THE VOLUNTEER.

CARLISLE, THURSDAY, JULY 11, 1850.

John B. Bratton, Editor and Proprietor.

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.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,

WILLIAM T. MORISON,

of Montgomery County.

FOR AUDITOR GENERAL,

EPHRAIM BANKS,

of Mifflin County.

FOR SURVEYOR GENERAL,

J. PORTER BRAWLEY,

of Crawford County.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Democratic Standing Committee of Cumberland county are requested to meet at the public house of C. Hoffman, in the borough of Carlisle, on

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1850,

at 1 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of appointing the time for holding the Delegate Elections and the assembling of a County Convention to form a ticket. A general attendance of the Committee is earnestly requested.

THREE OF THE COMMITTEE.

July 11, 1850.

☞ The following named gentlemen compose the Standing Committee for the present year:

Allen, Geo. H. Miller; Carlisle, E. W., R. Snodgrass; W. W., J. H. Graham; Dickinson, S. Woodburn; E. Pennsborough, John Sheets; Frankford, W. F. Swiger; Hopewell, Col. W. Wherry; Hampden, R. G. Young; Mifflin, John B. Perry; Monroe, Carey Ahl; Mechanicsburg, W. Eckels; N. Middleton, Wm. Jacobs; Newville, James Ahl; New Cumberland, John F. Lee; Newton, Jas. McCulloch; Silver Spring, John C. Eckels; South Middleton, Alfred Moore; Southampton, W. Duncan; Shippensburg borough, W. W. Nevin; S. township, H. Craig; W. Pennsborough, Joseph McKee.

Gen. Cass and Col. Benton, of the U. S. Senate, and Mr. M'Lanahan, of the H. of Reps., will accept our thanks, for their attentions.

SMALL NOTES.—By a law of the last Legislature all notes of a less denomination than five dollars (except Relief notes,) are prohibited from circulation after the 21st of August. To attempt to pass any such notes after that date, will be a violation of the law, which imposes severe penalties. Until that date—but no longer—we will receive foreign small notes in payment of subscription to the *Volunteer*.—Our friends who have any of this kind of currency on hand, and who are indebted to us, had better avail themselves of our offer.

BURNING STORE BOXES.—A number of boys of our town—a dozen or more—have been arrested within a day or two, charged with having carried away a number of store boxes and making a bonfire on the night of the 4th. The boxes belonged to Messrs. Ogilby, Hitner, Elliott, and others. The boys were bound over to appear at court.

THE FOURTH—the glorious fourth of July—the seventy-fourth anniversary of American freedom—was celebrated in a becoming manner in every town in the Union, we presume, *except Carlisle*. Here the day passed off without any demonstration. All was quiet—the stores, generally speaking, were closed—the day was sultry, and presented the appearance of a well observed Sabbath. All the social parties *talked* of before the Fourth fell through, and failed to "come off." Such was the Fourth in Carlisle. What a shame.

☞ A shrewd farmer in the Vermont Legislature declined answering a speech of a member, who was remarkable for nothing but his frothy and pugnacious impudence. "Mr. Speaker (said the farmer,) I can't reply to that *are* speech, for it always reaches me so terrible to *kick at nothing*." For the same reason we decline answering a certain pup who has for some time been yelping at our heels.

☞ Several letters were received yesterday by persons of this place from Sheriff Hoffer's party of California adventurers. The letters are dated Panama, June 23, at which place the company had arrived, in good health and spirits. One of the party, writing to the editor of this paper, says—"We are all well and in fine spirits, and expect to get off from here in a short time. Tell such of our friends in Cumberland as desire to go to California not to patronize M. O. Roberts' line of steamers. Roberts is a perfect swindler and scoundrel. The manner in which he has lied to the passengers should entitle him to a coat of tar and feathers. We have had a hard time of it thus far, but we have braved it all.—We have rented a room here, and cook for ourselves. We pay $40 for the room for one month. The next letter you receive from me will be from the gold diggings."

UNION PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF DICKINSON COLLEGE.—The Oratorical Exhibition of this society took place in the M. E. Church, on the evening of the 4th, before a densely crowded house. The following was the order of exercises:

PRAYER—BY PRESIDENT PECK.

Anniversary Address—Phil M. Leakin, Anne Arundel co., Md.

Inspiration of Greatness—B. D. Chenoweth, Frederick co., Va.

To-morrow—Granville R. Rider, Salisbury, Md.

National Ballads—William V. Tuder, Baltimore, Md.

The Strong Nation—R. D. Sellman, Anne Arundel co., Md.

The Hour of Destiny—A. S. Hank, Frederick co., Md.

The speakers acquitted themselves in a manner highly creditable to themselves and the College to which they are attached. Although the evening was unusually close and sultry, the house was crowded, and a great many could not obtain admittance. A large portion of the audience was composed of the fair of our town, who bestowed their smiles of approval upon the efforts of the young orators. The speeches, indeed, afforded a rich intellectual treat to our citizens, and the whole affair passed off creditable to all concerned.

THE SOPHOMORE CLASS.—The annual Exhibition of the Sophomore Class of Dickinson College, took place at the College Chapel on Tuesday evening.—We were unable to be present, but understand the exercises were of a very interesting character, and well calculated to please the literary taste of those who were present. The young orators acquitted themselves handsomely.

The Honorary Degree of L. L. D. was conferred upon the Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN, at the recent Commencement of Princeton College, N. J.

DEATH OF PRESIDENT TAYLOR!

It is with sincere regret we announce the death of Gen. TAYLOR, President of the United States. This melancholy event took place in the Presidential mansion, at Washington city, on Tuesday evening, the 9th inst. The President had been unwell for four or five days, and on Monday his disease, which was billious cholera morbus, assumed a dangerous character, and continued to grow worse, and at half-past 10 o'clock on Tuesday evening he breathed his last. His last words were—"*I am prepared—I have endeavored to do my duty.*"

General TAYLOR is no more!—the people of the United States are suddenly called upon to mourn the death of their Chief Magistrate. For the second time, since the establishment of our mighty republic, has the Chief Executive officer been summoned to the "future state." Gen. ZACHARY TAYLOR, after having been in the highest office in the world for a few short months, has been, by the decree of an All-Wise Providence, transported from the height of his temporal glory "to that bourne from whence no traveller returns." But a few days preceding his decease, he could be seen with a light step, in health and happiness, attending to the duties devolving upon him, little dreaming, perhaps, that before one week should pass away he would be numbered with the dead—that he would be called on by that stern messenger, Death, to surrender the high trusts which millions of freemen had but lately confided to him, and that his country should be amazed at the suddeness of the event.

The sudden and unexpected death of an ordinary citizen has the effect to impress upon the minds of those within the circle of his acquaintance, a serious and fearful admonition of the instability of health and sanguine expectations. But the unlooked for, and scarcely credible decease of one high in distinction, surrounded by myriads who pay court to his power and to his person, and who are ever ready to administer to his every wish, must have a tendency to awaken in the minds of all a fearful sense of the uncertainty on which they lean for the support of animal existence, and of the probability that the cup of their ambition, ere yet it has reached the lip, may be dashed to earth by the stern hand of death.

With his bereaved relatives, especially the aged and revered partner of his bosom, do all classes of citizens deeply and sincerely sympathize. And as to the lamented deceased, it is to be hoped that all, without any kind of distinction, if they will

"No farther seek his merits to disclose,"

at least charitably respect at once his ashes and his memory.

The President having died within the term for which he was elected, the duties of his high office will, by constitutional provision, devolve on MILLARD FILMORE, of New York, who was chosen Vice President for the same term. No doubt a new Cabinet will soon be formed, and we shall then see—what we shall see.

PROF. WEBSTER'S CONFESSION.

On our first page will be found the full confession of Dr. John W. Webster, of the murder of Dr. Parkman. We also publish in another column Webster's petition for pardon, in which he solemnly declares his innocence, and which he submitted to the Governor and Council of Massachusetts, a few days previous to making his confession. Both will be read with avidity and painful interest. The confession, we learn by the Boston papers, was written by Webster himself. In its style it is stiff, cold, and carefully worded, and, to our mind, is the best evidence that has yet been furnished that the murder of Dr. Parkman was a premeditated act.

Webster says that he killed Dr. Parkman at a single blow on the side of the head, dealt with all the force passion could give. But he most solemnly denies premeditation, and declares the deed was committed in a moment of intense excitement, produced by the insulting language of Dr. Parkman.—Had he made this confession at first, no doubt his story would have been believed, and he might then have entertained some hope for pardon. But what reliance can be placed in the word of this man, who a few days previous to making a confession of the horrible crime, presented a petition to the Governor for pardon, in which he calls God to witness the truth of the assertion that he is entirely innocent, and before heaven declares that he is the victim of circumstances, or of a foul conspiracy? Who will believe him *now*, after his frequent attempts to mislead the public mind by a resort to falsehood and ingenuity? For our part we cannot believe his declaration that the murder was not premeditated. Many circumstances and incidents go to prove this part of his confession false. His anxiety to get Dr. Parkman in his room at a certain hour—his haste in cutting up the body—the stick in his room—the knife in his possession—the fire in the furnace—the notes which he took from Dr. Parkman after he had murdered him—his composure of mind after he had committed the dreadful deed, and destroyed, as he supposed, all evidence against himself—the tin box—the grappling hooks, together with many other circumstances, go far to convince us that this most revolting murder was a well planed premeditated act.

It will be observed that in no portion of Dr. Webster's confession, does he express contrition or even regret that he murdered Dr. Parkman—he does not even mention Dr. Parkman's name, except where it is absolutely necessary to do so. Take it all in all the case of Webster exhibits a degree of moral depravity that causes a shudder to think of. What will be his fate we cannot tell, but we think if ever a man deserved capital punishment that man is Prof. John W. Webster, the murderer of Dr. Parkman.

☞ Gen. Taylor's name appears in several political articles in to-day's paper. These articles were in type before we heard of the President's death, or they should not have appeared.

We are pleased to learn that ANDREW JACKSON M'CARTNEY, (a son of our old friend, Major John M'Cartney,) has been received into the U. S. Naval School, at Annapolis, Md.

The Huntingdon *Globe* now comes to us handsomely improved. It is a sound and thorough Democratic paper, and deserves success.

It is said that of the eighty or more gentlemen who graduated at Princeton College on the 25th ult., about one-half made a profession of religion. During the past session there has been a greater religious excitement at the college than has been known for many years.

KOSSUTH.—The New York Tribune learns from Count Dembinski that Kossuth intends coming to America, as soon as he is permitted to leave Turkey; and that forty of the one hundred Polish refugees who lately arrived at Southampton are now on their way here—the others obtained employment in England.

At her benefit in Savannah, Ga., on the 31st ult., Madame Anna Bishop wore $30,000 worth of jewelry, all of which was presented to her by distinguished personages.

SENATOR COOPER AND THE COMPROMISE.

Mr. Cooper, of this State, made a speech in the U. S. Senate, a short time since, in favor of Mr. Clay's Compromise Bill. Several of the Federal papers are "down on him" because of his course, but we have not as yet noticed that our neighbor of the *Herald* has expressed an opinion in regard to the speech, one way or the other.

Although we are pleased with Mr. Cooper's course in this matter, yet when we compare it with his former professions, it is clear that he has not pursued the policy many of his friends expected he would.—This, however, is an account which he must settle with the men of his own party. We have no doubt that his course in regard to the slave question will be approved by a large majority of his constituents, and we are glad to see him join Senator Sturgeon in favoring the passage of the Compromise Bill,

BRAZEN IMPUDENCE.

Only think of the brazen impudence put forth in the following paragraph, which we take from the *Republic*, the organ of the present cabinet. We read the whole article to see if there was not some qualification or excuse, some attempt to disguise this open justification of Taylor's removals from office by the example of Jackson; and that, too, by a whig addressing himself to whigs. Here it is:

In its heart, the "*Union*" must *feel* that the course of the President in regard to removals from office is in consonance with the principles laid down by Mr. Jefferson, sanctioned by Gen. Jackson, and down to the present time not repudiated, but recognized and practised upon by its own party as often as it gets into power.

There, now, Whigs, read that, and see what you have come to. Taylor is now practising the great sin of General Jackson—the unpardonable sin that filled all whiggery with horror—and his organ justifies it, because it was a policy laid down by Jefferson and sanctioned by Jackson. Alas, poor whigs, have you come to this! Had any one foretold, in 1825, '6, '7, '8, when the wail of horror resounded from Maine to Louisiana, through all the domains of whigdom, at the enormities of Gen. Jackson in turning whigs out of office and appointing democrats, that in twenty odd years a whig President would be doing the same thing, and telling the rest of mankind that the doctrine was laid down by Jefferson and sanctioned by Jackson, would you not have exclaimed, like Haziel to the prophet, "*In thy servant a dog that he should do this thing!*" Down upon your knees now, whigs, and bow to the authority of Gen. *Jackson*—justify yourselves by his example, which you denounced a few years ago with so much indignation and horror.

There is one thing, however, says the Louisville *Democrat*, that neither Jefferson's doctrine nor Jackson's example can be plead for. They did not denounce the doctrine nor the practice before the election and promise to avoid it as the greatest of political sins—get elected by the hypocritical profession, and then, after their election, face about and do exactly what they denounced before and promised not to do. This is the sin now. It's not removals from office that whiggery has to account for. It is lying about it. It's the vile political deception and hypocrisy. It's getting power and emoluments on false pretences—a less crime than that would put an individual in the penitentiary.

We suppose now that we are done with excuses and shufflings—the organ has spoken—Taylor is following the example of Jackson—that's all.

True, the whigs have always denounced removals for opinion's sake. It has been the main staple in every whig canvass; but, upon experiment, they have found it will not do in practice. Jackson was right, after all. The doctrine was laid down by Jefferson and sanctioned by Jackson. Taylor shows himself even better than the earlier Presidents, by making more removals for opinion's sake in two short years than all his predecessors ever made.

THE GALPHIN CLAIM.

By the payment of the Galphin claim, Mr. Crawford's share of the plunder amounts to the enormous sum of $115,578,421!! ☞ Or nearly equal to the salary of President of the United States for five years!

The paper signed by Messrs. Burt and Jackson, is a powerful argument against the justice of the claim. They conclude in these words: "A thorough investigation of the case, and a patient and deliberate consideration of the arguments and authorities adduced to justify the payment of interest, have brought the undersigned to a confident conclusion that it was paid against precedent and without authority of law."

The Balt. Sun says: In reviewing the position of the several members of the cabinet actively associated with the transaction, the impression we receive is, that they have performed their obligations in a slip-shod sort of a manner. To infer that such a performance of duty is common to them, is to awaken suspicion with respect to the safe custody of the public money by no means agreeable. Yet to suppose that it was done in this case alone is to suggest an inference still more objectionable. We cannot go behind the report for motives, and as everybody professes to be ignorant of the deep interest held in the claim by the Secretary of War, except the President, it is to be inferred that this facile transfer of some $200,000 was innocently accomplished, under a bare act of recognition, and an equally bare legal opinion.

VERY APPROPRIATE.—It is said that the Taylor Cabinet are having *cut* a block of marble for the Washington Monument, with the following expressive inscription:

"GALPHIN!"

WHAT NEXT?—There has lately been held at the "Five Points," New York, a temperance meeting, which was largely attended by the real Five Pointers, who listened attentively to the speeches, conducted themselves orderly, and at the close of the exercises, twenty-five signatures were obtained to the pledge! This is what we should say really carrying the war into Africa.

THE WHEELING BRIDGE CASE.—A Washington correspondent of July 8th, says: Chancellor Wentworth, to whom the Wheeling Bridge case was referred by the United States Supreme Court, has submitted to the Court that the *Bridge is a nuisance*.

A NOVEL VOYAGE.—Mr. Wise is constructing two balloons for the purpose of testing whether the air may not be navigated in any direction, and whether Europe may not be reached, aerially, in shorter time than by steamships. An aerial trip to London in dog days would be decidedly pleasant.

LUCKY.—On Friday, as the Portland train was coming through Malden to Boston, the engineer saw a small boy drawing a child's carriage on the track. He immediately checked the locomotive, but the boy, frightened, left his charge, and ran. The cow-catcher caught the infant and threw it upon the side of the track. The only injury it sustained was a scratch in the forehead.

A SELF-MADE MAN.—One of the present Virginia members of the House of Congress did not know how to read at twenty years of age. His wife taught him his letters, and his own perseverance and good sense did the rest for him, and now he makes an excellent speech in Congress.

By Telegraph for the Volunteer.

GREAT FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.

300 Houses Burnt—Upwards of a Million of Dollars in Property Destroyed—More than Thirty Lives Lost!

PHILADELPHIA, July 10.

A fire broke out in Race street yesterday evening, which soon extended with great rapidity and destroyed all the buildings from Race to Callowhill street, including Vine, and extending back to Second street. During the fire many small explosions occurred, without however creating much alarm, until a terrible explosion took place, which shook the ground and buildings for many hundred yards, and blow and drove more than thirty persons into the river, most of whom were drowned. Two engines were covered by the falling ruins. The explosion occurred in Brock, Lent, & Cos., warehouse, where was stored a large quantity of Nitrate of Potash (Saltpetre.) It is impossible to estimate the loss of life or property. The fire was checked this morning at 6 o'clock.

HARRISBURG, July 10.

The bells are all tolling for the President's death.

OUR CUBAN RELATIONS.

The Washington correspondent of the North American, under date of July 1st, says: The U. S. war steamer Vixen sailed from this port to-day, for Havana, with Commodore MORRIS as a special agent of the Government, to make demand for the American prisoners captured by the Spanish forces off Contreras and Contoy. It is not intended that Commodore Morris shall supersede Commodore Parker in the command of the Home Squadron, but he is detailed for this special duty.

It is believed here that the prisoners will either be given up, or that a satisfactory arrangement will be effected, by which their safety will be secured and their comforts be extend for, until such an adjustment can be made here, between the Spanish Minister and our own authorities, as will be in conformity with the honor of both governments.

SPANIARDS EXERCISING THE "RIGHT OF SEARCH."—Some of the Spanish officials in Cuba are taking a liberty with American vessels which will be likely to get them into trouble. An extra from the Savannah News of Wednesday last, gives the following account of two recent searches of vessels sailing under the flag of the United States:

SPANISH OUTRAGE ON AMERICAN VESSELS!—The schooner General Taylor, Capt. Wright, arrived at our port yesterday afternoon, in 30 days from Chagres. She was bound to Turks Island, but shifted her ballast at sea, and put in for a fresh supply.—When off Cape Antony, on the 13th inst., she was boarded by a Lieutenant and Midshipman, and eight Spanish soldiers, armed with carbines, cutlasses, and boarding-pikes, from a Spanish war steamer. The captain of the General Taylor produced his papers, but this did not satisfy the insolent Spaniards, who were very insulting and overbearing in their deportment towards Captain Wright and his crew. They persisted in overhauling his vessel, and searching her from stem to stern, and finally demanded the schooner's roll. After remaining on board for nearly an hour they took their departure.

The General Taylor was in company, off Cape Antony, with the brig Nevius, (of Beverly, Mass.) from Masinello, Cuba, bound to Boston. The Spanish man of war also overhauled the brig; and detained her in like manner.

This is putting in practice "the right of search" in good earnest. Our government will, of course, make prompt inquiry into the affair, and take efficient measures to prevent the recurrrence of similar outrages on our merchant ships. The Spanish government must be given to understand, and if necessary, must be impressed with the fact by means of a wholesome lesson, that this government will not permit any nation to detain and search its vessels on the high seas. Spaniards must learn that "Free Trade and Sailor's Rights" is with us a national motto; and the meaning of it is that our flag protects the vessel that bears it, wherever the seas roll and the winds of heaven blow. The leniency of our government towards the Spanish in their recent difficulties, has been wrongfully construed, if they regard it as an assurance that they may insult our merchantmen with impunity, under the flimsy pretext of searching for invaders.

"STAND BY HIM."—The Erie Gazette is laboring to prove that the whig party must "Stand by General Taylor," notwithstanding the "unscrupulous opposition of the locofocos."

The Gazette need not fear desertion from one wing of the whig party. The *Galphin* whigs will stand by General Taylor *as long as there is any money in the Treasury*.

GIDEON J. BALL, Esq., of Erie county, late State Treasurer, has been appointed Chief Clerk of the Auditor's office for the Post Office Department, in place of Thomas E. Brown, removed. The salary is two thousand dollars per annum.

CASE OF J. GIBBONS MILLS.—The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has ordered a new trial in the case of Dr. J. Mills, convicted at Harrisburg, of seduction, and now undergoing imprisonment for the offence. The ground on which the new trial is granted, is want of jurisdiction in the Court to try the case, it having been an adjourned Court.

MR. FORREST AND HIS DIVORCE.—The New York *Herald* says that the recent attempts to bring about a settlement of the difficulties between Mr. and Mrs. Forrest have failed, and that new and important evidence has been discovered in reference to Mrs. Forrest, which will be brought out before a court and jury in Philadelphia, and will settle the whole affair to the satisfaction of all parties—that is, a final and positive divorce.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.—Miss Cynthia Graham, daughter of Maj. Alex. Graham, of Butler county, Pa., aged about 18, was killed by lightning on Thursday afternoon. There were fourteen or fifteen persons in the room at the time. One man was also slightly injured. The lightning is supposed to have passed down the chimney. Miss Graham was standing near the fireplace.

IOWA CONTESTED ELECTION.—The House of Representatives, on Saturday, disposed of the Iowa contested election, by declaring the seat occupied by Mr. Thompson, dem., to be vacant. A new election will, therefore, have to be held.

DISTRESSING SUICIDE.—A suicide was committed at Cleveland, Ohio, last week, by Lavinia Cook, by taking oxalic acid during a depression of spirits, caused by the sudden termination of a marriage engagement, or intimacy between herself and a Mr. R. Cowles. A beautiful locket, containing Mr. Cowles' miniature, was found among her things, and one of the chambermaids stated that she had seen it in Miss Cook's possession.

MORE OF THEM!—Van Court's Detector, published on the 1st inst., gives the following description of another issue of spurious notes on the Farmers' Bank of Reading. They seem to be of the denomination of $5. Look out for them:

An altered note on the Farmers' Bank of Reading has just made its appearance. The principal vignette is three human figures and a nondescript animal. On the right end, two human figures, and on the left the figure 5 in a large die. The name of the Bank and the words "State of Pennsylvania and Reading" inserted.

IS IT POSSIBLE?—A Southern exchange copies the following paragraph:

"Lady Bulwer, wife of the British Minister at Washington, presides at the tea-table in *propria persona*, and disperses the agreeable beverage with her own hands."

A NEW PHASE IN THE WEBSTER CASE:

HIS PETITION FOR PARDON, IN WHICH HE SOLEMNLY DECLARES HIS INNOCENCE, WITHDRAWN.

BOSTON, July 3.

The following is a copy of the petition of Professor Webster, convicted of the murder of Dr. Parkman, to the Governor and Council of the State, which he withdrew, previous to the statement on our first page.

To His Excellency George W. Briggs, and to the Honorable Council of the State of Massachusetts:

Having been convicted before the Supreme Judicial Court of the murder of Dr. Parkman, I would most respectfully and humbly petition your Excellency and the Honorable Council, to be permitted to declare, in the most solemn manner, that I am entirely innocent of this awful crime—that I never entertained any other than the kindest feelings towards him, and that I never had any inducement to injure him whom I have long numbered among my best friends.

To Him who seeth in secret, and before whom I may ere long be called to appear, would I appeal for the truth of what I now declare, as also for the truth of the solemn declaration, that I had no agency in placing the remains of a human body in or under my room in the Medical College in Boston, nor do I know by whom they were so placed there. I am the victim of circumstances, or a foul conspiracy, or of the attempt of some individuals to cause suspicion to fall upon me, influenced, perhaps, by the prospect of obtaining a large reward.

When first charged with this dreadful crime, I did not publish to the world a declaration of my innocence or any explanations of the circumstances tending to bring suspicion on me; solely in consequence of entire ignorance of the course I ought to adopt, and implicit reliance on the calmer judgment of others. I had, however, prepared for publication a document to that effect, but as there was a strong disposition from the very first to misinterpret my every look, action, and expression, it was deemed more advisable for me to preserve and maintain silence.

The document was, therefore, with no struggle on my part, withheld. Immediately upon my arrest, every means was resorted to to bend even the most trifling appearances in my laboratory, and insignificant circumstances to add to the suspicions, and to pervert them to my disadvantage.

In the state of mind in which I was, silence was constantly urged upon me; and I complied more strictly, perhaps, than I ought to have done. Every method of poisoning the public mind, and of exciting prejudice against me, was resorted to. Falsehoods, imputations and fabrications were daily diffused; and I soon perceived that the contradiction of one would lead to others, and that the refutation of them all would be an endless task. I therefore submitted in silence and resignation, believing that the time must shortly arrive when He "who bringeth light out of darkness" would cause the truth to appear, and my innocence be made manifest to all.

Had I previously been aware of the use that was to be made of some circumstances on my trial, to give an unjust and erroneous impression, if explained, I should have been provided with evidence to explain them satisfactorily.

Some of the statements, references and circumstances, however, could not be fully explained or disproved; unfortunately, I could not avail myself of the proof to do it. I now pray your honors that the evidence may be received by you, and that the testimony of my wife may be heard and received, as also my own statement and explanations.

Repeating, in the most solemn and positive manner, and under the fullest sense of my responsibility as a man and a Christian, that I am wholly innocent of this charge—to the truth of which the "Searcher of all Hearts" is a witness, I would humbly and respectfully pray that the privilege I have asked may be granted. I do this under the full belief that the testimony and explanations I may, and would now offer, are such as will disprove many things, and impair very greatly the evidence of at least two witnesses, and place in their true light circumstances now obscure.

On this review of my case, your honors, will, I trust, find sufficient reasons for reversing the decision of the court, and for the interposition of mercy. The knowledge of my feelings and habits, and of my various engagements and occupation of time, both before and after the disappearance of Dr. Parkman, have, from the first, been sufficient assurances to my afflicted family of my innocence; and now that their trust in Him, who has sustained both them and me in our days and nights of sorrow and sadness, have been shaken by the unlooked for result of my trial, they would pray to be permitted to unite with him their sole earthly dependence in this petition.

Believing that your Excellency, and the Honorable Council will find sufficient grounds for granting to me a pardon, and of restoring to them the husband and father, for which I most respectfully and humbly pray,

Signed,

JOHN W. WEBSTER.

Withdrawn on application of Dr. Webster, June 4, 1850.

MORE OF THE WEBSTER CONFESSION.

The Boston *Post*, which came to hand last evening, contains the petition of Dr. Webster and the entire speech of Dr. Putman. The petition is as follows:

Petition of Dr. Webster!

To his Excellency the Governor and to the Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

John White Webster, a convict, under sentence of death, in Boston jail, in behalf of himself, and of his wife and his children, respectfully petitions, that the sentence awarded against him by the law may be commuted to such other less horrible and ignominious punishment as your honorable body may mercifully decree.

Your petitioner fully admits that he was tried before a fair and impartial tribunal, and that under the law as it exists, his jury, composed as it was of honorable and highminded men, could have returned no verdict other than they did. But he respectfully reminds your honorable body, that the two great moral ingredients of the crime of murder, malice, and premeditation, have never been found against him by a jury, but have been necessarily inferred by the arbitrary rules of the law, from certain general facts which your petitioner will not deny, but the extenuating details of which no man in your petitioner's situation can ever possess legal evidence to prove.—These details your petitioner has confided to the friend who presents his petition, with authority to state them to your honorable body, in the hope that you will find therein, reason to extend to your petitioner and his family, that mercy of which the law has made you the dispensers.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

J. W. WEBSTER.

Boston, July, 1850.

The speech is too long for our columns. It is an elaborate attempt to explain away the circumstances which look like premeditation on the part of Dr. Webster.

THE WEBSTER CASE.

BOSTON, July 8.

Another hearing in behalf of Prof. Webster was had to-day, before the Committee of the Executive Council. Various petitions for a commutation of the unfortunate man's sentence, were presented.—The first hearing of the case, was, by the desire of Webster's friends, postponed.

SECOND DESPATCH.

A hearing was held this morning before the Committee on Pardons, in the case of Professor Webster.

A petition was presented for clemency, signed by 988 persons of New York city—two from Franklin county, New York, and two from Michigan.

The Lieut. Governor stated that a large number of petitions for a commutation of the unhappy sentence was received from all parts of the country—one from Mr. Green, a juryman in the case, and two or three others from persons who said they themselves committed the murder, and not Professor Webster.

Several medical men were present, and showed that a blow on the head, such as that which Professor Webster said he gave Dr. Parkman, often caused death in a short time.

Mr. Edwin Jarvis cited two instances to prove the ungovernable temper of Prof. Webster, and how soon it was over. In one case, Dr. Webster, when a student, commenced the play of knocking off hats with a fellow student, in which Webster got rather the worst of it.

Finally, Webster got enraged, seized a stick and would have given his companion a deadly blow had he not been prevented. The next moment it was all over with him, and he did not evince the least resentment whatever.

At another time, while in London, Professor Webster was being shaved, when Dr. Lathford playfully remarked, "Did you ever see a barber shave a monkey?"

Mr. Webster was much enraged at this, and seized a knife and would have struck at Dr. L., had he not been prevented.

Dr. Jeffries Wyman was introduced to show that Dr. Parkman's skull was a little thinner than the average of persons.

A petition was presented by Prof. Brown, signed by President Sparks, and nearly all the Professors of Harvard College, praying for a commutation of sentence; not on the ground of his late confession—he, as they say, having forfeited all claim to be believed—but on the great probability that exists that the act was not premeditated.

Prof. Bowen urged a delay, in order to obtain more direct petitions in the case.

The case was then postponed until the 18th inst.

FROM WASHINGTON.

We find but little of interest in the Congressional proceedings. In the Senate the Compromise Bill is still under discussion. Mr. Bell concluded a three days' speech on Saturday—he spoke against the Bill, and in defence of the President. Yet it is said Mr. Bell intends voting for the Bill.

Mr. Smith next took the floor, expressing his regret at feeling called upon to occupy the attention of the Senate, so late in the discussion, and offering to forego the privilege of addressing the body, provided a final vote could be had on Monday.

Mr. Clay replied that he could see no prospect of the final question. There were several amendments yet to be offered, and a number of gentlemen proposed speaking. It was quite impossible to fix a day for the final vote, and if he were to make a guess, he would put it at sometime between now and Christmas. He had about concluded that it was best to let the debate go on hereafter, unrestricted.

In the House of Representatives on Saturday the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Galphin Claim was resumed. A number of speeches were made on both sides of the question.

The pending question was stated. The committee had offered the following resolutions: 1st, That the claim was not just; 2d, That the principal was authorized to be paid by the Secretary of the Treasury, by law; 3d, That the law did not authorize the payment of the interest.

Mr. Toombs had offered an amendment, to the effect that there was no evidence submitted by the committee which impugns the personal or official conduct of Mr. Crawford, in relation to the settlement of the said claim by the proper officers of the Government.

Mr. Schenck had moved to amend, as follows:

"Provided, however, that this House is not to be understood as approving his relation to the claim in continuing to be interested in the prosecution of it, when it was to be examined, adjusted and paid by one of the Departments of the Government—he himself being at the same time at the head of another of the Departments; but this House considers that such connection and interest of a member of the Cabinet with a claim pending and prosecuted before another Department, would be dangerous as a precedent, and ought not to be sanctioned."

This was agreed to—yeas 158, nays 25.

The question was taken on the amendment of Mr. Toombs, as thus amended, and it was negatived—yeas 82, nays 92.

Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, moved to lay the whole subject on the table.

The question was decided in the negative. Yeas 49, nays 126.

Mr. Thompson, of Mississippi, had offered to amend by making an addition. The question was taken on the first branch of it, which is as follows:

And consequently, that the House also totally dissents from the correctness of the opinion, expressed by the President of the United States to the said Secretary of War, that his (Crawford's) being at the head of the War Department, and the agent of the claimants, did not take from him any rights he may had as such agent, have as would have justified him in having the examination and decision of the claim by the Secretary of the Treasury suspended. This was agreed to—yeas 91, nays 86. The House then adjourned.

LATE FROM CALIFORNIA.

Arrival of the Philadelphia—$2,500,000 in Gold—Loss of the Bark Lucy Ellen, &c.

NEW YORK, July 7.

The splendid steamship Philadelphia arrived here at 8½ o'clock this evening, with two weeks later news from California.

The Philadelphia brings dates from San Francisco to the 1st of June, and $2,500,000 dollars in gold. $2,000,000 being on freight, and $500,000 in the hands of passengers.

The Georgia left Chagres on the 26th of June, 34 hours ahead of the Philadelphia.

The Barque Lucy Ellen, Boston, from Chagres, capsized on the night of the 25th ultimo, and was lost.

The general news from California possesses but little interest. The miners continue to obtain large quantities of gold.

No further disturbances have taken place between the whites and Indians.

The late destructive fire at San Francisco was the work of incendiaries. There have been no arrivals of vessels at San Francisco from the Southern States.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 1.

There is no particular change to notice in the markets. Lumber, by the cargo, assorted, $40; American planed $50 a $60.

Bricks command high prices but the supply is good.

Candles are declining.

Coal is in good demand.

Coffee is scarce.

Clothing, Dry Goods, and Drugs dull, and stocks large.

Post-office Robberies at Albany.

ALBANY, July 8.

A person, employed formerly as a clerk in the post-office of this city, was arrested yesterday, charged with robbing the post-office. After his arrest, he confessed the robberies, implicating also two persons. For several weeks past, packages of letters which should reach Albany on Sunday mornings, have been missing. The clerk alluded to always visited the office on that morning, which circumstance led to the suspicion against him. He was watched and caught in the very act. He will be examined on Wednesday before the United States Commissioner.

IMPORTANT RUMORS—WAR BETWEEN TEXAS AND SANTA FE.—The Southern Press has the following important rumors:

It is rumored here that a despatch was received last evening, announcing the march of Texan troops on Santa Fe.

It is also rumored that a special Cabinet meeting on the subject had been held.

A governor of a Southern State, said to be Gen. Quitman, has sent a telegraphic despatch to this city, that he is ready to march with ten thousand men to support Texas.

By news received last night from Texas, we perceive that great excitement prevailed there in relation to Santa Fe, and that several public meetings on the subject had been called. The Galveston News says there will be undoubtedly an extra session of the legislature to take the matter into consideration.

ARREST OF A DANDY.—A handsomely dressed and profusely decorated young man, who gave his name as Thomas Wilson, was arrested in New York on Thursday, charged with grand larceny, in stealing two richly embroidered Canton crape shawls, valued at $60, the property of Monsier Le Von, residing at No. 465, Broadway. Three lock-pies were found in his possession.

MARRIED.

On the 9th inst., by the Rev. A. H. Kremer, Mr. WILLIAM BISHOP, of Dickinson township, to Miss HARRIET SPROUT, of this borough.

On the 9th inst., by the Rev. C. P. Wing, ALEXANDER WILSON, Esq., of Philadelphia, to Miss ANN D. WILSON, of Carlisle.

DIED.

In this borough on the 6th inst., MARGARETTA, wife of John P. Cairns, in the 33d year of her age.

In this borough, on Monday last, MARTHA LETITIA, daughter of John P. Lyne, aged 16 years and 9 months.

And is it so, with all below,
The fairest, first, must fade;
E'en loved ones die, and lowly lie
In death's dark shade.