

THE VOLUNTEER.

CARLEISLE, THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1856.

John D. Stratton, Editor and Proprietor.

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.

Our thanks are due to the Hon. James Cooper, of the U. S. Senate, for a bound copy of the report of the Secretary of the Treasury in reference to the Commerce and Navigation of the United States for the year ending 30th of June, 1849.

We learn that the contract for the building of the Bridge across the Yellow Breeches creek at Brooks' mill, the boundary between Cumberland and York counties, was awarded to Mr. Henry Church of this county, at the Commissioners Office, in the Borough of York, on the 30th ult., for the sum of \$2,389.—The one-half of the cost is to be paid by Cumberland County and the other half by York County.

The Board of Canal Commissioners, on Friday last, unanimously appointed Gen. A. L. ROBERTS, Superintendent of the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad, in place of Col. BOAZON, who resigned to take effect upon the 1st of September next.

Mr. Wix we see it stated, did not succeed in making an ascension on Saturday last, at Lancaster, in consequence of the violent storm which raged at the time. His balloon, we are informed, was considerably damaged.

LOOK OUT! COUNTERFEITS OF THE YORK BANK.—The *Norristown Register* of the 30th ult., says that three men named Joseph Woodward, John Boyer, and Robert McCarty, were lodged in jail at that place on Saturday last, charged with passing counterfeit notes. They were arrested in Gwynedd township, and after a hearing were committed to await their trial. On Monday morning, Woodward was discharged upon a writ of Habeas Corpus. The notes passed were of the denomination of \$5 and purported to be of the York Bank, in this State.

The counterfeit five dollar bills on the York Bank, referred to above, do not resemble the genuine notes, but appear to have been printed from a counterfeit plate on the Harrisburg Bank, altered. They may easily be detected by observing that the words "The York Bank" are placed in a semicircle over the vignette. Those at all familiar with the genuine notes are not likely to be deceived by the counterfeits.

RESIGNATION OF GOV. CHITTENDEN.—The Kentucky papers announce the resignation and address of Gov. CHITTENDEN to the people of the State. He expresses the hope that when he takes his place in the Cabinet, he will be able to assist in quieting the dissensions between the North and the South.

DEATH OF COMMODORE JONES.—Commodore Jacob Jones died in Philadelphia on Saturday last, after a lingering illness. He stood nearly at the head of the list of post-captains, two names only taking precedence. Capt. Jones, we believe, was a native of Delaware. He is one of the number who in the war of 1812 contributed to establish the naval renown of our country. He fought in the *Wasp* one of the bloodiest naval battles in our history, and captured in 45 minutes the British brig of war *Frolic* of superior force, and under circumstances highly unfavorable to success. For this action the States of Delaware, Massachusetts, and New York, each voted him a sword in commemoration of his gallantry, which was in no wise impaired by the subsequent capture of both the *Wasp* and the *Frolic*, when in a crippled condition, by a British 71. Com. Jones was, but recently, governor of the Naval Asylum, on the Schuylkill, of the command of which he had been relieved previous to his death.

The following article from the *Pennsylvanian* is as appropriate in this county, as among the democracy of Philadelphia. It speaks with perfect confidence of a "great effort now secretly making to secure such nominees for members of the Legislature as would be sure to vote for Gen. Cameron for U. S. Senator." It states also that those who are "plotting to get him returned to the place he was elected to by a successful intrigue with our political foes, know right well that they can succeed only by the most adroitly calculated maneuvering." We emphatically endorse the following advice, "know your delegates, then, fellow Democrats. Do not trust to the professions of men."

Democrats stand by your colors and rebuke this audacious conspiracy against your rights!

The Duty of the Democratic Party.
On Monday next, at the hour appointed by the regularly chosen Committees, the Democratic citizens of this city and county will be called upon to elect delegates to the several Conventions, convened to place in nomination candidates for City, County, Congressional, and Legislative offices. We have repeatedly called the attention of the Democratic masses to the high importance of giving their personal attention to the selection of such delegates as will make it a point to place in nomination none but the most deserving and unexceptionable Democrats. The great effort now secretly making, is to secure such nominees for members of the Legislature in the county, as would be sure to vote for Gen. Cameron for U. S. Senator. Of this we do not entertain a shadow of a doubt. Indeed, we have been apprised of some of the names which it is expected to put on, and of others which it is expected to get off, by this clandestine movement. To arrest it requires only union and energy. It is notorious that the course of General Cameron has not met with favor in Philadelphia City and County; and those who may be plotting to get him returned to the place he was elected to by a successful intrigue with our political foes, know right well that they can succeed only by the most adroitly calculated maneuvering. Hence, men will be all ready to run as delegates to the County Convention, pledged to select such a ticket for members as will vote for Cameron. Know your delegates, then, fellow Democrats. Do not trust to the professions of men; but know that you have reliable and honest Democrats to represent you; and you cannot fail. It is not a very pleasant duty to call attention to the tricks of ambitious men in our own party; but there is no other way to admonish the Democracy of the county in regard to the names now being repeatedly warred in regard to the United States Senator; and it will be their own fault if they are caught napping on Monday next.

HUSBAND AND WIFE KILLED BY LIGHTNING.—Mr. George Rumberger and wife, of Warriorsburg township, Huntingdon county, were killed by lightning, on Sunday the 29th ult. There had been quite a heavy thunder storm, and when the rain had partially ceased, Mr. Rumberger went out to open a passage for the water, which was coming up in the garden. His wife followed him with his coat, and he stepped with her under a large poplar tree to put it on, when the lightning struck the tree, and instantly killed both husband and wife. Five small children are left orphaned by this afflicting dispensation of Providence.

THE TARIFF.

The annual croakings on the subject of protection are again commencing to be heard from the Federal press. The tariff of 1846 has worked well for the interests of the country—and why disturb it? It was predicted that it would not produce sufficient revenue, but the result has confounded the wisdom of the wise in their own conceits. We contend that no candid man can take up and examine fairly the doctrine of protection, and its effects upon both government and people, without discarding it as a rank and glaring political heresy. Many pretend that they have given the subject a careful analysis, who have read merely partisan effusions, filled with the vilest political prejudices. Let them throw away the Whig newspapers, and resort to the standard authors on political economy, and they will rise from the personal wiser if not better men. We are too apt to take upon trust, what this or that political leader says, and merely skim over the veriest trash put forth to the world for the purpose of concealing the truth, instead of enlightening the public mind. We should examine the subject not for the purpose of fortifying and sustaining the views of either political party, but with an eye single to advancement of a true policy. Few public men have the nerve for this. Messrs Walker and Dallas, however, gave us fine specimens of the right kind of statesmanship, and contended for principle when they were in power, against the monopolists and advocates of privilege in both political parties—for many Democrats, uninformed it is true, sustained the worst features of the odious protective policy. Many were perjured by wild on the subject of specific duties, by which the luxuries of the rich were taxed far less than the necessities of the poor. But *taxation or ad valorem duties* tax all articles according to their value. The adoption of the latter method of laying the duties was the great reform consummated by the tariff of 1846, independent of the important reduction in the rate of taxation. The tariff of 1842 was loaded with minimum and specific duties, by which an article however low its cost, could not be taxed less than at a certain rate. If it was cotton cloth worth perhaps three cents a yard, it would not be valued less than eight or ten at the custom house for the purpose of assessing the duty. In other words a duty was demanded as if its real value was ten cents—that was its minimum, its least price for the purpose of assessing the duties to be paid. This principle was adopted in the tariff of 1842 throughout, wherever the duties imported came in conflict with domestic manufactures, so that the great consuming class, the agricultural interests of the country, were attached to the tribute car of the monopolist. If the Pennsylvania delegation in Congress would have agreed to have supported the tariff bill of 1846, and assured its passage, they might have preserved a little of this inequality on the coal and iron interests of this State. They however made common cause with the New England cotton spinners, and were obliged to come down to the practical effects of the *ad valorem* principle in all its force.

But the great advantage derived from a reduction of duties, is the increased trade it induces between nations. The nearer you approach the abolition of all duties the more extensive will be your commerce. If you have perfect free trade, the greater will be the demand for your agricultural products. We glean from authentic public records the following important facts in reference to the relative amount of the exports of broad stuffs and provisions under the tariffs of 1842 and 1846.

In 1845 when the tariff of 1842 was in operation the exports from this country of broad stuffs and provisions were \$16,753,421. In 1849, when the tariff of 1846 was in operation, they were \$38,795,664, or upwards of \$22,000,000 more than in 1845. These exports are the products of agriculture in the middle and western States alone. They do not include the cotton and tobacco of the south and other domestic articles, which amount to the additional sum for the latter year of \$63,871,291. The year 1849 was a year of famine. Clearly such facts are a complete refutation of all the idle talk we hear about the balance of trade being against us, and the sending of the precious metals out of the country to pay for imports.

Under the tariff of 1846 then we have an augmented revenue, a more extended commerce, and a largely increased demand for our agricultural products. Shall we then go back to the dogmas of protection and error?—or shall we adhere to a free trade still more perfect, and more in accordance with the march of knowledge, and the progress of governmental science? Let our motto be "Excelsior!"

THE COMPROMISE.

The bill of the Committee of Thirteen after a long struggle in the Senate of the United States has been defeated—thus leaving open all the vexed questions of slavery in the territories, as a bone of future contention. Those who supported the measure of compromise deserve the thanks of the country for their disinterestedness and zeal in behalf of the Union, and to give quiet to the nation from a long and unprofitable controversy. The ultras of both sections of the country, the Abolitionists of the North, and Nullifiers of the South, have for the time deflected the great measure of conciliation. But the discussion of the question we believe has done much good, and served to enlighten public sentiment. It was a noble sight to see the great men of both parties, Cass and Clay, Webster and Foote, acting side by side, in an emergency, when the issues of party politics were swallowed up in a sense of common danger to the stability of the Government itself. The miscontents of the Senate, those who live on sectional agitation, who were elected by discussions and divisions, were opposed of course to any measure that would give peace to the nation.

Another good has arisen from this discussion—and that is the exhibition of the beauty and perfect constitutionality of the doctrine of non interposition on the subject of slavery, promulgated in the first instance by Gen. Cass, and so much ridiculed and derided by the Federalists during the last Presidential campaign. It appears now to be settled as the only true doctrine. The abolitionists claim the power of the general government to exclude slavery in the territories, while the southern ultras contend that south of a certain line slavery must be recognized and acknowledged. Thus both extremes are putting weapons in each others hands for evil. The Nullifiers by contending for the establishment of slavery by the general Government, acknowledge that its power exists over the subject, which may consequently be wielded by the north to exclude slavery. This was always the difficulty in our mind as to the Missouri Compromise. It answered his purpose in its day, but its time has gone by. It never was a constitutional measure, but was acquiesced in as the best thing to be done under the then existing circumstances.

It is time that the sovereignty of the people in their own local and domestic policy, was fully acknowledged. The presumption of those who would force this or that measure of local concern upon a people among whom their lot is not cast, should be rebuked. Congress might as well pass a law regulating the relations between parent and child, guardian and ward, as one in relation to master and servant. It is a question with which Congress has nothing to do, except to so declare in the face of the world. If they have, then is the general government no longer one of limited powers, but an absolute despotism, and the rights of the States and of the people, which are reserved, are not worth the parchment on which they are written.

MR. RHETT'S DISUNION SPEECH.

The Ledger of the 24th ult., contains an extract of Mr. Rhett's disunion speech. This is the speech which called forth the severe rebuke of Henry Clay, in the Senate, when interrupted by Mr. Barnwell, who attempted to vindicate the traitorous sentiments of Mr. Rhett. Mr. Clay remarked that if Mr. Rhett used the words imputed to him and acted upon them, he is a traitor, and I hope he will meet a traitor's doom. Can it be that Mr. Rhett has been reared and educated in the land where waives triumphantly the American flag, and cry *divine*? Can it be that he has lived in this country of renown, prosperity and happiness, and does stand forth a self elected champion of treason, and denounce it, by calling upon his countrymen to sever the bonds which have so long happily bound this noble community of states together? Does he suppose the American people are so ignorant and stupid, as to break asunder the ties which unite them, and adhere to his fallacious whims? Let him remember that our constitution was formed when the value of the Union was appreciated, by reason of the surrounding danger. It is the result of the instincts of the loftiest patriotism. Threaten what may, come what may, the bonds of that Union are sacred in the eyes and hearts of the American people, cemented, as they are by the blood of the Revolution. They can never be ruptured except by the sword, and amid the commotions of civil war and intestine strife. All good citizens look to the Union as the ark of our safety. All good men consider the peace of nations as among the choicest blessings of a beneficent providence, the harbinger of security and plenty, and will not listen to the dogmas of a Rhett or a Barnwell. Our motto onward and upward, and Mr. Rhett can no more suppress the true principles of republicanism, by preaching such treasonable stuff, than South Carolina could subjugate the North by the sword. The genius of our institutions tolerates all sorts of opinions among us—there always have been differences of opinion on almost all subjects, and doubtless there will continue to be—but the wise and the good of our nation will not suffer those differences to be carried too far by hot brained political demagogues. They may suffer their like Don Quixote, to erect windmills for the purpose of tumbling them down again, but they shall not perpetrate the disunion of a government which was reared for the purpose of forming a more perfect Union—they shall not so much disturb the "general welfare" of a people whose constitution was framed to promote it, and which they have sworn to defend. Let Mr. Rhett remember that the foundations of our power lie deep in the hearts of loyal millions, who bear upon their Atlantic shoulders the frame of our polity.

In his speech he boasts of the character of his ancestors, and the conspicuous parts they acted in Revolutionary periods, both in England and in this country. No matter what may have been their merits, they cannot save him from the fame and doom of a traitor, if he persists in his disgraceful course. Does he presume that his influence is any greater because his ancestors were subjects of the scaffold? Does he suppose that he is possessed of such "cool stirring and electrifying power as to instill in the minds even of the most debased a relish for a broken constitution, and a divided and unhappy people? It would really appear so. We are loth to pour out anathemas upon the head of any man, but Mr. Rhett merits the severest imprecations. He is trying to familiarize the public mind with the sound of treason, and is anxious to be a bold pioneer in such infamous work. He appears to desire that his name should be handed down to posterity as a traitor to his country's good and a vile disturber of his country's peace. Does he reflect on the evils of disunion? Suppose his counsels prevail, what would be the consequences? Every American heart instinctively shudders at the response. A divided people, and that division effected and perpetuated by unnatural divisions and blood conflicts between those who should be brothers, and who are brothers by blood, language, historical affinities and recollections, and are connected and sanctified by nationality. A free people thus united, rest in twin, forming separate communities each, transported by the consciousness, imaginary or real, upon the rights of the other, would be of all spectacles that have been witnessed in the nineteenth century the most melancholy and disheartening. The reminiscences of the past would but embitter the present, and hold out gloomy forebodings of the future; and the people of the disunited parts, stung by the recollection of wrongs, would be mutually the objects of dislike and hatred, would brood over their calamities until they would be strung up an animosity terminating in bloody wars, such as history has seldom if ever recorded. The fair soil of America would be drenched with blood shed by fraternal hands; discord infernal would reign, and would be arrayed against father, and brother against brother. May Heaven avert the threatened calamity.

THE AUGUST INTEREST.

Gen. J. M. Dickel, the Democratic State Treasurer, paid, at the Bank of Pennsylvania, yesterday before 9 o'clock, A. M., \$929,308 81, the whole amount of the interest on the funded debt of the Commonwealth due yesterday. By the energetic efforts of the State Treasurer, the whole amount had been converted into per funds, and will be paid to the State creditors in specie, or funds at par in the city of Philadelphia. And this has been accomplished "without the necessity of resorting to a temporary loan," or of selling at a discount the funds of the State to convert them into par. We are informed, that since Gen. J. entered upon the duties of State Treasurer, he has paid, at the Treasury, to the creditors of the Commonwealth, and the repairs of the public improvements, a very considerable sum more than was paid during the same time last year, and now has, at his command, to meet any demands upon the Treasury, over \$650,000 00.

In singular contrast with the course of Gen. Dickel, in the payment of the interest in specie funds, reference may be made to the manner in which his immediate predecessor, Gilead J. Bell, the Whig Treasurer, paid the interest during his administration of the Treasury Department. It will be recollected that his great excitement was created in consequence of his having liquidated the interest with specie funds; and Mr. Gilead did not hesitate to boast of it himself in certain of his official papers. It now turns out that that modest lad got four thousand dollars just before he went out of office for expenses in exchanging money below par for specie funds.—General Dickel, however, exchanged all his depreciated funds without one dollar's expense to the State, and paid the whole amount into the Pennsylvania Bank yesterday. The contrast is significant, and may be useful.—*Pennsylvanian* of Friday.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.—On Saturday afternoon last, about 4 o'clock, the town of Ashland, in Delaware county, was visited by a severe thunder storm, which resulted in the death of three persons. We are informed that a auction sale was being held at that place, at which was a large crowd of people, when a flash of lightning struck and almost instantly killed Mrs. Rachel Dutton, aged 60 years; her son, Mr. Nathan Dutton, aged 30 years, and a man by the name of Slaughter. Several others were prostrated by the shock, some of whom were slightly injured.

THE PRESENT CABINET.

Mr. Fillmore in the selection of his cabinet has not manifested that judgment and discernment, which would lead to believe he would. Judging from the character which had been heralded of him by the organs of his party, we had thought at the present crisis, and surrounded as he is by unfortunate circumstances, he would have paused a sufficient time to weigh all contingencies, ere he elevated to such high stations the men whom he has taken to his confidence and councils. This was particularly necessary after the stigma which has been cast upon their predecessors, and adheres to them as the poisoned shirt of Nessus. Never since the organization of the government has there a Cabinet reared with so little honor, nay with so much odium and disgrace, as the one which lately fled from the scene of their mal-administration.—We say not, with a partisan spirit, or as the votaries of the Democratic party, but from a consciousness of a wrong done in the name of the people by their chosen agents in the high places of the government.

Probably at no prior period in the history of this nation has the chief magistracy stood in so much need of counsellors possessing sound judgment and love of country as at the present. The momentous questions now agitating the public mind require the firm and deliberate opinions of enlightened and patriotic men. The affairs of our country are thought by many to be in a critical situation, and we may without improperly reflect as to the capacity or willingness of the newly appointed cabinet to disentangle the knotted chain of national difficulties, and devise measures adapted to the emergency. We desire not to ponder with useless forebodings on the future.

The worst feature of the present cabinet is the appointment of Thomas Corwin, of Ohio, as Secretary of the Treasury. He is to be one of the President's advisers for the residue of the Presidential term. He is to be one of the men who are to unravel the mysteries of the Galphentines. He may be a great and good man in the estimation of Mr. Fillmore, but in the view of his countrymen, the gentlemanly of the people, he could not have made a more unfortunate selection. He is alike unpopular with both parties, and was violently opposed in the Senate, and would never have received a majority had not some of the members retired, which procured for him his confirmation. We are sorry to see such a man hold one thread of the many which go to form the reins of government. An orator he may be, and we believe is, but neither nature, nor education, has endowed him with sufficient prudence and other necessary qualifications for attending properly to the duties incumbent upon him in his present responsible position. He lacks moreover that enlarged patriotism which is an essential element, and the pride, of every true hearted American citizen.

Mr. Fillmore may yet drink to the dregs of a bitter cup, made so by this appointment. But he remembered that the dastardly and traitor like sentiments once uttered by Corwin have not been effaced from the memories of the American people—since the utterance of which, his name has been odious to every true patriot. His name who could proclaim in his official capacity, in the American Senate, the following language, is not worthy of the most menial of the other, would be of all spectacles that have been witnessed in the nineteenth century the most melancholy and disheartening. "I have no objection to my country, but I have no objection to my country." The man who could adopt and promulgate the former sentiment as he did, could easily, like Nero, view the desolation of the land of his birth, and laugh at the calamities of his countrymen.

We do not altogether like the present mode of selecting candidates for United States Senator, says the *Chambersburg Valley Spirit*, and we hope that the next Democratic Convention which assembles in Pennsylvania will reform the system so far as our party is concerned. We care not what plan the opposition pursue.

When the time for electing a Senator comes round, the Democratic members of the Legislature meet in caucus and select the candidate. The gentleman thus selected is (and properly too, under the system) regarded as the choice of the entire party, when in fact nearly one half of the party have had no voice or influence in the selection. In a Democratic legislative caucus, the Democrats residing in counties in which Whig influences predominate, no matter how large the Democratic vote and how small the Whig minority, have no voice whatever in the selection of the man who is to expound their principles in the Forum of the Nation. The choice is made entirely by the Democratic counties, in accordance with usage but in violation of justice. Perry county has a voice and a vote in the matter; while Franklin with double and Lancaster and Allegheny with each twice her Democratic vote; cannot speak in a whisper and have not a feather's weight! In fact—to place the absurdity of the existing system still more prominently before the reader—the sixteen or eighteen hundred Democratic voters of Perry have a share in making the nomination, while the forty-five or fifty thousand Democrats residing in the Whig counties in the State are allowed no part or lot in it! Is there no room for reform here, and should it not speedily come?

In our opinion, the nomination of candidates for the United States Senate ought to be taken out of the hands of members of the Legislature, and be vested in the State Convention, to which every county sends delegates and whose the whole body of the Democracy is represented. What say our cotemporaries to this?

The Cholera, it seems, has made its appearance in Uniontown, in this State, and is proving very fatal. A number of highly respectable people have fallen victims, among whom we regret to state, is John Irons, Esq., editor of the *Genius of Liberty*, which paper he had conducted many years with marked ability. Mr. Irons was a staunch Democrat, a good citizen, and an honest man. His sudden death will be deplored by a large circle of friends in his own county, and throughout the State.

In Pittsburgh the prevalence of the cholera is beginning to create much alarm. From some unexplained cause they have no sanitary committee to report a correct list of deaths, though the cholera is evidently increasing. On Sunday there were thirty interments. This is perhaps a slight exaggeration. The fatality appears to be confined principally among the Germans and poor classes. The immoderate use of vegetables is the principal cause.

NOVEL ARGUMENT FOR A PARTY MAN.

The editor of the *Mercer Press*, who is himself a candidate for Congress, in the Mercer district, has undertaken to justify the course of Gen. Cameron and Wilnot, and to take those to account who contend that the first should not be returned to the U. S. Senate, and that the second has forfeited all claim to the name of a Democrat. The propriety of the discussion of the merits of these gentlemen, is manifest; for the one is unmistakably a party man, and the other looks forward to be returned to Congress from the 13th district. It is the duty, then, of the Democratic press to sound the alarm. To fail in this duty is to perpetrate a wrong upon the people; and to evade it, is only a more consumable way of proving recreant to a plain trust.

The argument of the editor of the *Mercer Press* was brought home to himself, he would be painfully convinced of its true character. His justification of the disorganizing course of General Cameron, who was elected by pledges to Whigs and Natives, against the regular Democratic candidate for Senator; and his apology for Wilnot, who went against Cass after being pledged to go for him; who used his position in the Senate, and who finally arrayed himself against the Democrats in the last House of Representatives in Congress; both justification and apology can be, and may be, used against himself, should he get the nomination of the Conference for Congress. Indeed, this justification and this apology may have the very effect of including Gen. Cameron and Wilnot in the district in which he is a candidate; for if the logic of the *Mercer Press* is true, then its editor, or any other Democrat, may have a unanimous nomination, and be opposed by a volunteer, professing to be a Democrat, in the face of pledges to the contrary, and who may be elected by a majority purchased by corruption and deceit. If the same doctrine is followed out, the attempt of such a man, after his successful election, to get back into power, is not to be denominated for fear of dividing the party! We wish no such sad experience to the gallant Democracy of the Mercer district. They have a noble and a noble enough, and to spare, and we hope they may be harmonized upon a candidate who will unite all sections of the party. But this result is not to be produced by apologizing for and defending two of the most thorough disorganizers in our State, at this moment, too, when they are both again demanding favor at the hands of the people.

The North Carolina Election.
WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.
By a despatch just received from North Carolina, by a member of the House, I learn that the Democrats have gained 2,500 votes in the counties heard from in North Carolina. The Democrats have gained six members of the Legislature. The Legislature will doubtless be Democratic.

Mr. Bates of Missouri, who has been tendered the appointment of Secretary of War in President Fillmore's Cabinet, it is asserted, has positively declined; his reason for so doing being strictly of a private nature. It is said that his legal practice is worth from twelve to twenty thousand dollars per annum.

The Cabinet.—Mr. Henry S. Grier has declined the Secretaryship of the Interior. He prefers, no doubt, commotion to the Senate. No Secretary of War yet. Gen. Scott answers admirably *ad interim*.

DUEL IN VIRGINIA.—An altercation took place at Portsmouth, Va., between a Dr. Bright of that place, and Dr. Wm. White, of Deep Creek, when the former shot the latter badly in the cheek. They then departed.

FALL OF AN IRON RAILROAD.—FIVE PERSONS KILLED.—We learn from the New York Courier, who received the intelligence from a passenger by the last train, that the iron bridge over the valley and creek about three miles and a half above Lackawanna, on the New York and Erie Railroad, had given way and precipitated seventeen cars, containing 100 head of cattle, 300 sheep and 300 hogs. Five men were killed and two seriously injured. The loss is estimated at \$200,000. The accident occurred on Wednesday, August 4th. There were twenty-two cars, and though the locomotive got over safely, the tender and fifteen cars were precipitated into the ravine, which was sixty feet wide and twenty-five feet deep. The ravine was completely filled up by the wrecks of cars and animals. The sixteenth car was wrecked on end, on the top of the heap of cars; and the cars which were over it were piled up and completely shattered, killing or wounding hundreds of the animals. The conductor of the train, two brakemen and two drivers were buried in the ruins. The first was soon extricated alive, though badly wounded. Two or three of the others could be seen among the ruins and were able to converse for an hour or two. One of them was finally gored by an ox and another appeared to be dead. Another was still alive and calling for assistance. Drink was handed down to him, but he was buried so deep that there was little chance of his being got out alive. Some of the men were unhurt, but the great mass of them were killed or horribly mangled, having their horns and legs broken, and being wounded in various ways by their struggling among themselves.

ANOTHER HORRID MURDER IN BRADFORD.—We learn that a man named Benjamin Wilcox, residing in Towanda township, Bradford county, about two miles from the borough of Towanda, killed his wife by stabbing her with a pocket-knife through the heart, on Sunday afternoon last, at about 2 o'clock. Wilcox has been a very temperate man for many years, although very humane. His infatuation, however, caused a separation between himself and wife some years since, the latter taking up her residence with some friend not far distant, with her two daughters, and as it appears from the circumstances of this tragedy, occasionally doing some work for him, such as making and repairing his clothes, &c.

It seems that a few days previous to the murder he had carried some cloth to his wife and requested her to make some pantaloons for him. She assured him she would do so, if he would first cut out for her as he was wont to do, and she died with the fit of his garments she declined cutting them. He then left her, and did not go near her again until Sunday, when he asked her if she had made up her mind to cut and make the garment in question. She answered in the negative, whereupon he replied that he had made up his mind, and immediately drew a knife and stabbed her three times, once through the heart and causing her to stagger and expire within a few seconds. A daughter who was present and undertook to interpose had her hand cut quite seriously. Wilcox then rallied the neighbors being near by, informed them of what he had done, and surrendered himself into the hands of the Deputy Sheriff, who conveyed him forthwith to jail.

But the tragedy, soul-revolting as it is, ends not here. Scarcely had the Deputy Sheriff and his attendants turned their faces from the jail door to part with the prisoner, when he was discovered by a young boy, lingered behind, to be committing self-destruction, with another knife, which he was plunging rapidly into his own breast. Ingress was immediately made, and the weapon extracted from him although he had succeeded in inflicting several wounds—one of them through his lungs—when it is thought will prove fatal. He did not, however, fully exhibit his object, and when the knife was wrested from him we were told he pleaded in the most beseeching tones to have it returned, that he might make a finish of himself at once. He declared his unalterable determination to kill himself, and he wanted the privilege of completing the deed then, that no further trouble might accrue. It is scarcely necessary to add that his request was not complied with.

The above particulars we obtained from several Towanda gentlemen, whom we met on Monday last.—*Montrose (Pa) Democrat*.

Balloon Ascension.

The following account of a singular Balloon Ascension, which took place in Paris, on the 7th ult., is taken from a letter published in the New York Courier. The letter is dated 8th of July, and the writer says:

Yesterday I was witness, as was all Paris, of a balloon ascension, which was perhaps unique in the history of aviation. Margot ascended in 1820, mounted upon a stag, but both he and Poltrin ascended on horseback and while a car, The horse a fine and spirited young white car, was suspended beneath the balloon, in the place usually occupied by the car. Bands passed beneath the belly and well secured, left the actual in easy position, with the legs free. M. Poitevin, clothed as a jockey, mounted the horse, which was saddled and bridled in the ordinary manner, and gave orders to cut loose. The horse seemed loth to quit his mother earth, and remonstrated a little when he found that he was being taken away from his feet. But once in the air he became as motionless as though he had been struck with paralysis. He must, in fact, have been not a little astonished, and it probably was that astonishment which struck him dumb and motionless. They moved off and up rapidly, now high, now seen amidst the clouds in a north-east direction. We have not yet had accounts of the descent and do not know whether it was happy and safely effected.

Standing Committee Meeting.

Agreeably to previous public notice, the Standing Committee of the Democratic party of Cumberland county, met at the public house of Christian Hoffmann, on Saturday the 3d of August, and organized by the appointment of SAMUEL WOODBURN, Esq., Chairman, and J. H. GRAMM, Esq., Secretary, when the following proceedings were had:

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be recommended to the Democratic Voters of Cumberland county, to meet in their several Townships, Boroughs and Wards, at the place of holding township elections, on Saturday the 17th of August instant, and elect between the hours of two and six o'clock P. M. of said day, two delegates from each township, borough and ward, and that the delegates thus elected, meet in Convention at the Court House, in Carlisle, on Tuesday the 20th instant, to nominate a County Ticket, appoint Congressional and Senatorial Candidates, and perform such other duties appertaining to said Convention.

Resolved, That those proceedings, signed by the officers, be published until the delegate elections, in the Democratic papers of this county.

SAMUEL WOODBURN, Chairman.
J. H. GRAMM, Secretary.

DEED.

On Tuesday evening last, of Scarlet fever, Amy Ezra Krasak, daughter of the Rev. A. H. Kremer, of this place, aged 9 years.

WANTED.

GOOD MEN, to locate or travel in each of the counties in this State, to sell "Gillmore's Patent Bee." This is a recent and scientific plan of bee arrangement, and must supersede all others—it has, please know.

Smart business men—If Mechanics, the better will find this a good business for at least two years, the whole or one-half of a county right will be sold.

For description, take the cars and come to Lancaster; see the bees work. Call at my room and see perfect models of the whole. Address: post paid, J. B. MAYNARD, General Agt. for Pa. Lancaster Aug. 8, 1856.—4t

NOTICE.

An election will be held to elect Thirteen Managers for the Cumberland Valley Mutual Protection Company of Dickinson township, on Monday the 2d day of September next, at the office of said Company, in Dickinson township. Said Managers to serve one year. Election to be held between the hours of 9 o'clock A. M. and 4 P. M.

Estate Notice.

J. E. TITZEL, Administrator of the estate of Peter Baker, late of the Borough of Mechanicsburg, Cumberland county, Pa., deceased, has been granted by the Register of said county, the 31st day of August, for the purpose of examining and settling the estate of said decedent, and for the purpose of settling the same, to take charge of the Schools of said District, for the ensuing term. By order of the Board.

TEACHERS.

The Board of Directors of Dickinson District, Cumberland county, will meet at the house of Mr. V. Shannon, (Stone Tavern), in said District, at 9 o'clock A. M., on Saturday the 31st day of August, for the purpose of examining and settling the 14 Teachers, to take charge of the Schools of said District, for the ensuing term. By order of the Board.

LIST OF LETTERS.

ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "VOLUNTEER" BY APPOINTMENT.
LIST OF LETTERS remaining in the Post office at Carlisle, Pa., Aug. 1st, 1856. Persons inquiring for letters on this list, will please say they are advertised.
Adams Jos
Armstrong James
Anckerman Henry
Alkin R W
Blower John
Bender Miss Mary
Barkholder Daniel
Boyer Michael H
Bright Geo
Bentley James
Cooler David T
Covey John J
Cramer David
Gibson Roy R G
Golton Miss
Chenoweth Bixton
Corman Mrs Nancy
Crouzer John
Crotter Robert
Collins Abraham
Carl Jacob
Cumberland Valley Mut. P. Co.
Union Protection Com.
Donnerst Jacobs G
Dorsey Harman
Ritter Samuel
Erwin Henry
Poster John
Furst Thomas
Fleming J Esp
Foster Christian S
Fork John B
Graf Lewis
Gross Prissilla
Grier Samuel C
Graf Ludwig
Glinery Thomas
Gibson John
Gibson Otes
George Frederick
Horr Christian
Haverstick Andrew
Hara Miss Ellen
Howard J P M
Holmes Mrs Susan
Inckel Miss Allison Ann
Hamilton Douglas
Hodgman Leonard
Hippelhammer Jos
Haughtingham Chapman
Johnston Miss Mary A
John Peter
Keary John
Kennedy L B
Keebler Miss Mary
Kulandson Cyrus
Kilgus John
Kilgus William
Lindsey Alexander
McCoy Ann Eliza
McCart Miss Mary
Mealy Alexander
Meady Abram
Meyer George
O'Brien Mrs
Parker Mrs Andrew Q
Peters R S
Ringwalt Mrs Sarah
Rankin Miss Margery
Rutter U C
Richardson Lorinda
Rohlander Godfred
Rohlander Office of
Ritter Samuel
Snider Miss Mary
Smith Margaret
Saxon Miss Jane
Sander Eugene
Sanders Hilly A
Sander Susan
Thompson Miss Susan
Sullivan Jeremiah
Swiger Eleonor
Shaffer John
Shreiner Martin
Stro Miss Susan Q
Thompson Harrietta
Thompson John
Troest Daniel
Yennadlin Jos
Vainum William
Wagner Miss Elizabeth
Woolson Roswell
Wright Hoy F G
Whitnight Lydia Ann
N. HANTON, P. N.