Erie Weekly Observer.

ERIE, PA.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 10, 1851.

Close of the 21st Volume.

This number of our paper closes the 21st volume of its publication, and the 6th of our connection with it. We don't know that we have any thanks to offer to those whose *names* have been upon our Books, but whose money has never benefited our creditors; but to those whose liberal support, by advertising, job work, and subscription, has enabled us to keep the "wolf" and the sheriff from our door, we are under as much obligation as any body can be who has returned them the worth of their money. We have obliterated the word "patronage" from our vocabulary long ago. If any body takes our paper, advertises with us, or employs us to print a job, he does so we apprehend because he believes the paper, the advertisement or the work, will benefit him the full sum, or more, that we charge. The account, then, between us, and those whose "*support*" we have received is square, and to them we can truly say we are thankful. But it is not square between us and those who have "patronized" the *Observer*. They have taken our paper and read it, but they have forgot to render us that "support" by paying what we are justly entitled to. They have been emphatically "patrons," while the others have been in truth "supporters." The one has been "aid and comfort;" the other *vexation!* Of this last, we have upon our Books some *three thousand dollars* worth, much of which is the *profits* of eight years close and unremitting labor. Now, it is neither right nor honest that we should be deprived of the *use* of this sum, after we have so fairly earned it. Therefore, in closing this volume of our paper, we beg leave to assure delinquents that we shall immediately commence making out bills against every one in arrears for one year or more, at the rate of $2 per year, according to our terms, and shall expect them settled with as little delay as possible. If they wish to escape the fifty cents penalty for procrastination they must come in and settle up before their bills are made out, otherwise they must pay the full price of negligence.

These are our *promises* to our "*patrons.*" To our "supporters" we do not know that we have any promise to make. What we have heretofore accomplished is a guaranty sufficient of what we will accomplish, provided our "patrons" take the hint above, and become "supporters. We already give more reading matter in a year than any of our cotemporaries; and as to typographical execution, we are ahead of them also. However, if our receipts from our outstanding accounts shall warrant it, we will probably about the *first* of July, the time free postage within the county takes effect, still further improve our typography. But this, as we have before remarked, rests entirely with our "patrons."

The Judicial Convention.

The Judicial Convention which meets next month at Harrisburg has an important duty to perform.—We were among those who doubted the propriety of *two* conventions to nominate candidates for *one* party, but as the reasons given for such a proceeding outweighed every other consideration, in the estimation of the Central Committee, and as the second Convention is a "fixed fact," we are for holding its members and candidates to the strict letter of the reasons assigned for its separate assemblage. Those reasons were, in brief, to take away from the nomination of a Judiciary the "bargain and selling" usually to be found in all political conclaves. Now, we apprehend that if this is not lived up to in the coming convention, the ticket it presents will meet with an inglorious defeat. That candidate for Judicial honors, who shall be found "mousing" around Harrisburg when the convention meets, or who shall have his posts here and there over the State, calculating to control this or that man and secure a nomination, is [illegible] rely doomed as though the black cap were [illegible] his eyes and the axe of the executioner raised. There is no use to be "mealy mouthed" [illegible] matter—the State Central Committee have [illegible] that a separate convention ought to assemble to prevent all such political manœuvers, and if it is not prevented—if it is not rebuked by the convention—if the successful candidates or their borers shall appear upon the ground, and take part in the play of "truck and dicker"—the result will be as we have stated, an inglorious but deserved defeat. The people of Pennsylvania want a Supreme Bench composed of men of talent and erudition, not political tricksters and bar-room politicians—they want men of the present, not the relics of by-gone ages—and they will have them. If the dominant party does not nominate such, they will find them as best they can. Therefore, if the several gentlemen who have been named for seats upon the Supreme Bench wish to be nominated, and when nominated elected, they had better keep clear of Harrisburg for the next month at least.

☞ The Editor of the Fredonia *Censor* is pretty smart, but not quite so smart as he thinks himself. For instance, in remarking upon our assertion last week that the people of Erie county are a "unit" in regard to a western road, the witty gentleman attempts to be smart thus: "The acknowledgment that they are next to 0 is more candid than we expected." Indeed, how could you expect us to be less candid, when we "are *next* to" Chautauque county.

☞ We learn that the "*Commercial Advertiser*," of this city, has been sold to J. S. M. Young, Esq. late of the Pittsburgh *Transcript*, and that it will hereafter be, "by authority," the Scott and Johnston organ in North-Western Pennsylvania. Having some slight acquaintance with our soon-to-be new cotemporary, both personally and professionally, we can safely say to our whig friends that they will now get a paper entirely worthy of their patronage.

☞ Our veto-hating friend of the *Gazette* vetoed our city election two weeks ago. It resulted in no harm, however, as we see the Constables of both wards have issued the proper notice. The election takes place on Thursday next, the 15th.

☞ *A Failure.*—Notwithstanding the *soup*-erhuman efforts of the *soup*-ernumeraries of the whig party of this county to get up a *soup*-erior demonstration in favor of Gen. Scott on Tuesday evening last, it resulted in a *soup*-rising failure. This may have flowed, perhaps, from the fact that the movement is considered in some quarters altogether too "hasty,"—the result of Gov. Johnston's *soup*-erior party management. Be that as it may, however, we have charity enough to believe that the popularity of the "hero of two wars" ought not to be measured by such a *soup*-erficial demonstration.

"Anonymous Scribbling."

The only notice we shall take of the "anonymous scribbler," who figured in the last *Chronicle* in defense of the party administration of the affairs of the borough, will be to quote from a Sermon of the Rev. Dr. Flint, recently delivered in this city, to the following effect:

"Indeed the *vilest* and *most odious* of all those who bear false witness against their neighbor, are *anonymous scribbling slanderers*, who *shoot* their *arrows* from the *dark*—who *wear a mask, not out of modesty*, but *out of fear* and self preservation;—who revile *without a name*, while they *abuse others* by name or obvious implication. This is a *crime so little* and *contemptible* that *no one* with the *least pretention* to the *name of a gentleman* can be guilty of it. *He is a timid, cowardly, cunning, treacherous wolf*, who *should be driven* from the society of mankind; fit only to mingle with his *kindred beasts* of the *forest*."

We do not know that we could add one word to the above *just* and *true* definition of the character of such as figure through the columns of a newspaper, protected by an incognito. If the correspondent of the *Chronicle* will sign his name to what he may have to offer, and thus place himself, in the eyes of all honorable men, upon an equality, we will meet him; but as it is, we never war with cowards in the dark.

☞ The "Best Harbor" on the Lake.—The steamer De Witt Clinton in attempting to enter the "best harbor on the Lake, Dunkirk, on Tuesday morning, ran on a rock and sunk. She had on board about 200 tons of merchandise for this and other ports between Buffalo and Detroit. The Schooner, D. D. Bogert, loaded with [illegible], is also reported sunk at the same port.

"The Cost of Partyism."

Our article last week under this head proved a perfect bombshell in the camp of the "Market-House Regency." Such another howl as the wounded set up, and such another scattering as the "lame-ducks" performed, it is hard to conceive. It emphatically "woke up the sleepers;" and no wonder, for we acknowledge that it was with no careful hand we tore the bandage from some of their most tender sores. But they have found a physician, and now the raw places are nicely covered over, and their bruises carefully anointed. Our neighbor of the *Gazette* has undertaken the job, and "warranted a perfect cure" Like all quacks he has stipulated in the agreement for "no cure, no pay" Well, we expected as much; that sheet has enacted the party doctor so long that it would be strange indeed if it did not now attempt to heal up the gaping wounds of the party administration of the affairs of our municipal government. But to the point: We shall pass over the *Gazette's* lame attempts at sarcasm and indignation—neither have we a word of reply to its gratuitous personalities, especially when it professes such "holy hatred" against the indulgence of that kind of newspaper argument. No, we leave all that to the Aminedab Sleek and Pecksniffian school of saints, of which the Editor of the *Gazette* is such an ornament. The *Gazette's* excuse for the Council's course towards the High Constable is just no excuse at all. Besides that, it lacks a very necessary element, *truth*. It was not "courtesy to the incoming city authorities" that prompted the Council to refuse to appoint Mr. Landon Supervisor of the Streets in accordance with the wish of the tax-payers, as expressed through the ballot-box. No such thing. Landon was elected about the middle of March, whereas the city charter did not pass the Legislature until about the 10th of April, and it was at least five days after before the Council knew it had so passed; and before that, immediately after the election, the Council had acted—had virtually refused to "manifest" its "courtesy" to the will of the tax-payers, in order that it might show "a proper manifestation of courtesy to the incoming city authorities," which "incoming city authorities" had actually no existence. Our Council are very courteous gentlemen, very!—they resolve to do an act of party meanness, against the wish of the tax-payers, in order to show proper "courtesy" to something that don't exist. Now, we think the "courtesy" ought to be shown to the father, the voters, and not to the child, the "incoming city authorities." But the *Gazette* says the Supervisor of the Streets has not been appointed heretofore until the last of May or the first of June. And why? simply because heretofore it has been an invariable rule to appoint the High Constable Supervisor of the Streets, but in this case it was determined immediately upon its being ascertained that Landon was elected High Constable to perpetrate this act. We heard it upon the streets—those whigs who voted for Landon heard it—and they, many of them, remonstrated with individual members of the Council against it. So fully impressed was he with the belief that the Council would do as it has done, that he concluded not to be sworn in; but after consulting with others, he determined not to give the Council such a chance of escape from the deed it contemplated So much for this transaction, which of itself is enough to politically dam all engaged in it.

And now to that $1700. The *Gazette* complains because we did not say when that amount reached the Treasury, and asserts it did so only a few days before the new treasurer took possession of his office. Certainly we did not tell, because we did not know; nor do we see that it is material. The fact of its being there—that it reached it some time—is proof enough that there is great negligence, or disregard of duty somewhere.—The borough is sued almost monthly, and here the *Gazette* acknowledges that the borough is prosperous, has money due it, and, with a population of about 6000, is unable to, or refused to insure its just liabilities. Its warrants upon the Treasury are at a discount, are hawked about the streets like any other drug in the market, are protested and finally sued, and the property of the corporation sacrificed; and yet we are coolly told that the affairs of the people are managed to admiration. Perhaps they are, but what would be thought of such management in a business firm? Would any one place confidence its solvency for a moment? By no means; on the contrary, a firm so acting would be forced to close its doors and go into bankruptcy. Now we apprehend that the affairs of a corporation ought to be managed with as much care as any other association, public or private. But the *Gazette* says this money, which recently came into the treasury, is a reserved fund—a "Water lot fund"—and is not "applicable to the redemption of burough warrants, or general accounts." Very well—that is the testimony of one witness, but what says another, speaking equally "by authority," the anonymous correspondent of the *Chronicle?* Why, that "as soon as it was ascertained that the draft was accepted, the money was paid on it by James H. Williams, Esq., and immediately thereafter *every judgment against the borough was liquidated and paid, and a sufficient amount appropriated to purchase 600 feet of hose*, which has been ordered for the Fire Department. The money was not in the treasury one week before *all the judgments* against the borough were fully paid." Now which of these witnesses tells the truth. The one asserts positively that this money is not "applicable to the redemption of borough warrants, or general accounts,"—the other, that it has already been so applied. Of course, the "powers-that-be" will not expect the public to believe both, or complain much if they believe neither.

The *Gazette* thinks the managers of our municipal affairs are entitled to great credit, because the people are taxed but 5 mills on the dollar, when it is a notorious fact that such per cent. is all that can be levied, having been limited to that by law. Now what credit these immaculate managers are entitled to on that score we cannot divine. But we need go no farther than the columns of the *Gazette* itself to show that its eulogy upon the management of our borough affairs is not sustained by facts. It says the "Sheriff, by virtue of an execution in his hands, levied on a certain water lot. It was advertised for sale. *At the time there were no funds of any kind in the Treasury to pay the debt.*" What! no funds in the treasury of a town, so admirably managed, to pay its honest debts! Perhaps it would be a difficult question to answer if the tax-payers should enquire how it comes that there is no "funds of any kind in the treasury to pay" its just debts, if the affairs of the borough have been managed as they ought. Now it is plain to us that one of two conclusions is inevitable—either the borough has been run in debt without any visible means of paying, and thus had to be sued and cost made for tax-payers to pay; or the funds of the borough have been misapplied and squandered upon political favorites.

One word in regard to the property of the borough bought in by the Clerk of the Council, and we are done. The *Gazette* says it was bought by him after an understanding with the Council, and that the lot is now the property of the borough. This may be so, but so far as the public know it is not so. Whatever bargain there is between him and the Council the people know nothing of. All they know is that he bid it off—that the Sheriff's deed was acknowledged to him in open Court, and that, should not the Court set aside the sale as illegal, he can hold it in spite of all private bargains in the world.

Glad to Hear It.—The St. Louis *Union*, in an article headed, "Col. Benton's purpose," states that under no circumstances will he be a candidate for the Presidency. It further says that he retires from the Senate a poorer man than when he entered it, and that he will return to St. Louis and support himself by his own individual exertions. Under no circumstances will he consent to be "pensioned" on his friends.

☞ The tide of immigration is still on the increase. During Friday and Saturday, ten foreign vessels arrived at New York, all from Liverpool and ports in Ireland, with 2,217 immigrant passengers. Large numbers are daily passing up the Lake, bound for the Far West.

☞ We see that our political and personal friend, Col. J. R. Snowden, late Treasurer of the Mint, has located himself at Pittsburgh, for the purpose of following his profession—the Law. Any of our friends who have business in his line to transact in the "smoky city," cannot do better than consign it to his care, for besides being professionally capable, he is one of the most sociable and gentlemanly fellows alive

The Increase of Crime.

While we are proud of the increase of our country in all that contributes to wealth and power, we should not let the fact escape us that all this is attended with results not so gratifying either to our pride or our morality.—While the Bible and the School Book, the Missionary and the Pedagogue, go hand in hand and keep pace with our growth as a nation, *Crime* outstrips them all and exhibits an alarming increase. The New York *Courier and Enquirer*, in a late article, calls attention to this fact as exhibited in that city, and as New York is the great commercial heart of the Union, it may safely be presumed that whatever moral disease affects her will be felt in a corresponding degree throughout the length and bredth of the land. That journal quotes statistics to show that the year 1850 alone exhibited an increase of commitments, over the year that preceded it, of one sixth, while the population did not increase one-twentieth. There is no doubt, as we remarked above, that vice is on the increase not only in New York but throughout the country. The newspaper records of the day show that; nevertheless in the particular case of New York, the tables of the *Courier* prove the growing efficiency of her police system quite as much as it establishes the spread of crime. It cannot be denied, however, that New York has become the moral sewer of the country, so to speak, and that vice and lawlessness from all parts of Europe and America there concentrate, as vultures to a field of blood. House-breakers, thieves, sharpers and even murderers from the Old World are continually landing at that port, and from thence spreading over the country, and re-engaging in the nefarious pursuits for which they have been driven by the terror of punishment abroad.

☞ The Mercer *Press* felicitated itself last week upon the belief that the act incorporating the Williamsport and Erie Railroad "provides for the suspension of the operation of the Franklin Canal Company, and permits the Pittsburgh and Erie to prosecute their work." "If so," continues the same worthy adjunct of Walker & Co., "we shall soon have a railroad from Pittsburgh to Erie." The "if so," we guess is in the way—Walker's miserable abortion, the Williamsport and Erie project, "provides" for no such result as the suspension, nor gives any such permit. In short, it is a dead failure, and cannot muster friends enough to raise a hundred dollars to pay the State tax. As to the Pittsburgh and Erie road, which the Editor felicitates himself so confidently upon "soon having," we presume he has obtained information enough from the delegates from Mercer who visited us last week, to satisfy even him that "it's all in my eye"—a very pretty contrivance to catch gudgeons, but which when cornered, dissolves into the "baseless fabric of a vision"

Benefits of Advertising.

The Philadelphia *Inquirer* mentions the fact of a merchant of that city, who sold goods to a single individual, at a profit of three hundred dollars, in consequence of only one advertisement in that paper. Business men are just beginning to awake to the benefits of advertising.—Everybody now takes a newspaper, so that, if a dealer wishes to find customers, he has but to advertise; for, among the thousands who peruse the journals, there will be sure to be some desirous of obtaining his goods.—In the old time, signs, public hand-bills, criers, and similar rude methods were adopted to attract attention to wares; but these expedients, never more than partial in their operations, are now almost entirely useless in the busy hum of modern traffic. There is but one thing left for the storekeeper: it is to advertise, again to advertise, third time to advertise, perpetually to advertise. The race, in this respect, is to the swift. Cause and effect here follow rigidly. The man who advertises most will sell the most, the man who advertises little will sell little. Within the last ten years numerous business men, now among the richest of our citizens, have risen from comparative indigence, by discovering and practising upon this great truth. We say again, advertise, if you would prosper. Advertising largely is a sure talisman to win fortune.

☞ The Erie *Observer* killed the Erie and Pittsburgh railroad company off on the 21st ult., but somehow it won't stay killed. A large delegation of citizens of New Castle, Mercer, and Greenville, passed through here last week on their way to Erie, to attend a meeting of the Directors of the company, to consult as to the propriety of placing a portion of the work under contract.—*Crawford Democrat.*

The Erie *Observer* is guilty of no such homicide. The act of incorporation provided that the company should commence their work by April 21, 1851, and as we never heard of such commencement, although in converse with its directors daily, we concluded of course that it had expired by its own limitation. We so stated. It is, however, now we think defunct, at least so far as the Pittsburgh connection is concerned. The delegates alluded to above, went home fully satisfied that the Pittsburgh company never intended to build the road. Upon this point the Mercer *Whig* says:

"We have conversed with several of the delegates since their return, and are informed that for the present, there is little prospect of the road being made."

☞ An old citizen of our town, a whig, was making anxious enquiries of us the other day for a copy of the city charter. He said there was to be an important election next week, and yet, strange to say, the charter under which it is to be holden, isn't to be found. We told him there was a copy in town somewhere, and referred him to the "powers-that-be," who according to the *Gazette*, "doeth nothing wrong." As for us, "poor miserable Lo-co-fo-cos," we hav'nt any right to know what is, or what is not in the precious document.

☞ Charles M. Ottinger, a clerk in the Philadelphia Postoffice, has been arrested on a charge of robbing the mail. A package of letters was found by a fellow clerk in his overcoat pocket. The matter is undergoing a searching investigation.—His father, who is a special mail agent, was present at his arrest, and expressed a belief that some one "had put the packages in his son's pocket to make him a scope goat;" but the probability is that the hopeful son put it there himself.

☞ The gentlemen connected with the Washington *Union* establishment have had manufactured a splendid silver pitcher, to be presented to Mr. Ritchie, now that he *has retired from the editorial chair*. It is a well deserved compliment.

☞ The May number of "Harper" has been received by O. D. Spafford, State street. This is one of the best magazines we know of, and the May number is particularly interesting. It is only 25cts. a number.

☞ We are indebted to Gilman & Co., Tobacconists, State street, for a sample of Cigars, which look very well, and may smoke well; but as we don't use the article we can't say from personal experience.

☞ Harris, at the Merchants Exchange, has served up to his guests, Green Pease, Turtle Soup, Shell Oysters, Ice Cream, and almost all the Luxuries, Foreign and Domestic, one can think of. The Ladies do say that his Ice Cream takes the lead of anything ever got up in this section.

☞ Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Curtis are just now setting all our fair ladies crazy with their splendid stock of Millinery. We should not wonder if fond husbands and indulgent fathers would find their "surplus revenue" sensibly diminished ere rosy June supercedes Miss May.

☞ The ancient Borough of Carlisle, in this State, must be a "bird of a town," if the stories of its Editors are half true. For instance, the *Democrat* asserts that it contains "the worst set of rowdies and ruffians in Christendom." "In the last two years," the Editor continues, "we have had swindling, cheating, robberies, counterfeiting, gambling, and, in one case, almost murder carried on in our borough; and in our opinion, counterfeiting, swindling, stealing, and gambling of the worst kinds are still progressing amongst us. Strangers, on every public occasion, are insulted by drunken rowdies, and, in many cases, assaulted and beaten in the most violent manner. Ladies cannot walk in some of our streets after dark without being insulted, or having their feelings shocked by the most awful blasphemy and the most outrageous blackguardism." We have often heard that Carlisle contained more of that low and nasty aristocracy so prevalent in some country towns, but we had no idea it added thereto that crimes herein charged.

SIFTINGS FROM OUR EXCHANGES,
WITH EDITORIAL DASHES BY A FREE PEN.

☞ The N. Y. Herald prints a letter from Charleston, S. C., to the effect that the British Government, through its secret agents, is tampering with the popular leaders in South Carolina, urging them towards secession with a view of producing a dissolution of the confederacy, and afterwards turning it to the benefit of England by controlling the cotton trade and general commerce of the South. The whole story is probably a humbug.

☞ A Union State Convention is to be holden at Jackson, Mississippi, this month, to nominate a candidate for Governor; it is expected that Gen. Foote will be the man. In June a Union State Convention is to meet at Montgomery, Alabama.

☞ The man who never loved a pretty woman, was last seen by some Greenlanders, going round the north pole, an icicle a yard long hanging to his nasal organ, and a sharp nor'-easter after him, whistling "O never fall in love."

☞ Why is a newly opened stock of Millinery, like a house on fire? Because it starts all the *belles* in the city.

☞ In Pittsburgh last week the watch house was graced with the presence of a whole family, named Jones, consisting of a father, mother, and two sons, one a large grown boy, all of whom were insensibly intoxicated.

☞ The Pennsylvania Legislature passed 431 acts at its last session. Very few are of public interest, and, as it took four months to pass them, we think it a very costly business for the people.

☞ The Cleveland Plain Dealer gives an amusing account of one of its patrons attempting to decline the Democratic nomination for Alderman. The unfortunate man wrote his declension on the back of his business card, and, sent it to the office. The foreman with an eye to business, published the card, paying no attention to the declension, and charged the candidate $10.—The man run and was beat.

☞ At a meeting of the Anti-Slavery Convention in Syracuse, the Rev. Samuel May said, "We must come into collision with the American government," and the Charleston Mercury of the 10th says, "we must meet the issues, or tamely submit to the tyrannies of one of the most infamous and corrupt governments under which a civilized people ever lived" Like the Rev. Mr. Clover, of Boston, these fanatics will gladly skulk away when danger is at hand, although they may talk very valiantly now.

☞ *News*—That the *Chronicle* "is not a whig paper." So says some of the "satisfied."

☞ *Sold.*—A gentleman down east, seeing his pretty maid with his wife's bonnet on, kissed her, supposing her to be the real owner. He soon discovered his error through the assistance of his wife.

☞ Horace Greeley sailed for England on the 16th inst., to attend the World's Fair. He will, during his absence, visit most of the countries of continental Europe. The readers of the Tribune may anticipate many a treat in the shape of articles under the head of "Editorial Correspondence," while he is abroad.

☞ An Abolitionists gathering at Chelsea, away down East, lately gave the following comprehensive pledges against the fugitive law:

Resolved, That we pledge ourselves individually and collectively to *pray* it down, to talk it down, to act it down, to hve it down, *to vote it down!*

It is pretty evident from the above that the much abused Fugitive law is destined to stand for some time; for we never knew a law repealed through the efficacy of prayer: besides, does not the Bible say the "prayers of the ungodly are an abomination," &c.? and as to "talking," "acting" and "living" it down, they will have to employ more languages than was ever heard about the tower of Babel, and live longer than Methusaleh.—The last proposition, "to vote it down" is equally impracticable—*minorities* do not "vote down" the Constitution and the law in this country.

☞ Civilization.—A letter writer at Panama writes back to the New Orleans *Delta* that that ancient city has improved considerably since last year, the natives becoming quite civilized, as they now get drunk, fight, swear in English, and flourish their knives. The charge for carrying a trunk is now a dollar and a fight thrown in; last year a dime was sufficient, without the fight.

☞ The Delegates appointed to the Judicial Convention, from Berks county, are instructed to support the nomination of Hon. Wm. Strong for the Supreme Bench. Mr. S. is a man of undoubted abilities, and would do honor to the station.

☞ An iron house, for a hotel, is about to be erected in Philadelphia, in third street, near Arch. It is five stories high. Several iron warehouses are to be erected in that city this summer. The iron business in this country will be immense in a few years from the iron buildings alone.

☞ The joint special committee of the Legislature of Massachusetts on the subject of capital punishment, have reported a bill for the abolition of the death penalty and providing that the offences punished by death under the present code shall be punished by imprisonment in the State prison for life.

☞ Governor Johnston, true to his abolition instinct, has not yet signed the bill repealing that section of the kidnapping-law, refusing the use of our jails for the detention of fugitive slaves. The Harrisburgh jail could not, in consequence, be used for the safe keeping of the slaves recently tried before Commissioner M'Allister.

☞ In the supreme court in Providence, Julia A. Perkins, has recovered a verdict for $3,00 against Frances Hersey, for breach of marriage promise. No express promise was proved, though he had paid attention, to her for nearly two years. Chief Justice Greene instructed the jury that they were not to consider the fact that the plaintiff was seduced by the defendant.

☞ Hundreds of people complain of being afflicted with bed bugs. The following receipt will be invaluable to travellers and others. It is perfectly simple and safe, and is approved by a western philosopher:—"On going to bed, strip off your shirt, and cover yourself from head to foot with boiled molasses. Let every part of the body be covered thickly with it. On coming to bite you the bugs will stick fast in the molasses, and you can kill them in the morning."

☞ Col. T. H. Benton, jr. a nephew, but not much of a political connection, of the Missouri Senator that was, has been elected Superintendent of Public Instruction in Iowa, having been the regular Democratic candidate.—The Iowa City *Reporter* says his majority will be from 1200 to 1500, "over Whiggery, Abolitionism, and Mormonism."

☞ The Whigs of New York have discovered the Philosopher's stone. They have found out that the State can borrow nine millions of dollars without creating a debt! This will be welcome news to the money borrowers. The "shinners" talk of holding a jubilee on the occasion.

☞ Some of our exchanges say that the *Telegraph*, a paper recently commenced in Washington, supports Tom Corwin of "hospitable grave" memory, for the Presidency. This is not correct. We get the *Telegraph*, and a very good paper it is too.

☞ *Heavy Damages.*—The Shreveport Gazette states that a Miss Saunders, of Caddo, parish, at the session of the District Court held in that place week before last, recovered $12,000 damages against Wm. C. Shaw, for slander and defamation of character.

☞ Samson was a strong man, yet he could not pay money before he had it. If he could have done so, what a glorious Editor he would have made.

☞ Hon Howell Cobb, of Georgia, has determined to retire from Congress, and is a prominent Democratic candidate for Governor.

☞ Elder Brigham Young pledges his honor that he has *only twenty-six wives*. He is the saint upon whom fell the mantle of Joe Smith, of the Mormons.

News by Telegraph and Mail.

WASHINGTON, May 7.

The President leaves here on Monday, to be present at the celebration of the opening of the Erie Railroad. It is his his intention to stop sometime in Buffalo.

The Republic thinks that the reports by telegraph that the Cuban expedition has been abandoned, are not to be trusted. They are intended, to baffle Government in its designs of repressing the expedition. It publishes a private letter from Jacksonville, Fla. to the effect that an expedition was certainly on foot there, and expected to sail on the 8th of May.

CHARLESTON, May 5.

The county delegates are arriving by scores, and 500 have already arrived, and a large majority of them are hot for secession, which seems to be resolved upon.—The excitement increases, and the merchants are alarmed.

The convention will meet at Military Hall at 4 o'clock this afternoon. The city is crowded with strangers.

HARTFORD, Ct., May 7.

The Senate organized by the election of Hon. Henry E. Peck, of New Haven, President pro. tem, and Stephen W. Kellogg, Clerk. The House organized by the election of Hon. Samuel Ingham, Dem., as Speaker, he having 111 votes against Hon. W. Boardman, whig, 109. Myron S. Baker of Tolland, was elected Clerk. M. W. Easton, Assistant Clerk. All democrats. All the members were present but Mr. Cady of Ashford, sick. The election for Governor and other State officers, will be proceeded with to-morrow.

PHILADELPHIA, May 5.

Murder at Roxborough.—At an early hour on Saturday afternoon, our citizens were startled by the news which had been sent by express to the city, of a most dreadful murder in the township of Roxborough, one of the most beautiful and romantic sections of the rural portion of the county of Philadelphia. A death-like stillness prevaded the scene—the spectators were almost mute with horror. Indignation was depicted in every countenance, and many a manly as well as gentle eye suffused with tears.

The spectacle was awful to behold—a female prostrate upon her back, lay at full length in a pool of blood, with the whole front of her skull mashed in—a man also, with his head beaten to atoms was lying in the mud.—The house was entered, and here was disclosed the most appalling sight of all—in the corner of the room, as though it had crawled there and expired, lay crouched upon its face a dead infant. As one of the policemen turned it over, he wept. The side, front, and back of its cranium had been fractured, and though lifeless for several hours, and its countenance distorted by the shocking injuries it had received, there was a still such a life-like expression of innocence in its look, that it was difficult for the spectator to realize the idea that it was really a corpse—it appeared as if only asleep.

This alarming and heart-rending affair is wrapped in no little mystery. The facts and circumstances as far as disclosed, appear to be these: The family consisted of Valentine Bartle, aged 46, his wife Catharine, aged 30, both natives of Germany, and four children. The mother was *enciente*.

A man calling himself Christian Gracinger was arrested this afternoon, on suspicion of being the murderer.—He has been fully identified as being the man employed by Bartle, and who made threats against him, in consequence of a disagreement about wages.

The contested election case has been put to rest this morning by the decisions of Judges King and Kelley, in favor of Mr. Reed, the contestant, Judge Campbell dissented in his opinion. The decree, invalidating the certificate of Mr. Kneass' election, will be given on Monday, after which Mr. Reed will be inducted into office.

NEW YORK, May 6.

California News.—The U. S. mail steamer Georgia, Lieut. D. D. Porter commander, arrived this morning from Chagres via Havanna, with the Pacific mails and $1,500,000 on freight.

The Georgia sailed from Charges at noon on the 25th of April, with 500 passengers. She transferred 200 at Havanna, the remainder she brings to New York. Left at Chagres, the Crescent City, North America, and Brother Jonathan with only a few passengers.

The Pacific, the Tennessee and Columbus had arrived; the former with 200 and the latter with 220 passengers.

The steamer McKimm with a large number of passengers was daily expected. She left the Falcon at Havanna with 200 passengers for Chagres—exchanged signals with the Ohio on the night of the 1st inst, about 150 miles north of Havanna. Great excitement exists in Havanna in relation to the news of an expected invasion—many have been put in prison on suspicion and among them are three priests for preaching Newton's sermons.

The day the Georgia arrived was celebrated by the execution of a poor wretch who was sent over by Lopez, to obtain Pilots for the expedition. He was tried in open Court, and the evidence was so strong that he was immediately executed, previous to which, he was subjected to great torture for the purpose of extorting a confession.

This is the first execution that has taken place for political offences and has created some illfeeling towards the new Governor General, and his conduct in executing a person who did not seem to know that he was committing a crime has been severely criticised.

Matters are becoming so serious and alarming in Havanna that many are preparing to leave. The Capt. General is taking every precaution to guard against an invasion.

Look-outs are stationed all along the coast, within two miles of each other, and the vessels of war kept cruising between San Antonio and Havanna. One of the steamers, the Cuba, was ashore on the Colorado, when the Georgia passed, and Pizarro had gone to her assistance.

Judge Thurston, the delegate from oregon, died on board of the California, and was buried at Aca Pulo.—Senator Gwinn had been ill but was recovering at last accounts. The forth one of the Chagres murderers had been arrested at Perte Bellea and brought to Panama, where he is confined in prison. They are all to be shot in a few days.

CINCINNATI, May 5.

Fire in Cincinnati.—A most destructive fire occurred last night, in a lumber yard on the corner of Race and Columbia streets, which destroyed about twenty buildings, including the large liquor store of Wright & Brothers. With this exception the houses are mostly private, and not very valuable. The loss is heavy, but the amount is not known.

Our city is infested with theives, and this fire was doubtless the work of an incendiary.

BOSTON, May 3.

Considerable excitement was created here to-day, in the upper circles, on account of the elopement of Mr. Reuben H. Slow, an extensive dealer in ship chandlery, at 55 Commercial street, with his wife's sister, a young and beutiful girl named Sarah Tower, belonging to Linconville, Me.

NEWARK, N. J., May 7.

The Daily Advertiser has the following: We learn from Patterson, that while the workmen in the Engine Factory of Rogers, Ketchum and Grosvenor, were testing a new locomotive, the boiler burst, hurling the fragments in every direction, and blowing off the roof, and one side of the building which was built of brick, so that the whole fell in. When the accident occured, the shop was full of workmen, many of whom are still buried in the ruins. The Advertiser states that three or four have been taken out dead, and fourteen or fifteen badly wounded. The persons killed were Irish, James McNamara, Thos. Bustard, Patrick Doherty, and Amos Whitehead.

☞ Has any physiologists given us the philosophy of such superior fecundity, of new countries over old, as is mentioned below?

"The Census marshal of New Mexico cites, as an evidence that the people of that region are prolific, that Ojo Caliento Jose Antonio Prugilly has twenty-five children—thirteen sons and twelve daughters—by one wife. Jose and his wife were living, in good health, at the venerable ages respectivly of ninety and eighty-six years."

New Engine.—The New Orleans Courier has the following account of a new invention. "A steamboat to travel on land or water," would indeed be a novelty, and one, we should think, especially adapted to the use of Irishmen:

A gentleman exhibited this morning in the Lyceum Hall, while the assembled multitude waited to be organized into Convention—a model of a locomotive which can be used for a steamboat to travel on land or water—for ploughing or for any sort of riding or traveling—it can also be used as a fire engine, or a street sprinkler.

He said it would throw water 300 or 3,000 feet high, according to the size of the machine constructed and if one had been in existence here at the time, the St. Charles fire, could have been extinguished in five seconds after the invention got upon the ground. The inventor is one of the keenest, at the same time most gentlemanly looking chap in town; and we believe he persuaded every body, that his invention is the greatest yet.

The first engineers of the city have examined it, and pronounced that he has overcome every difficulty in the way of traveling on land by steam. He made the modle move ahead, retrograde, turn round and round every way, with grace and ease. It is, indeed, wonderful to behold.

A Man Burned to Death.—The *Lake Champlain Beacon*, published at Rouse's Point, gives an account of the death of a young man, named Robert J. Hunter, from Canada East, by fire. During the communion service in one of the churches in Clarenceville, a fire broke out in a neighboring house, and Hunter, in rendering what aid he could in saving the house-hold furniture, ventured too far, and was buried in the falling ruins, from which his heart-stricken relatives and friends, in full sight, could do nothing to extricate him.

Broke Down.—The steamer Sultana was between Conneaut and Ashtabula when the gale struck her, Thursday. She was obliged to put back and made Erie Harbor, where she lay until the gale subsided. On Friday, when off Fairport, she broke her cross head and was towed back to this port by the steamer Albany. Her passengers were transferred to the steamer Wisconsin, and her freight to the propellor Alleghany.

The propellors Ogontz and St. Joseph arrived here yesterday from the upper lakes. They encountered the gale on lake Huron and report it very severe.

We learn from the Oswego *Times* that the schooner Elmina, of Sandusky, which cleared from that port on Thursday was driven back by the gale on Thursday night and while entering the harbor with but little canvass spread, she was driven ashore by the current and wind in the east harbor, where she bilged and filled. She had on board a small quanty salt—was nearly light.—*Buff. Express.*

A Silver Mine in Virginia.—The Charleston, (Va.) Spirit of Jefferson says that there is every reason to believe that a Silver Mine has been discovered on the farm of Messrs. James and Dennis McSherry, of that county, situated on the east bank of the Shenandoah river, and at the base of the Blue Ridge mountain.

The mine was discovered some months since, and a small specimen obtained and forwarded to the Philadelphia Mint, to be assayed. The Superintendant of the mint has returned the same, made into a ten cent piece, and pronounced the ore as exceedingly rich. The ledge of rock in which the ore is impregnated, is of immense size. Every three pounds of rock, it is estimated, will yield one dollar in silver. Arrangements have been made for at once mining.

Attempted Suicide.—The *Dispatch* of yesterday says: on Saturday morning about 10 o'clock, young Richard Beale, (son of Mr. Geo. Beale,) while laboring under temporary mental aberration, entered the drug store of Mr. Wm. Thorn, and ordered an ounce and a half of laudanum. Mr. T. suspecting nothing, filled a vial, which young Beale immediately swallowed, unperceived by Mr. Thorn, and handed back the empty vial, saying "good bye Thorn." Mr. T. immediately seized him, and he was kept secure till emetics were administered, and the stomach pump also applied, by Drs. Wilson and Snyder, and his life thus preserved. A man was then left to watch him, but he sent his guard away on a pretext, and made his escape. He was finally found by his brother and brought home in safety.—*Pittsburgh Post.*

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

☞ At a meeting of the Erie County Mutual Insurance Company held at the Treasurer's office, on the 3d inst., the following gentlemen were chosen Directors of said Company for the ensuing year, viz.:

C. M. Tibbals,	A. W. Brewster,
J. H. Williams,	Smith Jackson,
J. C. Marshall,	William Beaty,
J. H. Fullerton,	J. H. Haynes,
Harley Sherman,	George Selden,
J. D. Clark,	N. W. Russell

On motion, Smith Jackson was chosen President, J. H. Williams, Treasurer, R. J. Sibley, Secretary.

The Office of the Company, is now removed to the Register and Recorder's office. REUBEN J. SIBLEY, Sec'ty.

Erie, May 10, 1851. 3t52

RELIGIOUS NOTICE.

The Rev. G. V. Maxham will fill the desk in the Universalist Church on next Sabbath, and in the afternoon will deliver a discourse from 2d Epistle of John 1, 9—11. "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: for he that biddeth him God speed is partaker in his evil deeds."

Erie, May 10, 1851.

NEW GOODS.

The subscriber has just returned from New York and Philadelphia with a large stock of Groceries, Tinware, Willow Ware, Ship Chandlery, &c. D. S. CLARK.

Erie, May 10, 1851. 52

Spring and Summer Millinery.

MRS. H. S. WARD would say to the Ladies that for their liberal patronage heretofore extended to her, she is now prepared with the latest New York and Philadelphia fashions of Spring and Summer Bonnets, which she will be happy to sell at the very lowest prices. Her stock consists of over forty different kinds of Bonnets, at prices that cannot fail to suit the times. Also, Ribbons and Flowers, and in fact a general assortment of Millinery.

Straws bleached and pressed to the latest styles. All kinds of Country Produce taken in payment.

☞ Country Milliners supplied with goods at the lowest market prices.

Erie, May 10, 1851. 52

Cash for Wool!

We want to buy 100,000 lbs of Wool, and will pay the highest price in cash on delivery at our stores.

Erie, May 10. COMPTON, HAVERSTICK & CO.

E. C. BENNETT,

Carriage and Wagon Maker, State street near Seventh, over Liddle's Blacksmith Shop, Erie, Pa. Carriages, Wagons, &c. made and repaired in the best manner.

Erie, May 10, 1851. 1m52

FARMING IMPLEMENTS.

By request of some of the members of the Erie County Agricultural Society, the subscriber brought on and offers for sale the following articles.

Emery & Co's. Horse Power and Threshing Machine.
Sub soil Plows
Corn Planters and Seed Drills,
Dog Powers for churning, driving grind stones, &c.,
Cornstalk cutter and crushers,
Hay and Straw Cutters,
Emery's improved compressing and thermometer churn combined, 10 teeth Garden Rakes, Hay Forks, improved still Scythe stones, &c., &c.

Having made arrangements for the Agency of the above, together with all articles in Agricultural Machinery and Farming Implements, I can furnish, at Wholesale or Retail, on the same terms as the manufacturers, adding transportation, and as all articles are warranted, the attention of Farmers and others is solicited. D. S. CLARK.

Erie may 10, 1851. State street, 2 doors north of Fullerton's.

FARM FOR SALE.

A GOOD FARM for sale cheap, Situate in Harborcreek, four miles east of Erie, and a half mile south of Wesleyville, Erie county, Pa., containing 1[illegible]0 acres of land, 120 of which are under a good state of cultivation, and well adapted for grass or grain, there is on the premises a good two story frame house, two large barns, cider mill and other convenient out buildings, with between two and three hundred bearing fruit trees mostly grafted. A credit given for part of the purchase money if desired. For particulars enquire on the premises, or of H. L. Pinney, in Greene township. ELIJAH PINNEY.

Harborcreek, May 10, 1851. 6m52

NOTICE.

The subscribers to the Capital Stock of the Erie and Waterford Plank Road Company are hereby notified that an additional call of 25 per cent on amount subscribed is required to be paid to the Treasurer of said Company, at his office in Erie, on or before the 10th inst. By order of the Board,

Erie, May 10. A. KING, Treasurer.

I beg leave also to inform the subscribers to the Capital Stock of Erie and Waterford Plank Road Company, that I have employed Jonas Gunnison, Esq., to collect the instalments now due, and I am directed by the Board to call the attention of subscribers to the 8th Section of an Act Regulating Turnpike and Plank Road Companies, approved the twenty sixth day of January, 1849.

"Section 8.—If any stockholder, whether an original subscriber or assignee, after twenty days' notice as aforesaid, of the time and place appointed for the payment of any instalment or proportion of the capital stock, shall neglect to pay such proportion at the place appointed, for the space of thirty days after the time appointed for the payment thereof, any such stockholder shall, in addition to the instalment so called for, pay at the rate of one per centum per month, for every delay of such payment; and if the same and additional penalty shall become equal to the sum before paid in part on account of such share, the same may be forfeited by and to the said company, and may be sold by them for such price as may be obtained therefor; or in default of payment of any stockholders of such instalments as aforesaid, for the space of sixty days aforesaid, the president and managers may, at their election, cause suit to be brought in the same manner as debts of a like amount are now recoverable, for the recovery of the same, together with the penalties aforesaid."

Erie, May 10.—3t52 A. KING, Treasurer.