PRESIDENT PIERCE'S CABINET.

As the public are naturally anxious to learn something of the history of the men whom President Pierce has selected as members of his Cabinet, we give the following sketch of each from the N. York *Herald*.

SECRETARY OF STATE—WM. L. MARCY.

Mr. Marcy is a native of Sturbridge, Worcester county, Massachusetts, where he was born, December 12, 1786; consequently he is now in the 67th year of his age. Having completed his academic course, he entered Brown University, (Providence, R. I.,) where he graduated in 1808. He afterwards removed to Troy, in the State of New York, where he studied and commenced the practice of the law, and soon took a prominent part in politics as a Democrat. During the war with Great Britain, he served as a volunteer in the military defence of the State. In 1816, he was appointed recorder of the city of Troy; but afterwards taking part with Mr. Van Buren in opposing the administration of Governor De Witt Clinton, he was removed from office by the friends of that Governor, in 1818. When the anti-Clintonians came into power, Marcey received from Governor Yates the appointment of Auditor General, in 1821, and removed to Albany, where he has since resided. In 1823, he received from the Legislature the appointment of State Comptroller, which office he held for several years. In 1829 he was appointed one of the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the State; but in 1831 he resigned that office, in consequence of being elected United States Senator. He was in the Senate less than two years, when he resigned, being elected Governor of New York, in 1832. He was twice re-elected, viz: in 1834 and 1836; but on a fourth nomination, in 1838, he shared in the defeat of the Democratic party, and William H. Seward was elected over him. After retiring from the executive chair, Mr. Marcy principally devoted his attention to his private business, until Mr. Polk became President in 1845. He was then offered and accepted the office of Secretary of War, and was considered through the four years of his service one of the most influential members of Mr. Polk's cabinet.—The duties of the War Department during the Mexican war were arduous, and were discharged by Mr. Marcy with energy and ability.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY—JAMES GUTHRIE—Is a distinguished lawyer of Louisville, where he has acquired great wealth and an elevated standing in society. He has grown up with the West, and is identified in feeling and interest with the prosperity of the Valley of the Mississippi. He is known as a Union democrat, and unites to commanding talents and an intimate acquaintance with the wants and resources of the whole county, manners the most urbane and prepossessing. He is considered a prominent leader of the Kentucky democracy, and is very popular with his party throughout the Western States. He has not been a member of Congress, but has had experience as a legislator in the Senate of Kentucky. He was President of the State Convention which formed the new constitution of Kentucky, in 1849. His friends predict for him a popular career as a cabinet officer, and an able discharge of the responsible duties of the Treasury department. He is about fifty years of age, of athletic form, and very energetic habits. It should be added that in 1837 Mr. Guthrie was urged as a candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court instead of Judge Catron, and on the death of Mr. Clay, in 1852, he declined the offer of Governor Powell to appoint him successor to Mr. Clay as United States Senator.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR—ROBERT M'CLELLAND—Is at present Gov. of Michigan. He is a native of Pennsylvania, where he received his education. Emigrating to Michigan, he practised law at Monroe, in that State, from which district he was elected to Congress for three consecutive terms (1843 to 1849.) He had previously distinguished himself as a member of the State Constitutional Convention, and of the Legislature of Michigan, in which latter body he was chosen speaker of the House in 1843. His talents are very respectable, and he is esteemed as a man of integrity and energy. He is forty-five years of age. In November 1851, he was elected Governor of Michigan, and under the new constitution, was re-elected, in 1852, for a term of two years, which will expire in January 1855. In Congress he was Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, in 1846, and in 1848 was on the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

SECRETARY OF WAR—JEFFERSON DAVIS—Was born in Kentucky, and removed in early life to Mississippi, from whence he went to the United States Military Academy, at West Point, where he graduated in June 1828. The same year (in July) he was appointed second lieutenant of infantry, in the United States Army, and was made first lieutenant of dragoons in 1833. The same year he received the appointment of adjutant. In 1836 he resigned his commission in the army, and retired to private life in Mississippi. He married a daughter of General Taylor, and this lady died several years since. In 1844, Mr. Davis was chosen one of the Presidential Electors for Mississippi, and voted for Polk and Dallas. The following year he was elected to Congress, and served one term as a member of the House of Representatives, excepting the time he was absent in Mexico during the war. In July, 1846, he was appointed Colonel of the regiment of volunteer riflemen raised in Mississippi, and distinguished himself particularly at Monterey and Buena Vista.—President Polk offered him the appointment of Brigadier General in the United States Army, in 1847, but he declined the honor. The same year the Legislature elected him United States Senator, and he was placed on the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, as Chairman. He took an active part in important debates, particularly in advocating Southern rights, and his talents placed him in the front rank of the Democratic leaders. He opposed the Compromise Union measures, which were supported by his colleague Mr. Foote, and, being nominated as the State rights candidate for Governor, he resigned his seat in the Senate in 1851. He was defeated in the Gubernatorial election, Foote being chosen by a majority of about one thousand. He has since remained in private life. In person General Davis is of the middle size, and his habits are active and energetic; his age is about forty-five years, and he is considered well qualified for the duties of the War Department.

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY—JAMES C. DOBBIN—Is a lawyer of Fayetteville, and was elected a member of the 29th Congress (1845-'47.) He was speaker of the House of Commons at the late session of the Legislature of North Carolina, and was the candidate of the Democratic party for United States Senator; but his election was defeated by the intrigues of Romulus M. Saunders, and a few other members of the Legislature. This circumstance doubtless commended him to the favor of Gen. Pierce. Mr. Dobbin was also a member of the National Convention at Baltimore, and promptly seconded the movement of the Virginia delegation in favor of the nomination of Gen. Pierce. Mr. Dobbin is in the prime of life, and of very industrious habits. In debate he is distinguished for eloquence, and his friends have every confidence in his ability to fill the office to which he has been called.

POSTMASTER GENERAL—JAMES CAMPBELL.—This gentleman is at present Attorney General of Pennsylvania, to which office he was appointed since the state election last fall. He had previously been a lawyer of Philadelphia, and one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in that city. In 1851, an attempt was made to elevate him to the bench of the Supreme Court of the State, the five Judges of which are elected by the people of the State by general ticket. Judge Campbell being a Catholic, and a special friend of Jas. Buchanan, was defeated by the intrigues of General Cameron, late United States Senator, and other enemies of Buchanan; and the Protestant and Native American feeling arrayed against him. Consequently, Judge Coulter, one of the whig candidates, was elected, with four democratic judges. This circumstance, with the influence of Mr. Buchanan, have combined to give Judge Campbell his present prominent position. He is a good lawyer, and of active business habits. He is, we believe, the youngest member of the new cabinet, being about thirty-five years of age.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—CALEB CUSHING. At present one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, and well known throughout the United States as a distinguished politician and eminent scholar. Mr. Cushing was born in Salisbury, Essex county, Massachusetts, in January, 1800, and consequently is now in his fifty-fourth year. The political career of Mr. Cushing commenced in 1825, when he was chosen a representative from Newburyport to the lower House of the Massachusetts Legislature. In 1826 he was elected a member of the State Senate. Mr. Cushing was again elected to the Massachusetts Legislature in 1833 and 1834.—He made several unsuccessful runs for Congress but was finally elected to represent the North Essex District in 1835.—His Congressional career continued for four consecutive terms, or eight years, from 1835 to 1843. In 1846 he was elected to the Legislature of Massacusetts. In that body he was the most prominent member at the session of 1847, when the Mexican war was at its height. He acted with the democratic members in advocating the policy of that war, and for appropriating $20,000 for equipping the Massachusetts Regiment of Volunteers at the expense of the State. When his proposition was defeated, Mr. Cushing advanced the money from his own means, and the regiment was made ready for service. He was chosen Colonel of the regiment, and accompanied it to the Rio Grande, in Mexico, in the spring of 1847, being attached to the army under command of General Taylor.

In 1847, while he was in Mexico, Gen. Cushing was nominated by the Democrats of Massachusetts as their candidate for Governor. This movement was owing to the part he had taken in support of the war, and was done without consultation with him. It doubtless greatly improved his position with the Democratic party in the State and nation; and the increased, though, of course, unsuccessful vote given to him, compared with the Democratic vote of the previous year, was flattering to Gen. Cushing, and his friends who urged the nomination. In 1848, General Cushing was a zealous laborer in behalf of the election of Gen. Cass, acting on all occasions with the Union Democrats, and against the Free Soil party. In 1850, he was, for the fifth time, elected a member of the Legislature from Newburyport, and was active in that body in opposing the coalition of the Democrats with the Free Soil party, which caused the election of Chas. Sumner to the United States Senate. In 1851, the office of Attorney General of Massachusetts was offered to General Cushing by Gov. Boutwell, but he declined the honor. The Legislature of 1852 having created an additional justice to the Supreme Court, Gen. Cushing was appointed to the office in May. It is admitted that he has performed the duties of his seat on the bench with ability and integrity, and as a judge he has acquired an enviable popularity.

☞The railroad laborers at the "Big Tunnel," near West Union, on the Northwestern Virginia Railroad, have lately had a very serious riot, in which several of them were killed.

VETO MESSAGE.

To the members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

GENTLEMEN: I have carefully examined the provisions of bill No. 182, on the files of the House of Representatives, entitled "A supplement to the act incorporating the Lancaster, Lebanon, and Pine Grove railroad company," and have had no difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that it is my duty to return it to the body in which it originated, without my signature.

The first section of this bill provides "that it shall be lawful for the Lancaster, Lebanon, and Pine Grove railroad company to extend a branch road to the city of Philadelphia, subject to the general regulations and privileges contained in the eleventh section of the act incorporating said company, and shall have power to connect said railroad, or branch or laterals with any railroad belonging to any other company, and that the said company may from time to time, by a vote of the stockholders called for the purpose, increase their capital stock, if it shall be deemed necessary, to an amount sufficient to carry out the true intent and meaning of this act: *Provided*, That the said branch railroad shall not pass through any of the incorporated districts of Philadelphia, without the permission of the commissioners or corporate authorities thereof."

It will be perceived, gentlemen, that the effect of this bill is to authorize the construction of a railroad from the city of Lancaster to the city of Philadelphia, parallel with the Philadelphia and Columbia railroad, with the right to the Lancaster, Lebanon, and Pine Grove railroad company to increase their capital stock to an unlimited extent to carry out that purpose—thus bringing into existence by a supplement to the charter of a road of no more than ordinary importance, a dangerous rival to the most profitable branch of the public works.

With the utmost disposition to co-operate with the General Assembly in its views of public policy, and actuated, I trust, by no unkind or illiberal spirit toward the Lancaster, Lebanon and Pine Grove railroad company, I am constrained to say that I cannot adopt this measure. I do not regard it as in any degree wise or necessary. Such an improvement as is contemplated by this bill could not fail to have a most disastrous effect upon the revenues of the Commonwealth, nor can I discover that it is demanded for the convenience of the travelling public or by the ends of trade and commerce. The capacity of the State road is quite sufficient for the present amount of business, and when it shall have been repaired, as contemplated by its present able Superintendent, it will have the capacity to pass an almost unlimited amount of tonnage and travel; equalling, perhaps, in this respect, all the avenues extending from Lancaster westward. So long as this may be the case, it will be unnecessary for the public to have this proposed road, and unwise for the Commonwealth to grant it. No considerations short of great public necessity, should, in my opinion, induce the Government to adopt a measure so manifestly injurious to the revenues of the State. The direct and certain effects of such a rival road would be to divide the business with the State road—absorb the profits of both—greatly reduce the receipts to the Treasury, and increase the burthens of the people. The aggregate receipts on the Columbia road for the last year, amounted to the sum of seven hundred and ninety-six thousand four hundred and ninety dollars and fifty-five cents—the expenditures, to two hundred and eighty-nine thousand two hundred and thirty-seven dollars and twenty-one cents—showing a net profit of five hundred and seven thousand two hundred and fifty-four dollars and twenty-four cents, nearly double the amount of the net revenues from all the other branches of the public works. It is to this productive division of the public improvements that we must look in future for means to sustain the Treasury against present demands, and ultimately to pay the public debt.—The construction of this road cost the people over four and a half millions of dollars. All the citizens of the State are interested in it—their property is taxed to pay the interest on the State debt, of which the cost of this work constitutes a part.—its value to the whole people, therefore, should not, it seems to me, be destroyed to answer the ends of a corporation constituted for an entirely different purpose.

I feel inclined to go to any reasonable extent in granting railroad privileges, but the proposition under consideration is quite too liberal for the present financial condition of the State. Wherever the people have the capital, and are inclined to construct public highways of this kind for the benefit and convenience of all, and especially where such improvements are to open up an unimproved section of country, and bring its products within reach of a market, I am willing to give them the opportunity to do so on liberal terms. Nor do I think it wise to favor to a great degree, that restrictive policy which attempts to force trade through unnatural channels.—But these principles do not apply to the measure under consideration—it opens up no new market, and subserves no great public necessity. The adoption of this law, would, however, be no more than a fair illustration of the spirit under which we are acting on the subject of railroads at this time. We cannot close our eyes to the fact that the whole country is moving under some unnatural impulse in reference to improvements of this kind. The adoption of a new railroad route, and the subscription of large sums to the stock by individuals and corporations is a daily occurrence. More schemes of this character are now held up to public view, than the labor and capital of the country can consummate in a quarter of a century.—Individuals, corporations, companies, counties, and cities are driving headlong in the creation of enormous debts, the payment of which, within the period specified, will exhaust the whole capital of the country and our credit abroad. Whilst I rejoice to see so many improvements in progress, I cannot divest my mind of the impression that we are moving, to some extent, under the influence of a mania, and that the present era in railroad history, will not look so bright in future.

But why should this important right be conferred upon the "Lancaster, Lebanon and Pine Grove railroad company?"—This company was incorporated in 1846, and letters-patent were not claimed until some time last summer. It is, therefore, quite impossible that much progress has been made in the construction of the main road. This company was incorporated to construct a railroad from the city of Lancaster, in a northwesterly direction forty miles, to Pine Grove, and now, before having completed a mile or rod of the original work, it is proposed to authorize them to construct a branch seventy miles in an easterly direction to Philadelphia. Before having secured half the stock to complete their main road, they are to have the right to increase their capital to an unlimited extent to construct the proposed branch. I do not know that the company are asking for this broad power; if they are, I think you will agree with me that it is not a very reasonable demand. If this Philadelphia branch were to ask the right to make a lateral to Pine Grove, the demand would not be so surprising. It would be something of a curiosity in nature, to find a branch nearly double the length and size of the main stem; but it would be still more marvellous to find a branch without a trunk.—Naturalists would be likely to regard such a branch as a whole tree. And if this seems to me, that when a railroad is to be constructed to Philadelphia, parallel with the State road, it might be well called a whole road. It is quite too modest to designate such a work a branch. It may be said that the company intend to diverge at Pine Grove with this branch; and that may be true; but under the proposed law they could commence at Lancaster or at any intermediate point. At all events, I can see no pressing necessity for this measure. It will be quite time enough when this main stem shall have been constructed or be fairly in the way of construction to grant the right to engraft upon it such an unwieldy limb; and in the meantime, there should be no objections to permitting the Pine Grove company to regard the Philadelphia and Columbia railroad as a branch for their use, as I am sure there will, in this way, be no delay in transmitting all the tonnage of that company to market.

I have thus, gentlemen, hastily given you some of the objections to this proposed law, which have occurred to my mind, and I shall await your decision with deep solicitude. WILLIAM BIGLER.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Harrisburg, February 28, 1853.

☞The Legislature of this State we see by our Exchanges, has been invited to visit both the cities of Pittsburg and Philadelphia, and has accepted the invitation to both places. No doubt, it will all be very pleasant to visit these thriving and rapidly growing cities, and that the members of the Legislature will enjoy themselves and be highly gratified with the excursion to these places, there can scarcely be a question. But there is another matter about which we are not so very sure, and which requires to be disposed of. We do not believe that the framers of our Constitution, probably on account of not thinking upon the subject, contemplated that our Legislators should attend to any other business than that for which they are annually convened at Harrisburg. We say, that we are not very sure about this matter, and it is therefore a question that is submitted for consideration, whether they intended that they should spend their time in visiting cities, and the like, or attending to the duties of legislation, so as to get through the necessary business as soon as possible.—Our opinion inclines somewhat to the latter, and we believe it highly probable, that a very large portion of the people of this State, think in the same way.

Norristown Register.

☞Congress passed a law, at its late session, providing that after June 1, 1853, the weight of the half-dollar piece shall be reduced from 206¼ grains to 192, the quarter dollar to 96 grains, the ten cent piece to 38 2-5 grains, and the five cent piece to 19 1-5 grains—which coin shall be a legal tender in the payment of debts not exceeding $5. It also provides that from time to time after June 1, 1853 there shall be coined at the U. S. Mint, and its various branches, $3 gold pieces conformably to the standard of gold coins now established by law, the device and shape of the three dollar pieces to be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury. One half of one per cent is to be charged at the mint for the coinage of silver.

SNOW ONE HUNDRED FEET DEEP.—The St. Louis *Intelligencer* publishes a letter from an overland emigrant to California, which gives a fearful account of a tremendous snow storm in the mountains near Carson valley. On what is called the Second Summit, the writer says, he caught hold of the tops of pine trees, and was confident that they were one hundred feet in height.

CURE FOR THE BLUES.—Luther says: When I am assailed with heavy tribulations, I rush out among my pigs rather than remain alone by myself. The human heart is like a millstone in a mill; when you put your wheat under it, it turns and grinds and bruises the wheat to flour; if you put no wheat in, it still grinds on, but then it is itself that grinds and wears away.

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW.

The following is the preamble and resolutions introduced into the Senate of this State on the 8th instant, by Mr. Quiggle, proposing to submit the question of a prohibitory Liquor Law to a vote of the people:

Resolutions, referring to a vote of the people of this Commonwealth, the subject of a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

WHEREAS, in a free Commonwealth, all laws to be efficient, and to secure obedience to the same, should obtain the sanction of the people and command their approval; and no law should be passed which is repugnant to their wishes, and none constitutional in its provisions be withheld which is the subject of their request.

And whereas, the passage of a prohibitory liquor law, is a measure of magnitude, in a moral point of view, as well as one affecting to a great extent, the interests of citizens, and the rights of property:

And whereas, it is represented that a large majority of the people and qualified voters of this Commonwealth are favorable to the passage of such a law, but by means of petitions and remonstrances it is impossible to obtain a proper indication of popular sentiment on the question, and that, if an opportunity were offered the qualified citizens of this Commonwealth to vote upon the same at the ballot box, it would appear that a majority of the said citizens are in favor of the passage of such a law; and that such a result would give to its enactment, a force, power and efficiency, which it would not otherwise have: Therefore—

Be it *resolved*, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, That for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiment of the people of this Commonwealth in reference to the passage of a law entirely prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, except for sacramental, medicinal, mechanical and artistical purposes, it may be lawful for the qualified voters of the city of Philadelphia, and of the several counties of this Commonwealth, and on the second Tuesday of October next, at the places authorized by law for holding the general elections, to express their approval or disapproval of such a law, by voting written or printed tickets, containing on the outside the words "Liquor Law," and on the inside "For the Law;" or the words "Against the Law;" and the returns of the said ballots shall be made in the manner provided by law for the election of Governor; and the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall transmit said returns to the Speaker of the Senate on the second Tuesday of January next, and on said day the two Houses shall meet in Convention, when said votes shall be counted, and a true record thereof be entered on the Journal of each House, and if, on counting the votes so cast, it shall appear that a majority of the same are "For the Law," the same shall be recommended to the Legislature at the then session thereof, to pass such a law. And the said ballots shall be received and counted, and the returns thereof made by the election officers authorized to hold the general election in October next, according to the election laws in other cases, and the County Commissioners shall furnish all necessary ballot-boxes and blank forms for the purposes aforesaid.

SINGULAR CIRCUMSTANCE.

Two or three weeks ago a respectable married woman residing in the eastern end of this county, gave birth to twin chidren, which addition increased the little responsibilities of the household to nine. Some five or six nights after the event, the husband, who occupied a bed in the same room, was awkened by her, when she complained bitterly of her hard lot in having such a large household to care for. The husband soothed her as well as he could and then fell asleep. In about an hour he awoke, and found that his wife had left her bed. Immediate search was made in and around the house, but the woman was not to be found. The alarmed man fearing that in her weak condition she must perish before she could go far, summoned his neighbors to aid in searching for her. The party soon discovered foot prints in the snow, and they followed the track to a creek where she had crossed and re-crossed the stream three times, in water to the depth of three feet. From there they tracked her along the creek, through fields and woods for a distance of nearly three miles, and at length found her sitting in a fence corner, with a piece of rope and nail in her hand. When interrogated as to her motive for leaving her home, she declared it was her intention to commit suicide. It was then suggested that she was laboring under aberration of mind, which she undoubtedly was, but this she stoutly denied. The strange part of this occurrence is, that the woman, after walking bare-footed, and with nothing on her but thin cotton night clothes, a distance of three or four miles through snow, slush and cold water, and that too only *six days* after giving birth to two children, is now as well as ever she was in her life! This may appear strange—especially to medical men—nevertheless it is true.

Hollidaysburg Standard.

BARNUM'S LAST MOVE.—A new project has been suggested by Barnum, which we should like to see tried. In a recent Temperance speech made by him in New York, he stated that there were 7,000 grog shops in the city, with an average custom in each of probably $10 a day. He made the following offer to the city, viz: if the city would shut up all the groggeries and give him the amount spent in all of them, he would pay all the city taxes, amounting to $4,000,000; send every child to a good school, present every family with a library 100 good books, three barrels of flour, and a silk dress to every female, old or young, and give everybody a free ticket to his museum.

HORRIBLE MURDERS IN PHILADELPHIA.

It becomes our painful duty to record a double murder, in the district of Southwark, attended with circumstances of unparalleled atrocity. The dreadful tragedy created the most intense excitement in the district in which it was perpetrated, and crowds were collected in the neighborhood the entire day, notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather. The victims were two married sisters, named Hannah Shaw and Ellen Lynch, natives of Ireland, the first about 40 years old, and the other about 35 years. They resided in the second story of No. 200 Federal street, on the south side, a few doors above Seventh, the other portion of the premises being in the occupancy of John Carroll and wife. On Thursday night Mr. and Mrs. Carroll attended a ball, in Broad street, and according to the best information were there all night. Mrs. Carroll returned to her house about 7 o'clock yesterday morning, and upon opening the window of the front room, first floor, the bodies of the murdered women were found lying within a few feet of each other, their heads both in the same direction, towards the east. Mrs. Lynch was in her night clothes, the other was dressed in her ordinary clothing. The alarm was given and numbers were soon drawn to the spot. The coroner was sent for, and early reached the scene, and with the assistance of Lieutenant Clark, of the Southwark police, and his officers, commenced an investigation of the horrible affair. In the course of the day every fact and circumstance was developed which tended to throw light upon the mystery. Several arrests were made by the police force, among them that of a certain Arthur Spring, who had visited the husband of Mrs. Lynch, before he left for New York, which he did a few days ago, and who had a quarrel with John Carroll, the principal tenant of the house, on Tuesday night last. A young man named Ryan, a nephew of the murdered women, was also arrested, but only because he had visited the house, and not from any suspicious circumstances attached to him.—From all the facts it would seem that the object of the murderer was plunder, for the trunk of Mrs. Lynch was broken open, and the contents abstracted therefrom.—There is proof that it contained from one to two hundred dollars in gold. Beside the trunk the point of a dirk was found, which had been used to open the trunk.—Though the murdered women both were found in the front room, the great struggle had evidently been in the back room, first floor, for there was considerable blood upon the wall and the floor, and several articles of clothing discovered there, were saturated with blood. Near the stove, a hole, five or six inches in diameter, was burnt in the floor, as though an effort had been made to set the place on fire.

Daily News.

For the Republican.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Your correspondent, calling himself a "Pilot's Friend," has attempted a criticism upon my article in your paper of the 13th ult. If he had argued the question at issue, it would have been more creditable to him. I shall not follow his example, nor bandy epithets with a writer whose contracted ideas will not permit him to imagine that log floating was ever carried on in this wide world till it commenced in Clearfield in 1851!!! I will simply ask him, what have my *sophistry*, my *absurdities*, my *plausibility*, my *foppery* or my *learning*, to do with rafting or log floating?

My sole object in again appearing in your columns, is to fearlessly maintain the position I at first took, that rafting and log floating have been carried on successfully, for two seasons, upon the streams of our county, and to inform you, and your readers, that an amicable adjustment of the matter by the parties interested is likely to take place. If this desirable measure should be defeated by the selfishness of individuals, let us remember that each party has its rights, and is entitled to the protection of *equal laws*, and that *neither* can reasonably ask exemption from entire responsibility.

That obstructions by logs and by rafts, will occasionally take place, must be admitted by all, but let the raftmem and log floaters meet in good fellowship, and all difficulties will vanish. The particular case mentioned by your correspondent at Chest Falls, was chiefly owing to the death of one man, and the sickness of another, with the well known dangers attending the navigation of that particular spot.

If it be true that "*dams are no obstruction, but on the contrary a great convenience to raftmen*," let us advocate the erection of a sufficient number by the State, to slack water the river from the mouth of Bald Eagle, to the mouth of Chest Creek, *in order to put an end to log floating, and insure the manufacture of all the lumber within the bounds of the county.* Send on your petitions, we have as much right to the public purse on the West Branch, as they have on the North, and our lumber, coal, and iron, will produce a perpetual revenue to the public works.

FREE TRADE.

HUMAN BODIES FOUND IN GUANO.—From the ship Brandscompt, unloading Peruvian guano at Leith, there were exhumed the remains of three persons, evidently Peruvians, buried in the guano, which had apparently not been disturbed in the process of loading the ship. The remains illustrate a curious property in guano in preserving bones, hair, clothes, while completely decomposing flesh. It is not known when the dead were originally interred, but the bodies were all found as entire as if they had been preserved in a museum; the hair remained upon the skull, and the clothes were very little decayed.

*North British*ATER, Aug.