

THE VOLUNTEER.

John B. Bratton, Editor and Proprietor.

CARLEISLE, DEC. 18, 1853.

Our thanks are due, and are hereby tendered our Congressman, Hon. W. H. Curtis, for his attention in sending us papers and documents.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—On Saturday afternoon last, as the burden train from Harrisburg was passing up East High street, the horses attached to the wagon of Mr. Jacob Kurz, of North Middleton township, which had been left by the driver standing in front of Hiltor's store, became frightened, and every effort to restrain them proved abortive. They rushed towards the locomotive, and the two front ones, a mare and horse, were so horribly mutilated, that they had to be instantly killed. They were valued by their owner at \$300.

This is one of the besetments of permitting railroads to pass through the heart of a city or town, as the lives not only of valuable stock, but what is far more important, the lives of citizens, particularly children, are constantly endangered. We hope to see the day when railroads will not be permitted to pass through the principal streets of any borough.

COLONIZATION MEETING.—On Thursday night last, a meeting of the friends of Colonization was held in the First Presbyterian Church of this borough, at which the Rev. Mr. Quay, Agent for the Society, gave a very interesting statement in regard to the doings and prospects of that Society. He was followed by the Hon. James Ross Snowden, of Philadelphia, in a chaste, eloquent, and highly interesting appeal in favor of the cause of Colonization. Indeed, we should be pleased to see a Society formed in our midst which should have for its object the colonization of the colored race in Liberia. This is the only true plan by which that despised and neglected race can enjoy real liberty, and by which their true interests can be promoted.

HO, FOR THE HOLIDAYS!—The holidays, with all their fun, frolic, good cheer, and kindly greetings, will soon be here, and our Book Stores, Toy Shops & Confectionaries already present a brilliant array of all sorts of beautiful articles to remind us that "Christmas comes but once a year." Indeed, the "little folks" evince much anxiety as the season of gifts and good things approaches, and their wistful and steadfast gaze at the show windows of the different shops where these pretty things are exhibited, show that they expect the old folks will come down handsomely when the season arrives.

Our friend, Mr. Peter Montez, has furnished himself with a large assortment of Toys, elegant Knick-Knacks, Fancy Confectionary, &c., which he will dispose of at prices to suit the times at "Kris Kinde's Head Quarters," North Hunter street.

In the way of Annals, Gift Books, &c., Mr. S. W. Haverstick, of Hanover street, and Mr. P. West of High street, have on hand large and splendid assortments, which the public would do well to call and examine.

Our neighbor, Mr. Kieffer, has just received a new supply of fancy articles intended for the Holiday days, which for beauty and good taste will compare favorably with any other in the town. His Drugs, Medicines, &c., are fresh and good, and will be sold to purchasers to suit the times.

Mr. Thomas Conlyn of West High street, has provided himself with a large and brilliant stock of Fancy and desirable Jewelry, consisting of Rings of every description, Breast-pins, Gold and Silver Watches of every variety, and a great number of tasteful and beautiful articles, which can be appropriately presented by gentlemen to their female friends as Holiday Gifts.

PETERSON'S LADIES NATIONAL MAGAZINE.—The January number of this sterling and deservedly popular monthly is already upon our tables, and like the preceding numbers, is filled to repletion with choice and substantial reading matter. The present number contains one hundred pages, embracing reading matter, engravings, fashion plates, music, &c., &c. Among the engravings are the following:—"The Thunder Storm," (a magnificent mezzotint);—"Rebekah at the Well," (a splendid line engraving); and "The Morning of Love." The prose and poetical articles are of the highest order. We look upon "Peterson" as being one of the best Monthly Magazines in the country, and take pleasure in recommending it to the patronage of the public. No. 102 Chestnut st., Philadelphia; Mrs. Ann S. Stephens and Charles J. Peterson, Editors. Terms, \$2 00 a year, in advance.

The Territorial Delegates to the present Congress, are Jose M. Gallegos, from New Mexico, Henry M. Rice, from Minnesota, the Rev. T. Johnson, from Nebraska, Dr. J. M. Berahel, from Utah, and Gen. Joseph Lane, from Oregon. For a small body they are rather a miscellaneous collection. Gallegos is a broken Mexican priest, Johnson a Protestant Missionary to the Indians, Berahel a Mormon physician, Lane a General of the Mexican war, and Rice a man grown generally rich by frontier speculations. Gallegos has his seat contested by W. C. Lane, late Governor of New Mexico. Johnson comes from a territory which is not recognized by Congress. The territory of Washington has not yet elected a delegate, or rather, no news of the fact has yet reached us. These delegates have no voice in Congress, and serve merely as advocates of the interests of the territories they represent.

COL. BENTON'S HISTORY.—We learn that Colonel Benton's history of thirty years' operation of the United States Government, will be issued from the press of Appleton & Co., about the first of April next. The work will be comprised in two volumes octavo, of 700 pages each. Agents are now employed in procuring subscriptions. Probably no man is better qualified than Col. Benton, by long experience as a legislator, to write a political history of this country at the most interesting period in its annals. Personally acquainted with all the eminent statesmen, whose opinions have given a marked direction to political events, accustomed to mingle with them from day to day, and to scan their views and acts most closely, he is thus enabled to communicate the secret spring and motives to public action, which entirely escape any but the contemporaneous historian. In this respect, the work possesses interest not usually found in history, having all the agreeable qualities of personal memoirs, with the strict historical accuracy which an intelligent participant in the events may be supposed eminently to possess.

We learn, says the Perry Democrat, that an attempt was made to destroy the barn of Mr. Alexander Johnston, near New Germantown. A stable, containing a large number of agricultural implements, was set on fire with the intention that the fire would communicate to the barn, but a strong west wind prevented it, and thereby the disastrous purpose was frustrated. The barn is the largest in the county, being 118 feet in length.

A petrified man is attracting the attention of the curious in Baltimore. It is the body of a man found buried six feet deep in guano, on the island of Lohobos. It is petrified and turned to a solid mass of stone, retaining all the minute outlines of a perfect specimen of humanity. It has been examined by physicians and scientific men, and pronounced one of the most marvellous subjects ever witnessed.

THE MESSAGE.

We publish on our first page the annual Message of President Pierce, to which we invite attention. In style it is plain and simple, but yet bold and strong. It avoids all ostentation and ornament, and discusses the several questions of which it treats in a calm and dignified manner. It is just such a document as we had a right to expect from President Pierce, who is, beyond question, one of the best informed men our country can boast of. He speaks of the affairs of our great nation with an ease and knowledge, such as none but the practical statesman can command.

The President's recommendations and suggestions are, in common with the great body of the American people, can fully and cordially endorse. On the subjects of our foreign relations, the tariff, Fugitive Slave Law, the Martin Kosza affair, the Fishery difficulties, the Japan expedition, the Navy, the Judiciary, Internal Improvements, the Pacific Railroad, &c., are severally alluded to in the most satisfactory manner. All in all, the message is eminently sound, and will meet the approval of the American people.

FROM WASHINGTON.

In the Senate on the 7th inst., the reports of the Treasurer of the United States, Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of War, and Postmaster General, &c., were received and referred. Rev. Henry Slicer (Methodist) was elected Chaplain of the Senate.

In the House, on the same day, Gen. Robert Armstrong, editor of the Union, was elected Public Printer. Rev. William H. Millburn, of the Methodist Church, south, was elected Chaplain of the House. Mike Walsh, of N. Y., voted for the Rev. Miss Antoinette Brown, which caused great laughter.

In the Senate, on the 8th, eulogies on the life and character of Hon. Wm. R. King, late Vice President of the United States, were delivered by Messrs. Hunter, Everett, Cass, Douglas, Clayton, and others, and the customary resolutions adopted. Adjourned until Monday.

In the House, on the same day, resolutions of respect were adopted, and speeches made in reference to the death of the Vice President, and the House adjourned until Monday.

The Washington correspondent of the Public Ledger, in his letter of the 10th, says: "There is, of course little or no probability of an immediate change in the Cabinet; but it is certain that Col. Jefferson Davis will change his position of Secretary at War for that of U. S. Senator from Mississippi. Rumor says that Jeremiah Clemens, of Alabama, who is now here, and looks as well as ever, will be his successor. Should this be true, (and I have reason to place full faith in it,) the breach which has existed so long between Union men and Secessionists of the South will most likely be healed in a short time. It is said that Jefferson Davis himself points to Col. Clemens as his successor."

The Secretary of the Treasury, you see, will not recommend a material change in the duty on iron, and that if any change be made at all, it will be gradual, so as not to affect perniciously the vast capital now invested in that important national industry.

Progress of the Cholera.

This fell disease which ravaged the Old World the past summer, with unusual violence, is steadily progressing westward, and bids fair to make our own country the victim of its fatal power the ensuing year, unless its progress is stayed by a kind and merciful Providence. It is prevailing to a fearful extent on board of the emigrant ships coming from Europe. Almost every vessel which has arrived at New York, within two months past brings a plentiful tale of mortality. The English papers notice the return of several emigrant vessels, obliged to put back by the devastation of the disease. The ship Constellation, which arrived at New York on the 25th ult., lost one hundred of her passengers. The ships George and Marathon recently arrived, the former had 75 deaths on board and the latter 62. The ship Victoria arrived at New York on the 1st inst., from London, reports 50 deaths from cholera during the voyage, out of 388 passengers.

In the city of New Orleans, which was most fearfully scourged by the Yellow Fever the past season, the existence of the cholera in the most malignant form is now prevalent. A letter from that city to the New York Tribune states that the admissions into the Charity Hospital on the 22d ult. were very large, and on the 23d there were eleven dead bodies in the dead house. The Board of Health reports 214 deaths by cholera for the past week.

DIPLOMATIC UNIFORM.—Mr. August Belmont, the U. S. Charge to Holland, had much difficulty in securing a reception at the Court of his Dutch Majesty, in the American diplomatic costume, which is a plain citizen's dress. He did not succeed, until he intimated his intention to return home, unless he was so received. Horace Greeley, who has bestowed a vast amount of abuse upon Mr. Belmont, finds some thing to commend him, in this. His case proves what we asserted, that if our diplomatic representatives only give the Monarchs of Europe to understand that they will appear before them in citizen's dress, or not at all, there will be no further difficulty in conforming to the instructions of Secretary Marcy's circular.

DEATH WARRANT OF JEWELL.—On Monday last the Sheriff of Allegheny county received a new warrant of execution for David Jewell, convicted for the murder of Mitchell, on the 5th of July, 1853. The day fixed for his execution, is Friday, 10th of February next, between the hours of 10 A. M., and 3 P. M. As the Legislature will be in session before that time, his friends may apply to have the sentence changed to imprisonment for life, which is the last hope of Jewell and his counsel. It is not probable, however, that they will succeed.

Chief Justice Taney has recently decided in admirably, in the United States Circuit Court, that lumber rafts wrecked on the Susquehanna or any public navigable river, while being floated down or anchored in the river, is not the subject of salvage; that they are not subject to admiralty jurisdiction, as they are not intended for the navigation of the Sea or arms of the Sea; and that any assistance rendered to such rafts, when in danger of being broken or swept down by the current, is not a salvage service, and makes no liability to a recompense, that all intermeddling with such property in such cases is at the risk of those intermeddling.

The Engineers of the Lebanon Valley Railroad, have progressed with their surveys, as far as Womelsdorf, and are now pushing on towards Lebanon. The road between Reading and Lebanon will be ready for letting on the 1st of January. The Company, we learn, have matured their financial arrangements for completing the entire line, and talking it with machinery; and the laying of a third track between Reading and Philadelphia, in contemplation by the Reading Railroad Company. With a clear track, it is calculated that express trains can convey passengers through from Harrisburg to Philadelphia, in three hours. This will be considerably shorter, in time, than by the Lancaster route.

The Supreme Court of Indiana has decided that that portion of the Liquor Law submitting the question of "license or no license" to a vote of the people, is unconstitutional. The effect of this decision will be to permit all who may give the required bond to deal out liquor in quantities to suit purchasers.

Nomination for Governor.

The Philadelphia Evening Argus has made a careful classification of the Delegates already elected to the next State Convention, and comes to the conclusion that there can be no doubt of the re-nomination of WILLIAM BIGLER for Governor. The Convention, if full, will consist of thirty-three Senatorial and one hundred Representative Delegates. Sixty seven members will therefore be necessary for a choice or nomination. Now, so far as delegates have been elected, there are fifty-four instructed for Mr. Bigler, no county having as yet instructed its delegates against him.—Of the remaining seventy-nine delegates, forty-nine may be set down as certain to vote for the present incumbent. Part of these are already appointed, and their predilections ascertained. This leaves thirty delegates uncertain, including those from Westmoreland, who may be set down as anti-Bigler, and who probably will be instructed for Hon. W. H. Witte, of Philadelphia county. We have in this statement included some counties which may with great propriety be claimed for Governor Bigler—and the vote of whose Representatives will receive when the time for action arrives. His vote in the Convention cannot be less than ninety, if indeed there is any serious opposition to him when the Convention assembles.

From this statement (and it is made from facts, not mere rumor,) as to the vote of delegates, it can be seen that the re-nomination of Governor Bigler is a certainty, a result not at all unexpected by those who have watched the current of public opinion during the whole of Mr. Bigler's official term. He has the prestige of National faithfulness and devotion to State pride, and fidelity to all her best and truest interests, of personal honor and integrity, and last but not least, the old and well established usage of the party as to the two term principle, to rely upon; and with these he can safely rest content.

Col. J. W. FURNEY.—There are few Democrats, says the Valley Spirit, who will not be gratified to hear of the triumphant election of Col. Furney to the Clerkship of the National House of Representatives. Mr. Furney deserved this distinction for the eminent services he has rendered the party, for many years, and it will be a source of deep pleasure to know, that it was conferred upon him without any serious opposition. We congratulate him upon his re-election; and have only to ask, that he will discharge the duties of the office with the same fidelity, competency and amenity, that characterized his first term.

THE DIFFERENCE.—At the beginning of our Washington, in 1789, says the Intelligencer, of Washington, it was more than a month after the appointed day before a quorum of members of Congress reached New York to put the machinery of Government in operation. The rapidity with which men can now travel by steam and rail enables a majority of the members to reach the seat of Government in two days' travel; while the California members can reach it in less than a month, and with as much punctuality as if they resided only one hundred miles distant. The fact is, the different parts of the Republic are now nearer to each other, in time, than were the original States in 1789.

It was officially announced on the 2d inst., that the Methodist Church controversy has been settled, but the terms will not be made public until the withdrawal of the suit by the consent of the Courts of Law. It is understood that the basis is an equal division of the property between the Northern and Southern sections.

ALLEGED COUNTERFEITERS ARRESTED.—Several persons, charged with dealing in counterfeit money, have been arrested, and either held to bail or committed to a trial, in Potsville. The Emporium says, among those arrested, Chas. Hummel, Tavern keeper and Postmaster at Friedensburg, was held to bail in \$1,000; Jacob Hohn, farmer, near the same place, gave bail in \$1,000. Martin Denno, of Donaldson, and Daniel Keller, stage driver, Potsville, were committed in default of bail.

THE GAGUE QUESTION AT ERIE.—A telegraphic dispatch states that the gague was again renewed at Erie, and that the people have interfered, with force, to prevent the change by the Railroad Company.

The dispatch is quite indefinite, and we are therefore unable to say what is the expected position of affairs, but shall probably have further advice soon.

One thing is very certain in regard to this difficulty, and that is that the gague cannot be changed without the consent of the city corporation, and the railroad company therefore being in the wrong, as it unequivocally is, are likely, in any case, to be the sufferers by their conduct.

COUNTRY POSTMASTERS. says the Butler Herald, should bear in mind for their own advantage, as well as that of the local press, that for every county paper delivered by them to subscribers, they are entitled to retain of the Post Office funds, ten and a half cents per year. It is for their interest as well as that of the publishers, that the county papers be preferred, since there is no trouble in making collections or keeping accounts thereof, as on foreign papers, the commission on which will not average more than from six to eight cents a year.

EXECUTION.—A man named Fogarty was hung for murder, in the county jail at Buffalo, on Thursday. He had been twice reprieved by the Governor of the State. He showed but little feeling, until dressed in the white garments, with cap and halter, to be led out to the scaffold, when he broke forth into terrible lamentations, wailing out "Oh! Larry, it's hard to have your neck broke! you're young to be hanged!" Upon the scaffold he said that he did not commit the murder he was charged with, and that the witnesses had sworn falsely against him.

Christians have at all times had churches in Turkey, but Turks have rarely been allowed a mosque in a Christian land. To this day, no Moslem can settle in the Pope's dominions, nor even disembark upon the eastern coast of Naples; though on the opposite shores of Turkey a Neapolitan may land without a passport, worship God in his own way, paying only poll tax of three dollars, in compensation for which he is exempt from military service.

LIVELY TIMES.—During the present term of the Perry county, Indiana court, which was in session this week at Rome, there were no less than twenty-two applications for divorce, seventeen of which were granted. We are told that one lady who desired to be divorced, among her other grievances, stated that her good for nothing lord always turned his back to her in bed. The Judge thought this was sufficient and forthwith granted her application.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—Public sentiment seems to be developing itself in the Southern States in opposition to the annexation of these Islands, but it is our opinion that decided steps have been taken toward consummating all the preliminary negotiations, and that annexation will soon be a practical question before Congress.

The Old Doctor Woman.

This time the personage dead. She who, for many years, had ministered to the healing of others, has herself passed into the realm of eternity. She who, for many long days and weary nights, had applied the curing ointment, has gone down to the dust of death. With her trembling hand outstretched to touch those who came from afar, that they might still live, and with her long fingers applying the soothing balm to the withering limb, she passed from earth to the world of spirits. She was surrounded by those who came to feel the efficacy of her touch, and amidst the tears of those who had felt her healing power, she breathed into eternal life. Her race is run. Having filled the circle of duty, she passed into that life where time is but the lapse of eternity. It was her time to die. The mists of age had darkened her earthly vision, her arm was palsied by the stroke of years and her spirit lifted from its earthly prison house to the home of the good. Her head, whitened by the frost of near four score winters, is now pillowed in the dreary sepulchre, while her disembodied spirit ranges the fields of unending life. The home of her birth—the home of her youth—the home of her riper years—the place where the first fragrant breath of life first of death—a consecrated spot. When the long and the rank weed will have gathered o'er her grave, and she live only in the dim and distant past, the descendants of her faithful believers will perform daily hours of prayer, and will pray for her soul. Place where she was born, with her God she resigned her spirit to Him who gave it. Her mortal remains may repose silently beneath the upheaved turf. Dead mortality may moulder in the womb of earth; but her spirit, freed from the clogs of sin, will rest calmly upon the bosom of her God and friend through an unending existence. The stranger's foot may tread the grassy mound which marks the place of her repose, but her rest is undisturbed. She may be forgotten by those who think her dead, but she is not forgotten by her God, who will plant the rose and the evergreen upon her bosom, and watered by the tear of love, and warmed by the genial rays of Truth will bloom forever. Her earthly pilgrimage is over. She now wears a fadeless crown of light, and is placed in the bosom of her Father, decks the diadem of her Saviour. Dropped 'twixt Earth and Heaven, her flowing manna fell upon her child, who now lives to do good and follow into life.—Shippens News.

JOHN MITCHELL.—This distinguished and eloquent son of Ireland, after having spent the greater part of his life in Australia, has escaped from the British colony of Victoria. He first landed at San Francisco, in California, where a public dinner was given him by the most distinguished official personages of the city. In the evening he made a noble and patriotic speech, yet with a spirit of unobscured resistance to the wrongs of his native "green isle of the ocean," which must have gained sympathy for, and confidence in the earnestness of his patriotic convictions. He was then invited to New York via the Nicaragua route, and his reception was full of the utmost enthusiasm—his welcome of the very warmest kind. Thousands greeted him at the wharf and attended him to his home in the morning, and in Brooklyn, where he will hereafter reside as a freeman, secure alike from packed juries, prejudiced judges and tyrannical governments. On the evening of the day after his arrival, he was serenaded, and a crowd of many thousands were present to witness his arrival. He responded in a few words of burning eloquence, and was succeeded by his comrade, Thomas F. Meagher, in his glowing style of impassioned rhetoric. Most of the leading spirits of the city were present, and the night was spent in the most brilliant manner. We hope that Mr. O'Brien may soon reach our shores, where the warm sympathies of American citizens will be glad to greet him, and to have him in a free country may console them for the sufferings they have passed.—York Repub.

The Late Massacre by Indians.—A letter from Capt. Morris to the Governor of Utah, gives some further account of the late massacre of Capt. Gunnison's party: "On the morning of the 11th, A. M., the non-commissioned officer in charge of the escort came running breathlessly into camp, saying that his party had been surprised, and he believed all had been killed. I immediately proceeded to the spot, where I found the bodies of some of the party, or rescuing the wounded. On my way I met three or more of my men who had escaped, all of whom confirmed the said intelligence, but knew not what had become of the rest of the party. I immediately retraced my steps, and on reaching the spot where three of the party had fallen; their bodies were filled with arrow wounds, though not otherwise mutilated. I halted my command here for the night, and waited until daylight, when I proceeded on. Reaching the vicinity of the camp, I found the remaining corpses of the party, all of which were stripped, and some mutilated. Captain Gunnison was killed by fifteen arrows, and had his left arm cut off. Mr. Creutzfeldt had both arms cut off. The statement made by the survivors is as follows: That Captain G. reached the first pond or lake, at 3 P. M., on the 25th ult., and being there met by a large number of Indians, that the party arose at daybreak, and were in the act of breakfasting, when a terrific yell was raised on their left, accompanied by a discharge of rifles, and the Indians were exchanged, when, finding that the Indians were rapidly closing around their little party, they all tried to reach their horses. Those who succeeded escaped, while those who failed fell. The lowest number of Indians is stated to be twenty. The American party consisted of twelve men, all dead. The Indians secured eight rifles, two double barrel shot guns, seven pistols, and about one thousand rounds of cartridge or ammunition, all the scientific instruments with the party, including the Hudson's Bay Company's chronometer, and a large quantity of powder, and in fact, most of the sketches and topography between the San Rafael and this point.

Mr. Kern received only one ball, which passed through his heart.

American Competition with England.—The London Examiner, speaking of the growing rivalry between the U. S. and England, makes the following admissions: "A writer to whose compilations the Times gives space and a conspicuous position, has taken more than one opportunity of enlarging upon a competition with our country in the matter of manufactures, and on the part of American traders. The ships of the United States appear on the Mexican coast, as well as at Kutch, Muscat and other places, with various articles which they barter for the produce of other countries; the American commodities being principally a certain quantity of cotton fabric which they call sheeting, and dowlon. The Americans appear to enjoy a particular advantage over our traders,—that of conducting their barter individually, in ships, which enables them to float, pushing their goods inland by routine through large establishments at Bombay; and thus they not only save expense, but in each particular transaction secure the largest amount of profit.

Another advantage they have, is expressed by the political agent at Kutch, who says of the sheeting, that it "finds acceptance among the people of the country, because it lasts longer than the cloths imported from Bombay." This indicates the true force of the competition, which we dread from the United States. If America can cut us out in India, where we occupy the entire country, and where our goods are sold at a price which is not only greater than that of any other country, but which the most anti-commercial country has incurred. But there is something in this superiority of tissue over the manufactures in England. The competition is not made for the fine, nor only in cotton sheeting. It is reported from the Hudson River Railway, that the British iron rails become in a worse condition within twelve months than American rails within a number of years. There may be exaggeration in this, but we have had instances of the British iron rails from our Indian scientific investigators, who have declared the bad make of iron to be a frequent source of accident. At the last meeting of the Sheffield Cutlers, the master outcried that American cutlery were cutting them out in knives; knives of American make being preferred to ours, because they lasted longer than ours, and that we were annexed to-morrow.

Post-Master General's Report.

The annual report of Judge CAMPBELL, Post Master General, is too lengthy for our columns, or we should publish it in full. It is a very able report, and gives a most satisfactory account of the workings of the Post Office Department. It contains many very valuable suggestions, and if Congress should second the views of the Post Master General, the Department will soon be in a better condition than it has ever been. Judge CAMPBELL is peculiarly qualified for the station he holds, being a man of ripe judgment, and indefatigable and energetic in everything he undertakes. Perhaps no man at the seat of government applies himself with more assiduity to the duties of his office than the Post Master General. From his report we give the following condensed view of its prominent features:

The whole number of post offices in the United States at the close of the last official year, June 30th, 1853, was twenty two thousand three hundred and twenty; of this number, two hundred and fifty five are of the highest class, the postmasters of which are appointed by the President. At the present date, December, 1853, the total number of post offices is twenty two thousand six hundred and eighty eight. During the past year, commencing first of July, 1852, one thousand eight hundred and ninety eight post offices were established, four hundred and seventy nine were discontinued, and twenty three hundred and twenty one were there were appointed to office during the said year. The annual cost of the office is estimated at eight hundred and eighty eight thousand five hundred and twenty five upon change of site, ninety one where the postmaster had moved away, and twenty three hundred and twenty one upon the removal of prior incumbents, being eight thousand five hundred post masters appointed during the year ending 30th June, 1853. At the close of the fiscal year ending on the 30th day of June last, there were in operation within the United States, six thousand six hundred and ninety two miles of route, and six thousand seven hundred and forty three miles, and five thousand five hundred and eighty three contractors were employed thereon.

The annual transportation of the mails on those routes was sixty one million eight hundred and ninety two thousand five hundred and forty two miles; the annual cost thereof was four million four hundred and ninety five thousand nine hundred and sixty eight dollars, being about seven cents two mills per mile. Of these sixty one million eight hundred and ninety two thousand five hundred and forty two miles, were performed on railroads, at a cost of one million six hundred and thirty three thousand and twenty nine dollars; being about two cents three mills per mile. Six million six hundred and eighty five thousand and sixty five miles in steamboats, at a cost of six hundred and thirty two thousand three hundred and sixty eight dollars; being about nine cents four mills per mile. Twenty one million three hundred and thirty thousand three hundred and twenty six miles in coaches, at a cost of one million two hundred and eighty seven thousand seven hundred and eighty five dollars; being about five cents six mills per mile. And twenty million eight hundred and ninety thousand four hundred and forty six miles in mules not specified, at a cost of one million five hundred and thirty three thousand and thirteen dollars; being about five cents per mile.

The expenditures of the department, during the late fiscal year, were seven million nine hundred and eighty two thousand seven hundred and fifty eight dollars. The gross revenues from all sources were five million nine hundred and forty thousand seven hundred and twenty four dollars and fifty cents. On the 30th of June, 1853, the gross revenue of the year ending June 30th, 1853, falls short of expenditures in the sum of two million forty two thousand and thirty one dollars. Fifteen hundred and seventy one thousand dollars of this deficiency were supplied by balances on the 30th of June, 1853, and appropriations to supply deficiencies of upwards of one million dollars, leaving five hundred and forty six thousand dollars to be provided by Congress for the service of the year ending June 30th, 1853.

Report of the Secretary of War.

From the Report of Col. Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War, we have only room for the following brief extract: "The authorized strength of the United States army is 13,281 men and officers; but the actual strength, according to the latest returns, is only 10,417, of which number 8,378 are employed in the frontier department, and the remainder are in the protection of our frontiers have been successful; that the troops everywhere have been active and constantly employed; that the operations have been comparatively unfruitful, except in California and Oregon, have not attained more than a local importance.

New posts are to be established in the Indian Territory west of the Mississippi, in the Territory of Texas, to enable the Department to dispense with a number of the smaller and less important posts. A greater force is also to be employed for the protection of the emigrants crossing the plains. A majority of the cases of Indian depredations in Texas which have come to the knowledge of the Department, have been by Indians from Mexican territory. Maj. Gen. Smith, aided by an experienced officer of engineers, is selecting sites for permanent fortifications on the Rio Grande—one of which will be opposite El Paso and another at the Camanche crossings. It is the intention of the Department that, as soon as possible, a considerable force shall be sent to the Pacific coast, and one of the Brigadier Generals of the Army ordered to the command. Nine companies of artillery are posted in Florida, to aid the efforts now in progress there to subvert the Indian Government. The measures are to be decided if found necessary. Two of the regiments of artillery are to be arranged on the Canadian frontier and the Atlantic and Gulf coasts; a third on the Rio Grande boundary; and a fourth on the Pacific coast. Of the cavalry regiments, one will be required in Texas, one in New Mexico, and the remaining are for the Western frontier. A fourth regiment of cavalry is asked of Congress by the Secretary. Three regiments of infantry are required in Texas, besides two on the frontier west of the Mississippi, one in New Mexico, and one in the Indian country of the Pacific. It is the purpose of the department to post the troops in large bodies at commanding positions, instead of dispersing them among numerous small posts.

In consequence of the difficulty of keeping the ranks full, the Secretary proposes,—1st, an increase of the present pay of the common soldier 2d, an additional increase for each successive period of five years, so long as he shall remain in the army; 3d, provision for the promotion to the lowest grade of commissioned officers of such of the non-commissioned officers of the army as may be suitably qualified for, and by their character and services entitled to such advancement. Also, that every soldier who having been honorably discharged from the service of the United States, shall, within one month thereafter, re-enlist, shall be entitled to two dollars per month in addition, to the ordinary pay of his grade for the first period of five years after the expiration of his first enlistment, and a further sum of one dollar per month for each successive period of five years, so long as he shall remain continuously in the army.

The Secretary argues elaborately in favor of the increase of the army, showing the actual needs of the present pay of the common soldier 2d, an additional increase for each successive period of five years, so long as he shall remain in the army; 3d, provision for the promotion to the lowest grade of commissioned officers of such of the non-commissioned officers of the army as may be suitably qualified for, and by their character and services entitled to such advancement. Also, that every soldier who having been honorably discharged from the service of the United States, shall, within one month thereafter, re-enlist, shall be entitled to two dollars per month in addition, to the ordinary pay of his grade for the first period of five years after the expiration of his first enlistment, and a further sum of one dollar per month for each successive period of five years, so long as he shall remain continuously in the army.

lated to render the army more efficient and capable of enduring the hardships of active service, the Secretary proceeds to speak of the necessity of encouraging regularity and uniformity in the militia; and in connection with this subject, he recommends providing the militia with the proper books for tactical instructions. The condition of the Military Academy is favorably spoken of, and the Academic term is, by the Board, recommended to be increased to five years.

Report of the Department of the Interior.

We are necessarily obliged to confine ourselves to a short abstract of the Report of Mr. McCLELLAND, Secretary of the Interior. It is an interesting State paper, filled with important matter and valuable suggestions. We briefly give a few prominent features:

During the year the survey of the public lands has been steadily prosecuted, large bodies of new lands brought into market, the wants of the emigrant fully met, and choice selections offered to the hardy pioneer.

The Land system is nearly correct in principle, its details need but little modification. During the year, 9,919,411 acres have been surveyed, 10,363,591 acres brought into market, and 1,633,495 acres sold. The number of land warrants issued up to the 30th September last was 366,042, of which there were then outstanding 66,947. The entire area of the public domain is estimated at 1,684,000,000 of acres. Its purchase was effected at the rate of 14.14 cent. per acre, amounting to \$77,999,700. Add the Indian Reservation, valued at \$1,250,000, and adding the cost of selling lands sold previous to June last, the entire cost, excluding arrears, amounts to \$88,994,015. The whole amount accruing from sales up to June 30, 1853, was \$142,333,478, being \$53,299,465 more than the cost of the whole. It is estimated that the net amount which will have been realized for them, is the sum of \$31,181,300.

The policy of bringing the lands into market at the earliest possible day is urged. Early attention is called to the disposition of the mineral lands of California, the unsettled business of the Pension Office, and the frauds upon the same. The clerical force of the Bureau of Patents needs to be increased. The Indian have been unusually peaceful through the year. The present number in the United States is estimated at 400,000—18,000 East of the Mississippi.

Eight Days Later from Europe.

THE TURKS HAVE RE-CROSSED THE DANUBE.

The steamers Europa and Humboldt have arrived, the two bringing advice eight days later. The Queen of Portugal died on the 15th ult. in child bed. The king was immediately declared Regent till the majority of the young Prince, who is now in his 15th year.

Later from the Seat of War.—Advices report that the Turks have recrossed the Danube, and are occupying Kalaft, which they still retain, and have strongly fortified. They returned without giving battle. Some grand movements are in contemplation, which the passage of the Danube has served to make. France is formally announced to Austria that if she gives refuge to armed Russians, retreating from the Turks, France will regard it as a declaration of war.

Later.—It is reported that the Russians have been beaten in Georgia by the Turks. The Turks hold Kalaft with 25,000 men. The lateness of the season induced Omer Pacha to retire. It was reported that the Russians had evacuated Lesser Wallachia.

Frequent skirmishes occurred between the Russian and Turkish outposts. The Turks were strongly fortified at Kalaft, and were continually receiving large reinforcements. The Russians were reported as marching to attack them, and a general battle was expected. The Turks were sending succor to the Circassians.

Reinforcements were hurrying to the Russian, and additional levies continued to arrive at the Turkish camp. If the season were less important, the fight was expected. The Turks were sending succor to the Circassians.

The Czar of Russia has made known to the Eastern Courts his negotiations are now in vain. He has refused to lift.

The Sultan will take the field in the Spring. Austria and Prussia had given a formal assurance of their determination to remain neutral. England's course is still kept secret.

Breadstuffs had slightly advanced.

STILL LATER.

The steamer Arctic arrived at New York on the 11th. By her we have advice to the 20th ult., from which we select the following interesting items of news. From the Danube we have nothing definite, though vague rumors of battles having been fought and victories awarded to either side, are constantly being circulated.

In a hard fought naval engagement, between the belligerent parties, the Turks were victorious, capturing two of the Russian vessels of war.

The winter having set in with great severity, hostilities are suspended, and the Russian and Turkish ships of war are reported to have been lost by ship wreck.

England and France had entered into a solemn treaty, offensive and defensive, against the further aggression of Russia.

Dost Mahomed had declared antagonistic to Russia.

The London Money Market continues easy, having undergone no material change.

Breadstuffs dull at the decline previously noted. Corn quiet. Cattle lower, and quoted at 93.—Pork unchanged. Beef quiet. Lard heavy. Tallow declined. Trade at Manchester quiet.

GENT AND SHANE.—A gentleman who is a resident of St. Louis, and reputed wealthy, has been in this city a few days past in search of his wife and children. The Express says that he had been absent for ten years, and that he had been taking his wife and her two children—a girl of fourteen and a boy of six years. He has spent the whole of his time from that period to the present, in searching for the twins—and during the absence he had been taken to Canada. It was there he learned that she had come to this city where she also came. Here he found that she had been engaged by one of our citizens as a servant; but had left in a few days after, taking with her a small or blanket belonging to the family. This fact had been communicated to the police who were on the look out for her. Searching about for some more definite clue to the faithless partner of his bosom, the husband found his daughter in a dance house on the Pointe