


1855

Ballou's Pictorial: Scenes in New Orleans.

Ballou, Maturin Murray, 1820-1895

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SCENE ON THE LEVEE, AT NEW ORLEANS.

SCENES IN NEW ORLEANS.

The accompanying sketches were drawn expressly for the Pictorial by Mr. F. Bellew, an artist who has a happy faculty of hitting off peculiarities of character. The first is a scene upon the Levee, upon the edge of which lies a line of Mississippi steamboats, with their forest of funnels belching forth wreaths of smoke, and several negroes busily engaged in trundling cotton bales. Little flags, one of which is seen resting on a barrel to the right, serve to distinguish one lot of goods from another. The second sketch illustrates a very different scene, but one equally characteristic of New Orleans. One of the most pleasing features which strike the stranger on visiting the crescent city is the abundance of sweet flowers offered for sale. There are two classes of flower-venders, the French and the negro. A colony of the former are always stationed at the corner of Rue Royale and Canal Streets, where they offer to the passer by bouquets such as would command at least two dollars in our northern cities, for two "bits" (25 cents), or "beets," as they pronounce it. They are always neatly dressed, and many of them are quite attractive in appearance. They are ready-witted also, and will exchange *badinage*, as well as coin and merchandise—reminding the traveller of the flower-girls of the Pont Neuf in Paris. Our sketch represents the colony above-mentioned at the corner of Rue Royale and Canal Streets, the extreme verge of the French portion of the city where it joins the American. The flower girls visit stores and offices to sell their wares. These girls enjoy a prescriptive mo-

nopoly of the business; but sometimes the newsboys, when out of employment, vend violets and roses instead of horrible catastrophes, and press nosegays on your notice instead of steamboat explosions. This *rivalité*, however, is not very great, as most customers prefer receiving floral treasures from the white hands of the pretty Creole girls, to receiving them from the dingy digits of their interloping competitors.

THE SHOSHONEE FALLS.

Dwellers in Oregon claim for that territory the honor of possessing one of the grandest waterfalls in the world—a waterfall which equals Niagara in point of natural beauty, and is second to it only in vastness and sublimity. The Shoshonee Falls are located on the Snake, or Lewis fork of the Columbia River, in forty-three degrees latitude, and about five hundred miles to the eastward of the Dalles, on the Columbia. Snake River, at this point, flows through a broad and level prairie, extending northward to the Salmon River mountains, and westward as far as the eye can see, and covered in the warmer seasons with many varieties of odoriferous wild flowers, including the sweet scented wild sage. The river flows through this plain over a bed which is four hundred and thirty feet below the level of the prairie. In a deep chasm, which seems to have been riven out of the basaltic rock which underlies the soil, for the purpose of affording a pathway for the water to the ocean, flows the rapid running river, tumbling

and splashing among the rocks of its bed. At length the stream arrives at a rocky dam which extends across the channel. Plunging over it, the water falls a perpendicular distance of ten feet, to a narrow ledge five yards in width, and then rushing over the ledge, falls a distance of 175 feet, nearly perpendicular, to the bottom. In pleasant weather much of the water rises in the form of mist, and hangs suspended over the river and adjoining plain, like a white cloud, radiant with rainbows, so that it is visible for some distance. Below the Shoshonee Falls, the north bank of the river rises perpendicularly from the water to a height of 616 feet, and consists of a solid wall of basaltic rock, in successive strata. On the south side the rock rises perpendicularly for about two hundred feet, and then slopes upward the remaining four hundred feet, though at so great an angle that it is almost inaccessible to the human foot. Three hundred yards below the falls, however, is a small ravine, at the bottom of which, by dint of a hard scramble, a magnificent view of the descending sheet of water may be obtained. The width of the line of the falls is about seven hundred feet from bank to bank. From the foot of the ravine on the south side a single ledge of rock extends to the base of the falls. This ledge has been worn by the action of the water into many curious shapes. Above it, far up on the sides of the precipice, a few dwarf cedars and stunted pines hang nodding over the abyss, as if they were the guardian genii of the waterfall. The altitude of the Shoshonee Falls above the ocean is about three thousand four hundred and fifty feet.—*New York Sun*.



FLOWER GIRLS AT NEW ORLEANS.

EDITORIAL MELANGE.

A railroad connecting Washington with the city of Alexandria is in the process of construction. It will be in running order in the course of this summer. The old turnpike has been selected as the route. The road will commence at the Virginia terminus of the Long Bridge. To that point passengers from Washington will be conveyed in omnibuses. — A specimen of paper manufactured from the common cane, the bamboo of the Mississippi River, has been exhibited at St. Louis, and has been highly approved. — The assembly of New York has passed a tax bill levying "a State tax of one mill and a quarter on each dollar of the valuation of the real and personal property taxable in the State of New York," which will give an increased revenue of about \$1,700,000. — The Fredericksburg News describes a bar of solid gold from the Vaccluse gold mine. It is worth \$1100, and is the product of fifteen days' labor. — Last Sunday week forenoon, as the colored sexton was ringing the bell at St. John's Church, Richmond, Va., it broke from its fastenings, and came crashing through the floor to the earth, a distance of ninety feet. The sexton narrowly escaped being crushed. — At the Treasury Department on Wednesday of last week, one hundred thousand dollars worth of United States stock were received for redemption. — At Fort de Moines, Iowa, there is a dreadful scarcity of women. In one house were found nineteen bachelors and only one married couple. The editor entreats the ladies to come out there. — Captain Benham, of the U. S. engineers, to whom the President proffered the post of major, in one of the newly created regiments, has declined the appointment. — Corcoran & Riggs have paid into the treasury about \$100,000, attached in their hands by government, being about one fourth the amount fraudulently obtained by Gardner under the award of the Mexican Commission. — The Tribune folks have insured Horace Greeley's life for \$50,000 on account of his visit to Europe. The Tribune would be injured to that extent by his death. — All accounts concur in the belief that a large and efficient fleet is about to be despatched by government to cruise in the Gulf of Mexico, with an eye on Cuba and Spanish men-of-war. — The official time of Lexington's four miles at New Orleans was 7 minutes 19 3/4 seconds. But the Picayune says that many experienced timers made it thirty seconds less. — Mr. Stratton, the father of the well-known Gen. Tom Thumb, is an inmate of the Hartford lunatic asylum. — By an act of the last Congress, thirty thousand dollars was appropriated for the experiment of introducing camels on this continent as beasts of burden. — Intelligence has been received of a remarkable revival among the Karens in India, at two Baptist missionary stations. Four hundred converts had been received into one church. Six new churches have been formed in the neighborhood of Rangoon, and a great number joined them. — The change in the law requiring payment in advance in all cases, has caused a tremendous rush upon the Department for postage stamps, which is at present answering the orders of postmasters at the rate of about two hundred per diem. — A London cabman, in hurriedly taking his pipe from his mouth recently, slightly excoriated his lip. He neglected the sore, and a cancer formed, which, in time, penetrated the artery. He died in agony.

FETRIDGE & CO'S LITERARY EMPORIUM, N. YORK.

William P. Fetridge & Co., of this city, have established a branch of their business in New York, on a very large scale. They have fitted up a capacious suite of warehouses in the mammoth building in Franklin Square, New York, recently erected by Harper & Brothers. They have stocked this with an immense assortment of books, pamphlets and magazines, foreign and American, which they offer at publishers' prices. A main feature of their business is the filling up of miscellaneous orders, a process at present attended with much delay, trouble and expense. At their establishment every description of publication on the trade catalogues is furnished at once. They will fill all orders sent to the Messrs. Harpers for books not included in their catalogue, thereby obviating many disappointments which have heretofore occurred. Purchasers of publications by Fetridge & Co. and the Harpers, for cash, can have their supplies forwarded by either and save the expense of packing and carriage. The New England customers will find their orders on New York publishers filled at trade prices and with the utmost dispatch. The Boston house will still be maintained under the charge of R. H. Rice, the junior partner. An immense depot for the universally circulated "Balm of Thousand Flowers," is connected with the bookselling concern. This enterprising house cannot fail of being completely successful and prosperous.

ETYMOLOGICAL.—The word beaver, in the sense of a covering for the head, is not derived, as most people imagine, from the animal of the same name, the fur of which is used in the manufacture of modern hats. Beaver is derived from the Italian word *bevvere*, to drink; and the appellation had its origin in the practice followed by the knights formerly, of converting the helmet into a drinking vessel, when a more suitable cup were not at hand. Our English word *beverage* comes from the same Italian root.

BIG LICKS.—The Marysville, Cal., Express says that a monster nugget weighing, quartz and all, between seven and eight hundred pounds, was taken out at Smith's Flat, in Yuba county. It is supposed to contain about two hundred pounds of pure gold, which would make it worth about \$50,000.

MILITARY.—The Manchester (N. H.) American says that the "Veterans" of that city propose to visit Bunker Hill on the 17th of June next.

Wayside Gatherings.

General Sutter, once the richest, is said to be now among the poorest men in California.

There are something like a hundred whaling ships now due at New Bedford, New London and Newport.

Mr. John Pickard, of Lafayette, Indiana, recently shot a black eagle, measuring ten feet from tip to tip.

Mrs. Webb, a mulatto, is soon to appear before the public as a reader of Shakspeare, etc.

An expedition is about to be undertaken by Dr. Catherwood, an American physician, to explore the interior of Australia.

Captain Ingraham, who has become famous in the Mediterranean, is on his way home in the St. Louis sloop of war.

The New York hotels intend to raise the price of board to three dollars a day, in consequence of the prohibitory liquor law.

The entire loss resulting from the destruction of the steamer Huntsville, by fire, on the Mississippi, a few days ago, is about \$300,000.

The king of Prussia has ordered a gold medal for science, and a golden cosmos medal, to be presented to Lieut. Maury, for the wind and weather charts.

The Erie Railroad station, at Jersey City, was destroyed by fire on the 14th ult. Several cars were also burnt loaded with freight of considerable value.

Up to the 12th ult., 65,000 applications in all, for land under the bounty land law of the last session of Congress, had been received at the pension office.

The elegant furniture of the Brevoort House, New York, was sold at auction, in one lot, recently, for \$28,100. The first cost of the furniture was about \$100,000.

The Crystal Palace is to be cleared out. Mr. Collector Redfield has given notice that all articles that remain after June 1st, will be sold as condemned goods.

A beggar woman at Chicago was recently detected in carrying around a wooden baby! for the purpose of working upon the sympathies of the public.

Commodore Vanderbilt has reduced the price of passage in his new line of European steamers, for first cabin, from \$130 to \$110, second cabin, from \$75 to \$60.

The town of Ashfield has elected for School Committee, Miss Lydia Hall, Miss Marietta C. Patrick, Joshua Knowlton, Frederick G. Howes and Alvan Perry.

Thomas C. Sherman, of Sandwich, who was accused of stealing a box of goods from the railroad station, has established his innocence and been honorably discharged.

Rev. Leonard Bacon, D. D., of New Haven, Conn., recently preached his thirtieth anniversary sermon. There are only ten ministers in that State who have been settled so long over one church.

In Berkshire county there are 18 woollen manufacturing establishments, in which there are 97 sets of cards, usually four in a set, 909 looms, employing 1495 operatives, and manufacturing 5,500,000 yards of cloth annually, valued at \$3,000,000.

The physicians of Bangor have met and passed resolutions pledging themselves to co-operate as best they can, with the government of the city, in sustaining and carrying into effect the existing liquor law.

The board of directors of the Milwaukee and Mississippi Road have made a contract with Messrs. Cooke & Lockwood to build their road to the Mississippi River, provided that the city of Milwaukee loan its credit to the company for \$200,000.

The long lost manuscript history of the Plymouth colony, written by Governor Bradford, has been discovered in England, and a copy of it will soon be received in this country, and will still further enrich the valuable collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

The suspension bridge across the Mississippi River, immediately above the Falls of St. Anthony, which was nearly finished, was partially destroyed by a terrible gale not long since. If the bridge, which is a beautiful structure, had been completed, it would have withstood the storm.

The oldest house in Massachusetts, "the old garrison house," in Medford, was recently sold at auction. It is supposed to have been built for Governor Craddock, the first governor of the Massachusetts Company, by his agents, who also impaled a park for deer around it, in 1630.

The commissioner of street lamps in New York has presented a communication to the Board of Aldermen of that city, requesting the passage of an ordinance conferring upon him power to suppress the traffic in young veal, which is extensively carried on in that city.

Capt. Norton, of the ship Northern Light, lately arrived at Fairhaven, reports having passed January 31, in latitude 43 south, longitude 105 30 west, a large iceberg about five hundred feet high and six miles long! Capt. Norton pronounces it the largest iceberg ever seen in those latitudes.

The king of Prussia has given permission to have the magnificent statue of the late king, Frederick William III., sent to the Paris Exhibition. The Prince of Prussia has allowed to be forwarded to the same exhibition the beautiful album presented to him by the Rhenish provinces on the occasion of his marriage.

A rag picker in San Francisco, while tearing out the lining of an old trunk that had been thrown from the Crescent City Hotel, discovered twenty \$20 gold pieces snugly stored upon their edges. Some former owner of the trunk had doubtless placed them there for concealment.

The Quitman (Mississippi) Intelligencer of the 16th March, says that a week or two previous, a woman in Kemper County, in that State, gave birth to a child covered all over with hair. It lived three hours, and spoke three distinct words—"seven years' famine." The strangest thing about it is, that half the population of Kemper believe it, and are struck with terror at the portentous warning.

The Galveston News says so late a spring as the present has not been known in Texas for thirty years past. Both corn and cotton have had to be re-planted, on account of the bad stand from the first planting. In many instances, planters have plowed up their ground entirely, and re-planted their entire crop. But the drought continues, and there is now scarcely moisture enough to sprout the seed.

The largest clock ever constructed has just been finished for the new Houses of Parliament. The dials are twenty-two feet in diameter; the point of the minute-hand will therefore move nearly fourteen inches every minute. The pendulum is fifteen feet long. The hour bell is eight feet high, and weighs fifteen tons. The hammer weighs four cwt. The clock, as a whole, is eight times as large as a full-sized cathedral clock.

Foreign Items.

The net increase of the Church of England clergy has for some years been at the rate of three hundred a year.

In the House of Commons, the second reading of the bill to abolish the stamp duty on newspapers passed by a large majority.

The Catholic Standard, a journal of some ability and influence, and the only organ of the Roman Catholics of England, is to be edited by the new convert, Mr. Wilberforce.

Sir Charles Wood stated that it was intended, as soon as the ports in the Baltic and White Seas were open, to establish a strict blockade, which should be put in effect from first to last.

Preparations continue to be made in Constantinople for the Emperor Napoleon. Meantime both the empress and he intended visiting Queen Victoria about the 16th of April.

During the past twelve months the imports of breadstuffs into Ireland from Great Britain and foreign countries amounted to 1,727,817 quarters, and the exports of all descriptions of grain for the same time amounted to 2,078,180 quarters.

During the war the resources of Russia have been greatly developed. Compelled to do without many things which they have hitherto imported, or to supply them for themselves, they have in a considerable measure succeeded in the latter.

An accident, which is regarded as ominous, occurred at Moscow. At the moment when the ceremony of swearing allegiance to the new emperor was taking place, a large bell in the Kremlin fell, killing one hundred persons.

A. M. Darius, formerly first base singer of the theatre of Rouen, who is not less than 102 years old, and who is the oldest professional singer in France, sang lately at a concert given for the benefit of unemployed workmen.

The statue which has been erected in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, to the memory of Bishop Heber, is said to be unsurpassed in beauty of design and excellence of execution. He is kneeling, attired in his robes, with one hand resting on the Bible, as his support, and the other upon his breast. On the pedestal, in bas-relief, he is represented in the act of confirming two Indian converts.

Sands of Gold.

.... Reason and experience should be inseparable to discover natural things.—*Abbe D'Ailly*.

.... Art is nothing but the highest sagacity and exertion of human nature.—*Lavater*.

.... Genius is the gold in the mine, talent is the miner who works and brings it out.—*Lady Blessington*.

.... There is no less grandeur in supporting great evils than in performing great deeds.—*Livy*.

.... It requires more power to control fortune than to control kings.—*M. T. Varro*.

.... The man who can demand advice is often superior to him who can give it.—*Von Knebel*.

.... Talent, like beauty, to be pardoned, must be obscure and unostentatious.—*Lady Blessington*.

.... There is no arena in which vanity displays itself under such a variety of forms as in conversation.—*L'Allemagne*.

.... Good sense should be the judge of both ancient and modern rules; everything that does not conform to it is false.—*Abbe D'Ailly*.

.... There is no great difference between man and man: superiority depends on the manner in which we profit by the lessons of necessity.—*Thucydides*.

.... Good sense and even propriety require manners to change according to ages. Paucity in an old man is as ridiculous as pretension to accomplished manners in a child.—*M. T. Varro*.

.... When a woman possesses talent, it should be recognized and employed. More exact than most men in the details of things, she does better than they do what she knows as well.—*Madame de Charriere*.

.... Stability in love is otherwise called "faith," where faith is between the married parties there may be jealousy—but where perfect love exists there can be none. Admitting that where jealousy is, there is love too.—*Kozlay*.

Joker's Budget.

If one-tenth of a cent is a mill, what part of a cent is a miller? What part of a shop is like every other part? The counterpart.

When is a pretty girl inclined to commit murder? When she is bound on a sleighing expedition.

Our Dan says whenever he wants a hot bath, and hasn't the change to pay for it, he has only to tell his girl that he has about made up his mind to select another sweetheart, and he is in hot water directly.

Says Punch: Mr. Hutchinson, of London, a penurious old bachelor, recently died at Kendall, England, when £700 in bank notes were found in his flannel vest. If the old hunks left an heir, the latter will, of course, claim his "vested" rights.

A singing master, while teaching his pupils, was visited by a brother of the tuneful art. The visitor, observing that the chorister pitched the tune vocally, inquired: "Sir, do you use a pipe?" "No, sir," replied Semibreve, with admirable gravity, "I *chew*!"

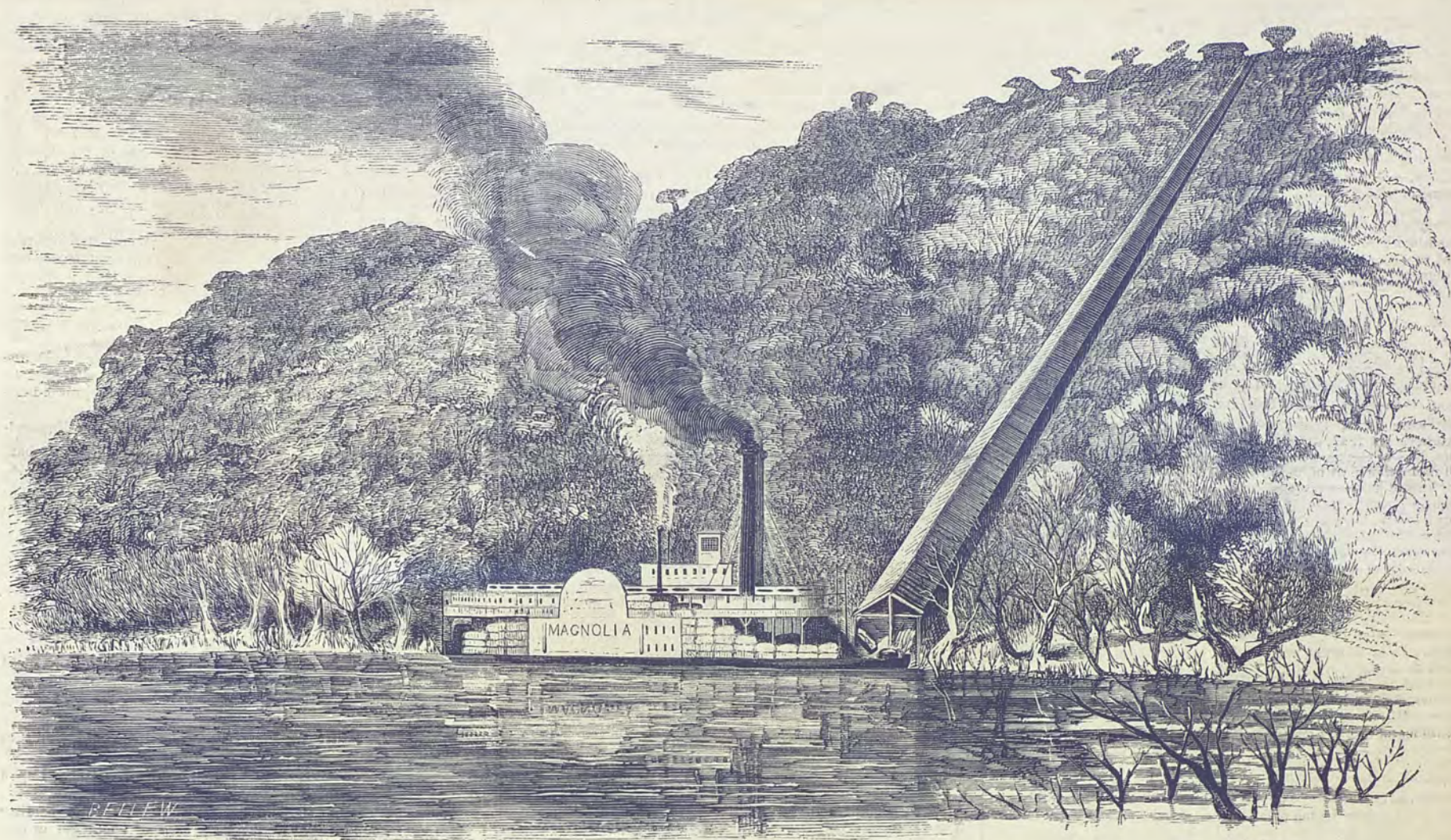
The following notice was lately fixed at a church in Herefordshire, England, and read in the church: "This is to give notice that no person is to be buried in this churchyard but those living in the parish; and those who desire to be buried are desired to apply to the parish clerk."

During a late concert at the City Hall, Manchester, N. H., several of the seats having been spoken for, were labelled "engaged." Upon the audience leaving, it was ascertained that one of the ladies walked home with the word "engaged," in large letters, upon her back, much to the amusement of a large crowd of bystanders.

Gustavus was a youth of eighteen. "Gustavus, do you love me now as ever?" "My dear, do you doubt my affection? I would make any sacrifice for you!" "Then do, Gustavus, please cultivate a nice pair of whiskers. They would be so becoming." "Aw, love! for your sake I will try!"

"Miss Phillis has you heard de new wedding song made a propos for you and me when we is married and made two in one?" "No, Sambo, how duz it go?" "Why, dis heah way:

"I see two cloud de zephyr move along
Until dey meet and mingle into one."



COTTON LOADING.

LOADING COTTON ON THE ALABAMA RIVER.

The two engravings on this page, sketched expressly for the Pictorial by Mr. F. Bellew, represent a scene which voyagers on the southern rivers will readily recall to mind. The Alabama River, formed by the junction of the Coosa and Tallapoosa, after flowing south-southwest, unites with the Tombigbee, about fifty miles above Mobile Bay, at which point it assumes the name of Mobile River. It is navigable for vessels drawing six feet of water, at all seasons of the year, to Claiborne, a distance of sixty miles, and thence to the mouth of the Cahawba it has a depth of four or five feet. From the Cahawba to the junction of the Coosa and Tallapoosa its depth is about three feet. It frequently rises to a great height, and at other times falls very considerably. The reception of cotton bales on board the steamboats on the Alabama is an affair of almost hourly occurrence, and though occasioning loss of time and detention of travellers, is still quite an interesting operation to those who are not familiar with the *modus operandi*. Sometimes the cotton is rolled down the river bank; at others, it is dropped, or "dumped," as the phrase is, from a precipice eighteen or twenty feet in height, shaking the boat from stem to stern. This, however, is a primitive mode of doing business, and is not practised on the skirts of those plantations which profess to be up with the times, and have the proper appliances for cotton shipping. Our artist has preferred, in his larger sketch, to delineate the long "shoot," which is not only more "ship shape," but becomes absolutely necessary to avoid injury to the cotton in such a locality as that shown in the drawing. The particular shoot here represented was nearly three hundred feet long, and descended from an eminence fully two hundred feet above the water level. The shoot is divided into two portions, longitudinally, one of which is floored with smooth planking, down which the bales slide with a velocity proportioned to the angle of descent, while the other half is provided with steps that ascend to the top of the inclination. When everything is ready below, the signal is given, and the bale is launched from the top. At first it moves slowly, but acquiring impetus as it descends, it whizzes down the latter part of the plane, and descends upon the steamboat's deck like a thunder clap, making the vessel shudder from stem to stern. A barricade of three or four bales is erected on deck to meet the descending avalanche, and these are usually knocked about in all directions. The bales are then stowed compactly on the boat, which takes in freight till it is laden gunwale deep.

A DWARF RACE OF MEN.

There is a singular race of dwarfs in Upper Peru (Bolivia), known as "Chiquitos" or "little men," that are as worthy of attention as the Aztecs. Everything connected with them seems to indicate that they are indigenous, though their general aspect gives the impression of a people reduced in stature by poverty and starvation. The tallest are not more than four and a half feet in height, while many will not measure more than three and a half. Their legs, apparently, are devoid of muscles, their eyes black and elongated, nose aquiline, cheeks drawn in, with high cheek bones, forehead low and retreating, hair black and wiry, and mouth tending to muzzle. They travel south on foot, and are often absent from home two or three years, returning with small hoards of silver gained in traffic, travelling about five or six miles a day. From long habit they can do without food an extraordinary length of time, supporting nature by sucking cocoa-leaf, gathered from a shrub tree analogous to the betel nut of the East Indies. It is equivalent to tobacco, laudanum, or strong infusion of tea; and it is only when their animals die of disease they have a plentiful supply of food. Their covering is a coarse kind of cloth, which they prepare themselves. Their abodes are rude huts, and when travelling, they sleep on the ground, huddled together to keep warm on the dry cold desert where they are principally found. They are hardly raised above the level of the beasts around them.—*Newport Mercury*.

LIBRARIES OF MESSRS. CHOATE AND EVERETT.

The library of Hon. Rufus Choate, including law books, contains 7000 volumes, and the figures by no means give one an idea of the wealth of the collection. Of the above, 1500 are at his law office, mostly law books, or those of daily reference. The remaining 5500 line all the rooms of the second story of his house. These ample rooms are his library. We leave it for those more familiar with such matters to decide how Mr. Choate has been able to get entire possession of those valuable sleeping chambers exclusively for his inanimate and yet animate guests, such as Homer, Cicero, Pindar, and the like. It is said there have been many domestic compromises on subjects of this kind, which, if given to the world, would be far more entertaining, if they would not make as much noise, as the compromise of 1850. Mr. Choate is particularly rich in the Latin and Greek classics, which he is understood to have a passion for, and to read daily as much as college youths, and with far more relish and avidity. He has a half dozen editions each of such works as Livy, Horace, Pindar, etc. In political and parliamentary books, and also in historical works, he is quite full. He has more valuable theology than any layman we know, embracing the Fathers of the Church, and many valuable works. So in ecclesiastical history he is pretty rich. Mr. Everett's is the fullest on the laws of nation, though he has quite a collection. He has about all on law that a lawyer of his standing should have, and a fair collection of scientific works,

including Bayle's Dictionary in French, Erasmus, Lipsius, etc. Then he is rich in encyclopedias, and particularly in American history. Other rarities for a private library are Rymer's Foedera, Somers' Tracts, and Du Cange's Glossarium. This library, of which you have a glimpse with pen and ink, is perfectly arranged by subjects. The rooms have a free and easy appearance that is very attractive. We warn all lovers of books, that if they would not run into the temptation of breaking the tenth commandment, that they had better keep out of this library. Mr. Choate thinks he should have died before this had it not been for his library. This reminds us that a library has been named a "medicine for the mind," and of the King of Egypt, who, according to Diodorus Siculus, had inscribed over his library door Greek words which, Englished, are "The Dispensary for the Soul." The true student loves to revel in the creations of master minds, not only to qualify for the avocations of life, but as a sustaining solace and enjoyment, amid life's vexing cares.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce*.



COTTON LOADING.