Congressional.

Monday, January 10.—In the Senate after the transaction of the ordinary routine of business, a number of memorials and petitions were presented, among which was one by Mr. Cameron, from the citizens of Pennsylvania, to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia. Mr. Clayton presented a petition from the Friends of New York, Vermont, Michigan, &c., for the adoption of measures for the termination of the war. Mr. Johnson, of Louisiana, on pensions, reported a bill granting half pay to widows and orphans of volunteers who were killed in Mexico, pursuant to the President's Message. It was read a third time. Mr. Douglass introduced a bill to establish a territorial government in Oregon. Pending the morning business, Mr. Hannegan, of Indiana, introduced three resolutions, to the effect:

1st, That no treaty can be made with Mexico, which does not guaranty to the United States a good military boundary.

2d, That no intervention of any European power can be admitted in the affairs of Mexico.

3d, That it may become proper to hold Mexico as a province of the United States.

Mr. Hannegan asked that the resolutions be printed and made the order this day two weeks, which was agreed to.

At ten minutes past one, the ten regiment bill was taken up.

Mr. Reverdy Johnson spoke until the hour of adjournment. Adjourned.

House.—The first business in order was the reports of the committee of the whole on the resolutions renewing the southern mail arrangement, which, after various amendments, was rejected.

The House then went into committee, Mr. J. R. Ingersoll in the chair, on the President's Message.

Mr. McClernand addressed the committee in defence of the general measures of the administration. Mr. Stanton followed chiefly on the doctrine of the last veto. He alluded to the message—dissenting therefrom, and supposed that war and war measures were alone the course considered proper by the administration. Mr. Stewart, of Penn., obtained the floor, after which the committee rose.

Mr. Cocke reported a joint resolution authorizing the Commissioner of Pensions to employ temporarily additional clerks, appropriating $11,998 for that purpose; it was read twice and referred. Adjourned.

January 11.—In the Senate after the transaction of the ordinary morning business, several memorials and petitions were presented. Mr. Cass from the Military Committee reported a bil to increase the staff of the army for a limited time. Mr. Dickinson, of New York, gave notice that he should ask leave to take up his Mexican resolutions during the morning hour to-morrow to allow him to make necessary explanations. After the transaction of some unimportant business, the Senate resumed the consideration of the special order of the day, it being the bill for raising ten additional regiments to serve during the war against Mexico. Mr. Johnson then rose and addressed the Senate in continuation of his speech commenced yesterday.—He again denounced the course of the administration in relation the Mexican war, and considerde the immediate cause of producing the conflict having arisen from the removal of the troops in a hasty manner where they were greatly exposed, and from the paucity of their number invited an attack, and the delay which ensued in enlisting and sending forward reinforcements. He freely admitted that the primary cause of the war was annexation. He was entirely opposed to the withdrawing of our troops from Mexico, and if consummated he believed it would be productive of a perpetual war between the two countries. He was opposed to the overthrowing of the nationality of Mexico, but was willing to fight for that justice and honor which we had a right to demand. He thou't the revenues of Mexico, if properly managed, would prove sufficient to support our troops, and though in favor of a desirable treaty he was opposed to acquiring territory by force of arms, but not from the fear of extending slavery. He denounced all desire or wish to interfere with or overthrow the Mexican religion. Mr. Clayton, of Delaware, asked if Scott and Taylor desired these men. Gen. Cass answered affimatively. Soon after which Mr. Johnson concluded his speech.

Mr. Crittenden proceeded to make a few brief remarks in opposition to the bill. Mr. Clayton, of Delaware, followed and addressed the Senate at length in opposition to the bill. Withing concluding he gave way to a motion for adjournment. The Senate then adjourned.

House.—After the transaction of the ordinary routine of business the morning, the House resumed the consideration of the special order of the day, it being the resolution referring the President's message to appropri ate committees, which was taken up in committee of the whole. Mr. Stewart, of Pennsylvania, denounced the Secretary of the Treasury's report as incorrect, and went on to state facts in corroboration of his declaration. Mr. Abraham Venable, of North Carolina, defended the President of the United States in a brief and earnest manner. The Committee rose and presented the bill to the House. The House then adjourned.

January 12.—In the Senate after the transaction of the ordinary business of the morning, several memorials and petions were presented, among which, several from the States of Ohio, Maine and Massachusetts opposing the war with Mexico.

Mr. Sevier, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported a bill respecting the settlement of old Mexican claims for which the government was not responsible.

A bill reported in favor of refunding to the Secretary of Wisconsin, was up for consideration and finally passed, after which Mr. Dickinson's resolutions, relative to the war with Mexico were taken up, when Mr. Dickinson rose and addressed the Senate at considerable length in support of the same.

He argued that territory must be acquired from Mexico as indemnity for past injuries, as well as for losses sustained by the United States in the present war. He was opposed to the doctrines and principles of the Wilmot Proviso, and contended that to territorial legislation alone must be left all the control of slavery within its jurisdiction; that fears entertained for the extention of the boundaries of the United States, by the incorporations of new territory, were groundless; that the rapid increase of population, and the growing agricultural and other interests, not only justified, but authorized the acquisition of more territory by fair and honorable means. He believed that all Mexican nationality must come to an end by self destruction, as the people were in possession of neither patriotism nor intelligence sufficient to sustain a regular government, as much less a permanent national existence. Leave Mexico alone, said he, and England would prey upon her and her resources, and exercise a control over her hostile to the interests of the United States, and otherwise foster those monarchial principles considered so necessary for the government of mankind. To withdraw our troops from Mexico, he considered, would dishonor the country. Conquest, he contended, was not necessarily annexation, but its occupation was absolutely necessary for peace and security. We have a right, said he, to occupy the whole country, if necessary, and to suggest such terms for the conclusion of a peace as we may consider consistent with justice and national honor. After some farther general remarks, he concluded, when,

Mr. Yulee offered an amendment recognizing the control of slavery as belonging to the people at large, inhabiting a state or territory.

Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, proposed a substitute for wholly prohibiting human slavery within the territories of the United States obtained by conquest or other means. Passed over.

When the special order of the day was taken up, it being the ten regiment bill previously discussed, Mr. Clayton, having the floor, then rose and proceeded to address the Senate in continuation of his speech, commenced yesterday. He said he was opposed to the acquisition of all territory by conquest, and especially to any attempt either to occupy or to incorporate Mexico within the boundaries of the United States. Such a measure was opposed to the principles of our institutions and dangerous to their existence. If we are to take territory, let it be by treaty and not by force. In that case the troops were unnecessary. Suppose, said he, Mexico to be subdued throughout, what were we to do with her? If we admitted her various States into our Union, and as members of our confederacy, we should incorporate within our limits 8,000,000 abolitionists opposed to the institution of slavery, and thereby endanger its existence. By this bill, said he, the appointment of 540 commissioned officers was added to the executive patronage, which was already too expanded. The progress of the war tended unduly to elevate the military power and influence. He went on to censure the President for his connivance at Santa Anna's return. He demanded to know under what authority his admission into Mexico was brought about, and went on in a strain of severe denunciation of the entire course of the administration in relation to the Mexican war.

When he had sat down, the Hon. A. P. Butler of South Carolina, Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, offered a substitute, limiting the increase of the army.

The Senate then went into executive session, and after a short time spent therein, the doors were opened, and on motion the Senate adjourned.

House.—After the transaction of the ordinary routine of business, and some matters of unimportant interest had been gone through with, the Committee on Military Affairs reported a bill granting soldiers a bounty.

Mr. King of Georgia, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill authorizing promotions. Mr. F. P. Stanton of Tennessee, from the same committee, reported a bill making sailor's letters free. Mr. Holmes of South Carolina, reported a bill for the establishment of a Military Depot at the mouth of the Tennessee river. Mr. R. C. Rhett of South Carolina, introduced a bill giving consent to the States to impose tonnage duties for the improvement of harbor and river navigation.

Mr. Hilliard of Alabama, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, made a report recommending the appointment of a Ministei to Rome.

The House then went into a Committee of the Whole upon the resolutions referring the Presidents message to an appropriate committee of the whole House, and debated at considerable length.

The Committee rose without any final action, when the House adjourned.

January 13.—In the Senate after the transaction of the ordinary business at the opening, a bill reported for allowing vessels to carry emigrants to Liberia, was taken up and passed.

After the transaction of some other unimportant business, the Senate resumed the consideration of the special order of the day, it being the bill for raising ten additional regiments, when Mr. Pearce, of Maryland, obtained the floor, and combatted Mr. Johnson's speech made in favor of the war, and said that the aggressive occupation of Mexican territory had provoked resistance. He denied that the assumed boundary claimed by Mr. Calhoun and others, was defensible, and contended that the boundary of Texas never extended legitimately to the Rio Grande: Here Mr. Rusk, of Texas, and Mr. Sevier, of Arkansas, interposed explanations. Mr. Pierce proceeded and denounced the ordering of troops to the Rio Grande as a gross usurpation of power. The idea of claiming indemnity for a war commenced on our part, was new and decidedly absurd. He contended that the country of Mexico was conquered, her government broken up. The resources destroyed by the dishonorable prosecution of the war. He was opposed to the annexation of any territory. He was for guarding against perpetual difficulties abroad and ruin at home. Mr Pierce said he would not consent to a continuance of the war. He would not consent to vote men or money for the continuance of the war. He went on to make some farther general remarks in condemnation of the administration, and in reply to some of the arguments of Mr. Johnson, when he concluded.—Mr. Calhoun taking the floor, the Senate on motion, adjourned over till Monday.

House.—After the organization of the House, and the transaction of the ordinary routine of business, the Senate bill granting register to the bark Canton, at New York, was taken up and passed.

A message was received from the President of the United States, by the hand of his private secretary, and read, in which he declined giving information respecting Santa Anna's return to Mexico, as incompatible with the public interest.

Various motions were made respecting its disposition, when an animated debate grew up, in which Messrs. Adams, Schenck, Collimore and Toombs participated, and who condemned the President and his course, while Mr. Charles J. Ingersoll and others sustained the message, and defended the President.

On motion it was made the special order of the day for next Tuesday, when, on motion, the House adjourned.

January 14.—The Senate did not sit today.

House.—Several private bills were reported from the Committees.

The House, according to the rule, proceeded to the consideration of bills on the private calendar, in Committee of the Whole House, (Mr. H. Cobb in the chair.)

A very long and animated debate took place on the bill for the relief of Mary Brown, widow of Jacob Brown, and step-mother of the lamented Major Brown, who fell at Fort Brown, opposite Matamoras; which continued until the usual hour of adjournment, when the committee rose and reported, and the House adjourned to Monday next.

Legislative.

In the Senate Jan. 8, the Secretary of the Commonwealth being introduced, presented the official election returns of Governor of the Commonwealth. The committee to whom was referred that portion of the Governor's message, asking for an appropriation of $50,000 for public repairs reported favorably, and the bill was taken up and passed.

Mr. Harris from the Committee on Corporations introduced a bill relative to the incorporation of a company to construct a railroad from Erie to the Ohio line.

Mr. Forsyth then presented the following resolution:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, That the Government cause to be procured a sword, of suitable workmanship, and present the same to Major General Patterson, in the name of this legislature; and also, that a similar sword be procured and presented to Brig. Gen. George Cadwalader, with the thanks of this assembly.

Mr. Small then arose, and presented the following resolutions relative to the war, which were laid upon the table.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the existing war with Mexico, unprovoked by any act of the United States, and forced upon us by the aggressions and broken faith of Mexico, demands, and should receive, the hearty support of every patriot and friend of our free institutions.

Resolved, That Pennsylvania will, as she has heretofore done, sustain the Government of the United States in a vigorous prosecution of the war, until an honorable peace shall have been conquered by our gallant and victorious armies.

Resolved, That ample indemnity for the expenses of the war, and for anterior wrongs should be demanded from Mexico, and that, in the opinion of this body, no other or better indemnity can be obtained than the acquisition of a portion of the present territory of Mexico, and a perpetual and free passage over the Isthmus of Panama.

Resolved, That the war with Mexico is a manly and constitutional vindication of the national honor, and, if prosecuted with the skill and vigor with which it has been hitherto conducted, will add strength and dignity to our Republican institutions and ensure a permanent and prosperous peace to the North American Continent.

Resolved, That copies of the foregoing Resolutions be transmitted by the Governor, to our Senators and Representatives in Congress,

Mr. Johnson, (of Erie,) a resolution requesting the Committee on Banks to inquire into the expediency of establishing a system of free banking in the State of Pennsylvania. Also that the hour of 10, A. M., be the hour of assembling hereafter, until further ordered, which was adopted. Adjourned.

In the House, same day, the Speaker laid before the House a statement of the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society.

Mr. M'Knight offered a resolution relative to the death of James M. Kelly, a soldier of the Mexican war, who died in Mexico, sympathizing with the friends of the deceased, and appointing a committee to forward the resolution to the widow and relatives of the deceased. Adopted.

Mr. Kerr offered a resolution, that 2500 extra copies in English and 500 German language, of the report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, be printed for the use of the members of this House. Adopted.

Mr. Hullowell, of Philadelphia, offered a resolution, that the Committee of Ways and Means inquire into the expediency of raising by loan, a sum sufficient to absorb the relief issues now in circulation, and report by bill or otherwise. Adopted.

Mr. Goff offered a resolution, that the Committee on Banks inquire and report what banks (if any) have issued more notes than they were entitled to issue by law, and what remedy exists to punish such delinquency.

Mr. Krick, a supplement to the act providing for the settlement of claims for damages on the Conneaut and Erie canal.

In the Senate, Jan 10, Mr. Brawley presented a petition from citizens of Crawford county, for the creation of a new county out of parts of Crawford.

Mr. Johnson, of Erie, read the title of a bill relative to an amendment of the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Benner, a resolution that a Committee of three be appointed by the Senate, and the same number by the House of Representatives, to compare the official votes for Governor; agreed to.

In the House, same day, Mr. Roberts, of Philadelphia county, appeared, was qualified and took his seat.

Mr. Kerr presented a petition for a new county out of part of Crawford and Warren to be called Decatur.

Mr. Krick, several for the assessment of certain damages by the Canal Commissioners on the Conneaut reservoir.

Mr. Ball, one for a railroad from the town of Erie to the western limit of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Laidley, one for a change in the Constitution to extend the right of suffrage to persons of color. Mr. Roberts, one of like import with the foregoing.

Mr. Kerr offered a resolution to appoint a committee of three to act in conjunction with a similar committee of the Senate, to wait upon the Governor and accompany him to the House on the 18th inst., to take the oath of office of Governor, which was agreed to.

In the Senate, on the 11th, nothing of a public nature was transacted. Petitions, resolutions and bills of a private nature were the order of the day.

In the House Mr. Fernon presented a petition from 3,500 citizens of Pennsylvania, praying the Legislature to abridge the hours of labor to ten hours a day, and to prevent employment of children of a certain age in manufactories.

Mr. Myers, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported the bill providing for extraordinary repairs on the public works, during the present fiscal year; which was read a second and third time and passed. Mr. Zeigler, from the same, a bill to repair breaches on the public works.

Mr. Fernon read a bill to secure to married women the use and enjoyment of their own property.

Mr. Ball, an act to expedite the collector of taxes.

The resolution requesting the Senators and and Representatives of Pennsylvania, in Congress, to urge the repeal of the act of 3d March, 1817, in reference to postage on newspapers, and the adoption of a uniform system of cheap postage on letters and newspapers, was read a second and third time, and the yeas and nays being called on the question of its final passage—the yeas were 93, nays 3.

In the Senate, on the 12th, Mr. Benner, from the committee appointed to confer with a similar committee appointing a time to compare the official vote for Governor, reported that the committee had adopted the 14th inst. as the time to discharge said duty. [Rules suspended, and the report adopted.]

Mr. Mason presented a resolution that the Senate proceed to the hall of the House of Representatives, on Monday the 14th inst., and elect a State Treasurer. Adopted.

The bill was then taken up relative to the abolition of the board of Revenue Commissioners, which, after a lengthy discussion, passed a second reading, and was ordered to be engrossed for a 3d—yeas 20, nays 12

In the House, Mr. Kerr read a bill in place for the erection of a new county out of parts of Warren and Crawford, to be called Decatur. Keatley, a bill supplementary to the act to reduce the State debt, and incorporate the Pennsylvania Canal and Railroad Company.

In the Senate, on the 13th, Brawley from select committee, to make arrangements for the inauguration of the Governor elect, reported rules for observance, which were agreed to.

Sanderson moved to consider the resolution tendering the thanks of this Legislature to Major General Winfield Scott, and the army under his command, for their gallantry and bravery in the existing Mexican war. Resolution agreed to—yeas 31, nays 00.

Smith then called up his motion to abolish the Board of Revenue Commissioners. A long discussion ensued on the passage of this bill, in which Messrs. Smith, Darsie, Crabb, Jordon, Brawley, and others participated, when it was finally adopted, yeas 16, nays 13.

The resolution providing for a sword to be presented to Major General Patterson, and Brig. General Cadwalader, for their services and bravery in the existing Mexican war, was called up by Sanderson, and pessed—yeas 31, nays none.

In the House, Kerr presented sundry petitions of citizens of Crawford and Warren counties, for the formation of a new county to be called Decatur.

Ball, a joint resolution in reference to the final adjournment of the Legislature.

Elliott, one to authorize the business of banking.

Nominations were then made, for State Treasurer, and Kerr appointed one of the tellers, and the House adjourned.

Gen. Shields will shortly return to Mexico to command an expedition from Tampico to San Luis Potosi, contemplated by General Scott. He is of opinion that Mexico is now so completely subdued that a small force will suffice to retain military possession of it, but the withdrawal of our troops would certainly rouse their drooping spirits, and place us precisely in the same position in regard to them in which we were *ante Bellum.*—*Ledger.*

Highly Important from Mexico.

New Orleans papers of the 7th inst., were received by overland express this morning, through which we learn that on the 6th, the schooner Eleanor arrived with advices from Vera Cruz to the 29 ult., being four days later than the news brought by the Fanny.

By an arrival at Vera Cruz from the city of Mexico, the important intelligence has been received of the issuing of orders by General Scott, to the effect that the American army is about to spread itself over and hold possession of the entire republic of Mexico, until the government of the latter sues for peace upon terms that will be acceptable to the United States.

A number of orders from General Scott are published, relative to the taxes, and the various articles for taxation are enumerated.

Such funds as have hitherto been paid to the Mexican Government, are now demanded by General Scott for the support of the American army.

Among other prohibitions, we notice that a stop has been put to all lotteries.

The Monitor publishes a letter from Queretaro, in which it is stated that, in consequence of the departure of several Deputies, the present Mexican Congress would not again come together. The new Deputies and Senators, the letter adds, will soon be in the city.

The intrigues of foreign powers and monarchies, are beginning to excite the suspicion of the Mexican government, and silent measures are being taken for counteracting and suppressing these foes, which are more dangerous, so far as the liberty of the republic is concerned, then are the foes with whom they are already at war.

The general government is said to be much cramped for means with which to progress, owing to the fact that the governments of the States have refused to fulfil their promises of aiding it with all the resources at their command.

Assistant Surgeon Sales expired at the capital on the 15th ult., and was interred with military honors.

Lieut. McDonnelly, of the 3d artillery, and two other officers, with a small party, left Puebla for Julapa, on the 15th, having charge of considerable money. They were attacked in the night by 14 robbers, and although only two of our countrymen had arms, they defeated the ladrones, and had arrived safe at their destination.

We understand that Col. Childs was about to leave Vera Cruz, where his regiment had been entertained with a splendid supper.

Fremont Court Martial.—On Saturday General Kearny was examined; and the court having been ordered to be cleared, he said he considered it his duty to state that Col. Benton, senior counsil for the accused, had made mouths and grimaces at him, intending to insult and overawe him while giving his testimony; but he asked no action of the court, as he felt able to protect himself. Col. Benton then desired the judge advocate to take down his words, to the effect that General Kearny had before fixed his eyes fiendishly on Col. Fremont, when he, Benton, determined to look him, Kearny, down, and he had done so; he had looked at him till his eyes fell on the floor. Benton and Kearny both disclaimed any intention of insulting the court. On Monday the president of the court read a paper that the attempt of Benton to look down a witness was improper and indecorus, but took no action. Fremont presented a paper protesting against a decision of the court, which the court returned to him. Kearny presented a statement in writing that Benton's remark on the record that he had looked him, Kearny, down, was false, and he was prepared to prove it so. This paper was returned to Kearny, and the court adjourned. Monday was its 53d day.

The Panic.—A friend informs us that during the time when the brokers were buying country bank notes at two or three per cent, discount, he went into Wall street, and offered to buy with specie of the brokers the notes of any bank between Albany and Auburn for three-fourths of one per cent. discount to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars. His offer was refused. That panic probably restored many lame ducks.—*Evening Post.*

On Friday afternoon, 31st ult, when the discount on all country free banks had been run down up to ten per cent, by the brokers, after nearly exhausting their funds in buying at five and eight per cent., we saw at an office in Wall street, checks drawn for Monday cashed with the very notes, *at par*, which not an hour before had been bought from the panic stricken holders at the high rates above stated—some at the very highest figure.—*True Sun.*

Shocking Tragedy.—At Pleasant Valley, Dutchess county, on Sunday evening last, a dreadful tragedy took place. A man named Pyne had paid his addresses to a young lady, and proposed marrying her about a year ago, but that she refused him on account of his dissipated habits, and married a man named Russell, instead. Ever since then, Pyne, it appears, has been determined on revenge, and consummated his threats by entering Mrs. Russell's house, on that evening, and shooting her with a revolving pistol, in the presence of a little girl. The poor woman died immediately, and the monster who perpetrated the foul deed fled precipitately from the neighborhood; but as the officers of justice are on his track, it is to be hoped that he will be arrested, and made to suffer the punishment he has incurred.—*True Sun.*

Shocking Tragedy.—On Friday evening week, (says the Jacksonville, Ala. Republican,) a Miss Eimira Brewer, a young lady who resided with a relative, about one mile from White Plains, in that county, was shot by a young man named Rooney, and severely if not mortally wounded in two places, one ball entering her breast without passing through, and the other her hip. It appears that Rooney prepared himself with the two pistols, went into a cotton field where the young lady was alone, and immediately on declaring his intention shot her down with one pistol and fired the other after she fell. He then went to the house of a neighbor—told what he had done—gave up the pistols, and said he desired to be hung. He also plead guilty as charged before the committing magistrate. The only reason given by the prisoner for the horrid act, was, that he desired to marry the girl, but she would not have him, and he preferred to kill her rather than she should become the wife of another.

Strange to say notwithstanding the terrible nature of the wounds received, the young lady was still alive when last heard from, and hopes were entertained of her recovery.

The Phoenix.—The Cleveland papers of Monday last, published the statements of Captain Sweet, and Messrs. Henry Watts and M. W. House, the mate and surving engineer of the Phoenix, relative to the burning of that vessel. The Cleveland Plain Dealer says:

It will be seen that they all agree in stating that they cannot believe the fire originated from the boilers, as has heretofore been supposed. The opinion of Capt. Sweetland of his officers—all so well and favorably known here—will go far to change the public mind as to this matter, it seems to us impossible that the fire could have taken through a belt of water.

It appears that a portion of the steerage occupied by the Hollanders, was directly over the after part of the boiler. It is highly probable that the heat had opened widely the cracks in the steerage floor. If this was so, is it not at all impossible that a match, or a spark might have been dropped, though accidently, by some of the Hollanders, and that thus the fire originated. It was beneath this floor the fire was discovered.

THE OBSERVER.

"The World is Governed too Much."

ERIE, PA.

Saturday Morning, January 22, 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.

☞ A very general synopsis of the proceedings of Congress and the State Legislature, will be found in our columns to-day.—We have made our abstracts as ample as our limits will admit. They embrace almost every thing of an interesting character, and will give the reader a pretty good idea of the sayings and doings at the seats of our general and state governments.

☞ On our outside the lovers of light reading will find something to amuse as well as instruct. The little poem, by our friend Clement, of the Literary Messenger, is a perfect gem from his prolific "mine" of poetic thought. "Stanzas," by M. Wheeler, Esq., known to the readers of the "Observer," as "Dylack," are very graceful and pretty.—While the prose articles are such as cannot fail to please.

☞ We are under obligations to Senator Cameron, for a copy of the "Constitution of the United States," a beautiful and valuable acquisition to our library. The Hon. Senator, a printer himself, understands the wants of the editorial fraternity, and always remembers them in distributing the documents voted by Congress. It is not the first time we have been indebted to him for similar favors.

☞ The Chronicle announced on Tuesday that the steamer United States touched at this port on her way up on Monday. All a mistake—there was a boat went up the lake, but she was'nt within twenty miles of "touching" here.

☞ The Westfield Messenger calls Col. Weller, the democratic candidate for Governor in Ohio, "a man of low and vulgar tastes and character." It is truly fortunate that New York is separated from Ohio by Pennsylvania, or this modern Beau Nash would certainly be taken with spasms. Col. Weller has about him a "villainous smell of gunpowder," hence the location of Pennsylvania "between the wind and Beau's nobility" is truly a fortunate cumstance.

☞ We learn that the Rev. Mr. Stubbs, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, will preach a Sermon in aid of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, on the evening of the 30th. We would suggest a general attendance of all the friends of humanity, of whatever sect or creed.

Advertising of Mail Lettings.

We see that the Cleveland Plain Dealer is down upon Mr. Cave Johnson, because that functionary did not see fit to give the advertising of the Mail Lettings to it, but gave it to the Times. The Plain Dealer ascribes it all to the fact that it has advocated the Wilmot Proviso, and the Times opposed it, and asserts that the Post Master General attempted to buy over the editor, who by the by, visited Washington for the purpose of securing the advertising. This story will do to tell some one that don't know the Plain Dealer as well as we. John Tyler bought the paper for the same price four years ago, and we don't see why Mr. Cave Johnson could not if he had wanted to. The Plain Dealer's story is all moonshine, every word of it. We were about to make a complaint against the Post Master General ourself, because he did not give us the advertising for the northern part of this State, but rather than be found in such doubtful company as the Plain Dealer, we've concluded to hold our tongue. We made application, and were recommended by every democratic member of Congress in the State, except Mr. Wilmot, but did not get it. We shall not denounce Mr. Cave Johnson, however, and make a fool of ourself, although he did give it to another paper in preference to ours, that has been notorious as an advocate of the tariff of '42, and a denouncer of those who favored that of '46,—a paper that has opposed the regular nominations of the party for years, and which was recommended by neither character, influence, circulation or location—we mean the Tioga Eagle. To be sure it would have been a nice little job, and afforded our creditors a goodly portion of "aid and comfort," and relieved our "sub-treasury" from embarrassment. However, it was not our, or our creditor's, good luck to get it, and we shall not cry; not at least during the present cold weather, for fear of spoiling our beauty. Mr. Cave Johnson can go to thunder, Tennessee, or Texas, for aught we care—we have published a democratic paper in a whig county for five years, without ever once straying from the good old beaten path of Democracy after strange gods, without any favors from Mr. Cave Johnson, and we can do so for five years longer.

☞ The Gazette says "the Whigs desire no better fun than to beat Gen. Cass." Very probably—they "desired no better fun than to beat" Gen. Jackson and James K. Polk; but they did'nt do it. In such cases their "fun" is all "over the left."

☞ The avowal of the Gazette of its intention to publish the speech of the notorious John P. Hale, leads to the surmise that it is but the stepping stone to a transfer of the "conscience" portion of the Whig party of this country to the Abolitionists, in the event of the defeat of Henry Clay in the National convention by Gen. Taylor.

THE WHIG PRESS.

The contortions of the Whig press just now are awful—from Maine to New Orleans they remind one of a very respectable tub of eels, squirming and twisting themselves into all manner of shapes, in a vain endeavor to find positions natural and easy. We know this simile is rather "fishy," but then the subject matter is of the most "fishy" stamp. What with the "Wilmot Proviso" at the North, the no territory and the no indemnity position of Mr. Clay at the South, and the Taylor fever, which has so suddenly seized the "expediency" portion of the party, together with the explosion of a bomb here and there, like Young's message, and Mr. Hampton's resolutions, one would have to wield the pen of a Dickens and the pencil of a Hogarth, to delineate their true position. Here, one preaches about the horrors of wars in general, and winds up with a Greeleyish kind of an anthema against the "God abhorred" Mexican war in particular—thinks, with Mr. Clay, that public meetings should be held to denounce it and ask Congress to call home our troops and appropriate money to indemnify Mexico for the damage our invasion has done her.—But scarcely has the ink dried upon the sheet that ushers forth his wailings into this breathing world," ere another, claiming to speak for the same party, in the same vicinity, protests against it, and claims that, although ours is "a bad cause," and the war was unconstitutionally commenced by Mr. Polk "for the extension of slavery," yet it is a "national war," a "war of the country, and as such must be prosecuted." The other quietly submits, and although, in so doing, the twings of "conscience" make his heart-string sore, yet the elixer of "expediency" soon heals all wounds and renders the false part he is playing, appear comparatively easy. This is no fancy sketch, but a sober reality, which the files of the whig press all over the country abundantly prove. Ask even whiggery itself, if it does not recognise the picture we have drawn, and ten to one it will point to the whig press of our own county; and it would be correct, for they are but the mirrors of their cotemporaries in other places. While "expediency" is even more vindictive and abusive in ascribing the war to the usurpation and folly of the President—while it does not scruple to declare it unconstitutionally commenced, and unjustly prosecuted, it does not fail to render its inconsistency more glaring and its folly more ridiculous, by urging its prosecution with vigor; because, forsooth, an "unjust, God abhorred war," prosecuted "for the extension of slavery" has been made "national" *by a vote of Congress.* This is morality with a vengeance. A great *sin* should be persevered in—a great crime should be committed—more men should be slain, and more cities bombarded and destroyed—more women made widows and children orphans, "for the further extension of slavery;" and all because the war has become "national, the war of the country," by a *vote* of a fallible body of men. Verily, should not the expediency portion of the whig press secure a copy-right for its new system of moral ethics? But where is "conscience" all this time? Hypocrit like, he is trimming his sails for this gale, and anon lowering them for that. First Mr. Clay's platform would suit him exactly, and he is preparing to anchor his frail bark along side of it—but anon the wind shrieks and howls forth the "availability" of Gen. Taylor, and he pauses, doubts and wavers. In a word he reminds one of the poor sailor in a storm, who kept exc'aiming, "Good Lord! Good Devil!" and when reminded of the inconsistency of his exclamations, explained his position by saying he did'nt know exactly into whose hands he should fall. It is thus with the "conscience" portion of the whig press,—they don't know exactly whether they will fall into the hands of Taylor or Clay.

The Galatin Pamphlet.

Our cotemporary of the Gazette, has been proving to his readers, by publishing a tirade against the war, written by Albert Galatin, that his own country is guilty of a great wrong, and his own countrymen worse than the robbers and free-booters of ancient times. Well, every one to his liking; but we think it would have looked a slight shade better, and appeared less like giving "aid and comfort to the enemy," had the *witness* in the case been less a *foreigner* and more an *American* "at heart." In addition to the superanuated character of the writer of the pamphlet, we will prove by a witness, whose truth even whiggery dare not gainsay, that in a controversy with a foreign power, the testimony of Mr. Albert Galatin is not worth a straw. Hon. Henry Clay, of Kentucky, will please take the witness stand! Well, sir, what do you know of this man Galatin?

"Albert Galatin has no *feelings*, no *attachments*, no sympathies, no principles in *common* with our *people*.' He has filled at home and abroad some of the highest offices under this government during thirty years, and he is still at heart an ALIEN."—*Henry Clay in* 1832.

There, sir, that will do—you can go! Who is the next witness on the part of Mexican whiggery?

The Second Pa. Regiment.

Gen. Quitman, who commanded this regiment at the Battle of Contreras, is now in Washington, and was addressed by Gen. Cameron, and Hon. Jas. Thompson, of this State, in relation to the charges of cowardice which had been prefered against the officers and men of this Regiment on the eve of said battle. Gen. Quitman, in his reply gives an emphatic denial of the truth of all these charges, and eulogises the Regiment in the highest terms. He says in conclusion, "I feel it my grateful duty as the officer in command of the volunteer division, promptly and flatly to contradict them."

☞ The Whig County Committee have called a meeting at the Court House, on Monday evening, the 7th of February, and the Gazette calls upon said meeting to "let no coward fear, the offspring of contemptible expediency, deter the utterance of their honest sentiments, and place them, by implication, in the position of passive supporters of the war policy of the Administration." We shall see whether this call will be responded to and carried out, or whether "cowardly fear, the offspring of contemptible expediency," will not carry the day. The whigs of Erie county *dare not* assume the responsibility urged upon them by the Gazette. They do not possess the nerve—the moral honesty—to do so! Mark it.

☞ Two weeks from to-day, delegate meeting are to be held in the several townships. Remember it

The Vindictiveness of Federalism.

We are sometimes amused and sometimes mortified at the vindictive ebolutions of feeling exhibited by federal whig editors, towards prominent democratic statesmen. No sooner are the eyes of the Democracy turned towards a man, in the hopes of one day seeing him in the Presidential chair, than the ill-boding of these harpies of the press, is manifested, and forthwith a continuous stream of abuse, sometimes ridiculous and sometimes fearful, is poured upon his devoted head. Formerly Mr. Van Buren was the butt of all their ridicule, and the target against which they directed their poisonous shafts of malice. But the democracy elevated him to the chief magistracy of the nation, and now there are few that do not award to him great and glorious virtues as a statesman and patriot. Now, the position of Messrs. Cass, Buchanan and Dallas, before the country as the prominent candidates of the Democracy for the Presidency, renders their character and services the point to which every effort at assault is directed. In consequence of his recent letter to James Nicholson, of Tennessee, in opposition to the Wilmot Proviso, and the glorious and patriotic stand he has taken in the Senate in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war, the former of these gentlemen is just now singled out as the victim of their vituperation. The paper before us, in speaking of the position and arguments of the letter referred to, stigmatizes its author as "one of Hull's Colonels," thereby intending to convey the impression to the ignorant, (for the well informed know better,) that Gen. Cass was a party to the shameful surrender of Hull at Detroit, at the commencement of our last war with England. No other construction than this can be put upon the insinuation. The cowardly miscreant dare not make the charge, he wishes the reader to understand, openly, for himself would brand him a *liar*, and hence he skulks like a *coward*, behind an insinuation. Is what had Gen. Cass done, to raise the ire of this hired libeler, who was "muling and pining in his nurse's arms" when the old General was baring his breast to the savages on the northern frontier at the period he refers? *Simply differed with him in regard* to a measure of internal policy—a measure we can all safely differ upon, and yet not be felt our right to be regarded as well wishers of our common country—we mean the Wilmot Proviso. Gen. Cass had not betrayed the interests of his country in a controversy with a foreign foe—neither had he given "aid and comfort to the enemy" by arguing his own country wrong and her enemy right—the contrary, no man in the nation, probably has exhibited a more unbounded love for government and institutions, than he. In the field of battle, in the cabinet, as her representative at a foreign court, and in the Senate chamber, he has proved himself the champion and defender of her rights, honor and interests. Such a man ought to escape the low bred malice exhibited in the expression we have quoted. "One of Hull's Colonels" indeed! We presume if the writer referred to should find among the writings of the Apostles, something that did not square with his notions of religion, he would stigmatize them as the companions of Judas! Or if not the gallant Montgomery fell before the walls of Quebec, and afterwards entertained views of national policy that he did not think correct, he would speak of him as the companion of Arnold! "One of Hull's Colonels" forsooth! The hundreds of brave men who were made prisoners by the treachery and cowardice of Hull, would equally come under this writer's ban, and their names be entered alongside of their treacherous commander. Where a public man proves himself wanting in patriotism and love of country, by betraying his country's interests and honor in a controversy with her enemies, we can see him subjected to the severest criticism with complacency; but where a statesman and soldier like Gen. Cass, whose whole life has been devoted to his country, and whose every aspiration whether in a foreign land or in the wilds of the West, has been for her welfare—where sword and pen have been wielded with equal force in defence of her rights—is malign his history falsified, and his patriotism denied, and all for the despicable objects of party we cannot but think the liberty our institutions guarantee, is sometimes shamefully abused. We are assured, however, by the poet, that—

"Truth crushed to earth will rise again.
The eternal years of God are here,"

and believe that the virtuous and intelligent freemen of this country, will yet do ample and exact justice to all concerned—the libeled as well as the libelers.

"When Doctors Disagree," &c.

The Whig doctors disagree very much just now, and especially in regard to the Mexican war. Two of the most distinguished of the political GALENS thus give utterance to their respective opinions:

The war exists by the act of Mexico, and so help me God, but for that conviction, and reverance truth and detest falsehood, I never would have voted for the act of May 13, 1846.—*Reverdy Johnson.*

I must say that no earthly consideration would ever have tempted or provoke me to vote for a bill with a palpable falsehood stamped upon its face. Almost idolizing truth as I do, I never, never could have voted for that bill.—*Henry Clay, Lexington Speech.*

☞ The Gazette promises its readers a speech of John P