metals are found naturally in considerable quantities. And the mechanical arts have little use for pieces of such immense weight. They would not be very pretty things to handle. The largest, of which we now recollect any account, is the great bell of Russia—the "Tsokoloklo!"

The product of an empire of many millions of people was scarcely taxed to produce that great mass of metal. But its weight is only 300,000 pounds. This we admit, makes a "smart chance" of a bell, but the great copper mass of the Minnesota mine is nearly three times that weight.

But, incredible as it may appear, the great mass is but a small part of the copper now in the mine. It is immediate vicinity—about a hundred feet to the east, a series of monster masses of enormous size are now being stripped and followed into the conglomerate, the aggregate weight of which including the great mass, will in all probability, exceed the total product of the mine for the year 1856. They have just exposed a large opening going south into the conglomerate, which they were about filling with powder. This blast may make new discoveries, for which we anxiously wait, and the result of which we hope to give in another number. The disclosures of the last few days are immensely important. It is perfectly safe to say that there are at least two thousand tons of copper in sight within a few feet of the points which we have described.

A TOUCHING RECIPE.—At a coroner's inquest, held over the body of a deceased female in the city of New York, the only witness in the case, a little girl of eight years, related the following touching story of poverty, desolation and woe:—

"That is my mother," she said, pointing to the corpse. "The night before last two men came into our house, and turned my father and mother, and me and my two little brothers out. We had no where to go. We then went to sleep in an entry. Nobody turned us away all night. In the morning father went away to look for another place. He was gone all day. We had nothing to eat, and were very hungry. Father came back at 6 o'clock and went into our house, because they said if they did the landlord would turn them out. The folks we hired the house of hired it of somebody else. So we went into the yard. Mother said she was very sick; she had been sick a long time before, and my little brothers cried. Mother lay down, and I put some rice on her to keep her warm, because she said her head ached so bad. When it got dark my two little brothers lay down and I put some things over them, and I got some rice to put under them too, and I sat up to watch. By and by a policeman came along, and then he went away and got another one, and they lifted her up and put her into a cart, and took us all here. Mother didn't want to leave the yard. She said to the policeman that she wanted to stay where she was."

A NEW SWINDLE.—The Cincinnati Commercial notices the operations of a man by the name of Mathews who pretends to have a town in Daotach oo, Minnesota Territory. He has sent circulars all over the States offering to give away three thousand lots in his town to any one who will make the application. He only requires one dollar, he says, to pay for the deed. It is perhaps needless to say that it is all a swindle, and the police of Cincinnati are on the track of the fellow. He has lately received through the Postoffice hundreds of letters; indeed, so extensive had his correspondence become as to excite the suspicions of the Postmaster, when the above swindle was developed. Mr. Lawrence, Postmaster at Newville in this State, says, in a letter to Dr. Vattier, that he alone sent the fellow \$30. This kind of swindle, we notice, is getting quite common in the East also.

Spring commenced yesterday.

LIQUOR LAW.

Almost every county in the State has, at present, its own liquor law, notwithstanding the constitutional restraint upon special legislation. This singular state of things grows out of the decision of the Supreme Court upon the temperance law of 1855; some of the Common Pleas Judges holding that that law is wholly void, some that it is only partially so, and others again that it is valid throughout. For some time past, it was thought that in this county there was no law at all upon the subject besides the law relating to common nuisances. We have, however, now a law restraining the liquor traffic, and one too as stringent as any one could reasonably desire. How this came about in the vacation of the Legislature may be worthy of explanation.

At the January term of the Common Pleas Court, John Stogel was prosecuted under the ninth and seventeenth sections of the liquor law of 1853. His council moved to quash the informations upon the ground, that the sections upon which the prosecutions were based, were repealed by the temperance law of 1855. The cases were taken under advisement by Judge Emerson until the term of court just closed, at which time he read his decision in the case.

The opinion given by him is substantially as follows:—

The temperance law of 1855 is void in toto. The clause in that statute providing for the repeal of all former laws contravening the provisions of that statute, is, therefore, inoperative and void. Consequently the liquor law of 1853 remains in full force, except so far as modified by other acts of the Legislature and by the judicial decisions.

In the case of Maize vs. The State, 4 Porter, 342, the Supreme Court held that so much of the law of 1853 as relates to the popular vote of the township is unconstitutional and void. The Legislature at the session of 1855 repealed the second and third sections of the same law—Acts 1855, ch. 106. With these modifications, the law of 1853 is still in force.

The law may therefore be stated as follows:—Every person who sells wines, ciders and beer in any quantity, or who sells any kind of spirituous liquor in any quantity, less than a gallon, or who sells spirituous liquors in a less quantity than one gallon except for sacramental, medicinal, chemical, medicinal, or culinary purposes, he is liable to be fined, for each offence, in any sum not exceeding two hundred dollars. All places or houses in which spirituous liquors are sold in less quantity than a gallon, and all such places or houses in which such liquors are allowed to be drunk are common nuisances, and the keeper thereof liable to a fine not more than one hundred dollars. If such place is kept in a disorderly manner and maintained to the annoyance of the neighborhood, the offender is liable to a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars.

—Revised (Ind.) Democrat.

A FRENCHMAN CALLING HIMSELF PROF. B. MELOCHOR.

A Frenchman calling himself Prof. B. Melochor, and who says he is a teacher of perspective drawing, and who came to this city highly recommended by Professor Chase, President of Asbury Female College, Green Castle, and Professor Tingley, President of Asbury University, Green Castle, has been imposing upon the printers and hotel keepers, through the influence of these letters. They will warn our brethren of the press against him, and will also notify Profs. Chase and Tingley that their friend Melochor is a humbug, if not an arrant knave. —New Albany Ledger.

We made the acquaintance of the above-named Professor some three or four months since, and now hold his card in the shape of a bill for advertising which he forgot to pay. The Professor has a bad memory about such matters; he should take lessons in phrenology motecny. —Lafayette American.

THE LEDGER PUBLISHES A FRENCHMAN CALLING HIMSELF "PROF. B. MELOCHOR," TEACHER OF PERSPECTIVE DRAWING, AS A HUMBUG AND SWINDLER. PASS HIM AROUND.—Tribune.

PERSONAL.—Robert C. Coons who eloped with the wife of one of our citizens last December, returned this morning. Who he intends running off with next we are not advised. Coons is a great rascal and deserves to be severely punished. We commend him to the kind consideration of his Shanghai friends.

OUR MINISTER TO CHINA.—It is understood at Washington that Mr. Reed, the new Minister to China, with all convenient expedition, will proceed in a government steamer to Southampton, thence to London, and thence to Paris and a conference with Louis Napoleon; thence across the Mediterranean in a British passenger steamer to Alexandria, in Egypt; to Suez, the Red Sea, down which he will proceed in the British steamer to Aden. At this point he will be picked up by our Government steamer, which, in the interval, from Southampton, will have passed round to Aden via the Cape of Good Hope. From Aden Mr. Reed will proceed direct to China, where, simultaneously with his arrival, all the American vessels of war in the East will be collected with some important additions, under the command, probably, of Commodore Perry. This was a feature of Mr. Walker's programme of 1853.

A SAD AFFAIR.—SUDDEN DEATH.—A gentleman and lady arrived at the Pavilion Hotel on Thursday evening with the corpse of a young man who had died that day on board the steamer Empress. The deceased was a brother to the lady, and with her and his friend were going South on the Empress. On Thursday morning while the deceased was sitting with the lady on deck, apparently in good health, his head sank upon his bosom, and when the lady turned to address him, he was dead. The party left the boat at Henderson, and were bearing the young man's remains to his home in Maryland. The lady's grief was heart-rending to witness—her bright anticipations for the future, all brushed away by the strong arm of Death. Verily "we know not what a day may bring forth." —Evansville Journal, 18th.

During the imprisonment of the "American Eagle" in Rochester, N. Y., many persons visited him, and one of them having put his finger through the bars of the cage, was bitten severely. The eagle, however, got sick, and for some days appeared as if he had been poisoned. Upon enquiry it was ascertained that the finger belonged to a Black Republican.

LATTER-DAY ABOMINATIONS.

RESIGNATION OF JUDGE DRUMMOND OF UTAH.

To the Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, Attorney General of the United States, Washington, D. C.:—

DEAR SIR: As I have concluded to resign the office of Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Utah, which position I accepted in A. D. 1854, under the administration of President Pierce, I deem it due to the public to give some of the reasons why I do so. In the first place, Brigham Young, the Governor of Utah, is the acknowledged head of the "Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints," commonly called Mormons, and as such head the Mormons look to him, and to him alone, for the law by which they are to be governed; therefore no law of Congress is by them considered binding in any manner.

Second, I know that there is a secret, oath-bound organization among all the male members of the church, to acknowledge no law save the law of the "holy priesthood," which came to the people through Brigham Young, direct from God, he (Young) being the vicegerent of God and prophetic successor of Joseph Smith, who was the founder of this blind and treasonable organization.

Thirdly, I am fully aware that there is a set of men set apart by special order of the church to take both the lives and property of persons who may question the authority of the church (the names of whom I will promptly make known at a future time).

Fourthly, That the records, papers, &c., of the Supreme Court have been destroyed by order of the church, with direct knowledge and approbation of Gov. B. Young, and the federal officers grossly insulted for presuming to raise a single question about the treasonable act.

Fifthly, That the federal officers of the Territory are constantly insulted, harassed, and annoyed by the Mormons, and for those insults there is no redress.

Sixthly, That the federal officers are daily compelled to hear the form of the American government traduced, the Chief Executives of the nation, both living and dead, assailed and abused, from the masses as well as from all the leading members of the church, in the most vulgar, leathsome, and wicked manner that the evil passions of man can possibly conceive.

Again: That after Monroe Green had been convicted in the District Court, before my colleague, Judge Kinney, of an assault with intent to commit murder; and afterwards, on appeal to the Supreme Court, the judgment being affirmed, and the said Green sentenced to the penitentiary, Brigham Young gave a full pardon to the said Green before he reached the penitentiary; also, that the said Governor Young pardoned a man by the name of Baker who had been tried and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in the penitentiary for the murder of a dumb boy by the name of White Horse—the proof showing one of the most aggravated cases of murder that I ever knew being tried; and to insult the court and government officers by imprisoning five or six young men from Missouri and Iowa, who are now in the penitentiary of Utah, without those men having violated any criminal law in America, but they were anti-Mormons, poor, uneducated young men; because they emigrated from Illinois, Iowa, or Missouri, and passed by Great Salt Lake City, they were indicted by a Probate Court, and most brutally and inhumanly dealt with, in addition to being summarily incarcerated in the saintly prison of the Territory of Utah. I also charge Gov. Young with constantly interfering with the federal courts, directing the Grand Jury who to indict and whom not; and after the Judges charge the Grand Jurors as to their duties this man, Young, invariably has some member of the Grand Jury advised in advance as to his will in relation to their labors, and that his charge thus given is the only charge known, obeyed, or received by all the Grand Jurors of the federal courts of Utah Territory.

Again, sir, after a careful and mature investigation, I have been compelled to come to the conclusion, heart-rending and sickening as it may be, that Capt. John W. Gunnison, and his party of eight others, were murdered by the Indians in 1853 under the order, advice, and direction of the Mormons; that his illustrious predecessor, Hon. Leonidas Shaver, came to his death by drinking poisonous liquors given to him under the order of the leading men of the Mormon church in Great Salt Lake City; that the late Secretary of the Territory, A. W. Babbitt, was murdered on the Plains by a band of Mormon marauders, under the particular and special order of Brigham Young, Hebert C. Kimball, and J. M. Grant, and not by the Indians, as reported by the Mormons themselves; and that they were sent from Salt Lake City for that purpose, and that; and as members of the Danite band they were bound to do the will of B. Young, as the head of the church, or forfeit their own lives.

These reasons, with many others that I might give, which would be too heart-rending to insert in this communication, have induced me to resign the office of Justice of the Territory of Utah, and again return to my adopted State of Illinois. My reason, sir, for making this communication this public is, that the Democratic party, with which I have always strictly acted, is the party now in power, and therefore is the party that should now be held responsible for the treasonable and disgraceful state of affairs that now exists in Utah Territory. I could, sir, if necessary, refer to a cloud of witnesses to attest the reasons I have given, and the charges, bold as they are, against these despots who rule with an iron hand their hundred thousand souls in Utah, and their two hundred thousand souls out of that notable territory, but shall not do so for the reason that the lives of such gentlemen as I should designate, in Utah and in California, would not be safe for a single day.

In conclusion, sir, I have to say, that in my career as Justice of the Supreme Court of Utah Territory I have the consolation of knowing that I did my duty; that neither threats nor intimidations drove me from that path. Upon the other hand, I am pained to say that I accomplished little good while there; that the Judiciary is only treated as a farce. The only rule of law by which the infatuated followers of this

curious people will be governed, is the law of the church, and that emanates from Governor Brigham Young, and him alone.

I do believe that if there were a man put in office as Governor of that Territory who is not a member of the church (Mormon), and be supported with sufficient military aid, much good would result from such a course; but as the Territory is now governed, and has been since the administration of Mr. Fillmore, at which time Young received his appointment as Governor, it is noon-day madness and folly to attempt to administer the law in that Territory. The officers are insulted, harassed, and murdered for doing their duty and not recognizing Brigham Young as the only lawgiver and lawmaker on earth. Of this every man can bear incontestable evidence who has been willing to accept an appointment in Utah, and I assure you, sir, that no man would be willing to risk his life and property in that Territory after once trying the sad experiment.

With an ardent desire that the present administration will give due and timely aid to the officers who may be so unfortunate as to accept situations in that Territory, and that the withering curse which rests upon this nation by virtue of the peculiar and heart-rending institutions of Utah may be speedily removed, to the honor and credit of our country.

I now remain your obedient servant.

W. W. DRUMMOND,
Justice of Utah Territory.

March 30, 1857.

THE EXPECTED COMET SEEN.—The New York Herald states that the great comet which savans have predicted would appear during the year 1857, has been seen in that city, by an eminent professor of its learned institution, and the result of his observations will soon be given to the public. It is as yet only visible with a telescope, but as it is rapidly approaching the earth, it may soon be seen with the naked eye. It is now about five degrees east of the star Andromeda, and is moving south. This comet was first seen by Prof. D. Arnest, at Leipzig, on Feb. 22d, and on the 20th of March, at Newark, N. J., by Mr. Van Arsdel.

It was also seen last Friday night, at the National Observatory in Washington. The comet is known as Charles Quint, or Charles the Fifth, it being during the reign of that monarch it was last seen. A German savan has started the story that the comet will strike the earth during the month of June next, and the statement has created a great deal of discussion in scientific circles, and is very generally scouted. This comet is destined to create considerable public curiosity, and its approach to the earth will be watched with intense interest.

THE PUTNAM CO. WIFE MURDER.

The Putnam Banner of Tuesday contains the following letter from Hon. J. D. Hamrick:

MANHATTAN, April 10th, 1857.

Mr. Editor: One of the most painful and heart-rending tragedies occurred in our midst this morning, when my community was ever called upon to witness. A young lady, Mrs. Martha Mullinix, wife of Greenbury O. Mullinix, and daughter of one of our neighbors, David Sublet, who has been raised in our midst, was murdered, as is universally believed, by her husband, on whom she had been married but barely three weeks. The neighbors in the vicinity were first alarmed by the screams of the family at his father's, where he ran after the fiendish deed was entirely consummated. Several of the neighbors and citizens of our little town immediately repaired to the scene, and all who witnessed the sight declare it to be the most heart-rending scene ever recorded. There she lay on the floor weltering in her own blood, with the whole of the upper part of her forehead and front of her skull mashed in.

On examination two other wounds were found upon her head, either of which would have caused her death. The one in front is believed to have been made after she had fallen to the floor and was weltering in her blood. The jury supposed the weapon was a new large iron shovel which he had recently had made. But it looked to me as if he had taken an axe in both hands and struck her with all his force. The skin and skull were so broken in that you could almost insert your double fist. You may think that to see a young and beautiful woman murdered and mangled would be a sight not to be desired, but you can form no conception of it unless you had witnessed the scene.

THE MORMONS.—A Washington letter says that it is proposed to send to Utah a military force of two thousand five hundred men, offered by men of character, who have families, who will accompany them; also, to appoint as Judges and as Executive officers men of moral worth and standing, who have families; and thus it is hoped, that a society will be formed which will present a good example to the "Saints," and form the nucleus of an enlightened and moral community.

An old bachelor geologist was boasting that every rock was as familiar to him as the alphabet. A lady who was present declared that she knew of a rock of which he was totally ignorant. "Name it, madam," cried Celebs. "It is rock the cradle, sir," replied the lady.

LAND SALES IN KANSAS.—Three great land sales are now advertised by the United States Government. The first will occur at Iowa Point, in Doniphan county, Kansas, beginning on the 5th of May; this sale is for the benefit of the Iowa tribe. Another will occur at Paola, in Lykins county, Kansas, commencing on the 20th of May, for the confederated bands of Kaskaskias, Peorias, Pankashaws, and Weas. The third will commence at Osawkee, in Kansas, on the 23d of June, for the Delaware tribe. For the benefit of the Iowa tribe ninety-five thousand acres will be sold; for the confederated bands two hundred and fourteen thousand acres, and for the Delaware tribe three hundred and forty-five thousand acres, making in all six hundred and fifty-four thousand acres.

SNAKES.—Mr. Ransom White, of East Hartford, brought into the city to-day, in a basket, ninety one black snakes, weighing in the aggregate eighty one pounds. He dug them all out of a snake burrow, in the town by the side of a stone quarry, yesterday. They were in a torpid state, but could crawl about a little. They were found about two feet from the surface, and were wound up together like a ball. The average length of the snakes was about four feet. —Hartford Times.

INDIAN WAR IN MINN.

ST. PAUL, M. T., April 14.

The people of this city were thrown into a state of excitement last evening by the arrival of a messenger from St. Peter, with the startling intelligence that the Sioux Indians in the vicinity of the south end of the Minnesota river, had broken out, and were burning the settlements on the Blue Earth and Walton Ore, and murdering and massacring the settlers, and that upwards of six hundred Indians were moving towards Mankato for the purpose of destroying it. Rumors were also afloat that Mankato was actually destroyed, and that its citizens were most barbarously and inhumanly murdered. The same messenger that brought the intelligence brought the following communication from George Herpel, Esq., Secretary of the St. Peter Company:

"St. Peter, April 13, 1857.

"DEAR SIR: A terrible excitement prevails here and about us. Reports have come that the Indians have broken out on the Blue Earth and Walton Ore, and are murdering the inhabitants. Some forty men left Mankato yesterday, and a like number leave here to-day. Send, without delay, arms, ammunition and provisions. We have sent with the volunteers all, or nearly all, the provisions we had. Gov. Dodd has taken the command, and has sent the express that takes this, to the fort and acting Governor. See that the acting Governor acts.

Yours,

"HEZEL."

PARTICULARS OF THE MASSACRE AT SPRINGFIELD.

Since receiving the above letter, the particulars of the massacre at Springfield, Blue Earth county, have come to hand. The number killed had not been precisely known, but Wm. Wood, George M. Wood, Mr. Church, and Josiah Stewart are among the number.

The attack was without provocation, and was unsuspected by the settlers. Mr. Wm. Wood, a trader, and an old settler of Mankato, had been proceeding to have a talk with the Indians on the bank of the river, when he was shot dead and his body buried. After this a general massacre took place, in which all who were not armed, suffered more or less. Those who were armed barely escaped. Two Indians were killed—one having been shot by Mrs. Church, who loaded guns for the men in one of the houses. Several women were taken prisoners by the Indians, among whom were