The whole number of post offices in the U. States, on the 30th day of June last, was 19,796. There were 4,698 post offices established, and 256 discontinued during the year.

The gross revenues of the Department for the fiscal year, including the appropriations for the franked matter of Congress, of the Departments, and officers of Government, and excluding the foreign postages, collected for, and payable to the British post office, amounted to $6,727,866 78.

The expenditures for the same period (excluding $29,599, 49, paid under an award of the Auditor, in pursuance of a resolution of the last Congress, for mail service on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers in 1832 and 1833, and the amount paid to the British post office for foreign postages collected for, and payable to that office) amounted to $6,024,566 79; leaving a balance of revenue over the proper expenditures of the year of $703,290 99;

The receipts for postages during the year (excluding the foreign postages collected for and payable to the British post office) amounted to $6,345,747 21, being an increase of $997,610 79, or 18.65 100 per cent, over the like receipts for the preceding year.

The reduction of postage, under the act of March last, did not take effect until the commencement of the present fiscal year. The accounts for the first quarter, under the operation of the reduced rates, will not be settled before January next; and no reliable estimates of the receipts for the present year can yet be made. It is believed, however, that they will fall far short of those of the last year. The surplus of the revenues now on hand is, however so large that no further appropriation from the treasury, in aid of the revenues of the department, is required for the current fiscal year; but an additional appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1853, will probably be found necessary when the receipts of the first two quarters of the fiscal year are fully ascertained.

In his last annual report the Postmaster General recommended a reduction of postage to rates which he deemed as low as could be prudently adopted, unless Congress was prepared to appropriate from the treasury, for the support of the Department, a sum more than equivalent to the mail services performed by it for the Government. The recommendations of the Postmaster General, in respect to letter postage, except on letters from and to California and Oregon, were substantially adopted by the last Congress. He now recommends adherence to the present letter rates, and advises against a further reduction until justified by the revenue of the Department.

He also recommends that the rates of postage on printed matter be so revised as to render them more simple and more uniform in their operation upon all classes of printed matter. I submit the recommendations of the report to your favorable consideration.

The public statutes of the United States have now been accumulating for more than sixty years, and, interspersed with private acts, are scattered through numerous volumes, and, from the cost of the whole, have become almost inaccessible to the great mass of the community. They also exhibit much of the incongruity and imperfection of hasty legislation. As it seems to be generally conceded that there is no "common law" of the United States to supply the defects of their legislation, it is most important that that legislation should be as perfect as possible, defining every power intended to be conferred, every crime intended to be made punishable, and prescribing the punishment to be inflicted. In addition to some particular cases spoken of more at length, the criminal code is now lamentively defective. Some offences are imperfectly described, and others are entirely omitted; so that flagrant crimes may be committed with impunity. The scale of punishment is not in all cases graduated according to the degree and nature of the offence, and is often rendered more unequal by the different modes of imprisonment, or penitentiary confinement, in the different States.

Many laws of a permanent character have been introduced into appropration bills, and it is often difficult to determine whether the particular clause expires with the temporary act of which it is a part or continues in force. It has also frequently happened that enactments and provisions of law have been introduced into bills, with the title or general subject of which they have little or no connection or relation. In this mode of legislation so many enactments have been heaped upon each other, and often with but little consideration, that, in many instances, it is difficult to search out and determine what is the law.

The Government of the United States is emphatically a government of written laws. The statutes should therefore, as far as practicable, not only be made accessible to all, but be expressed in language so plain and simple as to be understood by all, and arranged in such method as to give perspicuity to every subject.—Many of the States have revised their public acts with great and manifest benefit: and I recommend that provision be made by law for the appointment of a commission to revise the public statutes of the United States, arranging them in order, supplying deficiencies, correcting incongruities, simplifying their language, and reporting them to Congress for its action.

An act of Congress approved 30th September, 1850, contained a provision for the extension of the Capitol, according to such plan as might be approved by the President, and appropriated one hundred thousand dollars to be expended under his direction, by such architect as he should appoint to execute the same. On examining the various plans which had been submitted by different architects, in pursuance of an advertisement by a committee of the Senate, none was found to be entirely satisfactory, and it was therefore deemed advisable to combine and adopt the advantages of several.

The great object to be accomplished was to make such an addition as would afford ample and convenient halls for the deliberations of the two Houses of Congress, with sufficient accommodations for the committees and officers of the two branches of the Legislature. It was also desirable not to mar the harmony and beauty of the present structure, which, as a specimen of architecture, is so universally admired. Keeping these objects in view, I concluded to make the addition by wings, detached from the present building, yet connected with it by corridors. This mode of enlargement will leave the present Capitol uninjured, and afford great advantages for ventilation and the admission of light, and will enable the work to progress without interrupting the deliberations of Congress. To carry this plan into effect I have appointed an experienced and competent architect. The corner-stone was laid on the 4th day of July last, with suitable ceremonies, since which time the work has advanced with commendable rapidity, and the foundations of both wings are now nearly completed.

I again commend to your favorable regard the interests of the District of Columbia, and deem it only necessary to remind you, that although its inhabitants have no voice in the choice of representatives in Congress, they are not the less entitled to a just and liberal consideration in your legislation. My opinions on this subject were more fully expressed in my last annual communication.

Other subjects were brought to the attention of Congress in my last annual message, to which I would respectfully refer. But there was one of more than ordinary interest to which I again invite your special attention. I allude to the recommendation for the appointment of a commission to settle private claims against the United States. Justice to individuals as well as to the Government imperatively demands that some more convenient and expeditious mode than an appeal to Congress should be adopted.

It is deeply to be regretted that in several instances officers of the government, in attempting to execute the law for the return of fugitives from labor, have been openly resisted, and their efforts frustrated and defeated by lawless and violent mobs; that in on instance such resistance resulted in the death of an estimable citizen, and in others serious injury ensued to those officers and to individuals who were using their endeavors to sustain the laws. Prosecutions have been instituted against the alleged offenders, so far as they could be identified, and are still pending. I have regarded it as my duty, in these cases, to give all aid legally in my power to the enforcement of the laws, and I shall continue to do so wherever and whenever their execution may be resisted.

The act of Congress for the return of fugitives from labor is required and demanded by the express words of the Constitution.

The Constitution declares, "That no person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due." This Constitutional provision is equally obligatory upon the Legislative, the Executive, and Judicial Departments of the Government, and upon every citizen of the United States.

Congress, however, must, from necessity, first act upon the subject, by prescribing the proceeding necessary to ascertain that the person is a fugitive, and the means to be used for his restoration to the claimant. This was done by an act passed during the first term of President Washington, which was amended by that enacted by the last Congress, and it now remains for the Executive and Judicial Departments to take care that these laws be faithfully executed. This injunction of the Constitution is as peremptory and as binding as any other; it stands exactly on the same foundation as that clause which provides for the return of fugitives from justice, or that which declares that no bill of attainder or *ex post facto* law shall be passed, or that which provides for an equality of taxation, according to the census, or the clause declaring that all duties shall be uniform throughout the United State; or the important provision that the trial of all crimes shall be by jury. These several articles and clauses of the Constitution all resting on the same authority, must stand or fall together. Some objections have been urged against the details of the act for the return of fugitives from labor; but it is worthy of remark that the main opposition is aimed against the Constitution itself, and proceeds from persons and classes of persons, many of whom declare their wish to see that Constitution overturned. They avow their hostility to any law which shall give full and practical effect to this requirement of the Constitution. Fortunately, the number of these persons is comparatively small, and is believed to be daily diminishing but the issue which they present is one which involves the supremacy and even the existence of the Constitution.

Cases have heretofore arisen in which individuals have denied the binding authority of acts of Congress, and even States have proposed to nullify such acts, upon the ground that the Constitution was the supreme law of the land, and that those acts of Congress were repugnant to that instrument; but nullification is now aimed, not so much against particular laws as being inconsistent with the Constitution, as against the Constitution itself; and it is not to be disguised that a spirit exists and has been actively at work to rend asunder this Union, which is our cherished inheritance from our revolutionary fathers.

In my last annual message I stated that I considered the series of measures, which had been adopted at the previous session, in reference to the agitation growing out of the Territorial and Slavery questions, as a final settlement in principle and substance of the dangerous and exciting subjects which they embraced; and I recommended adherence to the Adjustment established by those measures, until time and experience should demonstrate the necessity of further legislation to guard against evasion or abuse. I was not induced to make this recommendation because I tho't those measures perfect, for no human legislation can be perfect. Wide differences and jarring opinions can only be reconciled by yielding something on all sides, and this result had been reached after an angry conflict of many months, in which one part of the country was arrayed against another, and violent convulsion seemed to be imminent. Looking at the interests of the whole country, I felt it to be my duty to seize upon this Compromise as the best that could be obtained amid conflicting interests, and to insist upon it as a final settlement, to be adhered to by all who value the peace and welfare of the country. A year has now elapsed since that recommendation was made. To that recommendation I still adhere, and I congratulate you and the country upon the general acquiescence in these measures of peace, which has been exhibited in all parts of the Republic. And not only is there this general acquiescence in these measures, but the spirit of conciliation which has been manifested in regard to them in all parts of the country, has removed doubts and uncertainties in the minds of thousands of good men concerning the durability of our popular institutions, and given renewed assurance that our Liberty and our Union may subsist together for the benefit of this and all succeeding generations.

MILLARD FILLMORE.

WASHINGTON, December 2, 1851.

THE REPUBLICAN.

Clearfield, Pa, December 12, 1851.

☞Very many articles intended for publication this week, have been excluded by the message. They shall all be attended to in proper season.

☞The proceedings of the Democratic County Meeting, held on court week, will be found in our columns to-day. The best feeling exists among the Democracy of this county, on the subject of the next Presidency.

☞Governor Kossuth reached New York on Friday last. His reception was the most imposing ever extended to any other individual, though not more warm-hearted and enthusiastic than that given to LA FAYETTE.

ORGANIZATION OF CONGRESS.

The manner in which the present National Legislature entered upon the discharge of the important duties of its appointment, is ominous of much good. The utmost harmony and good feeling seems to distinguish this Congress, so far at least, from most of its late predecessors.

The Hon. LYNN BOYD, of Kentucky, was elected Speaker, and Col. FORNEY, of the *Pennsylvanian*, Clerk, both on the first ballot. They were the nominees of the Democratic caucus.

THE MESSAGE.

The President's Message will be found in the previous columns, full and entire.—It gives a very clear, and no doubt correct statement of our national affairs. It shows the country to be in an unprecedented state of prosperity—and this, we take it, should have forbid the President's recommending any radical change of those measures that have secured this prosperous condition of affairs. But it is a good message, and should be read by every citizen.

WHICH IS CORRECT?

The "*Christian Almanac*," for 1852, gives a table purporting to show our exports and imports for the year ending 30th June last, which show "*fifty millions*" of dollars of a balance of trade "*against*," us (we italicise the word according to "copy.")

The President's message also gives the figures, but instead of showing a balance *against us*, there is a balance of about *two millions* in our favor. Now, the question is, which is correct?

☞The Christiana Treason Trials are progressing in the United States Circuit Court in Philadelphia, before Judges GRIER and KANE.

There are some 25 persons to be tried. The case of Castner Hanaway, a white man, has occupied the court for about two weeks. The trial elicits great interest, and is attended by crowds of both sexes.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—The subscriber returns his heartfelt acknowledgment to the persons who, by their activity and continued efforts, arrested the fire on his premises on Thursday morning inst., and sincerely hopes that they, one and all, may never stand in need of a return of such service from him on their behalf;—should opportunity offer, he will use his best efforts.

J. L. CUTTLE.

No paper last week. As usual.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY MEETING.

A meeting of the Democratic Citizens of Clearfield County was held at the Court house, on Tuesday evening, December 2d, 1851. On motion ISAAC BLOOM, Esq., was appointed President, JAS. M'GHEE and WM. L. MOORE, Vice Presidents, and D. W. Moore and L. Jackson Crans Secretaries. After the object of the meeting was stated, on motion the chair appointed the following committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting: J. S. France, J. Stites, F. G. Miller, A. K. Wright, Wm. J. Hemphill, and Andrew Toser. B. R. PETRIKIN was called upon, and addressed the meeting at length, going over and recounting the recent Democratic victories.

When Mr. Petriken had concluded the committee reported the following resolutions, which, after a brief discussion, were adopted with but three or four dissenting voices:

Resolved, That the recent election in this State is a triumph of principles—a new era in the history of this commonwealth; that it has carried to the remotest corner of this republic the fact, that, although Pennsylvania may be occasionally humbugged on local questions and a little military glory, when she sees the Union in danger from the assaults of traitors and fanatics, she is always ready to step into the breach and stem the torrents produced by negroes, abolitionists and their allies.

Resolved, That the support given to Col. BIGLER, in the late contest, is gratifying to his neighbors, who are satisfied, that, as heretofore, when tried he shall not be found wanting.

Resolved, That the Democratic party, in electing Gen. SETH CLOVER, have secured us an efficient Canal Commissioner, and given the lie to the charges of incompetency urged against him.

Resolved, That whilst we rejoice in the result of the late contest, we must regret that a faction, disregarding the interest of the Democratic party, and that cardinal principle, "measures, not men," permitted so worthy and able a jurist as the Hon. JAMES CAMPBELL, to be defeated.

Resolved, That the old patriot and statesman, JAMES BUCHANAN, is the choice of Clearfield county for the next Presidency, and in our opinion his past services, great knowledge, and powerful intellect, are a sufficient guarantee that his nomination will be virtually his election.

Resolved, That our delegates to the 4th of March Convention be hereby instructed to sustain the nomination of delegates to the National Convention with instructions for the Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN for the Presidency.

Resolved, That we recommend A. I. WILCOX, of Elk county, for Senatorial delegate to the 4th of March Convention

Resolved, That we recommend Col. G. R. BARRETT, of Clearfield county, for Representative delegate to the 4th of March Convention,

Resolved, That these proceedings be signed by the officers and published in all the Democratic papers in our Senatorial and Representative district.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The Russian and Spanish Ministers were present at the Kossuth discussion to day, and took deep interest in the proceedings. When Mr. Cass rose to speak, Mr. Bodisco, the Russian Minister, and Mr. Calderon the Spanish Minister, left their seats and placed themselves in the most favorable position to catch every word the Statesman uttered. They manifested considerable emotion at the denunciation of despotism and monarchy.

New York, Dec. 5.—The steamship Philadelphia has arrived from Havana with one week's later news. The most important intelligence is that Mr. Thrasher has been sent from Havana to Spain in a merchant vessel, to serve out the term of his sentence, (eight years.)

The Outrage on the Prometheus.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The "Republic," of this morning, states that the President, on learning of the outrage committed by a British brig of war, by firing upon the Prometheus, has ordered a competent naval force to repair to San Juan for protection of American vessels there.

A note has also been addressed to the British Government, demanding an explanation.

ANOTHER SCIENTIFIC WONDER PEPSIN an Artificial Digestive Fluid, or Gastric Juice!—A great Dyspepsia Curer, prepared from Rennet, of the fourth Stomach of the Ox, after directions of Baron Liebig, the great Physiological Chemist, by J. S. Houghton, M. D., No. 11 North Eighth Street, Philadelphia, Pa. This is a truly wonderful remedy for Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Jaundice, Liver Complaint, Constipation, and Debility, curing after nature's own method, by nature's own agent, the Gastric Juice. See Advertisement in another col

MARRIED.—On Saturday, the 29th ult., by Benj. F. Sterling, Esq., Mr. James D. McCracken of the borough of Curwensville, to Miss Susannah France, of Pike township.

On Wednesday, 3d inst., by D. Dressler, Esq., Mr. Henry Runson, late of Saddleworth, England, to Miss Maria L. Montgomery, of Brady township.

On Sunday, 7th inst., by the Rev. John Flegel, Mr. James A. Woods, to miss Hannah Horn, all of Brady township.

DIED.—In Lawrence township, on the 26th ult., MARTHA, wife of Jackson Lanich, in the hope of a blessed immortality.

In Lawrence township, on the 24th ult., DAVID, infant son of William Haires of Centre co. Pa.

BANK NOTE LIST.

Corrected Weekly from the Philadelphia Paper

Pennsylvania.			
Philad'a b'ks,	par	Bank, Cayuga L.	1
U. S. Bank,	13	Western, Roches.,	80
Chambersburg,	¾	Binghampton,	50
Gettysburg,	¾	Cattaraugus co.	30
Pittsburg,	⅞	Clinton county,	15
Susq. County,	—	Commercial, Buf.,	15
Lewistown,	no sale	do Oswego,	10
Middletown,	¾	Farmers', Seneca,	30
Carlisle,	¾	Hamilton bank,	15
Hollidaysburg,	⅞	Mechan. Buffalo,	45
Erie,	1½	Merchants' Ex.,	40
Waynesburg,	1½	Millers', at Clyde,	10
Washington,	1a1½	Oswego,	60
Harrisburg,	¾	Phœnix, Buffalo,	35
Honesdale,	1	Staten Island,	50
Browesville,	1a1½	State b. Buffalo,	75a80
Williamsport,	¾	St. Lawrence,	75
York,	¾	Union, Buffalo,	30
All solvent b'ks	par	U. S., Buffalo,	30
Relief Notes,	1	Watervliet,	15
Towanda Rel.	no sals	Other solv. b'ks,	1
New York City.		New Jersey	
Chelsea bank,	80	Del. B'dge Co.	85
Clinton,	50	Yardleyville,	15
Commercial,	2	Plainfield,	—
Lafayette,	2	Other solvent,	par
Washington,	70	Ohio.	
Other solv. b'ks;	par	Solvent Cincinnati	1¼
New York State.		Cleveland,	5
Allegheny co.	66a75	Hamilton,	15
America, Buffalo,	30	Commer., Scioto,	10
Commerce, do,	35	do Lake Erie,	75
Atlas bank,	30	Sandusky,	—
Canal, Albany,	25	Norwalk,	—
Brockport,	25	Farmers', Canton,	75
James Bank,	1	Granville Society,	—
Northern Ex.,	1	Lancaster,	15
Lodi,	20a25	Urbanna B'ing co.	65
oyons,	15	Other solvent,	1¼
ttate b. Saugerties,	1	Under Fives,	2½