Erie Weekly Observer.

ERIE, PA.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 31, 1851.

☞ Ere this paper reaches its readers we shall be on our "winding way" down to Reading, to attend the State Convention for the nomination of Governor, and Canal Commissioner. Never having visited the Eastern part of Pennsylvania, or mingled with her public men, we doubt not we shall see and hear many things to jot down for the amusement of our readers. They may therefore reasonably calculate to hear from us in our absence.

Concert.

Mr. Dempster, a Ballad Singer, proposes to visit this place soon, for the purpose of giving one of his Original Ballad Entertainments. His Concert is composed principally of the beautiful songs of Burns. Particulars hereafter.

Death of Judge Bredin.

We are called upon to announce the death of another distinguished citizen of Butler county—that of the Hon. John Bredin, President Judge of the Butler District, died in that place very suddenly on the 21st inst. He was attacked with paralysis and was not sick more than half an hour. The Mercer *Press* says his "death will cause a deep feeling of regret to pervade the whole community over the courts of which he has presided for near twenty years. Few men on the bench were better versed in law—no judge more upright or considerate, and as a citizen and member of the community, he was kind-hearted, benevolent and public-spirited. He has gone down to the grave while in full possession of the respect and confidence of the public, and the love and veneration of those friends who enjoyed a more intimate acquaintance with him."

We invite attention of those in want of Jewelry, Musical instruments, and fancy goods of almost all kinds, to the advertisement of H. P. Stockton, successor to W. N. Lewis & Co. Mr. S. has a very elegant and select assortment, and is withal one of the most obliging and pleasant fellows to trade with we know of. He will be found in that centre of business and enterprise, Williams' Block.

☞ The *Gazette* states that the Directors of the North East road have ordered their Locomotive and Passenger Cars, and that they are to be constructed for the 6 foot track. It also states that the iron is to be here in a few weeks. This latter piece of information we have heard reiterated so many times that we are about tired of it, but hope this time there is no mistake, and that there is to be no more delay.

The Conneaut *Reporter*, in speaking about the New York and Erie road, says!" Passengers breakfasting at the Astor House, sleep upon Lake Erie, and dine the next day at Cleveland. "A mistake, good sir; they "sleep" on the floor in Dunkirk, and breakfast in the street, or go without. At least that is the experience of some of our acquaintances who tried the new route.

☞ The Charleston Mercury expressly contradicts the statements which have been published concerning the northern manufacture of arms for South Carolina, and says, that "no arms of any kind are to be manufactured North of the Potomac, and the small arms will be constructed within the State."

☞ The Governor of Massachusetts has appointed a lawyer of Boston as Inspector General of *fish*. Lawyers ought to have a practical knowledge of fish, for they are generally considered very good sharks.

A Move.—The friends of Daniel Webster are about making a spontaneous move in Massachusetts to nominate him for the Presidency. If the face of it can be made plausible, the schemes will be tried in other States. Gen. Scott, it is said, will receive aid no from the friends of Mr. Webster.

☞ Important.—The *Gazette* is very kind to the Franklin Canal Company. It graciously tells them that "should the Courts declare their charter void and sufficient, they will of course be *permitted*." That is, when we cant help ourself, *we*, the great I am of the *Gazette*, will give the word and let you go. Very considerate, is'nt it.

☞ Where is Right?—The *Commercial the* "organ" of the "great whig party" in this county, says it "understands that the Conferees of Erie and Crawford counties, will meet in this City, (Erie,) this week, to select a Senatorial delegate to the Whig State Convention which meets at Lancaster." *Per contra*, the Meadville *Gazette*, *the* "organ" of the same great party in Crawford county, says that "the Senatorial *Conferees* of Erie and Crawford counties, met in this place last week and appointed Gideon J. Ball, Esq., to represent this district in the State Convention to be held at Lancaster on the 24th of June next." Somebody is certainly in the fog: who is it?

☞ *The New Fashion.*—A New York house has recently transmitted an order to Paris for an invoice of dress goods, with a deep border on the side. These goods are intended for ladies' short dresses, and the width of the cloth will comprise the length of the skirt. We give the following description from a New York paper:

"The skirt comes a little below the knee, and buttons in front—the waist is cut plain and also buttoned in front. The border extends round the skirt, and in front to the bottom of the waist—the latter being cut to have the border form the letter V. The trowsers are made loose, gathered into a band at the ancle."

☞ The Philadelphia Dollar *Newspaper* says the term "Locofoco party" is a "vulgar term used by *vulgar* partizans to denote one of the great parties of the country." Certainly the *Newspaper* must have been ignorant that such a mirror of "good taste" and refinement as the Editor of the *Gazette* made flippant use of this term upon all occasions, else it would never have made such a blunder as to call those who use it "vulgar partizans."

☞ Our sportsmen have had fine sport for some days past in firing into the numerous flocks of pigeons flying over our city. From every house-top and pile of Lumber, from fences and garden walls, from street and alley, our continual cannonading of small arms has been kept up from early dawn till high-noon, and with *marked* success. This sport has been death to numerous juvenile pigeons, besides dissepating many a comfortable morning snooze of those who possess less of the Nimrod in their composition. By the by, suppose all those amateur sportsmen had been fined according the ordinance "made and provided" for that purpose, would not our city be able to purchase *that* Dredge without resort to increased taxation?

Tribute of Respect.

At a meeting of the City Councils on Monday evening last, the following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, It was announced to the Select and Common Council, that our highly esteemed fellow-citizen and member of the Select Council of our City, A. W. Brewster, has this day departed this life: Therefore

Resolved by the Select and Common Council of the City of Erie, They deem it their duty to the memory of the deceased, as a member of their body, and the loss of the most estimable citizen and efficient officer of our City, as well as the deep sorrow which will pervade our entire community, to express the mournful sentiment with which the intelligence has been received.

Resolved, That we tender to the widow and relations of the deceased our sympathies in their irreparable loss—that the Mayor, Select and Common Council will attend the funeral in a body and wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty-days in token of sorrow for the deceased.

Resolved, That the Mayor and President of the Common Council be requested to communicate the same to the family of the deceased, to cause the same to be published, and that in consequence of his death, the Select and Common Council will now adjourn.

And on motion, the said resolutions were read a second time in both Councils, considered and adopted this 26th day of May, A. D. 1851.

Attest, THOMAS G. COLT, Mayor.

Jonas Gunnison, Clerk of the S. C.

Jas. D. Dunlap, Pres. C. C.

Wm. P. Trimble, Clerk of the C. C.

The Dunkirk Bubble Bursting.

It is evident to all impartial observers that the Dunkirk bubble, which has been swelled to an undue proportion by the supposed fact that the New York and Erie road would there terminate, is about to burst, and those eastern gentlemen who have been lured, by flaming accounts of its future greatness, into investing their spare dimes in lots, will find their purses so much the lighter without any corresponding advantage, either present or prospective. We are of the opinion, and we are not alone in it, that most of the manœuvers of the board of managers of the New York and Erie road, for the past year in regard to the non-extension of the road west, has been in some sense the result of schemes designed to facilitate the sale of the immense number of lots owned by the company and those interested in its management. The last, as will be seen by advertisement in our columns, takes place in a few days, and then, or in a short time thereafter, if the compromise between the Buffalo company and the New York and Erie company, is not blown to the winds, the reader will please set us down as no prophet. Every thing conspires to point to this result as inevitable. Although the road has been finished but a few weeks, we already hear complaints, "both loud and deep," at the insufficiency of the harbor and other accommodations at this boasted Western terminus. And this, too, at the most favorable season of the year for steamboat navigation. What then will be complaints and the results when the rough weather, and tempestuous gales in the fall, will prevent steamboats stopping there entirely? The complaints may not be so loud, because this state of affairs will become known, and nobody will take that route either east or west; and the result will be that the Central New York road will still monopolize, as it ever has, the travel and business of the west. We have seen many passengers within the past week who came over the road, and on arriving at Dunkirk found neither boats to take them away, or beds to sleep on while they remained. The traveling public will avoid all such annoyances as this, and ere the summer is out the Directors of the New York and Erie road will find it so. It is evident to us, then, that this Dunkirk bubble is on the eve of bursting, and that the great railroad interests east and west, will not long be held as a plaything in the hands of the "lot gamblers" of New York and Dunkirk, but must find a common center here! Even the New Yorkers themselves are awaking to this fact. The *Herald*, immediately after the celebration, gave it as its decided opinion that if the Directors expected to realize half their anticipations in regard to western trade and travel, they must use all diligent speed in extending the road to Erie, where truly adds the *Herald*, there is the best harbor on the Lake, proclaimed so over and over again by the Bureau of United States topographical engineers, and acknowledged by all lake men. The business, in the opinion of the *Herald*, can never be done at Dunkirk, because the harbor is shallow, unprotected, and never designed by nature, or susceptible of being designed by art, for such a purpose. We do not quote the exact words of the *Herald*, but this is the substance. The *Mirror*, whose Editor was at Dunkirk, is equally emphatic, and although the writer does not point to the west as a remedy, the point against the proposition of stopping the road at its present terminus is equally strong. "The citizens of Buffalo," says that paper, "have come to the conclusion that the Erie railroad will not retard its prosperity; and that Dunkirk never *can become a successful rival in the commerce of the west*, an opinion in which I entirely concur. In fact there is every prospect that a new impetus will be given to the growth of Buffalo by the new channel of communication just opened. *The harbor of Dunkirk has not the capabilities for extensive commercial business. It is shallow and difficult of access, except in calm weather.* I am inclined to think that the lake business of the Erie road *will not meet the expectations of the company.* The Hornellsville branch will be likely to take the bulk of travel. But of this the directors should be the best judges. At present the 'great city of Dunkirk,' like poor Burns' religion is a 'great perhaps.'" Yes, the great city of Dunkirk is a "great perhaps," and will be for all time to come. The bubble is bursting, and we shall soon see a grand smash.

"Manifest Destiny"—The Sandwich Islands

"Manifest destiny" has planted the stars and stripes upon the shores of the Pacific—has reared and peopled a State, and is fast preparing the way for a vast enlargement of the maratime and commercial relations of the United States with the countries beyond. But yet "Manifest Destiny's" mission is not accomplished. The Sandwich Islands must sooner or later fall before its march. The last intelligence from these Islands is that in the event of a French blockade, which is threatened, the government intends to throw itself be the protection of the United States. This, remarks the Philadelphia *Bulletin*, is of vital importance; for the question immediately arises whether this republic will accept the post of guardian, and perhaps involve itself, in consequence, in a war with France. That the demands of France are inadmissible, no one out of that nation doubts. If justice were done, that power would acknowledge that no treaty had been broken, and would pay moreover a large sum for the wanton destruction of property. But this France will never do. It is a question, indeed, whether the pretended wrongs suffered by that power are not a mere sham, intended to bring on a collision with the Sandwich Islands, and furnish an excuse to conquer that fertile group, as Tahiti has been already conquered. The dream of Colonial empire has ever been a delusion of the French people, and they are quite as weak on this point now as in the days of the grand monarch. It is to be feared, therefore, that in spite of its injustice, France will proceed to blockade the islands. In that event, according to this late intelligence, the government, conscious of its inability successfully to resist the aggressor, will run up the American flag and claim the protection of this republic.

Here is a chance for more annexation! Shall we, in the event of this being solicited, accept the office of protector, and incorporate—for to that it will come at last—the Sandwich Islands into our glorious Union? A few years ago, and even the most sanguine regarded the Pacific as the utmost possible limit of the republic; but here is a prospect, and no remote one neither, of our flag soaring triumphant over Hawaii, of our laws extending to the "isles of the sea." Already the Sandwich islands are more than half American. Their trade with us is treble that with any other power; the number of our whale-ships recruited at their harbors is tenfold those of England; and high official posts are filled by our citizens who in addition, have almost a monopoly in the business of the group. In manners, laws and religion, the islands may be said to be thoroughly Americanized. Annexation, in such a case, would be comparatively easy. There would be no hostile prejudices to be overcome, no national laws at variance with our own to be destroyed; no embittered feeling, the result of a war of conquest, to be extirpated, perhaps in blood. Already, except in name, the islands are our own. We may, ere another month, be even invited to accept their surrender, when we shall have but to "go and take possession."

☞ The Silver Creek *Mail* has taken to "guessing" in regard to the future course of the two railroad companies seeking to come west. Were not railroads like the venerable white man, described by the darkee "bery unsartin," we might be tempted to "guess" that the *Mail* is about right. As it is, we shall take whatever fate shall send us very coolly, and when the railroad does come, certainly be here to see it.

"We are of opinion that neither of the companies in this State are acting in good faith, but are only 'compromising' to gain time, each hoping that something may 'turn up,' to enable it to outwit and defeat its rival.

"We *guess* the B. & N. L. company mean to run the 'four foot eight' to Erie despite the terms of the 'compromise,' and we *guess* the N. Y. & E. company mean to let them come to Dunkirk with it and run the 'wide guage' from there on, and we *guess* there will be another blow up before the work is done."

☞ John Bull is beginning to understand, at last, that Brother Jonathan can build better ships than he can. He has given a practical proof of this wholesome perception, by transmitting to Webb, a New York ship builder, an order for a fast sailing clipper ship—170 feet in length, 21 deep, and 36 broad. She is to be completed as rapidly as possible. This is said to be the first order of the kind ever received in this country. It is not likely to be the last.

SIFTINGS FROM OUR EXCHANGES,

WITH EDITORIAL DASHES BY A FREE PEN.

☞ The following gem of poetic soliloquy we accidentally overheard, as it issued from the overcharged brain of a youth who had been reading about the proposed change in female attire:

"*Double-Breasted* vests must take *a rise*.
Now palpable—nothing can be plainer;
O, who would n't give a pair of eyes
Just then to play the Tailor."

☞ The Editor of the Harrisburgh Daily *American*, Gov. J. Johnston's organ, has come out flat-footed for gallant Sam Houston for President. He says all "old Sam Jacinto" wants now is "the decent part of Society. He long ago felt cock-sure of the *blackguards*. If the Editor of the *American* isn't comprised in that last inventory, he's not in the count at-all, that's certain!

☞ A couple of young Germans at New Albany, Ia., because they loved the same lady, took rifles the other day, went out and shot three times at each other without deciding which should have the girl, and which should die. They got ashamed, took a drink, and went home. A sensible conclusion to a foolish commencement.

☞ A woman in Philadelphia has been held to bail on a charge of seducing a young man seventeen years of age. The charge was brought by his father. This will doubtless be a subject of triumph for the next session of the Woman's Rights Convention, and looks like equalizing the moral responsibility of the sexes.

☞ How it Works.—Some people are so foolish as to say that advertising does no good, but here is a case in point. Townsend, the Sarsaparilla man, says that his "books" exhibit an outlay for advertising in the course of five years, in the various papers in the United States—$300,000. He says, for six months he cut off all his advertisements, to see if his medicine would go on their own merits, just as well as by advertising. He lost $30,000 by it; sales dwindled right down to nothing, for his competitors seeing him drop off, they went on, advertised heavily, and got the start of him.

☞ An exchange paper, announcing the death of a gentleman out West, says that the "deceased, though a Bank Director, it is generally believed, died a christian, and universally respected." It is proper to add that he died in full faith of "*individual liability*."

☞ Think of it.—J. J. Bradly, who died in Boston, a few days ago, was formerly editor of the Argus, at Quincy, Ill. He died in the public prison; *disease, debt*. While the old man was gasping his last breath, the Rev. Theodore Parker and his band were raising $1500 for a *runaway slave*.

☞ A western paper contains the advertisement of a land agent, headed, "Land Claims Prosecuted!" Well, they ought to be. Claims have no more business on land than bens in water. Perhaps, however, there is some "mistake of the printer!"

☞ Which is the most capricious, popularity or a woman? A year ago Daniel Webster was the god of Massachusetts—he is now the foot-ball. "All-hail" has been changed to "all crucify," while "hosanna" has been changed to "humbug." The very men who once egged him on to duty, would now form mobs to egg him out of Boston.

☞ Valuable Recipe.—"A Jerseyman" communicates the following to the Philadelphia *Sun*:

To cure hens from scratching
Up your garden-beds,
You cut their dainty scratchers off
Just below their heads.

☞ General Foote has accepted the nomination for Governor of Mississippi. The friends of the Union in that State have presented him with a pair of high-blooded horses and an elegant carriage, with which to make his campaign in behalf of Union principles.

☞ In Iceland, if a minor commits a crime, the parents are immediately arrested, and unless they can prove, to the satisfaction of the magistrate, that they have afforded to the child all needed opportunities of instruction, the penalty of the crime is visited upon them, and the child is placed under instruction. That is a most excellent law, which might be transplanted into higher civilized countries with advantage.

☞ How Powerful is Love.—There is a hotel in Springfield that only charges half-price for lovers; and yet the proprietor says he makes more money out of this class of boarders than any other people about the house. "Let a youth," he says, "sit up with a yellow spencer and blue eyes on Sunday night, and he will feel so heavenly that he wont get down to pork and beans again till the latter part of the week."

☞ What they want,—Fred. Douglas, in his opening speech at Syracuse, said the American Divines did not want *light*, but *fire*—intimating by this that the plan adopted with John Rogers ought to be carried out in their case. He might have added that a rope would not be misapplied to some necks.

☞ A Great Deal of Whittling to be Done.—In the advertisement of the Clerk of the House of Representatives of the next Congress, there is set down among the things needed, 250 dozen pen knives—about a dozen for each member—of which 150 dozen are required to be "four bladed, pearl handled, and of the highest finish and best quality, and 100 dozen of two blades, pearl handled, and of the highest finish and best quality." Each member must have a large family of boys.

Letters do not blush.—*Phil. Sun.*

Neither do certain editors, who ought to.—*Wash. Tel.*

That's a fact, else the *Gazette* man would be as red as Scarlet.

☞ "The White Man's Newspaper" is the title of a hebdomadal just commenced in New York. "The Black Man's Newspaper" will we suppose, be the name of an "opposition" in Boston.

☞ A beggar came into our sanctum the other day. Upon being informed that he was in a printing-office, he apologized for the intrusion, and assured us that had he known it, he never would have called! He was a sensible man.

☞ It is now generally understood that Gov. Johnston refuses to sign the law passed by the last Legislature repealing an old law, and allowing the use of the jails of the commonwealth for the detention of fugitive slaves. This is a great annoyance to the southern whig editors, but Prentice, of the Louisville *Journal*, lies out of the bad box by calling Johnston a "locofoco!"

☞ We are inclined to believe that California is decidedly the greatest part of this emphatically great country, and yet seems growing in wonders. Ghosts are already beginning to appear there, it seems. Some six months ago a murder was committed in Calaveras county by a person unknown. The skull of the murdered man was broken by a stone or club, and his brains were scattered upon the earth. Since then a ghost hovers nightly about the spot. He is dressed in a monkey jacket, without pants, and is said to throw stones of a very extraordinary size up hill with the velocity of a cannon ball. Lately six or eight incredulous miners went to the place at night, and gave chase to the spectre, which eluded them by disappearing in one place and suddenly appearing in another. Finally, an enormous stone fell at the feet of the party, and they retreated, perfectly satisfied. That beats the "rappers."

☞ It requires more courage to think differently from the multitude than it does to fight them. The first here, therefore, was not he who made the first conquest, but he who uttered the first doubt.

☞ Jewelry is becoming quite fashionable again. One of our cotemporaries says he met a lady on New Year's day, who had a farm on each wrist, a four story house around her neck, and at least six life memberships to the Bible Society attached to each ear.

Bold Swindle.—A person in the costume of a mandarin, figured conspicuously in the ceremony of opening the World's Fair, and was received generally as a Chinese Ambassador. He got acquainted with all the leading characters, and made quite a display in his assumed part. After the ceremony was over and he had decamped, it was discovered that he was only the ship's cook of the Chinese Junk, which is exhibiting at London.

Sunbury and Erie Railroad.

The Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company was held at Philadelphia on the 24d inst. as noticed in our paper last week and the following proceedings were had, by which it would appear that there is really a deep interest felt in the speedy construction of the above road.

An adjourned meeting of the stockholders of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company was held at the building of the Reading Railroad Company, No. 73 South Fourth street, in the city of Philadelphia, on Saturday, the 24th of May, of which the Hon. J. K. Kane was appointed Chairman, and S. T. Merrick, Esq. Secretary.

The minutes of the meeting held the 22d inst having been read and approved, the proceedings of a meeting held at St. Mary's, Elk County, on the subject of this road, were thereupon read, and the sentiments thereof concurred in.

The meeting was then eloquently addressed on the importance of the road to Philadelphia by Jos. Y. James, Esq., of Warren County; the Hon. Judge Woodward, of Luzerne county, and Alfred Kelly, Esq., of Ohio. On motion, it was

Resolved, That the stockholders do hereby accept "A further supplement to an act entitled 'an act to incorporate the Sunbury and Erie and Pittsburg and Susquehanna Railroad Company,'" passed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania February 12th, 1846, in relation to the time of commencing the road, and its location, &c.; and also

Resolved, That the stockholders do hereby accept "A further supplement to an act to incorporate the Sunbury and Erie and Pittsburgh and Susquehanna Railroad Company," passed by the the Legislature of Pennsylvania, March 14th, 1846, in relation to the election of a President and Managers of this Company; and do hereby approve of and confirm the call for the said election.

The chairman then announced that in consequence of the absence of Wm. B. Reed, Esq., Algernon S. Roberts, Esq., had been appointed Judge of election, in his place, to act with Robert Morris, Esq.

The Judges having been duly qualified, as required by the Charter, the polls were opened, and the election having been held, the Judges reported the following gentlemen as having been unanimously elected to serve till the next annual election:

President.—Daniel L. Miller, Jr., of Philadelphia.

Managers.—John J. Ridgway, of Philadelphia; Joseph B. Myres, do; John K. Kane, do; Francis H. Buck, do; Wm. D. Kelley, do; Samuel J. Reeves, do; William B. Read, do; Robert L. Fleming, of Clinton county, William A. Irving, of Warren county, James L. Gillis, of Elk county, James Miles, of Erie county, John Galbreath; do.

On motion, it was

Resolved. That the proceedings be printed.

John K. Kane, Chairman

S. V. Merrick, Secretary.

A meeting of the Board of Directors took place the same evening, at which resolutions were adopted appointing one Committee, consisting of Wm. B. Reed, Judge Kelley, and Judge K. Kane, to collect all papers Books &c., belonging to the Company, in Philadelphia, and to audit the accounts of the late Treasurer of the Company, and also a committee consisting of Judge Miles, and Hon. John Galbraith to collect all information to be obtained in relation to the Company at Erie—to obtain possession of all relevant papers &c., in the hands of any agent at Erie, and report at a subsequent meeting of the Board.

A Committee was also appointed, consisting of Mr. Miller, the President, Judge Gillis, and Mr. Flemming authorized to proceed immmediately to Farrandsville on the west Branch, and take possession of the line granted by the Legislature, by the supplement of February 1846, and put a portion of the same under contract, so as to commence the construction before the first of June.

The committee, accompanied by an Engineer, proceeded so as to be on the ground on Monday last, and the work is no doubt commenced before this.

The board adjourned to meet again on the 6th day of June, at which time it is expected efficient measures will be adopted for the further prosecution of the work.

A deep and lively interest was enlisted at the late meeting at Philadelphia. The great advantages of this project, both in regard to its Charter, its road-grade prospects, &c., are beginning to be understood by capitalists, and the business public, and little doubt remains of its speedy and successful prosecution.

Gen. Scott's Prospects.

The whig party at the north are in the best possible spirits on account of the supposed popularity of their favorite here, Gen. Scott; but really, to a keen observer of the signs of the times, it is evident, in this matter, they felicitate themselves without a cause. Outside of the "woolly head" sentiment of that party, Gen. Scott's popularity is as baseless as the "baseless fabric of a vision." It is evident that the next campaign cannot be fought as the last—with the policy of the whig party undefined, and undefinable, but the leader, whoever he be, must come out "flat-footed," as they say in the west, either for or against "Newerdism, and its kindred political monstrosities. Gen. Scott is the last man that can do this successfully, and retain the undivided support of the party. Whichever way he turns he is sure to fail—fail as signally as he bid when he laid down the sword and took up the pen to annihilate Gov. Marcy. The Fredericksburgh *News*, one of the most able and influential whig papers of Virginia, takes the same view of the matter:

"Gen Scott is currently bruited by Northern President makers as THE candidate for the whigs. In Pennsylvania he has been formally nominated, we believe. In New Jersey and New York he is confidently spoken of. And all over the country he is regarded by many as the well ascertained candidate. We should not think Scott 'can come it.' He is a military Chieftain and the people are tired of Military Chieftains. We have had enough of them for the next half century. But this is not the only objection to Gen. Scott. He has committed absurdities which have disgusted the people. His hasty plate of soup, connected with other incidents in his ridiculous Marcy correspondence prove him unfit for elevated civil station. He is without equal in his military achievements. His Mexican campaigns rank him as incomparably the ablest Captain of the age. But beyond this he is utterly without qualification."

In addition to this, we see that Col. Humphrey Marshall, whig member of the last Congress from the Louisville district, and candidate for election, says he will not support Gen. Scott for President until he shows how he stands on the fugitive slave law, and that unless he is right on that he is in favor of another candidate! These, with the fact that the entire party in Tennessee and other Southern States, have been compelled to renounce all political connection with the Scott leaders at the north, such as Seward, Johnston, Clayton & Co. is evidence sufficient that the anti-Scott sentiment is strong and deep among the entire compromise party. They say little but think much. The prospect of Gen Scott, therefore, even for the nomination is not so flattering as his "woolly head" admirers would wish the "dear people" to believe.

A Contrast.—During the Presidency of Mr. Van Buren he visited Albany; but a whig Common Council voted down a proposition to offer him the hospitalities of the city, and refused to recognize him any way. The conduct of the present Mayor of Albany and his colleagues in the Board is a contrast to this. The Chief Magistrates of Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Albany, are not of the same political faith as the President, yet they hastened to render him all due honor.—*Albany Atlas.*

Just so; and when Gen. Jackson visited Philadelphia, in 1833, the whig Council of that city, refused to receive him as a city guest, but to show a contrast, made a great parade over the Indian Chief, Black Hawk, who was a prisoner of the Government. Straws Show.

The City of Erie.—By an act of the last Session of the Legislature, Erie was erected into a city. The election of city officers, just held, resulted in the choice of T. G. Colt, Whig, Mayor, over both the regular locofoco and independent, or no party candidates. The entire Whig council tickets were also elected.—*Mercer Whig.*

There is news for you. The regular whig candidate for Mayor, in a whig city with two hundred majority, beat the "regular locofoco and independent, or no-party candidates" by 2 votes. Hurrah! that Mercer chap has knocked down the persimons!

☞ A gang of counterfeiters have for months infested the border counties of New York and Pennsylvania—their head quarters being at Lanesboro', Pa. Five of the gang have been arrested, and their spurious bills and plates taken. They are supposed to be a branch of the Michigan scoundrels, and to have confederates in other States.

☞ We take it for granted that the writing Editor of the *Gazette* has concluded to wear the *brand* we gave him last week for his false accusation in regard to the *Observer* towards our "mercantile citizens," as we see he is totally silent this week. He does not produce the proof or allude to it. Perhaps that is the easiest way to get out of a mean scrape. On the whole we think it is, and having a good deal of sympathy in our nature, will let him go, provided he behaves himself in future. If he does not we shall certainly insist that his party friends furnish him with the necessary "cap and bells" for a public performance.

☞ The three cent pieces have made their appearance at Brookville. The Jeffersonian says it is a beautiful little article, and no doubt will supersede the half-dime as a church contribution, and as an equivalent for "Mercer County Red-Eye."

☞ The residence of Gen. Cass, in Detroit, had a narrow escape from destruction by fire a few days ago. The fire caught from a stove pipe in the bath room, but was extinguished by the exertions of the citizens before it had done much damage.

☞ A serious accident occurred on the New York and Erie railroad, about twenty miles east of Dunkirk, on Friday morning. A heavy rain had washed away the foundation of a culvert, and the train was thrown off. Two men, one a passenger, of Steuben county, N. Y., the other a brakeman, were seriously, and it is feared fatally injured.

From the Isthmus.

We are indebted to Adams & Co.'s Express for files of the Panama *Star* and *Echo* to the 3d inst. The men convicted of murdering passengers on the Chagres River, lately made an attempt to escape, but were discovered, and in order to make them more secure, the windows of their cells have been walled up. A sailor, belonging to the United States ship Vincennes, was shot and severely wounded at Taboga, by the proprietor of a restaurant there. He was lurking about, under circumstances which led to the belief that he was a thief. The Governor of Panama has again published an edict against gambling-houses, also requiring all places of public resort to be closed at 11 o'clock at night.

His Excellency, Manuel Maria Diez, has issued a Proclamation to the vigilant Alcade of the district of Chagres, stating the interest that this Government takes in the completion of the Panama Railroad, and orders him and all other magistrates to apprehend and imprison all and every deserter that may be brought before them, and hold them at the disposition of the Chief Engineer, or agents of the Company.—*Echo.*

The Panama *Herald* says that "about a hundred miles from this, within the province, there exists a native child, which was born with two *distinct heads*. The child is a male and is now about ten years old. It has been seen by persons residing in this city, and their statement in relation to the most extraordinary malformation, is authentic. A well known medical gentleman and physiologist will proceed in the course of a day or two on a visit to the child for the purpose of making a scientific explanation, when we shall have the pleasure to publish his report."

From the Alta California, April 15.

Important State of Affairs—Threatened Rupture with France and Annexation to the United States.—From the recent accounts received from Honolulu it would seem that the French had sent in their ultimatum and given until the 20th ult. for the government to decide whether to accede or refuse. What was to be the next step in case of refusal by the authorities, does not appear; but the supposition is that a blockade of the port would be declared or perhaps something more immediately effective resorted to. If either the one or the other be attempted, that moment will be the signal for running up the flag of the United States with the Hawaiian.

This is no guess work. It comes to us in the most positive form. It has been determined upon by the King and his Ministry, that if the French attempt a blockade, or to take possession, the government will hoist the stars and stripes, and throw the kingdom upon the United States. We think our authority for saying this is perfectly reliable.—The course has been decided upon in consideration of the inability of the Islands to contend against the forces which France might send against them, and also from the fact the almost entire interests of the Island in the hands of foreigners are those of the Americans.

In Honolulu, at least four-fifths of the foreigners are Americans, while in the same place the number of French subjects is about a dozen. France cannot fire a shot into the towns of the Hawaiian kingdom without destroying the Citizens of the United States. The moment she does so, she will find her account open with Uncle Sam, and a strict reckoning will be demanded and will be had. There is no use in beating about the bush in this matter any longer. The French must avoid collision with the Hawaiian kingdom, or they will oblige us to assume a responsibility not flattering to him.

The French at Honolulu.—*Cause of the difficulty.*—We yesterday copied from the *Alta Californian* some account of a difficulty that had taken place between the government of the Sandwich Islands at Honolulu and the French, which bid fair to come to open rupture, in which case the Islands would be placed under the protection of the American flag.—The cause of this difficulty appears to be the enforcement of a treaty stipulation by the Hawaiian Government, by which it is expressly stipulated that on wines and spirituous liquors the duties shall be optional with the government, provided that it shall not amount to a prohibition. The government laid a duty of five dollars a gallon upon wine and liquors, ale and beer included. Upon a proper representation to and by the british government, these duties upon ale and beer were refunded, upon the ground that they were neither wines nor spirituous liquors. Thereupon the French claimed that their wines and brandies should be admitted under the clause establishing an ad valorem duty of five per cent., and also the refunding of the excess which had been collected. Both these demands have been strenuously refused compliance with.

The French had sent in their ultimatum, and given until the 20th of March, for the government to accede or refuse. Much excitement, in consequence, prevailed at the latest dates. The King's palace was closely guarded, governmental papers and funds removed to a place of safety, and other steps precautionary taken. This is an unfortunate condition of things, and if pushed further, or longer persisted in, must prove detrimental not only to the business and prosperity of the Islands, but especially to our commerce.

The Salt Lake.—Lieut. Gunnison, of the Topographical Engineers, who has been employed for a long time past in the survey of the Great Basin in which the Salt lake is situated, speaks of the lake as an object of the greatest curiosity. The water is about one-third salt, yielding that amount on boiling. Its density is considerable greater than that of the Dead Sea. One can hardly get his whole body in the surface. In a sitting position the head and shoulders will remain above water, such is the strength of the brine, and on coming to the shore the body is covered over with an incrustation of salt, in fine chrystals. The most surprising thing about it is the fact that during the summer season the Lake throws on shore abundance of salt, while in the winter season it throws up glauber salt in large quantities. The reason of this is left to the scientific to judge, and also what becomes of the enormous amount of fresh water poured into it by three or four large rivers—Jordan, Bear, and Weber—as there is no visible outlet.—*Buffalo Com. Adv.*

☞ So.—The following is copy of the sign upon an academy for teaching youth, in one of the Western States:—Freeman and Huggs, School Teachers. *Freeman teaches the Boys and Huggs the Girls.*"

Shot and by a Woman.—A woman by the name of Mason, widow of the late Dr. Mason, yesterday entered the law office of John M. Wilson, corner of Fifth and Walnut, with a double-barrelled pistol fired twice at Mr. W., neither shot taking affect.—A ball from one barrel of the pistol passed out of the window, and across the street, bounding in the door of a tailor shop opposite, and rolling along the floor. The cause of this strange conduct of the female is not known. We understood that she fainted immediately afterwards, and was taken away insensible.—*Cin. Com.*

☞ Hon. Richard Coke, formerly member of Congress from Accomac District, Virginia, is dead.

A Touch at Gen. Scott.—The *United Service Journal*, the recognized organ of military and navy, has the following severe thrust at Gen. Scott:

The choice of our people having recently fallen on generals for Presedents, is likely to exert a fearful influence on the destinies of the nation. Are we soon to sheer into the fatal vortex that swallowed up the great Roman Republic? What! are our people so easily bereft of their reason and sound judgment that instead of seeking out a citizen of experience to guide the helm of State—one whose great intellectual qualifications, vast civil abilities, profound love of country, deep erudition, unquestionable integrity, firmness of mind, one incapable of being swayed by flattery, they are willing now to take none but a general from the army?

The present General-in-Chief is new in the political arena, and on a political tour. The appropriations for quartermaster, s Department have been neglected; more, that two of the Light Artillery Batteries have been dismounted, and the horses sold, and other enactments made highly prejudicial to the service. Is not this humiliating? When the poor Mexican borders, and our own people are looking to us for protection, the army is rendered impotent, and the President left without the means of affording assistance.

MARRIED.

In Union, on the 22d inst., by M. Niles, Esq., Mr Peter Zielle and Miss Margaret Fosburgh, both of Titusville, Crawford co., Pa.

On the 14th inst., by D. Caldwell, Esq., Mr Manasseh Weigle, and Miss Sarah A. Royer, all of Millcreek.

DIED.

At his residence in this city, on the 29th inst., Alexander W. Brewster, Esq., in the 55th year of his age.

On the 20th inst., Walters, son of L. and S. A. Warren, aged 11 months.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

☞ NOTICE.—A special meeting of the Knickerbocker Club will be held this evening, for the transaction of important business. Saturday, May 31.

WOOL WANTED.

At Harborcreek Woolen Factory, South of the Buffalo Road.

THE proprietors, having made considerable improvement in their machinery and water-works, are now enabled to run their Factory all through the summer, and having a quantity of Cloths, Cassimeres, Flanneels, Summer Tweeds, Shawls, Blankets and Sheets, also Satinetts of different colors and qualities, to exchange for Wool, at 21 lbs. of wool per yard of cloth as good as the wool will make. We invite all our old customers, and as many new ones as can make it convenient to give us a call. We continue to full dye and dress domestic cloth, and manufacture Wool at our usual rates. Also, Carding done on shortnotice and in the best manner. Water Proof Cloth for over coats, of our own manufacture, kept on hand to exchange for Wool.

RHODES, CASE, & Co.

Harborcreek, May 31. 3

Eagle Corn Plows.

WE have made arrangements for making and vending the much approved Double Mouldboard Corn Plow patented by Rich, of Troy, N. Y. They are warranted to please. Also, single mould board, with Cast or Wooden beams, as may be desired, for sale at the Erie Steam Foundry.

Erie, May 31. [3] SENNETT & Co

PORTABLE FURNACES.—We have just received New Patterns for several sizes of these fire saving articles for summer use, and are prepared to furnish customers with a superior article. A few on hand ready for use. SENNETT & CO

May 31. 3

NAILS.—A large lot of first quality Nails, which will be sold at manufacturer's prices for Cash, at the Erie Steam Foundry. SENNETT & CO

May 31. 2

DUFF'S MERCANTILE COLLEGE,

ESTABLISHED IN 1840.

North-East Corner of Market and Third Streets, Pittsburgh.

P. DUFF, Author of the "North American Accountant" and "Western Steamboat Accountant," Professor of Book-keeping and the Commercial Sciences.

N. B. Balch, Esq. of the Pittsburgh Bar, Professor of Mercantile Law.

John D. Williams, the most accomplished penman west of the mountains, Professor of Ornamental and Mercantile Penmanship.

Upwards of eighteen years experience in the management of foreign and domestic shipping business, gives the proprietor of this establishment an experience in training others for the counting house possessed by but few teachers of Book-keeping in this city, and all who aspire to the highest rank as accountants are respected to call and examine his credentials from upwards of one hundred Bankers, Merchants, and Accountants in this city, and to the emphatic recommendations of the American Insurance, the Chamber of Commerce, and many of the leading merchants, Bankers and Bank Officers of the City of New York, inspected to his North American Accountant, and Western Steamboat Accountant. For terms &c., apply to P. Duff. 1y31

Kiln Dried Lumber.

CARTER & BROTHER have on hand at their Planing Mill and Lumber yard, on Lish St., east of the Furnace, a quantity of Kiln dried Pine and White Wood Lumber. Planed and Matched Flooring, warranted superior to any worked by hand. Builders will save money by buying their Stock at this establishment, where it can be furnished planed in a superior manner, and sawed into any shape desired. Cash paid for Flooring and Clear Pine.

Erie, May 31, 1851. 3

New Goods at the Empire.

RECEIVED this morning, a splendid assortment of Dress Silks, Barazes, Tiss