The Watchman.

EQUAL AND EXACT JUSTICE TO ALL.

HENRY HAYS, WILSON FORNEY, } EDITORS.

To Readers and Correspondents.

GOLD.—*Col. Sutter, was among the earliest of those who worked the mining districts of California—after whom came Col. Fremont, whose Mariposa claim has been a subject of legal controversy ever since that territory became a State. Among the early adventurers, however, was a Dr. Ward, whose scientific knowledge of chemisty and geology largely contributed to the development of the resources of the modern El Dorado. He was a native of Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. Your other inquiries we cannot answer, for a want of time and reference. If you can get the reports of the Land Office, with those of the Treasurer of the Mint, for the last eight years, you will be able to gain the desired information.*

TAX-PAYERS.—*We have never seen a copy of the municipal laws of Bellefonte—nor do we know that they ever were published. It is, however, a common practice, to publish all ordinances—and it is fair to presume that the act to which you refer can be found on record, either in some of the papers, or the archives of the borough. It would pay you to hunt up the ordinance to which you refer, because if it is in existence it would certainly remedy a great evil. We will cheerfully aid in giving it publicity, if you succeed in finding it.*

READER.—*If you doubt our correctness in regard to Cleopetra, read either Hume, Gibbon or Goldsmith. Your imagined error in the paragraph is scarcely worthy of a notice—because if the Egyptian did bathe twice a day perhaps her vices rendered it necessary. Whether she did or did not, concerns this generation very little.*

WE *omitted, unintentionally, last week, to announce the name of Martin Stone, among the officers of the Democratic Association. He is Treasurer, and also an active and efficient member of the Club.*

DECLINED.—*Grave-Yards and Grave-Stones. It is rather too critical, and also too personal for our columns.*

BELLEFONTE, PENNA.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1856.

BY TELEGRAPH

FOR THE DEMOCRATIC WATCHMAN

PHILADELPHIA REDEEMED!

PENNSYLVANIAN OFFICE, Wednesday, May 7, 9 A. M.

The whole Democratic ticket elected!—Vaux and Porter's majority about FOUR THOUSAND!!!

THE NEWS.

—The editor of the Philadelphia *Christian Chronicle*, Baptist, has been fined $3,000 for libel on Rev. Mr. Newell, agent for the Baptist Bible Union, in reporting him as having said that "he had no confidence in the common edition of the Bible." The editor offered to prove that Mr. Newell used these words, but the Court would not permit him the truth in evidence.

—We have intelligence from South Florida of an important character. A battle had been fought at the Cypress Swamp, between a band of about one hundred Indians and a small force under Major Arnold. The Indians were routed, and they are believed to have suffered considerable loss. The U. S. troops suffered but a small loss.

—It is stated by accounts recently received from Nicaragua that the Rio del Norte is blockaded by a British frigate, with the view of intercepting support to the Walker government. All accounts represent the condition of the American citizens in that place, as perilous.

—The case of Passmore Williamson against Judge Kane, has been postponed until the August term of the Court of Delaware co. Eminent counsel have been engaged on both sides, and the trial will be one of much interest.

—Hon. Ogden Hoffman, recent Attorney General of the State of New York, died on the first inst. He was a prominent politician in the Empire State, and a gentleman of brilliant attainments.

—Charles A. Boughter, the defaulting Cashier of the Lancaster Savings Institution, after a tedious trial, has been acquitted. The amount of his defalcations reached nearly $200,000.

—The *Democratic Sentinel*, published at Conneaslville, Pa., suggests Dr. McClintock, of Allegheny, as a proper person to nominate for next Governor.

—It is said by Washington correspondents that Mr. Marcy recommends sending a judicious and competent person to Panama, to learn the particulars of the recent slaughter of American citizens.

THE ATTEMPT by the prosecutors of the liquor cases to force the District Attorney to testify, was very properly rebuked by that gentleman. Mr. Rankin at once resented the insult by peremptorily refusing to comply; and he very properly informed the counsel for the Carson League, that it was for him to say who should be called to the stand. During these exciting trials Mr. R. conducted himself with a dignity and impartiality which reflects credit, not only upon the man, but the profession to which he is attached. His prompt refusal to allow the bills of indictment to be mutilated, deserves the acknowledgments and thanks of the whole community. The attempt was a bold assumption of power, and had not the prosecuting attorney repudiated the whole proceedings, they would undoubtedly have succeeded.

WE LIKE to the Whig all the right to charge as much for advertising as can possibly be procured—but we object to its insinuations about altering prices. It is not Christian-like nor neighborly. We never have altered our scale of prices, nor we never will, even with the prospect of extortion in our pocket. Our handsome cotemporary must not allow his temper to betray him into the use of hard words—he is young, has been educated to do—but not for Half-Moon Hamlet, profit we. Give an interruption of our pleasant professional and personal intercourse.

The Carson League and the License Law.

We have had intimations for the past three months, that a combination of men and women, known as the "Carson League," were secretly at work, collecting evidence in relation to all who were violating the license laws of Pennsylvania—and had the movement been open and honorable, no objection would have been raised then, nor any complaint made now, against the conduct of those who have taken the morals and the appetites of the people in their especial keeping. We are a law-abiding people—and the best evidence of this fact, is the manner in which all submit to the tyrannical action of fanatical legislation. The liquor laws which were and are on the statute books, are a disgrace to the intelligence of the age—because they neither elevate morality or restrain the free indulgence in spirituous, vinous or malt liquors. The law repealed, was contradictory in its character, and tyrannical in spirit. It offered every inducement for indulgence in malicious prosecutions, and yet did not abate the evils of that intemperance against which modern reformers have been hurling their anathemas. It was not Constitutional—and was twice rejected by a popular vote of the people. By its repeal, we are just placed where we were before the agitation commenced, with the difference, that this temperance crusade has legalized more stringently the sale of intoxicating drinks, by imposing heavy fines, charging high fees, and silencing the voice of real morality with the reflection, that the system, as it now exists, will add to the revenues of the Commonwealth, while it leaves open the door for the aggression of every hypocrite and fanatic in the State. If intemperance is a vice and immorality, why license its practices? Why convulse communities, and threaten with incarceration those who are led into error under the obscure provisions of a license? The good sense of every man, we care not how fallen, will redeem him if properly directed—but there is a spirit in the bosom of all, which will resist the pious direction and restrictions of those whose daily life is one scene of corruption and deceit. It is not by whips and chains that men can be induced to abandon any habits—and more particularly, when that habit, by the free discrimination of the law, is regarded as a luxury in one man, and denounced as a crime in another. This is done daily. The fashionable wine-bibber quaffs his sparkling beverage in secret—the great, who exist by arrogance and the power of wealth, indulges to beastly excess—are passed over—and the poor man, who, for "his stomach's sake," takes a glass, is dragged before the altar of justice, and held up to public execration as a wretch too vile to associate with wife or family, and too dangerous to be trusted. By a system, the faithful performance of which was controlled by an oath, youth and beauty were charged with the secret espionage of domestic hearths—the blushing bride scarcely beyond the sweet atmosphere of Hymen's altar, was compelled to strike at the stern door of the law, and there seek the disgrace of her young husband; the wife of years, made frantic by imaginary neglect, deserts her home under the same advice—and the mother who fondly believed her son not to be worse than all common mortals—comes forward, to have his name placed on the record, in terms of the utmost humility. And who are the men who in secret put this infernal system in motion? They are, some of them, who claim to be respectable—pew-holders and church members—but their spies and informers, the men who crouch around the dark-corners of the Borough, to watch the conduct of friends and neighbors, are known in the Court callenders as the violators of law and the disturbers of the peace of the community. They are known as the champions of almost every pugilistic encounter—as the trained bullies, supported by the Carson League, to do the dirty work of the association, and defame the characters of decent people. This is all done for the sake of morality—feuds were raised, where good feeling once prevailed—inexperienced youth were called to the witness stand, side by side with the hardened and the depraved—but it is all, all for morality, a morality known, however, thank God, only to the morbid modern reformer, who gloats over the disgrace which he inflicts on others, and who cannot exist unless engaged in the excitement of evil.

These allusions are called out, and are justly applicable to the trials of those indicted for violating the liquor laws. The general complaint is not against the decision of the court, but the manner in which the suits were brought, and the conduct of those who were engaged in the issues. Every man is entitled to a fair trial, and few men are willing to disobey the majesty of the law—but when laws are used as instruments of persecution, the cause demands the attention of that higher court composed of the people, where public opinion presides as judge. The principal instigators in this whole business, and those who assumed the responsibility of the prosecution, need no notice at our hands. They are known to this community—and Heaven only knows all the motives which inspired them to their mischievous work. The whole proceeding was maliciously premeditated, in proof of which we can state, that the indictments, after they had left the prosecuting attorney's hands, were mutilated and altered. Other names were inserted, because common rumor, the rumor of the lowest character, maligning the reputations of respectable men, was adduced to justify the learned gentlemen who prosecuted these cases, in thus violating the courtesies of their practice, and in charity we hope, in misleading them in their conceptions of honor. They succeeded (as the attornies of a sworn league, in convicting men as good as themselves—men identified as intimately with respectability—men who are daily contributing to the wealth, the industry and the prosperity of the community—and they succeeded in doing all this, as the agents of the Carson League, without gaining a single proselyte to their doctrine of temperance. Their only triumph consists in imprisoning four men, all husbands and fathers, and putting the county to an enormous expense, all, because one man—a young man, who perilled his life in the defence of his country—happened to take a "spasmodic spree," but generally ended before he imagined himself an Indian. Laying aside the injustice of these prosecutions, the whole proceedings are regarded as ridiculous by every sensible man in the community, and those who have taken an active part in thus persecuting their friends and neighbors, will live to regret their conduct. We are all in favor of that pure morality which elevates a man to the dignity of honorable frankness—and not that bigotry which proscribes a man for the indulgence of his appetite, the exercise of his opinion, and the enjoyment of his religion. When we admit such a government, even if sustained by ignorant and mistaken legislation, we approximate as fast as possible to the degradation of slaves.

The Responsibility of Agents.

By the decision of the Centre County Court of Common Pleas, an agent becomes responsible for all his actions while in his employer's service—which decision will certainly have a tendency to place in jeopardy many poor men who are now making their living in the service of others. To our uneducated mind this decision is an anamoly—and if we are not mistaken, we think that in no other county in the State, has the agent of a hotel keeper been convicted, fined and imprisoned. During the last court, both agent and proprietor were fined—which must be inconsistent, according to the spirit of the law. If the law designed a general application of its penalties, the domestics as well as book-keepers and bar-tenders should be indicted.

In every business that we recollect, the head of the house is responsible for the actions of his subordinates. That this is right, is evident from the fact, that those who receive the credit and emoluments of any trade, should also be reponsible for its risks and responsibilities. Agents on railroads are never arraigned for the damages arising from any accident which may occur—and it is seldom that they are prosecuted, unless this carelessness is so grossly apparent, that the example and not the punishment, is essential to an indictment. We have never heard of a single conviction of an agent, before we came to this county—and humbly differing with the learned and distinguished jurist who presides in this district, we firmly believe that, if the action of the court in this instance, was brought before the supreme judges, the whole proceedings would be annulled.

Hon. Andrew G. Curtin.

During last week, this gentleman was busily engaged in the practice of his profession, before the Court of Quarter Sessions—and, considering his arduous duties as Secretary of the Commonwealth, he exhibited all the energy for which he is celebrated, and more than the talent for which he has ever received credit. Mr. Curtin is a man of talent, and a lawyer of tact and sagacity. In politics, there is between him and the editors of the *Watchman*, a chasm which the tenacity of opinion on both sides will never close—but it is not too wide to prevent us from discovering, admiring, and acknowledging the frank bearing of a true man, and the fearless independence of the devoted lawyer. During his professional sojourn in Bellefonte, Mr. Curtin more than excelled himself. His speech, relating to the old and new license laws, was one of the ablest legal and mental expositions that we have ever listened to for years, and it has been our privilege and pleasure to hear many of the distinguished jurists of Pennsylvania. It is no ordinary motive which thus publicly induces us to refer to Mr. Curtin—and we feel that those who have known him personally for years, will acknowledge the justice of the allusions in this paragraph—and we are also sure, that his personal friends throughout the State will not be surprised to hear that Andrew G. Curtin has not changed in honor, nor deviated from a manly defence of those rights which gives us all a confidence in our fellows.

ANCIENT RUINS IN TEXAS.—The Washington *American* has received information of some ancient ruins, which, if correct, must possess great interest for our readers, as furnishing another link in the chain of evidence showing that this continent was inhabited years ago by a highly civilized race of men. The fact that this discovery has, as it is reported, been made almost in our own neighborhood, in what is called Big Thicket, on the San Jacinto, will probably cause some of our readers to be incredulous. The discovery is said to have been made by a Mr. Smith, in company with two or three other men, while examining a tract of land belonging to a Mr. Johnson, about twenty miles distant from Montgomery. The ruins described were found on Mr. Johnson's lands. The fragments show that they are the remains of an edifice of remarkable and magnificent architecture, construsted of material nowhere to be found in this country.

LORD GODERICH.—Lord Goderich, who has taken up the Central American question in the British Parliament is a young nobleman of high promise, and a great admirer of American institutions. He is the eldest son of the Earl of Ripon, who, at one time, was Premier for a few months, and known for his want of success as "Geosey Goderich." He was afterwards President of the Board of Trade under Sir R. Peel's administration. The present Lord Goderich's politics differ from those of his family. He is a strong radical. On the death of his father and uncle, Earl de Grey, the two fortunes will be merged in him, and he will be, after Lord Westminister, probably the wealthiest peer in England.

SALE OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The Crystal Palace, New York, is advertised for sale at auction, under the direction of the receiver, Mr. White, on the 22d of May next. The Crystal Palace cost more than $600,000, and we understand that it can be purchased for the sum of $125,000.

☞ The longest day is now discovered to be the day before your wedding.

The Clerk of the Sessions and his advertising fees.

We commenced, week before last, on the extortion to which those who had applied for license were compelled to submit, and in our animadversions, we alluded to the "Clerk of the Sessions" in a manner which he deems unjust. He asked the privilege of a defence in our columns, which we were willing to grant, but peremptorily refused him the opportunity to use this journal to fulminate his course and vulgar personal abuse. He has published his card elsewhere—and aside from its personalities and liberal insinuations against our conduct as "strangers," it is the lamest defence that could possibly have been made. We are willing to accept his title of 'strangers,' because it is one of the specious arguments of Know-Nothingism to avoid the truth, and shirk the responsibilities of an abuse of power; but we deny that we are under any obligations to the "Clerk of the Sessions", for any favor. He is not the proprietor of the records in that office—he is the public's servant, and every man has a right to examine and copy from the dockets. The "Clerk of the Sessions" must bear in mind, that his position is an humble one, and that we have a duty to perform to the people in watching his actions, and honestly make known the errors and the mal-practices of himself and subordinates. When we fail to do this, we cease to deserve the confidence of our readers—and no threats of libel suits or prosecutions for slander can intimidate the fearless tone of the *Democratic Watchman*.

The article to which the "Clerk of the Sessions" alludes in his card, simply proclaimed a fact in stating that an extortion had been committed in compelling applicants for license to pay one dollar for advertising, and refusing the applicant the privilege of selecting the paper in which it was to be inserted. He surely will not deny that all were not informed of this extra charge, until after their names appeared in print—nor can he deny that he refused at least one applicant the right to choose to whom he should pay his dollar. If this does not look like suborning men to sustain a tottering cause and support a dying organ, we are very much mistaken. As for the law on this subject, there is no possibility of misconstruing that. The advisers who induced him to commit this gross error, to call it by its mildest name, could not have been learned in the law. It is more reasonable to suppose that it emanated from the sachem of a Know-Nothing lodge, and not from the erudite brains of a counsellor. The law does not contain a single clause which justifies the dollar charge for advertising. It gives the "Clerk of the Sessions" twenty-five cents for inserting the name of the applicant in any newspaper three times, and after the license has been granted, the clerk receives one dollar for a blank evidence of the right to sell liquors, malt and spirituous. This is the law, and if he had adhered to the law, we should not have complained, nor the people been compelled to pay illegal fees.

The "Clerk of the Sessions" is welcome to his abuse. We have become used to such tactics, but he must not imagine that we can be intimidated. He believed himself aggrieved, and we offered him an opportunity to right himself. This he refused, and at once resorts to scurility to change public opinion on a subject of public interest. Gentlemen will differ in their actions and language, and the "Clerk of the Sessions" has had his choice. This is all that the subject deserves.

Recent Democratic Victories.

The result of the recent elections in Michigan goes far beyond the most sanguine anticipators of our most sanguine friends. The Detroit *Free Press* says:

"An analysis of the returns of the whole State shows the Democratic majorities in the comparatively small counties of Livingston, Ingham, and Eaton, overbalance the gross majorities of the Black Republicans in the counties carried by them. The conclusion is, then, inevitable that the aggregate Democratic majority in the State is not less than *eight thousand*, and that it may reach *ten thousand*!

"This great result determines, beyond all cavil, the Presidential vote of Michigan, and the character of the next State administration. And it determines another thing, that the indefinite continuance in power of the Democratic party depends upon itself."

The election in Fort Wayne, Indiana, took place on the 7th ult. The Democrats elected their entire ticket, over the Know-Nothings and Black Republicans united, by an average majority of nearly *four to one!* Nearly a thousand votes were polled.

At the recent municipal election in Evansville, Indiana, John Heston, (Democrat,) for Mayor, beat his Know-Nothing opponent by 133.

In Iowa City, which the Know-Nothings carried last year by a large majority, the Democrats, on the 7th ult., elected a good portion of their ticket.

At a special election in Princeton, N. J., on Monday week, the Democratic candidate was elected, more than doubling the vote of his Know-Nothing competitor; this too at the home of Com. Stockton, independent dark lantern candidate for President.

The election in Boston, Mass., on Monday, for Register of Deeds and Alderman, resulted in the complete defeat of the Know-Nothing ticket. Mr. Alline, the Citizen's candidate, was re-elected Register by over 2000 majority, and Mr. Wightman, candidate for Alderman upon the same ticket, had nearly the same majority.

The majority of Judge Gorsline (Democrat) in the Fourth Judicial District of Wisconsin, is likely to reach three thousand! Manitowoc county gives Mr. G. 1,541 votes, to 45 for his Know-Nothing and Black Rupublican antagonist! In Elkhorn, the county seat of Walworth county, Wisconsin, which last fall gave Bashford near 1,000 majority, every Democratic candidate was elected at the spring election.

A RURAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.—An enterprise is now in successful prosecution by the Bishop of Vermont, the Rev. Dr. Hopkins, for the establishment of a rural theological seminary in the diocese. To this Vermont has already contributed the sum of $20,000.

The Massacre at Panama.

The Panama *Courier* of the 17th ultimo, furnishes full details of the terrible massacre of American citizens which occurred in that city on the 15th. We make the following extracts:

"The difficulty originated in a dispute about one dime between an intoxicated passenger and a native, respecting the payment for a piece of watermelon. The story is, that the native being exasperated by the conduct of the passenger, drew a knife; on seeing which the passenger fired at the native, and severely wounded him. This brought forward another native; who stabbed the passenger, and then the combatants increased considerably on both sides for some time—a number were shot, and more badly cut with machetes. Through the exertions of Mr. J. W. Johnson, the Panama railroad superintendent at the Panama station, the fight was then stayed for a short time. But anon it broke out with renewed violence, and an apparent organization and evident method which told fearfully for the natives. About this time it began to be evident that spite against the Railroad Company and plunder were the chief motives of the atrocities and depredations which had been and were to be committed. The first affray occ between six and seven, p. m., and there were but brief intervals of tolerable quiet between that hour and midnight. The most terrible assault was made between nine and ten o'clock.

All the officials on the station, with the exception of the superintendent, lost everything they had in clothing and valuables of every description. The Panama railroad counting room (including the desks of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company) was entirely ransacked, and everything of value carried off; the books and papers were cut and torn to pieces, and one of the safes (which contained but little money) was broken open and pillaged, while the other was pierced to the inner linings, but nothing taken therefrom. Every drawer and desk and closet was ransacked, and nothing was left in its place or unmarred. The freight house was riddled with balls, and all the baggage that had not been put in the lighters to go off to the steamer was rifled. The office is all left the station, except Mr. Centre and Mr. Johnson; they were on the premises until the ransacking was nearly completed. Mr. Centre had several very narrow escapes; two men were shot by his side, and he avoided the same fate by concealing himself among the rafters of the buildings.

Some twenty foreigners were killed, and between thirty and forty badly wounded. Among the latter was several women and children.

HORRIBLE CATASTROPHE.—The New Haven *Register* of Tuesday says: "Last evening, just before the hour of quitting work, a lad by the name of Frank Downes, who with his father and brother, was employed in the lock factory of Wm. Fitch, came to a horrible death in the following manner: It seems that the boy was carrying parts of locks from one part of the room to another, and when near a belting dropped one of the pieces. While stooping to pick this up, his apron became entangled in the belting, and was drawn up instantly over the shaft, which makes about 100 revolutions per minute, and crushed to a pumice—his brains bespattering the ceiling and various parts of the room. The lad gave a single shriek, and it was all over—the work of an instant. The machinery, thus clogged, stopped immediately; and this was the first intimation that his fellow-workmen had of the catastrophe that had occurred. Frank was a promising lad, aged about sixteen years."

ITEMS OF GENERAL NEWS.

☞ The wife of Mr. Washington French, in Atala county, Miss., presented him two boys and two girls at one birth. Mr. French was 45 years old when he married Miss Eleanor Honley, of Mississippi, and had been married one year. So much for domestic productions.

☞ On Sunday morning the 18th ult., the wife of Edward Plan, of Birmingham, Eng., was safely delivered of five children, three boys born alive and doing well, and two girls born dead.

☞ A gentleman writing from Bloomfield, Iowa, under date of the 17th ult., states that "at our recent election for Judge of the District Court the Know-Nothings polled 700 votes less in Davis county, in this State, than they did last fall. The Democratic Judge is elected."

☞ Gen Callahan, Superintendent of the Allegheny Portage Railroad, is now having the north track of the road between the Portage Iron Works and Hollidaysburg relaid with new ties and a heavy T rail.

☞ John F. Lowrey, of Hollidaysburg, was killed on the Portage Road, on Wednesday last, by the tender of the locomotive being thrown from the track, on which he was riding.

☞ The Catholic church and a dwelling near it in Ellsworth, Maine, were burnt by an incendiary on Sunday evening.

☞ A hundred deer in Stainborough Park, England, have died this year of hydrophobia.

☞ The village of Gowanda, Cattaraugus county, New York, was almost wholly destroyed by fire last night.

☞ The new suspension bridge over the Falls of Montmorency, on the St. Lawrence, gave way on Wednesday, and the whole structure, with a man and woman, and horse and cart, was carried over the Falls.

☞ The Old Line Whig Convention of Maryland on Wednesday passed resolutions endorsing the platform of the Whigs of Kentucky, and deprecating the introduction of religion into politics. The counties were requested to send delegates to a Convention to be held in July, to decide finally on the course of the Whigs of Maryland.

☞ The Democratic State Convention of Maryland met on Wednesday, and elected Walter R. Mitchell and Henry Goldsborough, Electors for the State at large. Resolutions recommending Mr. Buchanan as a candidate for the Presidency, passed by a vote of 18 to 9.

☞ There are two occasions on which it is proper to speak; the first when you are well posted up on the subject of which you mean to treat; the other when it is unavoidable. On such occasions alone, to speak is better than to be silent; in all other circumstances it is better to be silent than to speak.

☞ The Madison *Courier* states that the wheat crop of Indiana and the great North West never was more promising than at the present season.

☞ A female slave has been sentenced to be hanged in Powhattan county, Virginia, for the murder of her baby.

☞ The Governor of Virginia has forwarded fifty muskets to Norfolk, for the defence of the pilots, in executing the new inspection law.

☞ There were 5688 marriages in Kentucky the last year. Two ladies married at 70 years of age, one at 12, several under 15, but most between 16 and 20. During the year, 340 boys under 20 were married, but most of the men between 20 and 25.

☞ A Yankee editor says: "The march of civilization is onward—like the slow but intrepid tread of a jackass towards a peck of oats."

Disgraceful Riot and Riot in Erie.

On Saturday last our citizens were shocked by the intelligence, that a mob had collected in Erie on the previous night and destroyed the *Constitution* Printing Office, and committed other disgraceful outrages. It seems, from what we can learn, that a son of John H. Walker, Esq., met a broker named Cochran, (who had committed an aggravated assault and battery on his father, Mr. W., about a year ago, for which he was fined *thirty dollars!*) in or near the *Constitution* office last Friday, when they got into a fight. It is said Cochran got the worst of it. In the evening the old Court House bell was rung, a large crowd soon gathered, and Cochran addressed the mob in an excited manner, when they proceeded to the *Constitution* Printing Office, broke down the doors, carried out the presses, types, paper, in short all the contents of the buildings, including a a Law Library belonging to Mr. Johnson, the editor, and piled them up in front of the building and applied a torch to them! All Mr. J's., valuable papers—private and professional—were destroyed. Not satisfied with this, the mob literally cut down the building itself, a two storied frame, belonging to Mr. Johnson, leaving it a complete mass of ruins.

—After this "glorious victory," the mob proceeded to the editor's house, and notwithstanding his wife had only been confined a few days before, stones were dashed in at the windows and the inmates terribly frightened by the yells of the crowd outside.—The houses of Mr. Tracy, a prominent rail road man, and of John H. Walker, Esq., were next attacked, the shutters broken in and the glass shattered by balls fired into the rooms! The inmates escaped with their lives by a miracle.

During all these outrages, the Mayor, the Sheriff, and the Police were not to be found nor an effort was made by them to stay the wild fury of the mob. These shocking acts will create a thrill of indignation over the whole country. Whatever sympathy may have existed for the alleged wrongs of the Erieans, such wanton outrages will scatter it to the winds. Alas, for poor Erie! For the honor of the District, the State, and of Human Nature, we feel sorry that she is under the degrading influence of a set of bold, bad men, who are covering her over with deep disgrace.—*Crawford Democrat.*

A STRANGE SCENE IN LONDON—THE THIEVES IN COUNCIL.—An extraordinary scene recently took place in London, on the evening of the 7th of April. The thieves burglars of the great metropolis, to the number of about one hundred, met at the White Lion Tavern, Spitalfields, for the purpose of taking the opinion of such characters with respect to the working of an institution which is intended to lend a helping hand to those offenders who may be disposed to "square accounts" with society and to lead an honest life. A free-and-easy manner prevailed, but everything was carried on decently, the cries of "order" and "chair" being immediately followed by attentive silence. One of the reporters tells us:

"A stranger would have had no suspicion that the men there assembled were at war with society. They, one and all, appeared well fed, well clad, and at ease with themselves. In the course of the evening several gaily-dressed youths, who were evidently the 'aristocracy' of the class, walked into the room. These were mostly habited as clerks, or young men in offices, some wearing gold guard-chains, others with pistol-keys dangling from their waistcoat pockets, and having diamond pins in their cravats. They were, however, all 'mobsmen,' as they are called—men who, in some instances, we are assured, are gaining their £16, or even £20 a week by light-fingered operations. Indeed, several present were pointed out as 'tip-top sawyers,' moving in the best society, and doing a heavy business." Besides these there were a few notorious 'cracksmen,' (house-breakers,) who were said to be worth their weight in gold.

"On the entry of one who was unknown to the rest, a cry was raised of 'only knobs there!' 'No square men in the room!' which, being interpreted, meant only 'nobs' or first-class thieves—none who are following an honest course of life are to be present; whereupon it was represented to the stranger that the meeting was a private one."

Nothing important was accomplished at the first meeting, but its prosecutors intend to follow it up in the hopes of good results.

MURDER IN ARKANSAS—GREAT EXCITEMENT.—We copy the following from the Memphis *Appeal* of the 20th:

"We learn from a gentleman who returned from Marion yesterday, that a most diabolical murder was committed upon the person of Mr. Jenkins, a highly respectable gentleman of Crittenden county, on Tuesday evening last, within two or three hundred yards of his residence, four miles west of Marion. He was returning to his home from Marion, when he was deliberately shot down, a charge of buckshot and a pistol-ball being lodged in his body. Circumstances led to the arrest of a man named Hendricks, the keeper of a drinking house in Marion, and a Mr. Garrett, who formerly resided in South Memphis. Hendricks and Garrett were examined before a magistrate and bound over for their appearance in court, but in the mean time the jail was surrounded by the excited crowd in attendance, and it is believed that ere this Hendricks has atoned for his suspected crime at the hands of Judge Lynch. Garrett is generally supposed to be innocent of any participation in the crime."

STEAM-POWER ECLIPSED.—The London *Morning Chronicle* announces an important discovery. It is stated that a great experiment was recently tried at Vincennes, in the presence of General Lahitte and the officers of the fort. The secret of compressing and governing electricity is at length discovered, and the power may, therefore, now be considered as the sole moter henceforward to be used. A small mortar was fired by the inventor at the rate of a hundred shots a minute, without flashing, smoke, or noise. The same power can, it seems, be adapted to every system of mechanical invention, and is destined to supersede steam, requiring neither machinery nor combustion. A vessel propelled by this power is said to skim the water like a bird, and to fear neither storm nor hurricane. The inventor has already petitioned for a line of steamers from L'Orient to Norfolk, in the United States, which passage he promises to accomplish in forty-eight hours.

GREAT BARGAINS.—It is stated that in Decatur county, Illinois, which has about 7,000 inhabitants, prairie land can be bought for $2.50 to $5, according to quality, and the best timbered land from $3.50 to $6, according to location.

Great Fire in Philadelphia.—Two Millions worth of Property Destroyed.

On Wednesday night last Philadelphia was visited with a most terrible destructive conflagration, involving a greater loss of property than was ever before known in that city. We find the following particulars of this great calamity in the *Pennsylvanian* of Friday morning:

About 12½ o'clock this morning the extensive rag warehouse of Messrs. Jessup & Moore, No. 24 North street, was discovered on fire. The alarm was promptly given, and the firemen were early on the ground, but notwithstanding their exertions, aided by the police force, the building was speedily consumed, together with a large stable in the rear, the packing-box factory of Suplee & Myers, on Commerce street, also the cooper-shop of J. Q. Carter, adjoining the latter. The looking glass manufactory and warerooms of Mooney & Co., next became the prey of the flames, and was, in a few moments, entirely enveloped.

LATER—5 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The wind which blew very freshly at the time the fire was discovered, continues unabated.

The walls of Jessup & Moore's warehouse fell about 1½ o'clock, also the walls of the cooper-shop and packing-box factory.

The two large store-houses on Commerce street, adjoining the above on the west, are entirely consumed.

The rears of the row of twelve houses on the east side of Sixth street, between Commerce and North streets, are entirely consumed, and the probability is now that the flames will be ungovernable in that direction. The massive brick edifice of Levic & Brothers, shoe-dealers, fronting on Market and extending back to North street, is now on fire, and there is but little hope of saving it from entire destruction.

The rear of the large building owned and occupied by Caleb Cope & Co., on Market street, is also in imminent danger.

The paper and rag warehouse of C. C. Davis & Co., on the south side of Commerce street, can hardly be saved from total destruction.

STILL LATER.

As we write, the fire continues to rage furiously, threatening destruction to the entire western half of the block extending from North street to Market between Fifth and Sixth.

The entire block to Sixth street seems inevitably doomed to destruction, and great apprehensions exist of the fire crossing Sixth street. The City Bank, in Sixth street, opposite Commerce, has been several times on fire, as well as adjoining buildings.

2½ O'CLOCK.

The extensive store of Levick & Bro., fell in with a tremendous crash about 2 o'clock, carrying with it the store adjoining, the name of the occupant of which we could not learn.

The large store erected by Caleb Cope, engaged by Truitt & Co., but not yet occupied, is also destroyed.

The hardware house of William Knight, adjoining on the west, is also in flames.

The fire about "4 o'clock extended to the south side of Market street, but up to this hour has made no material headway.

The fire also extended across Sixth street, and swept up St. James street, running through from Sixth to Seventh. In this street a large three-story brick dwelling was completely destroyed. Fears are entertained for the large printing establishment of C. Sherman & Son, in the same street.

At the time we go to press, 3 o'clock, the fire continues to rage fiercely. A strong wind is blowing from the northeast, and we are at a loss to conjecture when and where the destruction will end.

The stores on Market street destroyed are those of Bailey, Woodward, & Co., grocers. Wilcox, Rodgers, & Fedley, straw goods; Levick, Raisen, & Co., boots and shoes; Fairbanks, patent scales; William Avorley's office; new store building by Caleb Cope; William W. Knight, hardware; Sellers & Pennock, leather hose; Wickerham & Sons, iron railing.

On Sixth street the sufferers are F. H. Shoemaker, tailor; J. W. Williams, stationery; C. C. Shoemaker, tailor. E. M. Hollingsworth, stationery; George Bruders, shoes; Dr T. Cooke, drugs; John Buer, pianos; J. J. D. Williams, carver; J. M. Kelly, tailor; Henry Tennent, tinman; Penny, Packer & Flynn, grocers; Robert McKinley, conveyancer; Fisher & Brother, publishers; N. C. Peterman's Hotel; Bertram & Co., perfumery; Wallorme & Co., furnishing store; H. C. Wright & Co., clothing; J. B. Moore, trimmings; Mrs. Warrington, cigars; Robert Clark, stoves. The most of the buildings destroyed on Sixth street were occupied by families, who saved very little of their furniture.

The Commerce street sufferers are C. C. Davis, paper; John Tenck & Sons, grocers; Carter's cooper-shop; Myener & Supples, box-makers; Samuel Croft, coppersmith.

On North street, Jessup & Moore's warehouse, where the fire commenced, and five adjoining dwellings, were consumed.

A number of dwellings on the west side of Sixth street, including the City Bank at the corner of Farmer street, were damaged.

The fire also crossed Market street, below Sixth consuming the upper part of a building occupied by Cunningham & Harr, grocers, and Conover Brothers, boots and shoes.

Sparks also set on fire the silk store of J. Kiehl & Sons, on Chestnut, above Seventh, the roof of which was damaged. The contents were mostly removed. The loss is very heavy, but it is supposed to be mostly covered by insurance.

Very little stock was saved from the Market street stores owing to the rapid spreading of the flames.

John R. Groff, a fireman, and returned Mexican volunteer, was killed by the falling of a wall. Two or three other firemen are missing, and are supposed to have been crushed to death, and others are injured.

The new store built by Caleb Cope was leased to Truitt & Brothers, who had $25,000 worth of hardware stored in it. The building was valued at $75,000.

On St. James street, west of Sixth, a number of small dwellings, a German tavern, and a large school-house belonging to the Society of Friends, were destroyed.

During the fire, James Bartley, a member of the Franklin Hose Company, was stabbed in an affray with the Moyamensing Hose Company. The latter company has been out of service several years, but was called out by the chief engineer. Bartley is not expected to survive.

JENNY LIND AND BARNUM.—Jenny Lind has written a private letter to a lady of Philadelphia, in which she deeply sympathizes with Mr. Barnum in his financial troubles, ascribes to him the most noble qualities, and expresses her intention of placing a sum of money at his disposal.

THE WEALTH OF MINNESOTA.—As an evidence of the wealth and industry of Minnesota, we are informed that one hundred million feet of pine lumber in the log were put into the different streams in one district last year.

THE WHEAT CROP.—The Madison Courier states the wheat crop of Indiana, and the great Northwest was never more promising than at the present season.