

THE TIMES.

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FOR THE TIMES.
BALLOONS.

It is announced that Mr. Clayton is now engaged in constructing an expensive and splendid balloon at Cincinnati, "capable of carrying twenty or thirty persons, and of making a voyage of from one to three thousand miles."

I am aware that at the present day we hazard our popularity by the expression of a doubt as to the expediency or success of almost any visionary theory or plan. We are immediately met with a reference to the Steamboats, Canals, and Rail Roads now in operation, and are informed in a sort of mock sagacious and impudent manner, that no one can tell what may yet be done; that it is not at all uncertain but that the air is as capable of being navigated as the water, &c.

I have for several years past, with as much curiosity as most men, noticed the advertisements of proposed balloon ascensions; been a witness to some of them; and searched the newspapers attentively to learn the success of others. I have the past season read the accounts of the ascensions of the gentleman named, and several others in the Eastern cities; their partial success and defeats, and their hair-breadth escapes in nearly all. And I have come to the full belief that when we take into view the immense hazard of human life as a primary consideration, and the great expenses incurred as a secondary one, in those aerial excursions, that we shall not find any beneficial result that will compensate or atone "one in the thousand" for the risk and expense entailed upon the vocation.

It is quite recent in an Eastern city that an Aeronaut attempted to ascend with his daughter, but by some accident (as is usual) and being too heavily laden, the balloon, at their great jeopardy, came to the ground, the daughter landed, and the ascension then made. None but those who would enjoy a combat of gladiators, or a bull-baiting, could view such a scene without the most painful sensations—in fact it is questionable whether any ascension would not force upon the sensitive mind more real anxiety than pleasure.

If an ascension is completely successful, what is it? The adventurer rises majestically in his car among and above the clouds; is in the air a certain number of hours, goes precisely the course the wind listeth a certain number of miles, lands safely, returns to the great and almost unbounded joy of his friends, and publishes in some Gazette an account of his voyage.—What benefit to the public does all this amount to? A fellow being has floated above the clouds at great risk and has arrived back safe; all look upon him as one who has put himself in great danger—he can tell us that as he ascended he began to grow cold—had to put on more clothing—the thermometer fell—the barometer also fell; water froze; he was pained for breath; he returned safe. Nothing except incidents to himself is told us but what we knew before. No attention to any discovery in astronomy is ever even pretended. Not a particle is added to the stock of Natural Philosophy or Science. The cause or principle by which a balloon floats in the atmosphere, has long been just as well known as it is now, and can be as easily demonstrated as that a compound of gunpowder and fire would produce an explosion.

In almost every important portion of the Globe, there are mountains of sufficient altitude to obtain all necessary or possible information as to the density or temperature of the atmosphere. The balloon man it is admitted carries up his barometer, but does he do it to bring down any information to us? No; he carries it to take up information which has been ascertained on Nature's elevated towers, for his own use on the spot; to know his own height; for were the whole earth a dead level all the philosophy thereon could never demonstrate a balloon's height by all the balloons and barometers ever in existence.

One description of amusement that had commenced with much success in our country, has had a most happy termination, save for the poor victim himself. I allude to Sam Patch. Sam had learned to leap from a great height at Pawtucket Bridge, R. I. from a cotton factory 90 odd feet high; his feats there were no more than "some others." But in 1829 he became famous at Passaic, the Palisades, Niagara, &c. for his 100 feet leaps, until he made his "grande finale" from the falls at Rochester, just about six years since, in the presence of some thousands who stood to encourage and to witness the scene. He leapt—he lost his balance and self-command; was dashed into the waters, and was never seen or heard of more. It was an awful sight! It was

a just rebuke upon those assembled there. It cooled their ardor for seeing any more such sport; it also cooled their ardor universally, so that we have neither seen or heard of more great leapers since; and if another should appear I trust it would be fully as advisable for him to keep his head under water as to attempt publicly to exhibit his feats.

I hope that no such fatal accidents may be the lot of any of those who dive upwards. But I do believe that if the public would stamp their *Veto* upon all ascensions in balloons by withdrawing therefrom, both as contributors and spectators, that it would produce a very beneficial result.

COTTON.

The Grand Gulf Advertiser, of Sept. 15, makes the subjoined statement, in respect to the cotton crops. We have seen intimations to the same effect, in New Orleans papers.—In the higher regions of the South no complaint of the crops has been noticed.

"CORROX CROPS.—The other week we incidentally alluded to the unfavorable prospect of the cotton crops. Since then we have received additional intelligence, which not only corroborates and sustains our previous statement, but fully fortifies us in our first impression, that the cotton crops generally will fall short fully one half, and considerably short to that of the last season. The northern portion of our state, as well as that of the southern, has suffered more materially by the excessive and incessant rains, than we at first had reason to believe. The fall season has also shown indications of commencing its chilling and blighting effects at an earlier period than usual, and will contribute much to the decrease of cotton, by preventing the maturation of bolls not yet opened. In fact, from almost every direction from which we can hear, the prevailing opinion is that the cotton crop in this state, and throughout the whole southern country, will not yield, at a fair estimate, more than half an average crop. The only consolation that we can offer our planting friends, under such a state of things, is found in the fact, that what is lost in quantity will be made up, in some degree, in an increase of price."

THREE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

The third centennial anniversary of the day on which the first printed copy of the Holy Bible was completed in the English language, was appropriately celebrated by the New Bedford Bible Society, in the First Baptist Meeting House, on William street, last Sunday evening.

The third century since the Bible was printed entire in the English language, expired the 4th inst., and was to be very generally noticed in a suitable manner in England and this country. The intelligent and attentive audience was addressed on Sunday evening by clergymen of different denominations, in a very animated and appropriate manner. Rev. Mr. Robbins gave a very interesting outline of the history of the different translations of the English Bible. The one completed October 4th, 1535, at Antwerp, was principally translated by Tindal, a Puritan, who suffered at the stake for his unwelcome zeal, in disseminating the word of God amongst his countrymen in their own tongue; though a manuscript translation, by Wickliffe, had been made in the 14th century, and by Bede into Saxon in the 8th. Tindal's first edition was mostly sent to England, where it produced great alarm amongst the dignitaries of the church, and was industriously bought up and burned. With the money thus obtained, and the aid of Miles Coverdale, whose name is sometimes given to this edition, Tindal printed a second and more complete Bible, which is still admired for its correctness. Mr. Robbins exhibited a copy of Elliott's Indian Bible, which was a work of immense labor and great usefulness to the aborigines; and also a copy of an edition printed under the inspection of the Continental Congress.—*N. Bedford Gaz.*

STEAMBOAT EXPLOSION.

The last New Orleans papers state that the steamboat Carrollton, while on her way up the Mississippi, collapsed a flue. The explosion killed four men and two were missing.

It is to be hoped that the next Congress will find time for the enactment of a statute which may prevent the sacrifice of life that we so frequently called on to notice, from accidents of this character. The visitation of severe penalties upon the persons of those who have charge of boats and their machinery, and also upon the pockets of the owners of them would go far to cure the evil; and if to these were superadded strict periodical examinations of the machinery, and suitable tests of its soundness, the loss of life would hereaf-

ter be in the proportion of one to every hundred now sacrificed through the cupidity and carelessness of the owners and officers of steamboats. The people of this country are becoming more and more a "travelling people," and they have a right to look to Congress for the passage of such laws as will give to their persons and property all the security which the Government can afford.—*Balt. Amer.*

HEART-RENDING MURDERS.

CINCINNATI, Oct. 12.

It becomes our painful duty to record three of the most horrible and soul-sickening murders we have ever known to blacken the annals of wickedness and crime.

On Saturday morning last, about nine o'clock, a man by the name of John Cowan, a Cabinet-maker, by trade, residing on Walnut street, near Columbia, in this city, butchered his wife and two children, in the most shocking manner, with an axe, and (so far as we have been able to learn) with the most fiendish and deliberate purpose. His wife had just returned from market, when some altercation occurring between them concerning some change, he assailed her with a broad axe, (which it is believed he had previously taken home for the purpose,) and inflicted upon her arms, face and head, numerous cruel and fatal gashes, of which she survived only about an hour. She was also stabbed with a knife in the body in several places. Finding he had accomplished the destruction of his wife, he turned upon his two little children, one about five, and the other about two years of age, and with the same desperate weapons, dispatched the little innocents with the most ferocious cruelty, cutting their necks and heads, both before and behind, in the most appalling manner. The heads of both the children, were nearly severed from their bodies. A few moments after these tragical occurrences, we were on the spot and witnessed the horrible scene; and O! God! how can we portray the emotions which thrilled through every fibre of our heart! Words are totally inadequate to picture the harrowing horrors. The three victims lay stretched upon the floor, gashed, mangled, and weltering in their blood—the wife not yet quite dead, and breathing with convulsive agony! Our soul grows sick in the sanguinary recital, and we forbear.

There was another family which occupied the room above, all females, who heard the massacre going on, but dare not venture below. At length the shrieks of the sufferers, brought some of the neighbors to the spot, and as one of them forced open the window in front, (the door being fastened,) the murderer made his escape through the back door. As the neighbor entered the house, the wife had barely power to articulate that the atrocities were committed by her husband.

"It was he," was her dying remark. The excitement which immediately ensued among the citizens, my easily be imagined, and hundreds were flying in every direction in pursuit of the fugitive. For an hour he succeeded in evading detection, but was at length overtaken walking leisurely, on the river road, about two miles below the city. He was arrested by Mr. John McCarty and Mr. S. Lippencott, who deserve great credit for their promptness and energy. They had, however, scarcely caught hold of him, before Messrs. Madison and Brooks, and several other determined Officers and citizens, were on the ground. He at first made a show of resistance, by pulling from his pocket a dirk knife, but being instantly caught by the collar by Mr. McCarty, and a club raised over his head by Mr. Lippencott, he immediately handed the knife unopened to the latter gentleman. He had also a razor in his pocket, which he likewise gave up.

He was then tied and placed on a horse behind one of the Constables, and escorted to town by a large concourse of citizens, who by this time had joined the pursuing party. As he was conducted through the streets to the jail, (where he was lodged,) numerous citizens were clamorous to have him instantly put to death, or lynched; but better counsels prevailed, and our city yet preserves its character for order and a due observance of the laws. The excitement, however, was nevertheless intensely great, and we understand that nearly a thousand persons at one time had collected about the jail.

Immediately on being arrested, he voluntarily observed, "I committed the deed, but I had just cause!" We are told, that he alleges his wife to have been false to him, and that after he had murdered her, he slew his children to save them from the reproach of the crime.

We, understand, however, that he has long treated his wife and family

with great cruelty, and has repeatedly before threatened her with death. She is represented as having been a very industrious and deserving woman, and the chief stay and support of the family. On the other hand, he is represented as being a malignant, quarrelsome and desperate wretch. He still justifies the deed!—*Whig.*

The British yacht *Gem*, belonging to the Marquis of Waterford, lately arrived in our waters. The Marquis, his brother, Lord Jocelyn, and Colonel Dundas, who, by his name should be a Scotchman, the other three are Irish, dined with the Mayor of New York on Sunday, and leaving there rather high, they committed sundry assaults in Washington street, upon unoffending passers by, lamps, and windows, for which pastime they were, after a hard battle, captured by the watchmen, and lodged in the watch-house for the night. The New York Times thus relates the sequel—

When the Police Office opened this morning, four silly looking young fellows, somewhat the worse for the night's debauch and encounter, were placed before the bar, and the Marquis of Waterford, Lord John Beresford, and Lord Jocelyn, and Colonel Dundas of the Royal Guards, answered to their names. The Magistrate, Justice Hopson, straightway informed them of the offences of which they stood charged, which they in no very mild terms denied, and made some high-toned remarks which rather served to put the magistrate on his "reserved rights." He soon made out a commitment for them, and they were escorted to Bridewell by some fifteen or twenty watchmen. Here they illy brooked degradation led them into a squabble with the keeper, in which the noble Marquis was floored, as was also one of his companions. Here they remained several hours; but were finally liberated through the interference of his honor the Mayor and the British Consul, after paying Carter the watchman \$20 for injuries received, and listening to a most cutting rebuke from the magistrate.

FROM TEXAS.

The following extracts from a letter, dated at Montville, Austin's Colony, Texas, August 12th, will be interesting, we think, to many of our readers:

"The various revolutions in Mexico have not disturbed us in this part of Texas. We have not been called on to pay any taxes, or in any way to contribute to the expenses of the Government. There is not a Catholic priest in Austin's Colony, and we are at public liberty to worship God according to the dictates of our consciences. We have been informed that Santa Anna has overturned the constitution, and established a military government in its stead, re-established exclusively the Roman Catholic Religion, and throughout Mexico disarmed the inhabitants.

"We have had rumors that he intends introducing a military government among us, and sending his soldiers and satellites here to disarm us, and compel us all to submit to his rule. The inhabitants are resolved to resist any attempt to bring us under their domination or military despotism, and we are confident that we shall be able to put down any force that may be brought against us. I cannot, however, believe that General Santa Anna, with his knowledge of the character of the North Americans, will ever attempt to wrest from us our liberties. He knows that we are well supplied with good rifles, and know how to use them."

A letter writer from Texas says: "If Texas belonged to the United States it would soon become the garden of America." To this remark, a correspondent of the Philadelphia Herald appends the following sound commentary: "The truth is, there are so many places within the United States that claim to be called the garden of America, that we are in want of hands to cultivate these lovely spots. We would then advise Americans to stay at home, and not place themselves under foreign government, where there is neither protection for person nor property. They ought to reflect, when they settle on the lands of Texas, that they lose all claim on our government as citizens."—*Balt. Amer.*

FRANCE.

This country appears to be on the eve of a mighty revolution. Great excitement prevails on account of the law lately submitted by the ministry to the Chamber of Deputies, for the regulation of the press. It seems that the Chamber is determined to pass it at all hazards, and has uniformly rejected all petitions that have been presented against the propriety of its enactment. Those petitions and remonstrances have been numerous, and indicative of a state of public feeling which we can-

not but consider it extremely hazardous to disregard. The French people are ardent lovers of liberty, and jealous, to a fault, of their rights. They will not submit to a law, bearing the impress of such stern and barefaced tyranny as that to which we have alluded above, and the most prominent provisions of which we copied into this paper last week. The history of their late king Charles the 10th, may be cited in substantiation of our remarks on this subject. He was the author of the famous Decree of 25th July, 1830, "abolishing the liberty of the press" which embodied precisely the same principles as the *projet de loi* of Louis Philippe, touching the same matter, and contained many of the same provisions. In less than a week after, the revolution broke out, which deluged the streets of Paris with blood, drove Charles the 10th from the throne, and forced him to fly into a foreign country to save his head from the axe of the executioner.

Who can doubt, that the same fate awaits the *Citizen King*, and all his Ministry, in case the project which they have proposed to the Chambers should be enacted into a law? We solemnly believe that such will be the result, and should not be surprised that with the intelligence of the passage of the law, will also be received that of another revolution in France, no less dreadful than that of July, 1830.

FROM THE "FAR WEST."—The Buffalo Patriot says, that a delegation of Cayuga chiefs has arrived at that place, for the purpose of inducing the remnant of that tribe, who remain in New-York, to join that portion of which has removed beyond the Mississippi. The chiefs are represented as possessing a fine and noble appearance, and an indication of much intelligence. They have not hesitated to take a journey of two thousand miles, in order to offer to their eastern brethren, now destitute of lands, a share of their own western possessions. This step bespeaks a magnanimous mind open to the best impulses of feeling, and may be put in comparison with the most disinterested and praiseworthy actions that are recorded in the annals of civilized nations.

THE SHOEMAKERS.—The Pittsburgh Manufacturer of the 19th, says: "We understand that the journeymen shoemakers of this city, have struck for an advance of wages of 10 per cent on former prices.—The reason assigned is, we think, a very just one, to wit:—an increase in the price of the means of living to journeymen, since the date of the former prices, which is about seven years since. The prices of most articles have undoubtedly risen much since that time: rents, fuel, &c. have also risen; and on the whole, the advance now asked, makes the wages, when all things are considered, no better than they were when the prices were first adopted. We hope they will succeed in obtaining their just demand from employers."

JUDGE LYNCH IN PETTICOATS.—The Bangor (Maine) Advertiser tells a story of a young man in that vicinity who had for some time past been paying his addresses to a girl in the same neighborhood; for some cause or other, the swain determined to withdraw, and penned a billet intimating to the lady that he was no longer to be considered among the number of her admirers. This epistle he confided to the care of his sister, who, ignorant of its contents, presented it in person. A family council was immediately called, and the luckless girl was condemned to suffer *instantly*, the penalty of braving the enraged beauty. It is said that the mother and daughter whipt or frightened the unoffending girl until she fainted, and was conveyed senseless into the house of a neighbor.

TAVERN KEEPERS IN NEW ORLEANS.—The New Orleans Bee, in alluding to the immense profits made by this class of people there, says that one landlord cleared \$170,000 in three years, and that many females who keep boarding houses, have cleared 3 or \$10,000 in a single season. This however, has awakened competition, and many new houses for public accommodation are now being built.

A man by the name of Abijah Reed, of Frankford, Me. has been committed to jail in Belfast, charged with killing Mr. John West, his neighbor, by "striking him on the head with a bag, which contained, a jug of Rum!" West had impounded Reed's sheep; for which offence he was *pounded to death*. Reed is a man somewhat advanced in life.

Traveller.

Blank Deeds & Mortgages
For sale at this Office.