Erie Weekly Observer.

ERIE, PA.

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 1851.

☞ Benj. Grant, Esq., of the firm of Thompson & Grant, has been appointed Commissioner of Deeds for the State of New York.

☞ We learn that the Directors of the Erie Canal have determined to let the Water into the Beaver division on the 10th inst, and Erie division on the 15th

☞ It will be seen by our advertising column that Mr A. Parsons, Jr., formerly of the O. R. ily Line, and one of the most popular and correct operators in the employ, has undertaken the management of the Erie office on Speed's Line. We can assure those having telegraphic business to transact, that they will find the office very differently managed, hereafter, and would therefore invite them to give him a call.

☞ The Bedford *Gazette* says it would like to see the Ticket for Judges of the Supreme Bench filled out with the names of Ellis Lewis, of Lancaster, James Thompson, of Erie, and John N. Purviance, the present distinguished Auditor General of Pennsylvania. With such a ticket, our triumph at the polls would be certain and overwhelming, and the people would secure the services of men of undisputed integrity and capacity. So far as Judges are concerned, it matters little where they come from, whether from the East or the West, the North or the South. We want the ablest and the purest men that can be found, regardless of their locality, and the ticke is certainly equal to any other that could be selected in the State.

☞ We invite attention to the card of Messrs Lowry & Scott, a new firm on the *dock*. Mr S. has been in the employ of Gen. Reed for some years, and is known as a careful and attentive business man. The other branch of the firm is so well known, in this and the adjoining counties, for his energetic business qualities, that an introduction from us is not necessary. We understand they intend to engage in the Coal business very extensively.

☞ The March number of Harper's New Monthly Magazine has been received, and is for sale by O. D. Spafford, State Street. This is one of the best periodicals published, as the increase of its patrons fully prove. The present number is beautifully illustrated, and is replete with interest.

☞ We learn that M. W. Coagher, Esq. late sheriff of this County, has been appointed by the Directors of the Erie Canal Company, Collector of Tolls at this port, in place of Thos. G. Colts removed This, we suppose, is practical rotation in office.

☞ If that famed old gentleman, formerly called "Uncle Ned," of whom we hear the darkies sing so much, and who was so very unfortunate as to be deprived of hair on the top of the head, in the place where the hair ought to grow," had resided in this vicinity he could have supplied himself with an article, "dat dem gentlemen," by calling upon our friend Kohn, between the Reed House and Brown's Hotel. As long as such beautiful articles of hair work, as are displayed in this shop, can be procured we really see no necessity for bald-headed gentlemen, or ladies without curls. Call and see.

☞ Navigation may be said to be fairly commenced, for all the ports on the Lake are open except Buffalo.—We have almost daily arrivals and departures, and indications are good for a busy commercial season.

Gen. Houston's Reception in New York.

Gen. Houston visited New York last week by invitation of the National Temperance Society, and addressed that body at at Tripler Hall. Of his reception by the people on that occasion, "*The Sun*," remarks: "Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the large hall and galleries were filled in every part, a large proportion of the audience being composed of ladies. On the platform we observed many prominent advocates of the temperance cause, clergymen and others. The great object, however, of attraction, and the exposure of all eyes, was Gen. Sam. Houston, who looked in excellent health and spirits. After the report of the Secretary had been read, and some fine pieces of music performed on the piano, he came forward to address the meeting, and was received with a perfect storm of applause. The cheers were renewed, again and again; and when they had partially subsided, a voice in the gallery cried out, "a cheer for President Fillmore," which elicited a response of a quite different character from that which the individual had anticipated: it was received with hisses These having subsided, the cheers for Houston was again renewed The address of the Hon. Senator was one of which we regret our inability to give a report. It abounded in flashes of wit and humor, and that true eloquence which draws its inspiration from the heart.—It was in every respect worthy of the distinguished speaker, and of the great cause of which he is an advocate and upholder. The audience, throughout, listened with marked attention, and manifested their appreciation of the speaker's merit by frequent outbursts of applause."

American Thread.

Tariff or no tariff, American ingenuity is bound to compete with British capital in every department of manufacture. We had laid upon our table the other day, from which it was speedily transferred to the work-stand of a Lady we have the pleasure of living with, a half-dozen samples of "six-cord spool thread," from the manufacture of the Sagamore company of Portsmouth, N. H.—After seeing this beautiful article we are more confirmed than ever in the belief that America is independent of England in every department of cotton manufacture.—C. M. Tibbals, on Cheapside, has just received a consignment of this article, to whom we refer all our Lady readers for further particulars.

Free Banking in Illinois.

The Democratic Legislature of always Democratic Illinois, passed a Free Banking bill, recently, but the Governor, although all such acts by the constitution of that State have to be submitted to the people for concurrence at the next popular election, vetoed it; when at the representatives of the people turned round and passed the bill over the head of the veto, and thus the bill will be submitted to a vote of the people of that State in November next. There is no doubt it will be accepted.—The Stocks which may be deposited under it as security for circulating notes, are the Stocks of the United States or any State Stocks on which the interest is annually paid, or the Stocks of Illinois, the latter Stocks to be received at a rate of 20 per cent, below the current price of such Stocks in New York for the six months previous.—Any number of persons may associate to make a Bank. The property of the Bank is to be taxed as any other property, the value to be ascertained by Bank Commissioners. The securities to be held first for the redemption of circulating notes and afterwards for any other liabilities of the Bank—securities to be sold within ten days after non-payment of notes, and the notes redeemed with 12½ per cent interest. Notes to be made payable only at the Bank and on demand, and the Bank to keep on hand a "sufficient amount of specie" to redeem the notes offered for redemption. The above are the main points of the Law which is a long one and contains a great number of provisions for the management of the Banks formed under it and for the security of the public.

A Grand Discovery.

The Editor of the Lawrence *Journal* has discovered that the charters of the Pittsburgh and Erie Railroad and the Franklin Canal Company, "authorized to construct a Railroad to Lake Erie," "are subterfuges on the part of the Erie folks to secure the right of way through Pennsylvania." This is a grand, a wonderful discovery; and, in the language of Gregory in the play, we are forced to exclaim, "Veil, vat of it!"

☞ The March number of Clement's "Western Literary Messenger," has been received. It contains, aside from the valuable contributions of the Editor, an ample store of original and selected matter, alike suited to all tastes. We are pleased to know that it is in a flourishing condition.

Enlargement of our Judicial District.

When Gov Johnston, a whig, recommended in his message the enlargement of the Judicial Districts of the State, we applauded such a recommendation. In doing so, we certainly did not expect to find ourself arrayed in opposition to our political opponents in this county.—But it appears we are disappointed. Gov. Johnston and his followers here stand, on this question, antagonistic. The one deems it good policy to diminish the number of Judicial Districts, and raise the salaries of the Judges, thus securing the best talent, while at the same time the expense to the people shall not be increased. Not so with our whig friends of the Bar in Erie county. They have no objection to the salary of the Judge of the district being increased, but they protest against the district being enlarged, and give as a reason that the increase of business will not allow it—that with a larger district one Judge cannot transact the business. To give this protest a semblance of truth, they have petitioned the Legislature to increase the number of terms of the Court in a year. Now, this is all gammon—the cunningly devised prelude to a political scheme as transparent as moonshine. Look at it. Erie, Crawford and Warren, of which the district is *now* composed, would be a hopelessly whig district, and secure the election of any body, capable or incapable, coming before the people with the endorsement of a whig nomination. But comply with the recommendation of the Governor and enlarge the district, and you have it composed, as it used to be, of Erie, Crawford, Warren and Venango, which, as far as political strength is concerned, leaves it about evenly balanced; *but*—(and there is much in this *but*)—rendering it morally certain that no such nomination as is now in contemplation by the Whigs, can succeed.—Here is the secret of this protest against the enlargement of the district, and petition to increase the burdens of the people by increasing the number of Courts held in a year. We apprehend that the Judge now holds Court as often as the people desire to pay for; and the following statistical figures will show, also, that the pretext of these political manœuvrers, that the increase of business demands increased Terms, is not a good one. The following is an abstract from the official record of the number of cases of the February term of each year, from 1838 to 1851, inclusive:

February Term	1838	348	cases
" "	1839	351	"
" "	1840	310	"
" "	1841	339	"
" "	1842	341	"
" "	1843	372	"
" "	1844	314	"
" "	1845	190	"
" "	1846	216	"
" "	1847	225	"
" "	1848	229	"
" "	1849	271	"
" "	1850	251	"
" "	1851	171	"

We have taken the February term of each year for the purpose of a correct comparison; and so far from it showing an increase of business, justifying the remonstrance and petition of the whig members of the Bar of Erie county, it shows exactly the reverse. Indeed, the history of our Courts for the last year is a refutation of the pretext put forth by the petition for an increased number of Terms of Courts We have not seen the petition, but we understand it asserts that twenty weeks Court in a year is necessary to dispose of the business. If this is so, it is palpably not correct. Last year we believe there was about ten weeks Court, in some of which the Court adjourned in the middle of the week for want of business. This does not tally with the pretence put forth to bolster up this political scheme. Now, we know full well that it is useless to expose this attempt on the part of the whig lawyers of Erie to increase the weight of our already heavy tax, for the majority of the people of Erie county are so politically infatuated with their leaders that they "will not believe even though one should rise from the dead;" yet, as well attested facts have influence with the Legislature, we have deemed it due to truth to make this exposure of the plot which they are now called upon to help consummate. We trust the Legislature will not become a party to so iniquitous a scheme; for iniquitous it is, and that too, for the sole benefit of one man at the expense of the people.

A Subject for Congratulation.

The Evening *Bulletin* thus happily hits off the recent duel between Messrs. Stanley and Inge, members of Congress from North Carolina and Alabama: The telegraph from Washington announces that "Messrs. Stanly and Inge are receiving the congratulations of their friends for their late escape:" in other words, that Honorable M. C.'s were felicitating the two duelists for having missed each other in their encounter. A strange subject for congratulation indeed! We can imagine we see Messrs. Stanley and Inge swelling with the importance of the occasion, smiling, smirking, bowing, shaking hands, and looking on themselves as heroes of the very first water. What a farce! Here are two men, professing to have brains, who, because of some real or fancied injury, will not be satisfied until they have gone out, before breakfast, and popped pistols at each other. As if a little gunpowder and ball could heal injured honor or make conduct gentlemanly which was not so before! Is it not painful that men pretending to be statesmen and republicans should ape the old world customs in this way? Don Quixote, when he set forth to redress wrongs like an ancient knight errant, was not more out of place than duelling is now a days. We had hoped that this remnant of the barbarous feudal age had seen its day, and that no man of character in the United States could be found to fight a duel; but it seems we were mistaken.—For our part we congratulate Messrs. Stanley and Inge, not for their bloodless farce, but for their incontrovertible claims to donkeyism!"

Stanly,—a warrior grave and true,
And Inge,—a noble dator no,
In closest time from Bladensgate,
Each other soundly to orate.

They challenge! One or both must fall!
Not so, the parties have no gall,
Advised by half a great deal more,
And thus the Inge and Stanly over.

☞ The Democratic State Convention of Tennessee, has re-nominated Gen. William Trousdale for Governor of that State. The old "war-horse" will, of course, be re-elected.

☞ Mr. Winthrop M'Kinstry has become associated with his brother, W. M'Kinstry, Esq., in the publication of the Fredonia *Censor*. Mr. W. is a young man of marked ability, whose advent to the ranks Editorial we hail with pleasure.

☞ The *Tribune* and other whig papers, a while since, cyphered out a considerable majority for their party in the California Legislature, but it turns out that whig as that body is, both branches have been organized by the appointment of democratic officers throughout—showing that if the democrats are united on a candidate for Senator, there is no chance whatever for the election of a whig.

☞ An elopement recently took place from Vevay, Ind. As usual, parents were cruel, the lovers kind, and the time propitious, so they took matters into their own hands, took passage to St. Louis, and were married on board a steamboat. The bride was about *thirty-five*, and the happy husband only *nineteen!* After this, ladies of an uncertain age need never despair.

☞ Miss Charlotte Cushman and Miss Julia Dean, two celebrated theatrical stars, recently refused to play on Sunday nights in New Orleans. The performance on that night of the week has heretofore been most attractive in that city.

☞ John C. Rivers is out with a denial that the Daily *Globe* has been suspended to give room for a daily to support Benton and Van Buren for President and Vice President. He says he has it from Mr. Benton's own lips that he would not be a candidate for the Presidency."

☞ Here is the last case of maternal solicitude. It is said that the children are so dirty in a place on Cape Cod, that a mother frequently goes into the street and washes the faces of half a dozen children before she finds her own!

☞ We once heard of an honest Hibernian who clambered to the bank of a well and then let go of his hold to spit on his hands! He was just about as wise as the man who stops his advertisements. A man might as well take down his sign as discontinue his advertisements.

AN ODD DREAM.—Part II.

For the Erie Observer.

When my first article was concluded, the dreamy-pt of Judge had finished his historical lucubrations, and was about to proceed to the next branch of his charge, which was, if I remember aright, in substance as follows:

"I come now to the points of the Plaintiff, and before proceeding to consider them *seriatim*, would remark, that though the counsel for the plaintiff is quite young, and therefore liable to affectation in practice, still his positions addressed to the court are of peculiar *pungency* and *relevance*. They seem to embrace a very respectable portion of the ground upon which are based the arguments for the "flesh-of-one-flesh and bone-of-one-bone" institution.

We are invited to charge first, "that man is essentially gregarious in his constitution, and that all social habits are in laudable compliance with the law of his nature;" and we will with pleasure do so. Gentlemen, throughout the entire region of philosophical fact, as deducible either from the history of the past or present experiment, no one proposition appears better founded than the above. From the pick-axing of the foundation of Babel, to the latest Mormon migration to the far west, mankind have ever evinced a decided disposition to cohabit. The mass-meetings of the ancient democracies, the theological controversial assemblages of the times of Luther and Zuingle, and the "coon conventions" of a later date, prove the human propensity to commune. This is the higher sphere of the subject. The lower sphere, and that, gentlemen, to which your attention should more particularly be given, elucidates the "point" by suggesting to us the varieties of private intercourse; such, for instance, as coullon parties, husking-bees, pic-nics, quiltings, *weddings*, &c., &c. The known customs of all ages, those of our own affording ocular demonstration, must be acknowledged as unanswerable evidence in establishing a gregarious human proclivity. Why is this? Customs in vogue from the time "whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," are declared to be law. Man, as we have just seen, having been always social, and whatever has been customary being law, it will necessarily follow that "social habits are the law of this nature;" and insomuch as it is highly commendable to observe what's legal, these "habits" are, indeed, "in laudable compliance," &c., as the point asserts. The first is then answered affirmatively, and we come to the second. Upon this one, gentlemen, it was my intention to have discoursed somewhat at length, but my brother Sharp, with his wonted acuteness, having espied a couple of white neck-cloths in the jury-box, and insinuated that much biblical labor would savor of the supererogatory, it has occurred to me to give but a simple assent to the position.

The remaining points, with the exception of the third, will not need my notice; they having been read, and admitted by the defendant, in your presence. The third runs thus: "That as a regular sequence of the first and second, he who fails to obey these express and authoritative rules of action is *prima facie* culpable, and deserves but the *minimum* of legal leniency." This is very adroitly managed, being about one half true and the other false. It was, if the court could be cajoled, artfully calculated to increase the damages to such an amount, by representing the defendant as a contemner of all law and go-per, that he must as a choice of rules take the plaintiff "for better or worse." What an admirable stroke of professional policy! what flattering *prospects for the* lady! what a dreadful dilemma for the defendant!—This is the appearance, but what is the substance of the proposition? Now it cannot be denied that those who fail to meet and cancel their obligations, whether commercial or natural, are "shortcomers" and emphatically culpable, but in respect to *legal liability*, as commonly understood, all natural obligations are far from being alike, and that we are now reviewing is one of the exceptions. Every "John Rogers," though socially and scripturally a *benefactor*, is strictly bound by law to the discharge of the natural obligation of providing suitably for his family. But every unmarried Rogers, be he a Jack or a Jo, is far from being *judicially* compellable to assume said obligations. The distinction more properly is this: Old Bachelors are not, under the municipal law to be sonsed capriciously in pecuniary damages, but under the law *social* they are liable to, and richly merit all such epithets as "crusty, fussy, beprim, selfish old fellows."—They may very properly be interrogated with manner and tone the most insinuating, "who does your darning, Mr. So and So? who draws your tea and sets your table?—who makes your pin and fixes your breast-pin?" With various other outbursts of inquisitiveness, virtuously indignant at their singleness; but they cannot be served with a summons. To macanalyse the expression of the idea—they may be *bared*, but they may not be *sued*.—Such recollections are of great use in doubtful cases, while a different and severer rule obtains in clear cases. If it be satisfactorily proved that a breach of contract to wed has been wilfully committed, then such sentiments as the following would be eminently proper: "If the bruised reed is not to be broken, (disclaiming all irreverence, Gentlemen,) neither shall the breaking heart be refused the healing appliances of "dollars and dimes." If men will call into bloom and fragrance the confiding affections of the young female heart, and then, by a cruel change of attentions, as completely blast all its bright realities and brighter hopes, they must anticipate the resuscitation of those heaven-born feelings by drafts on their bankers. To macanalyse, as before—if man will be inconstant, woman must have de laines and diamonds." After a cursory review of the facts of the case, the usual "swear a constable," was repeated, and the jury retired.

Reader, you may well imagine that this singular mixture of the grave and ridiculous puzzled me not a little, though but a dream. I turned, in imagination, to a bystander, and enquired the cause for such a novel juridical display, and he gave me this in reply. "In early life, the Judge having a deep poetical tinge in his constitutional elements, had formed exalted opinions of the married life, which, of course," said the speaker, "subject to rare exceptions, were just and true. Unfortunately, in his preliminary arrangements for testing the soundness of his prepossessions, he caught a tarter. Her sharp nose, thin lips, and cut-to-the-quick countenance in general might have stayed, to reflect, a simpler man than he; but poet-like he seemed artless as a babe.—The affair went on with headlong rapidity, and was shortly, to the great grief and apprehension of his friends, consummated. Then speedily came the palpable evidence of his indiscreet haste, with the vain, vexing regrets of a "bad move." Day after day was he obliged to swallow allopathic doses of the essence of caudlism, prescribed with all the tartness of an independent practitioner. In moments of forgetfulness his sentiments take the tone of his early impressions and are as gallant as can be desired, while the next sentence or paragraph may come charged with gall and wormwood, under the recurring effects of, perchance, a bitter breakfast scene. Poor fellow, he's to be pitied." Byron said, with seriousness and beauty in his language,

"That dreams in their development have breath,
And tears, and torture, and the touch of joy."

To which I have quite a notion to add, in a lighter mood, that they are susceptible of a comical cast. D.

☞ We have read some good lists at jurymen, but here is the best: A juror who was sitting in a case in which a widow, who was young and pretty, claimed damages in the sum of $20,000 for certain trespasses committed by the defendant, gave as a reason for being in favor of giving a verdict for the full amount, to which the other jurors objected, that in case of the other jurors agreeing with him, he intended to court and marry the widow.—As damages were only given for half the sum, the juror said he could not afford to make the sacrifice.

☞ There is a deal of truth, expressed in a plain way, in the assertion of one of our exchanges that he who would cheat the printer, would rob a crying baby of its ginger bread, and a church of counterfeit pennies—lick the butter off a blind nigger's last "flitter"—pawn his grandmother's specks for a drink of whiskey—steal acorns from a blind cow, and take clothes from a scare crow to make a respectable appearance in society.

☞ The "Akron Ohio *Standard*," heretofore a professed Free Soil paper has changed hands, and run up the Democratic flag in favor of Gen. Houston for the next Presidential candidate. Straws show, &c.

What The Whigs Say of Him.

Our opponents, as a general thing, all speak well of the Hero of San Jacinto, Sam Houston. Differing from him on almost every question, and ready to "go their death" to defeat him if it were possible, yet his commanding talents, his well attested patriotism, and his many excellent qualities of head and heart which attract the masses around him with such enthusiasm, all conspire to draw from them willing tributes of respect and esteem. The two following notices of his recent visit to New York are clipped at random from our exchanges, and are significant of the direction of the popular tide.—The first is from the Buffalo *Commercial*, edited by Dr. Foote, late Minister to Bogota; and the second from the New York correspondence of the St. Louis *Intelligencer*, edited by J. B. Crockett, Esq., a son of Col. Davy Crocket, of Congressional memory, and who afterwards fell at the Alamo in Texas:

From the Buffalo Commercial

SAM HOUSTON.—The Democrats in the city of New York have been honizing Sam Houston. They might easily pick up a worse man. Physically he is one of the finest specimens of the race, and his social qualites are of an attractive character. He will make a favorable impression on the masses, wherever he goes. He is a ready speaker, understands human nature thoroughly, and always adapts his language to the taste and understanding of his auditory. If he was to travel through the country he would strengthen himself in the National Convention amazingly.

From the St. Louis Intelligencer.

"It is supposed to be the intention of the Democratic party to bring out Sam Houston for the Presidency. I think old San Jacinto would be the most available candidate they could offer, and the hardest man for us to beat. He is expected in our city very soon, and will be *honized* as a matter of course, preparatory to his entrance on the field, for the great race which comes off next year. There is nothing mean about him, and he has many good qualities to recommend him, besides the thrashing he gave the Mexican Napoleon at San Jacinto."

Erie Canal Tolls.—Public Meeting.

The following proceedings of a meeting of the citizens of Meadville explain themselves. They are inserted in our columns by special request. It is nothing more than just to say, in this connection, that the committee appointed to lay the matter before the Directors of the Canal Company, visited this place on Tuesday, and after a full and free consultation with that body, returned home satisfied with the result of their mission, and prepared to make a favorable report to their constituents.

Whereas, in 1842, the Legislature of this State in their act of incorporation required the Erie Canal Company to limit the tolls charged on their work to the rates then established on the main line of the Pennsylvania Canal. The Company, however, in 1848, being indisposed to continue that scale of charges, sought the privilege of raising them and of discriminating in favor of *through* freight. In order to secure this end, they agreed to build a bridge across the Shenango, and at Western Reserve harbor, and also a lock or schute at Remus Dam, at the head of French Creek Feeder. The act was passed, giving the company the privilege asked, and the Directors raised the tolls to an unreasonable and oppressive extent. Notwithstanding they have freely exercised the privileges granted to them, the Directors have failed, thus far, to comply with their part of the contract, and the bridge, and the schute or lock, remain untouched.

And whereas, all experience on the public improvements of the country has shown, that a liberal system of tolls has been productive of increased trade and a corresponding increase of revenue. The Canal Commissioners of this State have been making gradual reductions in the tolls on the main line for years past, and so have the same officers in New York. The result has fulfilled their most sanguine expectations, and established, beyond a doubt, the wisdom and propriety of their policy. The following table will show the difference in the tolls on the Pennsylvania and Erie Extension Canal, and will show the excess paid by our citizens over their more fortunate neighbors in the southern part of the State:

Articles:	Penn'a. Canal:	Erie Canal:
Ashes, pot and pearl,	3	10
Butter,	3	10
Beef, Bacon and Pork,	3	10
Barrels, empty,	3	10
Coffee,	4	10
Cheese,	3	8
Corn,	3	7
Flour,	4	6
Fish,	4	6
Iron,	5	7
Lead, in pigs and bars,	3	10
Lead, white,	5	10
Lard,	3	10
Mill stones,	3	10
Nails,	5	8
Oils, (except castor & lard,)	6	(all kinds 10
Rye,	4	7
Salt,	3	5
Sugar and Molasses,	5	10
Tobacco,	5	10
Wheat,	5	8
Whiskey,	4	10

Therefore, *Resolved*, That we consider the Erie Canal Company should not have availed itself of the privileges of the act of 1848, until it had fully complied with the requirements of the law imposed upon its Directors, and that the latter should, in justice, re-adopt the tolls existing prior to its passage.

Resolved, That apart from this consideration, we believe a system of tolls, founded on liberal and enlightened principles, would increase the trade on the Canal, tend to develope the resources of the country and enhance the value of the work.

Resolved, That we respectfully urge the Directors of the Erie Canal Company to adopt a policy in consonance with the progressive spirit of the age—to reduce the tolls on *local* freight, and to encourage and protect the exporting trade.

Resolved, That we believe a compliance with the preceding resolutions would be accompanied with all the beneficial results that could be desired—that it would increase the trade on the Extension, advance the interests of the country, promote the welfare of the Company, and tend to restore that harmonious feeling so desirable between all interested in its successful operation.

Resolved, That we would suggest a liberal reduction on all the articles named in the above table, and also in the tolls upon coal and Shingles.

On motion of John Donnelly, *Resolved*, That this country has suffered very materially, in a pecuniary respect, in consequence of the above named lock not having been built, and that we would urge the company to immediate action in its construction.

On motion, Messrs. Thorp, Collins, John McFarland and Wm. P. Shattuck, were appointed a committee to proceed to Erie and lay the above proceedings before the Erie Canal co.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in all the papers of this and Erie county.

☞ At Fort Madison, Iowa, Rev. Mr. Hummer has been arrested for an attempt to murder his wife by suffocation, under pretence of driving the devil out of her.—She was rescued from his hands by neighbors. A very strong propensity was shown to lynch the blackcoat.

☞ The Boston Post says the Editor of the Liberator, a paper published in Boston, being, "prostrated by illness," dictated a column of comments for his last paper upon Shadrack's escape, in which he compares Mr. Fillmore to Nero, considers Hannau an angel of light in comparison with Webster, and represents Henry Clay as "just ready to have body and soul cast into hell." The editor then regrets that he has so little power of expression to convey the emotions that fill his breast. When he is restored to health no doubt this amiable person will be able to express himself with some degree of severity.

☞ Behind—the mails, Ladies' bustles, and the whigs. Both the latter articles are said to be getting out of fashion.

☞ The wife of a down-east captain of a coasting smack has applied to the legislature for a divorce, because her hego-lord, on his last cruise, "*hugged* the shore."

Buffalo Election—Democratic Victory!

The election for Mayor, Police Justice, Council, &c., took place in Buffalo on Tuesday. Up to this time, Friday morning, we have had no papers from that city since, but the telegraph announced the evening of the election a complete Democratic triumph—the Mayor being elected by some five hundred! This is glory enough for one day.

☞ Of the present population of Stephenson county, Illinois, 3,360 were born in Pennsylvania, 2,806 in Illinois, and 1,455 in New York.

The United States and Japan.

It is our deliberate opinion, that long before any action of the British Government takes place, with reference to Japan, the question will be settled by the intervention of the Americans.

The very harsh, indeed cruel treatment to which shipwrecked whalers have been recently exposed, when cast upon the shores of Japan, and the discourtesy with which the American Commodore was treated on a late visit, will be in remembrance of our readers.

It may *consist with the feeble policy of the present American Government*, to postpone or neglect all reference to this matter, *but on the advent of the more democratic party to office*, we may certainly look for a vigorous and energetic impulse or action on the foreign relations of that great republic, and which may be felt even by the Japanese Government.

Should our anticipations, in this respect, not be realized, still the existence of the mighty state now growing up, with such Aladdin-like rapidity on the shores of the Pacific, must lead, we think to the early removal of such an inter-national anomaly as the present exclusive policy of the Japanese. At this time there is a considerable American whaling fleet in the Japanese Seas. The emigration to California will immeasurably increase the navigation of the Pacific.

It is in the nature of things, that wrecks on the shores of Japan, will henceforth be of more frequent occurrence, and should the treatment of the survivors be similar to that experienced there of late, the chances of a hostile collision between the United States and Japan, will be greatly increased.

Republics, it is alleged, are essentially pugnacious, and nothing to our minds would be more provocative of indignation in a high spirited people, than the maltreatment of their fellow citizens, whose ill-fortune had doomed them to be cast on the inhospitable shores of Japan.

Thus the gold discoveries of California and consequent settlement in that country will lead, we believe, inevitably, to the early opening up of Japan to western influences and intercourse.

We would wish that this desideratum should be obtained by some peaceful intervention; but must confess that we despair of so satisfactory a solution of this problem. It may be urged that for many long years, the Californians will have enough to do in subjugating the vast wastes of their own country and extracting therefrom its precious deposites. To a great extent this must be admitted; but in a community constituted as that of California will be, it is pretty evident that to some minds, there will be a sort of fascination in the prospect of forcing an entrance into the hitherto impervious and inaccessible empire of China.

Indeed no one of common intelligence but must, more or less, be affected by somewhat similar influences. Not alone the merchant, whose eye is profitable adventure, but the statesman and philosopher, would all be interested in such an event.

We shall return to this subject on a future occasion. Meantime we shall be obliged by any information, with regard to the existing relations of China and Japan; all of which there are so many strangely false accounts.—*Shanghae (North China) Herald of Sept. 28.*

THE HAPPY A BROKEN MINER.—A San Francisco correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger* tells a good anecdote of a lucky miner. He had reached there from Marysville, on his way home with $28, 000, which he had made by the sweat of his brow. That night he left $27,000 of it on perpetual deposit in a *monte* bank. Next day he went to Bargoyne & Co., and purchased a draft for $500, to the order of his wife, put it into a letter and left it with them to be forwarded in the Post Office. He then started for the mines again, saying, and saying truly, that most men in his situation would have returned home swearing the mines did not pay, &c., &c., but that he knew better, that every man who would work could clear $5 per day, certain, and might make more. He would not go home, but would save up until he got a pile and would then come down and *break the bank*. He was a full believer in the 'good time' reported to be coming.

DON'T MARRY COUSINS.—The Superintendent of the Insane Hospital at Indianapolis, in a long and interesting report of its condition, very justly says:

"The intermarrying of relatives is a cause of degeneracy of both mind and body, and tends directly to insanity. In several instances that have come to our notice during the past year, more than one member of the same family have become insane. There are in the Hospital, at this time, two sisters from one family, a brother and sister from another. We have also, as is rarely the case, a husband and his wife as patients in the Institution; but neither of the last mentioned cases, so far as I can learn, suffer from hereditary taint. The husband became insane from ——, and the wife from anxiety and loss of sleep, in the care of her afflicted family during the early period of her husband's insanity.

WEDDING SUPERSEDED BY A FUNERAL.—A young man by the name of Vickery was to have been married at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 18th ultimo; but in consequence of illness of his intended, the wedding was postponed two weeks, but he died in a few days afterward. He had an affection of the heart, which, when excited, troubled him very much. On the evening of his death, he had been reading to his intended the story of "Walter Errick." It was a very exciting tale of love and murder," and, under the circumstances, wrought deeply upon his feelings. When he had finished reading the last paragraph, ending with the sudden death of "Errick," he remarked that he hoped "he should not die thus suddenly." The young lady looked at him, and saw his hand faltering which held the paper, and his countenance changed to a deathly hue. She took hold of him from her chair, when he gently leaned toward her and died in her arms.

A FOUNDLING.—Yesterday morning was a rainy unpleasant and decidedly disagreeable one in the earlier part of it. One of our citizens got up about seven o'clock, when the skies were dark and the clouds looked lowering, and going to the basement door of his residence to emerge into the street, he heard a sudden squall, not of wind, but of a small child, which lay in a basket where it had been dropped by some unfeeling parent. The citizen took it in, and struck with the remarkable beauty of the child, adopted it. An envious old maid, who don't believe it's possible for a man to do a philanthropic action from a really generous impulse, has been circulating a report 'that it looks just like him.' —*Alb. Knick.*

FRATRICIDE.—The Jackson (Tenn.) *Whig* says: "A distressing case of fratricide occurred last week in Haywood county. Two brothers by the name of Webb, one about twenty-two, and the other about sixteen years of age, quarreled about a slate. The older knocked the younger down, and as the latter arose, he drew a knife and stabbed the former back of the shoulder-blade, and killed him. He was arrested and put on trial.

FLAX COTTON.—The result of the experiments which have been made at Rochdale, England for the purpose of adapting flax to cotton machinery, is said to be very encouraging. Besides spinning the yarn in different proportions of flax and cotton, and from the pure fibre, and also the weaving of hose, flannel and other fabrics from the yarns so produced, it is reported that several pieces of calico are being successfully woven. It had, moreover, long been ascertained that long fibre can as well and as easily be prepared from the flax as the short, and may be spun dry.

DECIDING THE POINT HERSELF.—A fugitive slave case is reported in Cincinnati, Ohio, wherein there was a long and careful investigation. The witnesses were critically examined—law points were learnedly argued at length—speeches were made by counsel on both sides—the judge solemly delivered his opinion, when the fugitive who was a woman, rose and said, with some ire and impatience, "I want to go home with my master. I can't fool away all dis time. I am de person. Let me go." The judge said go—and she took up her shawl and bonnet and went, much to the chagrin and disappointment of several *philanthropists* who were present.

GIPSIES.—A company of these strange wanderers visited Northeast, Cecil county, Maryland, last week. They traveled in wagons, and lodge in them at night, notwithstanding the severity of the weather. They came from England, and have been in this country about three months. They conversed in English and had an unintelligible jargon among themselves. They relieved the good people of Northeast of much of their small change by fortune telling.—*Cecil Dem.*

FATAL MISUSE OF FIREARMS.—Maurice O'Connell, (son, we presume, of the late Daniel O'Connell,) while dining with some friends at a hotel near Cork, took up a pair of pistols that had been lying unused for seven months, and placing one in the hands of a friend, Mr. Twiss, reserved the other for himself, in order to show how a duel was fought.—The two parties took their position, and pulled triggers. Unhappily, O'Connell's pistol was loaded, and Mr. Twiss fell with a wound which is pronounced mortal. It is surprising that such accidents happen, after all the warnings of experience.

MARRYING FOR FUN.—The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer says:

There is a good deal of excitement in Harlem, in consequence of two gentlemen and two ladies being married without their knowing it. The ceremony was performed in sport, and when informed the next day that the marriage was legal according to law, there was a great consternation. The brides, I learn, are willing to abide by the marriage, but the bridegrooms are not, and refuse to recognize the ceremony at all. One of them is heir to a great deal of property. The subject will be brought before our courts or before the legislature.

THE LATEST FASHION—*Ladies wielding pocket pistols.*—The Philadelphia Pennsylvanian relates the extraordinary provocation which induced a young lady to draw a pocket pistol. Men must be careful how they wink. It says:

"We understand that a poor fellow was within an ace of being shot by an excited damsel, in an omnibus, the other day, because, as the Amazon averred, he had winked at her. He saved himself by acknowledging that he had a natural spasm, and that at the very time the supposed provocation was given, he was looking at something in an opposite direction."

☞ Notice is given that the friends of the Rev. B. S. HILLS, will make him a Donation Visit, at his residence, McKean Corners, on Tuesday the 11th of March inst. at 1 o'clock, P. M.; also, in the evening, at half past 9. A general attendance is expected. By order of Committee of Arrangement.—McKean, March 8, 1851.

ANOTHER SCIENTIFIC WONDER!

PEPSIN, an artificial Digestive Fluid, or Gastric Juice and Dyspepsia curer, prepared from Rennet, or the fourth stomach of the Ox, after directions of Baron Liebig the great Physiological Chemist by J. S. Houghton, M. D., No. 11 North Eighth street, Philadelphia, Pa. This is a truly wonderful remedy for Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Jaundice, Liver Complaint, Consumption and Debility, curing after nature's own method, by nature's own agent the Gastric Juice. See advertisement in another column.

A SMALL CONSIGNMENT OF THE ABOVE ARTICLE JUST RECEIVED AND FOR SALE BY CARTER AND BROTHER, NO. 6, REED HOUSE. Also, by DR. F. HALL, No. 1, HUGHS' BLOCK.

MARRIED.

On the 18th inst, by Rev. B. F. Hitchcock, Mr. ARTEMUS SEVERANCE, of Union, and Miss HANNAH S. SHATTUCK, of Greene.

DIED.

On Tuesday night last, at the residence of his son, H. Cadwell, in this city, Mr. DAVID CADWELL, aged 75 years.

On Friday last, at Girard, PATRICK WARD, aged 101 years. He was one of the pioneer settlers of this county, and a man of remarkable bodily health and activity.

On the 23d ult., at the residence of L. Robinson, in Wattsburg, Mrs. CHARITY B. SEARS, in her 79th year.

On the 15th ult, in McKean, at the residence of her father, James Bayle, ELIZABETH JANE DODGE, wife of Seymour Dodge, aged 38 years.

Near Waterford, on January 29th TRUMAN COOPER, son of Aron and Lydia Cooper, in the 17th year of his age.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Dye Woods, Dye Stuffs, Paints, &c.

THE undersigned offer for sale on liberal terms *Dye Woods*, all the different kinds, of their own manufacture, and warranted equal to any manufactured, viz:

Logwood, Red-wood, Camwood, Hyper Nic-a-wood, Fustic, Green Ebony, Red Sanders, Extract of Logwood, Nic'a-wood, Brazil-wood, Peach wood, Bar-wood, Lac, Dyes, Argol, Cream Tartar,

Together with a general assortment of *Dye Stuffs, Dyers Tools, Paints, &c., &c.* Merchants and manufacturers supplied.

March 6, 1851.—3m PENTZ, TOWNSEND & CO. No. 55, Water street, N Y

SPEED'S TELEGRAPH LINE,

In Direct Communication with the Principal Towns and Cities in the United States.

A. PARSONS, Jr., Manager.

Office, in Williams' Block, State street, directly opposite Brown's Hotel, Erie, Pa.

1851. 1851.

LOWRY & SCOTT,

FORWARDING AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS, AND

DEALERS IN COAL:

Also, Fish, Flour, Salt and Plaster; at the large Ware House, West of the Bridge,