THE DAILY BEE.
PUBLISHED DAILY (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED) AT No. 32 Camp-street.
NEW ORLEANS:
MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12.

Auction Sales this Day.

By B. Guinault, at 10 o'clock, at his auction room, furniture.

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT THIS EVENING.—A vocal and instrumental concert is announced to be given at the Opera House, on Wednesday evening the 14th, by Mons. Fontmeister; assisted by a number of ladies and gentlemen, amateur and professional artists, of this city. The programme for this occasion comprises thirteen pieces, happily combining the select and the popular, the soothing and the light. Tickets for this concert may be had at the principal music stores, and at the Bronze Pen, 62 Bourbon-street.

THANKS.—We return our thanks to the officers of the steamer Magnolia, Longworth and Henry Amos, for the safe conveyance and speedy delivery of our latest files of Western papers forwarded from Cairo. We are also indebted to the officer of the Commercial Express, 120 and 122 Common street, for the latest dates direct from New York by steamship.

PRICE OF COAL REDUCED.—Mr. David Stickney, No. 5 Carondelet street, delivers now at any part of the city Pittsburg Coal at two dollars per barrel, and Anthracite at $24 per ton. This reduction in the price of coal, making it cheaper in December than it was in midsummer, will be hailed with joy by every denizen in New Orleans.

PERSONAL—MILITARY.—The Augusta, Ga., *Constitutionalist* of the 9th ult. says: General Joseph E. Johnston is now in our city. General Beauregard is expected to-morrow. The Savannah *News* of the 30th November notices the arrival of General Johnston at Columbia, S. C., from Augusta, and says he intends to make Columbia for the present his home.

The Richmond *Whig*, of the 30th, notices the arrival of George D. Prentice, of the Louisville *Journal*, at the Spottswood House, on a visit to his son, in the rebel service. Mr. Prentice makes his visit by permission of the authorities on both sides.

Arrival of the "George Cromwell."

The U. S. M. steamship George Cromwell, E. K. Vail, commanding, from New York, 10th at 4 P. M., arrived last evening with mails, merchandise and passengers, to Alfred Moulton.

The George Cromwell was detained on the Bay 1 hours by a dense fog, and sailed in company with the steamship Champion bound for Apalachicola. The same day, at 8 P. M., in the Narrows, she passed the steamship Mariner from N. O. to N. Y. Dec 4 at 1130 P. M., in 33 fathoms 20 55, she exchanged signals with a Spanish bermaprodite brig, painted lead color, 4 masts, no top on the mizzen.

Saturday 5th inst, at 8:30 P. M., 35 miles S. E. from S. W. Pass, she passed a brig under full steam, standing Morning Star and Flag Short, bound to New York.

We have to the George Cromwell files of New York papers up to the evening of the 3d instant. They contain no news of importance not already given in some form via the river and the telegraph.

Peyser Wm. D. Hampstead has placed in our hands for collection by newspaper favors and other courtesies.

The following are the passengers by the George Cromwell:

Alfred Moulton, wife, child and nurse; D Jamison, W H Hunting, Hunt N H Campbell and wife, Mrs Tuck and child, Mrs Dr Bell and child, Mrs C H Bell, Miss D A Withers, Mrs J H Pope, A Smith, C G Cleve, Mrs Cleve and child, Mrs Dr Cleve, Mrs W E Coit, Miss Caleb Cushing, Miss C Johnson, A Case, J H Lesbe, Mrs Leslie and child, Mrs Cook, H Brickell, Mrs Brickell and child, Mrs Hyman, Mrs G W Estill, Miss Phelps, Jacob Mahler and wife, Bob Lee, Capt C E Stevens, Brewer, Jr, Mrs Jno McMillan and child, Mrs Jno Mc Millan, Mrs Sol Weil and 2 children, Mr Tom Hardaway, Fred Cripps, Mrs Cripps and child, Mrs Dr Hall and child, Mrs Fannin and servant, Capt Solomon, J A Seymour, C L Nesbitt, Miss Turner, Charles Gayler, Esther Hughes, M Mahler, Mrs M Farrell and child, Capt Farrell, Capt J C Hall, Mrs J C S Hughes, Miss V E Mayo, Mrs W B Hughes and child, Miss Hyde, Miss Shryock, H E Shryock and wife, Mr Kenan, Dr Francis Townsley, Mr Schriever, Miss Schriever, Mrs P J Neal, Master Neal, Miss Neal, Mrs Dr Neal, Mrs Dr Kennedy, wife and 3 children, Alexander Henderson, W B Leonard and others.

Additional by the Arrival of Western Steamers.

By the arrival of the steamers Magnolia, Longworth and Henry Amos, we have files of St. Louis, Cincinnati and Chicago papers to the 5th and Cairo papers of the 6th inst., from which we make a collection of various matter.

The Situation from Rebel Papers.

New York, Dec. 4.—The *World* has the following continental rebel papers: The *Dispatch* of the 2d says several prisoners have been received at Augusta who were captured while foraging for Sherman's army.

A correspondent of the Augusta *Chronicle* gives an account of Hardee's retreat. He says:

The column through which the Federal troops passed, was very generally dreadful. Those citizens who remained at home and watched their premises had their fences, horses and stock from Milledgeville, the Governorship has been removed. The Governor has pardoned all convicts in the Penitentiary, and put arms in their hands for the rebel front. He will accept those pardons only for life, whom he could not reprieve according to law.

The *Sentinel*, of the 23, says:

The situation of Sherman's main force is alleged to be positively a mystery. His movements seem to be but feints, or feelers, and with small bodies. The skepticism is that these exhibitions were the dark clouds intended by Sherman to mask the main army, or to cover his march, which he is making upon Savannah or Brunswick. From the latter town the forces, which have come to the mouth of the Ocmulgee, are already but very few miles off, and will be used in their operations to reconnoitering operations.

Meanwhile, Sherman is supposed in his moving and left behind the Ocmulgee, which is named that cross at all, if Brunswick be his goal. His progress in that case would be, to cross the Ocmulgee near its mouth and move down behind or south of Altamaha.

Retaining for the Defense of Savannah.

The Savannah *News* publishes Gen. Hardee's first order on assuming command at Savannah. He orders the Provost Marshal to stop all stragglers and others arriving by or going from the city, and report them for duty.

Sheridan Moving to Join Grant.

Richmond papers of a recent date report a portion of Sheridan's army moving to join Grant.

Reinforcements Under Hood.

Memphis Argusite Chronicle and Sentinel, Nov. 24:

It will be read from a dispatch in another column that General Hood has left Wilmington with reinforcements for this place. These, we are informed, are the veteran troops that were sent to Wilmington from Augusta from another section on Saturday, will make quite a formidable army.

The following is the dispatch referred to:

WILMINGTON, November 22.

To Hon. Jas. Seddon, Secretary of War:

I arrived here to-day with reinforcements for Augusta. I short you pride to his confident and resolute.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

Mark Hampton's Command.

[From the Savannah Republican, November 28.]

This great horde of the saddle has published a letter for all who are supposed to thought to be immediately in Abbeville, Augusta, and soon in South Carolina or Columbia.

CAVALRY FIGHT IN GEORGIA—RELENTLESS DRIVEN BACK.

New York, Dec. 4.—The *World* furnishes the following extra from Southern papers telegraphed to Cincinnati this morning:

The Richmond *Enquirer*, of the 23, says: "As nearly again, his wishes we were victorious, took place in East Georgia on Tuesday. The rebel cavalry, under Hillpatrick, were attacking the Savannah River, when they were attacked by Wheeler, and, after an obstinate fight, driven back in the direction of Hilton, losing very heavily. Sherman's army was pressing toward the coast. A battle was expected."

The *Enquirer*, of the 24, says: "The cavalry fight was something more than a slight skirmish, though scarcely to be called a battle. Our loss was about seventy killed, wounded and missing. That of the enemy is reported much greater.

The enemy already intimated our belief that Hood had reinforces to Port Royal, with the intention of marching up into the country, and thus helping to relieve Sherman from the embarrassment. We are now nearly certain this movement has been attempted, and resulted in complete failure. The details will be first heard from the enemy's journals.

We are also satisfied it will be difficult, if not impossible, for Sherman to reach Hamfort or Savannah, and suppose, now, he will aim at some point in the south west."

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New Orleans Bee.

Office 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12, 1864. Vol. XVII—New Series, Vol. XXVII—Whole No. 13,312.

have deserted their country are not above borrowing horses. We hope DIX will hang every mother's son of them.

EVACUATION OF JOHNSONVILLE, TENN.—ABANDONMENT OF THE TENNESSEE RIVER.

[From the Cairo News, Dec. 5.]

In order to concentrate our forces, and to secure the stores which had accumulated at Johnsonville, it was determined to abandon that post. This was successfully accomplished without loss to the Government, and on Monday last the forces were withdrawn and transferred to Nashville. A large number of refugees and contrabands had sought protection at Johnsonville, and it being both inexpedient and unnecessary to take them to Nashville, they were furnished with rations and supplies to render them comfortable for the trip, and given barges and flatboats to convey them down the river. Most of the refugees stopped at the several landings, but the contrabands are making their way to Paducah, a portion having already arrived. There were no transports or gunboats at Johnsonville, or above, when the town was evacuated, and the river is now wholly unobstructed. The details were left in charge of Lieut. Fitch, of the gunboat Tennessee chosen, and this fact is valuable stream is now useless to us at the present, and is but a bar to encroachments of the rebels.

GEN. SHERMAN RISING AT HEADPOINT TO CO-OPERATE WITH GRANT.

The Richmond *Whig* of the 1st says:

The *Whig*, after stating that it is strictly prohibited from publishing information respecting military movements, says: We don't see, either in the New York papers or our own, we are closely by of the urbidge that Sherman is making as fast as he can move for Beaufort, and that his enterprise daily takes his forces with Grant further from Hilton Head.

That he will take either Savannah, Charleston, or Augusta, we don't fear in the least.

Quananville.

New York, December 5th.—Grahamville, were we are reported to having been repulsed by the rebels, in one of the stations on the Charleston and Savannah railroad, thirty-four miles north of Savannah and seventy miles from Charleston. Our forces, however, are evidently still above Grahamville, holding a position on the Coosawhatchie.

It will be remembered that Gilmore and Hatch had fought protracted engagements with Hardee, which resulted in the latter's withdrawing from Pocotaligo bridge, marched on and captured the bridge, after sharp fighting, in the rear of Grahamville, large quantities of cotton were found and destroyed. It is supposed the rebel force along the coast has been materially decreased to concentrate a force against Sherman.

The correspondent of the *Herald* of Charleston states that the black tender-runner Beatrice was run ashore and destroyed on the night of the 30th. Plenty of the guns were engaged.

General Dahlgren and General Foster are in communication with Sherman, who is supposed to be moving on Savannah. A rebel force had been organized to co-operate with him, while in another direction he was moving on other important strategetic points.

[LATEST OFFICIAL FROM GEN. THOMAS.]

Washington, Dec 3.—The latest official information from the army of General Thomas is that he has re-concentrated his forces at the fortifications of Nashville so as to be prepared for any possible advance which General Hood may venture to make.

FIGHT WITH CONSCRIPTS AND DESERTERS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

McConnellsburg, Pa., Dec. 8.—A fight occurred at Timber Ridge yesterday between a portion of company H, of the 20th Pennsylvania mounted infantry and about one hundred conscripts and deserters, resulting in a shooting match. When the soldiers advanced, Provost Marshal Bunce were forward to build a parley with the conscripts, but they refused to hear him, and commenced firing. Bunce was shot at him, none of which took effect. The soldiers then opened fire, which a general fight ensued, lasting about an hour. The conscripts and deserters were finally driven over the hills, the shooting being kept up the whole way. The fighting was carried on principally in the woods. The casualties were slight. The conscripts lost one man killed and two wounded. One of the wounded was captured, the remainder, being acquainted with the country, made good their escape into the mountains. None of our men were injured. Reinforcements of the kind may be speedily looked for, as it is determined to bring these outlaws to justice.

FROM THE PACIFIC COAST OF MEXICO.

San Francisco, November 30.—Mexican advices by the Sacramento say that on the 19th of November the French landed troops at Mamilon, and took formal possession of the place.

The Governor of Mazalon, with his forces, abandoned the place the night previous, so that no resistance was offered to the landing of the French troops.

It is also reported that Alvarez had defeated an imperial force, and was marching on Acapulco.

United States Congress.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST DAY COMPLETE.

HOUSE—*Washington*, December 5—The House assembled with the galleries densely crowded.

All the members were in the best possible humor, and exchanged salutations.

The Speaker called the House to order, and prayer was offered to the Throne of Grace by Chaplain Channing.

The roll of members was called, and upwards of 150 members answered to their names. A quorum was ascertained in attendance.

A message was received, from the Senate informing the House that a quorum of the Senate had assembled and was ready to go into business.

Resolutions were adopted to inform the Senate and President that the House was ready to proceed to business.

Speaker laid before the House the credentials of the gentlemen of Louisiana, signed by Michael Hahn, Governor, proposing to be elected members of the House, in accordance with the recently adopted Constitution of that State.

The credentials were referred to the Committee on Elections.

The privileges of the Hall were accorded to them.

While the question of their credentials was pending, Davis, of Md., presented a protest from Louisiana against being admitted as members, which was referred to the Committee on Elections. On motion of Davis, of Md., it was resolved that the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill for an amendment of the Constitution, providing that so much of the section of article 1st of the Constitution as relates to direct or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any State, hitherto nominated.

Mr. Pendleton offered the following:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate, if not incompatible with public interests, the report made by Col. Thomas M. Key, of his interview between himself and Stonewall Jackson, on the 1st day of June, 1862, on the banks of Chickahominy, by the authority of the War Department, on the subject of the exchange of prisoners.

Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, objected, so the resolution went over.

Mr. Cox, of Ohio, offered the following:

Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means, which is about to inquire into the cost of the necessaries of life, be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reducing the tariff on coffee, sugar, teas and similar articles by the payment of all customs in paper currency at the Government fixed rate of gold, and by the application of the tariff on that as a specific and not a specific duty be laid on said articles.

On motion of Sawyer, of Idaho, the resolution was tabled by a vote of 67 to 49.

On motion of Morrill, it was resolved that the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing a sinking fund for the payment of the principal of the national debt.

Mr. Washburne offered a resolution, that if any amendment to the Revenue Bill were to be reported by the Committee of Ways and Means, the said Committee be instructed to lay a tax on all stocks of domestic liquors on hand.

Morrill moved to lay the resolution on the table. Disagreed to by a vote of 67 to 61.

The resolution was then agreed to—61 to 59.

The Speaker said he understood the President's Message would not be communicated to-day. Adjourned.

SENATE.—The Senate was called to order at noon by Mr. Clark, of New Hampshire, President *pro tem*. A prayer was then read by Chaplain Mr. Hoburton, of Indiana.

Mr. Lewis, of Vermont, offered a resolution that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to inform the House that the Senate was ready to proceed to business. Adopted.

The following Senators were present: Anthony, Chandler, Clark, Conness, Cowan, Cragin, Davis, Dixon, Doolittle, Foote, Foster, Grimes, Harding, Harlan, Hicks, Henderson, Hendrick, Howe, Johnson, Lane, of Indiana, Lane, of Kansas, McDougall, Morgan, Morrill, Nesmith, Pomeroy, Powell, Ramsey, Sherman, Sumner, Ten Eyck, Trumbull, Wade, Wilkinson and Wilson.

Senator Sherman introduced a bill providing that the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to purchase not exceeding six steamers, to be used as cutters, or service on the lakes, and for that purpose the sum of $100,000, or so much thereof as is necessary, is appropriated.

Mr. Lane, of Kansas, introduced a bill for the relief of the militia of Kansas in repelling the invasion of the rebels under Price. Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Foster moved the Senate take a recess for one hour.

Upon reassembling the Senate adjourned.

New York Markets on the 3d.

New York, Dec 3—Money easy at 6 to 7 per cent. A large supply of capital is seeking investment.

Sterling Exchange dull at 169 to 169½ for Gold.

Gold less active and lower, opening at 226½, declining to 226¾, advancing to 226¾, and closing at 226½.

Government Stocks are active and a shade firmer.

New York, Dec 3—Gallaghet's evening dispatch says: Gold 226¾.

New York, Dec. 3.—Cotton—Is heavy and declining; we quote sales at $1 43 for middling Uplands.

Flour—The market for State and Western opened to 10c lower and dull; sales quiet at $8 85 to $ 90 for extra State; $11 to $11 15 for extra round-hoop Ohio; and $11 20 to $13 for trade brands, closing dull, with no buyers at the quotable quotations.

Whisky—The market is more active and firmer; we quote sales at $1 80 to $ 95 for State and $1 90 to $ 92½ for Western.

Groceries—Coffee—Fair Rio—Sugar—The market is firm and steady; we quote sales of Cuba Muscovado, at 20 to 20½ cents; Mlou, at 20c, and Havana at 19½. Molasses—The market is easier, with sales of Muscovado at 85c.

Petroleum—The market is decidedly firm, with sale of crude at 49 to 49½; refined, in bond, 90; and refined, free, at 95c.

Western Markets.

Cincinnati, Dec. 3—P. M.—Flour—Firmand in good demand at $9 25@ extra at $9 50.

Grain—Wheat firm at $2 60 for prime red; $2 25 for prime white. Corn in good demand at $1a. Rye held at $1 50, but the demand is not so active as a few days ago. Barley dull at $1 70 to 1 75 for prime spring and fall.

Provisions—Quiet, but little done. Small sales of green meats at 12½ to 13c for shoulders and 16½ to 17c for hams. Lard is 1c higher, but the demand for them is light. Mess pork dull at $36 to 37. Lard at 22½. Hogs held more firmly, but packers were not buying. About 1000 head were sold at $3 10 to 14c, the latter rate for 400 pound averages. There was no life in the market. Receipts, 2000.

St. Louis, Dec 3, P. M.—Tobacco—Buyers and sellers continue wide apart in their views. The sales were only 12 hhds, and the market was unchanged at the following range of prices:

Flour—The market was very dull, and the only sales reported were 300 bbls country Johnsonville, or above, when the town was evacuated, and the river is now wholly unobstructed. The details were left in charge of Lieut. Fitch, of the gunboat Tennessee chosen, and this fact is valuable stream is now useless to us at the present, and is but a bar to encroachments of the rebels.

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Upon reassembling the Senate adjourned.

New York Markets on the 3d.

New York, Dec 3—Money easy at 6 to 7 per cent. A large supply of capital is seeking investment.

Sterling Exchange dull at 169 to 169½ for Gold.

Gold less active and lower, opening at 226¾, declining to 226¾, advancing to 226¾, and closing at 226½.

Government Stocks are active and a shade firmer.

New York, Dec 3—Gallaghet's evening dispatch says: Gold 226¾.

New York, Dec. 3.—Cotton—Is heavy and declining; we quote sales at $1 43 for middling Uplands.

Flour—The market for State and Western opened to 10c lower and dull; sales quiet at $8 85 to $ 90 for extra State; $11 to $11 15 for extra round-hoop Ohio; and $11 20 to $13 for trade brands, closing dull, with no buyers at the quotable quotations.

Whisky—The market is more active and firmer; we quote sales at $1 80 to $ 95 for State and $1 90 to $ 92½ for Western.

Groceries—Coffee—Fair Rio—Sugar—The market is firm and steady; we quote sales of Cuba Muscovado, at 20 to 20½ cents; Mlou, at 20c, and Havana at 19½. Molasses—The market is easier, with sales of Muscovado at 85c.

Petroleum—The market is decidedly firm, with sale of crude at 49 to 49½; refined, in bond, 90; and refined, free, at 95c.

FROM OUR SUNDAY EDITION.

Usury Laws—National and State—Limitation of Interest Favorable to the Rich and against the Poor and Needy.

(From the New York Journal of Commerce.)

The attempt which has been made to procure some modification of the usury laws of this State, will be renewed in the Legislature this winter, with a fair prospect of success. As far as the members of our banking institutions are concerned, the subject has already passed out of State control. Congress has authorized all of the National Banks to charge whatever rate of interest is established by law in the State where they are located. In the official table to the National Banking Law, the penalty for taking an excess of interest is said to be the forfeiture of the debt, "but this is only a blunder of the compiler. The penalty is fixed by Congress at the forfeiture of the interest thus exacted, with the additional proviso that the aggrieved party may recover both the amount of interest, if he commence suit for it within two years.

The usury laws have been modified in most of the States, and a majority now combine the penalty to a simple forfeiture of the interest. In the State the statutes remain very much as handed down to us from a barbarous age. They are utterly without reason, and against the most of the conditions of society. They are merely dulled or evaded, and are entirely inoperative, except as they serve for a cover to fraud. We only say one to point out a case during the last few years where the possibility of the usury laws has been successfully invoked to expose or prevent a case of wrong or oppression. They are in the interest of the dishonest shoplifter, where they are not wholly a dead letter.

We have always favored safer freedom on this question, and would allow every capitalist, whether a banker or private money-lender, to charge whatever rate of interest the borrower might be willing to pay. Such a change would be in favor of the honest poor and needy. If a uniform rate of reform per cent. be established and published, those who have the highest rate of security to offer will be accepted, and the humbler borrower will be relieved. If the latter were allowed to make up his usurer to the utility by offering a larger rate of interest, the scale would then be turned in his favor. This is not a hypothetical case; it is done every day. The second class security is sold at this moment as high as 2 per cent per month. The first class security is sold at this moment at 6 per cent per annum. At least two or three per cent. more is exacted than could be obtained if the market were free, and the borrower could compare with his fellows anywhere in the country without the delay.

We never could understand the terror which seizes upon many of our country legislators at every proposition to amend the law which thus degrades the value of their own debts. Their doubtless, to an association which many pious men have innocently fostered, between the usury condemned in the Bible, and the legal offence which has always slandered it. The midnight preacher will explain to his hearers that the taking of seven per cent. interest would be as much of an offence against the Divine prohibition of usury as the taking of double that amount. A few was forbidden to take usury, that is, unjust or interest, even to one penny, from a brother, although he might make his own bargain with a borrower of any other nation. But the Mosaic law, when taken along to the old statute in this State never bear the Bible denunciation of usury, without interpreting it into a confirmation of the law limiting the rate of interest to seven per cent.

Captain Burton on the Dahomians.

At a meeting of the Anthropological Society, on the 1st, Captain R. F. Burton, late consul-general to Dahomey, read a paper entitled "A Mission to Gelele, King of Dahomey." He stated that the Kingdom of Dahomey is one of eight purely negro empires. Among the others are Ashantee, which has lately been at war with our Gold Coast Colonists, and the Kingdom of Benin, both of which are as inhuman in their worship as Dahomey. In the lake region of Central Africa is the country of Kataguah, the people of which, Captain Burton supposed to be the existence of which Captain Burton alleged together doubts, is a fine hilly country, inhabited by a superior race of negroes, but who are ruled by a despotism which, in its atrocity, is the most terrible despotisms of Western Africa. In Central tropical Africa there is the great empire of Makuloo, and the Amazon States of Dahomey. The latter country is the only one in the world governed by a woman. Captain Burton, with two countries, Captain Burton said, nothing could be more horrible than the orgies practised by the priests and the kings.

The great country of Yarriba, Captain Burton did not touch known to Europe in 1725, and from that time it has been notorious for the brutal state of barbarism of its inhabitants, and for the ferocity of its kings. The latter appear to surpass in that respect the rulers of other kingdoms in Central Africa. There has been a great mixture of foreigners with original natives, and Captain Burton attributed the ferocity of the Yoruba character to the infusion of ancient blood, are the members of the royal family, who number about two thousand. The Dahomian king is sworn never to touch his arms except against the Yoruba; therefore, as a neighboring tribe, to protect themselves from the incursions, have built their huts upon tall poles, almost as distant as telegraph poles. These villages at once spread the origin of the ancient idea of settlements of Switzerland. The Dahomian language is sweet, poor and meagre. It is harsh and explosive, the gutturals being most prominent. A few words were given, and a few sentences in conversation, but the same word signifies very different things, according to the manner in which it is pronounced, which renders the language very difficult.

The native indolge in the use of purgatives. Many of which Captain Burton mentioned as specimens of their "proverbial philosophy," of which the following is one: "Whatever kills a thief is good for the dog." Hence, though dead to burning fire, can by introducing the fingers, be taken out; "When the wolf goes about the sheep must die." Captain Burton then proceeded to notice certain peculiarities in the Dahomian race, which were of a strictly physiological character. A rule, which has been supposed to be universal by the Jews, was stated to be general among all Africans, and that it was practised, not as a religious ceremony, but for sanitary purposes. In the Dahomian kingdom is apparently not destined long to endure. It contains in itself a preponderance in many destructive elements, and hitherto its only safeguard has been the inability of the neighboring tribes. But now the Abokuteans are becoming strong, and the southern progress of Mahommedanism, though slow and gradual, is sure. Already they begin to occupy the towns of Ogbomoshaw and Ibadan. Ibadan, they are found superior not only to the heathen, but to the so-called Christian Africans.

"The missionaries," he said, "never have converted, and probably never will convert, a single Moslem to Christianity, but to the hopeful philanthropist the dispersion of Africa's children, and the dawn of the bright day are also in the near future. In the republic of Liberia, applause wholly dependent on the light of the crescent. Thus only can the negro be unblinded by absorption into the negroid. Another cause of discouragement is the fatal mistake of the Christian Church, in which Dr. Posey, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Carter Blake, Dr. Keenan, Dr. Hunt and other gentlemen took part. Many questions were put by Captain Burton, and many statements made about the conversion of the negro by the Missionaries, and the cause of their being more successful in their work than the Christian missionaries. He said that one great reason of their success was, that they were nearly of the same race, and that they settled down in the villages and educated the people. The Mahommedan religion has a great effect upon the negro, and the latter were not Mahommedans. So far from having been successful, he said, they appear to have been successful in partially converting a very distinguished personage now in the country.

Never too Old to Learn.

Socrates, at an advanced age, learned to play on musical instruments.

Cato, in the decline of age, thought proper to learn the Greek language.

Plutarch, when between seventy and eighty, commenced the study of Latin.

Plato, at the same period of age when he commenced his studies in public literature, used to become one of the three great masters of the Tuscan dialect, Dante and Petrarch being the other two.

Henry Spelman neglected the sciences in his youth, but commenced the study of them when he was between fifty and sixty years of age. After this time he became a most learned antiquarian and lawyer.

Colbert, the famous French minister, at sixty years of age, returned to his Latin and law studies.

Boderieus at the great age of one hundred and fifteen, wrote the memoirs of his own times. A singular assertion, received by Voltaire, who was himself one of the most remarkable instances of persevering study of age in many studies.

Ogilby, the translator of Homer and Virgil, was unacquainted with Latin and Greek till he was past the age of fifty.

Dr. Franklin did not fully commence his philosophical pursuits till he had reached the fiftieth year.

Accolte, a great lawyer, being asked why he began the study of law so late, answered that indeed he began it late, but he could therefore master it the sooner.

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