Later from the Great Salt Lake.

THE MORMONS CALIFORNIA GOLD &c.

The *Pittsburgh Gazette* announces the arrival in that city of Mr. E. Whipple, one of the leading Mormons, from the settlement in the neighborhood of the Great Salt Lake.

Mr. Whipple left the Great Salt Lake settlement on the 13th of October, and arrived at Fort Kearney, on the Missouri, in 51 days. The settlement of Mormons with which he is to be connected, is located in a beautiful valley on the borders of the Great Salt Lake, in the northeastern part of Upper California. The Great Salt Lake is about 150 miles long, by 50 broad, and contains nothing living. It is said that three barrels of water will make one of salt. The shores of the Lake, in the dry season, are encrusted with salt fit for use. It has no outlet.

Nearly south of the Salt Lake is a fresh water lake called the Utah, which empties its waters into the former. In this lake, fish, the mountain trout, are found. The river which connects the two Lakes the Mormons call the Jordan. The valley in which they are situated slopes from the mountains to the river, on both sides. These lakes, we may state for the information of those who have not access to late maps, are situated on the western slope of the Rocky Mountains, *near the* head waters of the River Platte, which runs into the Missouri, the Colorado, which empties into the Gulf of California, and the Columbia, which empties into the Pacific. The waters of the Platte and the Colorado almost unite by means of the Sweet Water River, which heads west of the Rocky Mountain chain, and runs into the Platte through the famous South Pass. Between these Lakes and the California mountains, in which the Sacramento rises, is a vast valley or basin, supposed to consist principally of sandy plains, about 400 miles wide from east to west, and some 600 to 700 miles long from north to south. From this immense basin no egress for water has been discovered, the rivers losing themselves in the sand.

The valley in which the Mormon settlements are is about fifty miles long and forty broad, and is surrounded on three sides by high mountains, and on the north side by the lake. It gradually slopes from the mountains to the River Jordon, and is formed into steppes. From various gorges in the mountains, numerous fresh water streams pour their waters into the Jordan, affording fine water power.—No timber grows in the valley, but an abundance is supplied by the valleys of the streams in the mountains. It consists of fir, pine, hemlock, and maple.

In this delightful valley, about 1,000 miles from Missouri on the east, and 700 from the gold-diggings of the Sacramento, on the west, the Rocky Mountains being a barrier on one side, and the Great Basin, and the Californian or Sierra Nevada range on the other—the Mormons have at last found a resting place. About 7,000 persons of all ages and both sexes are now collected in this valley.

They commenced arriving in the valley in June, 1847, and last season they raised a fine crop of wheat, corn and other productions, sufficient for their own consumption and of those of their faith who are yearly coming in. After next harvest they will have provisions to dispose of. They have two grist mills and four saw mills in operation, and have laid out several villages, and a town on an elevated plat, which overlooks the whole valley and lake. They are building substantial houses and surrounding themselves with many comforts. They expect a large emigration this season from their brethren in the neighborhood of Council Bluffs, where there are some thousands congregated.

The road to Oregon and California, by the North Fork of the Platte River, and the South Pass, passes some 60 miles to the north of the settlement, but a route by the way of the Salt Lake can be taken, which will not take the traveller out of his way more than 40 or 50 miles. The Mormons will be able to supply fresh mules and oxen; and after next harvest, provisions to those who are emigrating to California.

Mr. Whipple says the road is very good all the way from Independence to west of the mountains.—In 1847 about 1,000 wagons passed over it, and last year some 350. The trail is so well defined that no danger from losing it need be feared. Mr. Whipple recommends oxen in preference to mules, and says they will make just as good time. Emigrants usually make aboute 15 miles a day. On some portions of the route there is a scarcity of grass. For about 500 miles, buffalo meat can be obtained in abundance.

Mr. Whipple represents the valley of the Salt Lake as perfectly healthy, and the journey to that region as attended with no dangers, and but little fatigue. He returns again in the Spring.

The Mormons have established ferries over the only rivers which are not fordable on account of high waters—the Platte and Green rivers—so that no hindrance to emigrants, from that cause, need now be feared. No gold has yet been found in the neighborhood of the Salt Lake, or anywhere east of the Sierra Nevada, as far as Mr. Whipple is informed. What has reached that region, was brought there by the discharged Mormon soldiers, who had returned from the placer to visit their families.

With reference to the story, that the Mormons had claimed a pre-emption right to the diggings, and were demanding a per centage on the gold found, Mr. Whipple gives the following account: The first discovery of gold was made by Mormons, (discharged soldiers,) in digging a mill race for Mr. Sutter. As the discovery was on his ground, he gave them the liberty of digging gold, on condition of paying him a certain per centage. This they agreed to do, but soon started off to explore for themselves, and having found some rich spot, they demanded a per centage from new comers for digging in their ground, to which they claimed a right of discovery. This practice is general in the mines, and the Mormons, Mr. Whipple says, no more claim the whole of the mines than they do the whole of California.

THE BATTLES IN YUCATAN.

A few days ago we published by telegraph a brief account of the battles fought and victories won in Yucatan in December and January by the Americans serving under the Yucatan Government. We have now the particulars by mail. Having taken the city of Peto, the Americans pushed forward with great promptness, and on the 12th December captured the important city of Tohosuco, the head quarters of the Indians, who fled. On the 17th, a fight took place between the hostile forces, the Indians being commanded by their famous leader, Jacinto Pat, when the latter were defeated, and Columpich, Pat's haciends, or farm, was occupied by the Yucatecos.

On the 14th ult., Lieut. Col. Bensancon, with a detachment of his regiment, amounting to about 303 men, attacked the Indians, who were from 6000 to 8000 strong, and routed them. Capt. Kelly and Lieut. Campbell were mortally wounded, and a private killed.

On the 23d, near the city of Tihosuco, the whole regiment, commanded by Col. Geo. W. White, was engaged with the enemy, when our gallant fellows lost thirty-eight in killed and wounded. Among the former are Lieut. John H. Gallagher, of Capt. Malloy's company, Sergts. Long and Conway, of Capt. Brigg's company and Corporal Morse, of Capt. Freelands company of rangers.

On the 27th while the regiment was advancing from Tihosuco to Tela, distant about six leagues, skirmishes occured nearly the whole way. The Indians were in overwhelming force, and to impede the course of the advancing column, they threw up barricades of rock and large masses of stone, at intervals across the road, leaving therein loop-holes to fire through. As the Americans stormed one barricade, the enemy retreated to another and so on.—Colonel White, however, captured and burned the town of Tola, and then fell back on Tihosuco, where they arrived on the 29th, after hard fighting, with a loss of eight men killed and wounded.

On the 6th January, Col. White again took up the line of March with his gallant Americans for Tihosuco, which had become his head-quarters, for the sea port of Bacalar, where the Indians were reported to be in great force, under their great chief, Jacinto Pat. This has been, no doubt, the scene of a sanguinary struggle, where our gallant fellows have gained fresh laurels.

CHEMENG RAILROAD.—This important branch of the Erie Railroad, has been put under contract, to be completed by the 1st of October next. The contractors are Messrs. Sayton, Gonder, Carmichael, King & Co., who have recently finished the easy contracts on the Erie Road, and whose energy and command of means ensure the completion of the work within the time specified. At the same time the Erie Road will be open to Elmira, and with this branch and steamboat on Seneca Lake, will furnish the shortest route to Geneva and Buffalo.

AWFUL TRAGEDY.

It is our painful duty to record this morning the brief events of a tragedy which is unparalleled in the bloody annals of our city, and throws the wildest of romantic fictions into the shade. Love, abandonment and revenge were the exciting causes to this fearful tragedy. The history of this bloody affair is, in brief, as follows:

Not many years since, Capt. John Howard married the daughter of a physician residing in Montreal, Canada. They lived together in apparent happiness and domestic comfort for some time in this city, but difficulties occurred, not necessary here to name, and the parties separated—the wife taking the two children a boy and a girl. Not long after the separation, Capt. H. obtained the two children by violent means—having no resource in law—and placed them in charge of a friend in Kentucky, at the same time an application for divorce was pleading in a Court in that State. Mrs. H. was of an impetuous and determined temperament—a woman of many accomplishments—and felt her humiliation to a keen degree, and had often sworn revenge.

Capt. Howard married again, (it is said) and was living at the time of this terrible transaction with the lady who fell a victim to the wild fury of jealousy and vengeance—and perished under the knife of the abandoned wife. The circumstances of the tragedy are as follows:

At about five o'clock last evening, a woman called at the boarding-house of Mrs. Wolfe on Fifth st., between Plum and Western Row, and called for Mrs. Howard who soon came down, and upon meeting the stranger the, latter sprang at her and plunged a knife into her neck, severing the juglar, and walked off. Mrs. H. staggered back into the kitchen, the blood gushing from the wound, cried, "O, Mrs. Wolfe, I am killed!" and expired in a short time. Mr. Howard was in the house at at the time, and upon being made acquainted with the facts, he seized a knife, and calling the name of the murderess, rushed down stairs—but she had escaped! The bleeding object of his love was writhing in death before him, and he became frantic.

Pursuit was made for the murderess, but she could be found nowhere. Mr. John L. Scott however, met her a short time after the murder, when she called his attention, by showing him a knife reeking with blood, and exclaimed—"I have done it! I killed her! Can I get this much out of Howard?" She was determined in her manner, and her eye had the glare of a maniac. Her hand and elbow were besmeared with blood, and there were some spots upon her face. Mr. Scott was so completely confounded by this singular meeting that he suffered her to pass on. She was arrested at a late hour last night by officer Hulse, jr. near his residence.—*Cincinnati Commercial, Feb. 3.*

CANNIBALISM IN FEJEE.

The Fejee islanders indulge in the delectable practice of boiling and eating human bodies, and they train their children to the taste by rubbing the flesh over their infant lips. This practice succeeds admirably, according to a recent published account from a missionary, for we find that the practice is general, and that a slice of humanity is better relished than any other kind of food. Some of the Fejeeans carry their epicurian gust so far that they not merely kill and eat their enemies, but live upon their friends; and these are frequently eaten raw!—The chief of Ragi-Ragi has been known to have a good supply of human flesh in his box salted down, and has lived upon it as his daily food, seldom eating any other kind of flesh. The flesh of women is rather better than the flesh of men; and when the chief wants something very delicate, or in case many bodies are before him, a child is roasted for his repast. Mr. Hunt asserts, and the other missionaries confirm it, that the Fejeean language contains no word for a corpse; but the word they use, *bokalo* conveys the idea of eating the dead. This is their war cry when one of the enemy is slain, and his body found: 'Here is a dead body to be eaten;'—the word they use is *bokalo*. The also affirm that, within the last four years, fully 1000 people have been killed within 20 miles of Vewa; and that they keep far within compass when they say that of those slain five hundred have been eaten. There are probably none who read this account who will envy the Fejeeans their taste or wish to be considered in the category of their friends.

FATAL AFFRAY.—In New Orleans, on the night of the 26th ult., a fatal affray occured in the St. Louis Exchange, between Josiah E. Johnson a levee broker, and Harper, of the firm of Harper & Caskin, 36 Gravier street. Johnson went into the Exchange about 9 o'clock, and while conversing with some friends, perceived Harper; and advanced towards him, striking him with a cowhide. Harper retreated some 20 feet, but soon after advanced, and the two clinched. Immediately, Harper drew a pignard and inflicted two blows with it on the breast. Johnson fell at the moment and expired immediately. One stab of the poignard was directly over the heart, and from appearance, must have penetrated that vital organ. The other penetrated the middle and upper part of the chest. Harper instantly fled. The deceased was a young man, apparently about 25 years of age, and was a native of South Carolina. He was a married man, and the father of two children.

A TROT OVER THE NIAGARA.—On Tuesday, last, we are informed, Mr. Clinton, of New York accompanied by a lady of Niagara Falls, crossed the Suspension Bridge in a carriage drawn by a spirited horse from this place. On returning, when nearing the centre, or that part of the bridge torn up during the late dispute, their horse was suffered to trot until they had passed some distance towards the American side of the bridge. The tenders, supposing the horse had become unmanageable, started to the rescue, but upon seeing him in subjection returned to their post. This is the second lady, we understand, who has passed over the bridge in a carriage, Mrs. Ellett being the only one who has heretofore ventured.—*Buffalo Commercial.*

WHITE *vs.* BLACK.—*Congress assessed for a runaway husband.* The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore *Patriot*, says:

"Mr. Giddings, the great gun of the Abolitionists, is in high feather just now, on account of a petition to Congress from a Mrs. Mary Johnson, somewhere in the state of New York. She represents that her husband was in our army in Mexico—that he deserted to the enemy—that he was captured and brought back, that General Taylor would not allow him to remain, but sent him off—that he is lost to her, in consequence, if not to the world—and that as Congress is paying for negroes in a similar way, as in the Pacheco case, and as she considers one white man worth two negroes, she pray to be paid two thousand dollars, (double the sum paid for Pacheco's Lewis) for the lost husband."

CONVICTED.—The Rev. EZRA DUDLEY was convicted on the 3d inst., at Plymouth, New Hampshire, of the murder of his wife, on the evening of the 5th of March last. It appears from the evidence that the murderer had conceived a violent passion for another woman, which was the origin of the desire to put Mrs. DUDLEY out of the way, and that the murder was committed in the midst of a wonderful "revival" gotten up and carried on by the murderer, it being on their way home from an evening prayer meeting, where there had been more than a usual display of the "power of the Lord," that this wretch clasped his ordained and consecrated fingers about the throat of his defenceless wife until she ceased to breathe.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY.—An interesting discovery has been made in the Arctic Ocean, one that may possibly lead to a new tropic. Captain Boyce, a whaleman of Snag Harbor, has recently returned from a voyage in which he explored a new whaling ground, and made important discoveries North of Bhering's Straits. During his cruise in July and August, he saw no ice, and the weather was ordinarily so pleasant that his men could work in light clothing, and it was so light through the night, that whaling might have been carried on during the entire 24 hours. Capt. B. found the whales numerous, and of a different species from any he had before seen, and of three different kinds—all very tame. Both the American and Asiatic shores he found inhabited by numerous tribes of indians; some of which he saw passing from one continent to the other tinent to the other, in large canoes. Good anchorage was found in most parts of the ocean, from 15 to 35 fathoms. Capt. Boyce was induced to seek this new ocean by the representations of Capt. Beechy, who visited this region in 1827, and describes it in his voyages.

SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.

The new brig Maine, owned by Wm. McLoon, and commanded by Capt. Charles Thorndike, both of South Thomaston, sailed from that port on the 8th of October, 1845, with a cargo of lime, for New Orleans. A few days after her departure, that severe gale occurred which proved so fatally disastrous to our navigation on the Atlantic coast—the remembrance of which is still fresh in the minds of many. As neither the vessel or crew were afterwards heard of, it was supposed that she foundered at sea, with all on board; and the circumstance had nearly faded from the minds of all. In the summer of 1847, some two years after the incidents related above, Capt. Robbins, of St. George, shipped two Portuguese hands on board of his vessel at Vera Cruz, for New Orleans; after receiving a months' advance pay, they disappeared, leaving the captain to content himself with their baggage. The chests, —one of which was pure mahogany—were opened, and nothing of importance being then discovered, except a quantity of old Spanish books, they were suffered to remain undisturbed throughout the voyage. Upon Capt. R s. arrival, a few weeks since, the mahogany chest with its contents, was sent to his home in St. George, where it was recognized as answering the description of one belonging to the first mate of the brig Maine. This led to a thorough examination of its contents, and an Epitome belonging to Capt. Thorndike, with his name written in it, was found, and an atlas belonging to the second mate, whose name was Cooper. This singular discovery was immediately made known to the friends of Capt. T., and the articles are now in their possession. There are many vague rumors afloat, and although we have taken some pains to gather the facts, yet there may be some slight inacuracies in the statements made above: but we obtained them from good authority, and they are correct. How these three articles, belonging to three different members of the missing vessel, should come together, and how they got into the possession of the Portuguese, are circumstances which are yet to be brought to light. That they should traverse the ocean for three years, and then arrive safely at home is certainly a most inexplicable mystery, which, if ever unravelled, must divulge circumstances of more momentous and startling import.—*Thomastown (Me.) Gazette.*

PAINFUL EVENT.

On Saturday morning last, within about two miles of our town, the body of a white female, in a perfect state of nudity, was found after the disappearance of the snow, under which no doubt it had lain ever since the snow had fallen, which was recognized to be the body of Mary Reed, a resident of the neighborhood of Hillsborough, in our county, and of a respectable family.

This case, in point of painful suffering, stands almost without a paarllel, and cannot fail in calling forth the most heartfelt feelings and sympathies from all who may hear of it. The facts are briefly these:—

A few days previous to the falling of the heavy snow, which commenced on the 27th ultimo, and, with some intermission, continued for several days, the deceased, who was subject to fits of insanity, and when in that state of mind prone to wander about her neighborhood, left home under the influence of one of these fits, and wandering about for several days, very lightly clad, and altogether without protection to the feet, (always refusing to wear shoes,) through the cold freezing weather and "pittiless storm," having been occasionally seen at a distance by some persons, until she reached the Catoctin mountain, where, at a point of it some nine miles from her home, her clothes were found, some ten days after her absence, by some of the numerous parties of her neighbors who had for days most anxiously searched for her, she being in the habit of casting them off when these fits were on her. This painful discovery satisfied the humane persons in search of the unfortunate female, that, with the snow more than a foot deep in the mountain, and the weather freezing cold, when found, it would be the mortal part alone, the spirit, no doubt, having departed. The place where the body was found was about two miles from where the clothes were discovered; having thus laid under the snow until it melted, about 15 days, supposing death ended her sufferings about the commencement of the snowstorm.

One of the arms and parts of the body were somewhat eaten and torn, as if by birds, but the inquest jury had no difficulty in rendering a verdict from the facts—of death from exposure to the weather.—*Leesburg Washingtonian.*

KILLED BY CATAMOUNTS.—Mr. John Soule, of Errol, Coos county, N. H, was killed a few days ago by two catamounts, while visiting his traps near Umbagog Lake. His body was found torn to pieces. He had not discharged his rifle at them but retreated backward several rods when he fell over a log, and the beasts despatched him. His best course would have been to shoot one, and defend himself against the other. With coolness and a knife a man is master of one of these ferocious animals, and the instances are exceedingly rare in which a hunter is killed by them.

A GOOD HIT.—The Boston Atlas says that during the debate upon abolishing the spirit ration, Mr. King, of Ga., moved to refer the subject to the Secretary of the Navy. Some member wanted to know what the Secretary's opinion was on the subject.—Just then Mr. Boyden, of North Carolina, arose, with a dry, cunning smirk upon his countenance, and observed that if the action of the *incoming* Secretary of the Navy on the subject of allowing or withholding this spirit ration could be anticipated, it might have an important effect upon the decision of the committee! This sally at Mr. King brought the modest crimson into the cheeks of that honorable gentleman, and for a moment convulsed the House with merriment.

INTERESTING TO GOLD DIGGERS.—A correspondent of New York Sun wished to know what kind of goods he had better take on a venture to California? This is a hard question says the Sun in reply. In California, people will have just about the same wants they have here or elsewhere, and, barring luxuries such as white kid gloves, carved rosewood bedsteads and Sevres ware crockery—that which as a general thing sells well here will sell well there. Up in the Gold regions where they work pretty hard, and of course have a good appetite and a penchant for rest and comfort at night, we should think pork and beans, with an Indian rubber tent, buffalo robes and blankets, would be decidedly saleable. Washerwomen are also an article great in demand. Rum, tobacco, dice and cards are considered a taking investment, but their sale would *of course*, depend principally on the *Mexicans and Indians.* Patent medicines, pistols, Salamander safes, baby-jumpers, buckskin mittens, razors, soap, ivory combs and tooth brushes, will probably sell well.

MARYLAND GOLD MINE.—In reference to the gold mine lately said to have been discovered in Montgomery county, the Howard *Gazette*, published at Ellicott's Mills, says:—"We have information from a gentleman connected with the family, that Mr. Samuel Ellicott's farm, near Brookville, Montgomery county, in this State, quite probably contains gold, as we published last week. The farm contains about 100 across, for which Mr. E. paid $10,000. He has had $20,000 bidden for it on risk, and $30,000 if its supposed mineral wealth should be realized. The same gentleman stated to us that a stone had been found, which contained a hundred dollars worth of gold."

ENGLAND WILL BUY NOTHING OF US.—There is no better refutation of this gigantic tariff slander, says the *Journal of Commerce*, than is afforded in the official returns. Take England alone, or the United Kingkom, or the British Empire, Colonies included, and in either case the result is overwhelming. It appears from the official statements, that during the last commercial year, ending 30th June, 1848, our exports to the United Kingdom exceeded our imports therefrom, more than twelve million dollars; or including the colonies, near twenty two million dollars. It is also a fact that our commerce with England and her colonies far exceeds all the rest of our foreign commerce. From France, on the contrary, we imported last year eight or nine millions more than we exported to her.—*Alb. Atlas.*

☞ Valentine Vogh was married at Vicksburg, on the 9th ult., and died of cholera on the 12th. Isaac R. Newman, who acted as groomsman on the occasion of the marriage, died on the 13th, of the same disease.

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER.

ERIE, PA.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 17, 1849.

CANAL TOLLS.

The tolls received from the Pennsylvania Improvements in 1847 amounted to $230,792 24 *more* than in 1846—and in 1848 to $37,440 57 *less* than in 1847. The tariff of 1846 of course did not effec. business materially immediately on its passage. It required a little time to prepare for its blighting work. It moved in its vigor during the last year. Now we would like some friend of that tariff to account, not only for the checking of the increase of tolls in 1848, but for the diminution of business on our canals and railroads, and the consequent *decrease* of tolls in that year. If it can be accounted for in no other way, than by the operation of the Polk tariff, can any one estimate the injury that tariff has worked to Pennsylvania, and to her citizens? Figures won't lie.

Finish the North Branch Canal—give us a northern market—and a Rational Tariff—and Northern Pennsylvania will send her full quota into the State Treasury, and something towards making up the loss sustained.—Give us a Rational Tariff, and Tolls on the Pennsylvania Improvements will go up again.—*Wilkesbarre Advocate.*

Time was when universal whigery—or, as they delight to style themselves,—the "great whig party"—were in favor of the re-enactment of the Tariff of '42, and—*nothing else!* No amendments to the bill of '46 would save the country from impending ruin, or satisfy the demands of the rapidly suspending manufacturers. Pennsylvania and *her* iron and coal interests—New England and *her* "cotton lord" interests—Louisiana and *her* slave-production sugar interests, and Kentucky and *her* water-rotted hemp interests, all clamored incessantly for protection, but at the same time, like a spoiled and petted child, declared that no protection but that offered by the dead and buried bill of '42 would be acceptable. Since the election of Gen. Taylor, however, this tune has been wonderfully modified. Voices that were before rampant for the resurrection of the putried carcass of that defunct act of abominations, are now, in many instances, totally hushed; or if allowed at all to be raised above a whisper, sound wonderfully like a voice from that political sepulchre where rests the mortal remains of its brother in iniquity, the Bank of the United States. Now, a few modifications of the bill of '46, will be acceptable to a majority of our '42 tariff friends—indeed many of those who contributed most to the election of Gen. Taylor, claim that the bill of '46 should be left as it is. It is true, a voice may be heard here and there still clamoring for the old bill, but they are evidently in the situation of a pack of hounds off the track—in fact, they don't know the "ropes" in their own ship, and when the captain winks to them to tack, are just as likely to steer straight ahead as to obey the unexpressed desire of their commander.—The Editor of the *Wilkesbarre Advocate*, quoted above, however, is not one of these—he is up to the twists and turns of his party, and can wheel into line and about face equal to Uncle Sam's regulars at the command of "old Zack." For instance, after ascribing the decrease of tolls on the Pennsylvania canals from last year, to the effect of the tariff of '46—although they are still more than any year under the operation of that of '42—he goes on to say that if Congress will only "Give us a *Rational* tariff," "tolls on the Pennsylvania improvements will go up again." The bill of '42 then was not a "rational Tariff," for this sagacious whig admits that the revenue from our public improvements was $230,792 24 *more* in 1847 under the operation of the bill of '46, than they were in 1846, the year that bill was passed, and before its effects were perceptable on the business of the country. The fallacy of the Advocate's reasoning—and it is but a type of that of all our whig exchanges—the reader will at once see. But it will be seen that, in its opinion, there is something else necessary besides a "Rational Tariff" before the "tolls on the Pennsylvania improvements will go up again"—and that is the finishing of "the North Branch Canal"—"and a northern market." This uniting a local improvement and a system of finance in one sentence, for the purpose of producing *prosperity* to the state and an increase of revenue, is something new in political economy, for which the inventor should forthwith secure a patent. But it strikes us there is a very important wheel in this invention which conflicts somewhat with the motive power of the machine. It is this: The writer lays great stress on the fact that the tolls in '47 amounted to nearly three hundred thousands dollars more than in 1846, and to something like $10,000 in 1848 less than in 1847. Now, the North Branch canal, the finishing of which this Editor thinks is essential, in connection with his "rational tariff," to make the "tolls on the Pennsylvania improvements go up again," was exactly in the same condition in 1847, as now. "Northern Pennsylvania" has just as much of a "northern market" now as then. The *Advocate's* arguments, therefore, instead of proving what they were put forth to prove, demonstrate to a certainty that the finances of Pennsylvania were never in so prosperous a condition as now—that her public improvements never yielded so much revenue as they have under the tariff of '46—no, not even under that act of abominations, which was wont to be the idol before which all whigdom prostrated itself in adoration, the bill of 1842! But, as we have before intimated, whigery is no longer willing to worship at its old shrine—it has become more "rational," and is now clamoring for a "rational tariff." It finds that to keep its shattered political ark afloat at all, it must not attempt to head her *dead* against the progressive spirit of the age. That tide is imperceptibly obliterating from its political creed the old heresies it was wont to deem essential to the well-being and prosperity of the country. What intelligent whig will now advocate the re-establishment of a National Bank, and yet how long is it since it, like the tariff of '42, was one of its cardinal measures! What has become of the eloquent leaders our whig cotemporaries were wont to grace their columns with in times gone by, in favor of the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands among the states! These, together with many measures that contributed to make up the belief of a member of the "great whig party" ten years since, are now expunged from their articles of faith. The spirit of that Reform which has tumbled kings from the thrones of their ancestors in Europe, has even penetrated the dark recesses of political whigery, and left a ray of truth here and there shining from the crevices of its old and rickety structure! The modification of the tariff notions of the whig party is one of these rays. A few years ago it was not willing to accept any compromise—in fact, when the present bill became a law, it could have secured such a compromise, but refused it indignantly—now, however, a "Rational Tariff" would be acceptable! *Now*, it would not restore the bill of '42 if it could!

EXTENDING THE AREA.—We hear a great many bugbear stories about the danger of settling California.—People forget the toils and dangers undergone by the pioneer settlers of this country in wresting this land from the dominion of the savage. It appears to be the "manifest destiny"—an immutably "fixed fact" that the Anglo Saxon race shall continue to "extend the area of Freedom," whether it be to dig gold or potatoes. The Mobile Herald thus sensibly discourseth on this subject:

The American world is only half developed. What occurred in the Great West when Cincinnati was a wilderness is now occurring in California. Thirty years hence we shall all see it if we live that long. Doubtless however, many will go thither, who will be near heartbroken. Many will be incompetent, and never get on the right road to prosperity; others will be weak and incapable of enduring the prosperity which fortune may buckle on their backs; others, again, will sink into vice, and end their days in misery and contempt, but the great mass will find their condition bettered and new hopes and future wealth and respectability dawning upon them. A brave heart is necessary. Such hoards of treasures will attract multitudes from every direction—from the Pacific Islands, China, Russia, all parts of South America, the Atlantic Islands—all will vomit forth the restless, vicious part of their population. The gambler, smuggler, thief, murderer, and pirate—all will cast their eyes to California, and much sharpness, sagacity, watchfulness and vigor will be necessary for him who mingles with this mass of human profligacy and villany. But rogues are found every where. The world does not hold a place where innocence is not likely to be wronged—where every man does not sacrifice others rather than himself—where in short, one has to keep quite wide awake to avoid the pit and snares of social rascality.

ONE OF THE B'HOYS.—The editor of the Cincinnati Nonpareil, says he was attacked by two ruffians on the night of the 30th ult., but he whaled them both.

MR. CLAY AND GEN. TAYLOR.

The Whig papers are arguing that the relations between the Whig Chieftain and the Taylor Republican party must be of a friendly kind, with an earnestness that shows how much they desire to be convinced of it themselves. The *Brooklyn Eagle* has, however, a different version of the relation of the late rivals, which represents the attitude of Mr. Clay to be that of an armed defence:

"We have it in black and white from Mr. Clay, not directly addressed to us, but to gentlemen whom we personally know, that he goes into the Senate to take care of his old friends; to see that no attempt on the part of the administration to gather round it the no-party influences by which it threw him overboard, shall be successful; to corner Mr. Crittenden, by whom he was cornered, and to stand in Gen. Taylor's way, unless General Taylor shall take counsel from the old whig party and conduct the administration on such principles as he and his friends shall approve. There is no doubt that there is an interesting time—ay, a 'good time coming.'"

To which add the following from the old General's farewell address to his friends at Baton Rouge, and the prospect of a "good time" is certainly flattering:

GENTLEMEN—I assure it is with feelings of no ordinary character that I meet with my fellow-citizens on this occasion—many of whom I have known for more than a quarter of a century. Had I consulted my own wishes I should have much preferred to retain the office I am now about to vacate, and have remained among you, but the people have, without my solicitation, seen fit to elevate me to another—and although I fear I am not qualified to discharge the great and important duties imposed upon me, yet be assured, fellow citizens, I shall endeavor to fulfil them, *without regard to fear, favor, or affection for any one.*

Do you hear that, Mr. Clay?—the General is going to discharge his "duties" "without regard to *fear, favor* or *affection for* ANY ONE!

A PLAIN SPOKEN WHIG.—JUDGE EMBREE, the new whig star of Indiana, and the whig candidate for Governor of that state, declines to have any thing to do with the Taylor inauguration ball in Washington. The judge says the Mexican war, which has made President Taylor, was "a war of passion, ill-judgment and party cupidity," a "war of invasion and conquest," "prosecuted with blundering blindness and wasteful extravagance." It is due to truth to say that the judge has not been recommended for a seat in the cabinet.

SMALL NOTES—ANOTHER "RELIEF" SCHEME.—With the *Pennsylvanian*, we regret to perceive that, in order to secure the passage of a bill for the completion of the North Branch Canal, a bill has been read in the Legislature, offering to the Banks of the Commonwealth, the privilege of issuing a new batch of small notes, in return for a loan of two millions for twenty years. We regret to see an improvement, which has merit enough of its own to secure its passage, coupled with such a scheme as this. But much as we regret all this, we regret more keenly that such a proposal fraught with so much mischief to the people, and calculated to bring disgrace upon the commonwealth—should emanate from the source it does—from the Democratic side of the House—from Mr. Littell, of Wyoming. We cannot say, however, that we are much disappointed—not that we knew any thing of the particular individual who has brought forward this scheme—but our defeat last fall gave us warning, not to be disregarded, that we had within our own ranks men who, under the cover of our name and principles, were secretly working to engraft upon the state a system of Banking, against which the democracy stands openly and unqualifiedly committed—we refer to the General Banking system. In regard to this particular scheme, we agree with our cotemporary quoted from above that the proposals to extinguish the Relief issues, and to carry through the scheme for avoiding the Inclined Plane, however much both may be desired by the people, are rather inducements in the bill in question to secure support and concessions to well-known popular opinion. It was by an arrangement, to secure an appropriation to this same canal, that the Relief issues were first forced upon the people—issues which have done so much to plunder our laboring classes, and to degrade us in other States. There is not the slightest necessity or demand for currency of this kind now. Congress will doubtless pass the bill to coin gold dollars, which will give us an additional circulating medium of this denomination of money: and if the accounts from California are only partially true, there will be enough of the precious metals to make this coin abundant. Why, at such a time as this, are we called upon to approve another issue of those small notes (to last under the bill alluded to, for *twenty* years!) which have heretofore been such a bane to the industry and business of the country? We hope it will not be persisted in; if it is, we trust it may be defeated.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE AND PROBABLE MURDER.—We are pained to learn that the Rev. JOHN LIMBER, a native this place, (where his nearest relatives still reside,) mysteriously disappeared in New Orleans about the 8th of last month, and, it is feared, has been murdered and his person secreted. Mr. L. has been located for some time past at Washington, in Texas, where he officiated as a minister of the Presbyterian faith. He had been in Louisville, Ky., where he was married to Miss MESSENGER, formerly connected with Mr. MERRILL'S Seminary at this place, and reached New Orleans, with his bride, on the 8th ult. The steamer landed about two miles above the usual stopping place, and at 7 o'clock he informed his wife that he was going to the Bible Depository in the City, whither he proceeded alone in an omnibus. After purchasing some books and remaining until 9 o'clock, he started for the boat on foot, the omnibuses not running after 7 o'clock, since when no tidings have been had of him. The night was very dark and the route circuitous, and it is supposed he was murdered in the suburbs of the city.

Mr. LIMBER was a most amiable and inoffensive gentleman, an excelent scholar, and a devout and humble christian. His end has been most untimely and attended with circumstances of a peculiarly painful character and has elicited the warmest expressions of sympathy and regret for his sad fate from his numerous friends in this place. May God temper this terrible affliction to his poor widow and his aged father.—*Crawford Democrat.*

FROZEN TO DEATH.—We learn by the *Commercial* that a pauper from our county poor house war frozen to death on Sunday night last. Her name was Bridget Folly. It happened, according to that paper, in the following manner. On Sunday morning she and two other females obtained leave of the Superintendant to come to town, three miles distant, to attend Catholic Church. When they arrived they found there was no service; so they wandered into a grogery, drank, and wandered to others and drank, until they all became quite drunk, one of them so much so as to render her incapable of traveling until next morning. The other two started for the poor house in the evening—it was a bitter cold night—one of them reached there about three o'clock—the other perished by the way. She was about 40 years of age, and left a child at the poor house.

☞ "*Gone to California,*" is likely to become as significant a phrase as "*gone to Texas,*" once was. Among the thousands getting off, there appears to be a sprinkling here and there of those who either won't or can't "meet their engagements." Of course California is the place where they honestly expect to reap the golden harvest which will enable them finally to satisfy generous creditors.

☞ According to the *Springfield Republican* two men named Martin and Samuel Shaw of Palmer, in this State, have discovered in a cave on Snake Hill, near the old Boston road, a sealed bottle containing a letter, purporting to have been written by Capt. Kidd, the celebrated pirate, revealing large deposits of wealth. The letter is said to bear marks of great antiquity, and "some of the shrewdest men in the vicinity" believe in its genuineness, and mean to assist in looking up the treasure.

THE TABLES TURNED—A DEMOCRATIC VICTORY.—The first skirmish in this State since the great battle of November last, took place in the Armstrong Senatorial District, on the 2d inst., when the Democracy achieved a glorious victory. AUGUSTUS L. DRUM, Esq., has been elected State Senator, to succeed Gov. Johnston, by a majority of about three hundred. This is a democratic gain; and, when we consider that Gen. Taylor had a majority of some three hundred in that district, we think our friends have good cause for congratulation.

News of the Week.

By Telegraph to the Observer and the Buffalo and Pittsburgh papers.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12—9 A. M.

The steamship Niagara arrived at Boston yesterday at eleven o'clock, fourteen days from Liverpool.

Cotton—1506 bales sold on the 26th. Fair Upland and Mobile 2¾. Fair Orleans 4¼.

The Corn and Flour markets wore a cheerful aspect on the 26th, and full prices were paid for wheat, flour, and Indian Corn, during the few days preceding the 26th. 26s were obtained for best Western.

Indian Corn 28s6d a 30s6d, for inferior white to best yellow; corn meal 14s6d a 15s.

American wheat in bond, 6s 3d a 7s 1d. Beef steady. Lard at 30s a 36s. Consols on the 28th, 91¾ a 91¼.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12—3 P. M.

There has been an unprecedented advance in the price of American securities and the annexed are quotations from Baring's Circular, London, Jan. 26:

Corn meal—our trade has continued very dull and prices of free wheat and flour have been barely supported. The principal business has been in black southern wheat floating, at 42a43s and 44s and 46s for white. Indian corn has declined, and there are sellers of Galatz at 31s afloat.

American stocks, since our last, have advanced. Six per cents have risen to 104a105c which are the quotations of to-day.

Massachusetts, 98a99. New York, 92a93. Ohio, 92a93. Pennsylvania, 70a72. Exchange dividends Maryland sterling 74a75. Mississippi Planter's bonds 50—buyers. In other stocks there are no transactions. Our prices nominal. City 85a87. Canada prices debentures par—sellers.

There had been a limited import of provisions during the week ending 26th.

The iron trade was active. At Liverpool a good business was doing at advanced rates. In Wales the price of common bars had advanced to £5 5s per ton, and in Liverpool was £5 15s. In Manchester and the surrounding cotton districts greater activity prevailed.

California gold seeking mania has extended to the Continent, and the ports of Germany and Denmark.—Already vessels are fitting out for the conveyance of adventurers to the gold region.

The English Journals are still crowded with advertisements, of vessels loading, enterprises, organizing, and joint stock stock companies forming.

The English government are about adopting important measures of Financial retrenchment in the Army and Navy, to which is ascribed a greater buoyancy in business circles.

The Queen's bench had overruled the errors assigned in the case of W. S. O'Brien and his fellow prisoners. The court was unanimous in its decision. Application has been made for the requisite permission for the Lord Lieutenant in the case of O'Brien, but Meagher declines to proceed further—resolves to submit to his fate.

The dissolution of the French Assembly was published by 400 against 396. Mr. Marrast retains his seat as President of the Assembly, to the astonishment of all parties. M Boulay de lay Meurthe had been elected Vice President of the republic by the Assembly.

Steamboats were fitting out at Roulon, capable of carrying from 7 to 10,000 men.

Rumor ascribed the expedition to an intervention in favor of the Pope. There is a deficit of 15,000,000 francs in the French Treasury. The red republicans are becoming more active.

A sanguinary battle has been fought in India. Many lives lost. Among the killed are some distinguished officers. Wisdasgratz has entered Perth without firing a shot.

The Pope asks the intervention of Austria to reseat