

THE VOLUNTEER.

John H. Bratton, Editor and Proprietor.

CHARLESTON, DEC. 20, 1853.

Standing Committee Meeting.

The Democratic Standing Committee of Cumberland county, are requested to meet at the public house of Charles M'Glaughlin, in Carlisle, on Monday, January 9th, 1854, at 1 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of appointing the time for holding the delegate elections and the assembling of a County Convention to appoint one Senatorial and two Representative Delegates to the next Democratic State Convention, to assemble at Harrisburg in March next.

THESE OF THE COMMITTEE.

The following named gentlemen compose the Standing Committee of Cumberland county, for the present year:

Wm. Stephan, Lower Allen, A. B. Scaerist, Upper Allen; D. Smith, E. W., Carlisle, J. Harder, W. W.; W. M. Shriver, Dickinson; J. Shreta, Eastpennborough; J. Mountz, Frankfort; John Sprunt, Hampton; W. Wherry, Hopewell; J. Paul, Monroe; D. Starrett, Millin; A. Selzer, Mechanicsburg; J. Hoover, Newville; C. L. Vandenberg, Newmarket; J. Switzer, New Cumberland; P. Howard, N. Middleton; H. Stuart, S. Middleton; J. Duncanson, Shippensburg; H. Craig, Shippensburg Tp.; John Kitzmiller, Southampton; H. Hickenrill, Silver Springs; C. M. Graham, Westpennboro.

Prof. Johnson is expected to preach in the Lutheran Church on next Sabbath morning. The public is invited to attend.

Isaac Stevens, Esq., the editor of the Philadelphia Evening Argus, has been appointed Naval Store-keeper for Philadelphia. A most excellent selection.

Mrs. Behrend Foot Butler, wife of Gen. Wm. Butler, of the Revolution, and mother of the Hon. A. P. Butler, Senator in Congress from South Carolina, died at the residence of her son in Edgefield district, on the evening of the 2d instant.

The House, on Tuesday week, laid on the table a resolution to purchase Mount Vernon by the General Government—88 to 85.

Bayard Taylor, the travelling correspondent of the Tribune, arrived home on Tuesday week, in the ship Sea Serpent, from Mexico.

A despatch from Cincinnati states that R. H. Collins, editor of the Maysville Eagle, shot Luther Dobyns in the forehead at Maysville, Ky., on Friday. The wound, it is supposed, will prove fatal.

suicide.—A man named Goodman committed suicide in the Millington jail recently, by cutting his throat with a razor. He had been committed for robbing a store in Perryville, and it is supposed that fear of conviction induced him to commit the rash act.

SLANDERS AS TO A NICK NAME.—It is said a suit for slander has been entered against a party in New York for general and special damages, arising from fastening upon him a nick name, as it is called, whereby the plaintiff charges that he was unjustly brought into ridicule, and sustained much injury. The damages are placed at a large amount.

A WARNING TO BAD WRITERS.—The Toledo Blade tells a good story of a man who owned a building which was situated on land belonging to the Michigan Central Railroad. The superintendent who wrote a very bad hand, sent a short letter to Mr. B., ordering him to remove the building at once. But the house was not removed, and three months afterwards the superintendent met S., and began to scold him for not removing the nuisance, as desired, when it appeared that the man had received the note, and was not able to make out its contents, had supposed it to be a pass over the road, and had been riding back and forth all summer on the strength of it!

New Orleans is truly an afflicted city. Scarcely has the African cloud of pestilence been swept away by the chilly breath of winter, ere the distal scourge of Cholera makes its appearance there, and in sudden fury sweeps away its victims. Of the two hundred and sixty-one deaths which occurred there last week, one hundred and twenty-nine were from Cholera. It is hardly possible that its ravages will be so fatal as those of the yellow fever, on whose footsteps it is so closely following after; but yet, its breaking out there at the present time, will call for the ready sympathies of the less afflicted cities.

WOMAN'S BEAUTY.—It is not the smiles of a pretty face nor the tint of her complexion, nor the beauty and symmetry of person, nor the costly dress or decorations that compose woman's loveliness. Nor is it the onerous glances of her eyes with which she darts such lustre on the man she deems worthy of friendship that constitutes her beauty. It is her pleasing deportment, her chaste conversation, the amiability and purity of her thoughts, her affable and open disposition, her sympathy with those in adversity, her comforting and relieving the afflicted in distress, and above all the humbleness of her soul that constitutes true loveliness.

COINAGE AT THE U. S. MINT.—In a letter to the Washington Union, Col. James R. Snowden, Director of the Philadelphia Mint, contradicts the report that gold bars are paid out because of the inability of the Mint to supply coin. He says that there are only paid when required by depositors, and that the Mint is capable of coining any amount of bullion with which it may be supplied. Depositors are paid as soon as the deposits are assayed, and in denomination, two, or, at the farthest, three days, and in denomination of gold or silver coins, or in bars, as they may desire. The latter are preferred when the gold is intended for exportation, as it is half of one per cent. The coinage charge, which is half of one per cent. The Mint prefers paying in coin, but keeps on hand a ready supply of bars, as well as coin, in order to pay promptly every deposit.

THE COAL TRADE OF 1853.—The total amount of coal transported on the Reading Railroad during the year ending November 30th, was 1,582,211 tons, against 1,650,911.17 tons carried in 1852—showing a falling off of 68,700 tons. A though the coal tonnage has been somewhat less, the rates of transportation have been higher throughout the whole year, and the receipts from this source, as well as the miscellaneous traffic and passenger travel have been considerably increased.

The M'Inters' Journal estimates that the Coal tonnage on the Canal will be increased from 70 to 80,000 tons this year, at increased rates of toll. The miscellaneous business of the Canal has also been considerably increased over former years. Both corporations have done a prosperous business the present year, which will add greatly to their strength in maintaining as strong competition, after next year, with other lines of railroad now progressing from New York direct, not only to the Wilkesbarre and Schuylkill Regions, but to the Schuylkill Region at Tanawaga and at Abotts.

DETERMINED TO FIND FAULT.

Ever since the inauguration of President Pincus, Whig editors, from one end of the country to the other, have occupied their columns in misrepresenting the President and his Cabinet. They are determined to find fault with every sentiment he utters and every position he assumes. They no longer advocate "Whig principles" as formerly, but consume their time in stigmatizing those who hold to them as mean and disreputable; and we might say to the editor who pursues this policy, "Why be holdst thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or, how wilt thou say to thy brother, let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and behold, a beam is in thine own eye?" "Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye!"

Whig editors will find this divine philosophy quite applicable to themselves at this time. Their attacks upon the administration can avail nothing. FRANKLIN PIERCE has the confidence of the people—the masses are with him in feeling and sentiment, and the combined efforts of Whig editors and a few selfish disappointed office-seekers, calling themselves Democrats, cannot shake the confidence of the honest yeomanry of the country.—They honor President Pierce for his integrity of purpose, and the republican simplicity of his public character. Thus far he has administered the affairs of Government to the satisfaction of all, except the few grumblers who are determined not to be satisfied. He has adhered faithfully to the sentiments of his Inaugural Address, and has not deviated a hair's breadth from the principles he always advocated.

"But," say the opponents of the administration, "President Pierce has appointed free-soilers to office, notwithstanding his professions of hostility to this faction." We deny this charge. Free-soilism had little or no strength outside the State of New York, and a few of the New England and Western States. In these States a strong faction existed for a time. But, when Gen. Pierce was nominated for the Presidency, the free-soil organization disbanded, and the persons composing it supported, with enthusiasm, Gen. Pierce for the Presidency—they adopted the Baltimore platform, and acquiesced in the well known sentiments of Gen. Pierce on this question. From that time to the present no free-soil party (worth mentioning) has existed, and for the honor of the country, we hope no faction holding similar views and opinions may ever exist again. President Pierce, it is true, has appointed men to office who had been supporters of free-soil sentiments, but had renounced their course, and returned to the true political faith; and for this he is denounced by those who, when the free soil question threatened the peace of the Union, were either neutral on the question or covertly seeking to disseminate free soil sentiments. Now, in our view, the President, in appointing some men to office who had been Free-soilers, but had renounced their principles forever, acted with magnanimity, and no fair and honest man will fault him for this. No one, holding free-soil principles ever dared to ask President Pierce for office of any kind, because they knew very well that he would reject their application with scorn. He is not willing to lend his aid to punish and proscribe men because of former errors, but is determined if possible, to restore peace to the country, by recognizing all men as good citizens who voluntarily cast themselves on the side of the constitution and laws of the country.

His course, indeed, has been that of a pure statesman and honest man, and that his actions and motives are duly appreciated by the people at large, is quite evident if we may believe the "signs of the times." In connection with this subject we may remark that the free-soil spirit in Philadelphia and New York, who desire to be considered Democrats, are making themselves supremely ridiculous by their soundings. They make frothy speeches in defence of the Constitution and laws, and denounce the administration for favoring free-soilers, and not favoring themselves. Great patriots! Where were these men when free-soilism threatened the peace of the country? They it was that the great and good men of the country forgot for a time their political animosities, and joined hands to rescue the Union from the storm that threatened to rend it asunder. Where was our corpulent friend, CHARLES CARROLL, and the corporeal guard who set with him in Philadelphia, then? If our memory serves us (and we think it does) Carrol was at that time one of the editors of the Philadelphia Spirit of the Times, a rank Free soil paper. Now, long after the battle has been fought and won, the Union saved, and Free-soilism completely and effectually "crushed out," these self-styled patriots are shouting "down with free-soilers, down with the administration." Oh, dear! In conclusion we beg leave to remind these miserable demagogues, in the language of the Philadelphia Argus, that "when the democracy need men to expound their principles to those who will select the honest men of the party—those who have been faithful to the Union and in storm, and not the traders who have sold their principles like meat upon the shambles, until they are no longer a merchantable article. When public meetings are to be held, it will not do for this class of men to attempt to fast their names upon distinguished Democrats from other sections of the Union as worthy of notice."

They are not known to the party—have not the confidence—are opposed to its principles and its men, and therefore are out of the question, so far as any influence with the Democracy is concerned."

FOREIGN NEWS.

The steamship America arrived at Halifax on Thursday last, bringing one week's later news from Europe. There have been no more battles between the Turks and Russians on the Danube, but the former still appear to be victorious in Asia, where they have gained several battles.—The Sultan refuses to submit to the three months' armistice proposed by England.

Another conference is proposed by the four powers, to which representatives from Russia and Turkey are invited, thus making a conference of six commissioners. The proposition, it is said, is eagerly accepted by the Russians, but the Turks are a little shy of it.

Breadstuffs have advanced a shade, and the money market, in England, is easier.

Remitting Money by Mail.
An important decision has recently been made in the United States Circuit Court, Richmond, Va., Chief Justice Tenny presiding. In a case on trial before that court, the question arose whether money remitted by mail to a creditor, such money being lost before it reached its destination, was a release of the debtor from obligations of the debt. The Chief Justice decided that the plaintiff having requested his debtor to remit the money, without specifying its direction how it was to be sent, and the defendant having complied with the request by remitting through the mail, as was the custom of others to do, the debtor would not be held liable to make good the loss. The decision is in conflict with other cases involving the same principle, the Chief Justice holding that the former decisions were not correct.

THE EMPIRE OF MEXICO.

The Empire of Mexico. These words, says the Saturday Evening Mail, somehow, like an anacronism; but they may shortly set forth an accomplished fact, nevertheless. Santa Anna is dictator, for a term of ten years, by consent of the 21 electoral States of Mexico. As in the case of Louis Napoleon, the step from his present position to the highest of all, is a very slight one—and he can take it any day. He, Santa Anna, seems to hold the French emperor as his model. He has re-organized the army, flattered it, and bound it to his interests; and he now relies on it for support, in the movements which he contemplates. If we were in doubt concerning the helpless and hopeless condition of Mexico, we should be assured of it by the facility with which this distracted and not very popular man has been enabled to set aside the constitutional forms of government, and place the republic under the control of an armed soldiery at a time of peace.—These things, we believe, are but the beginning of the end.

But when Santa Anna shall occupy the place of Guzman and Huarte—as we do not doubt he will—it will be found that Mexico is not France.—Society and its observances are well defined in the latter country, and the hand of the authority can easily cover all parts of the state. But society in Mexico is broken and heterogeneous, and the frontiers of the country are lost in clouds of perpetual invasion and aggression. The emperors of Santa Anna would rouse rebellion from within, and in the same ratio, invite assault from without. Our bold frontiers men, even now, are disgusted with the behavior of brother republicans, and desirous of referring to their rights, would lose all sort of respect if they were obliged to look over the border and see an empire on the soil of North America.—It would raise their dander in a most irrepressible manner. And then, if they heard a crowd of people from the inside, calling on them to assume a condition the whole distracted country would be in.—An empire on the part of Mr. Antonio Lopez, or some other Santa Anna, would be the last act in the drama of Mexican Empire.

No doubt, the dictatorship of Santa Anna seems to the most sensible Mexicans, better than the loose and disorderly condition of the republic hitherto.—Anything that would oblige that will congregate states to be quiet, would be a blessing? A dictator or emperor would be the most likely to enforce this necessary quietude for a while, at least. People in Mexico begin to see that some strong conservative power must be brought to bear upon an ill-connected and mongrel community, of less than two millions of the pure Spanish race, and about seven millions of all the other—Creoles, Indians, Mexicans and so forth. The truth is, the Mexicans cannot govern themselves independently. They will put themselves into the hands of Santa Anna. But they can do much better. And it would be a happy day for them if they did it, promptly and quietly. Instead of the suzerainty of Anthony Lopez, they should take the suzerainty of Uncle Sam. That would sufficiently coerce them into a condition of calmness, and at the same time leave them all the liberty they ever sighed for, and never enjoyed—the poor, unprosperous folks but their pride is opposed to this. Also, that pride has been made to taste the dust and has been dragged through it. It must suffer some further humiliations and insults, and then be obliged to do what it should do in the first instance. Old Mexico must follow the example of New Mexico—a good and sensible example. Santa Anna, after all, may be necessary to bring our Latin brethren into the proper fraternizing state of mind.

Our Indian Affairs.
The Journal of Commerce says the Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Mr. Munny, presents a painful picture of the condition and prospects of the Indians of this country. All the sums of money that the Government has expended, and all the efforts that philanthropy has suggested for their benefit, seems to have done little or no good. The Indian is still degraded, ignorant, idle, and apparently incapable of civilization. We have a remnant of seven hundred thousand Indians within our limits, and claiming our care. Annually he has been "traded" advancement of "civilization," have been without foundation, and that, in many instances, those tribes that are nearest to the borders of the white settlements, are the most wretched and degraded.

It is now proposed to send Commissioners to be appointed by the President, to visit all the Indian tribes and examine into, and report upon, their condition, and make suggestions for their future benefit. It is also recommended that the confused mass of Indian treaties be, through proper negotiation reduced to an intelligible and connected form. To gather the roaming tribes and colonies them in one place, each distinct from the other, and from contact with the whites, is another excellent scheme. It is also thought that the plan of paying the Indians annuities in money should be abandoned, for the reason that, depending upon that supply, however inadequate, they will not labor. The annuity plan is only an encouragement to idleness and vice.

We may expect, at any moment to be plunged into very troublesome and expensive wars with the Indians in Texas, New Mexico, and Cherokee, unless by a wise policy we make early arrangements to secure peace and tranquility. We have heretofore considered the territorial extent of the United States as large enough for all practical purposes at the present day, but this turns out to be a great mistake. The territory belonging to the United States is not sufficiently ample to allow of the removal of the California Indians to reservations in the State. Lands must be bought for them; and yet long before the Indians shall be domesticated and brought into our system of society, they will probably be wasted away by collisions with the whites, or by vice contracted in the transition from their native to a civilized state.

Ordered to California.
We understand that Major General Wool has been ordered to the command of the military division having its head quarters at San Francisco, California. This change, it is thought, has been made in view of the importance of the position of California, and the necessity which recent events have demonstrated of having a military officer stationed there of the highest rank, and clothed with the full powers to suppress any infringement upon our neutrality laws, and at the same time to protect our citizens on the Pacific. General Wool, it is understood, will leave for the scene of his duties as soon as he can make the necessary arrangements for the voyage.

New York Financier.
The Tribune says the Russian flag is raised over the Metropolitan Hotel every time Mr. Budico, the Russian Minister, pays it a visit. Mr. Budico is a well bred man, and has lived long enough in this country to know it is all a humbug, as far as he is personally concerned; while on the other side it is a bit of flunkeyism, wholly unworthy of American citizens. Besides the double headed eagle of a tyrant looks out of place, floating from a flag staff crowned with the republican liberty cap. Down with that flag!

Cloversed, is selling at Louisville, Ky., at \$5.75 per bushel.

FROM WASHINGTON.

There seems to be a much better disposition in Congress than usual this early in the session, to get on with their work. The Committee of Ways and Means have already reported two appropriation bills, the Indian bill, and that for the support of the Military Academy at West Point. We hope this spirit of industry will continue.

The Naval Committee in the House of Representatives, has unanimously agreed to report in favor of the building of six steam frigates, and an appropriation of three millions to meet the outlay, in accordance with the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy. It will doubtless receive the early concurrence of Congress.

The Senate Committee fully concur in the suggestions and recommendations of the Secretary of the Navy, and will give their attention to the bill making appropriations for this object, which is expected to appear early from the House of Representatives.

In the U. S. Senate, Mr. Hamlin, of Maine, has already introduced a bill providing for the payment to American citizens of the amount suffered by them from spoliation committed by the French, on their vessels and cargoes prior to the year 1800, which payment was assumed by the Government of the United States in the purchase of Louisiana.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, Mr. Hamlin gave notice of a bill to construct a line of telegraph from the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean.

In the House, on Monday, Mr. Houston, from the committee on ways and means, reported a bill making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the government for the year ending June, 1854. A bill applying deficiencies to appropriations for the year ending June, 1854. A bill making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions. Referred to the committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

A filibuster expedition of 45 men under Col. Walker, left San Francisco in October and reached La Paz, a miserable town in Lower California, Nov. 3d. They landed, captured the town, secured the Mexican Governor, hoisted an independent flag, two red stripes and two golden stars, and proclaimed the independence of Lower California. On the 6th the President determined to remove his seat of government to St. Louis, but as he was about sailing for that place, a new Mexican Governor arrived to supersede the old one. The filibusters captured the new Governor, and shortly after sent six men on shore for some wood for the vessel under the protection of the citizens and returned to the vessel under a heavy fire of musketry, without losing a man. Col. Walker then landed with an army of 30 men and a terrible battle was fought lasting an hour and a half. Six or seven of the Mexicans were killed, and some of the other party were wounded by the capture, while pursuing the enemy through a chapparal.

President Walker has appointed a Cabinet and Military and Naval officers. On the 9th the President was thinking of establishing the seat of Government at Magdalena Bay. These facts are set forth with all the pomp and circumstance which the English language admits, in a grand bulletin from President Walker, dated very indefinitely, "at the Headquarters of the Republic of Lower California, Nov. 7, 1853."

The steamship, John L. Stephens, on the 19th ult., while going down from San Francisco to Panama, came across the filibusters on their "barge Carolina," all on board, with their two captive Governor. They appeared to be steering for San Diego, and had probably left their new Republic to save their heads.

Walker was formerly a writer for the San Francisco Herald. The whole affair is a funny farce, though it may prove anything but funny to those engaged in it.

P. M. General's Report.
Speaking of this able report, the Washington Star says: "We may not untruthfully write that it is by far the most satisfactory and interesting document of the kind ever emanating from the head of that department, notwithstanding its conclusive development of the cleared postage system has so far in reality failed to work as well for the Department's finances as was anticipated by its friends. It presents far more interesting information concerning the state of his charge than we ever before saw in a Postmaster General's report. His recommendations will fall upon the country with most unexampled force, because they are sustained with an array of facts and a agency of practical reasoning which most at once carry conviction to the mind of every business man."

The Colonization Law of Virginia.
It is stated that the recent message of the Governor of Virginia, that, in the three years during which the law of 1850 was in operation to limit the removal of colored persons to Liberia, only 419 free blacks and slaves were removed from that State at a cost to the Treasury of \$5,410. Under the present law, which was passed the 6th of April last, 340 colored persons have been sent to Liberia at a cost to the Treasury of \$5,800, being at a rate of 480 per annum—sufficient, as is supposed, to prevent any increase of the free colored population. But the Governor asks, "suppose any increase of the number is prevented, when, and how shall we get rid of these 55,000? Shall we and our posterity always endure the existing evil? I trust not; and I respectfully urge the adoption of more efficient measures for their removal, leaving the selection of the mode to the united wisdom of the General Assembly."

WHAT IS AN ARISTOCRAT?—Cassimer Perrier, on being called an aristocrat, replied, "My only aristocracy is the superiority which industry, frugality, perseverance and intelligence will always insure to every man in a free state of society; and I belong to those privileged classes, to which you all may be long in your turn. They are not privileged created for us, but by us. Our wealth is our own—we have made it; our ease is our own—we have gained it by the sweat of our brow, or by the labor of our minds. Our position in society is not conferred upon us, but purchased by our own exertions—with our own intellect, application, zeal, and industry. If you remain inferior to us, it is because you have not the talent, the industry, the zeal or the sobriety, the patience, the application necessary to your advancement. You wish to become rich as some do to become wise; but there is no royal road to wealth any more than there is to knowledge. The husbandman who will not till his ground shall reap nothing but thistles and briars. What right have you who do nothing for yourselves, your families, or your country, or mankind, to imagine that you will be selected by your fellow-citizens for their favor, their confidence, their rewards? If, by an aristocrat, you mean one who has earned his promotion by his industry, then indeed I am an aristocrat; and please God I may always remain so. You are too idle to labor, and too proud to beg. I throw back to you with indignation and resentment the charge which is made."

The parties who incurred the suits at Pittsburgh to recover the penalties from those who issued small notes, have been held to answer a charge of conspiracy.

Secretary Dobbin's Recommendation Responded to.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald says the chairman of the Naval Committee of the House, Mr. Cooper, will report the following bill, and will probably be made the special order of the day early in January:

Sec. 1. Be it enacted, &c. That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he is hereby authorized to cause to be constructed for the United States Navy, at an early day as practicable, consistently with a due regard for economy and efficiency, six first class steam frigates, to be provided with screw propellers, and properly armed and equipped for service; said vessels and machinery to be built by contract with the government yard yards, as the Secretary of the Navy may further deem most advisable for the public interest.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That there be and is hereby appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy for the purpose above specified, and for altering, completing, and launching the frigates Santeo, for Kittery, and Sabine at New York, the sum of three millions of dollars and any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

The importance of an early action upon the bill arises from the fact that unless it is passed at once, so as to permit the contracts to be made before spring, a year's delay will occur. The appropriation of three millions is simply a commencement, that being as much money as can be properly expended in one year.

Early Rising Required by Will.
In the will of the late James Sargent, of Leicester, it is the following clause:
"As my nephews are fond of indulging themselves in bed in the morning, and as I wish them to prove the satisfaction of my executors that they have got out of bed in the morning, and either employed themselves in business, or taken exercise in the open air, from five to eight o'clock every morning, beginning on the 5th of April to the 10th of October, being three hours each day; and from seven to nine o'clock in the morning, from the 10th of October to the 5th of April, being two hours every morning, to be done for some years, to the satisfaction of my executors, who may excuse them in case of illness, but the task must be made up when they are well; and if they will not do this, they shall not receive any or their property. Temperance makes the faculties clear and exercise makes them vigorous. It is to be observed that exercise united with some amount of recreation and the blighted prospect of their offspring."

At Home in the Evening.
One of the greatest neglects of youth, producing incalculable mischief and ruin, is the spending of his evenings. Darkness is the temptation to misconduct; suffering the youth to be out when the light of day does not restrain them from misconduct is training them to it. We have already an abundant harvest of prodigious youths, running uncorrected, giving fearful forbidding, are the results of youth becoming fit agents of outrage, by running uncorrected in the evenings. What we see in these respects is deplorable enough; but what is this compared with what we do not see—multitudes making themselves miserable and noxious to the world, and what is that to come to? Parents should look at the truth, that pleasure and recreation are often dearly purchased—the price of their own impaired comfort and the blighted prospect of their offspring.

A River Flowing Under a City.
The Newark (N. J.) Advertiser states that some persons who were engaged in grading the streets of that city on Saturday last, while working at the corner of No. 10th street, came upon a large hole about twenty feet deep, two feet wide at the mouth, and seven at the bottom. A stream of water, five feet deep, running in a south east direction, was found at the bottom. The discovery has excited considerable curiosity in the vicinity.

JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT.—The press of Pennsylvania seem to have lost sight of the fact that a Judge of the Supreme Court is to be nominated by the next State Convention. But, we presume the reason is that all expect the re-nomination of the present able Chief Justice. The following, from that sterling Democratic sheet, the Bedford Gazette, fully merits our views:

HON. J. S. BLACK.—We have been frequently interrogated whether this gentleman intended being a candidate for re-election as Judge of the Supreme Court. In our settled and decided opinion that he ought to be, for the services he has already rendered the State in this capacity clearly go to show that he could not well be spared from the bench. We believe the profession throughout the Commonwealth all look to Judge Black as a gentleman eminently and peculiarly adapted to this high position, and equally well qualified, in point of principle, for such a duty, and we trust that the administration of justice is most important of all things to a free people, and none but the best men should be chosen for such posts. Tried and proved men cannot be spared from the bench—and if any State in the Union ever had a chief justice, we should feel proud to have such a man on the bench. We have for a more brilliant array of profound legal talent, (as well as high social virtue and unspotless moral integrity) were never concentrated in any five men, than is to be found in the persons of Black, Lewis, Woodward, Lower, and Knox. Such a Court is an honor to the Judiciary of our country, and the people will not readily dispense with the services of any of these distinguished jurists, if they can help it. Hence, we can look upon the re-nomination of Judge Black as certain, and his acceptance as a matter of course.

We know that many warm friends of Judge Black anxiously desire to see him in the United States Senate. We have always been of that number, and always in the warmest. Our chief regret has not been in the least if he were up for election to the Senate, our hearts would be wanting in his behalf. But we are perfectly satisfied from his conversation, when we saw him a few weeks since, that he himself neither expects nor desires it.

The Sunbury Gazette hints at its next head the name of WILLIAM BOCKER, for re-election to the gubernatorial chair of Pennsylvania. The Gazette accompanies the act with the following remarks:

Governor BOCKER.—This week we hoist to the head of our columns, the name of William Bogler for the next Governor of Pennsylvania. It is early to take this step, but not too early. We admire the press's incumbent of the gubernatorial Chair of this State—we admire him in his private life, as far as we are acquainted with it—he is our choice for the next Governor, and we will not be late nor backward in proclaiming it. The Commonwealth has prospered under his administration; the party throughout the State has grown in strength since he has been at the head of it, and with these facts before our eyes, we raise his name, with a clear conscience to our mast-head, and expect to take it down only when he is re-elected.

CONSEQUENCE A CRIME.—Mr. Bruce, in his Classic and Historic Portraits, speaks of the dangers of becoming too fat in Sparta:

"The ancient Spartan paid as much attention to the rearing of men, as the cattle breeders in modern England do to the breeding of cattle. They took charge of the firmness and looseness of men's flesh, and regulated the degree of fatness to which it was to be raised, in a free State, for any citizen to extend his bulk. Thus who dared to grow too fat for his own military exercise and the service of Sparta, was severely whipped. In one particular instance, that of Naucleis, the son of Polybus, the offender was brought before the Ephori, and a meeting of the whole people of Sparta, at which his unwholesome fatness was publicly exposed, and he was threatened with perpetual banishment if he did bring his body within the regular Spartan compass, and give up his culpable mode of living, which was declared to be unworthy of an Spartan than a son of Lacedaemon."

In 1855 the duties on iron in France are to be still further reduced.

THE HOMESTEAD BILL.

The interest with which the country is looking for the action of Congress on the homestead bill induces us to publish it at full length, as reported by Hon. J. L. Dawson, of Pennsylvania, from the Committee on Agriculture, of which he is chairman.

We reserve our remarks for another day, having room now only to give the bill:
A bill to encourage agriculture, commerce, manufacturing and all other useful industry, by granting to every man who is the head of a family and a citizen of the United States a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land out of the public domain, upon condition of occupancy and cultivation of the same for the period herein specified.

Be it enacted, &c. That any person who is the head of a family and a citizen of the United States shall from and after the passage of this act be entitled to enter, free of cost, one quarter section of vacant and unappropriated public lands, or a quantity equal thereto, to be located in a body, in conformity with the legal subdivisions of the public land, and after the same shall have been surveyed.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the person applying for the benefit of this act shall, previous to the registration of the land office in which he or she is to make such entry, make affidavit before the said register that he or she is the head of a family; and upon making the affidavit above required, and filing the affidavit with the register, he or she shall thereupon be permitted to register the quantity of land already specified: Provided, however, That no certificate shall be given on the issued therefor, until the expiration of five years from the date of such entry; and if, at the expiration of such time, the person making such entry, or, if dead, his wife or, in case of his death, his heirs or devisee, or, in case of a widow making such entry, her heirs or devisee, in case of her death, shall prove, by two credible witnesses, that he, she, or they have continued to reside upon and cultivate said land, and will reside upon the same, and have not alienated the same, or any part thereof, in any case, he, she, or they shall be entitled to a patent, as in other cases provided by law: And provided further, In case of the death of both father and mother, leaving an infant child or children under fourteen years of age, the right and the fee shall inure to the benefit of said infant child or children; and the executor, administrator, or guardian may, at any time within two years after the death of the surviving parent, and in accordance with the laws of the State in which such children for the time being have their domicile, sell land for the benefit of said infants, but for no other purpose; and the purchaser shall receive a valid title by the usual purchase, and be entitled to a patent from the United States.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That to register the land office shall note all such applications on the tract books and plots of his office, and keep a register of all such entries, and make return therefor to the General Land Office, together with the proof upon which they have been founded.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That all land acquired under the provisions of this act shall be liable to become liable to the satisfaction of any debt or debts contracted prior to the issuing the patent therefor.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That if, at any time after filing the affidavit as required in the second section of this act, and before the expiration of the five years aforesaid, it shall be proven, after due notice to the settler, to the satisfaction of a judge of the land office, that the person having filed such affidavit shall have actually changed his or her residence, or abandoned the said entry for more than six months at any one time, then, after that term, the land shall revert back to the government, and be disposed of as other public lands are now by law subject to an appeal to the General Land Office.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That if any individual now a resident of any one of the States or Territories, and not a citizen of the United States, at the time of making such application for the benefit of this act shall have filed a declaration of intention, as required by the naturalization laws of the United States, and shall become a citizen of the same before the issuance of the patent, as made and provided for in this act, shall be placed upon an equal footing with the native born citizens of the United States.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That no individual shall be permitted to make more than one entry under the provisions of this act; and that the Commissioner of the General Land Office is hereby required to prepare and issue such regulations as shall be consistent with this act as shall be necessary and proper to carry its provisions into effect; and that the registers and receivers of the several land offices shall be entitled to receive the same, and keep the same on file, and shall be held to answer when any lands are entered under the provisions of this act that they are now entitled to receive when the same quantity of land is entered with money, one half to be paid by the person making the application at the time of so doing, and the other half at the issue of the certificate by the person to whom it may be issued: Provided, however, That all persons entering land under the provisions of this act, shall, as far as may be practicable, in making such entries, be confined to such alternate quarter sections, and to land subject to private entry: And provided further, That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to impair, or interfere in any manner whatever with existing pre-emptive rights.

The bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and, with the report, ordered to be printed.

A Beautiful Extract.
The editor of the Knickerbocker attributes the following to Iz MARVEL, and it is certainly worthy of him:

"Last evening we were walking leisurely along the music of the choir in three churches among the stars in the darkness around us, and we were all new and strange tunes, but one and that one—it was not song as we have heard it, but it awakened a train of long buried memories, that bore before us even as they were before the cemetery of the old and had estimated in it.

"It was sweet old 'Corinth' they were singing which we have seldom heard since the re-color of life was blanching; and we were in a moment back again to the old village church, and it was a summer afternoon, and the yellow sun was not so strong through the stained windows, and the silver hair of the old deacons, who sat in the pulpits, was turned in gold in its light; and the minister, who we used to think could never die, so good was he, had concluded 'application' and 'exhortation,' and the village choir was singing the old hymn, and the time was 'Corinth.'

"It is years—we dare not think how many—since then, and the prayers of David, the song of Jesse, are ended, and the choir are scattered and gone. The girl with blue eyes that sang alto, and the girl with black eyes that sang alto—the eyes of them were like a clear young woman's, and the pulse, which we turned in gold in its light; and the minister, who we used to think could never die, so good was he, had concluded 'application' and 'exhortation,' and the village choir was singing the old hymn, and the time was 'Corinth.'

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