The Press.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1859.

FIRST PAGE.—Personal and Political; A Tribute from a Political Opponent; The Broderick Obsequies; The Courts; Intelligence from Pike's Peak. FOURTH PAGE.—The Life of an Old Pennsylvania Hero; Marine Intelligence.

The News.

A telegraphic despatch from Nashville, published on Saturday, announced that on Friday last Allen A. Hall, editor of the Nashville *News*, killed G. G. Poindexter, editor of the *Union and American*, in a street rencontre. We received last night the *News* of Friday morning, containing the following card, which is indicative of the relations of the belligerents at that time, and was perhaps the immediate cause of the fatal affray:

"A CARD.—Yesterday morning there appeared in the *Union and American* the following paragraph:

"The charges and insinuations against this paper, contained in the leading editorial article in the Nashville *News* of yesterday, are entirely destitute of truth. We cannot consent to carry on a newspaper controversy with an editor who utters calumnies against a contemporary, trusting to the supposed privileges of age to shield him from responsibility.

"The charges I made against the *Union and American* in the article of the *News* above referred to, I established by undeniable facts then and there adduced. I made no 'insinuations.'

"The assertion that I trust to the privileges of age to shield myself from responsibility for any statements I make, is false and calumnious. He who made the assertion trusts to the pistol to shield from exposure the misrepresentations and falsehoods of the journal with which he is connected. That is the plain English of the matter. The shield he has selected will prove insufficient for his purpose. I shall go on, as I have begun, with a thorough exposure of all his misstatements, misrepresentations, and falsehoods which may appear in the *Union and American*, and which I may deem worthy of notice—fully able and prepared to protect my person against assault, and to punish the assailant. ALLEN A. HALL."

The steamship North Star, in regard to which so much anxiety existed until news of her safety reached us a few days ago, arrived at New York yesterday. On the morning of the 25th, at 4 40 A. M., she struck on a reef near Plana Island, one of the French Keys. The weather being rainy the day previous no observation could be taken. The ship remained on the reef for six days. About 420 tons of coal having been thrown overboard, the ship was moved from her rocky bed, and after taking on board the passengers, who had been landed for the purpose of lightening the ship, Capt. Jones proceeded to Fortune Island for water, thence to Kingston for a further supply of water and coal. She then proceeded to Aspinwall, took on such passengers as wished to proceed to New York, and left that place on the morning of the 11th, touching at Key West on the 10th for coal. Among the passengers in the North Star is Thomas Francis Meagher, special bearer of despatches from the United States minister at Costa Rica.

The Panama *Star* of the 10th instant, received by the North Star, contains later intelligence from Chili, the most important items of which relate to a severe shock of an earthquake at 8 A. M. on the 5th October, which was felt throughout the republic, but most severely in the province of Copiapo. The direction of the shock was from southeast to northwest, and its duration, it is said, about four minutes, having caused considerable damage in the city of Copiapo, and the port of Caldera, overthrowing some buildings and leaving a great many others in a ruinous condition, but fortunately we have not heard of any lives being lost. The Copiapo and Caldera railway has suffered some damage, but the repair will be easy and not very expensive. In Caldera the sea retreated several times from the coast, leaving a beach of one hundred and fifty yards, which caused a panic amongst the inhabitants, who flew affrighted to the neighboring hills; fortunately, the sea returned to its place without any violence, and did not occasion the least disaster.

We learn that the first mortgage bondholders of the Erie Railroad have applied to the Comptroller of the State of New York to sell the road, on account of its non-payment of interest, and that the officer has taken the necessary steps to accomplish that object.

The Warren (Pa.) *Ledger* says: On Saturday last, the North Western Bank destroyed by burning $146,000 of the office notes of the late Warren County Bank, which had been used by the bank, and redeemed; also, at the same time, $90,000 of unsigned bills were destroyed. This destruction was consummated at the banking-house in the presence of directors, officers, and a notary public. We understand that there is $6,490 of the Warren County Bank circulation still out, and the officers of the bank have no knowledge where it is held. The present circulation of the North Western Bank is $24,280.

General Thomas Thumb, who, although barely knee-high to a grasshopper, made a large fortune for P. T. Barnum, and a snug one for himself, is reported to be about to unite himself in wedlock with a lady of youth and beauty. The authorities differ about her height, and it is variously stated as three feet six, and six feet three.

Samuel Kessler, an old and esteemed fireman of this city, was run over yesterday, during an alarm of fire, by the Vigilant steam engine, and instantly killed. He was a member of the Schuylkill Hose Company.

A law suit recently occurred in Bangor, Maine in which it became necessary to give the exact, locality of Pennsylvania. One witness testified that it lay south of New York, and north of Florida, and he was under the impression that it was an Atlantic State. Another witness testified that he had been to Philadelphia, say it is a commercial city, that there is a considerable amount of water there, and that the tide rises and falls; he also thought Philadelphia was in Pennsylvania.

An order was issued from the War Department, yesterday, countermanding the order to send troops to Brownsville.

The Richmond *Enquirer* of yesterday says:

"We publish in this paper the petition of John Brown, by his counsel, for a writ of error to the judgment of the Circuit Court of Jefferson county October term. The Court of Appeals refused the writ of error, and here all efforts to stay the execution by judicial proceedings end. The pardoning power, the Executive and the Legislature, hold out no shadow of hope.

"This victim of Northern Abolitionism must suffer the extreme penalty of the law, and upon the heads of the prominent leaders of the Abolitionists is the blood of John Brown. At their hands will his death be required by a righteous God; at their must his widow and orphan children point as his murderers.

"The consequences that have been threatened from his execution are peculiarly the province of Virginia; if she is not competent to meet them, let her suffer from her own act. If she cannot preserve her honor, let it be tarnished; if she cannot protect her people, let them be murdered. If the North has any more John Browns who emulate his fate, let them repeat his experiment. If the blood of John Brown is to prove the seed of the Abolition church, we have no objection to a good harvest. If his execution elevates forward the time of our exodus will have arrived, and it will produce its Moses.

"John Brown has but a short time to prepare for death—but a few days in which to repent of many crimes and much wickedness. With hands reddened with the blood of his fellow-man, it is to be hoped that his remaining days will be allowed him in quiet to make his peace with an offended God, and that he will not be disturbed with the distracting thoughts and illusive hopes of resene. In view of his certain death, and of the awful presence into which he must soon be ushered, will not the City and wickedness of Abolitionism pause and permit this man to repent and pray?"

The mails of the steamship Canada reached this city last night. We have already given a telegraphic summary of her news, and add a few additional items of interest:

"The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says: It is said that the interview between the King of Sardinia and General Garibaldi, which various telegrams announced, was not of the most satisfactory character. According to this account Garibaldi frankly declared to the king that Italy was betrayed; and that he should put himself at the head of a rebellion, and Victor Emmanuel replied that he hoped he would not commit such an absurdity, but that if he did so there was no alternative but to employ force to prevent it.

"The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* says It is tolerably certain that the moment in which the Austrian Government will have to make concessions to Hungary is not far distant.

"Venice, November 2.—At the reopening of the opera a noisy demonstration took place here.

"Brigandage continues in the Venetian provinces.

"Several persons have been arrested in Verona by Hungarian soldiers for distributing revolutionary prints.

"Florence, November 2.—The elections of members of municipalities at Florence and other places have terminated without any result, almost all the electors having abstained from voting.

"The National Assembly has been convoked for the 7th of November.

"Omar Pacha, who was lately superseded in the government of Bagdad, is not to return to Constantinople, another place being fixed for his locale.

"Late dates from the coast of Africa state that the American ship Memphis, with seven hundred slaves, had escaped all the cruisers and put to sea. Twenty-six vessels were expected on the coast for cargoes of slaves for the United States."

Academy of Music.

The Complimentary Benefit to the Misses Agnesa and Francesca Heron Natali takes place this evening. Mr. Millard, the tenor on this occasion, will make his first appearance, instead of Signor Maccaferri. Signori Rocco and Ardavani will also sing, as already announced, and the performances will consist of the most popular selections from Il Trovatore, Lucrezia Borgia, Don Bucefalo, and L'Elisire d'Amore." The Spanish duo, "La Jota de los Toreros," a hundred times better than Gazzaniga's orange-girl's song, will also be given. We anticipate a very brilliant and successful evening for the gifted young *beneficiaires*.

SALE OF FURNITURE, PIANO FORTES, ETC.—This morning, at 10 o'clock, T. Birch & Son, No. 914 Chestnut street, will sell a large stock of elegant household furniture; also, several superior second-hand piano fortes, made by Bacon & Raven, Chickering, Birch, Pond & Co., and Loud.

EVENING SALE.—In the evening, at 7½ o'clock, will be sold elegant Italian and French vases, silver plated ware, and furniture.

TO PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS MEN.—The stock of elegant office tables, desks, &c., to be sold on Wednesday, at No. 529 South Third street, by Messrs. Birch & Son, can be examined to-day.

The Question Settled.

Mr. BUCHANAN's personal organ—the New York *Herald*—on Sunday last assured its readers that Pennsylvania would be of no account in the next Presidential election, and added "that we of the Empire State will settle the next Presidential election without regard to Pennsylvania, New Jersey, or any other State, North or South." The *Herald* having named Mr. BUCHANAN as its candidate, we are quite willing to confide him to the vote of New York next year, and equally contented that old Pennsylvania should fold its arms and allow the question to be decided by the Empire State. The theory upon which the *Herald* proposes to conduct the campaign in favor of Mr. BUCHANAN is an original one, worthy of that bitterest enemy of the President in 1856. There are three parties in the State of New York, viz: the Democratic, the Republican, and the American. In the late election, by a sort of concert of action between the Democrats and Americans, the Republicans were defeated upon a portion of their State ticket by about a thousand votes, showing that the Republican party, in that contest, was nearly equal to both the others. That New York could be rescued to the Democratic party with a Democratic candidate standing upon a thoroughly Democratic platform, all recent history has shown. But BENNETT has no doubt discovered the true road to success. With Mr. BUCHANAN as his candidate, and with a union between the Democrats and the Americans, the Republicans will be driven into the sea. The adopted citizens and the Americans will shake hands; the *Tribune* and the *Express* will embrace; the *Evening Post* and the Albany *Atlas* will fraternize; and from one extreme of the State to the other there will be a glorious hosanna over the candidate of the New York *Herald*. Why should not Pennsylvania stand out of the way, and leave the contest in New York in the hands of JAMES BUCHANAN, JAMES GORDON BENNETT, and the New York *Herald*?

The Americans in Pekin.

A correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce*, who accompanied Mr. WARD on his recent visit to Pekin, has furnished that paper with a full and interesting report of it. The main facts, as previously related in our columns—of the journey of Mr. WARD in the peculiar and uncomfortable covered carts, and in junks to the capital, and the discussions in regard to his performance of the Ko-tow, the failure to see the Emperor, in consequence of the inability to arrive at a mutual understanding in regard to the ceremonies to be observed, and the final ratification of the treaty at an inferior town—are all confirmed, but some important particulars in relation to the appearance of the country, Chinese habits, &c., are added. No disrespect appears to have been intended by compelling Mr. WARD and his suite to perform the overland portion of their journey in the carts, as they are the ordinary conveyances of the country, but they were found exceedingly uncomfortable. They are without springs, and the roads being very bad, our countrymen were jolted very much as if they had ridden in ordinary Pennsylvania carts, driven over ruts and rock heaps, with the horses kept trotting. In every other particular their visit was a pleasant one, and every possible mark of respect and regard for their comfort was evinced. The approach to Pekin is thus described:

"Long before reaching the walls, however, we were surrounded by crowds whom no man could number. They did not come there; they seemed to have grown there; they did not move, they only stood—acres of acres, and field after field of human flesh and bones compacted into one solid body, out of which grew innumerable heads, arms, and shoulders. It added to the impressiveness of the scene, that not one wore a hat or cap; not one covered his back or shoulders with shirt or coat; not one wore a vest to protect his bosom. A single article constituted the whole of their dress and wardrobe—a piece of blue cotton cloth into and Oriental petticoat, and tied about the loins and reaching below the knee. All that met the eye, therefore, was naked flesh, glistening with the sweat which oiled it as the sun shot down his burning rays; while those thousands and thousands of piercing, prying, steady eyes, and up-turned faces, all without a smile, and solemn in their wonder, indicated that all was not a mass of flesh there; mind was there; humanity was there; our brothers were there—almost the population of a common city was seen outside the walls; not could any estimate of the number of the population within amaze and stagger me, when I saw what there was around one gate in one suburb only, without. Not one shout was raised; not one voice was heard; not one foot or hand was moved. The last European embassy was that of Lord Amherst in 1816—forty-three years ago, more than the period of a generation—and most of the living population of Pekin had never seen a white man. We passed under two imposing portals, something like triumphal archways, about half a mile from the city, which, however, with the walls, the gates, the bastions, the towers, and other objects of interest within and without the city, must be the subject of another letter."

The house which was assigned to them during their sojourn in the Imperial City was formerly the property of the late Prime Minister, but was confiscated and seized by the Emperor as a punishment for his inability to defeat the rebels. It was the best building they saw in Pekin. They were feasted in the most approved Chinese style, and at one entertainment, at which only the three Chinese Commissioners, Mr. WARD, his secretary, and two interpreters were present, a supply of the choicest delicacies were served up at an expense estimated at $1,500. It consisted of not less than thirty courses, and one of the Commissioners said nothing better could be got up for the Emperor himself. The final exchange of ratifications of the treaty at Peitang is thus described:

"On reaching this town, everything was found in readiness for putting the last hand to the treaty. Mr. Ward and his suite were conducted at once to the yamun, or official hall, a very respectable structure, and tastefully fitted up for the occasion. A regiment of cavalry lined the street on which the yamun is situated, and soldiers and officers were drawn up at the gate, and lined each side of the passage from the street gate to the yamun, situated some twenty rods back. Some were armed with short swords, others with rusty matchlocks, and others still with bows and arrows! I counted seven arrows in one quiver. The gates and interior of the yamun were ornamented with strips of red cloth, and also with perpendicular strips of red paper, covered with gilt Chinese characters, all containing sentiments of respect and good wishes. Three tables were also arranged, one at each end, and one at the centre on the north side of the yamun, all loaded with the choicest delicacies of the Chinese culinary art. Another table was set in front, on which the ratifications were laid, and around which Mr. Ward and the Chinese officials were standing. Wang-fun, Governor-General of the Province of Chili, was deputed by the Imperial Commissioners to act in their place, an officer who, after the Prime Minister, has no other before him in the Empire. His residence is Tien-tsin, 70 miles above this town, at the junction of the Peiho and the Great Canal, whence he was ordered to hasten down to meet Mr. Ward and exchange the ratifications. Ward, the treasurer of the province, was also in attendance with a large number of officials, who had travelled quite a distance, some 50 or 100 miles, to do honor to the occasion. The ratifications were laid upon the table, the treaty having the Emperor's seal attached to it, for he never signs his name, and the American President's name fully and boldly written. The business was soon despatched, and in a most agreeable manner and spirit, all parties standing when Mr. Ward expressed the hope to the Governor General, that the treaty would be the bond of lasting peace and friendship between the two nations; to which the Governor replied, with great earnestness, and an apparent social tone, that the observance of the conditions by both parties would be much better for this end. Both he and the treasurer showed decided ability and humane feeling."

☞ Editors South, who have deserted the Democratic platform of 1856, and now seek to thrust on the party their Southern Wilmot Proviso, still speculate about Northern votes for their nominee at Charleston. Will they never learn that *they* have no party in the North any more than the Black Republicans have South? Why should they talk about Democratic success or defeat in the free States? According to their creed, there is no Democratic party in the free States. They are all heretics. They take the "short cut to all the ends of Black Republicanism," in the language of these organs which are in principle and policy with the Opposition, and not with the Democratic party. There is no party in the North that will maintain slavery in a Territory in spite of the people. These organs had as well cease writing about Democratic victories or defeats in the North. They have no part or lot in them. Any man who preaches their doctrine in the North could not be elected to any office. In most districts in the North he could not get a vote, and everywhere in that region he would run like the old candidate—General "Scattering."

Put up your doctrine that Congress must maintain slavery in all our Territories, in spite of the wishes and action of the people through their Legislatures, and you need not go into a free State for votes. They are not there. They never have been there, and never will be there. With the distinct understanding that the people of the Territories should dispose of the whole question without any interference by Congress, the Northern Democracy aided us to defeat the Wilmot Proviso. With the same understanding they sided us to repeal the Missouri Compromise. Without this understanding neither of these purposes would have been accomplished. It is a little too late now to put about and deny this understanding. There is the record, too plain to be misinterpreted by any honest man of half sense. Here and there a free State aspirant to the Presidency may write pamphlets, with crude, undigested opinions, to win favor at the South, but he has no constituents at home. He has got no votes to bring to his aid from a free State. It is downright dishonesty to the Southern Democracy to preach up the delusion that there is any Democratic party North, if this doctrine that the people of a Territory must have slavery, whether they will or not, is a test of Democracy. It is time those who are publishing or resolving such a doctrine should be aware of the fact that they have no allies in the free States. They have no political friends north of Mason and Dixon's line. No man justly suspected of holding such views could be elected to any office.—*Louisville (Kentucky) Democrat.*

The Sunbury and Erie Railroad.

The following communication is full of gratifying information to the friends of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad—that great Pennsylvania work now in rapid course of completion. It disposes of some of the characteristic efforts of the New York press to discredit and disparage that line of intercourse between Philadelphia and the lakes. The article is from the pen of a gentleman who may be said to speak by the book, and who writes with all the facts before him:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PRESS: In your paper of Thursday last appeared an extract from a letter to the New York *Herald*, on the subject of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad, prefaced by the remark that the said letter was "evidently *ex cathedra* in its character." Not only the extract published, but the whole letter, which has since appeared in full in *Vernon's Railroad and Mining Register*, is evidently so uniformly in its character, and, in some respects, so untrue in its statements, that you should have been satisfied at once that it did not emanate from any source having the interest of this work, or of the city of Philadelphia, at heart; but rather from a party in the interest of New York and her railroads, and desirous, under an *appearance* of fairness and friendliness, to throw discouragement upon the completion of this great enterprise.

The most important and damaging misstatement of facts is, that the railroad company "worked off the canal bonds at an average of between sixty and seventy per cent." So far is this from being true, that not a single one of the said bonds has been sold by the company at *under* seventy-five per cent., and from that price ranging upwards to par, the average price realized being about eighty-five per cent.

The Sunbury and Erie road, although in one sense it may run "parallel with the New York and Erie road," does not do so in the sense that they will be rivals for the same local business. Their lines are upon an average *nearly sixty miles* distant from each other, and the Sunbury and Erie, occupying the only natural passes through the Allegheny mountains, between the New York and Erie and the Pennsylvania Central roads, can never be injured by the construction of a rival line; but all railroad improvements through that whole region must be mere *feeders* to this trunk line.

It is true that nearly a hundred miles of the middle division of the Sunbury and Erie road extends through a region, at present a wilderness, for want of means of access; but a wilderness covered with the most magnificent growth of timber of any other portion of the State, and underlaid with exhaustless deposits of coal, iron ore, limestone, and other valuable minerals, all furnishing sources of business and revenue so soon as the locomotive penetrates this hitherto secluded region. The eastern portion of the line, extending from Sunbury to Lock Haven, a distance of sixty-six miles, passes through the fertile and densely populated valley of the West Branch of the Susquehanna, and is now doing a very large local business, which must of course be greatly increased upon every further extension of the road, and the completion of the Lock Haven and Tyrone and the Snow-Shoe Railroads. Even the small link of sixteen miles, now finished from Lock Haven, westward, to the mouth of Paddy's Rattlesnake, which penetrates only the vestibule of the so-much-talked-of "wild cat" region, and which is run once each way daily, by a small mixed train, connected an amount of trade and travel far exceeding the estimates of the most sanguine.

The western part of the line of the road, from Erie to Warren, sixty-six miles, passes through a highly-productive and thickly-settled country, dotted with towns and villages for the whole distance.

The rails are now laid to within ten miles of Warren, and, within the next two weeks, will be extended to that town. For some weeks past freight and passenger cars have been run daily from Erie to the extremity of the road, drawn by the same engine that took the iron to the track-layers; and the earnings of this imperfect train have been such as to render the prospect of a profitable local business certain, as soon as the cars can reach Warren.

In considering the probability of the Sunbury and Erie road being able to pay the interest on its bonds, (to throw a doubt upon which seemed to be the principal object of the writer of the *Herald's* letter,) we must take into account the extreme economy with which the work is being prosecuted.

The line through all this wild region of country spoken of is actually costing much less than half the amount per mile than the earlier surveys indicated as possible.

In pursuance of the act of 21st April, 1858, the Governor of the State recently appointed three civil engineers to examine the whole line, and report as to the cost of completing the same. The work is now so far completed that there can be no difficulty in arriving at this amount with certainty, and they report that the present means of the company, even allowing for a very heavy discount on their bonds, are ample for the completion of the whole line. One of these engineers is the present accomplished Chief Engineer of the city of Philadelphia, and he will doubtless feel it right to report the result of his examination to the Councils of the city as the largest stockholder in the company.

A very important difference, therefore, between the Sunbury and Erie Railroad and the others with which it has been compared, is that the comparatively small amount of the debt of the former, being, in the whole, but eight millions of dollars, and seven millions of this at five per cent per annum, making the whole not earnings required to pay the interest but a little over four hundred thousand dollars per annum. No intelligent man the least acquainted with the resources of the country traversed by this line, and the energy with which it will command, can for a moment doubt its ability to provide, from the day the locomotive traverses from this city to Erie, for much more than this amount of interest. P. M. P.

New Periodicals.

The *Atlantic Monthly* for December, of which we received an early copy on Saturday, from Mr. T. B. Pugh, Arcade Buildings, has been looked for with some degree of anxious curiosity, as the first number under the new proprietorship of Ticknor & Fields. It is a favorable specimen, and gives good assurance for the future. Authors' names are not affixed to the different articles, but we can affiliate most of them. "The Experience of Samuel Absalom, Filibuster," which commences a narrative of the expedition of 1856, under "General Walker," in Nicaragua, appears accurate and is full of interest. A paper called "Thomas Paine in England and in France," by Sheldon, gives a narrative of Paine's life from his return to Europe in 1787 to his final departure in 1802. There are many details here not generally known, and Paine's career in France during the Revolution is fully traced. "Elkanah Browster's Temptation" is an agreeable novelette by Miss Priscilla Axtell, and the hero is a Cape Cod boy, who finally settles down into a fisherman and painter. Dr. J. W. Palmer, the celebrated traveller and author, contributes some desultory foreign reminiscences, entertaining and pleasant reading. "Beauty at Billiards," by E. H. House, a love anecdote: a learned, or rather a scientific, inquiry into the Aurora Borealis, by George B. Prescott, of Boston, and the conclusions of the Minister's Wooing, and the Professor at the Breakfast Table, (the last ending up with marriage and ending with a poem,) and some capital reviews make about the contents of the present number. There are some poems, of which "Magdalena" is by Nora Perry, of Providence. The Magazine has variety and merit to recommend it, and happily inaugurates the commencement of the new publishers' reign.

From W. B. Zieber we have the *Westminster Review* and *Edinburgh Review*, just republished by L. Scott, of New York. In the *Westminster*, the most striking article is upon the Life and Writings of Rousseau, boldly written and extremely just. There is also an able paper on Bonapartism in Italy—the elder Napoleon's exploits there. The new number of the *Edinburgh* is the best, we may say, since the secession of Jeffrey, thirty years ago. There is not a feeble article in the decade which it contains. The most noticeable, where all are good, is A Visit to England in 1775, very curious, indeed, with its details respecting Dr. Johnson; the Graffito of Pompeii; the Italian War of 1857; the review of Thackeray's "Virginians;" the Unpublished Correspondence of Madame du Defland; and a very earnest denunciation of the Secret Organization of Trades. It is "quite refreshing," as the phrase is, to find the old Blue-and-Yellow *Edinburgh* as brilliant and able as in its purple youth. By the way, we may here add that the Review, having occasion to quote from Allibone's Dictionary of British and American Authors, describes it as "a work of extraordinary research, and very commendable accuracy. There is scarcely a name in the whole range of English literature which seems to have escaped Mr. Allibone's notice."

The *Art Journal* for November has reached us, through Mr. Zieber. It has a portrait of the Princess Charlotte, by Laurence, and G. Chambers' Greenwich Hospital, (these two from the Queen's Collection,) and Pelt's picture of "Prince the Moors," all engraved on steel. There are wood engravings from some of Sir T. Laurence's finest paintings, with a variety of other fine illustrations, and a great deal of good letter press. We see it announced that, in the *Art Journal* for 1860, will be commenced a new serial article, to be continued monthly, descriptive of the Course of the Hudson, from its Source to the Sea, written expressly for it, by Benson J. Lossing, illustrated with original engravings on wood, from actual sketches taken during the autumn of the present year.

Letter from Toledo, Ohio.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

TOLEDO, Ohio, November 17, 1859.

Having left Philadelphia, for a short time, to try my luck in the West, I have hold up at this point. Toledo, in its appearance, is rather a pretty city, situated upon the banks of the Maumee river, some fifteen miles from Lake Erie, and has in ten years grown to be a commercial port of some importance, numbering some twenty thousand inhabitants, consisting mostly of Irish, and some Germans. The city is built upon a low, flat, marshy place, which renders it anything but a desirable place in the summer. Fever and ague is the greatest annoyance in the shape of disease. There are some very handsome buildings, among them the "Island House," which is situated upon the "middle ground," adjoining the depot, and kept by the gentlemanly proprietor, R. P. Angier, formerly of the Angier House, Cleveland. Business is dull at present; a perfect stagnation has come over the whole West in a commercial point of view. The railroad companies appear to do a large business in the way of transporting live stock and freight.

The Catholics of this city are holding a fair, in Morris Hall, for the benefit of the orphans under the charge of the Sisters of Mercy, which is well attended. The political complexion here seems to be in favor of Douglas. The Administration wing of the Democracy is not a decent "corporal's guard," and these are in the employ of the post office or custom house. The Douglas wing is led by Gen. James B. Stedman, the funniest and able champion of the State-Rights Democracy, who, by the way, will figure in the next National Convention, at Charleston. Ohio will undoubtedly instruct her delegates for the "Little Giant."

NIGHT-SHADE.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, November 21, 1859.

Although Congress will assemble two weeks from this day, there is comparatively little agitation as to the organization of the House. Few strangers are in town, and excepting the Senators who have residences here, and now and then a member of Congress from the adjoining States, Washington is duller than usual. That there will be some delay in the organization is to be expected. The constitution of parties, the course of the Administration, and the Harper's Ferry affair, not to speak of other considerations, will prevent an immediate election of the different officers of the House. But I do not anticipate any such protracted struggle as that of 1855-56. The country got heartily sick of that contest, and it will scarcely tolerate any imitation of it at the present day.

Vigorous efforts are being made to effect a union between the Republicans and the Southern Americans—which may or may not be successful. Those having this matter in hand are confident that it will succeed. There are some difficulties in the way, which their efforts may be able to overcome. The Administration has but one object in view, and that is to put to the sword all the "rebels." In order to kill off John Hickman, John Schwartz, William Montgomery, John B. Haskin, Horace F. Clarke, John Reynolds, Garnet B. Adrain, Jetur T. Riggs, John G. Davis, and Isaac N. Morris, it would be willing to do anything short of voting directly for an Opposition candidate. To destroy these gallant men it would be ready to recommend its adherents in Congress to vote for the plurality rule, so as to give the organization to the Republicans, if it were not afraid of a bolt in its own ranks. Its organs here, and even some of its Cabinet ministers, are making indirect offers to the Southern Americans to unite with the Administration caucus, and to make nominations in common. Mr. Buchanan, with all his frequent pretensions of devotion to the adopted citizens, has latterly taken it into his head that the way to save the Administration from utter disgrace is to court the Americans. He is hugely enamored of them since they accepted a portion of the Democratic ticket in New York. He likes them for their bolt in New Jersey; he applauds them for their refusal to accept the Republican name in Pennsylvania, and if he can only convince the country that the Union is on the eve of dissolution he expects to conquer the nomination at Charleston, and to buy a re-election with their aid in 1860. The Americans are, however, not so easy to court as the President anticipates. They anticipate and appreciate his designs.

That portion of the Opposition which looks to the organization of the House simply for the sake of the offices has gone to work for the purpose of surpassing the Administration in its abuse of such rebellious Democrats as I have noted above. A correspondent of a Philadelphia paper I am happy to say the only one in the United States) devoted himself to this task with interesting industry. He started by speaking of the gentlemen referred to, (taking care to except Hickman and Broderick,) in terms of more than contempt, and has since then persisted in his abuse of them and of their known disinterested motives. No Administration newspaper has gone further in denunciation or ridicule of them. Even the Washington *Star* has not been more excited. He has sought to impress his readers with the idea that the "rebels" have done nothing to prove their sincerity and their power; that they are a miserable faction; that they did not defeat Clancy Jones, Owen Jones, Henry M. Phillips, Allison White, and John A. Ahl, in 1858; that they did not make a bold stand against the aggressions of the Administration in 1859; and that they were utterly extinguished at the late primary elections in Philadelphia.

I believe the correspondent in question, writing for the paper in question, could be answered from the columns of the latter, if it were necessary to show that the men so shamelessly and provokedly assailed have been repeatedly vindicated in those columns. The only portion of his assault, however, that requires any notice, is that in which he charges that the "rebel" Representatives in Congress "demand" a consideration for their votes in the organization of the House. I think I can speak for the most of the anti-Lecompton Democrats in the next Congress when I say that I challenge the correspondent referred to, or the paper for which he writes, to name the instance in which any such "demand" has ever been made. They have no candidate for any office. They fought the Administration of James Buchanan upon a principle; they fought the organization of the Democratic party whenever it was committed against principle, without regard to consequence, and by so doing elected a number of Opposition members to the next Congress. They, and those connected with them, rejected and trampled under foot all offers of compromise from the Administration and its mercenaries. They have never faltered in their denunciations of the corruptions of the Administration in all its departments, from that which began in Kansas to that which exploded in the naval investigating committee. Having done this in regard to an Administration which they assisted to elect, I need not say that they are not quite ready to go on their knees to ask office, and to beg for power in any other quarter. They have been quiet and unconcerned in the midst of the rivalries and speculations which have agitated other interests. It seems to me that, while the Administration, with its pensioned brothers, is attacking these men in the same breath that it attempts to conciliate the restrictions of court etiquette upon the simplest desires of the Queen was highly entertaining. Mrs. Cowell, as the Queen, was attired with surpassing elegance and richness, and looked beautiful. The part has not very much in it, nor did she attempt to overplay it, wisely content with making it just as effective as it ought to be, and no more. Mr. Keach as Ruy Blas, and Mr. Shewell as Don Vasquez, played finely. The merit of this drama is that the interest advances as the plot is developed—a consummation which, however desirable, is not always obtained by dramatists. The last act is especially effective. One coup de main, so to say, in which, at the moment Don Vasquez has the Queen in his power, Ruy Blas, having secured all the doors, dexterously possesses himself of his sword, the only weapon in the room, literally "drew down the house." The death scene was very fine, and the curtain fell amid loud applause. Mrs. Cowell and Mr. Keach were called out at the close.

We have again to notice the splendid manner in which this drama has been put upon the stage, and the rich and appropriate costumes. Where the scenes are chiefly in a royal palace, and one of the characters is a Queen, it was fitting that all the appointments should be splendid—and they were.

The literary merits of the play are considerable. The dialogue is expressive and pointed. The plot is clearly developed. We have rarely seen a piece run so smoothly on its first night. The favorable reception it has had warrants its repetition, and augurs well of its having not only a run now, but of becoming a standard book-piece. We should be glad to see the translator try his hand at an original play, confident that it would succeed.

ARCH-STREET THEATRE.—A second representation of "The Fast Men of the Olden Time," at the Arch-street Theatre, last evening, was witnessed by a crowded house, notwithstanding the rain. It is beautifully acted and powerfully cast, and is a production of great merit, many incidents, and full of humor and fine effects. It was received with repeated applause. The ladies and gentlemen in the piece played with spirit and correctness. The whole force of the admirable company at the Arch is in the piece, and they all entered into it with hearty zeal. The close of the play was original in many respects, and was rapturously cheered. It is certain to be another popular and profitable investment to Wheatley and Clarke.

Letter from New York.

REAL ESTATE SPECULATIONS—EX-SENATOR WADSWORTH—BAYARD TAYLOR—THE TAMMANY NOMINATIONS—THE FIRE DEPARTMENT—THE "HEART OF THE ANDES."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

NEW YORK, Nov. 21, 1859.

Speculation in real estate has again taken a fresh impetus, in consequence of several large purchases having been recently made in the vicinity of Central Park, at prices that have opened the optics of those with whom the purchase and sale of real estate is a regular business. One gentleman has bought two blocks of the Tatman property, between Sixty-third and Sixty-fifth streets, for $100,000. Several whole blocks on Seventh and Eighth avenues, near Macomb's dam, have been purchased by another opulent individual. Large parcels on each side of the city, above Central Park, are daily changing hands, the point on all sides appearing to be who shall secure the largest parcels. The plethoric condition of the money market affords means for all sorts of operations, and those who possess facilities or borrowing, or who have actual capital, are venturing freely on the "ground swell."

Ex-Senator James Wadsworth, of Buffalo, who has filled the mayoralty chair of that city, and was the first Democrat ever elected to the Senate of this State from Erie county, has determined to remove from Buffalo and make this city his future residence. He will prove a decided acquisition to the bar, and a powerful accession to the Democratic party. He is a gentleman of fine scholastic acquirements, an eloquent speaker, equally at home in the forum and on the stump, and his presence and manner altogether agreeable and winning. I know of no importation that could be made from the rural districts possessing so many of the requisites of success, professional or political, as Senator Wadsworth. He has the advantage of being thoroughly acquainted with leading men in every part of the State, is familiar with our legislative and partisan history, and has that practical sort of talent that promptly makes itself recognised and respected.

Bayard Taylor, who has just returned from California, and who is writing for the New York *Mercury*, at figures of delightful size, is about to commence in that paper a series of articles entitled "Pictures of California, Ten Years Later." Mr. B. T. was one of the early visitors to California, having tramped to and through it in 1849.

The Tammany Hall Democratic Convention has presented two good men for the offices of Mayor and corporation counsel. Mr. Havemeyer has hitherto occupied the Mayoralty chair, and is a very intelligent, upright, wealthy, and influential gentleman. Mr. Tilden is known to the legal profession as a sound lawyer. They will carry an immense vote from the mercantile and property holding classes, irrespective of political affiliations. Though both are decided partisans, they have claims upon the support of every man who desires to see an energetic and honest administration of the city government. They are opposed to shoulder-bitters and corporation plunderers of all sorts. They are men of character, who cannot afford to have their administration soiled by any connection or complicity with the hives of adventurers who swarm about the City Hall. They are in a high degree acceptable to the Fifth-Avenue Democratic Vigilant Association, and, from present indications, are satisfactory to all shades of the city Democracy, excepting, perhaps, those whose personal and pecuniary advantage was involved with the nomination and election of others. There is every reason to suppose that they will be elected by the usual large party majority.

The fire department is in a state of effervescence on account of the election for the chief engineership, which is to take place in January. The books of the department show that there are four thousand two hundred and sixty firemen entitled to vote. Meetings are being held almost nightly at some of the engine-houses, and all sorts of plots are hatched to promote the success or defeat of particular candidates. The fund of the department is in a flourishing condition. During the past year about three thousand dollars has been added to its permanent capital, and during the same time nearly thirty thousand dollars have been dispensed in charities to those entitled to its benefit.

Church's "Heart of the Andes" will only remain here on exhibition two weeks longer. It will then be exhibited in the principal cities of the country, and afterwards taken to England to be engraved.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

THREE DAYS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

ARRIVAL OF GEN. SCOTT AT PORTLAND.

Departure of Gen. Harney.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 21.—The overland mail, with San Francisco dates to the 31st ultimo, has just reached Fort Smith.

Business at San Francisco was unchanged. Late advices from the East, giving information of increased shipments for California, had caused much speculation among the merchants.

The business portion of Volcanoville, Amador county, was destroyed by fire on the 29th. The loss is over $50,000.

FROM OREGON.

Advices from Oregon announce the arrival of General Scott at Portland, on the 21st ult. He was handsomely received. General Harney left Portland soon after the arrival of General Scott, and it was supposed that he had taken offence at being superseded in the command by General Scott.

From Havana.

THE NEW CAPTAIN GENERAL.

NEW YORK, Nov. 21.—The steamship De Soto, from Havana on the 16th, arrived at this port to-night.

Nov. 17, lat. 25 long. 79.50, exchanged signals with ship John Spear, bound north, with loss of foremast mizzen top mast and masts.

The DeSoto broke her starboard shaft, on the outward passage on the 13th, and made the rest of the trip with one wheel.

Active preparations were being made at Havana for the reception of the expected new Captain-General, who, it is said, will come as viceroy.

His Excellency, General Concha, it is said, has rented a house in Havana for six months, whilst arranging his affairs, as he will reside for that period at his late residence at Marianna.

The weather was extremely cold.

It was understood that the new Captain General of Cuba arrived at Havana on the night of the 15th.

Sugars were slightly higher. Stock in port, 85,000 boxes.

Freights and Exchanges were declining.

The principal object of attraction in Havana was the opera, which, under Max Maretzek, was performing to excellent houses.

HAVANA MARKETS.—The Sugar market is again dull, with a decreased advance of prices. Foreign advices have been favorable. The transactions are upon the basis of 7½@9 reals ⅌ arroba for D. S. No. 12. Stock 85,000 boxes.

Molasses has advanced to 2½@2¾ reals ⅌ kez of 8½ gallons.

Freights dull and declining. Exchanges rather stiffer, with increased offerings of drafts. Foreign advices have been favorable. The transactions are upon the basis of 7½@9 reals ⅌ arroba for D. S.