

THE VICE PRESIDENCY.

The Philadelphia News remarks that the announcement of the serious indisposition of Mr. King, the Vice President elect, has given rise to the inquiry as to the effect of his death.

The electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by ballot for President and Vice President; one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same State with themselves.

"The electors having the greatest number of votes as Vice President shall be Vice President, if such number shall be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list the SENATE SHALL CHOOSE THE VICE PRESIDENT."

It will be perceived, by an examination of these provisions, that in case of Mr. King's death before the day named for electing the Senate, the Senate would have to elect "from the two highest numbers on the list" of persons voted for; and as only two numbers or persons were thus voted for by the State electors, (Mr. King and Wm. A. Graham), the Senate would have to elect Mr. Graham Vice President of the United States.

The subject under discussion is fully treated in the second, third and fourth clauses of the first Section of Article II. of the Constitution, and in the first and second clauses of Article XIII. of the Amendments to the Constitution.

The Philadelphia Ledger says, should Mr. King die, it will give rise to the constitutional question, who shall be his successor, and probably cause an amendment to the Constitution, to meet such difficulties in future. A Vice President never having died before being inaugurated, the possibility of such an occurrence does not appear to have occupied the attention of Congress.

THE ART UNIONS.

The annual distribution of Paintings by the Art Union of this city will take place in about two weeks from this time. The list of prizes is unusually large, and embraces some of the best paintings of some of our best artists.

CEMETERY.

We are pleased to announce that our citizens are determined to have a Cemetery for the purpose of interring the dead. They have raised by subscription \$2000 for the purpose, and have purchased ten acres of ground from F. W. Pollock, situated near the canal, immediately above the Red Hill, for \$1000, which is to be laid out as soon as possible, so that lots can be purchased and interments take place in it this winter, if desired.

BISHOP IVES, OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The Freeman's Journal, the Roman Catholic organ in New York, copies the following extraordinary paragraph from the London Tablet, the Roman Catholic organ of Cardinal Wiseman.

The important news has just reached us that the Right Reverend Doctor Ives, Protestant Bishop of North Carolina, in the American Reformer, Episcopal Church, had abandoned the heresy of the Reformation, and abjured the Catholic Church.

In reference to the above Philadelphia Sun says: This story has been extensively copied into papers here, and in New York, and circulated much to the injury of the Bishop, and of the Church with which he is so prominently identified.

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THE AMERICAN. SUNBURY. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1852.

H. B. MASSER, Editor and Proprietor.

ADVERTISERS.—The circulation of the Sunbury American among the different towns on the Susquehanna is not exceeded if equalled by any paper published in North or Pennsylvania.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

GOREY'S LADY BOOK for January, is upon our table. It contains four large and beautiful engravings, entitled "The Merry Thought," "The Temptation," "The First Snow," and "Pin Money and Needle Money," besides the Fashion Plates for January, and a host of other splendid engravings.

THE LADIES' KEYSER for January is already out. The embellishment is a new scene from the Pioneers—old Leatherstocking rescuing Elizabeth Temple and Louisa Grant from the jaws of a panther.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE.—Service will be held by Divine Permission, on Christmas day, in St. Matthew's church, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and in St. Mark's church, Northumberland, at 6 1/2 P. M.

PRINTING INK.—For sale for cash, at this office, kegs of 25, 20 and 12 pounds each. Price 25 cents per pound.

LAND WARRANTS.—Persons having Land Warrants for sale, can dispose of them for cash, by applying at this office.

Our Carrier will pay his respects to the Patrons of the American on New Year's day, with an address, and hopes they will reciprocate, by paying him with something more substantial.

CHRISTMAS.—That day so universally hallowed and kept by the Christian world—to productive of buoyant hopes and smiling faces—so anxiously looked for by small children, and children of larger growth, comes on Saturday of this week, the publication day of our paper, and therefore tender to all our subscribers and readers "A happy Christmas" wishing them every blessing they may deserve—a clear conscience, and a receipt in full from the printer for all arrearages to the end of the year.

The navigation of the Canals has not yet been suspended, although many of the boats have gone into winter quarters. The demand for coal will, however, attract a number of boats until the very last moment, and consequently our coal operators will be kept busy loading boats, until Jack Frost lays his embargo, by an actual closing of our ports.

Messrs. SWIFT & Co. lectured at the Court House on Monday and Tuesday evening last, on the subject of electricity, electro magnetism &c., exhibiting a small magnetic state. Notwithstanding the unpleasant state of the weather, quite a respectable audience was present and seemed to enjoy the instruction and amusement afforded.

The Printers Convention of the North and West Branch region is advertised to come off at Milton, on the 18th of January next. If at home at the time, we shall endeavor to attend. We may "de-vise" ourselves a little fun on the 10th of all events.

We understand the road, along the Blue Hill, opposite this place, where the stage was upset a few weeks since, has been repaired. The supervisors are often much to blame in these matters and should be held strictly accountable.

FAILURE.—There has been an unusual excitement at Milton, the past week, on account of the failure of Messrs. Sweeten & Caldwell, a heavy mercantile firm. Their liabilities are said to be heavy and extend to a large number of persons.

The Baltimore and Ohio rail road is to be formally opened on the 10th of January, when an excursion train will leave Baltimore and reach Wheeling next day. From thence two Steamers will convey the party to Louisville, Kentucky.

Louis Napoleon is now Emperor of the French under the title of Napoleon the Third. How long the French will permit him to rule, is a question that none can determine at present. If the French have any spirit left, Napoleon's career will be short.

LADY OPERATORS.—An exchange paper speaking of a young lady in Newark, N. Y., as the only female operator on the Telegraph. The Miltonian refers to the fact that there is one at Northumberland. They might have added, another at Mill Hall, and one at Chambersburg and a number of others that we have heard of. It is a business well adapted for an intelligent lady. The only serious objection urged against lady operators, was the popular impression that they cannot keep a secret. We have, however, never heard any complaints, and the presumption is that lady operators can keep a secret, unless, perhaps, in matters of love affairs.

SOLDIERS OF THE WAR OF 1812.

A meeting of the surviving soldiers of the War of 1812, was held in Philadelphia on Saturday evening last. The object of this move on the part of those who served in the Army of the United States during the War of 1812, is to secure to themselves, and in the case of those who are dead, to their heirs, the same amount of Bounty Land that is now granted to those who served in the Army of Occupation in Mexico. It is asked that Congress shall so modify the present Bounty Land Act as to give one hundred and sixty acres of land in every instance, and in case of the death of the widow, the benefit of the law should extend to the children generally, and when an unmarried person is in the service, and now is dead, his parents, and, in case of their death, his brothers and sisters should be entitled to this land.

THE THREE RAIL ROADS FROM SUNBURY.

There are now no less than three important rail roads, under contract, and about to be put under contract, radiating from this place. First, the Philadelphia and Schuylkill Road, extending from this place to Ashland, about thirty miles where it will meet the Mine Hill extension, now under contract, and thus connect with the Reading rail road at Schuylkill Haven or at Pottsville. One half the distance, or about 25 miles, from Sunbury east, will be ready for use in May next. The remainder will be completed in about one year. The next is the Susquehanna rail road, extending from this place to Bridgeport, fifty five Harrisburg, a distance of not quite sixty Harrisburg. This road was let on the 23d of Nov. ult., and is to be completed in 16 months. It will run on the East side of the river to Dauphin, nine miles above Harrisburg, where it crosses the river, and connects with the Pennsylvania rail road, and from thence extends to Bridgeport, the terminus of the York and Cumberland road, thus forming a rail way connection between this place and Baltimore and Philadelphia, by the Susquehanna route. The other road is the Sunbury and Erie, destined to become the great thoroughfare for the trade of the Lakes, with Philadelphia and Baltimore. That portion of the road from Sunbury to Williamsport is advertised to be let on the 13th of January 1853. From the latter place it will be pushed on until completed to Erie, a distance of 281 miles from Sunbury, making the distance from Philadelphia to Erie by way of the Susquehanna, 426 miles, and by way of Harrisburg and the Susquehanna road 436 miles. From New York to Dunkirk the distance by the great New York and Erie road is 467 miles. Difference in favor of Philadelphia, 41 miles by one route and 31 by the other, whilst the difference of grades will be at least 40 miles more, in point of speed and power, in favor of the Sunbury and Erie route. For a distance of 120 miles along the Susquehanna, the road is nearly level, the grades not averaging more than three feet to the mile. At Williamsport the Sunbury and Erie road will connect with the Williamsport and Elmira road, now under contract, to be completed in one year. This gives us a connection with the New York and Erie road at Elmira. Even by this route, the Lakes are nearer Philadelphia and Baltimore, than New York. For instance, from Elmira to New York the distance is 288 miles, from Elmira to Philadelphia 263 miles viz.—to Williamsport 35 miles. From Williamsport to Sunbury 75 miles. From Sunbury to Pottsville and Philadelphia 150 miles, in all 263 miles. Difference in favor of Philadelphia 25 miles.

LETTING OF THE SUNBURY AND ERIE RAIL ROAD.

By reference to our advertising columns, it will be seen that the Messrs. Moorehead, contractors, will receive proposals at the office of the Engineer at Williamsport, for the Grading and Bridging of the road between Sunbury and Williamsport, of 38 miles, until sunset of the 13th of January 1853.

THE NEW YORK CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY.

The exhibition will be opened on the 2d of May. Exhibitors are solicited to send on their productions, inventions, &c., permit him to rule, is a question that none can determine at present. If the French have any spirit left, Napoleon's career will be short.

THE LYCOMING GAZETTE.

Two yards of that gazette, killed a calf not two years old, which, weighed 1240 pounds, and when dressed, 704 pounds.—A great country for natural productions of all kinds, is this. In our place more attention is paid to the genus hog, one of which, killed last week by Mr. George Harrison, weighed 516 1/2 pounds.—When Hannah Moore was told that 30,000 copies of her work, "Calista in search of a wife" were sold in this country, she replied that "the Americans were fast acquiring taste, the last thing that Republics acquire." Like Dr. Johnson, Hannah had no great love for the Americans. Who will say now that we are not a people of taste.

HON. RICHARD BRODHEAD, JR.

A short time since, at a festival in Washington City, in honor of the election of General Pierce, Senators Douglas, Weller, Brodhead and others, were called upon to speak. The speech of Mr. Brodhead, the democratic Senator from this State, on that occasion, was then highly commended as the best that was made. Mr. Brodhead is none of your boisterous politicians, who deem a certain degree of noise and violence as the most certain test of party allegiance. Though strong in his party attachments, he never forgets that as a gentleman and statesman, he is bound to respect the rights and opinions of his opponents. The following is an extract from his speech alluded to:

"I have no doubt that our present elect will administer the Government according to the requirements of the Constitution strictly construed. (Cheers.) Notwithstanding I always like to see Democrats in office, I am one of those who believe that, in view of the great extent of our country, large population and the rights of those who do the work and pay the taxes, we will be obliged to administer the Government upon great principles, not merely upon patronage and offices. Every presidential election should decide some questions of principle or measures of public policy, and not whether or that set of men should hold the offices and make money out of them. We have a country to serve as well as a party to obey, or party men to reward. Our foreign affairs will be easily managed, because I believe our nation on earth will intentionally insult our flag or invade our rights. Their interest and their fears alike restrain them. The great mission of this country is to cultivate the arts of peace, not to make war. We cannot make citizens by subjugation. (Cheers.)"

THE PHILADELPHIA LEDGER.

The Philadelphia Ledger thus speaks of a new press for the working of the immense issue of that paper. The proprietors must have expended, by this time, not less than \$50,000 for new presses. THE NEW EIGHT-CYLINDER LEDGER PRESS.—One of the new eight-impression cylinder presses, "The Last Fast," contracted for about a year since, and intended to be used hereafter in printing the Ledger, has arrived, and will be set up and put into operation as soon as the workmen can put its many parts together. In the basement of the Ledger Building. The other press, the mate to this, will be ready to be shipped to us in a few days. The contract with the Messrs. Hoe was, that these two printing machines were to be made so exactly alike in every particular, (every bolt, hole, piece or part of each fitting the same part of the other,) that in case of break of both presses at the same time, unless both were to be broken at the same place, we could still make a perfect press of the two. Another condition of the contract was, that each press was to be run above twenty thousand impressions per hour, before leaving the manufactory. The press which we have received was put in operation last week, and made to perform between twenty and twenty-two thousand impressions per hour!

WILLIAMSPORT AND ELMIRA RAILROAD.

We are pleased to learn from the Philadelphia papers, that the building of the whole road has been let to Messrs. King, Stanciliff & Co., a wealthy and enterprising firm. They are bound to have the road completed by the 1st of January, 1854.—The iron, it is said, is already contracted for, to be made by the Montour works.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

It is a remarkable fact that the battle over Gen. Pierce's cabinet is being fought with more spirit and energy than the late Presidential election. Some of the politicians are just beginning to realize their true position and the difference of direct and indirect promotion. They will grow wiser still as they are growing older. One thing only I venture to predict; that, after all, General Pierce will feel authorized, by the overwhelming vote of confidence just awarded to him, to select a cabinet of firm, unflinching national Democrats, who, like himself, know no North, no South, no West, and no East; but who love the Union and venerate the Constitution. There will be a general amnesty on the commencement of a new reign but no fuel granted to sectional feuds, and no captain of a division promoted to a major-generalship. And I also repeat what I have already so often expressed that no member of Mr. Polk's administration will hold a seat in Gen. Pierce's cabinet. Let my readers stick a pin in that to see whether I attempted to mislead them.

GLEASON'S PICTORIAL DRAWING ROOM COMPANION.

Published in Boston, Mass.—will commence, on the 1st of January, 1853, a new volume, being Volume IV of this elegant illustrated journal. It will appear with new type, new heading, and splendidly improved in every department, besides which, the price is to be greatly reduced. The publisher is resolved to commence the new year with a circulation of one hundred thousand, and, therefore, offers the most liberal inducements to clubs.—Realizing the spirit of the age, the great improvement in art, and the constantly increasing intelligence of the people, the publisher with this change of price, will vastly improve his already splendidly illustrated journal. Especially in the engraving department. Made in the engraving department, as well as the literary character of the paper, so that the Pictorial shall appear in a style, not only to merit all the encomiums of praise so lavishly bestowed upon it, but also so as to challenge increased respect for its enhanced excellence and perfection. In short, the whole paper will be far superior to anything yet offered to the public by the publisher. By referring to the following list, which form a part only of the regular contributors to the Pictorial, its high literary character will be at once understood.

- Mrs. Ann S. Stephens, Rev. H. Hastings Weld, Mrs. L. H. Sigourney, Henry Wm. Herbert, Mrs. Alice B. Neal, T. S. Arthur, Miss Phoebe Carey, A. J. H. Dogan, Miss Caroline Orne, Epes Sargent, Miss Anne T. Wilber, George W. Dawsey, Mrs. S. P. Douglas, Henry Wm. Herbert, Mrs. C. A. Hayden, Park Benjamin, Mrs. R. T. Eldridge, Dr. J. V. C. Smith, Mrs. E. R. B. Waldo, Ben. Foley Poore, etc., etc., etc., etc., etc., etc.

IMMIGRATION FOR 1852.

The immigration for the present year, is 295,722. The German immigration, the past year, has been unprecedentedly large, and promises to be continued in the same ratio for some time to come. The Irish and German immigration has been very nearly equal, namely, about 120,000.

THE UNION STAR HAS PASSED INTO THE HANDS OF GEORGE MERRILL AND EDWARD SMITH.

This change was probably necessary to harmonize the party.

WASHINGTON MATTERS.—ILLNESS OF MR. KING.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1852. SENATE.—The joint resolution, authorizing the President to confer the rank of Lieutenant-General by Brevet, for military services was then taken up.

Mr. Cass said.—When this subject was before us, some months since, I had innumerable objections, and so expressed myself, to the form in which it was presented. The bill, as originally introduced, created the brevet grade of Lieutenant General, and rendered it a permanent part of our military establishment. I was utterly opposed to such an arrangement, and desired the office to be a temporary one; to be limited to the occasion which seemed to render it proper. I proposed an amendment, which had in view this object, and which determined to support the measure, if it were adopted, and to vote against it, if it were rejected. The bill now before us, embracing the principle of my amendment, provides that the law shall terminate when the office has been once filled and become vacant, and I shall therefore cheerfully give it my support.

With the rank of Major-General, our military grades have stopped, with the exception of the office of Commander-in-Chief, during the Revolutionary war, and of Washington to the service of the country during our difficulties with France, when when the position of Commander of the army, commissioned as a Lieutenant General, was conferred upon him, was afterwards changed to that of General of the armies of the United States. I allude to this merely as an interesting incident of our revolutionary history, and not as a precedent for any action now or hereafter, for Gen. Washington stood alone in character and services, and in the hearts of his countrymen, and in the annals of the world. As his career was without example, so the personal distinctions attached to him, should remain his own, furnishing no precedent for a future application. In this spirit of jealous reverence for the name and fame of Washington, he would ask, "substantiate the word 'recreated' for 'revised,' so that this grade may now be introduced, without reference to any previous precedents. The mantle of Washington fell on no man, and I think an inseparable honor to connect any one with his honors, by reviving them for another. To render the proposed measure objectionable, the grade of Lieutenant General has been charged with being aristocratic, and unsuited to the nature of our institutions. It is rather difficult to treat so absurd an objection as illustrations showing its creation, and then said: My reason for the creation of this office, is that it will enable the proper authority to render an appropriate testimonial to the services of Gen. Scott, in the same manner as it has been rendered to every officer in the army he led to battle and to victory. It is not necessary to review the life of Gen. Scott, that his countrymen may be able to appreciate what he has done for their interests and honor. Almost half a century has elapsed since his name and his deeds were 'household words,' familiar to the American people through the whole extent of the Republic. But his campaign in Mexico was the crowning act of his military life, and it will ever fill one of the brightest pages of our history.

THE MAYOR OF BALTIMORE.

It is now stated, it was going to resign on account of the rowdiness of the city, but will try to put it down. Baltimore is quite a smart place, will never amount to much until it has a first class fashionable Clothing Store, where gentlemen may supply their wardrobe, on as low terms as the gentlemen of Philadelphia can at Rockhill & Wilson's great clothing store, at the corner of Franklin Place and Chestnut street, No. 111. A man can be gotten, without being expensively dressed, by going there.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. NOTICE is hereby given that letters of Administration on the estate of Abraham Brocius, late of Upper Augusta township Northumberland county, Pa., deceased, have been granted by the Register of said county to the undersigned. Therefore all persons indebted to said estate will discharge the same, and those having demands will present them to ELIAS BROCIUS, Administrator. Sunbury, Dec. 25, 1852.—G.

MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE GREEN RIDGE IMPROVEMENT COMPANY.

A MEETING of the Stockholders of the Green Ridge Improvement Company will be held at the Girard House, in the City of Philadelphia, on Saturday, January 8th 1853, at 10 o'clock A. M. C. W. CHURCHMAN, President. Philadelphia, Dec. 25, 1852.—G.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

PROPOSALS will be received at the Office of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, at Williamsport, until sunset of the 13th day of January, 1853, for Grading and Bridging that portion of their Road between Sunbury and Williamsport, (about 38 miles). This includes some heavy work, and is worthy the attention of good contractors. Specifications, and any information desired, may be obtained from T. HARRIS DUFFY, Esq., Chief Engineer, at the Office, ten days previous to the day of letting. J. B. & W. G. MOYHEAD, Contractors. December 25, 1852.—G.

SUNBURY AND ERIE RAILROAD COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 16th, 1852.—A second stock of \$250,000 per share, on the Stock of this Company, will be due and payable on the 26th of January, A. D. 1853. On those shares on which eleven Dollars has been paid, payment of nine dollars only will be required. Payments may be made to Williams & Wright, Erie; the Irving Bank, and the undersigned; Dr. W. A. Loran, Warren, or to the Agent, at the Office of the Company, Girard Buildings, Third Street, below Chestnut. CRAIG BIDDLE, Treasurer. December 25, 1852.—G.

NEW STORE.

BENJAMIN HEFFNER. RESPECTFULLY informs the citizens of Sunbury and vicinity, that he has opened a new store in the room lately occupied by George Bright, opposite Bolton's Hotel. He has just received a handsome assortment of WINTER GOODS, consisting in part of Cloths, Cassimers, Cassinets, of all kinds, of linen, cotton and worsted. ALSO: Calicoes, Ginghams, Lawns, Mouseline De Laines, and all kinds of Ladies Dress Goods. GROCERIES of every variety. Also an assortment of Hardware, Iron and Steel Nails, &c. Also an excellent assortment of QUEENWARE, of various styles and patterns. Also an assortment of BOOTS & SHOES, HATS & CAPS, a good selection. Salt, Fish, &c. And a great variety of other articles such as are suitable to the trade, all of which will be sold at the lowest prices. Country produce taken in exchange at the highest prices. Sunbury, May 1, 1852.—G.

DEWEAR GUARDS!!

YOU are commanded to meet in Market Square, Sunbury, on SATURDAY, JANUARY, 1st, 1853, at 9 o'clock A. M., fully equipped for drill. Each member to be prepared with 12 rounds of blank cartridges. By order of the Captain. GEO. OLIPIANT, O. S. Sunbury, Dec. 25, 1852.—G.

WASHINGTON MATTERS.—ILLNESS OF MR. KING.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Mr. King was more feeble yesterday, and to-day he is still worse. The nature of his disease is an affection of the lungs, similar to that which carried off Mr. Clay. The same physician, Dr. Hall, is in attendance upon him. He will reign the Presidency of the Senate at an early day, but there is no probability that he will be able to do so probably in the Senate for some time to come, if ever. Mr. Atchison will undoubtedly succeed him.

The Whig members of Congress are reported to be greatly incensed at Secretary Stuart's decision to award no more contracts for building materials for the Capital extension, and a delegation of them have waited on the President, in order to have the decision revoked.

REMAINS OF JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.—The remains of John Quincy Adams were removed on Thursday morning from the burial ground in which they had been deposited, in order to consign them to a tomb under one of the churches with the remains of his widow, who recently deceased at Washington, and which were taken to Quincy, Mass., on Thursday. The coffin containing the remains was opened, and the features of Mr. Adams were found in a perfect state of preservation. Mr. Adams has been dead nearly five years. The body was enclosed in an air tight case.

DEATH OF HORATIO GREENOUGH.—We learn from the Boston Transcript of Saturday evening, that the death of Horatio Greenough, whose serious illness was announced a short time since, took place on Saturday morning, after a violent attack of brain fever. Mr. Greenough was well known as a sculptor of distinguished genius.

The Lackawanna Coal Company have established an agency for the sale of their Coal, at Chicago, Illinois. They ship by way of the Lehigh and Erie Railroads to Oswego, thence by Seneca Lake, Buffalo, Lake Erie, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan to Chicago, at which place it sells at an average price of about \$4.50 per ton.

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