THE VOLUNTEER.

John B. Bratton, Editor and Proprietor.

CARLISLE, JANUARY 22, 1852.

☞The snow storm of Sunday last has almost completely blocked up the roads in this section, and in some places the drift is very great, rendering the by roads utterly impassable. It is now some days since we received a mail from Philadelphia, and of course we can give but little of the recent news.—The cars between this place and Harrisburg have been prevented from running regularly, and we have not yet received a copy of Gov. Bigler's Inaugural Address. We will publish it next week.

☞The Congressional and Legislative proceedings which we have received lately are barren of interest, so much so, indeed, that we deem it unnecessary to publish them. They relate almost exclusively to Kossuth and his mission. As a matter of interest to many of the citizens of Cumberland county, we give the following item of Legislative proceedings:

In the House of Representatives, at Harrisburg, on Wednesday, January 14, Mr. Henderson, on leave given, presented the petitions asking that the Carlisle Deposit Bank may issue notes, and that its name be changed to that of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank of Carlisle.

☞Col. Albert C. Ramsey, of York, Pennsylvania, (formerly of Carlisle,) returned to New Orleans, on the 31st ult., in the brig Tehuantepec, from Mexico, where he has been spending some months. He is in good health.

Judge Graham's Charge.

We publish on the first page of to-day's *Volunteer*, the able and excellent Charge of his Honor, Judge this county, at the opening of the January Sessions. We have heard but one opinion expressed in relation to it by those who were fortunate enough to hear it, and that is one of high commendation and approbation. The Charge is well written, and the suggestions contained in it are appropriate, and should be carried into effect. Believing that all our readers are anxious to see this document in print, we take pleasure it laying it before them at as early a day as possible.

Our Colored Population.

We mentioned, a week or two ago, that a rumor prevailed here, to the effect, that many of our most respectable and wealthy colored citizens, having disposed of their real estate, were about to emigrate to Toronto, Canada. We now learn that this is the settled determination of quite a large number of our colored population, and in the spring the first move will be made by the departure from Carlisle of several families. Others will follow, from time to time, as the necessary preparations can be made. They are induced to this course by the belief that in the dominions of Queen Victoria they will enjoy more real liberty than what they can ever expect to obtain in the United States.

Cumberland Fire Company.

At a meeting of the "Cumberland Fire Company," held at the Court House, on Saturday evening, the 17th instant, the following gentlemen were elected Officers of the Company for the following year:

President—JOHN B. BRATTON.
Secretary—Philip Quigley.
Treasurer—Henry S. Ritter.
1st Director—Henry J. Kelly.
2d Director—John Kreemer.
Committee of Accounts—Jason W. Eby, Robert Lamberton, Henry Anderson.
Committee of Repairs—Solomon Stouffer, Fred'k. R. Hays, Christian Kuhn.
Ladder Committee—Willim Hoffer, William S. Ramsey, Stephen Pendergrass.

This Company, we are happy to be able to state, is now in a prosperous and flourishing condition, and it numbers among its members many of the most active and hardy young men in the borough. In case of fire, the Cumberland Fire Company could now act in an efficient and united manner.

Agricultural Societies.

We perceive by our exchanges, that in many of the counties of this State, the agricultural portion of the community are beginning to awake to a sense of their true interests, and the formation of Agricultural Societies is progressing at a rapid pace. In some of the Eastern counties, Berks for instance, meetings have been held, plans suggested, and committees appointed, and it is expected that flourishing societies will soon be formed upon a *permanent* basis. We hope the farmers of every county in the Commonwealth will take measures to form efficient Agricultural Societies. No county should be without one. Now is the time, during the dull season of the year, to move in this matter. Let the most intelligent farmers join together, form a society, and subscribe for some good agricultural work, such as the *Farm Journal*, make judicious experiments, and a vast deal will be learned that will be of advantage to them hereafter.

In this county, an Agricultural Society, established mainly through the instrumentality of Hon. Fred'k. Watts, Major William M. Henderson, Mr. Richard Parker, and a few other public-spirited gentlemen, existed, and flourished for some years, with varied success. During the few years of its existence, it was instrumental in effecting much good; but the farmers, whose interests it was mainly intended to promote, soon tired in well doing, and permitted it to languish, and finally to die. After the persevering exertions of the gentlemen just named, this was certainly an unlooked for return on the part of our agricultural fellow citizens, and was an error which none should regret more than the farmers themselves.

At the recent Agricultural Fair, at Harrisburg, it is true, the citizens of Cumberland county appeared to much advantage, and perhaps obtained more premiums, diplomas, &c., than the citizens of any other county in the Commonwealth. It is probable, however, that had their agricultural organization been preserved, their success would have been still more signal and complete. We do hope our farmers will imitate the example of those of Berks, and at once set about forming an Agricultural Society, or at least resuscitate the old one. In this laudable effort, we doubt not, they would again have the active support and co-operation of Judge Watts and others.

Pennsylvania Farm Journal.

The January number of this stirling Agricultural Journal has been upon our table for some time, but through inadvertency, we have heretofore neglected to notice it. Although this publication is yet in its infancy, it is certainly competing with many of the older Agricultural publications of the country. The January number of the *Farm Journal*, among other original matter, contains an interesting communication from the pen of the Hon. Frederick Watts, of this borough, which we will take the liberty shortly of transferring to our own columns. The selections made by the publisher are good, and always in proper season. We heartily recommend it to the patronage of every farmer in Cumberland county, and should feel happy to be enabled to send the publisher a score or two of additional subscribers. Lancaster, Pa. A. M. Spangler, Publisher. Price, $1 00 per annum.

Singular Deception.—Some abolitionists in Boston, last week, contributed funds sufficient to defray the expense of a large hall for one evening, at South Boston, in order to hear a colored man, who had been a slave, give an account of his life. Instead of opposing slavery, however, he surprised and confused the contributors by defending it, and said he had no objection to going back to "Old Virginia." He was frequently interrupted, but persevered to the end of his statement.

WINTER SPORTS—SLEIGHING.

"Hark! the bells, they ring away!
'Tis the merry, merry sleigh!"

Since the heavy fall of snow we had two weeks ago, the sleighing in this section of country has been of the best quality, the weather not too cold, the roads in tolerable order, and everybody, together with "everybody's relations," have been enjoying it to their heart's content, and to the utmost perfection of that exhilerating and bewitching amusement. As if to make up for lost time, some of the "young 'uns" have been indulging in it night and day, and our ears have been continually tickled with the cheering music of the merry sleigh bells. It is a luxury which we cannot afford to indulge in, at least to any great extent, yet we are glad to see the young folks enjoy themselves while they may. A little cheerful recreation at this season of the year is conducive of much good, and beneficial to the exhausted frame of man, and woman too!

Among the places resorted to by the lovers of fun, frolic, and good cheer, none are in more request than Jack's Hotel, at the Newville Depot; Moore's, and Rupley's, Papertown, and Conman's, at the Springs. The Proprietors of these fashionable places of resort, since the present sleighing season commenced, have been doing a flourishing business, and have, doubtless, reaped a profitable harvest. Daily and nightly, spanking teams of spirited horses, attached to sleighs, sleds and jumpers, the vehicles filled to overflowing with belles and beaux, in all the pride of youth and beauty, and all actuated by the same motive—the pursuit of pleasure and innocent enjoyment—have sped their way to one or other of those resorts, and spent a social and happy evening, in festive sports, in pleasant conversation, or in the mazy figures of the dance. So great has been the rush of pleasure seekers, that at every hour of the night and morning, we have heard the joyous shout and merry laugh of the revellers as they returned from those happy festive gatherings. This, together with the continual tinkling of the bells, forcibly reminded us of the sweet song, entitled "*The Bells*," the production of poor Poe, a stanzas of which we copy:

Hear the music of the bells—
Silver bells!
What a world of merriment their melody foretells!
How they tinkle, tinkle, tinkle,
In the silent air of night!
While the stars that over-sprinkle
All the heavens, seem to twinkle
With a crystaline delight;
Keeping time, time, time,
In a sort of Runic rhyme,
To the tintinnabulation that so musically swells
From the bells, bells, bells, bells,
Bells, bells, bells—
From the jingling and the tinkling of the bells!

But every thing must have an end, and we trust the sleighing season, pleasant though it be, will soon be over. Whilst the snow has contributed much to the gratification and amusement of one portion of the community, and to the profit of another, there is a third class which has suffered severely from the effects of cold and hunger, caused by its visitation, and we would now with pleasure witness its speedy departure. Fuel and provisions are now unusually high, money and employment scarce, and we believe all would joyfully unite in welcoming the approach of genial Spring—a season which smiles upon and gladdens all of God's creatures, and in whose pleasures and benefits we are all made participants.

☞We learn from the Gettysburg *Compiler*, of the 19th ult., that Mr. Samuel Little, carpenter, of that borough, his two children, and a hired girl, were poisoned, on Monday evening of last week, by his wife (whose mind has for some time been disordered) putting *Arsenic* into their coffee. Mr. Little very soon became sick, when suspicion was excited, and active remedies resorted to. All of them are now doing well, and will recover. Mrs. Little left the in an unoccupied room of a neighbor's dwelling, where she was discovered next morning, and taken to the County Hospital. A year or more ago she attempted to kill her husband with an axe.

☞The Georgia Legislature, by a resolution approved by the Governor, have ordered the withdrawal of the stone heretofore furnished by that State for the Washington Monument, bearing this inscription:—"The Constitution as it is, the Union as it was"—declaring such inscription not in accordance with the sentiment of the people, and providing for the substitution of another stone, bearing only the arms of the State.

The Railways of the U. States.—The American Railway Times, of the 1st instant, contains a list of all railways in the United States, by which it appears that the number of railways in operation is 269, measuring 11,565 miles in length, and constructed at a cost of $335,150,848. The number of railways in course of construction is 74, measuring 11,228 miles. The total number of railways is 337, and the total number of miles in operation and in course of construction is 22,893.

Hon. Henry Clay.—We are rejoiced to hear from an authentic source, that the health of the Hon. Henry Clay is much improved; and most sincerely do we hope, that he may be yet spared many years to his country. He no doubt feels a deep interest in passing events, and we should be glad to find him again able to take his place in the Senate; that his powerful eloquence might be once more heard in defence of his country's interests.

☞It will be realized how well Kossuth can claim the heritage of patriotic blood and pretensions, when it is known that *seventeen* of his family were executed for political offences against despots. His ancestors were celebrated for their opposition to tyranny.

☞It has been generally supposed that the natural *bridge*, in Virginia, was the only geological wonder of the kind in the country. This is a mistake. In Carter county, Kentucky, there is a natural bridge across the Rockbridge branch of the Cany fork of Little Sandy. It is 195 feet wide, 20 feet thick in the middle of the arch, and 107 feet above the water. In the county of Walker, in Alabama, there is another similar natural curiosity, which was discovered in a recent geological exploration. The span is 120 feet, and the height nearly 70. This bridge is formed of sandstone, and is very symmetrical. Large beech and hemlock trees grow on the bridge, and the surrounding scenery is represented as sublime.

☞It appears that for some time before the recent *emeute* in Paris, the Emperor of Russia urged Louis Napoleon, by direct communications, and in the most earnest manner, to dissolve the Assembly, destroy the constitution, and, in fact, pursue precisely the course he has lately taken. Nicholas' instructions to his Minister in Paris appear to be authentic. This must be encouraging to the Frenchmen who have parted with their liberty and their honor.

Virginia.—Gov. Johnson, the first Governor under the new Constitution, in his message to the Legislature, recommends that the Assembly should direct its attention to the state of Agriculture, and devise means for promoting and aiding that interest. He alludes to the State debt, and states the deficiency in the revenue of this year at $518,811. He recommends Internal Improvement to the immediate consideration of the Assembly, and then points out in minute detail the several roads and canals which he recommends the construction of at whatever cost, and concludes with an opinion condemning the Compromise as unjust, but at the same time suggesting that Virginia should preserve her attitude with as little agitation as possible.

4th of March Convention.

Columbia County.—The Democratic County Convention of this county assembled in Bloomsburg, on the 12th instant, and appointed John M'Reynolds, Esq., Representative delegate to the 4th of March State Convention, and instructed him for James Buchanan for President; and Gordon F. Mason, of Bradford county, for Canal Commissioner.

Butler County.—The Democracy of Butler county met in Convention, on Tuesday week, and appointed Hugh M'Kee Senatorial, and John Graham as Representative delegates to the 4th of March Convention. They were unanimously instructed for the Hon. James Buchanan for the Presidency.

Latest from the Rio Grande.—By the late New Orleans mail, we learn that the campaign on the Rio Grande is about to be renewed. Caravajal is in the mountains, with a considerable force, and is making preparations for a formidable demonstration. Information has been received that a man named Scott was raising men in Texas to join the rebel forces, and had succeeded to a greater extent than had been anticipated. It was rumored at Brownsville that Gen. Avalos has received orders from the city of Mexico to compromise with Caravajal at all hazards; also that Col. Dominguez, who commanded the Mexican spy company under Gen Scott, during the late war between the United States and Mexico, had made overtures to Gen. Caravajal lately to be received into his army. The campaign was to be opened on the 1st of January. Something of the arrest of an American in Mexico, who had been ordered to be shot, is mentioned, but this is not new, for it had been published [illegible]

Grade of Passed Midshipmen.—A memorial to Congress is in circulation among the officers of the United States Navy, and has been signed by a large number of them, asking that the rank, duties and compensation of Passed Midshipmen may be specified and regulated by law. At present, it appears, it is by no means rare to find in one vessel of a squadron, a passed midshipman doing midshipmen's duties, and on board of another, a midshipmin performing the duty of a lieutenant. The passed midshipman of perhaps thirty years of age, is often the occupant of the same apartment with the midshipman of 15, and can be made to perform the same duties.

Progress of Intelligence.—The report of a committee in the Massachusetts Legislature upon counting the votes for Governor, reveals the fact that there are clerks and selectmen in more than *forty* towns in that State who are not familiar with the simplest elements of arithmetic, who cannot count up, or add up correctly a few hundred votes. This is nothing singular, however; it has been shown repeatedly that some of the judges and inspectors of the elections in Philadelphia county have, been unable to count the votes correctly and make out a proper return. Considering how much money has been spent on common schools, in both Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, the fact is rather discreditable to the individuals, or those who selected them to perform so important a duty.

Drawing too Tight!—Louis Napoleon has, by this time, no doubt consummated the threatened abolishment of the "Masonic Lodges" in France, as places where suspicion and fear, those rankling thorns of tyrants, can see lurking some of the unextinguished sparks of freedom. Thus he will go on, from one extremity to another, till he suspects everybody's hand raised against him, creating, by his own apprehensions, the very danger that will eventually consume him. Tyrants are their own worst enemies, and Louis Napoleon, in drawing the cords too tight, will thus strangle himself in the noose that he has [illegible] for others.

Change.—The London *Morning Chronicle*, in reply to the proposition of the absolute governments of Europe, that England shall cease to be an asylum for political refugees, gives Louis Napoleon, Schwarzenberg, and the rest, who hold power on the brittle tenure of popular hatred, a hint that they may want such an asylum *themselves*, some of these fine mornings, before breakfast. The argument is apt enough, and cannot fail to be conclusive, even if this was the rock on which Lord Palmerston split, in refusing assent to so degrading a proposition. Scarcely a steamer arrives from Europe, that does not announce some *change*, not foreseen or calculated by common society.

A Perilous Situation!—Dr. Kane, in one of his lectures at Washington on the subject of the Exploring Expedition, in describing the various perils to which the vessels were subjected, said that at one time the vessels were about to enter Baffin's Bay fast in a great field of solid ice, when suddenly this was rent into chasms, which rapidly opened into what were characterized by Dr. Kane as "dark rivers" nearly half as wide as the Potomac. On the 13th of January of last year these began to close with frightful clamor and disruption. The brig was bodily lifted up seven feet, and an advancing mound of ice threatened to overwhelm her, when by some miraculous agency its course was arrested.

Austrian Opinions on America.—Dei Lloyd and the Official Correspondent both devote a column to the message of the American President; the former, however, directs his attention chiefly to the reception given to Kossuth, and the effect likely to be produced on the policy of the States by the Hungarian agitator. The writer states that Kossuth may think himself most fortunate if he can amass half the sum raised by Jenny Lind to retire upon. In the course of the article the writer gives it as his opinion that America is too wise to commence a war of aggression in Europe until she has got rid of Spain and England in her own hemisphere, to both of whom he kindly accords another half century's enjoyment of their positions in that quarter of the globe. The Correspondent is only half satisfied with the President's disavowal of the Cuban expedition, which should have been foreseen and prevented. As to Kossuth's reception being made the subject of parliamentary deliberation, the Austrian organ considers not only out of place, but highly offensive to a friendly power, and calculated to produce much evil in the end, but of a peace with the policy that despatched an American agent to the seat of war in Hungary. American institutions have, in the opinion of the writer, got to go through a fiery ordeal ere they can be pronounced sound or worthy of imitation.

Great Discovery of Minerals.—The Galena Advertiser of the 16th Dec., says that there has recently been discovered within two miles of that place, one of the most valuable leads of mineral ever opened in that vicinity. A shaft has been sunk through it which exhibits a vein or perpendicular sheet thirty-eight feet in height, and varying from twenty inches to four feet in width. One hundred and sixty thousand pounds have already been taken out, and it has been safely proved for 1,000,000.

☞A correspondent of the N York Mirror, writing from Washington, says there is a vast deal of Whig wire-pulling for the Presidency. The friends of Mr. Webster are cheating him, and the New York clique, who profess to be working for him, are secretly favoring Scott. The Boston Atlas, the Albany Journal, the New York Tribune, the Philadelphia North American, Raymond's Times, and others, are all for the General. The Scott men also urge Secretary Graham for the Vice Presidency.

The Riot in the City of Mexico.—The *Trait d'Union*, of the 12th ult., gives an account of the riot at the Capitol of Mexico, which has already been alluded to in a telegraphic despatch:

It appears that a rumor was circulated that the French Minister, taking advantage of the privileges he enjoyed as an Ambassador, had smuggled a considerable quantity of goods. The report coming to his ears, he forthwith requested an examination of the parcels alledged to have been clandestinely imported, and the investigation resulted in the charge being proved entirely unfounded. Some designing persons, however, informed a number of workmen of carriage manufactories that the Minister had imported four carriages from France, without paying duty, and excited them by arguing the act was one, which, if passed unpunished, would encourage like frauds, and greatly injure the business in carriage manufacturing. The workmen, headed by an Alcalde, proceeded to the warehouse of Mr. Wilson, an Englishman, whence, without doing any damage, they went to the carriage establishment of M. Hautau, a Frenchman. Being assured by their leaders that the smuggled vehicles were in this warehouse, they broke into it and destroyed every carriage in the house. The police in vain endeavored to quell the riot, and one of them was wounded by a pistol-shot. The mob which had augmented in numbers, from other mechanics, who sympathised with the carriage makers, was about to commit other violence, when a squadron of cavalry rode up, dispersed the crowd, and made prisoners of the Alcalde and several other of the leaders.

The Artic Searching Expedition.—By the Avon has been received further intelligence of the Behring's Straits Artic Searching Expedition, brought by Her Majesty's ship Dædalus, Captain Wellesely, from Behring's Strait. The Plover Commander Moore, had passed the winter in Grantley Harbor, and was rejoined by the Enterprise, Capt. Collinson, C. B. from Hong-Kong, on the 3d of July, who on the 10th proceeded northward.

Lieutenant Barnard and Mr. E. Adams, both of the Enterprise, had been left at Michaelowski, the Russian trading post in Norton Bay, in October last, for the purpose of collecting information of the missing expedition from the Russian posts and from the natives inland. In pursuance of this object, Lieut. Barnard, with an interpreter, had gone early in January to a distant post, intending to communicate, if possible, with some of the neighboring chiefs. During the night the post was surrounded by a large body of Ko-yu-kuk Indians, several of whom at day break entered the principle dwelling and killed the Russian governor.—Lieut. Barnard and the interpreter, who were in the same house, made such resistance as drove the Indians out of the house. They then laid seige to the post, sheltering themselves behind wooden shields, stuck upright in the snow; but one of them being soon afterwards shot, the whole party retired to an Esquimaux village at some distance, where they committed great cruelties, killing upwards of 60 natives, including women and children.

Lieutenant Barnard died of his wounds on the afternoon of the day following the attack. Mr. Adams, on hearing of the event at Michaelowski, proceeded with a number of Russians to the post, where he saw the body of his late companion, in which were numerous wounds, the principal one being in the abdomen, of such an extent as to have proved inevitably fatal.

The Press of France is to be regulated by a new law, which will repeal all existing laws on the subject, of which the following are said to be the most important clauses:

Every editor of a journal at present in existence or to be published in future will be bound to deposite security money to the amount of 200,000 francs, (£8,000,) which, in case of conviction, may be increased to 400,000f.

The executive power will reserve to itself the right to suspend the publication of any journal of which the suspension may appear necessary.

Offences of the press are no longer to be submitted to a jury. Special tribunals are to be constituted for that purpose.

Offences of the press are to be classed in three categories:

1st. An attack on the President and on the principle of the Government.

2d. Exciting hatred among citizens.

3d. An attack on religion, family, or property.

Each of those offences may be punished by imprisonment of five years, by transportation for twenty years, and by a fine of from 5,000 to 100,000 francs.

The Great Southern Road.—The N. O. *Delta*, speaking of the Railroad Convention assembled in that city, says:—All concur in the necessity of two great trunk roads—the one to traverse the Mississippi delta, so as to bring the Ohio river within three days of New Orleans, and the other to connect the Rio Grande with the Mississippi—and, ultimately, the Mississippi with the Pacific. On these designs there will be little difference of opinion.

A Distressing Casualty occurred last Sunday week, in Bern township, Berks county, about 7 miles above Reading, by which a young lady, named Miss Miller, aged twenty years, met with an untimely death. Wishing to visit a neighbor on the opposite side of the Schuylkill, at Kunio's Ferry, Miss Miller walked on the ice until she had reached the middle of the river, when the ice broke and immersed her in water up to her arms; but by seizing hold of the edge of the ice, she kept herself from sinking altogether. Her cries brought the neighbors to the shore, and a boat was obtained for her relief, but none had the courage to enter it for her rescue. Those on shore looked on for more than an hour, when the poor girl, becoming exhausted and frozen, slipped off and disappeared under the ice. Even after she had given up her hold on the ice, she swam on the surface for some time, and yet no effort was made to save her life. In a few hours the body was recovered, and an inquest held by Alderman Miller, of this city.

Slaves brought to Cuba.—A letter, dated Havana December 31, states that four cargoes of African slaves, numbering in the aggregate 1960 souls, have lately been landed on that Island. A Spanish brig, with 700 slaves, was detected in the act of landing, and 430 of them seized and bound out for 7 years after which they will be sent to Jamaica.

Texas Produce.—The Austin *South Western American*, estimates that the produce of Texas during the ensuing year, will show an increase of one hundred per cent. over last year. An immense tide of emigration is represented to be flowing into the State from all quarters.

Taxes in New York City.—The increase of taxes in New York City this year over last, is about a half million. The entire tax of the city is three millions, and a half, which, the *Journal of Commerce* says, is out of all proportion to the increase in the wealth and population of the city.

☞Twelve banks have already organized in Ohio under the General Banking Law of that State, and the notes of several of them are getting into circulation. It is said that many more of the Banks of that State will shortly commence operations under the same law.

☞An unknown man was shot, on the 11th inst., in the neighborhood of Hollidaysburg, by one of the police connected with the Pennsylvania railroad.

Five Hundred Persons Destroyed by a Water Spout.

Intelligence was received at Loyd's, under date Malta, Monday, the 8th ult., of a most awful occurrence at the Island off Sicily, which had been swept by two enormous water-spouts, accompanied by a terrific hurricane. Those who witnessed the phenomena, described the water-spouts as two immense spherical bodies of water reaching from the clouds, their cones nearly touching the earth, and, as far as could be judged, at a quarter of a mile a part, travelling with immense velocity. They passed over the island near Marsala. In their progress houses were unroofed, trees uprooted, men an women, horses, cattle and sheep were raised up, drawn into their vortex and borne on, to destruction; during their passage rain descended in cataracts, accompanied with hailstones of enormous size and masses of ice. Going over Castellamarre, near Stabia, it destroyed half the town, and washed 200 of the inhabitants into the sea, who all perished. Upwards of 500 persons have been destroyed by this terrible visitation, and an immense amount of property, the country being laid waste for miles. The shipping in the harbor suffered severely, many vessels being destroyed, and their crews drowned. After the occurrence, numbers of dead bodies were picked up, all frightfully mutilated and swollen.

Ohio.—In the Message of Governor Wood, of Ohio, which has just been laid before the Legislature of that State, no allusion whatever is made to National politics. Amongst many other things of interest to the State, it exhibits its finances to be in a sound and healthy condition, and sets forth the ability of the citizens of Ohio to meet promptly every public engagement without question or doubt. The receipts into the State Treasury for the past year have been $2,878,656; expenditures $2,696,369; taxes, $1,429,207. The public debt amounts to $15,584,693. But, large as it is, it is gradually diminishing, and it is believed will eventually be liquidated without any essential increase of the burdens of the people. Among the subjects of legislation recommended are, a regulation of the mode of applying for pardons; a revision of the Judicial system; an efficient system of common schools throughout the State; suitable accommodations for the insane, blind deaf and dumb, the organization of the militia, and the calling in and protection of the public arms, a revision of the revenue system; fixing the salaries of the judicial and executive officers; the subject of licenses; and the erection of houses of industry for the reformation of Juvenile offenders.

Texas Affairs—The Public Debt.—Papers from Galveston, received by last evening's mails, mention that the bill confirming the action of the Auditor and Comptroller in scaling the public debt has passed the Senate, and is now before the House. An Austin letter writer says, "It will, no doubt, pass without any change in the arrangements of the debt, although efforts have been, and will again perhaps be made for the appointment of a committee to investigate the acts of these Auditors, in arranging and classifying the great mass of claims upon which they have decided, with the view of correcting errors or remedying any injustice that may be found to exist. The proposition has been voted down, because it is believed by some that the Legislature could not make the investigation in short of six months' time; and by others, that if time could be found to make the investigation, it might result in increasing rather than diminishing the debt. The Auditor and Comptroller made a sort of general average in scaling the debt, which unavoidably reduces some claims greatly below, and raises others greatly above, what the government actually realized for them." Gen. Edward Burleson died on the 26th ult., at Austin.—He was a very prominent man in the history of

Sunbury and Erie Railroad.—At the first meeting of the Committee of Three Hundred appointed to receive subscriptions to the stock of this road, held last evening, one hundred thousand dollars was immediately subscribed by twenty gentlemen of the committee. This is a good begining on the part of our citizens, and a happy augury of the success of this important enterprise. The best spirit prevaded the meeting, which adjourned to meet again on the 27th inst., when, no doubt, subscriptions enough will be received to satisfy, not only our own citizens but the city of New York, too, that Philadelphia means to take an *iron* stand on Lake Erie, for the supremacy of the Lake trade.

A Youthful Murderess.—On Saturday morning, in the Philadelpaia Court of Oyer and Termiher, Sarah Gerber, aged 14, a native of Lancaster, Pa., was convicted of murder in the second degree, in causing the death of Florence Miller, an infant, ten months of age, by making it swallow pins and needles. She was the nurse of the child, and gave it the deadly articles to make it fretful, in order that its mother might be obliged to nurse it instead of her. The jury recommended her to mercy. The judgment of the Court was postponed.

Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad Connection with Cleveland.

Pittsburg Jan. 6, 1852.

The Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad connection with the Cleveland and Pittsburg road, was made to day, and passengers came through from Cleveland to this city over a continuous line of rail.

New Hampshire Democratic Convention.

Concord, N. H. Jan. 8.

The Democratic State Convention of New Hampshire met to-day, and was fully attended. Hon. C. G. Atherton was selected as President, assisted by a number of Vice Presidents and Secretaries. Hon. Noah Martin, of Dover, was nominated for Governor, and Asa P. Cate for Railroad Commissioner. A series of resolutions were adopted, re-affirming the former declared principles of the party, and proposing Gen. Franklin Pierce for the Presidency.

The Vote for Governor.

Both Houses of the Legislature met in Convention on Thursday last, and proceeded to count the votes for Governor, when it appeared that

William Bigler had	156,490	votes.
William F. Johnston	178,034	"
Kimber Cleaver	1,859	"

Whereupon William Bigler was declared to be duly elected Governor of Pennsylvania.

The Way they Settle Towns in California.—A Sacramento paper says that within twenty four hours after the first great rush to the spot, a town, a little distance removed, was surveyed, mapped, sub-divided into streets, squares, &c., and in forty-eight hours afterwards it contained a number of stores, taverns, boarding houses or hotels, gambling houses, with monte and billiard tables, and all the usual establishments found in the inland mining towns. Who wonders at nutmegs growing in such a country.

The Christiana Cases Again.—A second edition of the trial of the Christiana Treason cases was commenced in the U. S. District Court, in Philadelphia, on Monday. The negro, Samuel Williams, who, it was alleged, first gave the information to the fugitive slaves at Christiana, that their owner, Mr. Gorsuch, of Baltimore county, and the U. S. Marshal and his officers, were in pursuit of them, was put upon his trial for misdemeanor. District Attorney General Ashmead appeared for the Government, and David Paul Brown, Esq., for the defendant.

The Presidency and Vice Presidency.—The Memphis (Tenn.) Express, of the 27th ult. announces itself in favor of Judge Douglass, of Illinois, for President, and Gen. Pillow, of that State for Vice President.

News Items.

From California.—The steamship *Daniel Webster*, arrived at New York, on Sunday morning, from San Juan, with half a million of gold. The news from California is favorable. The American steamship of war, *Sarance*, had arrived at San Juan, and caused much excitement, as it was understood her visit was connected with the firing into the *Prometheus*. The British sloop *Express* had been recalled to Kingston, Jamaica, by the English Admiral, for the purpose of investigating the affair.

More Gold.—The steamer *El Dorado*, from Chagres January 4th, arrived at New York on Wednesday week at midnight, with the California mails to the 16th, 211 passengers, and $1,390,000 in gold.—The news is unimportant.

Suicide.—The Schuylkill Haven *Miscellany* says: A man by the name of Jeremiah Pollard, in this borough, committed suicide last Wednesday week, by cutting his jugular vein with his pocket knife.—Temporary derangement is supposed to have been the cause. He was a member of the Episcopal church, and esteemed by all who knew him. He was discovered before he had bled to death, but the nature of the wound prohibited medical aid. His wife is almost frantic.

The Christiana Rioters.—We learn from the *Lancaster Examiner*, that 14 out of 28 of the Christiana prisoners have been discharged, either absolutely or on bail. Among those discharged on bail are Elijah Lewis and Castner Hanaway. The indictments for murder and riot will be thoroughly investigated at the ensuing session of the court of Lancaster county.

Louis Napoleon has made his political testament in case he is killed off. He leaves his office to his cousin Lucian, the youngest son of his uncle Lucian; that is, he calls on the people to confirm his successor as they have confirmed him. Five generals are appointed executors of this singular will, namely: Marshal Vaillant, and Generals St. Arnaud, Magnan, Carrelet and Baraguay D'Hilliers.

Dreadful Steamboat Explosion.—The steamer *Magnolia*, from Florida, bound to Savannah, burst her boiler on Friday last, at St. Simon's Island, near Darien. The force of the explosion was terrific, tearing the boat amidships completely in pieces.—Captain McNelly, the clerk, and thirteen others, were killed, and several wounded. The boat is a complete wreck. Forty-five persons, including all the cabin passengers, were saved.

Pittsburgh Municipal Election.—The election for Mayor, of Pittsburgh took place on Tuesday of last week. John B. Guthrie, Dem., has 48 majority over C. B. Sawyer, Whig. The vote for Joe Barker, Ind., was very small.

Relief Notes in Circulation.—From the Auditor General's Annual Report, we glean the following information relative to the "relief notes" which continue to form a portion of the currency of our State:

Original amount issued,	$2,220,265
Amount of old issues redeemed,	2,162,848
Amount of old issues in circulation,	57,417
Amount re-issued and in circulation,	592,746

A Serious Accident occurred on Saturday last, in Lancaster city. Miss Catherine Laucomer, while riding in a sleigh in East King street, was struck immediately above the eye by one of the shafts of another sleigh which was driven by a German in a very irregular and careless manner. Her scull is fractured, and it is feared she will not recover.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *North American*, under date of Dec. 28, says it is well understood in political circles that President Fillmore will take some early and proper occasion to withdraw his name peremptorily as a candidate for the Presidency, and that ever since he succeeded Gen. Taylor, this purpose has been honestly entertained.

We have received a copy of *Norton's Literary Almanac* for 1852. It comprises about 50 pages, and is filled with matter valuable to every reading man in the country. Price 12½ cts. Address Charles B. Norton, 71 Chambers street, New York city.

Hulseman, the Austrian Charge at Washington, is highly indignant, because our government extended the courtesy of hospitable welcome to Kossuth. He is offended with Mr. Webster's speech at the Congressional banquet, and evinces his wrath by withdrawing from all fashionable life in Washington.—Hulseman is represented as being a sensible man—but his devotion to the errors of a tyrannical government, proves him either a knave or a fool.

"In Peace Prepare for War."—The rumor that orders had been received at the Gosport Navy Yard to get ready all the national vessels for sea, seems to be well authenticated. The Norfolk papers of Monday of last week say that orders have been issued at Washington, directing the commanders of the yards at the several stations to report the cost of repairing and fitting out certain vessels now ordinary. At the Gosport yard, directions have been given to get ready with all possible despatch the U. S. sloops St. Louis and Levant, and likewise to examine the U. S. frigate United States, and sloop of war Fairfield, and ascertain what time would be necessary to get them in condition for service.

Death of a Lawyer.—Joseph G. Clarkson, Esq., one of the most esteemed and distinguished members of the Philadelphia Bar, died in that city on Tuesday week.

Baltimore exhibits a steady and rapid growth denoting wealth and prosperity. In the past year, there were eighteen hundred and fifteen brick houses built in that city, assessed at over two million three hundred thousand dollars. In the last five years, nine thousand four hundred and sixty-two houses have been built. The entire taxable basis of the city at the present time is $84,739,642.

Disasters on Western Rivers.—The St. Louis *Intelligencer* publishes a list of the most serious steamboat accidents on the Western waters during the past year. The whole number is 48. Of these 26 were caused ey striking snags and other obstructions in the river; 8 were the result of Explosion; 6 of collisions; 5 of storm. The aggregate loss of life is computed at 227. 68 were the result of collisions, and 148 of explosions. The greatest loss of life in any single instance was at the time of the explosion of the Oregon, in March last, when from 45 to 50 souls perished. The destruction of property cannot fall short of a million of dollars.

A Rabbi in the Legislature.—We notice that before the commencement of business in the Senate of New York, on Monday last, the prayer which is usually offered, was made by Rabbi Wise, the minister of the Jewish Synagogue in Albany. Rabbi Wise is a German by birth, and is one of the most talented of the Hebrew Clergy, in this country. His writings have great force, and are marked with distinguished ability.—N. Y. Express.

Roses and Ice!—What a combination! The Plaquemine (La.) Sentinel, of Dec. 30, says that rose bushes in that place, with full blown roses on them, were on that day thickly covered with glistening icicles. They presented a singular contrast and a very rare sight for that latitude. The recent snow storm also extended all over Florida, and has probably injured the orange-trees to a considerable extent. It is unusual to see such a snow storm in Florida.

Indiana.—In the Indiana Senate, on the 30th ult., the bill for the exclusion of negroes and mulattoes was referred to a select committee, with instructions to amend by substituting more rigorous provisions.