

ANCIENT, MEDIEVAL AND MODERN HISTORY.

- 1776 Battle of Trenton: Washington (loss 9) defeats Hahl and his Hessians (loss 1,000), Dec. 26.
- 1777 Battle of Red Bank: Washington (loss 100) defeats Mawhood (loss 400). Battle of Bennington, Vt.; Stark (loss 500) defeats Baum and Bremen (loss 600). Battle of Brandywine; Howe (loss 500) defeats Lafayette (loss 1,000), Sept. 26. Arrival of Lafayette, who is made a Major-General in Continental Army. Philadelphia occupied by the British, Sept. 27.
- 1778 Battle of Germantown; Howe (loss 600) defeats Washington (loss 1,200), Oct. 3-4. Second battle, near Stillwater; Gen. Gates (loss 350) defeats Burgoyne (loss 600), Oct. 7. Surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga, with 5,732 men, to Gates, Oct. 17. Articles of Confederation adopted by Congress, Nov. 15. American independence recognized by France, Dec. 16.
- 1778 Treaty with France concluded, Feb. 6. Philadelphia evacuated by the British, June 18. Battle of Monmouth; Washington (loss 250) defeats Clinton (loss 400), June 28. Massacre of Wyoming Valley, July 3. Count d'Estaing, with twelve ships of the line, six frigates, and French troops arrives. Battle on Rhode Island; Sullivan (loss 211) defeats Pigot (loss 200), Aug. 29. Americans retreat from Rhode Island, Aug. 30. Savannah seized by the British, Dec. 29. Repulse of Americans at Briar Creek, March 3.
- 1779 New Haven plundered by the British, July 5. Fairfield and Green Farms, in Connecticut, taken by the British, July 7. Stony Point taken by the Americans, July 16. Charleston, S. C., surrendered to the British, May 12. Battle of Camden, S. C.; Cornwallis (loss 325) defeats General Gates (loss 730), Sept. 8. Benedict Arnold betrays and deserts his country. Major Andre captured, Sept. 23, and hung as a spy, Oct. 2.
- 1781 Battle of Cowpens; American General Morgan (loss 72) defeats Tarleton (loss 800), Jan. 17. Assembling of Congress, March 2, articles of Confederation having been ratified by all the States. Defeat of General Greene by Cornwallis, at Guilford. Battle of Eutaw Springs; General Greene (loss 555) defeats Stewart (loss 1,100), Sept. 8. The traitor, Arnold, burns New London, Sept. 6. Surrender of Lord Cornwallis, at Yorktown, with 7,073 men, to Washington, Oct. 19.
- 1782 Independence of the United States acknowledged by Holland, April 19. Denmark, Spain and Prussia. Armistice with Great Britain, Jan. 20. Peace with Great Britain, at Treaty of Paris, Sept. 23. Resignation of General Washington, Dec. 23.
- 1784 Treaty of peace ratified by Congress, Jan. 4.
- 1785 John Adams sent to England as first Ambassador from the United States. Cotton introduced into Georgia. Shay's rebellion in Massachusetts. Delegates assemble at Annapolis, and recommend a Convention to revise articles of Confederation.
- 1787 Meeting of Convention at Philadelphia, George Washington presiding. Constitution of the United States adopted, Sept. 17. Constitution ratified by all the States except Rhode Island and North Carolina. Emancipation of slaves by the Quakers of Philadelphia.
- 1789 First Congress meets at New York. George Washington elected first President of the United States. North Carolina ratifies the Constitution. Death of Benjamin Franklin, Sept. 17. Rhode Island ratifies the Constitution. Hamilton's financial schemes proposed. Bank of the United States established, at Philadelphia.
- 1790 Vermont admitted as the fourteenth State. Indians defeat St. Clair. Kentucky admitted as the fifteenth State. The Columbia river discovered by Captain Grey. Washington City chosen as the capital of the republic.
- 1793 Invention of the cotton gin by Whitney, resulting in the revolutionizing of the culture of cotton. Trouble with the French Ambassador, Genet.
- 1794 Washington's second term as President begins. Whisky rebellion in Pennsylvania. France recalls Genet. Jay's treaty with Great Britain.
- 1795 Congress ratifies Jay's treaty. Tennessee admitted as the sixteenth State. Resignation of George Washington. John Adams inaugurated as President. Treaty with France annulled.
- 1798 War with France threatened. Death of Washington, at Mt. Vernon, Dec. 14.
- 1800 The Government removed from Philadelphia to Washington. Treaty signed with France. General Bankruptcy Law passed.
- 1801 Inauguration of Thomas Jefferson as President. New York Evening Post established. War with Tripoli commenced, June 10. Death of Benedict Arnold, Sept. 24.
- 1802 Ohio admitted as the seventeenth State. Port of New Orleans closed by Spain, and American vessels forbidden to pass down Mississippi river.
- 1803 Louisiana purchased from the French; \$15,000,000 paid. First steam manufactured at Boston.
- 1804 Aaron Burr kills Alexander Hamilton in a duel, July 11. Frigate "President" destroyed at Tripoli by Decatur, Feb. 4. Fort Dearborn, present site of Chicago, built. Lewis & Clark's expedition starts across the plains.
- 1805 Treaty of peace with Tripoli, Jan. 4. Lewis first becomes an article of commerce. Seizure of armed American vessels by England. Lewis & Clark arrive at mouth of the Columbia river.
- 1806 American commerce affected by blockade of French and English ports. British vessels ordered to leave United States waters. Trouble with England respecting the rights of neutrals. Attack on the American ship "Chesapeake," by the British ship, "Leopard," June 22. Embargo on American ships declared, Dec. 22. Acquittal of Aaron Burr on charge of conspiracy.
- 1807 The first coast survey ordered by Congress. Importation of slaves forbidden by Congress. Eli Terry manufactures first wooden "clocks." First successful steamboat. Abolition of the slave trade, Jan. 1. France orders the seizure and confiscation of American vessels. First printing office west of the Mississippi, established at St. Louis. First Bible Society founded, in Philadelphia, 1807.
- 1809 First woolen mills started, in New York. Embargo repealed, March 1. James Madison President of the United States. Intercourse between France and England forbidden.
- 1810 132 confiscated American vessels sold by France. First manufacture of steel pens begun. First agricultural fair, held at Georgetown. Porcelain clay discovered in Vermont. Hartford Fire Insurance Company incorporated.
- 1811 Engagement between U. S. frigate "President," and British sloop, "Little Belt." Declarations on American vessels by France and England. Stevens devises plan for plating vessels. First manufacture of screws by machinery. Battle of Tippecanoe; Gen. Harrison defeated Tecumseh, Nov. 7. Reparation made by the British for the attack on the "Chesapeake." Great earthquake at New Madrid, Mo. Astor's fur company establishes post of Astoria. British landing rifles invented.
- 1812 Embargo laid for ninety days. Louisiana admitted into the Union. Congress levies a tax of \$3,000,000. Additional force of 35,000 men authorized. Detachment of militia, not exceeding 100,000 men, authorized. War declared against Great Britain, June 12. British orders in council revoked, June 16. Van Horne defeated, Aug. 5. Defeat of Miller, Aug. 8. Gen. Hull invades Canada, July 12; surrenders Mackinac, July 17. Hull surrenders Detroit with 2,500 men, Aug. 16. The "Alert," a British ship of war, captured by the "Essex," Aug. 12. The "Guerricere," a British frigate, captured by the "Constitution" ("Old Ironsides"), Capt. Hull, Aug. 19. Gen. Harrison takes command of the Northwestern army. Queenstown attacked, unsuccessfully, by the Americans, Oct. 12. The "Frolic," a British ship, captured by the U. S. sloop of war "Wasp," Feb. 22. British vessels afterwards taken by the "Poitiers," a British frigate. The "Macedonian," a British frigate, captured by the "United States," Commodore Decatur, Oct. 25. The "Java," a British frigate captured by the "Constitution," Capt. Bainbridge, Dec. 23.
- 1813 At the River Raisin, the British and Indians surprise and defeat Winchesters. Most of the "Americans" were massacred by the Indians, who were left unprotected by Gen. Proctor, July 13. The "Peacock," a British ship, captured by the "Hornet," Feb. 23. The inauguration of James Madison as President, March 4. The Creek Indians subdued by Gen. Jackson. The American coast blockaded by the British. Duel between Gen. Jackson and Col. Benton. Gen. (now Toronto) in Upper Canada, taken by the Americans, under Gen. Pike, who was killed, April 22. The "Chesapeake" frigate taken by the British frigate "Shannon," June 1. First rolling mill at Pittsburgh. Stereotyping first introduced into America. Death of Capt. Lawrence, of the "Chesapeake," Sept. 25. Battle of Fort George, May 27. British attack on Sackett's Harbor repulsed, May 28. Forts Meigs and Stephenson attacked by the British and Indians. The U. S. brig "Argo" taken by the British sloop "Pelican," Aug. 14. The British brig "Boxer" captured by the U. S. brig "Enterprise," Sept. 4. The British fleet, 63 guns, on Lake Erie, captured by the American fleet, 56 guns, under Commodore Perry, Sept. 10. Massacre of Fort Mimms, Ala., by the British, Aug. 30. Battle of Williamsburg, Nov. 11. Burning of Newark, Canada, Nov. 12. British burned the "Argo," Dec. 13. The British capture Fort Niagara, Dec. 29. Niagara frontier ravaged by the British, March 30. Gen. Harrison after having crossed into Canada, defeats and disperses the British army under Gen. Proctor, near the River Thames; death of Tecumseh, Oct. 5.
- 1814 The frigate "Essex" captured, at Valparaiso, by two British vessels. Battle of Horse Shoe Bend, March 20. The "Esperanza," a British vessel, captured by the "Peacock," April 29. Oswego bombarded and taken by the British, May 8. The "Reindeer," a British vessel, captured by the "Wasp," July 25. The Erie captured by the Americans under Gen. Brown, July 3. Battle of Chippewa. Brown defeats Drummond, July 5. Battle of Bridgewater, Lundys Lane. Brown and Scott defeat Drummond and Brown, July 25. The British bombard Stonington, Conn., Aug. 9. Battle of Fort Erie, Aug. 15. Battle of Bladensburg. British General Ross, defeats Winder, Aug. 24. British enter Washington, and burn the public buildings. Alexandria taken by the British, Aug. 29. The "Arcton," a British vessel, captured by the "Wasp," Sept. 1. Attack on Fort Bowyer (now Morgan) Sept. 5. The British fleet on Lake Champlain, 95 guns. Commodore Downie, captured by the American fleet, of 98 guns. Commodore MacDonough, and his army defeated at Plattsburgh, by Gen. M'Clure, Sept. 11. British expelled from Pensacola, by Jackson, Nov. 7. British sloop Borge, La., Dec. 14. Battle below New Orleans, Dec. 22. Jethro Wood patents his own plan. Stevens makes first steel plates for engraving. Massacre at Fort Dearborn, (Chicago) by Indians, Aug. 15. Attack on Baltimore. Bombardment of Fort Mifflin. British defeated, and Gen. Ross killed, Sept. 14. Treaty of peace with Great Britain signed, at Ghent, Dec. 24. Death of New Orleans.
- 1815 Defeat of the British, with the loss of
- their leader, Gen. Pakenham, by Gen. Jackson, Jan. 8. Capture of the frigate "President" by the British sloop, Jan. 5. Treaty of Ghent ratified by the Senate, Feb. 17. "Constitution" captures the "Cyane" and "Levant," Feb. 20. War declared with Algiers. The "Penguin," captured by the "Hornet," March 25. Commodore Decatur sent against Algiers. Decatur captures Algerine frigate, June 20. Hunt first manufactures axes. Terrific gale and flood in New England, Sept. 27. Indiana admitted as a State. Second United States bank chartered. Steam first applied to paper making. Election of James Monroe, President. Mrs. Emma Willard opens her girls' school at Troy. This was known as the year without a summer. Pensions granted to the Union. Jackson subdues Indians in Georgia and Alabama. Erie Canal commenced. Mississippi admitted into the Union. Gen. Brown publishes house book. Clymer invents Columbian printing press. New England Deaf and Dumb Asylum founded. Foundation of the new Capitol laid, at Washington, Aug. 24. Pensacola first captured from the Spanish, by Jackson. The "Savannah," the first steam packet across the Atlantic, makes a voyage to Liverpool. The first permanent Lodge of Odd Fellows founded, in Detroit, April 25. Alabama admitted into the Union, Dec. 14. Passage of the Missouri Compromise. Florida ceded to United States, by Spain for \$5,000,000. Maine admitted into the Union, March 15. Harsh discussion in Congress on the slavery question. Percussion caps for guns first introduced. Re-election of James Monroe as President. Petroleum first discovered in Ohio. Macadamized roads first introduced. Death of Daniel Boone. Missouri admitted into the Union, Aug. 22. Jackson takes possession of Florida, July 21. Bennett first introduces lithography. Straw hats first made from American material. The United States acknowledge the independence of the South American Republics. First English firm in California opens house at Monterey. Death of Maj.-Gen. Stark. Cotton first ginned by Lowell. Elliott makes first platform scales. War with the Cuban pirates. Great successfully introduced in Boston. The Monroe doctrine, June 18. First census taken in New York. First teachers' seminary opened in Concord, Vt. The principles of Robert Owen preached. Pins first made by machinery. First reformatory school founded in New York. Act passed to protect and encourage cotton manufactures. Convention with Great Britain to suppress the slave trade, March 13. Convention with Russia in relation to north-western boundary, April 8. U. S. of Lafayette on a visit to the U. S. Election of John Quincy Adams as President, Jan. 20. The Capitol at Washington completed. First edge tool manufactory established. Smith, a trapper, performs the first overland journey to California, and found Folsom. Deposition of Lafayette for France, Sept. 7. Deaths of Thomas Jefferson and John Adams. Convention with Great Britain concerning indemnities. First anniversary of American Independence, July 4. Great anti-slavery excitement. The abolition of William Morgan. Baron Von Humboldt visits the United States. Opening of the Erie Canal, Oct. 26. Duel between Henry Clay and John Randolph. Delano's first fire-proof safes. Treaty with Creek Indians concluded. Treaty with the Kansas Indians, and the great and little Osages. The rebellion of the Republic of Colombia. Continued intense excitement over the Mormon affair. First railroad built at Quincy, Massachusetts, and operated by horse power. Passage of the Protective Tariff Bill. First steam and ironery first made. First locomotive introduced from England, by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. Baltimore and Ohio railroad commenced. Congress makes provision for officers of the revolutionary war. Democrat and Republican first chosen by their respective political parties. General Jackson first elected President. Treaty of Peace with Brazil and Buenos Ayres. Planning mill first patented. Andrew Jackson, President, opposes the project to recharter the Bank of the United States. Independence of Mexico recognized. Webster's great speech in Congress, Jan. 25. Indiana passes resolution against Tariff Bill. First Asylum for the Blind established. Horticultural Society formed. Removal of 700 officeholders by Jackson. Commercial treaty with Turkey. South Carolina asserts "States Rights." The Mormon church founded by Joseph Smith, April 6. Building of the South Carolina railroad. Heriott Institute of Learning founded. Great debate between Webster and Hayne. Intense Tariff and Free trade excitement. Garrison starts the "Liberator" anti-slavery paper. Death of James Monroe, July 4. Manning mowing machines patented. Guthrie discovers chloroform. Heriott invents first practical pin machine. Buttons first made by machinery. Western College of Teachers established. British sloop bound for Lake Erie. New protective tariff measure passed. South Carolina nullification movement. U. S. frigate "Potomac," attacks Qualla Bay, Feb. 8. First case of Asiatic cholera in U. S. Indians. Death of Hawk war, and his capture, Aug. 27. University of New York organized, Sept. 14. Re-election of Andrew Jackson as President. Death of Charles Carroll, last surviving signer of Declaration of Independence.
- 1832 Morse invents electric magnet telegraph. Cholera in New York, 3,400 deaths. Fairbanks's Scale first patented.
- 1833 The present removal of the public deposits from the Bank of the United States. President Jackson begins his second term, March 4. The Southern States hold a states-right Convention. Clay's Compromise Tariff law passed. Gayler invents first practical saw. Death of John Randolph, May 24. Removal of several Indian tribes west of the Mississippi. Hoe's double-cylinder printing-press constructed. First successful reaper patented. Ericsson invents the caloric engine. Congress passes a vote of censure against the President for removing bank deposits; subsequently expunged. Letter matches first made. Walter Hunt invents first sewing machine, but fails to perfect and patent. De Howe invents raised alphabet for use of the blind.
- 1835 Great fire in New York. Congress establishes branch mints in Georgia, North Carolina, and Louisiana. Government purchase Cherokee bonds for \$3,200,000. New York Herald established by Bennett. Death of Chief Justice Marshall, July 6. Roger Brooks Tanev, appointed Chief Justice. Seneca Indian war renewed. Gas first introduced into Philadelphia. Brown makes first gold pens with diamond points. Guano becomes an article of commerce in the U. S. Major of Maj. Dade and his command in Florida. The national debt virtually paid. Arkansas admitted into the Union. Battle of San Jacinto, Santa Anna defeated and a prisoner, April 21. Bequest of James Smith to the U. S. \$15,139. Smithsonian Institute at Washington founded. Governor of James Madison, June 28. Dierckx, of Georgia, invades Seminole country. Sam Houston elected President of Texas, Oct. 22. Martin Van Buren elected President. Burning of the Patent and General Post-office at Washington. Texas declared independence. Smith invents the safety razor. First National Temperance Convention held at Saratoga. Adams' great debate for the right of petition. Death of Aaron Burr. Slough and Winnebago Indians removed beyond the Mississippi. Scott subdues the Creek Indians. 1837 Great financial crash and panic throughout the country. Harnden organizes the express business. Michigan admitted into the Union. First mine produced in the country. Wilkes' exploring expedition to the South Pole. United States Bank suspends specie payments, Oct. 5. Mormon war in Missouri. Intense political excitement. Smith elected U. S. Senator. Election of William Henry Harrison as President. Goodrich invents vulcanized rubber. The first steam fire engine constructed by Ericsson. Sub-Treasury bill becomes a law, June 30. First Washingtonian Society founded. American Express Company organized. Wilkes discovers Antarctic continent. William H. Harrison inaugurated, March 4, dies April 4. John C. Calhoun and Andrew Jackson inaugurate, April 6. McLeod difficulty. Webster's (Noah) Dictionary first published. Sub-Treasury bill repealed, Aug. 9. Bankruptcy Act becomes a law, Aug. 18. Argument for debts due the government abolished. Greeley establishes the New York Tribune. Kingford produces the first sample of pure corn starch. Motion on United States brig of war "Somers" instigated by Midshipman Spencer. The Courier community excitement. Fremont's expedition to the Rocky Mountains. Amputation or first Washington Treaty signed, with England, Aug. 9. Bunker Hill monument completed. Termination of war with Senecas. Lifer matches first made by machinery. President vetoes bill for National Bank. The rebellion of the Republic of Colombia. Bankrupt Act repealed, March 3. Death of Dr. Channing, Oct. 2. William Miller and the "Millites." \$200 voted by Congress to aid Morse to establish telegraph lines. Fremont explores Columbia River, Willamette and Klamath Lake. Great comet visible during the day. Death of Noah Webster. Patent for fire-proof safe. Explosion of the gun, the "peace-maker," killing the Secretaries of Navy and War. Commercial treaty with China. First telegraph line from Washington to Baltimore. First anti-slavery candidate nominated for the presidency. The "Missias," first American steamboat, rounds Cape of Good Hope. James K. Polk elected President. Mormons' murder of a British minister. Joseph Smith; Brigham Young selected as his successor. Copper discovered in Michigan. Texas asks for annexation. First telegraph line. Texas annexed by Act of Congress, Mexico. Florida and Iowa admitted into the Union. War declared by Mexico, June 4. Naval school at Annapolis opened. Elias Howe produces his first sewing machine. Great fire in Pittsburgh. Serious fire in New York, 300 buildings destroyed. Death of Justice Joseph Story. First manufacture of files. Zachary Taylor, with 4,000 troops, advanced to Corpus Christi, Texas. Negotiations toward purchase of San Juan. Death of Andrew Jackson, June 8. Free Soil party originated. First anti-slavery bill passed at 493. Hostilities begin in Mexico. Battles of Palo Alto, May 8, and Resaca de la Palma, May 9; victory of Gen. Taylor. Matamoros taken, May 18. Texas Tariff bill passed, June 8. President vetoes River Harbor bill, Aug. 3. "Gillon Proviso" against extension of slavery passes the House. Gun-cotton invented. Great fire in Louisville. Ether first used as an anesthetic by Dr. Jackson.
- 1846 Gen. Kearney takes possession of New Mexico, Aug. 18. Commodore Stockton blockades Mexican ports on Pacific coast. Monterey taken by Gen. Taylor, Sept. 24. Eight days' armistice granted. California expedition under Stephenson, sails from New York, Sept. 25. Tobacco, Mexico, bombarded by Perry, Oct. 25. Tampico taken by Gen. Comer, Nov. 14. Kearney defeats Mexicans at San Pascual, Dec. 8. Col. Doniphan defeats Mexicans at Brazito, Dec. 25. Gen. Taylor relieved by Gen. Scott. The Mormons driven from Nauvoo, Ill. Iowa admitted as a State. Kearney victorious at San Gabriel and Gila, Jan. 21. Mexican Congress resolves to raise loan of \$15,000,000 on property of the clergy, Jan. 25. Revolt of Mexicans in New Mexico against United States, Jan. 14. Defeat of insurgents at Canada, New Mexico, Jan. 24. Battle of Buena Vista, Feb. 23; Taylor defeats Santa Anna, Feb. 23. Battle of Sacramento; defeat of Mexicans, Feb. 28. Gen. Kearney declares California a part of the United States, March 1. Vera Cruz taken by army and navy, March 28. American capitulates, April 2. Battle of Cerro Gordo, April 8; Scott defeats Mexicans; also at Contreras, April 20. Molino del Rey taken, Sept. 8. Gen. Scott enters the city of Mexico, Aug. 19. Death of John Quincy Adams, Feb. 21. Gold discovered in California, March. Queens Community, New York, established. Wisconsin admitted into the Union, May 23. Missouri Compromise repealed. Election of Zachary Taylor as President. Corner stone of Washington Monument laid. Oregon Territorial bill passed, Aug. 13. First receipt of California gold at United States mint, Dec. 8. Treaty signed with Mexico, Feb. 2. Upper California ceded to United States. Mexicans unsuccessfully besiege Pueblo, held by Americans, Sept. 13 to Oct. 12. Huerfano taken by Americans, Oct. 9. Guaymas captured, Oct. 20. Great excitement at Rochester, N. Y., caused by "Spies" rapping. Food sent to starving Ireland. Los Angeles, Cal., taken by Kearney, and a system of government organized, Aug. 20. Great fire in St. Louis. Prof. Webster murders Dr. Parkman, Oct. 25. United States gold dollar first coined. California adopts a constitution prohibiting slavery. Death of James K. Polk, June 15. 1849 filibustering expeditions against Cuba forbidden by the President. Visit of Father Mathew, the temperance advocate. Capt. Minnie invents the Minnie conical bullet. Mason and Dixon's line surveyed. Cholera visits the United States, severe epidemic taken by Americans, Oct. 9. California Constitution formed at Monterey. Great riot at Astor Place Opera House, New York. Treaty with England for a transit way across Panama. French Ambassador dismissed from Washington. Death of John C. Calhoun, March 31. Congress passes the Oregon Denation Law. Uncle Tom's Cabin first published. Wastes first made by machinery. Fugitive Slave Law passed. Death of Zachary Taylor, July 9. Death of Arthur's Expedition sails. California admitted as a Free State, Sept. 9. New Mexico and Utah organized as territories, Sept. 9. Visit of Jenny Lind to America, Sept. 12. American soldiers the cast-iron. 1851 Appearance of the great sea serpent. Completion of Erie railroad. Corner stone of Capitol extension laid, July 4. First Asylum for Idiots established in New York. California Vigilance Committee formed. American yacht victorious at regatta in London. Yacht "Clyde" destroyed by fire. Terrible catastrophe at public school building, New York. Congressional Library destroyed by fire, Oct. 24. Dispute with England about the fisheries. Expedition to Japan, under Com. Perry. First street-railway in New York. Deaths of Henry Clay, June 26, and John C. Webster, Oct. 24. Treaty of Commerce with Chili. Branch mint established in San Francisco. Franklin Pierce elected President. Crystal Palace, New York, opened. Treaty with Mexico, for purchase of Arizona. Treaties for a transcontinental railroad. Explorations for a transcontinental railroad. Yellow fever in New York. Children's Aid Society, New York, founded. Walker's filibustering expedition to Sonora, Mexico. Completion of Treaty with Japan signed, March 31. American, or Know-Nothing Society formed. Loss of the steamship Arctic. Cubans seize American mail-steamer "Black Warrior," Feb. 28. First railway from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi, the Rock Island. American ship "Cayne" bonds Greytown, Central America, on refusal to pay for property destroyed, June 12. Renovation of the Iron Tower for iron-clad vessels, by Ericsson. Reciprocity Treaty with England, settling the fisheries question, Aug. 2. Bill passed organizing Kansas and Nebraska as Territories, repealing the Compromise of 1850, which included slavery from the entire Louisiana purchase, May 24. Massachusetts Aid Society send out settlement to Kansas. A. H. Reeder, of Pennsylvania, appointed Governor of Kansas. 1855 Territorial Legislature of Kansas meets at Shawnee, July; great emigration to Kansas. Territorial men meet in convention at Topeka and form a Free State constitution, Oct. 23. Hostilities between the Free and Slave State settlers begin. Sioux Indians defeated by Gen. Harney. Paraguanas attack United States steamer, "Water-Witch." Completion of Niagara Suspension Bridge. Court Claims established. William Walker unsuccessfully invades Nicaragua. Dispute with Great Britain concerning recruiting for the Crimea army.