AMERICAN NEWS.

From the Boston Transcript.

TERRIBLE CRASH IN BROAD STREET.

About 4 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, two granite fronted stores standing on Broad street, directly opposite Bread street, and constituting the southerly end of "Tilden Block," which reaches north to the corner of Battery-march street, fell in with a terrific crash, jarring the whole vicinity like an earthquake, and sending up a dense cloud of dust from the broken walls, which immediately after caused the sounding of the telegraphic fire alarm, on the supposition that an immense conflagration was suddenly discovered to be in progress.

The spectacle was one of horrible grandeur to behold! The street was entirely filled with the ponderous blocks of granite which fell from the front wall, and lay piled against each other like a miniature "Giant's Causeway;" while on the site of the late noble looking stores, scarcely a vestige of the building was left standing in its proper place, but all was one vast heap of ruins—crushed bricks and mortar, whole and shivered timbers, various merchandise, and loose fragments of every description, in the wildest confusion—rising like a jagged mound of destruction to mark the very pit of death! To complete the melancholy picture, an immense sheet of the darkly painted tin roofing left dangling from the end of the remainder of the block, hung over the ruins as a huge metalic pall above the grave of life and fortune.

It having been well ascertained that three or more persons were underneath the rubbish, a large force of men were soon organized under the direction of the police, and after hard work for about half an hour, a young girl was extricated alive from under two masses of stone forming a partial arch over her. Her name was Mary Riley, aged 10 years, whose home was in Burgess alley. She had received injuries which were pronounced to be fatal, and was taken to the General Hospital. Her cousin, a boy, of 8 years, named David Riley, was next found, having been crushed to death. These children were in the adjoining passage way, gathering chips, when they were overwhelmed by the falling mass, though only comparatively a small portion fell upon them. A young man of 19 years, named William Downing, was also known to be buried, but his body was not recovered last evening.

The cause of this accident was owing to the weakness of the foundation wall. The foundation having settled by the immense weight upon it, the centre wall between the stores cracked in the morning before the accident, and thus gave warning of the impending catastrophe. We were told by a person belonging to one of the stores that he measured the aperture at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and again at 3, and in that hour the widening increased an inch.

Messrs. Lewis vacated their premises of their numerous work people several hours before the crash, and at the time there were but three men and three boys inside, who all escaped unharmed, by running out at the rear, into Hamilton palace. In Messrs. Hunneman, Haze & Co's. store, the book-keeper, Mr. John H. Baker, and a laboring man named Mark Gillespie were on the lower floor, and hearing the first sounds of giving way, ran across Broad street and barely escaped being crushed by the front wall. The young man Downing, before mentioned, was left in the second story, sitting by a window and reading a newspaper. He had been warned of his danger, but chose to remain. As the front wall fell he ran to the rear, and was seen by masons at work opposite to jump out of a window, where it was supposed he was buried in the ruins which immediately fell. Several customers had been in the store but a few minutes previous, but on being warned instantly retired, and one man who wished to pay a bill sent the money while standing on the opposite sidewalk and had a receipt brought out to him.

At 10 minutes before 5 o'clock, a sheet of clear flames suddenly burst out through the pile of rubbish nearest Broad street, unaccompanied for a few moments by smoke, but soon dense and black volumes rolled forth, enveloping the workmen over the ruins, and causing the crowd of spectators to flee in terror to a safe distance, The few engines which had remained after the first alarm were immediately brought to bear, and the firemen grappled with their old enemy with the fiercest vigor. The alarm was again sounded, and soon the whole department returned to the ground, and their active services were required the remainder of the afternoon and evening in keeping the flames in the combustible mass from reaching the adjoining block. Three streams were kept playing during the night. The fire is supposed to have caught from the action of chemicals in the ruins of the drug store, which were several times heard to explode, but with no great violence, just before as well as after the flames broke out.

As the engines were running to the spot, an Irishman named Joseph Gosling, 30 years of age, and resident in Hamilton place, was run over by an engine in Purchase street, and had a leg and shoulder broken, besides other injuries.

The Hon. Henry Wise was recently married. To any bachelor friend still "halting between two opinions" we say, "Go and do like Wise."

GREYTOWN OUTRAGE.—TROUBLE AHEAD.

The recent wanton and unjustifiable destruction of Greytown, on the Musquito coast, by the United States ship-of-war Cyane, Capt. Hollins, has created much indignation in Great Britain, as it will have in every other country, where the circumstances of the case are known. A correspondence has accordingly taken place between the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Mr. Buchanan, the American Minister in London, in which the former re-affirms the British claim to the British protectorate, and the latter denies it. The Washington correspondent of the New York *Courier and Enquirer* thus announces this correspondence :—

"WASHINGTON, Thursday evening.—I ascertain that an important correspondence has occurred be tween Mr. Buchanan and the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Lord Clarendon re-asserts the British territorial claims on Central America, founded on the Musquito protectorate.

Mr. Buchanan denies them in two elaborate notes, and demands an unconditional relinquishment of the protectorate.

It is understood that our Government has determined to adopt decisive measures to obtain the complete evacuation of Central America, as stipulated by the Clayton and Bulwer treaty."

The London *Times* thus speaks of the outrage perpetrated by Capt. Hollins :—

"The object of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty was to promote 'the construction of the communication between the two oceans for the benefit of mankind, on equal terms to all, and for the protection of the same.' It is certainly a most extraordinary violation of the spirit of that treaty that an American ship of war should have presumed, in defence of at best a very doubtful cause, to attack and destroy the principal commercial station situated on this very line of communication which the American Government is expressly bound to maintain and protect. The act of Captain Hollins speaks for itself.

It is, indeed, without a parallel in any history with which we are acquainted, for the place was wholly incapable of firing a shot in its defence, not a man was killed or wounded in the attack, and the enterprise was one of mere destruction.

There is in this case no war and no provocation to account for or to palliate such a measure. Far from being at war with the states of Central America, the Government of the U. States has always affected to regard them with peculiar interest; and the first proof given of this interest is an act of violence which would have disgraced a buccaneer.

Indeed, considering the species of protection established by the treaty of 1850, and the engagements contracted by the United States toward this country and the whole world for the security of the passage, this outrage of Captain Hollins is a contempt of the authority of his own government and a gross breach of faith to every nation, which may have mercantile transactions, carried on across the Isthmus of Nicaragua."

It appears by a telegraphic despatch from New York, that Capt. Hollins has been arrested there on a civil suit for damages to property occasioned by the destruction of Greytown, and held to bail in a large amount.

A correspondent of the Boston *Post* announces the death, a few days since in Pawtucket, R. I., of the mother of the world-renowned Sam Patch. She died an humble and faithful christian, at the advanced age of 80 years.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Bell's Weekly Messenger says a rumour has reached it that the Earl of Aberdeen has large possessions in Russia.

A French steam-frigate has arrived at Marseilles from Alexandretta, with sixteen beautiful Arab horses for the French Emperor. They are valued at £1000 each.

Orders have been received in Edinburgh to prepare the royal apartments in Holyrood Palace for the use of her Majesty and the royal family on their journey to Balmoral. They are to be ready by the beginning of September.

THE MAINE LAW.—Eighteen thousand of the citizens of Glasgow have signed the petition in favour of a Maine Law for Britain. The document was despatched on Wednesday night.

TERRIFIC POWDER-MILL EXPLOSION.—An explosion of a disastrous character took place a few minutes before five o'clock on the morning of the 10th inst., at the goverment powder mills at Herodsfoot, Cornwall, whereby upwards of five tons of gunpowder were destroyed, and damage done to the amount of £2000. The explosion is said to have originated in one of the men walking carelessly into the drying-house with his trousers on fire, caused by a spark from the fireplace. The duty which called the workman into that part of the mill was to ascertain the state of the thermometer. The man first discovered his perilous situation from the ignition of some loose powder on the floor of the drying-house, which, serving as a sort of train to the bulk of the manufactured powder then in process of drying, allowed him time to run for his life. With great presence of mind he ran from the premises, and leapt into a deep trench a short distance off, where he escaped with only a few bruises from stones which reached him. The drying and packing houses, were entirely blown up; the dressing-house was unroofed; the glass of the windows in the manager's house was shivered to atoms, and the windows of the houses in the village adjoining were very much injured. The magazine, which is situated a quarter of a mile from the mill, was shaken to the foundation by the force of the explosion. Happily, no personal injury was sustained.

In the course of a few months Melbourne is expected to be lighted with gas.

IRON SCREW COLLIERS.—There are now 14 screw colliers running between the Tyne and the Thames, and during the month of July they carried 23,587 tons of coals to London, equal to 8 per cent. of the entire importation by sea. Most of them make a voyage every week, and upwards of 4800 tons of coals were carried by two of them in 28 days. There is also a considerable number of these vessels building in the Tyne at Blackwall which will be put into this trade.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CHINESE FASHIONS.

The Chinese are spared all trouble as to fashion in dress. Not that foppery is any more rare than in any other quarters of the globe, or that the toilet and the proper arrangement of ornaments is by any means neglected, but all matters of dress come under two categories. The summer and winter arrangements constitute the only changes which the Chinese, from the Emperor down to the meanest peasant, ever adopts. And this, too, does not depend on individual caprice. The board of rites, which regulate customs, costumes, religious observances and etiquette, has the entire superintendence of the affair. At the proper time they notify the Viceroy of each province that spring or winter, as the case may be, has come, and accordingly assumes the summer or winter cap, without any regard to the state of the weather, and the people follow suit.

Among the Chinese no relics are more valued than the *boots* which have been worn by an upright magistrate. In David's interesting description of the empire of China, we are informed, that whenever a judge of unusual integrity resigns his situation, the people all congregate to do him honour. If he leaves the city where he has presided, the crowd accompany him from his residence to the gates, where his boots are drawn off with great ceremony, to be preserved in the hall of justice. Their place is immediately supplied by a new pair, which in their turn, are drawn off to make room for others before he has worn them five minutes, it being considered sufficient to consecrate them that he should have merely drawn them on.

DEATH ON THE BATTLE FIELD.

The following reflections presented themselves to Mr. Patrick O'Brien on viewing the field after the battle of Oltenitza, a spirited account of which he gives in his ***Journal of a Residence in the Danubian Principalities.***

"The sight of death on the field of battle does not produce the same feeling of awe that is caused even by the view of a passing funeral. You ride over the field the day after the fight, and you thread your way amongst the dead, with strange indifference at the sight of so much carnage. Whilst listening to the roar of battle, to the clash of arms, and the cries of the combatants, your mind is being prepared for the spectacle which awaits it, when the smoke will have cleared away, and the opposing ranks have ceased their work of slaughter. Then the free wind is blowing freshly over the bodies of the slain; the sky above is bright and sunny, birds are singing on the neighbouring trees, and the broad Danube is flowing calmly on to the sea. And close to where the soldier lies dead, his comrades are busy with their camp-kettles cooking their morning meal, or are going through the routine of their duties. Nothing around you is in harmony with feeling of mourning and regret. And so you continue your way over the field till you have satisfied your curiosity as to the state of the living and the number of the dead, and then you, too, look anxiously after your morning meal, and as you are sipping your coffee and smoking your pipe, you speculate calmly on the chances of war. How different is this from the feeling of depressing awe with which you look on death in cities, in the sick chamber, in the midst of quiet, daily avocations! In the house where there is death, you walk noiselessly and hold your breath, for perhaps you hear some stifled sobs. It may be a child that is weeping beside her dying father, or a mother's heart that is breaking, for the boy who was her pride and hope lies dead."

THE PULPIT IN PRUSSIA.—Several ecclesiastics in Prussia having been of late in the habit of preaching political sermons, in which they implored the Almighty to accord the triumph of the Christian arms of Russia over the Pagan enemies of the cross, the Minister of Public Worship at Berlin, has issued an order prohibiting for the future any political allusions from the pulpit.

THE OCEAN.—Few who have 'gone down to the sea in ships,' sailing day after day over its stormy waves, continually exhausting horizon after horizon, and 'still the end was not; few, we say have done this, but will feel the force of the following eloquent extract:

"The sea is the largest of the cemeteries, and its slumberers sleep without a monument. All grave yards in all other lands show some symbel of distinction between the great and the small, the rich and the poor; but in that ocean cemetery the king and the clown, the prince and the peasant, are all alike undistinguished. The waves roll over all. The same requiem song by the minstrelsy of the ocean sung to their honor. Over their remains the same storm beats, and the same sun shines; and there unmarked, the weak and the powerful, the plumed and unhonored, will sleep on, until awakened by the same trump when the sea will give up its dead. I thought of sailing over the slumbering but devoted Cookman, who, after a brief but brilliant career, perished in the President—over the same ill-fated vessel we may have passed.—In that cemetery sleeps the accomplished and pious Fisher; but where he, and thousands of others of the noble spirits of the earth lie, no one but God knoweth. No marble rises to point out where their ashes are gathered, or where the lovers of the good or wise can go to shed the tear of sympathy. Who can tell where lie the tens of thousands of Africa's sons who perished in the 'middle passage?' Yet that cemetery hath ornaments of Jehovah.—Never can I forget my days and nights as I passed the noblest of the cemeteries without a single monument."

EXTRAORDINARY PROPOSITIOE. — The following extraordinary paragraph appears in a late English paper. It would be a novel kind of warfare to wage against the Czar, that instead of breaking down his stone walls, we construct formidable breastworks, and thus destroy the navigation of his harbours.

"Short Path to Success.—A proposition has been sent to the Admiralty by an officer of the navy of high standing, for the perfect sealing up the entrance to Constradt, by doing which, the Russian fleet could be kept there for years, and if necessary for ever. The plan is now under the consideration of the Admiralty, and we are credibly informed the gallant Anglo-French Admirals are being consulted on the practacability of the same. To give further explanation at present would be most injudicious. If carried out, it will release nine-tenths of our fleet from that part of the Baltic; after which Syeaborg and Helsingfors may have similar cards played at a cost of a few shot or shell, and most certainly without loss of lives compared with Gamla Carleby."

The best evidence that can adduced in favor of the efficaciousness of Hoofland's German Bitters, prepared by Dr. C. M. Jackson is the unprecedent demand for them from all parts of the Union; and although there may be many compounds prepared and represented as being worthy of a liberal patronage, yet we feel constrained to remark, that the vast number of testimonials with which the worthy doctor has been honored, by persons of the highest character and respectability, who found it necessary to have recourse to his preparation, is testimony sufficiently conclusive, that a more effectual remedy for the almost immediate relief of those afflicted with that direful malady, dyspepsia, has never been discovered.