THE VOLUNTEER.

John B. Bratton, Editor and Proprietor.

CARLISLE, THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1849.

AGENCY.

V. B. PALMER, Esq. is our authorized Agent for procuring advertisements, receiving subscriptions and making collections for the *American Volunteer*, at his office, N. W corner of Third and Chesnut streets, Philadelphia.

CORRECTION.—In our last we, or our compositor for us, we don't know which, committed a great blunder in placing the name of "Sartain's Union Magazine," as the heading to the notice we took of the dishonesty of a certain Mr. POST, publisher of a Magazine in Philadelphia, called the "*Metropolitan*." We have no complaints to make against "Sartain's Union Magazine." We receive it regularly, and take pleasure in repeating what we have so frequently said before, that we consider it one of the best Magazines published. Our article, therefore, of last week, headed "Sartain's Union Magazine," should have appeared under the caption of "*The Metropolitan*," a work which we understand has, or is about to give up the ghost, and which is or was published by a *gentleman*(?) named POST, who is about as celebrated for cheating editors as is the "Goldometer" scamp of New York, "Signor Jose D'Alvear." We are sorry we made so foolish an error, and make this statement in justice to our friend Sartain. Nearly our whole edition had been worked off before we noticed the error.

SOUTHERN LITERARY MESSENGER.—We have received the April number of this most excellent work. The "Messenger" is an old and well established periodical, deserving the support of all lovers of sound solid reading. It is published at Richmond, Va., by J. R. Thompson, Esq., at $5 per annum, in advance.

NEWVILLE FEMALE SEMINARY.—By reference to another column it will be seen that the next term of this popular Seminary will commence on the first of next month. The Misses BELL and ROBERTSON are ladies well qualified as teachers. The Seminary is situated in a pleasant and healthy part of our country, and the terms are reasonable.

☞ At a late meeting of the congregation of the Second Presbyterian Church of this Borough, the Rev. M. E. JOHNSTON, of Wellsville, Ohio, was, by a unanimous vote, tendered the pastorship of said church. Mr. J., we understand, has accepted the call, and will shortly take charge of the congregation. He is spoken of as a gentleman of fine abilities.

A FEDERAL SLANDER NAILED.

For the last few weeks the Federal papers have been making a great noise concerning what they were pleased to term the "robbery of the Treasury by Gen. CASS." They charged upon Gen. Cass that he had taken his seat in the late Senate on the evening of the day of adjournment, for the purpose of entitling himself to the pay and mileage of the session, which he had demanded and received. This base slander was originated by that noted falsifier, the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia "North American"—a fellow who cannot speak the truth if he even desired to do so. We believed it to be a falsehood when we first noticed the charge—a malicious sweltering lie, manufactured from the whole cloth, by one who is paid so much a line for concocting slanders against prominent Democratic Statesmen. This slander has been published and re-published in every federal paper of this State, from the great North American down to the smallest country sheet. We did not feel it necessary to refer to the matter before, for we fully believed that the slander would be nailed to the counter by the most positive testimony. This has been done. The Washington Union publishes the following certificate, which gives a flat contradiction to the publication circulated against Gen. Cass:

Office of the Secretary of the Senate of the U. States.
APRIL 5, 1849.

I certify that the Hon. Lewis Cass, Senator of the United States from Michigan, took his seat in the Senate on the 3d of March last, but declined to receive either pay or mileage for the session ending on that day.
ASHBURY DICKINS,
Secretary of the Senate.

The *Herald*, of this place, gave publicity to this vile falsehood. We shall see whether our neighbor is now willing to do justice to an eminent statesman by publishing the certificate of Mr. Dickins, the Secretary of the Senate. We shall see.

"NO ENEMIES TO PUNISH."—Post-masters are having their heads chopped off right smartly by the new Post Master General. Over one hundred have already been removed in Pennsylvania alone. The following new appointments have been made in this county:

J. M. Martin, Hoguestown; W. S. Powell, New Cumberland; Wm. Y. Boyd, Newburg.

COL. FREMONT AND HIS PARTY.—In the St. Louis Republican, of the 30th of March, we have the full details of the later advices from the party of Colonel Fremont, a brief telegraphic abstract of which has been published. The first report received, to the effect that the party had been reduced to such extremities as to be forced to feed on the dead bodies of a portion of their companions, is in a measure confirmed, or rather explained. Mr. King, one of a party of three who pushed forward to obtain aid for the remainder, perished, and the others were forced to consume a portion of his remains to sustain their own lives.

CHOLERA IN NEW ORLEANS.—Private letters say that the cholera is very bad in New Orleans again. The week previous to the 25th ult., the interments in the city were 421, of which 288 were of cholera. It is now said to be attacking all classes.

The vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. WM. N. IRVINE, as President Judge of the Nineteenth Judical District, composed of York and Adams counties, has been filled by the appointment of DANIEL DUKKER, Esq.

ESCAPE OF SLAVES.—Seven or eight slaves, belonging to citizens of Wheeling, escaped on Sunday last into Ohio. The circumstance caused much excitement, and several ferrymen were arrested, charged with aiding the slaves to escape.

MAJOR GARNETT, an accomplished officer in the Mexican war, and recently a member of the military family of General Taylor, left Baltimore for San Francisco, via Chagres and Panama. We have heard it stated, says the *Patriot*, that he is the bearer of important despatches from the Government to Gen. Persifer F. Smith, Governor of California.

THE Washington correspondent of the N. Y. *Evening Post*, asserts that it cannot be doubted that the article in the *National Intelligencer*, denunciatory of the free soilers, "came from the White House."

THE DANVILLE BANK, a new paper machine, has been chartered by the Pennsylvania Legislature. The final vote in its favor was carried through the House on Thursday by the votes of the three representatives from democratic York added to the whig vote.

CHAMBERS MCKIBBEN, Esq., for the last four years the Postmaster at Pittsburg, we learn has leased the fine Hotel in Fourth street, in Philadelphia city, which he designs opening about the middle of this month.

CONNECTICUT ELECTION.

THREE OUT OF FOUR OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS REDEEMED!

Connecticut deals the first staggering blow to Taylor Federalism!

The election for Governor, Members of Congress, State Senators and Representatives, was held in Connecticut on the 2d of April, and the result has been truly gratifying to the Democrats. There were three candidates for Governor—Democratic, Whig, and Free Soil—and the Democratic candidate, Col. SEYMOUR, has gained largely in nearly every town. Still there is no election by the people. But the Congressional elections have resulted especially well. In the last Congress there were four Whigs, no Democrat—now the delegation stands as follows:

1st District.	L. P. Waldo,	(Democrat.)
2d "	Walter Booth,	(Dem.)
3d "	C. F. Cleveland,	(Dem.)
4th "	Thomas H. Butler,	(Whig.)

In the Senate, the parties will be nicely balanced—there will not be two majority either way. But the House of Representatives is decidedly Democratic, leaving a Democratic majority on joint ballot—which secures the Democratic ticket for Governor and other State officers.

The Hartford *Times* of the 4th speaks with well merited encomium of the steadfast Democracy of the State. That paper says:

"Such an astounding victory, just after the success so lately gained by Whiggery at the Presidential election, is indeed unexampled in political history.—It shows that the poor, rotten fabric of Taylor Federalism is already collapsing and falling to pieces from its own inherent feebleness and rottenness. It demonstrates, what we have often asserted, that identity, so fatal to Whiggery of Taylorism with Tylerism. Well did the *Tribune* wofully exclaim, and well may the poor old *Courant*, in this hour of doom for Whiggery, dismally re-echo, that "*Taylorism has not yet paid its expenses.*" The people have indeed administered a most signal and cutting rebuke to that unprincipled and non-committal combination of the odds and ends of factions, which in an evil day, succeeded in wresting the reins of the national government from the guidance of a glorious and patriotic administration."

Next Session—Sectional Parties.

The *Boston Republican* has made the following analysis of the strength of the Administration and opposition parties in the next Senate, showing how frail a party support General Taylor will have in that body in States west of the Alleghenies:

EASTERN STATES.	Adm.	Opp.	WESTERN STATES.	Adm.	Opp.
Maine,		2	Ohio,	1	1
N. Hampshire,		2	Indiana,		2
Vermont,	2		Michigan,		2
Massachusetts,	2		Wisconsin,		2
Rhode Island,	2		Illinois,		2
Connecticut,	2		Iowa,		2
New York,	1	1	Missouri,		2
New Jersey,	1		Kentucky,	2	
Delaware,	2		Arkansas,		2
Pennsylvania,	1	1	Tennessee,	1	1
Maryland,	2		Mississippi,		2
Virginia,		2	Alabama,		2
N. Carolina,		2	Louisana,		2
S. Carolina,		2	Texas,		2
Georgia	2				
Florida,	1	1		4	24
	18	12			

Thus it appears from the whole western country already including, we think, half our population, Gen. Taylor will have but four Senators to rely upon, and these four are Henry Clay, Thomas Corwin, Joseph R. Underwood, and John Bell. It remains to be seen how much support he gets from either of the three last named.

MILITARY CONVENTION AT HARRISBURG.

A meeting of the soldiers of the last war with Great Britain, of the Indian wars since 1812, and of the late war with Mexico, was held at Harrisburg last week. A permanent organization was effected, by the formation of an Association to be called "The Pennsylvania Legion." The officers consist of a Commandant, Commanders, Assistant Commanders, an Adjutant, a Secretary, and a Quarter Master or Treasurer. The Convention elected the following officers:

General Patterson, "Commandant of the Pennsylvania Legion."

General Cadwalader, Lt. Col. Black, Capt. Small, Capt. Montgomery, Col. Wynkoop, General P. F. Smith, and Lieut. D. J. Unger, "Commanders."

Sergeant Abl, Lieut. Cochran, Lieut. McWilliams, Capt. Bennet, Capt. Williams, Lieut. Steever, and Capt Herron, "Assistant Commanders."

Lieut. Robert Koltz, "Adjutant," and Private Henry Wood, "Quartermaster."

On motion, the Convention adjourned, to meet on the 14th of September next, the anniversary of the surrender of the city of Mexico, at such place as may be designated by the Commandant.

Boundary of Minesota.

The following is the boundary from the law organizing this new Territory. It embraces all the country drained by the Upper Mississippi—we believe the area is about 44,000 square miles:

"The boundary of the *new* Territory of Minesota begins at the Mississippi River where the line of 43 deg. 30 min. crosses the same, running due west to 95½ deg. west longitude by Nicollet's map; thence in a direct line to the point where the 100th deg. of longitude crosses the 49th parallel of lattitude; thence along the boundary of the British posessions to Lake Superior; thence along said line to the northwest corner of the State of Wisconsin; thence along the boundary of said state to the Mississippi, and down said river to the beginning.

$23,500 was appropriated to defray the expenses of the Territorial government.

A SQUINT AT THE TARIFF OF '42.—The National Intelligencer, the principal organ of the administration, squints curiously towards a return of the tariff of '42, or rather a modification or half way measure between both. It says:

"'The American System,' advocated by the Whig party, is unquestionably the true policy of the country, and it should be the permanant law of the land, with some modifications. The tariff of 1842 was not a perfect one; that of 1846 is believed to be the most imperfect one we ever had. A tariff of duties between the two would operate beneficially, provided the duties be specific, and by consequence, prevent fraudulent invoices, or, in other words, prevent the foreign shippers from establishing our duties instead of ourselves.—Whilst duties continue ad valorem, the foreign shipper do not care much whether we have a high or low tariff."

MR. COLLIER, the newly appointed Collector at San Francisco, has started for the west, after having completed his bonds for $100,000, and closed his arrangements with the Treasury Department. His party, consisting of about twenty persons, connected with the revenue service, will be escorted by a small detachment of dragoons—about fifty in number—to the Pacific. Mr. Collier will, in addition to his duties as Collector, act as Sub-Treasurer.

NORTH BRANCH CANAL.—A section was introduced into the appropriation bill in the House on Friday, setting apart any surplus that may be in the treasury, after paying the interest on the public debt, to the completion of the North Branch canal.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

"Coming events cast their Shadows before!"

As Federal Whiggery, like its parent, FEDERAL TORYISM, of former days, is forever shifting its position, in order that it may conceal a deformity, or skulk a danger, we deem it advisable, at times, to recall the attention of the public mind to what has passed, and is passing, *that it may be noted down for future reference.*

With this view we call attention to the remarks which follow, taken from the last number of that able and most excellent Democratic journal, the *Hagerstown (Md.) Mail.* That paper says—We have seen the veritable descendants of the old Federalists, who advocated a life tenure in the Presidency and the Senate, discarding the teachings of their fathers, and the practices of their early youth, and raising a hue and cry against the exercise of that wise, conservative, and constitutional power, the Presidential veto. We have seen the ancient advocates of the "*alien and sedition laws*," courting the favor of the masses, Native and Naturalized. We have seen the bitter opponents of the purchase of Louisanna, bowing down before the giant influence of the young States, which have grown up, with unprecedented rapidity and vigor, upon the borders of the Ohio and Mississippi, since that glorious outlet for the wealth of their Heaven-favored valley was acquired by the wisdom and foresight of a Republican President.—We have seen the men who gave "*aid and comfort*" to the British in the war of 1812,—who proclaimed to the world that they "*would rather see the walls of the Capitol battered down, than to vote supplies to carry on an unjust war*," who called upon the people through the press, from the hustings, *and even from the pulpit*, to refuse to enlist under the "*Stars and Stripes*,"—who implored the Capitalist not to lend his money to the Government of his country, wherewith to buy food to sustain, and rifles to arm the gallant defenders of our firesides and our honor,—we have seen these men crawl away to escape the indignant gaze of a patriotic nation; and, after their sin had partially faded from the recollection of the people, we have seen them again return to the "*hunt after place and power*," uttering loud praises of Mr. MADISON, whose capacity they had ridiculed, and whose honesty they had unscrupulously assailed.—We have seen these men madly struggle against the annexation of Texas; and, when condemned by the voice of the nation, at the election of 1844, creep out of the controversy, and prepare to change ground.—We have seen them denounce the Mexican war as "*God abhorred!*"—a war of rapine, murder, sacrilige—and then, oh! infamy unfathonable! we have seen these same demagogues cast aside CLAY, and the policy of the Whig party, and actually NOMINATE the hero of that "*God abhorred*" war, who had promulgated no political opinions whatever! We have heard them pledge their "*People's Candidate*" to a strict nutrality between parties, and promised that he would "*prescribe proscription*," as he had "*no friends to reward, and no enemies to punish*," and yet, at this moment, the hungry pack who have been, (to use the strong language of one of their organs) "*starving for twenty years*," are in full pursuit, with open mouths, of the unlucky "*Zack*," who never ran from the Mexicans, but whose courage is no match for the tiger ferocity of the Whig office-seekers! After such a history of Whiggery, commencing with its federal parentage, we suppose our readers will concur with us in opinion as to the necessity of *making records*. Ten years hence, Daniel Webster and Thomas Corwin will swear that they were both in favor of the war with Mexico, and only differed with Mr. Polk perhaps, in some few unimportant details! Would WEBSTER dare speak of MADISON now, as he did thirty eight years ago? Will Webster dare to speak of Polk, and his administration ten years hence, as he does now? Past experience warrants us in saying, "*No!*" What we say of Webster is fully applicable to the Whig polititions generally. Now, be it remembered that these men opposed the annexation of Texas, and the acquisition of California and New Mexico. They gave a great many wise reasons for their opposition, sufficiently so to gull their party. But, where are now those reasons? Vanished into thin air? No—no—the *true reason* yet silently gnaws at their hearts, though never expressed—they knew that Texas would be *Democratic*, and that California and New Mexico would likely follow her example. The hardy, enterprising and energetic character of the population of those new countries, the nature of the products, the agricultural and commercial interests of the young States, all precluded the idea that they could ever be bound to the car of *proscriptive, restristive*, and aristocratic whiggery. They feared that growing power of Democracy in the Senate, which has so often saved the country, and which is now the only barrier between federalism and the people.

One of the signs of the times, (and these are wonderful times, truly,) is the recent manifestation of feeling, exhibited by the English Canadians in favor of annexation to the United States. It is well known to our readers that the French population in Canada have long desired such a result. But the sturdy *John Bull, junior*, has hitherto clung to the throne of England, although he was most unmercifully cuffed for his pains. But of late, *Bull's* opinions and sentiments have, its seems, undergone a change; and *John Bull*, senior, must look out for trouble. Now, suppose that the elder *Bull* should kick up his heels at this unfilial treason and rebellion of his offspring, what then? Will Mr. Webster and the American-whig-British press side with the youngster, and help him, or at least encourage him, to set up for himself, now that he is of full and lawful age? We doubt it—for their sympathies are English, their political code is English, and they have "*aided and comforted*" England from the war of 1812 down to the Oregon treaty. But, on the other hand suppose, (which is not wholly improbable) that England estimates the cost as greater than the profit of her Canadian Colonies, and prefers rather to part with than to fight for them, what then? How then will Federalism act? Why, as all past experience shows that nine out of every ten Englishmen, who come here, and are naturalized, join the Whig ranks from pride of reminiscence, and sympathetic aristocracy, our federal enemies of Texas, California and New Mexico, will forget their abhorence of territorial acquisition, and go zealously for fraternizing with young Mr. Bull, because he is decended of a genteel lineage, and will assuredly assimilate with whig respectability, and maintain whig principles. We shall then hear stirring appeals to our sympathy for those who are engaged in "*extending the area of freedom*," and the glories of the Anglo Saxon race will be echowed by every bitter federal stump-speaker who has read the compendium of English history. Not a word of all these fine things was heard (from whigs) be it rememembered, when our Texas Anglo-American brethren were struggling for their present security within our happy confederacy of States. Let the people reflect. Let them make a record of the past, as a guide to the future.

MORALS IN TEXAS.—A Galveston paper, deprecating the number of divorces granted at the recent session of the Legislature of Texas, says, in that State the marriage contract is not as binding as a *horse trade*.

FEMININE VALOR.—The editor of a weekly paper in New York, one of those low things that circulate nowhere but in that city, was publicly cowhided in that city, on Wednesday, by a woman, for taking liberties with her name.

OPENING OF THE COURT.

The April term of the Court of Quarter Sessions of this county commenced on Monday last. Although the criminal business for this session is small, the court-room was thronged with spectators, many of whom had doubtless been attracted to town to witness the new organization of the court. At the appointed hour Judge WATTS took his place on the Bench, and the clerk read the Governor's commission duly investing him with the authority, &c., of President Judge of the district of Cumberland, Perry and Juniata counties. Some preliminary business having then been transacted, the names of the Grand Jurors were called, and each took his place in the box and was sworn. Judge Watts then delivered the following address to the Jury and Bar. It embodies a clear and strong definition of the duties of a Juror, with sound and wholesome views of the administration of justice. The address was listened to with fixed attention by all:

CHARGE TO THE JURY.

Gentlemen of the Grand Jury—The oath which you have just taken is so comprehensive in its terms as to indicate clearly the whole duty of a Grand Juror. "You do swear that you will diligently enquire, and true presentment make, of all such matters and things as shall be given you in charge, as those things which you shall know to be presentable here—the Commonwealth counsel, your fellows, and your own you will keep secret—you will present no one through hatred, envy, or malice, nor will you leave any one unpresented through fear, favor, affection, gain or reward, or any hope thereof, but that you will present all things truly, as they shall come to your knowledge, to the best of your understanding."

The first clause of this oath embraces two subjects of presentment—first, that "which shall be given in your charge;" and second, that "which you shall know to be presentable here." The first includes all such cases as shall be brought to your notice by a direction from the Court, or by the ordinary mode of bills of indictment, given to you by the Commonwealth's counsel.

There are various acts of Assembly which recognize the Grand Jury as proper supervisors of certain public interests. Hence the Court may have occasion often to direct you to enquire into the condition of your public buildings—their fitness for the purposes for which they were intended—how official duties with regard to them are discharged—the propriety of appropriating money to the erection of bridges and the like; and whenever such direction is given, it is a part of your duty to make the inquiry and true presentment; upon such presentment, may result further action of the Court, or the publicity given to the subject of complaint may of itself sufficiently remove the evil.

Bills of Indictment must always emanate from the Commonwealth's counsel. Upon him alone rests the duty of furnishing you with the names of such witnesses as will sustain the charge as formally laid in the bill. You have no power to require or compel the attendance of, or examine any witness to testify in any subject, other than those which shall be named by the Commonwealth's counsel, and whose names shall be affixed to the Bill of Indictment; and any and every Bill sent to you by him, it is your duty to enquire into through the medium of the witnesses which he shall have thus designated.

"Those things which you shall know to be presentable here," embraces an important part of the duty of a Grand Juror, and if rightly understood and conscientiously performed, the very best consequences would result from it. To prevent public wrongs is the prominent feature—the first principle—the whole object of the Criminal Law. The punishment which follows conviction is not vengeance, but a legal act of just necessity to prevent a recurrence of the offence. What better preventive justice could there be than an universal knowledge of the fact, that every member of the community, when summoned as a Grand Juror, was solemnly sworn to make a true presentment of all offences which had come to his knowledge, and that he would conscientiously discharge that duty? How many felonies and misdemeanors pass unpunished because they have not come to the knowledge of an Officer of the Law—but how few which have not come to the knowledge of some one Grand Juror? We have reason to believe that Grand Jurors have not been sufficiently mindful of this part of their duty.

The Law deems it essential to the administration of Justice, that what transpires during your deliberations should be kept secret, and you are sworn to the observance of that Law. "The Commonwealth's counsel, your own, and your fellows, you shall keep secret." That the motives, language, or actions of a Juror inquiring after truth in the administration of Justice should be made common property, and the subject of subsequent comment or public discussion, would be productive of the most evil consequences. The Commonwealth's Attorney is the confidential officer and counsel of the Grand Jury, whom they have at all times a right to consult upon legal questions pertaining to the performance of their duties, and whose counsel should be held as sacred as his duty is confidential. Let your deliberations be confined to the walls of your own chamber, and let their result only be told at the bar of this Court. Frown upon the man who, either ignorantly or impudently, asks you to divulge that which you are so solemnly bound to keep secret.

With regard to Bills of Indictment laid before you, your duty is simple and easy. It is to enquire by the witnesses, whose names are affixed to the bill, not whether the individual charged is guilty or not guilty, but whether you have such ex parte evidence of guilt before you as will justify his being put upon his trial; and whenever you are satisfied of this, by the testimony of one, or two, or more witnesses, the inquiry should stop, and the bill be endorsed by your foreman, "A true Bill." And if upon the examination of all the witnesses to the bill, you are not satisfied that the evidence is sufficient to subject the defendant to a trial, the Bill should be endorsed "Not a true Bill." This, however, should never be done without the examination of all the witnesses marked to the Bill.

In all cases of misdemonanor where the Bill is found "not a true bill," you have a right to say whether the prosecutor or the county shall pay the costs of prosecution. When parties resort to the law, and choose the Criminal Court as the arena in which to fight the battle of their evil passions, the Grand Jury is a very convenient threshold upon which to stop the proceeding, at the expense of the parties themselves; the law has little regard for the feelings or character of such men, and none at all, except when public justice requires to be vindicated.

When the law has been violated by the commission of an offence known to a Juror, it is his duty, as we have already said, to make it known to his fellow Jurors, and they, upon the information and through the medium of a presentment, which requires no other form than a simple statement of the facts, make it known to the Court, who, through the proper officers, will present it again in due form with the names of witnesses, for the action of the Grand Jury.

GENTLEMEN OF THE BAR:—In entering into this new relation towards the Bar, we profess to have the highest hopes that our efforts to hold the scales and administer the decrees of public justice will be successful; not because of any misplaced confidence in our own ability accurately to discern and firmly to execute the principles of the law, nor because we have any claims to great superiority in being able to dispatch the business of the community in a manner that will be satisfactory to them and agreeable to you, but because we know that in all the practical operations of a Court and its successful accomplishment of useful purposes, more depends upon the Bar than upon the Court; in your hands is the power which we may direct, but cannot control. The confidence we feel is based upon our knowledge of your ability to shed the light of legal learning upon our path of duty—upon our experience of the purity of purpose and harmony of action by which you have always heretofore been governed, as well in your business intercourse with each other, as your official communication with the Court. All our efforts shall be directed by an eye single to the attainment of impartial justice—with your aid we cannot fail.

DEATH OF MR. BIDLACK.—The papers from Havana, received in New York by the Crescent City, confirm the report of the death of the Hon. B. A. Bidlack, the American Charge de Affaires at Bogota. The date of the occurance is not mentioned. The item is taken from *La Prensa*, published at Bogota. This confirms accounts previously received of Mr. B's. death, which, however, have been supposed to be incorrect.

GOVERNOR OF MINESOTA.—The Hon. Alexander Ramsey has accepted the appointment of Governor of the new territory of Minesota, and will leave for the West about the 1st of May.

Election of Judges by the People.

The following is the amendment of the Constitution providing for the election of Judges by the people. This is an important change which the next Legislature will have to act upon again, and if passed, at the succeedig State election, has to receive the sanction of the people by a vote upon it. The matter will be fully discussed before being adopted, but the sentiment of the public already seems to be largely in favor of the amendment. We have no doubt that the people can choose as good judicial officers as they can good Governors, who are now entrusted with their appointment. Besides the greater the responsibility of the elective franchise, the more intelligently it will be exercised by the people.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the said Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the Constitution of this Commonwealth be amended in the Second Section of the Fifth Article, so that it shall read as follows: The Judges of the Supreme Court, of the several Courts of Common Pleas, and of such other courts of record, as are or shall be established by law, shall be elected by the qualified electors of the Commonwealth, in the manner following to wit: The Judges of the Supreme Court by the qualified electors of the Commonwealth at large, the President Judges of the several Courts of Common Pleas and of such other courts of record as are, or shall be, established by law, and all other judges required to be learned in the law, by the qualified electors of the respective districts over which they are to preside or act as judges, and the Associate Judges of the Courts of Common Pleas by the qualified electors of the counties respectively.

The Judges of the Supreme Court shall hold their offices for the term of fifteen years, if they shall so long behave themselves well, (subject to the slotment hereinafter provided for, subsequent to the first election.) The President Judges of the several Courts of Common Pleas and of such other courts of record as are or shall be established by law, and all other judges required to be learned in the law, shall hold their offices for the term of ten years, if they shall so long behave themselves well. The Associate Judges of the Courts of Common Pleas shall hold their offices for the term of five years, if they shall so long behave themselves well, all of whom shall be commissioned by the Governor; but for any reasonable cause which shall not be sufficient grounds of impeachment, the Governor shall remove any of them on the address of two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature.

The first election shall take place at the general election of this Commonwealth, next after the adoption of this amendment, and the commissions of all the Judges who may be then in office shall expire on the first Monday of December following, when the terms of the new Judges shall commence. The persons who shall then be elected Judges of the Supreme Court shall hold their offices as follows: one of them for three years; one for six years, one for nine years, one for twelve years and one for fifteen years, the term of each to be decided by lot by the said Judges as soon after the election as convenient, and the result certified by them to the Governor that the commissions may be issued in accordance thereto. The Judge whose commission will first expire shall be Chief Justice during his term, and thereafter each Judge whose commission shall first expire shall in turn be the Chief Justice, and if two or more commissions shall expire on the same day the Judges holding them shall decide by lot which shall be the Chief Justice. Any vacancies happening by death, resignation or otherwise, in any of the said courts, shall be filled by appointment by the Governor, to continue till the first Monday of December succeeding the next general election. The Judges of the Supreme Court and the Presidents of the several courts of Common Pleas shall at stated times receive for their services an adequate compensation, to be fixed by law, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office, but they shall receive no fees or perquisites of office, nor hold any other office of profit under this Commonwealth. The Judges of the Supreme Court during their continuance in office shall reside within this Commonwealth, and the other Judges during their continuance in office shall reside within the district or county for which they were respectively elected.

LATEST AND "TALLEST" FROM "EL DORADO."—*Gold by the half peck!* The Transcript, at Boston, publishes a very *yellow* letter dated Jan. 26th, received by a gentleman of that city from his brother, formerly American Consul at the Sandwich Islands, but now of San Francisco, and attached to one of the very first commercial houses of that place. We have *assayed* most of the extraordinary statements of this letter,—but how much of the following is *dross*, and how much *pure gold*, the intelligent reader is as competent to judge as we:

"The fact is the dust comes down from the mines *by the peck, pure gold!* A bill to day for our table, it ran thuswise: butter, $1; sausages, $1 per pound; pork, 25 cents; eggs, $2 a dozen; milk, $1 per bottle; a box of fine salt, $1; sperm candles, $2 a pound; raisins, $1 a pound; common lamp oil, $2 a gallon; bottle of mustard, (half a pound) $2, &c. &c. Every vessel that arrives from the coast brings many passengers, and reports of everybody else winding up their affairs to join in the rush. For the little unfinished one story building in which we stay—dining and sleeping in the same room—we pay $100 per month. Our cook receives $100 per month. My washerwoman has condescended to do my washing for $6 per dozen. The carpenters employed on our warehouse threaten to leave unless we increase their wages above $8 per day. I paid a cartman this evening $72 for two days' work. Yesterday morning an Indian showed me a specimen of ore intermixed with a stone, weighing five pounds. He sold it for five hundred dollars! To day, some Oregon farmers, who came down to obtain gold, and remained a month at the mines, offered to sell me 150 pounds of gold which they had collected. Mr. Branon, who has the establishment for storing and selling goods at the mines, told me to day that seven men took from the earth, within one hundred yards of his upper store, thirty three thousand dollars' worth of gold in four days; and the gold was weighed by a man in his employment. At the dry diggings, one hundred dollars per day is paid to cooks. The general impression is, that from ten to twenty millions will be taken from the mines the coming summer. It would not surprise me were it to be ten times that amount. Land throughout California has gone up to enormous prices. The present week Mr. Cross purchased of Capt. Paty a building lot, say 100 feet square, on which there was an unfinished building, and paid $15,000 for it. Two years since Captain Paty gave a barrel of rum for it, or rather took it for a debt due for a barrel of rum. There is no lot of a 150 feet square in San Francisco that can be bought for less than three or ten thousand dollars. Towns are being laid out in many points on the Bay, and lots are selling at from fifty to two hundred dollars. The climate, to persons who have resided in the tropics, is not agreeable, because it occasionally rains, and is at times quite cold; but it is infinitely superior to New England; it has had an astonishing effect upon me, and from a shallow looking skeleton (but not ill) I am getting fat, am running out of my clothes fast. I suppose that in a week or more I shall have to throw them all aside. One thing remarkable in this climate is, that every body, at all times, has a great appetite.

Lumber is very scarce, and goes off immediately at $150 per thousand, if seasoned; and $100 if green. Fifty ship loads could be sold immediately. I think the greatest part of the lumber used here will be sent from Boston, for labor is too high, and it is too small a business to attend to saw mills in this country.

THE CHOLERA ON THE RIO GRANDE.—The Picayune has an extract from a letter dated Brazos, March 24, which is as follows:

I have been to Brownsville, where I found most of the stores closed in consequence of the people having left, fearing the cholera. Matamoras is most awfully afflicted with this malady. I was there three times, but could not see a business man; forty-five deaths occurred the day I was there, and sixty-one burials took place there yesterday, out of a population of only 7000. Here the deaths are two or three every day, and we have lost some of our best men. F—— and myself were both taken in Brownsville, but immediately procurred attendance, and are now doing well. I have just learned of the death of the clerk, mate and bar-keeper of the steamboat Tom McKinney.

Camargo contains 3000 people, and thirty five have been buried there in one day; there are only five Americans left in the whole place.

Most of our little population here have left or died. No business doing, and it is useless to attempt to do any thing until after the plague has left.

THE STATE LEGISLATURE,

Adjourned *sine die* on Tuesday night. Several important bills passed on the last day of the session.—From the House proceedings we take the following:

The Senate amendments to the bill relative to the organization of Courts of Justice, were taken up.

The question being on concurring in the amendment repealing the law under which the present Auditor and Surveyor Generals hold office.

Mr. Little moved to amend the amendment by striking it out, and providing that at the next annual election, the people shall elect an Auditor General and Surveyor General, who shall serve three years—which was agreed to without a division.

Mr. Swartzwelder offered an amendment to the bill, providing that after the first of January, 1850, the Board of Canal Commissioners shall consist of the Auditor General, the State Treasurer, and a Civil Engineer, who shall be elected on the second Tuesday of October next, and to be President of the Board, at a salary of $2,500 per annum.

After a discussion in which Messrs. Felon, Little, Roberts, Pearce, and R. M. Smith participated, the amendment was negatived.

The remaining amendments were disposed of.

The House non-concurred in the amendments made by the Senate, to the bill to revise the Militia System, and provide for the training of such only as shall be uniformed.

Afternoon Session.—A vote tendering the thanks of the House to the speaker was passed.

Mr. Bull, from the Select Committee, made a report upon the subject of slavery in the territories, which, on motion, was laid on the table.

The Homestead Exemption bill was passed, as was also the York Bank bill.

The General Revenue bill was then taken up and considered.

The Robbery of Government Jewels—More Arrests—The Plunder Recovered.

New York, April 5.

Henry B. Jones and Philander T. Jones, were this afternoon arrested, charged with the robbery of the Government Jewels. One hundred and twenty diamonds, and one hundred and forty-three pearls, together with $300 in gold bars, supposed to have been the scabbord of the sword presented to Com. Biddle by the Emperor of Russia, the gold snuff box, the pint bottle of otto roses, were found buried in the cellar of the house occupied by Jones, No. 11 Pike street. The parties are now in prison, and will leave for Washington in the morning, in custedy of officers Smith and Stevens.

Another bit of History.

It will doubtless be remembered by our readers that the celebrated letter of General Taylor to Gen. Gaines, was furnished to the N. Y. *Express* by Dr. Bacon, now the responsible editor of the New York *Day Book*. From certain remarks contained in that paper, we infer that Dr. B. *corrected and revised* it, so as, he intimates, to make it fit for publication.—We extract two paragraphs:

"The original letter of General Taylor to General Gaines, was much worse written than the worst thing ever printed with his signature. It afforded conclusive evidence, that although he wrote his celebrated 'despatches,' somebody must have corrected them before they were despatched.

"If any person deny this, they can be furnished with examples of the original uncorrected English of the letter, compared with a version or *paraphrase* given by the editors of the *Day Book*, which General Taylor has so promptly claimed as *his* own."

A COLORED MAGISTRATE.—The Boston Mail states that Robert Morris, jr., a colored man, received a commission from Gov. Briggs, on Saturday, as Justice of the Peace for Suffolk county.

THE SCIENCE OF SURGERY is making rapid strides towards perfection. A skilful surgeon can manufacture a respectable looking nose out of a slice of skin and flesh from the forehead, but Dr. Wildman, of Georgia, has carried the science one step forward, and has made an entire lower lip for a young lady out of a slice of the right cheek. The young lady had, through an injudicious administration of calomel, lost a portion of her lower jaw and the entire lip. She stands, therefore, as a living monument of the ignorance and the skill to be found in the same profession.

"I have no offices to fill, except in cases of death or resignation."

The Washington correspondent of the New York *True Sun*, says he has seen letters from highly respectable citizens of Baton Rogue quoting the above as General Taylor's words on starting from home for Washington.

POISONED BY HIS WIFE.—Mr. James Smither, residing near Indianapolis, Ind., died from poison a few days ago, and his wife has been arrested on the charge of administering it to him.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA MARKET.

APRIL 9, 1849.

The demand for flour from shippers continues limited, with sales of 1200 bbls. chiefly at $4 31¼, including a good brand a shade over that rate. Rye Flour is steady at $2 75, with small sales. Corn meal is in moderate demand at $2 37½ per bbl., with sales of 500 bbls. Penna. Grain—the demand for wheat is yet moderate—sale of 1500 bush. of good red sold at 93 a 95 cts. In Rye no change. Corn has been in more request, with sales of 5000 bushels yellow, at 50 a 52 cts. No movement in Oats.—Whiskey is dull at 19 a 20 cts. in hhds. and bbls.

DIED.

In Mechanicsburg on the 4th inst., after a very short illness, Dr. A. H. VAN HOFF, aged 36 years and 20 days.

[In recording the death of this most estimable man, it is not our design to indulge in extravagant eulogy. Yet, while under the influence of this afflicting dispensation of an all-wise Providence, we are confident that nothing of too complimentary a nature could be said respecting the amiable qualities and sterling merits which characterized the whole, though short life, of Dr. VAN HOFF. But a few weeks ago the picture of health adorned his cheeks, and seemed to promise him a sojourn of many years on earth.—Alas, how often is it the case that those who *seem* to be possessed of all the pleasures which health can bestow, and whose appearance seems to bid defiance to the cold arm of Death, are among the first to become his victims? The rosecat hue began to leave his cheek—disease had seized upon his vitals, and carried him with a gallop to the grave! Thus ended the career of a fond and affectionate husband, a doating parent, and a valued friend. He has left a young wife, affectionate children, and numerous friends and relatives to mourn their irreparable loss. May they bear it with fortitude, resting in the sure confidence that their loss is his eternal gain.

"Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the North wind's breath,
And stars to set—but all,
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, oh! Death!"

Dr. VAN HOFF, though comparatively speaking, young in years, had a large practice in his profession, and stood high as a successful practitioner.—He was beloved by all who knew him, and in the fall of 1845, without any solicitation from him, the people of this county elected him to a seat in the Legislature. He discharged his duties as a member of Assembly with credit to himself and his constituents. In all his walks of life he was a correct man, ever ready to extend a helping hand to those in need. *Requiescat in pace.*] B.

Carlisle, April 10, 1849.