the last spring and summer, accompanied by still higher prices, and followed by a greater fall, and by bankruptcies in England to an extent heretofore unknown, finding our banks and credit greatly expanded, and re-acting upon this expansion, would have produced a revulsion here exceeding any that has heretofore occurred in the country. A general suspension of the banks would probably have resulted; depressing the wages of labor and prices of property and products; affecting injuriously the operations and credit even of the most solvent, and producing extensive bankruptcies. From this revulsion we have been saved by the constitutional treasury, by which the specie imported, instead of being converted into bank issues, has been made to circulate directly to a great extent as a currency among the people, having been recoined here during the last eleven months by the new order of this department under the act of 9th Febuary, 1793, and the zealous co-operation of the able and efficient head of the mint at Philadelphia, to the unprecedented extent of $10,758,043 21, and there are thousands of our citizens now solvent and prosperous who have been saved from ruin by the wholesome operation of the constitutional treasury.

The banks that so unwisely opposed the system have been rescued probably, from another suspension; their stockholders, depositors, and note holders from severe losses; and the country and government from the ruinous effects of a depreciated paper currency. If the union of the government with the banks had continued, and their suspension and depreciation of their paper occurred during the war, requiring large specie disbursements, which suspended banks could not furnish, consequences the most disastrous to the honor and the interests of the country must have ensued. The government is now disconnected from banks, and yet its stock and notes are at par, although we have been constrained to contract heavy loans, and to keep larger armies in the field than at any former period. But during the last war, when the government was connected with banks, its six per cent. stock and treasury notes were depreciated twenty per cent. below par; thus amounting to a loss of forty-five cents in every dollar upon the operations of the government. In my first annual report to Congress on the 3d of Dec., 1845, recommending the adoption of the constitutional treasury, the following observations were made:

"'Nor will it be useful to establish a constitutional treasury, if it is to receive or disburse the paper of banks.'

"'If paper, in whatever form, or from whatever source it may issue, should be introduced as a circulation by the constitutional treasury, it would precisely to that extent diminish its use as a means of circulating gold and silver.'

"During and before the commencement of the last session of Congress, it was thought by many that this measure could not operate successfully during war, and that large loans could not be negotiated if the payments were required in specie. The department, however, adhered to the recommendations of its first report, believing that the government would be rendered stronger by the divorce, and that if the treasury should resort to banks to negotiate its loans or supply its revenue, that both, if the war continued, would be involved, as they were in the war of 1812, in one common ruin. During the months of June, July and August last, (per table N.) the sum of $6,000,000 was transferred from the assistant treasurer of New York for necessary disbursement at New Orleans and in Mexico. Heretofore, the public money being desposited with the banks, and loaned out to their customers, when such enormous transfers were made a contraction of the banks with ruinous losses must have ensued; but the money of the government is now transferred from New York to New Orleans, and scarcely affects business or the money market, because the transactions of the government are disconnected from those of the banks. When the government formerly received and disbursed only the paper of banks, whenever a revulsion and numerous bankruptcies occurred in England, they universally reacted upon our perilous paper system so as to create a pressure in our money market, a large and sudden contraction of the currency, calling in of heavy loans by the banks, and as a consequence, many failures and most frequent suspensions of specie payments. Now for the first time in our history, although failures in England of the most unprecedented magnitude have occurred, including banks and bankers, yet our banks and credit are sound and stable, and the business of the country is still prosperous and progressive.

"Nothing is more injurious to all classes, but especially to our manufacturers, than the expansions, contractions and fluctuations of the bank paper system, vibrating with every considerable change of the public moneys held by them as depositories. This perilous and seductive bank-paper system opens temporarily, and beyond the wants of the country, a market here for foreign imports not in exchange for exports, but for credit; the redemption of which drains the country of its specie, contracts the paper currency, forces, at a sacrifice, the sale of domestic fabrics, and depresses the industry of the country. Domestic manufactures require for the permanent and successful operation, the basis of specie; checking vibrations and inflations of the paper system; confining our imports to the wants of the country, and preventing the temporary purchase of foreign goods for credit, and not for exports, which always results in disturbance of the money market, and in injury to the country. If our manufacturers desire great advantages from the home market, it must be abundantly and permanently supplied with a large specie circulation, which alone can sustain that market for a number of years, and prevent those calamities which must follow an inflated paper currency. A home market for our manufactures, when based upon specie and low duties, is solid, permanent, and augmenting; but when founded upon paper credits, it is inflated one year, only to be depressed the next, or some succeeding year—thus depriving the manufacturer of any well assured and permanent domestic market. The bank deposit year, (1836,) when we were importing grain, contrasted with 1847—the year of divorce of the government from banks—exhibits the delusive inflation of the one with its succeeding disasters, and the solid prosperity of the other; resisting thus far, to a great extent, the revulsion in England, and proving the good effect of the union of low duties, and the specie-receiving and specie-circulating constitutional treasury."

The recommendation for the establishment of a branch mint at the city of New York is renewed, and cogent reasons advanced therefor. Foreign coin going into the banks, would if received at the great emporium of the commerce of the Union, pass into general circulation. The amount coined at the mint and branch mints, from the 1st January to the 1st Decmber, 1847, was $20,758,048 12, the first eleven months of the constitutional treasury.

By an exhibition of the imports and exports of specie, it appears, that for the fiscal year, ending the 30th June 1846, there was an import of $3,777,732, and an export of $3,481,417, leaving a gain of $296,315, and in 1847 the specie imported was $21,121,283, and the export $1,845,119, leaving the specie gained in 1846, $22,276,170.

An exhibition of the amount of receipts from customs, lands, &c., and of the disbursements of specie is made, showing for the first year of the new system, that the department has been enabled to circulate among the people the sum of $48,226,510 in specie.

Tables are presented exhibiting the market value of treasury notes and the United States stock for the year, in New York and New Orleans. A statement of facts is presented in relation to the negotiations of the late loan of $18,000,000, with which, however, the public ha[illegible] through the press.

Information is furnished relative to the selection of a site for, and the erection of, the new custom house at New Orleans.

The operation of the Topographical Bureau and the labors of Professor A. D. Bache, in the survey of the coast, with a view to the erection of light houses and other public works, are approved, and appropriations asked for the completion of the same.

To the pursuance of improvements in the warehousing system, a commission consisting of Messrs. C. C. Walden and D. P. Barhydt was appointed to visit Europe, and collect all the information possible on the subject; the result of which has been, a voluminous report, affording details which exhibit with peculiar force one of the principal means by which Great Britain has built up her commerce and navigation, and extended market for her fabrics throughout the world; and for successful competition with her, the report maintains the necessity of sedulously employing and perfecting the same system in the United States.

The remainder of the report relates to the new tariff and its operations, with a variety of illustrations from the past history of the nation, and a number of collateral and incidental facts demonstrative of the superiority of the system.

From it we gather, amongst many others, the following items of fact,

The nett revenue under the new tariff, for the year ending the 1st of December 1847, is $31,500,000, being $8,528,596 more than under the old tariff in the preceding twelve months. Our products are $3,000,000,000, of which only about $150,000,000 is exported; leaving $2,850,000,000 to be used at home, of which $500,000,000 is annually interchanged between the States, or about $23 81 per individual; while our interchange with foreign nations is only at the rate of 30 cents per individual. This amount, it is thought, might be augmented by low duties to 99 cents per individual, or $900,000,000 in the aggregate, which would yield a revenue of $90,000,000. It is conjectured that if the Canadas were united to us by free trade, our exchanges with those colonies alone would advance to $10,000,000. It is contended that it is not the freight, but duties that are the obstacles to commerce.

The Secretary then proceeds to comment upon the statistical facts connected with the immensely increased exportation of breadstuffs of last year, and observes that our capacito for increased production, is sufficient to augment our exports of grain, &c., in 1849, to upwards of $3000,000,000, or over six times the exports of the present year.

The report then enters upon an elaborate argument upon the free trade system, and proceeds to a comparative review of our commercial history under the effect of the protective tariffs of 1816, 1823, 1828, and 1842 and the low tariff, or rather the compromise act and the low tariff of 1846, to show that a gain of specie and an increase of exports, is found in favor of the latter.

The report, from this point, advances into a further and closer argument upon the liberal policy, which is advocated with exceeding vigor and convincing effect, and so concludes.

COL. MORGAN AT HOME.

The gallant Col. George W. Morgan has returned to Columbus, Ohio, where a public dinner was given him by his fellow citizens, in honor of his bravery and skill upon the battle-field. The Colonel made a patriotic speech on the occasion, from which it appears that he is a manifest destiny man. He said—

"Many see, or pretend to see, danger to the Union by an extension of "freedom's area." This is no new idea. Years ago, the same class of men saw danger in extending the limits of the Union west of the Alleghenies.—But onward flowed the tide of emigration, and State after State, in the West, was added to the Union. Louisiana and Florida were purchased, and they have been added to the constellation of States, and no disunion, as prophesied by these croakers of evil, followed. When Texas was admitted into the Union, the wild howls and threats of disunion were again heard. That beautiful region will be found, as it already has been, promotive of the interests of the whole people. No one, said Col. M., advocates the admission of any part of Mexico into the Union as States, at this time. But it is the destiny of the Anglo Saxon race—nay, said Col. M., of the American race, which includes those brave spirits from other lands who sought and found a home with us, and have become citizens—in time to give laws to this continent from the southern extreme to the frozen ocean in the north."

The idea of withdrawing the army at this time he treated as an insult. He remarked:

"Can it be, that the gallant men who went forth with high hopes to battle for their country's right and their country's honor, in a war just on our part, as was ever war waged, are to be compelled to return defeated by their own countrymen at home, (for they could not be by the enemy,) disgraced by their withdrawal from the scenes of their triumphs, and the graves of their companions, before the objects of the war is accomplished? The men to be thus treated are not hireling soldiers.—They are farmers and mechanics, who, believing that our soil had been invaded and our citizens murdered, went forth to protect their country's honor—to avenge her wrongs. How they succeeded, history must tell."

☞Col. Brough, in a letter from Puebla, published in Saturday's Enquirer, gives an account of an expedition from that point, upon Tlascala, in search of guerrillas. The enemy fled at the approach of the Americans, leaving four prisoners in their hands. The following gallant exploit is told of the commanding General himself:

Touching these prisoners, a good story is told of Gen. Lane, who led the chase with dragoons, and first brought one of the enemy's *caballeros* to bay. It was at the hazard of one's neck to ride over the ground,—a rough *barranca* scored with gullies; and a prisoner so obtained was worth securing. The General, therefore, took special care of his; but when the hunt was over; and the prisoners came to pass "in review" at the head quarters, it was ascertained that this one was A WOMAN! "I tell the tale as 'twas told to me." Whether she was required to give parol not to appear *in arms* against the United States, this deponent cannot vouch.

THE LAST CASE OF SOMNAMBULISM.—A short time ago, very early one morning one of the large bells in Rochester, N. Y., commenced an active tolling as for fire, and soon a dismal peal was heard from other quarters. The "boys" were out, in double quick time, but no fire could be found; and on making inquiries it was ascertained that the sexton of the church had risen *in his sleep*, and gone to the church, which was next door to his dwelling, and commenced pulling away at the bell rope at a hard rate! The Advertiser says; he finally waked himself up, and could'nt be convinced but what there was an alarm other than that caused by himself!

FUNERAL OF CAPT. WALKER.—An arrival at New Orleans brings an account of the funeral of Capt. Walker at Galveston. It was conducted by the Odd Fellows, and the city authorities, Judges and people participated. A large procession received the remains from a steamer, and proceeded to the Baptist Church, where appropriate services were performed by the Rev. Mr. Hutchins, an address delivered by Capt. Robert Howard. From thence the procession proceeded to the steamer, on board of which the copse was deposited—to be taken to Houston and thence to San Antonio.

MAIL ROBBER CAUGHT.—We learn from the Cleveland Times, that the State Marshal, D. A. Robertson, Esq., has arrested a young man named John Wilson, charged with having robbed the mail between Unionville and Painsville; Ohio. The rifled mail pouch, it will be remembered, was found in the Grand river. The accused was driver of the stage.

Late and Important from Mexico.

The schooner Portia, Captain Wakeman, arrived at New Orleans on Sunday afternoon, 12th instant, having sailed from Vera Cruz on the 1st instant. We are indebted to the courtesy of a gentleman who came passenger on her for a package of letters and papers.—The steamer Maria Burt was to have left Vera Cruz the same day, and the bulk of the mail was placed on board of her; but our faithful correspondent at Vera Cruz took the precaution of duplicating some of our letters by the Portia.

The news by this arrival is very important; and, first of all, the story about Santa Anna's being at the head of 18,000 men, and threatening and overawing Congress, and the despatch of General Worth to Queretaro to protect Congress—all turns out to be mere moonshine—no more authentic than General Scott's famous entry into Mexico in the middle of July last. A gentleman thoroughly conversant with Mexican affairs, who came passenger in the Portia assures us, that from the best information he could obtain, he is satisfied, that in place of being command of eighteen thousand men, Santa Anna has not eighteen hundred, nor even a hundred and eighty followers.—With this rumor falls a good deal of very judicious composition upon the renewal of the glories of Napoleon, the return from Elba, &c.

Gen. Anaya was elected President of Mexico on the 11th inst. He has once before been Provisional President. His present term of office extends only to the 8th of January next. He is known to be in favor of peace. In forming his cabinet, he continued Mora y Villamil in the war department, and made Pena y Pena, late the President, his Secretary of State. The whole administration is in favor of an honorable peace; and one of its first acts was to despatch a commission to the city of Mexico to reopen negotiations with Mr. Trist. The commissioners were Senors Conto, Aristain, and Cuevas, and Gen. Rincon—the first two having been on the former commission. Mr. Trist's powers had been revoked prior to the arrival of the commission; and as Gen. Scott possessed no powers to treat with them, it is presumed they were referred to our government at Washington.

The next most important intelligence by this arrival is the reported arrest of Gen. Worth, Gen. Pillow, and Lieut. Col. Duncan, by Gen. Scott. The verbal report is, that letters written by these gentlemen, reflecting upon the commander-in-chief, have fallen into his possession, upon which he at once arrested them. We have not yet received any letters from the city of Mexico later than the 24th of November. They make no mention of these arrests; but we have letters on the Maria Burt from the city of Mexico, which, we presume, will elucidate the whole matter.

The Arco Iris says that Gen. Patterson's division left Jalapa of the 25th ult. Before his departure he hung, on the 28th, two American teamsters, for having killed a Mexican boy twelve years old. He caused also to be executed the next day the two Mexican officers, Gardia and Alcede, (belonging to the 8th and 11th regiments,) who were taken prisoners commanding guerillas, without having been exchanged. The people buried them in great pomp and ceremony; upon which, Gen. Patterson sent for the alcalde, who said that the funeral had been spontaneous with the people, and that he had not power to prevent it; besides, he remarked that, notwithstanding the great numbers who had attended the ceremony, order had not been disturbed in the slightest manner.

We have been informed that Padre Martin, (the second Jarauta,) has been made prisoner while sleeping in one of the garitas of the city of Mexico.

Senor Otero brought forward his proposition in the Mexican Congress for depriving *the Executive of the power to alienate any* part of the territory of the republic by a treaty of peace. The proposition was rejected by a large majority, which is deemed a favorable omen.

ARRIVAL OF THE GEN. BUTLER.—All apprehension for the safety of this steamer and those on board are now removed by the arrival of the vessel last evening, after a terrible passage.

Yet Later.

The steamship Virginia, Capt. Tucker, arrived at New Orleans on the 13th instant from Vera Cruz, having left the 7th instant. She brings over eighty discharged and sick soldiers.

There was a *report in Vera Cruz*, on the 7th inst., that the Maria Burt had been driven ashore twenty miles north of Vera Cruz. The Free American published it as a fact.—Our correspondent writes during the day that the report had been discovered to be false. The steamer A. R. Hetzell was despatched up the coast to look after the wreck; but after a diligent and thorough search, found no trace of her. It was hence presumed at Vera Cruz that she had gone on her course to this city. As she has not arrived here, and as the norther which commenced on the 2d inst. was absolutely terrific, very great fears are entertained for the safety of the boat.

From the Free American of the 2d instant we extract the following:

FROM JALAPA.—Letters received yesterday from Jalapa, dated November 28, say that two teamsters were executed on the 23d for the murder of a young Mexican.

On the 24th, Ambrosion Alcade, a lieutenant in the 12th regiment, M. A., and Antonio Garcia, adjutant in the 8th regiment, M. A., were both shot in the plaza at Jalapa. They were taken prisoners on the 20th, with Col. Rebolledo, and it was proved that they had given their parole at the capitulation of Vera Cruz not to take up arms against the United States.

Rebolledo and Covarruquias were sent to Perote on the 24th. The first has also been under parole; but he says he has been exchanged, which he will have to prove.

Gen. Pensy Barragan had been appointed military commander of the State of Vera Cruz. This nomination created great dissatisfaction among the Mexicans in Jalapa. The train, under command of Gen. Patterson, left Jalapa on the 25th ult. Six hundred men were left by him to garrison that place. The ayuntamiento were made to recognise the commander of these forces, governor civil, and military.

THE TRAIN.—The large train under the command of Gen. Butler has nearly all left. The number of men accompanying it is estimated at 8,000, Gen. Scott will soon have from 15,000 to 30,000 men.

A private letter, dated the 7th inst., informs us that six American soldiers arrived that day from Cordova, where they had been confined as prisoners. They had been captured on the road to Mexico from different trains. They were released by Gen. Marin, who was on his way to Vera Cruz, to establish himself in business. He has abandoned the Mexican army, and is desirous of earning an honest livelihood, it is said.

The Arco Iris says that Padre Jaranta is about to return to operate in the neighborhood of Vera Cruz, and that his band has been reinforced with three hundred men from the interior, who are at the expense of the Marquis del Jarnal.

The following items are from the Free American of the 4th inst.

THE NEXT TRAIN.—The train under the command of Gen. Marshall is on the eve of *marching into the interior.* The general will command about 1,780 men, rank and file, and will consist of one regiment of Tennessee volunteers, foot, 800 men; a battalion of infantry, volunteers and regulars, under Major W. W. Morris, 4th artillery, of about 500 men; a battalion of Georgia mounted volunteers, under Lieut. Col. Calhoun, 480 men.

We regret to have to announce the death of Lieut. Malahonski, late of the New York, volunteers. He died of vomito. His remains were accompanied to the grave last evening by a detachment of Louisana volunteers and a good many officers and friends.

The Arco Iris of the 21 inst., says the Mexican commissioners retired at once to Queretaro upon learning that Mr. Trist had no powers to treat.

The following items are from the Arco Iris of the 3d inst.

By the last accounts Gen. Filisola was at Queretaro with a force of 2,000 men. The general-in-chief, Bustamente, had yet his headquarters at Guanajuato, with an army of 9,000 men.

Many members of the Congress, displeased with the election of the new President, gave up their seats, and retired in disgust from the city of Queretaro.

However, there remained yet more than the fixed number which is required to form a quorum.

The following is from the Free American of the 24th ult:

ORIZABA.—*A gentleman who arrived here* yesterday from Orizaba, which place he left on the 21st inst., politely furnished us with the following intelligence.

A pronunciamento having been made by the military in Queretaro in favor of Santa Anna, he engaged sixty men, and paid them in advance, to accompany him from Tehuacan to that city; but as soon as they had received the sum asked for, they deserted that general.

He then ordered the commander of the forces in the State of Vera Cruz, Gen. Marin, to send him an escort, which the latter reluctantly granted; but immediately after sent his resignation to the government at Queretaro.

General Santa Anna was to leave Tehuacan on the 22d for Queretaro. We therefore may expect soon to hear the news of the overthrow of the government of Mexico.

Our informant says that the people in Orizaba and Cordova were anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Americans, who were reported to be on their march from Jalapa to those places, to free them from the yoke of guerrilla banditties, who threatened their property and their lives.

In a Vera Cruz paper, of the 26th, we find the following:

FROM THE INTERIOR.—On the 9th instant, Gen. Scott intimated to the editor of a paper (El Judio Errante) that if he continued the publication of articles calculated to create disturbences, he would stop the publication of his paper, and cause the printing materials to be sold for the benefit of the poor.

A Mexican was tried by a military commission for shooting with the intention of killing another person, and was condemned to be flogged in the plaza.

The Monitor Republicano having made some offensive remarks as to this mode of punishment and having published a false report as to the nature of the offence, the governor addressed a note to him, in which he threatens to have him tried before the same commission, and orders him to publish the true circumstances of the case.

THE GUERRILLAS AGAIN.—Yesterday four men belonging to Captain Connolly's company of Louisiana volunteers left the encampment at San Juan, and when a few miles from the camp were attacked by about forty Mexicans. Two of the party were killed, and the other two, although wounded, succeeded in making their escape, and reached San Juan last evening. A detachment was immediately sent in pursuit of the Mexicans, and if they are encountered, they will pay dearly for that exploit.

N. B. Since writing the above, we have understood that a detachment of mounted men, who accompanied some market men, fell in with a party of guerrillas, who were posted on the passage of the latter to rob them. An engagement took place, in which two of the robbers were killed, and ten taken prisoners.

From the Rio Grande.

The steamer Ann Chase, Captain Harrison, arrived at New Orleans on the 14th instant from the Brazos, whence she sailed on the 10th instant. She left Vera Cruz on the 28th ult., and touched at Tampico.

By this arrival we have a copy of the American Flag, *of the 8th inst., from Matamoras.*

The following is an extract from a letter written by Major Lane to a friend in Saltillo, describing the engagement he had with the Indians. The letter is dated—

ENCANTADA, Nov. 22, 1847.

DEAR NELSON: We had a fight yesterday with 120 Cumanches. The red devils got wind of our approach, and were formed in battle order and bold array to receive us. I ordered a charge, and we dashed into them in gallant style. They received us in good order, but were soon put to flight; and we kept up a running fight with them for two miles or more, killing thirty, and wounding many others. We pressed upon their mountain ponies so close that they *finaly* dismounted and took to the mountains on foot, and the pursuit was given up. Our poor friend, W. H. Bell was killed in the charge, and McMurty and two others wounded.

The men fought well, and can whip Cumanches on any ground. I start for Parras to-morrow, with my whole command, again in pursuit of Indians, who we understand, are in large force in that neighborhood—some say 900 strong. They have been devastating the settlements, killing the Mexican *hombres*, and carrying off the women. This, you know is unchristian like, and we go *to show our gallantry* in defence of the fair. Mount and come with us, for we are certain to have a brush.

The Flag says that Sabariego has been appointed military commandant of Tamaulipas, in place of Gen. Urrea.

We have conversed freely (says the New Orleans Picayune) with a distinguished officer, who has for a long time been on the line of the Rio Grande, and has just returned.—He tells us that there were rumors that the Mexicans designed to take advantage of Gen. Taylor's absence, to make a decent upon Saltillo, and the line to the Rio Grande. He had been assured by an intelligent man that Gen. Filisola was in command of a large force at San Luis—eight or ten thousand men, while Minon had two thousand cavalry near at hand operating with him.

The rumored purpose of the Mexican was for Minon to come out by the Linars pass to China, while with the main body of his troops Filisola should fall upon Saltillo. Our informant says, that in the departure of Gen. Taylor the Mexicans feel as if our whole army had withdrawn, such was the terror of his name among them. Inclined as they are to strike a bow in his absence, he still thinks they have no such army in the field as that above named; and even if it be so, it will be imposible to surprise Gen. Wool, who is ever on the alert. He has no doubt that any attack upon Gen. Wool would prove disastrous to the Mexicans.

CLAY AND AGRIPPA.—Clay says, in his Lexington speech, that he "*almost* idolizes *truth.*" Agrippa said, while listening to the defence of St. Paul, "thou *almost* persuadest me to be a *christian.*" Had St. Paul been at Lexington, he might have made, with great propriety, the same answer to Mr. Clay on the subject of *truth* that he did to Agrippa in relation to being a *christian.*—*Statesman.*

Wanted.

TEN Thousands Bushels Corn,
500 " Rye,
10000 " Oats,
5000 " Barley,
5000 " Wheat,
5000 " Beans,
5000 Dollars in Canal Bonds, at the store of
Dec. 18 H. CADWELL.

Arrival No. 20.

JUST received by Express the choicest assortment of Gimps, Fringes, Ribbons, Silks and Bonnett Satins offered this season.
Dec. 18. H. CADWELL.

BRASS KETTLES, assorted sizes and first quality. LESTER, SENNETT & CHESTER.

THE OBSERVER.

"The World is Governed too Much."

ERIE, PA.

Saturday Morning, January 1, 1848.

Democratic County Convention.

At a meeting of the Democratic Central Committee of this county, held this evening at the office of the secretary in this Borough, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Democratic Electors of Erie County, be requested to hold primary meetings in each election district, at the place of holding their general elections, on Saturday the 5th of February, 1848, at 6 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of choosing Delegates to a County Convention, to be held at the Court House in this borough on the first Monday of February next, at 1 o'clock, P. M., to appoint Delegates to the Democratic State Convention, to be held at Harrisburg on the 4th of March next, to nominate a candidate for Canal Commissioner and appoint Delegates to a National Convention.

SMITH JACKSON,
IRVIN CAMP,
MURRAY WHALLON,
CARSON GRAHAM,
F. W. MILLER.
JAMES NORTON,
ISAAC R. TAYLOR,
Committee.

Erie, Dec. 30, 1847.

☞THOS. H. ELLISON is a duly authorized agent to procure subscribers for this paper.

SPIRIT OF THE PEOPLE—GREAT DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF THE WAR.

The bold and patriotic language of President Polk in regard to the War is eliciting a *hearty, enthusiastic and, we might say, spontaneous*, response from the people in all parts of the country. The proceedings of meeting after meeting pour in upon us, in our exchanges, while the voice of the Democratic and independent press echo one uniform sentiment of approval. In our own State this is more *particularly so. Pennsylvania, foremost* in every controversy where the honor of the country is involved, is following up her eighteen thousand majority on the side of the country in October, with public demonstrations in support of the policy of the Administration which forcibly remind us of the time when *she* rebuked the "bargain and sale" statesman of Ashland by rolling up a majority of fifty thousand for Gen. Jackson. The same spirit is at work, and although federalism may rail and denounce—vote supplies with one hand, and stigmatise the war as "God abhored," and those engaged in it "*murderers*" "*murderers*" and "*robbers*," with the other—she is still disposed to raise her voice and lend her aim in repelling foes at home and chastising enemies abroad! Within her borders the fell spirit of disorganization which has rent the Democracy of New York assunder, and made them the bye word and reproach of the Union, can find *no resting place*. Uncontaminated by its fell spirit, she presents an unbroken front, and thus panoplied, steps forth to approve and defend the truly American ground assumed by the President in his annual message to Congress. The voice of the Democracy of a State thus situated before the country, should be listened to with respect and attention by their brethren in other States.

We have been led to these remarks more particularly, by reading the proceedings of the great War meeting held at the Chinese Museum in Philadelphia on the 18th ult.—It was unquestionably one of the most enthusiastic and spirited demonstrations ever made in the State in favor of any measure. The Pennsylvanian says: "The vast saloon of the Museum was crowded with thousands, and it is presumed that quite as many were unable to obtain admittance. They came to maintain the honor, the interest, and the glory of the United States, against all her enemies foreign and domestic. Long before the hour appointed, the democratic masses of the city began to assemble, and large bodies from the Northern Liberties, Moyamensing, Kensington, Southwark, Roxborough, Spring Garden, Passyunk, Blockley, West Philadelphia, Germantown, *Kingsessing*, and the other districts, poured into the hall until it was crowed to excess, while the passages, vestibule, stairs, and the streets around the hall, were also filled with the true-hearted patriots of the city and county. A more magnificent and imposing display was never witnessed. *Military music, flags, banners*, and the exulting shouts of thousands on thousands of freemen, evinced and excited a spirit which no man, with a heart in his bosom, could behold without profound emotion."

The resolutions reported and adopted by this great assemblage, are alike admirable in *manner and tone. They present a succinct* but complete history of the Causes of the War, and the high grounds on which it has been prosecuted with such brilliant results, and will, if the country will stand by the Government, (and who will doubt it?) secure Indemnity and Peace. The following is all we have *room for*:

Resolved, That we cannot refrain from expressing our regret to hear, in every breeze which reaches our ears, that the same spirit *of distrust to popular power, which the federal* party exhibited during the war of 1812, and since; the same disposition to thwart and undermine the energetic action of the constituted authorities of the government, is now in full operation; our opponents as a party have proclaimed, at their recent meeting in this city, and have fully sanctioned this declaration by their press, that the objects of the present war are wrongful and inexpedient; that the President of the United States has usurped powers in violation of his constitutional authority, and in deregation of the rights of the citizen, and which reduce "American freemen to a grade beneath those of the subjects of any existing constitutional monarchy."

Resolved, That the annexation of the republic of Texas to our Union was distinctly proclaimed as a democratic measure by the national convention which nominated our present distinguished Chief Magistrate; and in the able and admirable letter which he wrote prior to the meeting of the convention, he distinctly and frankly avowed that Texas ence constituted a part of the territory of the United States; that it was improperly ceded to Spain, and never should have been dismembered from our Union; that just security from the grasping encroachment of foreign powers, in addition to the advancement of the cause of human freedom, and the influence of a wisely constituted government, rendered the measure, to his mind, clear of all doubts, either as to the power or expediency of the re-annexation. The results of his administration show how justly he has redeemed the pledge which he thus gave to the people and the democracy of the Union.

Resolved, That the policy of the government, as distinctly avowed by the President, is to obtain such a pacific adjustment of our difficulties with Mexico, as will insure full indemnity for the wrongs of our citizens, and secure our permanent relations hereafter.—To effect these salutary objects, an acquisition of territory, as suggested in the late message of the President, is essential; and we hold it to be the true policy of the government, to continue the prosecution of the war by the most energetic measures, as the effectual means of conquering a speedy and honorable peace.

Resolved, That the President of the United States, in his message to Congress of Dec. 1846, and in his more recent message, has *presented a clear and satisfactory exposition* of the causes of the present war with Mexico and of that just policy which has actuated the government in all its intercourse with that *power—to demand nothing* but what is clearly right, and to submit to nothing that is wrong. Repeated aggressions and insults, in connection with the violation of solemn engagements offered by Mexico to our government and its ministers, rendered it imperative, in maintenance of our national honor, and the constitutional obligations of the government, to resort to the last and only measure left against the injustice of Mexico, by an appeal to arms: and our army, navy, and citizen soldiery have responded to the calls of *their country with that promptitude and enthusiasm which have shown to the world that* the American citizen fully appreciates his own elevated position, and is ever ready to sacrifice his ease, his private interests, and even life itself, when his country demands it.

Resolved, That while disavowing any purpose of unjust conquest, and while protesting against the imputation that this is a war for the extension of slavery, we trust that the hope of the people for a just Peace will not be disappointed, and the contest unnecessarily protracted, by any project involving either of these points, and that they may not be permitted to defeat the great measures necessary to continued energy in the operations of our army, or lead to the entanglement and overthrow of any proper treaty recommended to *the Senate of the United States.*

Resolved, That as the question of Slavery has been most unfairly introduced into this contest, we invoke Congress to meet it in the spirit of conciliation in which our Federal Constitution was framed, that it may be settled by the adoption of some common ground, like the Missouri Compromise, upon which all the sections of the Union may meet, and sacrifice their prejudices and passions to the common good.

A number of letters from distinguished Democrats, who were invited by the committee of arrangements, to be present and address the meeting, were read. Among them, we find the following from our able representative in Congress, Hon. JAMES THOMPSON, which we transfer with pleasure to our columns. It unquestionably embodies the sentiments of his democratic constituents, and we believe, a large portion of the federalists. It is emphatically worthy of the man and the occasion:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
December 16, 1847. }

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 12th inst., conveying to me a request to be present at and address a meeting of the democratic party, *to be held at the Museum* in your city, on Saturday evening next, "for the purpose of sustaining the national administration in the vigorous prosecution of the war to an honorable *peace with Mexico.*" I should have been much pleased, had it been in my power, consistent with my duties here at this time, to have been with you on the occasion named, but regret to say that this is not the case. The "purpose" of your meeting is one with which every impulse of my heart sympathises; it is sanctioned by patriotism and duty to country; it is the rally of freemen around the arm of government for the maintenance of national honor, which is national glory. It is the duty of the republican party at this juncture of affairs, while a party press and their friends in this country, and venal, hireling organs of governments across the Atlantic, are denouncing this war with Mexico as an unjust, unholy, and unprovoked invasion on the part of our country, to stand forth and bear testimony to the truth, and disseminate the evidence that proved it unavoidable and which would have forever fixed upon our country the imputation of contemptible weakness, if not absolute cowardice, if it had not been undertaken. It seems to me that a necessity as strong as ever required a human being to raise his own arm in defence of himself, after all friendly *expostulations* had failed to prevent aggression, existed on the part of our country to prosecute this war, and to prosecute it until the aggressor shall sue for peace, and solemnly stipulate for future good behavior, as well as render ample indemnity for the expense consequent thereon. For one, I have no fear that the history of the war, when it shall set forth the causes that required it, and the manner in which it has been conducted, will ever receive the promised verdict of national condemnation, so often reiterated by presses and persons on *this country*. *It cannot be.* The *facts* are plain and simple. They are few and prominent—all may easily learn them. Mexico professed to take umbrage at the annexatian of Texas; withdrew her minister, dismissed ours; refused to negotiate, or to confer about the alleged causes of offence; sent an army to the frontier; invaded territory which was at the time in the possession and under the jurisdiction of our government, and which some of the most eminent of our opponents have conceded to be ours; murdered our soldiers, and attacked our troops. All this occurred *without a single act of aggression on our* part. This is the simple of the case, in my judgement: yet a portion of the press of this country affect to believe that it was invasion, aggression, prompted by a desire for conquest, plunder, and butchery on the part of our country, that has brought about this war, and have denounced it in terms that bitterness and hatred only could invent. But I must forbear further remarks on this subject. I shall look with great earnestness to the proceedings of your meeting. I feel assured that such expression will be made as may become citizens who have *their* country's honor at heart, as well as that of brothers, sons, and friends in the distant fields of the foemen to vindicate.

With great regard, I am truly yours,
JAMES THOMPSON.

To the COMMITTEE.

The Union Magazine

We have been favored by the publisher with the January number of this truly beautiful and excellent Magazine, edited by Mrs. KIRKLAND, the authoress of several highly popular works. The well known literary talent of the editress, combined with a long list of excellent contributors, and the beauty and taste of its typographical execution, together with the taste and finish of its embellishments, cannot fail to secure for it a support equal to its most favored cotemporaries. Israel Post, publisher, 140 Nassau street, N. Y. Terms, $3, two copies for $5.

☞From the valedictory of F. G. May. Esq., in the last Lancaster Intelligencer, we learn that that paper has passed into the hands of E. W. Hutter, Esq. Mr. H. was editor of the Democratic Union, at Harrisburg, during the fierce campaign of '44, and ranks as a ready and vigorous writer second to none in the State. We most cordially welcome his return to the corps editorial.

☞The Emperor of Russia has ordered all the Poles to have their beards shaved off, preparatory to his visit to Warsaw. We should have thought Nicholas the last man who could wish to look a Pole in the face.

AN ARTICLE FOR THE SEASON

AMUSEMENTS.—In what treatise on moral ethics is to be found the authority for the common belief that amusements—innocent and harmless amusements we mean—are contrary to true morality and detrimental to the virtuous education of the young. We often hear would-be-wise men gravely, and with owl-like dignity, discant on the foolish waste of precious time by the young in DANCING.—Against this amusement, more than all others, have long-faced moralists directed their shafts and levelled their blows. And yet we are told by the Good Book that there is a time for all things—and among others a time to DANCE! Indeed, some of our christian churches are so well persuaded that this is so, and that this often condemned amusement is not only innocent in itself, but conducive alike to the health as well as the manners of the young, when indulged in moderately, that they not only allow their members to participate in it, but actually encourage it. But, says some vinegar-faced pharisee, cannot our youth be better and more profitably employed in study than in "tipping the light fantastic toe" to the sound of the fiddle. My good sir, the brain overtasked *becomes obtuse, and the body* confined to one position becomes feeble and ultimately diseased; hence there ought to be times and seasons for relaxation from labor and care, and for the recreation of both body and mind by active and pleasant amusements. Besides, eminent physicians have given their sanction to this as being the most healthful of any indoor amusement, and how many hundreds of the youth of this country are compelled by the iron-hand of necessity, in this go-ahead age, to seek recreation after business hours, or go without it. In this they have an illustrious example. His honor, Chief Justice MARSHALL, *says an old chronicle before us*, was often seen during the recesses in the sitting of the courts at which he presided, to amuse himself by pitching quoits, a capital and healthful exercise, by the by. Now we venture to assert that should some of the over wise in this day and generation, take it into their heads to imitate the *learned Chief Justice* in this particular, they would sneak to some out-of-the-way place, like a gang of counterfeiters and gamblers, as though they were ashamed of doing what the preservation of their health demands of them. We, in common with one who writes well and truly on this subject, "hope that public opinion will ere long undergo a change in this matter, and that it will not appear discreditable to engage at proper times in innocent sports, such as are practiced in other countries, where the people, if not so long faced and labor worn, are not the less pious, and infinitely more happy. It *is nothing* but a morbid moral sentiment which denies to mankind the gratification of the natural propensities, when those propensities are controlled by reason and conscience. True religion, even, if we have any just perception of its hallowed nature, does not conflict with man's enjoyments. It opposes not a smile, a laugh, or a sportive recreation. It is sin alone, that should clothe the face in sackcloth and banish smiles and pleasures. Give us your open hearted, joyous, laughter-loving man, whose very face indicates the benevolence of his heart; he is the christian for us. We should not be afraid to trust such a man at home or abroad; but *take the man* whose face is the picture of a grave stone, whereon a smile would no sooner dare to rest than would a bird on the dismal drapery of death—he may be shunned, for you cannot comprehend him. The discipline which is required to conceal the outward traces of the natural impulses may have burdened his heart with all manner of deception and uncleanness, and it is often found that the greatest knaves have pursued their career beneath the cloak of a grave and sanctified exterior."

Graham's Magazine.

We should have noticed last week the receipt of the January number of Graham's Magazine. It is one of the very best ever issued—both the editors and publishers have done themselves exceeding credit. It contains twenty-four pages extra, including an extraordinary number and variety *of rich literary* contributions from the favorite pens of Cooper, Sims, Fay, Herbert, Poe, Hosmer, Sigourney, Bryant, and a host of others of our first writers in poetry and prose.—The embellishments are of the most superb order. Two of them consist of portraits—one of Gen. Butler, and the other of a lady—done in the first style of art. There is also a beautiful engraving of *Innocence*, which is really delightful. The present is an excellent time to subscribe, and we know of a number of young ladies who would gladly accept the Magazine for a New Year present. Mr. Brown, at the Post Office, acts as agent, and will cheerfully forward names and money.

☞The Editor of the Fredonia Censor gave a supper to the "craft" of that village, at the Union Hotel, one evening last week. *There* were twelve set down to the table. H. C. FRISBEE, Esq., the founder of the Censor, presided. There was a rich time at the "Union" we doubt not. We think, however, we could have *added* a little to the fun, and *subtracted* a good deal from the substantials had we been invited. By the by, suppose our neighbor of the Gazette, *seeing* that he is the patriarch of the "craft" here, "trumps or follows suit." We'd do it ourself, but we can't "hold the cards."

☞John C. Calhoun, in a speech made some time ago in the Senate, said that Mexican territory was the forbidden fruit of which we must not eat. The day we should eat of that fruit we should surely die as a nation. We should think common sense was the forbidden fruit with him.

☞"The Lady's Dollar Newspaper," is the title of a new publication issued every two weeks, by the well known proprietor of the Lady's Book, L. A. Godey, Esq., at Philadelphia, the second number of which is before us. It is to be made up of selections from the best English Annuals and monthlies, together with original articles from native authors. We doubt not it will be eminently successful. Just put us down for a permanent exchange, Mr. Godey.

☞We are pleased to learn that Ja's. C. Marshall, Esq., of this city, has been appointed Revenue Commissioner for this Judicial District. This is an excellent appointment and we are confident will give universal satisfaction. Mr. M., aside from being an able lawyer and a practical business man, is from his long residence in the county, eminently qualified for the office.