

AMERICAN VOLUNTEER

JOHN B. BRATTON, Editor & Proprietor. CARLEISLE, PA., NOV. 30, 1854.

THANKSGIVING DAY.—Thursday last was generally observed by the citizens of this place as a day of Thanksgiving and praise.

A FOOT RACE.—On Thursday last (Thanksgiving day) an amusing scene took place in the upper end of North Hanover street, which afforded considerable diversion for the fillets in that section of the borough.

FAMILY MEDICINES.—Many articles are presented under this name which have no valuable properties, and are prepared by men, entirely ignorant of the organization and functions of the human body or the remedial effects of medicines.

SALVE OF A VALUABLE HOTEL PROPERTY.—On Saturday last, the valuable Hotel Property, situated on the north-west corner of the Centre Square, in this borough, belonging to Charles Ogilby, Esq., and at present occupied by Mr. Christian G. Stouff, was disposed of at public sale for the sum of \$8,465.

THE WINTER.—A contemporary says: "The dark clouds, driven to and fro by the cold, harsh wind, happily make us feel the approach of winter. Already they who have ample means to make the fire burn cheerily and secure that protection from the chilling blast that may enable them to look out smilingly upon the winter weather."

THE NEBRASKA QUESTION.—The Philadelphia Argus, of a late date, says: "Anti-Nebraska thunder seems to have died away materially in Massachusetts since the election. The Whig press, whose columns for weeks and months had been charged to the brim with inflammatory and one-sided appeals to the public, has at once 'knocked' them off."

THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH.—The Governor elect, Mr. Follock, of the Harrisburg Herald says, has tendered the office of Secretary of the Commonwealth to Col. A. C. Curtin, of Centre county, who has accepted the appointment.

SALE OF THE MAIN LINE.—In further compliance with the act "providing for the sale of the Main Line of the Public Works, from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh," requiring, "That if the said main line shall not be awarded to any purchaser under the provisions of this act, the Govr. shall advertise for the term of one month, in two newspapers published in Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburg, for purchasing the same, or any division thereof, and transmit the proposals, if any received, at the meeting of the next General Assembly, to the Speaker of the Senate, who shall open and publish the same in the presence of that body."

THE EIGHTH OF JANUARY CONVENTION AT WASHINGTON.—The veterans of the war of 1812 are already beginning to get ready to meet at the seat of our federal government on the 8th of January. As the convention will doubtless be numerously attended, it will be necessary for the railroad companies to make the usual arrangements as at the inauguration of the Presidents of the United States, and issue excursion tickets for the delegates from all parts of the country.

THE VOTE BY BALLOT.

In a republican government, every measure should be tested by time and experience, and when any rule of action which may have been at one time favorable to liberty and the rights of the people, becomes detrimental to both, by the ever-varying events of a restless and progressive age, that rule should be changed, and another and better one adopted in its stead.

But we have arrived at a period in our political history, when it becomes a question, which invites the welfare of the people, whether the voting at the polls should not also be open and public, instead of by the present method—and whether the Constitution of the State should not be altered so as to accomplish this desirable reform.

Several of our most republican States, the right of suffrage is exercised publicly and not by ballot. In Virginia this is the case, and it is assigned as one of the reasons why the traitorous Know Nothings are making little progress and but few converts in that republican Commonwealth.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Many articles are presented under this name which have no valuable properties, and are prepared by men, entirely ignorant of the organization and functions of the human body or the remedial effects of medicines.

THE PENNSYLVANIA DEMOCRAT, for twenty-eight years the Whig organ in Fayette county, has been discontinued, and the American Standard is to take its place and devote its columns to Know-Nothingism.

BLACK INEQUALITY.—The majority of the "dankies" who enjoy the elective franchise, under the new constitution, in the State of New York, at the recent election voted the Know-Nothing ticket.

THE NEXT CONGRESS, it is said, will contain eighteen abolitionists. All Protestants, too, our friend might have added. These are the men who have left the pulpit for the purpose of warning the people against the strides of the Catholics.

WILLIAM NORTH, the author and poet, committed suicide at his residence in Bond street, New York, on Tuesday. Disappointment arising on a temperamental preternaturally susceptible, and alive to influences which others could scarcely understand, impelled Mr. North to the melancholy rashness of self murder.

THE VERY ENTERPRISING firm of Reeves, Buck, & Co., iron manufacturers, it was announced on Wednesday, had stopped payment; their liabilities being variously stated at from nine hundred to fourteen hundred thousand dollars.

Over-Trading.

The continued heavy export of silver and gold calls forth a few comments from the New Orleans Bulletin, with a considerable degree of truth, according to our way of thinking.

Nothing but the wonderful resources of this country—wonderful in its vast and varied products, ranging all from the frigid to the torrid latitudes—wonderful alike in its enormous capacity and astonishing development—wonderful in its exhaustless mineral riches, its mines of lead, iron, copper, and coal, taking into calculation the stupendous gold yield of California—wonderful alike in its immense production of cotton, a staple the world cannot get along without, no matter how much flitting there may be at the threshold, and which constitutes the great and enduring basis of our national wealth.

MAINTAINING PENNSYLVANIA AND MARYLAND. It is well known that Pennsylvania and Maryland, a few years ago, says the Baltimore Sun, abolished small notes, and thus brought into all the channels of trade and business, as a substitute, a plentiful supply of gold and silver change.

ARRIVAL OF SMITH O'BRIEN.—Among the passengers between Malta and Gibraltar by the India mail, was Mr. Smith O'Brien, returned from transportation. He arrived from Australia via Madras.

WHAT FARMERS MUST DO.—The New York Times says: One of our paper-makers, speaking of the scarcity of rags, writes thus: "If our people would only raise fax; instead of importing their rags from foreign lands, we should soon have paper stock in abundance."

REVENUE OF THE BALTIMORE POST OFFICE AND ARREST.—We learn from the Baltimore Sun that one of the old clerks in the Baltimore Post Office has been detected in robbing the mails.

DUELING IN CALIFORNIA.—In the Legislative Assembly, on Tuesday afternoon, John Gleason, an advocate, was brought to the bar of the House, on the charge of sending a challenge to Mr. Cassatt, a member of the House.

CONVICTS OBEYED DELEGATE MARRIAGE.—In answering an official question, proffered to him, the Attorney General has had occasion to decide, under the law, consuls of the United States, in Europe, have no lawful power to celebrate marriages, either between citizens of the United States or foreigners.

RAILROAD CONVENTION.—The Cleveland Leader says that there is to be a grand Railroad Convention in this city on the 28th inst. The four great Eastern Railroads will be represented, namely—The New York and Erie, the New York Central, the Pennsylvania Central, and the Baltimore and Ohio.

DEATH OF JUDGE DENKER.—Judge Denker of York, died at his residence, on Thursday last, after great suffering. His disease was cancer.

Europe Not Ripe for Freedom

The New York Times professes to have received intelligence through private European channels, of considerable interest, concerning the result of the recent Congress of American Diplomats at Brussels.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE.—The December number of Graham's American Monthly Magazine has been issued. It is a most beautiful number, abounding with excellent matter.

PETERSON'S MAGAZINE.—The December number of this Magazine has been received, and although it is now one of the best of this kind of periodicals, the publisher designs to make great improvements for 1855.

MORE EFFECTS OF THE LATE DROUGHT.—The Buffalo Reporter says that there were over 100 vessels grounded on the St. Clair Flats, Detroit, on Thursday week, and that up to that time not a vessel had passed Detroit from the upper lakes.

INVESTIGATION DEMANDED.—The New York Times urges the necessity of an official investigation into the cause of the loss of the New Era, which over two hundred souls have been sent into eternity.

COLONEL KNOW-NOTHING.—In New York, colored persons, possessing immovable property, are allowed to vote. A Know-Nothing Lodge of colored persons was organized in Elmira, N.Y., last week, being the eighth of that complexion in the State.

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The Magazines for December.

The Ladies' Book.—This long established and popular periodical continues to maintain the high character which it has enjoyed for many years.

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Mr. Tiffany's Lecture before the Union-Fire Company.

It is a most singular and absurd idea, for a lecturer to maintain that he can be by his sentences—however eloquent—gull an enlighten and liberal community, and work upon their prejudices by his own selfish ends.

A RAILROAD IN THE SHERIFF'S HANDS.—The Sheriff of Lebanon county advertises for sale the entire possessions of the Dauphin and Susquehanna Coal Company, consisting of 41,766 acres of coal land, together with the mines, machinery, &c., and also the Dauphin and Susquehanna Railroad.

DOMINGO AND STOWE.—A letter writer from the city of St. Domingo—and evidently no friend of the party—says that the only harm he wishes "Madame Stowe" is, that she should be obliged to live in Hayti six months.

A FIRM MIND NOT A CHURCH.—The U. S. Circuit Court of Illinois, has decided that free negro is not a "citizen" of the United States within the meaning of the Constitution, entitling him to sustain a suit before the U. S. Court.

ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE.—The Illinois State Register, of the 10th inst., says: "From the returns thus far received we can form no definite opinion of the complexion of the Legislature. The Senate will be Democratic, and we feel confident that the House will be the same."

IMPORTANT JUDICIAL DECISION.—A Western Judge has decided that stationary, umbrellas, overcoats and rubbers, are not property, but articles of miscellaneous utility. The result is, that these goods have a very rapid circulation in those parts.

LETTERS FROM KANSAS TERRITORY.—The Hon. Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, has just returned from a special mission to the Indians in Kansas territory, and confirms the opinion that Kansas will become a free State.

TRADING ON A WIFE.—F. Butterfield, of Great Falls, N. H., was arrested recently on a charge of having two wives. He has been to California, and styled himself the impression that his "old wife" was dead, and married again.

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