

THE VOLUNTEER.

John B. Gratton, Editor and Proprietor.
 CARLEISLE, MARCH 17, 1853.
 DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.
 FOR CANAL COMMISSIONERS,
THOMAS H. FORSYTH,
 OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY.
 FOR AUDITOR GENERAL,
EPHRAIM BANKS,
 OF HUNTLIN COUNTY.
 FOR SURVEYOR GENERAL,
J. PORTER BRAWLEY,
 OF CRAWFORD COUNTY.

Courts at Carlisle, for 1853.
 Sessions and Open and Closing.
 Monday, April 11. Tuesday, March 22.
 Monday, August 15. Tuesday, August 30.
 Monday, August 23. Tuesday, November 1.
 Monday, November 14. Tuesday, December 27.

Mineral Waters and Sarsaparilla.—We return our thanks to our friend Mr. G. W. BRANDT, of East High street, Carlisle, for a present of several bottles of his superior Mineral Waters and Sarsaparilla. Mr. B. has long been engaged in the manufacture of these healthy and pleasant beverages, and it is his intention to carry on the business on an extensive scale during the coming summer.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE.—The April number of this popular Magazine is now in our hands. No 3 of the new series—embracing 144 pages. It is certainly an excellent number. The articles are mostly original and from the most popular writers; and several of the articles are handsomely illustrated. "The Pilgrims of the great St. Bernard," and "A Day at Waterloo," are excellent articles. Copies may be had at the Bookstore.

Borough Election.
 To-morrow is the day of our Borough election, and we hope our citizens who are in favor of good government and other Borough improvements, will turn out, and vote for such men for Council, Chief Burgess, &c., as will carry out their views promptly, and without shrinking. Four-fifths of our citizens are in favor of an improvement Council, and they should not suffer themselves to be deceived by voting for any man who opposes their wishes. The following ticket was agreed upon by the Democrats of the two wards:

Borough Officers.
Chief Burgess—Micheal McCallan.
Assistant Burgess—William Bell.
Assessors—Henry S. Ritter.
Auditors—John W. Eby, Abner Benz, James Armbury.
Town Clerk—George Spratt.

East Ward.
Jones—Martin Conman.
Scruton—William Park.
Sect. of District—Elynn Cornman.
Constables—Samuel Mullinger.
Town Council—George W. Sheaffer, J. F. Robinson, A. C. Norton, Tobias Miller, James Waggoner.

West Ward.
Judge—Christian G. Snough.
Inspector—Willis Fook.
Justice of Peace—John F. Lamberton.
Constable—William Spotswood.
School Director—Andrew Blunt.
Town Council—John Mell, Rodieall Natcher, Lemuel Todd, Esq., Adam Schemman.

APPOINTMENTS BY GOV. BIGLER.
 F. W. HUGHES, of Schuylkill county, to be Attorney General, in place of James Campbell resigned.
 CHARLES A. BLACK, of Greene county, to be Secretary of the Commonwealth, in place of F. W. Hughes, resigned.

The Harrisburg Union.—In announcing these appointments, says: "This change in the administration is consequent upon the vacation of the office of Attorney General, by the appointment of Judge Campbell to a place in the Cabinet of General Pierce. The position of Attorney General is assumed by Mr. Hughes because the better enables him to pursue his extensive practice in the courts of the county, and the Supreme Court."
 Mr. Black, who has been the principal and a able adviser of a Governor, as a lawyer, is a fine writer, a sound politician, and is a man of considerable political experience in Pennsylvania. He occupied a seat in the Senate of this State with Gov. Bigler, and was always one of his most intimate friends and warm supporters. In that body he was well schooled in the financial and political affairs of Pennsylvania, and the experience he there acquired will add greatly to the value of his services to the Governor and the public.

THE BOUNTY LAND ACT.—The *Ledger* says, the modification of the Bounty Land Act did not get through both Houses of Congress during the session. Strong hopes are entertained by the soldiers and sailors who served in the war of 1812, and their friends, that at the next session they will get 100 acres of land. The justice of the claim is admitted on all hands, and we can not but believe that the bill will pass. The gallant old soldiers of New Orleans recently met on the Jackson battle ground, and adopted the resolutions proposed by the Hon. J. B. Sutherland and passed here at the meeting in December last. His resolutions cover the whole ground, and are every where meeting the approval of the people.

LAW IN OHIO AND DISTRAIN ON BANKS.—The Ohio Legislature, on the 12th inst., passed a bill to amend the Tax law authorizing the County Auditors, in cases where banks refuse to pay the new taxes levied on them, to enter said banks forcibly, and with crowbars, pick axes, &c., break open the safes, vaults, or other places where the money may be, and take the amount of the claimed tax. The vote on the final passage was 20 yeas and 6 nays.

The New Secretary of the Treasury.—Protecting the Revenue.—We are informed, says the *Baltimore Argus*, that Mr. Guthrie, Secretary of the Treasury, has issued an order peremptorily revoking the instructions of Mr. Corwin, by which the half of a large amount of money collected for violations of the revenue laws, in the shape of penalties, was about to be divided among the officers of the customs at the several ports of entry. This is the first step of the new administration towards checking the spirit of Galphim that runs rioting through Taylor and Mr. Fillmore's management. The people everywhere will applaud the movement.

Kentucky is moving. The most magnificent State House in the Union. When finished it will cost \$1,000,000.

OFFICE-SEEKERS AT WASHINGTON.

Letters from Washington represent the city as perfectly besieged by office-seekers. Thus it is at the dawn of every administration. Thousands and thousands of anxious expectants flock to Washington, to offer their valuable services to "the powers that be," and most of them, after weeks of anxiety, are compelled to return to their homes considerably poorer than they had been before. A letter before us mentions the names of a great number of Pennsylvanians who are now at Washington begging for office. Nearly all of them are men who have held office under the State or National Government before—ex-Governors, ex-Members of Congress, ex-Senators, ex-Canal Commissioners, ex-members of the State Legislature, and ex-officers of various grades. These are the men, generally speaking, who annoy, by their presence, a newly inaugurated President. Not one in ten of them are entitled to office, but yet it is a fact they are the men who generally carry off the spoils. The modest, unassuming worthy man, is generally forgotten, and the leaves and fishes are appropriated to old party hacks who make office seeking their business, and gamble in politics. Men of wealth, too, generally succeed over men of poverty. To be poor, it must be confessed, is a great drawback to a man if he desires political patronage. Who ever heard of a poor man being appointed Collector of the Port at Philadelphia or the Port at New York? Or what chance has a poor man ever received the appointment of post-master for any large city, where the salary is a fortune? These offices are reserved for a political "hunker," who can command "the brass."

Such, we say, has been the policy of former administrations. What President Pierce's course will be in this respect, we will not pretend to say. We have no doubt, however, he will strive to do the best, but like every other man, he is liable to imposition. Nearly all the men who apply for office are strangers to him, and he will appoint his own friends, or men who are recommended to him by his predecessors, he will no doubt discover, in the course of time, that it is hard to read the character of men.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature is engaged in passing private bills, but little public business being before it. In the House, on Monday, among the bills which passed Committee of the whole, was one abolishing capital punishment for the crime of murder. After going through Committee with the bill, there seemed to be a general disposition to enter upon its discussion, and therefore the House refused to proceed. The subject of capital punishment is among the most important Bills that can be brought before the Legislature. To the reflecting mind it presents considerations and suggestions which necessarily are calculated to embarrass, and which make the legislator startle at the responsibility which imposed upon him by its consideration. Mercy and pity for the wretch who could take the life of another, undoubtedly have the mastery in most minds, and in such instances were left alone to act, there would be no "death punishment." But after these commendable attributes have acted, and the mind has fully reflected on the subject, then comes the stern and almost unrelenting call for justice, presented with the claims of humanity for protection, until the mind becomes disturbed and distracted, and the object of acting is often cast away as a spirit fraught with evil and unhappiness.

In the House on the 12th inst. Mr. Yost, from the committee on banks, reported a bill with a negative recommendation for the incorporation of the Cumberland Valley Savings Bank.

On the same day Mr. Chase offered a joint resolution that the Legislature adjourn sine die on the 19th inst. Laid over.

COAL LANDS AND IRON ORE IN SOMERSET COUNTY, Pa.—The editor of the *Pittsburgh Gazette*, writing from Myers Mill, Somerset county, Pa., states that immense veins of coal abound in that neighborhood, containing 300 acres of solid coal, twelve feet thick. This coal land has been lately purchased, as a speculation, at \$80 per acre, in prospect of the Conellville Railroad being constructed. In the same neighborhood there is a vein of iron ore six feet thick, and limestone abounds. In the neighborhood of Myers Mills, all the iron needed on the Conellville Railroad can be advantageously furnished.

SETTLEMENT WITH THE U. S. BANK.—We learn from Harrisburg that the Governor has signed the bill settling the several trusts of the U. S. Bank, and setting the judgment obtained by the State against the Bank on account of bonds. We think, we believe, we are now paying the State \$150,000. By doing so, we save our own government a large and needless expense, and, by compromising the judgments lying against it, remove a weight that would forever keep it in the dust. If the Bank has anything after paying its creditors, there is now at least a chance of making it available to the stockholders. We understand the Bank has several hundred thousand dollars worth of property after paying the \$150,000 named to the State.

NEW YORK EXTRAVAGANCE.—At one of our city hotels, a merchant doing business down town has rooms for which he pays four hundred and eighty dollars a week. His family consists of five persons. At another hotel, a Wall street broker—a bachelor—pays one hundred and seventy-five dollars for two rooms. His board and five bills are not included—two items which will probably make his expenses for rooms and board amount to about two hundred and fifty dollars a week. There is a house just finished in Madison avenue, the walls of which are finished off with the most costly paper mache. Another place is now going up on one of the avenues, the painting on the walls of which will cost over one hundred thousand dollars. A rich widow may be seen every day in Broadway, in a carriage that costs over three thousand dollars. There is an old fellow now living in Brooklyn, who four years ago was a journeyman tailor, but who suddenly became rich by the death of a relative, in whose vaults there are stored over twenty thousand dollars' worth of choice wines. These are but a few of the items of New York extravagance.—N. Y. Paper.

DEADLY TRAGEDY AT OLD POINT COMFORT, Va.—A correspondent of the *Baltimore Sun* at Old Point Comfort, Va., in a letter dated Feb. 28, gives the following account of a dreadful tragedy which occurred at that place on the 26th ult.—A sergeant of a command, named Goodwin, who is possessed of a young and interesting wife, cut, stabbed and otherwise mortally wounded a musician of the second regiment of the U. S. Artillery Band in such a manner that he died in about twelve hours after receiving the injury. Cause—seduction of the sergeant's wife. The musician's name is Wm. Weldon or Wm. Wallace. The sergeant, through the whole course of his services in the United States army, has been generally esteemed for his quiet and orderly behavior and conduct. The United States District Court will take cognizance of the matter. The officers here have taken all proper and legitimate measures in the premises.

ODDS AND ENDS.

Beauty—the fading rainbows pride.
 Treachery of lurks in compliments.
 Let those blessed with this world's goods give liberally to all good objects.

One county in Virginia produces annually a quarter of a million dollars worth of pea nuts.

There are sixty-six babies in Charleston, Mass., who have Frank Pierce attached to their names.

Louis Napoleon is 47 years old, his wife only 23.

The fare from Philadelphia to St. Louis is now only \$19. Four years ago it was \$20.

In Iowa—Shad-sh. They vary in price according to their scales, say from 75 cents to \$1 a pair.

Lime water, exposed for hens to drink, will increase the quantity of their eggs.

The demand for an advance of wages by the mechanics, appears to be becoming general throughout the country.

There is no occasion to trample upon the meanness, reptile, nor to speak to the greatest privacy. Insolence and baseness are equally unpraiseworthy.

Recollect youth never comes but once; it is neglected, a life of regret may follow.

Franklin Pierce is the fourteenth President. His initials stand for P. and his name in full contains fourteen letters.

It having been stated that Gen. Tom Thomb drags Champagne, Birnam replies in the *Times* Journal that it is a mistake, as Tom has been a practical tetotaler for 6 years.

Blessed are they who pay their respects to President Pierce and expect nothing, for they shall not be disappointed.

Wrong—to doubt the motives or sincerity of a man who has turned from his civil ways. Judge not lest you be judged.

A man was arrested in York, a few days since, and committed as a vagrant, and on his person was found the sum of \$485 in gold.

The Louisville Courier states that the cholera has appeared among the hogs in several parts of Kentucky, and that one firm lost six hundred in ten days.

An exchange paper says:—"Portwine, as made in Portugal, is a compound made of elder juice, and a variety of secret ingredients. It is made for British and American use."

Mr. Clay once refused, at a dinner, to take precedence of Gov. Jones, of Tenn. "No," said the great Kentuckian, "you are a greater man than I am. You are J. K. Polk, and I could not."

Prohibition of a revolution is strengthened by an article in a German paper published in New York, which affirms that the originator of the revolutionary party in Hungary and Italy is the most fearful, the most complete, and in every respect the best arranged conspiracy that the world has ever known.

The Pennsylvania Canal is now in good building order. All the line boats have proceeded to Columbia for the purpose of receiving their freight, and merchandise to commence forwarding goods to Pittsburg.

Crow, CHAPMAN, CROW!—The election for Post master of Indianapolis, Ind., has resulted in the choice of J. G. Chapman, who had 141 plurality over all competitors.

THE RUSSIAN MANIA.—The report of the Indiana Lunatic Asylum shows that the "Spirit Rappings" is a fruitful cause of insanity in that State. During the past year eighteen persons have been admitted, whose insanity is ascribed to this cause. The reports from nearly all the insane asylums tell the same story.

GENERAL INVESTIGATION.—The National Intelligencer, in the invention of a form of road and improved locomotive, which, he says, will safely transport the mails and passengers, at the rate of one hundred miles per hour! The writer further says he has been made acquainted with the details of these improvements, "which are so happily carried out, so judiciously, and so feasible in practice, that every citizen, once recognized and admitted, as the desideratum, even to the extent of safety and speed above indicated, to secure its adoption, and give to the world the result of the first experiment."

GEN. WASHINGTON'S WATCH.—It is stated that Mr. H. G. Roll, of New York, in his possession the identical watch worn by Gen. Washington. It is represented as a very massive watch, with very thick plain case of pure gold and twenty four carat gold. The watch was made by Messrs. Randall & Bridge in London, England, and is owned by Benjamin Franklin when he was Commissioner of the United Colonies. The watch also strikes the hour, the same as our clocks do.

A BIRD FROM THE FARMERS OF LANCASTER COUNTY.—M. Howell, of Lancaster has just completed a blank for the National Monument at Washington, to be presented by the farmers of Lancaster county. It is of red hard sandstone, and bears the simple inscription of "Lancaster County." The letters have been beautifully gilded by John I. Kiffin. No more appropriate contribution to this great national work could have been presented from that great agricultural "garden."

DISSECTION OF HUMAN LIKIE BY THOMAS INDIAN.—The annual loss of human life from tigers, at Singapore, says Captain Keppel, chiefly among the Chinese settlers, is perfectly fearful, averaging no fewer than three hundred and sixty, or one per diem. Great exertions are still making for the destruction of these animals, which is effected by pitfalls, dug baited with a cog, goat, monkey or some other restless animal, and by sundry cunning contrivances.

The Health Insurance Companies are getting an overhauling in New York. A man, named Writ Lombard, President of an alleged bogus Health Insurance Company at Chicago, Ill., was arrested on a charge of swindling, connected with that company. The concern was called the Combination Company, and among its references are printed the names of Franklin Pierce, Gov. Boutwell, Governor Seymour, who, of course, know nothing of this unjustifiable and fraudulent use of their names. We see by the New York papers of yesterday, that other parties, connected with the "United States Health Insurance Association," are under arrest on a charge of having defrauded a large number of persons out of various sums of money, under pretence of insuring their funds in case of sickness. The public should keep their eyes open in regard to these associations, many of which, with high sounding titles and fair promises, are of the most irresponsible character.

Rumors of another Cuban expedition are revived, but they are without any apparent foundation. The renewed vigilance of the Havana authorities, as to suspected correspondence with filibusters, in the United States, as seen in their examination of the American mail bags, would seem to indicate, however, that there is something in the wind.

We learn from Washington, that the Hon. D. S. Dickinson will be appointed Collector at New York, and that Mr. Buchanan will be appointed Minister to England.

Thirty-Eight City Fathers sent to Prison!

A letter to the *Public Ledger*, dated New York, March 13, says:

A scene was presented in one of our judicial tribunals, the Superior Court this morning, which is the degradation of that most corrupt of all corrupt bodies, the New York Common Council. The judges on the bench presiding on the occasion were Daer and Emmet. All the Aldermen indicted for violating the injunction of the Court in the matter of the Broadway railroad were brought up for sentence, at 11 o'clock. There stood—the city fathers—before the scornful gaze of a crowded Court room, and among many of the spectators a good many who had personally suffered from their official misconduct. A Alderman was sentenced to the State Prison for fifteen days, and to pay a fine of \$350; the others (thirty-six in number) to be imprisoned for a term of ten days, and to pay respectively a fine of \$350 each. There were but two Aldermen out of the whole party who obeyed the injunction, and those, of course, who obeyed the injunction as the sentence was declared, there was a demonstration of applause on the part of the spectators, but it was promptly repressed by the Court. Shame and humiliation, it would seem, were the only sentiments prevailing in the Court, and were expressed by the counsel for some of the convicted, but it is the general opinion of the bar that it will go for nothing. Their honor, therefore, had better get into Black Maria and ride off to the Egyptian tombs as soon as possible.

Prohibitory Liquor Law.
 The following is the preamble and resolutions introduced in the Senate, on Monday last, by Mr. Quince, proposing to submit the question of a Prohibitory Liquor Law to a vote of the people:

Resolved, That for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiment of the people of this Commonwealth in relation to the question of the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, except for sacramental, medicinal, mechanical and agricultural purposes, it may be lawful for the several counties of this Commonwealth, on the second Tuesday of October next, at the places authorized by law for holding the general elections, to express approval or dissent by ballot, to be voted by ballot or printed tickets, containing on the outside the words "Pro Law" and "Against the Law," and the returns of the said ballot shall be made in the manner provided by law for the election of Governor and the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and transmitted to the Speaker of the Senate on the second Thursday of the next month, and the House shall meet in Convention, when said votes shall be counted, and a true record thereof be entered on the journal of each House; and, if one counting the votes so cast, it shall appear that a majority of the said voters have voted in favor of the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, except for sacramental, medicinal, mechanical and agricultural purposes, it shall be lawful for the Governor and the Secretary of the Commonwealth, at their next meeting, to cause a bill to be introduced into the Senate and the House for the purpose and effect aforesaid.

Interesting from Mexico.
 New Orleans, March 9.—We have received Mexican dates to the 21st February. The *Trait d'Union* says—"There is little doubt that Santa Anna will be re-elected. A house has been already erected and furnished for him, and a Mexican regiment sent from Vera Cruz, on the 21st, with a commissioner to invite his immediate return."

ILLINOIS AND SLAVERY.—A bill in relation to free persons of color has been passed by both branches of the Illinois Legislature. It prohibits the entrance of free colored persons into the State, under the penalty of being sold into slavery, and authorizes the admission of slavery if brought in or sent in by their masters.

CITIES OF THE WEST.—The three principal cities of the West have taken their respective censuses, with the following results:

Cincinnati,	160,186
Pittsburgh,	110,500
St. Louis,	87,654

That the reader may see precisely the relative growth of these cities, the Railroad Record appends the United States census of 1850 and the present increase:

	1850.	1853.	Increase.
Cincinnati,	116,108	160,186	44,078
Pittsburgh,	81,000	110,500	29,500
St. Louis,	82,714	87,654	4,940

The increase of Cincinnati is about 31 per cent; of Pittsburgh about 30 per cent; and that of St. Louis about 5 per cent.

A HYPOCRISY.—One of those spunging, time-serving, favor-seeking caricatures of humanity, which is never lost for a good smooth story to tell you at your face, but will inevitably betray you sooner behind your back—was one of the most extraordinary in existence—a wad of the fat dogs of creation thrown in to fill up some trivial vacuum—and will go to the devil fast enough without much looking.

The Mormon Missionaries have been preaching among the Cherokee nation. They have been attentively listened to by large audiences, but have made no converts.

GEN. PEARSE'S POSITION.—The following is the oath, as administered to General Pierce by Chief Justice Taney:

"I do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of the President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

The Washington Union and *Intelligencer* speak in high terms of the Fre Bill prepared by Hon. James X. M'Leanahan, and carried through Congress by his energy and perseverance.

Gen. Peaslee, member of the last Congress from New Hampshire, has been nominated by the President for Collector of the port of Boston.

MISS PEABODY.—Baltimore, March 12.—Mrs. Peabody, the wife of the President, is well in this city. Her health is tolerably well, but her spirits are much depressed.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA MARKET.
 PHILADELPHIA, March 15.
 Flour and Meal.—There is rather more demand for Flour, with sales at \$6 per bushel, at which holders are firm. Selected and fancy brands are held at \$5 a \$6. Rye Flour is steady at \$3 75. Corn Meal—Penna. is dull at \$3 per bushel.
 Grain.—Last sales of Red at 111 a 111 1/2 etc, and 117 a 118 for White. Rye—Common at 81 a \$9 per bushel. Sales of Southern and Penna. yellow Corn at 32c, and extra at 32 1/2. Oats are steady at 43c.
 Whiskey.—Sales in bills are making at 23c, and hides at 22 cents.

BALTIMORE MARKET.
 BALTIMORE, March 15.
 City Mills Flour—Sales on Monday at \$5 and \$4 94. Since then holders have been asking \$5, and the price continues to be demanded to day. A sale yesterday at \$4 94.
 Family Flour.—We reduce our rates, and now quote Baltimore ground family, to the trade, at \$6, 25, and extra at \$6 75.
 Penna's Flour—Sales at \$4 75.
 Rye Flour—Sales at \$3 75.
 Corn Meal.—We have of nothing doing.
 Wheat.—The supplies have been very small, mostly by wagon, and very little by water. On Monday the sales of reds were at 108 a 110c, and of whites at 112 a 118c. On Wednesday best reds were sold at 108c. To day we quote reds at 105 a 107c, and whites at 110 a 115c.
 Corn—Sales on Monday of white at 54 a 55c; on Wednesday at 52 a 54c, and to day at 52 a 53c; Sales of yellow on Monday at 57 a 58c; on Wednesday at 56 a 57c, and to day we quote the same price.
 Rye—A sale of Penna's at 82c.
 Oats—We quote at 33 a 36c for Maryland. A sale of Penna's at 40c.
 Cloverseed.—We note sales of primo at \$7 per bushel.
 Timothy Seed—Sales at \$3 25.
 Beans—Per bushel \$1 25 a 1 37.
 Peas—\$2 75 per bushel bulk.
 Cattle.—There were offered at the scales on Monday 1,200 head of Beeves, of which number 825 were sold to city butchers and packers, 300 were driven to Philadelphia, and 75 left over unsold. Prices ranged from \$2 75 a \$4 25 on the hoof equal to \$5 50 a \$5 25 net, and averaging \$3 62 1/2 gross.
 Hogs—No sales to report, but prices remain as last quoted.

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Political Gossip.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—We learn from an authentic source, that J. D. Hoover, Esq., President of the Jackson Democratic Association, will be appointed Marshall of the District, all rumors to the contrary.
 Among the prominent candidates for the Philadelphia Post Office, are Gideon G. Wescott, Joseph Severs of the *Evening Argus*, and John Miller. Mr. Wescott is strongly backed up by Hon. James Buchanan, Gov. Bigler, and Col. John W. Forney. Mr. Severs has many warm friends, and his claims are strongly urged by the working men of the party. Mr. Miller depends mainly on the personal friendship of the Postmaster General.

In connection with the Collector of Port, David R. Porter, George H. Martin and Charles Brown are mentioned very favorably. The influence of the Buchanan wing of the party is in favor of Gov. Porter.

Appointments and Removals.
 WASHINGTON, March 14.—Mr. Gilbert Redman, late one of the principal Clerks to the Secretary of the Treasury, has been appointed Chief Clerk of the Treasury Department, vice George Harrington, removed.
 Mr. Johnson, of Miss., has been appointed a Clerk to the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, vice Wm. Read, removed.

Vice President King Declines the Oath.
 CHARLESTON, March 13.—The oath of office was administered to the Vice President on the 4th inst. Mr. Rodney, our Vice President, visited Mr. King on the 3d for that purpose; but Mr. K. refused to take the oath of office, feeling that he should never be able to reach Washington to assume the duties of the office, and if he should, the oath could be administered at Washington. The friends, however, who accompany him encourage him, and think the salubrity of his present location may yet restore him to health.

Interesting from Mexico.
 New Orleans, March 9.—We have received Mexican dates to the 21st February. The *Trait d'Union* says—"There is little doubt that Santa Anna will be re-elected. A house has been already erected and furnished for him, and a Mexican regiment sent from Vera Cruz, on the 21st, with a commissioner to invite his immediate return."

ILLINOIS AND SLAVERY.—A bill in relation to free persons of color has been passed by both branches of the Illinois Legislature. It prohibits the entrance of free colored persons into the State, under the penalty of being sold into slavery, and authorizes the admission of slavery if brought in or sent in by their masters.

CITIES OF THE WEST.—The three principal cities of the West have taken their respective censuses, with the following results:

Cincinnati,	160,186
Pittsburgh,	110,500
St. Louis,	87,654

That the reader may see precisely the relative growth of these cities, the Railroad Record appends the United States census of 1850 and the present increase:

	1850.	1853.	Increase.
Cincinnati,	116,108	160,186	44,078
Pittsburgh,	81,000	110,500	29,500
St. Louis,	82,714	87,654	4,940

The increase of Cincinnati is about 31 per cent; of Pittsburgh about 30 per cent; and that of St. Louis about 5 per cent.

A HYPOCRISY.—One of those spunging, time-serving, favor-seeking caricatures of humanity, which is never lost for a good smooth story to tell you at your face, but will inevitably betray you sooner behind your back—was one of the most extraordinary in existence—a wad of the fat dogs of creation thrown in to fill up some trivial vacuum—and will go to the devil fast enough without much looking.

The Mormon Missionaries have been preaching among the Cherokee nation. They have been attentively listened to by large audiences, but have made no converts.

GEN. PEARSE'S POSITION.—The following is the oath, as administered to General Pierce by Chief Justice Taney:

"I do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of the President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

The Washington Union and *Intelligencer* speak in high terms of the Fre Bill prepared by Hon. James X. M'Leanahan, and carried through Congress by his energy and perseverance.

Gen. Peaslee, member of the last Congress from New Hampshire, has been nominated by the President for Collector of the port of Boston.

MISS PEABODY.—Baltimore, March 12.—Mrs. Peabody, the wife of the President, is well in this city. Her health is tolerably well, but her spirits are much depressed.