AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

JOHN B. BRATTON, Editor & Proprietor.

CARLISLE, PA., FEB. 4, 1858.

Meeting of the Democratic Standing Committee.

The members of the Democratic Standing Committee of Cumberland county, are requested to meet in Carlisle, at Martin's Hotel, at 1 o'clock, P. M., on *Saturday, February 13th*, for the purpose of making arrangements for electing delegates to the 4th of March Convention.

THREE OF THE COMMITTEE.

Lower Allen, Israel Boyer, Wm. Stephen; U. Allen, W. L. Cocklin, B. Titzel; Carlisle, E. W., Henry Saxton, James Armstrong; W. W., Wm. Zettle, R. Spottswood; Dickinson, B. Peffer, Jesse Kurtz; Eastpennsborough, Chas. F. Wilbur, jr., Dr. J. Bowman; Frankfort, James Wallace, John Monntz; Hopewell, Adam Eberling, J. C. Elliott; Hampden, N. Eckles, David Hume; Mechanicsburg, W. Eckles, E. Lamont; Monroe, Wm. Senseman, Peter Baker; Mifflin; Wm. Patton, Moses Conner; Newton, Samuel Cope, P. G. M'Coy; Newville, John Bricker, J. K. Klink; New Cumberland, G. R. Hursh, A. Freeman; N. Middleton, Peter Brindle, Wm. F. Swigert; S. Middleton, Geo. Otto, G. B. Bosler; Southampton, Wm. Coffey, T. H. Britton; Shippensburg B., B. Duke, L. K. Donavin; Shippensburg T., T. B. Blair, J. P. Nevin Silver Spring, Samuel Kast, John Clendenin; Westpennsborough, D. S. Ker, Abm. Myers.

BIOGRAPHY OF ELISHA KENT KANE.—We return our thanks to the publishers, Messrs. CHILDS & PETERSON, of Philadelphia, for a copy of the anxiously looked for work, the "Biography of Elisha Kent Kane, by Wm. Elder." It is a work of 410 pages, and is got up in excellent style. Dr. ELDER, the author, commences with the birth of the Polar navigator, and ends with his death. The work is written in a plain but very interesting manner. This work should command a ready sale, for it is, beyond question, a book of rarest interest and instruction. The name of Dr. KANE, like that of HENRY GRINNEL, will remain an honor to his country.

Mr. JOHN MILLER, of this Borough, has been appointed agent for the sale of the above work in the counties of Cumberland and Franklin.—He can be found at Martin's hotel, East High street.

COMMERCIAL INSTITUTE, YORK.—Some of the most elegant specimens of writing that we ever have seen were shown to us during our recent visit to Harrisburg, executed by T. KIRK WHITE, Principal of the Commercial Institute at York, Pa. This Institution is said to be one of the best of the kind in the United States. Mr. WHITE's advertisement will be found in another column.

CONGRESSIONAL.—Nothing of interest transpired in either branch of Congress during the past week. The Army bill was up for consideration in the Senate, and that with Fillibusterism, the Public Printing, and a little sprinkling of Kansas, made up the sum total of the speeches in both Houses. The Senate adjourned over for the week on Thursday, and the House on Friday.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.—The School Department has been removed from the Executive office to a room in the Capitol building, adjoining the Canal Commissioners' office, which has been refitted, and is much better suited for that department than the old quarters—which have also been renovated and fitted up for the Attorney General. That officer will, therefore, be always in readiness to communicate with the Governor. The arrangement is an admirable one, and will be a great convenience to both the School Department and the Attorney General's office. The State Superintendent has made the following appointments:

JOHN M. SULLIVAN, Deputy Superintendent.

CLERKS—GEO. W. CRABB, of Harrisburg, and JAS. G. SAMPLE, of Crawford county.

☞ Ice put up during the fore part of the season is more durable than that put up towards spring. Those intending to put up ice this season, should remember this fact.—*Ex.*

The above advice may be very good, but the question just now is, where is the ice to come from?

☞ The government is again in funds to an amount ample for immediate purposes. The new Treasury notes have been received from the hands of the engraver, who has executed them with great skill, representing upon their faces admirable likenesses of the distinguished men, under whose immediate direction they were issued—the President and Secretary of the Treasury. It is found that the notes will be current at three per cent interest, any bank being glad to take them on deposit at par with the accumulated interest.

GOOD MOVE IN THE SENATE.—Mr. Slidell has introduced a bill in the United States Senate, prohibiting the circulation of all bank notes in the District of Columbia of a less denomination than fifty dollars. Who will follow the example in our own Senate?

TOO LATE.—Mr. Bernhisel, the Delegate from Utah Territory, is desirous of a peaceful settlement of the Mormon difficulties.

Rather too late we apprehend for such a proposal to emanate from the source it does.

☞ The Senate Committee on French Spoliations have decided to recommend that Congress appropriate five millions of dollars, in five per cent. stock, for their liquidation. Should the claims exceed the sum specified by the Committee, they recommend a prorata distribution.

☞ The British Post Office Department is complaining of the mean fraud, largely practised, of writing upon newspapers mailed in this country for England. The Department will direct the attention of Postmasters throughout the country to exert special efforts to protect the revenue. The British Postal Department has been requested to return such papers, in order that those sending them may be prosecuted according to law.

PREPARED TO RESUME.—The Directors of the Banks of Northumberland, Danville, and Lewisburg, have adopted resolutions declaring that they are prepared to resume specie payments as soon as the Philadelphia Banks do so, and desiring the co-operation of the latter in as early a resumption as practicable.

THE LICENSE LAW.—The Committee on Vice and Immorality of the Legislature, think they have a sufficient number of petitions for the repeal of the present License Law, to justify them in making some radical changes in its provisions.

ANOTHER MURDERER CONVICTED.—William Muller was tried last week at Wilkesbarre, for the murder of an old gentleman named George Mathias, and found guilty of murder in the first degree. He killed his victim with an axe, while lying in bed, and afterwards threw his body into a well near the house, where it was subsequently found.

KANSAS IN THE LEGISLATURE.

Ever since the rise of the Kansas excitement it has been customary for the opposition to introduce into the Legislature resolutions instructing our representatives in Congress how to vote on this question. At the Session of 1854 it was entire opposition to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and the passage of the Kansas bill. At the last session these resolutions took the form of instructions against the admission of Kansas as a slave State, no matter how a majority of the people should vote, and on Thursday of last week a series of resolutions were introduced into the House by a Republican member, Mr. MILLER, of Crawford, as follows:

WHEREAS, it is the imperative and indisputable duty of the government of the United States to secure to any inhabitant of Kansas the free and independent expression of his opinion by his vote; to leave the people of the Territory free from all foreign interference, to decide their own destiny for themselves, and to protect them in the exercise of their right of voting for or against the Constitution, without the fair expression of the popular will being interrupted by fraud or violence. And whereas, the organic act under which the Territory of Kansas is now governed, expressly declares its true intent and meaning to be—"to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the Constitution of the United States;" therefore,

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, that our Senators be and are hereby instructed, and our Representatives requested, to resist the admission of Kansas into the Union as a State, until a Constitution is presented that has been fully and fairly submitted to the people, and received the unqualified sanction of a majority of the *bona fide* citizens of the Territory.

The evident object of those concerned in getting up and offering this resolution, was to consume the time of the House in a long and fruitless discussion. This, the majority determined to avoid. After considerable debate and a number of pointed and satirical hits were made by members of both parties, the preamble and resolution were referred to a committee of seven—all the Democrats voting for the reference, and the Republicans against. On the day following the Speaker announced the committee, as follows—Messrs. Calhoun of Armstrong, Goepp of Northampton, Miller of Crawford, Jackman of Clinton, Lawrence of Dauphin, Rhodes of Northumberland, and Turner of Luzerne. It is understood that the committee stand two in favor of the Lecompton Constitution, to five against it.

The determination and entire unanimity displayed by the Democrats of the House in discountenancing this effort to agitate the Kansas question, was doubtless a sore disappointment to the opposition, who imagined that an actual division existed in our ranks, and that it needed but the mention of this subject to excite the factions to open warfare. They found, with extreme mortification, that the Democratic party was still united, and that no movement of its enemies could bring disruption to its solid ranks.

Public Opinion.

The Easton *Argus* of Thursday week says:—The Democracy of the old 10th Legion which gave our noble old President over 7,000 of a majority, and which has always stood by him in days gone by, NOW STANDS BY HIS ADMINISTRATION and will continue to do right. On the Kansas question, every Democratic paper in the district, NINE in number, approve his policy and support his measures, and the same unanimity exists among the rank and file, the bone and sinew of the party.

The Democrats of Carbon county had a glorious meeting at Mauch Chunk on Monday the 4th inst., which was attended by every prominent democrat in the county. Hon. ASA. PACKER presided, assisted by Dennis Bauman, Conrad Kocher, Andrew Grover, W. D. Tombler, and Francis Reed, Esqs., Vice Presidents, and Enos Tolan, and P. Specrsnyder, Esqs., Secretaries. The following resolutions were reported from the Committee appointed for that purpose, of which Maj. Shortz was Chairman:

Resolved, That the Democracy of Carbon co. have, and ever had, full confidence in the firmness, integrity, statesmanship, and Democracy of James Buchanan; and that confidence has steadily increased with the progress of his administration; and looking to his recent message to Congress as the exposition of the principles upon which he proposes to administer the government, we desire to express our cordial and unqualified approval of the principles therein enunciated.

Resolved, That the Democracy of Carbon co. stand on the platform where they have always stoood. They maintain that the principles of the organic law of Kansas and Nebraska are right and Democratic; that we support the doctrine of non-intervention, and therefore shall not dictate to the people of Kansas or any other Territory or State, how or in what way, they shall make their own laws, provided such laws, rules and regulations are republican in form, and not repugnant to the Constitution of the United States.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted, showing that the Democrats of Carbon are sound and true to the Constitution. Huzza for old Buck! We are proud of the Democracy of this District in the unyielding attachment displayed for the Chief Magistrate of the Union, and for their firm adherence to the principles and platform of the party.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at a recent meeting of the Democrats of Allegheny county:

Resolved, That the administration of President Buchanan has thus far, met the highest expectations of the Democracy of Allegheny county; we confidently rely upon his character, experience and integrity, which led us to victory in 1856, for an honest and faithful administration of our national affairs, and for a fair and impartial settlement of all public questions entrusted to his care.

THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA.—The Judges of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania have addressed a memorial to the Legislature, in relation to the proposition for abolishing the several districts of the Court, and fixing its sessions, for the whole State, at some assessable and convenient point.

☞ Col. Jno. W. Forney has consented to deliver his celebrated Lecture, on American Statesmen, in the Hall of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, on Tuesday evening, the 9th inst. The Harrisburg *Union* says: This is in pursuance of a unanimous invitation from the members of both houses, irrespective of party proclivities, having been signed by all who were in town and had an opportunity.

☞ A very severe case of Sore Eyes, of five years' standing, was cured by the use of DU VALL'S GALVANIC OIL. It is one of the most soothing and pain quieting agents that can be had. Eyrsipelas of the face, it will often remove the pain in 10 minutes.

☞ Mr. Everett is said to have repeated his address on Washington 65 times, and realized over $36,000 for the Mount Vernon fund.

MURDERS AND MURDEROUS WEAPONS.

We find it, says the Chambersburg *Valley Spirit*, that it makes a great difference when and where a murder, or a murderous assault, is committed. The more openly, the more boldly the crime is committed, the more certain is the murderer's escape. Where a murder is committed in the dark, under no eye but that of the Omniscient; the party *suspected* of the crime is apprehended and convicted. There being "a reasonable doubt" in his case, *society* gets the benefit of the doubt and the suspected man is hanged—not, however, it is consolatory to his friends to reflect, without benefit of the best clergy the market affords. But when a villian strikes down his victim in broad daylight and in the presence of a cloud of witnesses—where there is an absolute certainty of his guilt—where, indeed, the act of blood is admitted, because it cannot be denied—the murderer is acquitted! Bloodthirsty wretches have got to understand this, and instead of attempting to wreak their vengeance in private, they do it in public.

The latest outrage committed "according to law."—such law as Judge Allison lays down—is the acquittal of Thomas W. Smith of the murder of Richard Carter, at Philadelphia.—Smith killed Carter publicly, in the parlor of the St. Larence Hotel, in Philadelphia. He was acquitted "on the ground of insanity at the time of committing the act," and yet nobody in his senses can believe that Smith was insane. He was in his right mind; he deliberately planned the murder and committed it with the coolest deliberation; but he did it under circumstances calculated to give great *eclat* to the act, and this saved him from the fate of less bold and sagacious murderers.

Some persons justify the killing of Carter by Smith, on the ground that the law furnished the latter no adequate remedy for the wrong done him by the former. We deny the right of any man to take the law into his own hands under any circumstances, and we deny that Carter ever wronged Smith. What are the facts? Carter had put a girl, of whom he had the care, at School at Wilmington. Smith's sister was a teacher in the school. Smith visited his sister; saw the girl; fell in love with her, like a fool, at first sight; and a few months afterward, without taking much pains to ascertain who or what she was, married her. He got more than he bargained for, as sometimes happens with people who neglect to look before they leap. His wife presented him with a child four months after their marriage, and told him it was Carter's.

Carter had greviously wronged the girl and her family, but he had done no wrong to Smith. It was not Smith's wife he seduced, for the girl was ruined before Smith met her. And Carter, so far from being instrumental in fastening the ruined girl upon Smith, when he learned of their intended marriage, endeavored to dissuade her from marrying, writing to her that, in view of her condition, she ought not to think of doing so. It was shown on the trial that Smith had seen this letter, but he married the girl in spite of it.

Instead of applying for a divorce, as he should have done, and leaving the woman and child to be taken care of by Carter, Smith armed himself and took Carter's life; and because he did it "with a flourish," Judge Allison and his incomparable jury acquitted him. And now Smith seeks to end the matter where he should have commenced it. He has applied to the Legislature for a divorce. He does not deserve to have his petition granted. Neither he nor anybody else who sets the law at defiance by taking up deadly weapons to redress his wrongs, be they imaginary or real, deserves sympathy from the public or relief of any description from the representatives of the people. It is time to put a stop to the use of murderous weapons.

NEW-STYLE CONVENTION.—A convention of some 400 or 500 Gypsies was to assemble at Dayton, Ohio, during the holidays. The Journa, noticing the presence of a large number, then already on the ground, says: "These Gypsies do curious things besides telling fortunes, and painting horses. Some twenty or thirty of both sexes were at the Metropolitan the other day, and the women of the party invited the men to drink, which invitation was accepted, and the whole party gathered at the counter and drank together. The women paid for the liquor. A short time afterwards the men returned the compliment, and treated the women, and they continued thus doing the polite to each other till the whole party had drank a half a dozen of times."

☞ Mrs. Margaret Mogo, who left Salt Lake City, Oct. 8, and reached Col. Alexander's camp, Nov. 1, says: "In my opinion, the proportion of Mormons who would be glad of an opportunity to escape from the authority of the church, and who are privately opposed to the course which Brigham Young has adopted towards the United States Government, is about one quarter of the men, and certainly one half of the women."

THROWING A NEGRO WENCH IN A HEATED FURNACE.—Wm. C. Chamberlain, living near Providence, Miss., met with quite a loss on Sunday, the 14th ult. One of his negro women moved by feelings of jealousy, attacked another while she was in a sitting position, giving her a blow upon the head with an axe, and then put her in a heated furnace, where she was found shockingly burnt. The murderess confesses the act of killing, but denies putting her in the furnace. About twenty minutes after the body of the murdered one was found, his barn, containing a large quantity of oats and fodder, was discovered to be on fire. The same negro who committed the murder is supposed to have applied the torch, though she denies having done so. Mr. Chamberlain's loss is about $2,500.

☞ It is stated that a son of the original Joe Smith, the prophet, founder of the Mormons, now resides at Nauvoo. He is about 24 years of age. A correspondent of the St. Louis Republican is very positive that Joseph intends to assume the leadership of the church next spring, and, as a method of solving the Mormon problem, suggests that our Government should encourage the people of Utah in acknowledging him, and thus rid themselves of the traitorous Brigham.

☞ The *Presbyterian Advocate* announces the death, in Washington, Pa., of the Rev. C. Dodd. Mr. Dodd was the oldest member of the Washington Presbytery, and was much esteemed by all who knew him.

☞ The New York papers say that there is more gold and silver in circulation in that city, at the present time, than was ever before known.

The Revolution in Mexico.

The important news from Mexico, which we published in a special despatch, proves that Comonfort's *coup d' etat* has not been as successful as Louis Napoleon's. The whole population seems to be rising against his usurpation, and the singular spectacle is presented of Republicans and adherents of Santa Anna taking up arms to put down their common enemy.—It may be, however, that the friends of the latter have taken advantage of the public sentiment against Comonfort's overthrow of the constitution, to strike a blow for the old reprobate Santa Anna, and this revolution is their work. It seems impossible, however, that Mexico can again accept that profligate chieftain as their ruler. A man who could bargain to sell his country while a hostile force is invading it, is no fit ruler for any people, and can have no popular sympathies in his favor which could give stability to his power. Comonfort is preferable to Santa Anna, but constitutional Government is preferable to the Dictatorship of either. There are enough friends of the republic, doubtless, to see that the liberties of the people are sacrificed by neither.

Remarkable Januaries.

The month of January of 1858, thus far, has been a most remarkable one. The mercury in Philadelphia, has scarcely been down to freezing point, and the weather generally has been more like that of April or October, than the second month of winter. Looking back, we find that the January of 1790, was also a remarkably mild one, the medium temperature being 44°. The mercury often run up to 70 in the shade at mid-day, and boys were seen swimming in the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. This mild weather continued until February 17, when a reaction took place, and cold set in, in good earnest. The Januaries of 1793, 1810, 1828, 1838, 1842, 1845, were also mild, and there have been several Januaries since, which were by no means what may be called hard. During these mild Januaries, fogs have prevailed, as they have at times the present month. It is possible that we may have a cold snap before long. We doubt not our ice-gatherers are hoping that it will be not much longer delayed; though there are hundreds and thousands who are effected by the late panic, and to whom an indefinite postponement of bitter cold will be an inestimable blessing.

The cold Januaries from 1790 to 1846, have been those of 1815, 1820, 1821, 1831, 1832, 1840, 1844. In 1815 the medium temperature was 26. The Schuylkill and Delaware were both frozen hard during the whole month. In 1820 the medium temperature was also 26. In 1821 the medium temperature was 25, and there was an uncommon amount of snow all that month. On nine mornings the mercury, in Philadelphia, was below zero, and on two mornings as many as 9° below. Down in Maine, during the month, it frequently fell to 40° below zero. Only three Januaries previous to this, during a century, had been so cold, and those were in 1741, 1765, and 1780. The sleighing was good from Buffalo to the most extreme part of Maine, and from St. Johns, New Brunswick, through the Canadas, and for a thousand miles westward. Every harbor was ice bound from Alexandria, Va., to Eastport, Me., excepting the harbor of Portsmouth, N. H. January, 1840, is however the coldest on record, the medium temperature being as low as 24. The month was without a single thaw, and there was a good deal of snow upon the earth. On sixteen mornings during the month the mercury ranged from 10 to 20 degrees below zero in Philadelphia.

Tuckerman, the Mail Robber.

One offence against the law frequently leads to another, and for the purpose, too, of mere concealment. Many a man of extravagant habits has been induced to appropriate that which did not belong to him, which was entrusted to him for safe keeping, and who from "breach of trust" has gone on to theft—aye, even murder. His first offence was not, strictly speaking, an indictable crime; but he was forced to commit such a crime to conceal the lighter wickedness, and at last is overwhelmed. Tuckerman, the mail robber, is one of the kind who, but for a first comparatively light offence, brought on, we dare say, by extravagant living, by trying to ape the habits or mode of life of wealthy people about him, might now be a valued citizen of Boston, instead of the tenant of a prison in New Haven. It seems that he first appropriated moneys of an Eastern railroad, and while awaiting his trial, was induced to rob the mail, hoping to obtain sufficient money thereby to pay off the deficit in his railroad accounts, and thus induce those who had proceeded against him to release him from durance of the law. The result is known; it will make him, past hope, a felon.

A writer, speaking of Tuckerman, says he is a gentlemanly looking man, and about 37 years old. He would have escaped, it seems, on his first offence, the appropriating of money of the Railroad company, but for an old gentleman, in a rural district, who owned one or two shares of stock. This man, it appears, sent a letter to Tuckerman, representing that his interests had been injured by the defalcation, and that unless he (T.) would send him some four or five hundred dollars, he would prosecute him. Tuckerman, under the advice of counsel, refused to comply with the request. The old man was as good as his word. He had legal proceedings instituted against Tuckerman, and he was put under bonds to the amount of $16,000. As intimated above, to get rid of the prosecution, he doubtless robbed the mail.—There is a moral in his example which all, and especially young men, should heed.

☞ Col. Johnston, the Commander of our Utah army, is a Kentuckian by birth, and graduated at West Point, but resigned his commission, and became a volunteer in the Texas revolution. He was Colonel of a regiment in the Mexican war, and shared the honors at Buena Vista. In 1846 he became a paymaster in the U. S. Army, and in 1855 was appointed Colonel of one of the new regiments.

☞ Hon. Saml. Hill, of Westmoreland, who represented that county for nearly ten years in the House of Representatives, died suddenly at his residence, on the 9th ult. He was a man of high character and a useful citizen.

☞ The Manufacturers of cotton and woolen goods in the city of Philadelphia held a meeting lately, and adopting resolutions limiting the term of credit to six months. A committee was also appointed to confer with other States on the propriety of reducing business transactions to a cash basis.

Central American Affairs.

Senator Mason, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, has made a report to the Senate on the subject of Central American affairs. After reviewing the facts of the case respecting the arrest of Gen. Walker and his fillibusters by Commodore Paulding, it fully sustains the course of the President, and concludes with the following resolutions:

First, that no other provisions of law were necessary to confer authority on the President to cause arrests and seizures to be made on the high seas for offences against the neutrality laws of 1818; because such power was necessarily implied from the 8th section of that act.—Second, That the place where Walker was arrested, being out of the jurisdiction of the United States, the arrest was without the warrant of law. But viewing the circumstances and results, the act did not call for censure except from Nicaragua. The further consideration of the subject was postponed until the 9th of February. A bill also accompanies the report authorizing the arrest of fillibusters on the high seas. Senator Douglas, a member of the committee, dissented from the report.

MESSRS. RIDGWAY AND WISE—A DESPERATE PROPOSITION.—The Richmond Whig has lately been more than usually severe upon the Hon. Henry A. Wise, Governor of Virginia.—A few days ago, therefore, the Governor's son, Mr. O. Jennings Wise, went into the office of the Whig, and asked for Mr. R. Ridgway, the editor; was shown into his room, and proceeded to give him a most severe castigation, breaking a stout stick over him. The combatants were separated and no more damage was done. The next day Mr. Ridgway sent a challenge, proposing a meeting on the following terms:

"I propose that you and I select only one friend each, and, with one pair of pistols, we shall all meet in either your office or mine, at an hour to be hereafter designated; and after thus meeting, and the door being locked, you and I shall be securely blindfolded; that then the seconds shall load one of the pistols and leave the other unloaded; that they shall next determine by lot the choice of pistols; that the pistols shall then be handed to us, and that yours shall be placed directly against my breast and mine against yours; that, next and finally, at the giving of the word we shall both pull trigger, and let the consequences take care of themselves."

Mr. Wise, in reply says:

"I must call your attention to the fact that, by the code of honor, the challenging party is not entitled to prescribe the weapons nor the mode of using them. Moreover, the mode which you suggest is one en irely incompatible with the usage which obtains among gentlemen, since it would leave the issue entirely to the decision of chance. I am not willing to permit you to use a weapon against me without an opportunity, fully secured to me, of equel resistance. Still less will I consent, under any circumstances, to use a deadly weapon against an unarmed man."

In conclusion, Mr. Wise expresses his willingness to accept a challenge recognized by established usuage, and without conditions invasive of his rights as the challenged party. Mr. Ridgway, in his rejoinder, claims that Mr. Wise had already placed himself outside the "code" by attacking him in his office, and adds:

"In a word, you set out with a deliberate violation of the 'code' and now claim to have conceded to all the rights, privileges and advantages which the 'code' accords to those who recognize it, and regulate their conduct by it. This unjust and extraordinary concession I am not prepared to make to you or any other man. Under the circumstances, therefore, you are not entitled to any recognition from me under the code. I have, therefore, submitted to you a proposition out side of it, which you are at liberty to accept or not, as suits you."

ARREST OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE MARINE BANK OF HOBOKEN, CHARGED WITH EMBEZZLEMENT.—The Marine Bank of Hoboken has had a brief existence. The doors were thrown open for business on the 11 th of this month, and were closed on Tuesday night with the arrest of Mr. Lewis M. Van Elton, the president, on a charge of embezzlement and swindling. He was taken before Justice Crane, and in default of $1,000 bonds, was committed. He surrendered the notes which he had received for the bank stock.

The bank had no bills in circulation. The funds which were in the bank, amounting to $1,000, have been disposed in the City Bank at Hoboken, for the benefit of the depositors.—This amount is not sufficient by several hundred dollars to pay off the depositors; but being it is understood that the citizens who were drawn into this financial operation will make up the deficit from their private pockets.

BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA STOCK.—The stock of the Bank of Pennsylvania, which sold at four dollars per share on Saturday last, has advanced since the return of Mr. Allibone, its late President, to ten dollars, being a rise of five dollars since his return. We understand that immediately after the return of Mr. A. in Philadelphia, he addressed a note to the Directors of the Bank, expressing his readiness to give them in their examination of the affairs of the Institution, any informrtion which might be in his power. Mr. Allibone has also made application for dissolving the attachment made against his property and estate, at the instance of the Board, during hts absence from the country; and the probabilities now are, that in a short time the community will have an opportunity to know who is responsible for the disastrous state of things which exists in regard to the Bank.

THE AMERICAN MINISTER TO CHINA.—The Hong Kong correspondent of the N. Y. Times, announcing the arrival of the U. S. steamship Minnesota, says:

"Mr. Reed and suite are quartered on the ship. He was received very cordially by the authorities and the people here, and has been called upon by Lord Elgin, Sir John Browning, Admiral Seymour and other dignitaries. Numerous military honors have been showered upon him; for a while the amphitheatre formed by the mountains around Hong Kong smoked like a battle-field in consequence of the powder burnt in his honor."

☞ A young lady, 25 years of age, of elegant accomplishments and fascinating qualities of many kinds, arrived at St. Louis, says the *Republican*, a few weeks ago, from Chillicothe, O., on a visit. She had for some time been in the habit of taking small quantities of arsenic, for the purpose of beautifying her complexion, and on Friday last she took an overdose, fell sick and died.

☞ Several gentlemen are in the city, says the Washington *Union*, who have been summoned here from Massachusetts to testify before a committee of the House, appointed to investigate the alleged corruption of Congress by Lawrence, Stone & Co., and it is understood that the examinations have commenced.

☞ It is stated that Ex-President Fillmore is to be married on the 11th of Feb'y., to a Mrs. McIntosh, widow of the former President of the Albany and Schenectady Railroad.

The Manheim, Lancaster Co., Tragedy---Conviction of the Prisoners.

Anderson and Richards, the negroes who were arraigned last week, before the Lancaster Criminal Court, for the murder of Mrs. Garber and Mrs. Ream, were both found guilty of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to be hung.

When called upon to say whether they had anything to say why sentence of death should be passed upon them, they each made a statement, protesting their entire innocence. Richards, in defence of himself, wholly criminates Anderson, alledging that his silence, or seeming acquiescence in the murder, was compelled through fear of the threats made against him by Anderson; whilst Anderson, averring his innocence, throws the crime upon Richards.

Anderson concluded his statement by saying:—"So help me God, gentlemen, I am innocent of the murder of them poor women. They swore about my cap being bloody, but there was no blood on it; they ought to have brought it here to be shown to the jury. There was blood on my clothes, but it got there from my nose, which had been bleeding that afternoon. I am innocent, gentlemen; but, as sentence of death must be passed I am willing to go and suffer. But, gentlemen of the court, I am innocent of the murder."

The Lancaster Express says: "The prisoners, on their way out, intimated that these statements were made by them in the hope that the denial of their guilt might still, in some way, benefit them; but now that they see there is no chance of escape from the law, they will make a full and true confession, to be published "for the benefit of their families," after their execution.

The Earthquake in Naples---Nearly 4000 Bodies Already Recovered.

The Naples correspondent of the London Times says the prevalent opinion is that about 13,000 persons have perished in the recent earthquake; 3666 bodies have been recovered.

The official journal enumerates 61 places which had suffered in their buildings, and many in their population. Under the name of each place is given a description of the disaster, and this last report alone gives the number of several—say, 4000 or 5000 additional known to have suffered. Then are described the other casualities, people maimed, crushed, others drawn out alive, after a fearful sepulture of eight days, reminding us of how many more might have been saved had proper exertions been made. The latest accounts, too, awaken considerable apprehensions of further disaster. The whole district of Sala is agitated by continual movements of the earth, stronger by night than by day, and these preceded by fearful detonations. Moreover, about 9 o'clock, P. M., of the 28th ult., and 6 and half-past 7 P. M. of the 29th ult., three strong shocks, lasting 10 to 12 seconds, were felt, followed by others less intense.

In Potenza, too, on the evening of the 29th, about a quarter to 7 o'clock, a strong undulatory shock was felt, and other light ones during the night. No injury was done, but the population all rushed out into some open space.—Here in Naples it is said that, since the 16th ult., we have had up to Christmas eve, 49 shocks, and it may readily be believed. Almost every one finds some trace of them in his house; the shocks, too, which were felt in Potenza on the evening of the 29th, were felt in Naples, and in some cases, created great alarm. However, every one looks to Vesuvius for safety, and on that night it was in violent movement. People who reside at Resina tell me that during the whole night the shocks from the mountain were of a most violent and continuous character. Every three minutes it appeared as if a desperate man was trying to wrench open the doors and windows. Nothing, however, took place.

I have also reports to give you from private persons who have visited the scene of ruin.—They describe the country in many places as crossed with fissures, which at first had been very wide; but now had been much closed.—During the whole time of their visit, the ground was heaving beneath them. There was universal panic and grief, and no light part of it arose from the fact that there was no one to search beneath the ruins or to bury their dead. I speak of the 21st and the 23d ult.,—that is to say, of six days after the date of the disaster.—Letters from Brienza of the 31st ult., say that no relief had been as yet received. My informants, in wandering through Polla, could get no food, and even bread was wanting in many places. Those who were dug out alive—some after six or eight days of living burial—awoke to famine and death. The details which I receive are more horrible than can be easily conceived.

Since writing the above, other and more afflicting details have arrived of the desolation occasioned by the earthquake. Laurenzana, Tito, Brienza, Mariscanuovo, have almost entirely disappeared. The King himself says that upwards of fifteen thousand have perished, and from what I have heard, says my very sensible informant, the real number must be nearly double. People who have come from the spot, report that the groans of the sufferers were heard from beneath the ruins several days after the disaster, and that, horrible to relate, on some bodies being taken out, it was found that they had devoured a portion of their arms.—There were none to aid them none to excavate the dying, none to bury the dead, none to give bread to famishing. Thousands of soldiers are maintained at the expense of the State to support "order," but they could not be sent to save thousands from perishing. Many steamers were lying in the harbor, the expensive toys of the sovereign, but with one or two tardy exceptions, they have remained snug in port. People cannot refrain from comparing the tardiness displayed on the present melancholy occasion, with the promptitude displayed in the month of June last, when rebels landed in Sapri. It must have been late on the night of the 17th, perhaps not before the morning of the 28th, when the intelligence arrived at Gaeta, yet two steam frigates were immediately despatched with troops, and at half-past 9 A. M., of the morning of the 29th, the Cagliari was captured.

MORE GOLD.—The steamship Moses Taylor, arrived at New York on Wednesday evening, from Aspinwall, bringing $1,500,000 in gold.

A slight shock of an earthquake was experienced at San Francisco on the morning of the 24th of December.

Downieville was destroyed by fire on New Year's Day.

Eighty-two divorce cases have been brought in San Francisco during the last year—a large majority being commenced by wives against their faithless husbands.

KANSAS LETTER WRITERS.—The *Herald of Freedom*, published at Lawrence, Kansas, the oldest and most consistent free-State paper in the Territory, thus speaks of the letter writers who fill the columns of such papers as the N. Y. Tribune. Under date of Dec. 19, it says:—

We say frankly, that our difficulties have been complicated, and the cause of freedom in Kansas almost ruined, by the falsehoods of the pensioned letter writers in Kansas. ☞ *But for them the free-State party would have elected the delegates in June last to the Constitutional Convention, and prevented the consequences which have followed!* ☜

☞ Green peas and new potatoes are said to be abundant in the vicinity of New Orleans.—On some plantations the orange trees are putting forth their blossoms, and in others are yielding an abundance of fruit.

From the Greensburg Republican.

Horrible Murder at the Poor House by an Insane Man.

On Monday afternoon, the 25th ult., a horrid murder was perpetrated at the County Poor House, by an Insane Irishman named Dennis. The victim, a child, whose mother's name is Fritz Dennis, is the man who some two years ago, was tried in our Court for arson, in burning the barn of a Mr. Noel in Derry township. He was acquitted on the ground of insanity, and was ordered by the Court, to be confined at the Poor House, as a man unfit to run loose in society. He has been an inmate of that institution, ever since, evidently insane—he would lie in bed for about a week, and then for a like period keep on his feet most of the time without exhibiting any indication of vicious habits.

On Monday last a young lady who teaches a private school in this Borough, at the earnest request of a number of her pupils, visited the Poor House, accompanied by some twenty of her largest scholars. The Steward, Mr. Hammer, accompanied the lady, and her school children through a portion of the building, when he was called into the office on business. The lady visited the basement of the buiding, and in the long hall met Dennis, who showed evidence of excitement at the children—he appeared to want to shun them—rubbed his hands and shied off to one side. After passing the children he proceeded to the hall door where the child aged between one and two years was sitting. He stared at it a moment, then took it by the feet and struck its head with all his force on the door sill, knocking out its brains and killing it instantly. Another insane man named Miller, who was near at hand, sprung at him to seize him, but he failed to secure him. Dennis then ran out of the yard, met one of the male inmates going towards the house, struck him on the head with a stone inflicting a severe wound. He ran down the road near where some inmates where chopping wood. Mr. Hammer who was in pursuit halloed to them to stop Dennis. They attempted to do so, when he ran violently against one of them, throwing him down and breaking his collar bone. Before Dennis had recovered his feet, Mr. Hammer caught him, a struggle ensued, Hammer struck him two or three times with his fist, when assistance arrived. The murderer was secured in chains.

[*From the Chicago Press of Wednesday.*]

Great Fire in Chicago---Loss From $75,000 to $100,000.

The most destructive conflagration of its class that ever visited our city, broke out in the extensive lumber yard of Messrs. Holt & Mason, at the head of Monroe street, about half-past two o'clock yesterday morning. The fire made rapid headway, and soon involved the adjoining piles, which were very high and near together.

About half-past five o'clock the wind had increased to a high gale, and the flames had reached the eastern boundary of the yard, when, for the first time, fears began to be entertained for the safety of the buildings on the other side of Market street.

A little later the scorching heat had cleared Market street, and driven hence the fire companies. At about six o'clock, the wooden row of buildings on the east side of Market street took fire. Ample warning had been given, and they were mostly cleared. The flames made quick work with them, and five of them were destroyed.

LOSSES.—Messrs. Holt and Mason had about four millions feet of lumber in their yard, of which one million six hundred thousand feet had been sold to several St. Louis dealers, the bulk being owned by three parties, Messrs. Patrick, Holmes, and Ripley, of that city. The entire aggregate of value, the stock being one of a high grade of excellence throughout, was in the vicinity of $70,000, upon which there was an insurance of $33,000. The fire is supposed to have been caused by an incendiary.

INSPECTOR OF LIQUORS.

In the Senate, on Tuesday last, Dr. Gazzam, from Allegheny, introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Vice and Immorality be instructed to report a bill establishing the office of Inspector of Liquores for each county, or for districts composed of several counties; said bill to provide for the compensation of said Inspectors out of the funds raised by licences granted to wholesale and retail dealers in liquors; and also providing for the confiscation of all adulterated liquors offered for sale, and imposing such other penalties selling or offering for sale adulterated liquors, as the committee may deem proper.

Passed finally—yeas 24, nays 3, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Bell, Brewer, Buckalew, Craig, Cresswell, Ely, Evans, Fetter, Francis, Gazzam, Harris, Ingram, Knox, Laubach, Marselis, Miller, Rutherford, Scofield, Shaeffer, Straub, Turney, Wilkins, Wright, and Welsh, Speaker—24

Nays—Messrs. Coffey, Gregg, and Myer—3.

Steamboat Explosion---Fifteen Lives Lost.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 28.—The steamboat Fanny Fern, bound from St. Louis to Pittsburg, with a cargo consisting of 400 tons of produce and 15 cabin and 20 deck passengers, exploded her boilers at 2 o'clock this afternoon, about 18 miles below. 15 lives are reported to be lost, including Capt. Woodward, several deckhands and three ladies. The boat took fire, burned to the water's edge, and sunk. The Clerks, Messrs. Rogers and Durne, were both scalded, the former badly and the latter slightly. The train on the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad bro't thirty of the passengers, fifteen of whom are wounded. The pilot, engineer, and mate escaped injury.

THE LECOMPTON CONSTITUTION ARRIVED AT WASHINGTON—RESULT OF THE LATE ELECTION.

WASH., Jan. 31.—Mr. Clarkson, charged with the delivery of the Lecompton Constitution, arrived here last night, and immediately placed it in the hands of the President. The Constitution is accompanied by a letter from Gen. Calhoun, President of the Convention. Mr. Clarkson says that the vote of the Delaware