INTELLIGENCER & LANCASTERIAN.

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State Central Committee.

There will be a meeting of the State Central Committee on the 30th instant, at the Merchant's Hotel, Philadelphia.

☞ Hon. ANTHONY E. ROBERTS will accept our thanks for public documents.

Mr. Buchanan's Policy.

Some of our friends at Richmond and in other parts of the South seem to be unnecessarily excited in reference to what may or may not be the policy of the incoming Administration as it regards Slavery, Squatter Sovereignty, &c. The speech of Senator BIGLER, in which, by what we conceive to be a forced and unnatural construction of his language, he is represented as advocating heretical principles; and a recent article in the *Pennsylvanian* eulogistic of Col. Benton, are made the subject of an elaborate criticism in the *Enquirer* of Tuesday last; and fears are entertained by the editors that Mr. BUCHANAN endorses these views of Senator Bigler and the Pennsylvanian.

Now, without assuming to speak for Mr. BUCHANAN, or to promulge his views on the topics treated of in the *Enquirer*, we nevertheless venture to assert that Governor Bigler, and nobody else, is himself responsible for what he said on the floor of the Senate—and farther, that neither the *Pennsylvanian*, nor any other newspaper, speaks by authority of the President elect. Mr. BUCHANAN is now, what he has been for the last thirty years or more, a thorough-going State Rights Constitutional Democratic statesman of the Jefferson and Jackson school, and in his administration of the Government will be actuated, we have not a doubt, by a determination to do equal and exact justice to every portion of the Union. His course of policy will know no North, no South, no East, no West. The Constitution will be his compass and his chart. By it, and it alone, will he seek to guide the ship of State; and of his skill as a pilot at the helm, and the lofty patriotism with which he will be actuated, no one who is personally acquainted with the man, can have a solitary doubt. The *Enquirer* may, therefore, well reiterate its expression of "implicit confidence in the President elect." This confidence, we venture to anticipate and predict, will not be shaken during the next Presidential term, by any act of his. His course of policy, we doubt not, will be alike satisfactory to his friends and the lovers of the Union in Virginia and Pennsylvania—in Georgia and Indiana. But that policy has not yet been adumbrated, except in his endorsement of the Cincinnati platform and in his letter accepting the nomination.

We, therefore, respectfully advise our Southern Democratic friends to keep cool.—The President elect has always stood by their Constitutional rights when assailed by Abolitionism of every hue and grade; and, we firmly believe, he will stand by them to the end. He is, therefore, entitled to their generous confidence, even in advance of his inauguration as the Chief Magistrate of the Republic. Let them not permit the opinions of A, B or C, who, we again aver, speak on their own responsibility, to weaken their faith in the integrity of the President elect. If Providence spares his life until the Fourth of March next, he will then take the oath of office and enunciate the principles and policy which he intends carrying out in his Administration, and when he does that we have every reason to believe the *Enquirer* will be abundantly satisfied.

So far as Senator BIGLER is concerned, we know him to be a true-hearted, conservative, Union-loving Democrat, who will stand by the Constitution and the rights of the States in every emergency. He is a well-tried and faithful Democratic statesman, and we have no fear that he will prove recreant, in word or deed, to the great principles which have always been his guiding star, and which are so dear to every Democrat throughout the broad expanse of our glorious Union.

Senator Bigler's Speech.

On our first page will be found lengthy extracts from the great speech of ex-Governor BIGLER, delivered in the U. S. Senate, on the 8th inst., in the debate growing out of the motion to refer and print the President's annual message. The Democracy of Pennsylvania, says the Washington *Union*, will rejoice at an occasion which has placed their representative's love of country and the peculiar powers of his well-balanced mind in such a prominent and advantageous light before the nation. The Keystone State may well be proud of her popular and distinguished representative in the Senate of the United States.

Mr. Buchanan at Philadelphia.

The President elect has been absent on a visit to Philadelphia, since Tuesday last. He is expected to return to Wheatland to-day or to-morrow.

During the time he has been in the city, we learn from the papers that he has been visited by great crowds of his fellow citizens, who were anxious to see and make the acquaintance of the Chief Magistrate elect of this mighty Republic to whom has been entrusted its destinies for the ensuing four years. They were received with that kindness and cordiality for which Mr. B. is so noted.

An Editor turned Preacher!

Saint Theophilus is lecturing against *fraud* and *hypocrisy!* See Independent Whig of Tuesday last. O tempora! O mores! A wag at our elbow says he is almost tempted to apply the old distich of

"The Devil was sick, the Devil a Saint would be—
The Devil got well, the devil a Saint was he!"

To be serious. We are of the opinion that the morals and integrity of the people of this community must be at a low ebb indeed when the State Printer under the corrupt administration of Joseph Ritner feels it necessary to utter a reproof for conscience sake!

Alas! and lack-a-day! What is the world coming to! It is getting so infernal bad—so corrupt in morals and religion, that even PENN has his *tender conscience* wounded! We advise our neighbor to imitate the crying Philosopher of antiquity, who shed oceans of tears at the vices and follies of the age in which he lived.

Col. William Hopkins.

This gentleman made a brief visit to our city on Saturday last. He looks hale and vigorous as he did eighteen years ago when, as Speaker of the House of Representatives, he so gallantly and successfully resisted the attempted treason of the "buckshot and ball" administration of Joseph Ritner. The Col. left in the evening train of cars for his home in Washington county.

Col. HOPKINS is spoken of in several quarters as a candidate for Governor. Should he be the nominee of the Convention, we know of no man (and we say this without disparagement to any of the other gentlemen named in connexion with the nomination—for they are all good and true men,) around whom the Democracy of the State would rally with more enthusiasm. He is emphatically an *honest man*, in every sense of the word, and therefore enjoys the confidence of the public to the fullest extent.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, DEC. 16.—SENATE.—On motion of Mr. Dodge, a resolution was adopted, calling upon the Secretary of War, for all letters addressed to that Department, or to Wilson Shannon, late Governor of Kansas, by Colonel Sumner, relative to Kansas, which heretofore have not been communicated.

Mr. Brown gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill providing for the construction of Railroad and Telegraphic communication between the Atlantic coast and the Pacific, and for other purposes. Mr. Wilson introduced a bill, amendatory to the act to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas—Referred to the Committee on Territories.—On motion of Mr. Rusk, a joint resolution granting further time to the creditors of Texas to present their claims and other purposes was taken up. Mr. Rusk explained and advocated the resolution which extends time to January 1st, 1858, and repeals the provision of the former act, for distribution "*pro rata*" of residue to those who have filed their release.

HOUSE.—Mr. Whitfield introduced a bill providing for the assessment of damages, sustained by loss and destruction of property belonging to the citizens of Kansas, during the recent disturbances in said Territory; also, a bill for establishing District Courts at Leavenworth city and other places in Kansas; also, a bill establishing two additional land districts in Kansas. Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, from Committee of Ways and Means, reported that the Indian civil and army appropriation bills were referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, reported a bill amending the twenty-eighth section of the Tariff act of August, 1842, so as to prohibit importation of indecent and obscene prints, transparencies, statuetts, &c.,—the parties offending to be proceeded against by due course of law, and the articles destroyed—passed. On motion of Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, further consideration of the bill reducing duties on imports, and for other purposes, reported last session, was postponed until the first Tuesday of January. The debate on the President's annual message was then resumed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The House ordered twenty thousand copies of the President's Message and accompanying documents, to be printed.

The consideration of the President's Message was resumed.

Mr. Quitman believed that every word the President had said on the Slavery question, was well timed and true; of the developements in the House show the objects and the Republican party were such as the Executive had attributed to them. Leading men in that organization had declared their purpose to destroy that institution which is entwined with the existence of the Southern States.

Speaking on the subject of Central America, Mr. Quitman said he was opposed, as an American, to bowing and yielding to England or France, this being the rock on which we have split. We want no treaty with any foreign nation relative to our duty on this continent, and should not therefore call on any European power to come across the ocean, to regulate Central American affairs. We should ourselves settle this matter.

He believed General Walker to be an instrument in the hands of Providence to carry on American civilization, and it was the duty of our government not to throw obstacles in his way.

The new Kansas appointments, and that of J. W. H. Underwood, of Georgia, as Associate Justice of the United States Court of Nebraska, vice Haden, resigned, were, in executive session of the Senate yesterday, referred to the Judiciary Committee. The President likewise sent to the Senate the treaty between the U. States and Great Britain, relating to Central America, which was ordered to be printed for the information of Senators only.

Gubernatorial Candidates.

The following named gentlemen are spoken of in connexion with the Gubernatorial nomination, viz:

GEN. WILLIAM F. PACKER, of Lycoming.
COL. WILLIAM HOPKINS, of Washington.
HON. WILLIAM H. WITTE, of Philadelphia.
COL. SAMUEL W. BLACK, of Allegheny.
HON. JOHN L. DAWSON, of Fayette.
HON. CHARLES R. BUCKALEW, of Columbia.

Supreme Court.

A candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court is to be nominated by the next State Convention—Chief Justice LEWIS' term expiring next fall. If the Judge desires to remain on the Bench, we think the Convention would do well to re-nominate him. His great ability and experience are undoubted, and we think the Supreme Court would be likely to lose more than it would gain, in character and reputation, by the withdrawal of Judge LEWIS from the Bench.

U. S. Senator.

Col. JOHN. W. FORNEY, is strongly urged in many of the leading Democratic papers of the State, for U. S. Senator in place of Hon. RICHARD BRODHEAD, whose term will expire on the 3d of March. There is no man in the State more deserving the honor, and of his qualifications for the post there can be no dispute. He would do honor to Pennsylvania in that or any other station.

HON. HENRY D. FOSTER, of Westmoreland, HON. C. R. BUCKALEW, of Columbia, HON. JOHN ROBBINS, of Philadelphia, and COL. WILSON M'CANDLESS, of Pittsburg, are also urged by the press and by many friends for the same station. These are all worthy and talented Democrats, and with such an array of good men before them the Legislature can hardly fail in making a judicious selection.

Fremont at Home.

If, as the opposition affirmed during the canvass, Mr. Buchanan admitted that Col. Fremont was entitled to the appellation of "Conqueror of California," the vote of that State makes it clear that Buchanan is the victor of the conqueror. The poet says "'tis cruelty to load a fallen man," but the truth of history compels the Hartford Times to pile it on thus:—

"California gives her son Fremont an unmerciful drubbing. He falls so far behind Buchanan that he is really among the 'scattering.' His own county—Mariposa—(all but one precinct) gives the following vote:

Buchanan	980
Fillmore	487
Fremont	88
Total	1555

In Mercia county the Pathfinder gets but *two* votes out of 400. In Stanislaus, where there is a vote of nearly 700, he does not get a single vote!

Oh, oh, oh! such a nominee
As John C. Fremont of Mariposa!"

THE UNION CANAL.—The enlargement of this improvement from Leabanon Eastward, to Reading, that was contracted for last fall, is to be completed by the first of April, 1857.

COUNTERFEIT.—The Harrisburg *Herald* says, counterfeit 10's on the Harrisburg Bank have made their appearance, and are executed with sufficient skill to deceive persons who are not familliar with the genuine.

☞ Letters from Liberia state that the culture of sugar has been carried on so prosperously that several sugar growers are talking about exporting it largely to the United States. One of them, named Richardson, expects to ship two hundred hogsheads of sugar, of his first grinding.

American Affairs in Europe.

The British and French press cannot, it appears, reconcile themselves with the fact of Mr. Buchanan's election to the Presidency of the United States. They had come to the conclusion, says the Baltimore *Sun*, that such a calamity was seriously impending; and now the shock of the reality is upon them; the crisis is about their ears, and we have yet to learn whether Europe will survive or perish. The fact is, Europe—or rather the people who constitute the substance of Europe—have nothing to fear from the success of democratic principles in the United States, and they know it; and they do not hesitate to say it whenever an opportunity offers for an expression of their opinion. But we have seen during the late campaign in this country, all the sympathies of the government presses of Europe thrown around the "black republican" candidate. In fact Col. Fremont has been extolled as the very embodiment of heroism and statesmanship. His name has been exalted above every name, and the sentiments he has expressed and the platform he represented have been extolled as the only good things in this Nazareth of the United States. His portrait has been copied from the illustrated papers of New York, into the illustrated papers of London and Paris; while the baser geniuses, Buchanan and Fillmore, have been painfully neglected. Indeed, Mr. Buchanan, although he was quite a proper man as a Minister to England, very seriously deteriorated in British and French estimation as a democratic candidate for the Presidency.—And the discourtesy of journalism, which prevails there as well as here, indulged in some very unhandsome and unkind aspersions towards him.

These things are worthy of observation, and afford significant criteria of European sentiment. There is with all the governments of Europe and the affiliated presses of royalism, an unyielding detestation of democratic principles. By whomsoever they are represented, he must bear the odium of their success. And it follows, as a matter of course, that a democratic administration will receive from European governments nothing more than the decent courtesies which custom and interest exact at their hands. Gen. Pierce and his administration have been abused without stint, and with a vulgarity utterly beyond tolerance in responsible journalism.—And this only because he has done his duty, fulfilled the obligations of his office to his fellow citizens, and held the powers of Europe to a just accountability in all matters touching the dignity and welfare of our country.

Europe is only waiting for a weak point in the career of our government, and the servile dupes and emissaries of royalism hold themselves always prepared to provoke, expose and take advantage of it. In the florid and even exhuberant admiration of Fremont, and the undisguised anxiety for his success, we have an expression in part of British fanaticism in relation to the legal institutions of our country; but mainly betrayed in the style of remark upon the subject, the monstrous hope that his success would seal the destruction of the Union. It is to this as an end, that the government press of Europe extend their favor to every movement or project that promises to conflict with our interests, or to shake our stability. And we may rest assured that if ever any event occurs which threatens very seriously to disturb the equilibrium of the States, the interference of Europe will be thrust upon us in some insidious form so as to widen and perpetuate rather than to heal the breach.

In view of these things, it ought to be a theme of much gratification to the conservative masses of the Union, that a national candidate has been elected by an emphatic expression of the popular voice. It is a result which rebukes the impertinent intrusion of European sentiment into American politics, and proves that foreign influence is powerless *yet*, to carry its various designs against the integrity of our common country into effect. But it is not only through an issue originating in sectional feeling and relating to one topic, that foreign influence can be directed against our domestic welfare. There are other principles at issue, in reference to which it will be ready at any favorable opportunity to exert itself for the aid of this party or that; always sustained by the hope that national dissolution will be our ultimate fate. As we are at present, we can defy foreign influence, and all the efforts of the combined thrones of Europe. But if we disturb the social equanimity, vitiate the cardinal principles of our political Union, and put life and liberty at the disposal of prejudice and faction, foreign influence will soon exert its insidious wiles, our peace and prosperity be seriously impaired, and the very structure of our government, in time, crumble away under the perversion of those conservative principles by which, alone, it can be perpetuated.

An Important Case.

The case of DRED SCOTT, now being argued before the Supreme Court at Washington, involves the constitutionality of the Missouri Compromise and the power of Congress to prohibit Slavery in a Territory, in the following manner: Scott is the son of a slave woman belonging to an army officer, who moved with his family and slaves into the Territory where, by the Missouri Compromise, Slavery was prohibited. There Scott was born, but was afterward carried back to Missouri, and is now held therein as a slave. He sues for his freedom, on the ground that he was born free, by virtue of the Missouri Prohibition. The case has been before the Supreme Court a year or more, and was argued, but not decided last winter. It is supposed that the majority of the Court will decide, that Congress has no power to prohibit Slavery in a Territory, that the Missouri prohibition was unconstitutional, and that Scott is lawfully held as a slave.

Harrisburg Papers.

The Harrisburg *Patriot and Union* (Democrat) will be issued twice a week during the ensuing session of the Legislature, and will contain full and accurate reports of the proceedings. The price for the session alone will be two dollars; for the whole year *semi-weekly* during the session, three dollars; for the whole year, *once a week* during the session, two dollars.

The *Telegraph* (Republican) will also be issued semi-weekly during the session of the Legislature. The weekly and semi-weekly paper will be furnished to single subscribers at $2 per annum. To clubs of 5 persons for $9; of 10 persons at $17; of 20 persons at $30. The person who raises a club will receive a copy of the paper gratis.

Those who wish to have full reports of the legislative proceedings, had better commence their subscriptions with the opening of the session.

☞ The Harrisburg *Telegraph* notices the sudden death of Jacob M. Haldeman, Esq., one of the oldest and wealthiest citizens of that Borough. The sad event occurred on Monday evening week. Mr. H. was seated at the time in his office, conversing with one of his sons, and but a moment before remarked that he never felt better in his life. The disease was apoplexy. Mr. Haldeman was the President of the Harrisburg Bank, was an extensive landholder, and was well known in financial circles. He was 76 years of age.

Iron and Steel.

Among the statistics commented on in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, are those relating to iron and steel; and, when we remember that it is only about one hundred years since it was seriously resolved upon, in Great Britain, that America should not be allowed to make a hob-nail, the facts are encouraging! This country now shows a manufacture of iron and steel of $78,406,538 in value. But this failed to supply our wants; and the imports of the raw material and the manufactured article, in 1855, were $23,945,274 in value. We now export a portion of this, and deducting this, we have an annual consumption of this manufacture of $98,598,340. The Secretary makes the remark that the estimate of the production is too small by ten millions.

The Secretary takes the following view of this vast interest:—

"We have in the United States more iron ore and more coal, with the usual fluxes, in convenient connection and of cheaper access, than all the other civilized nations of the world, and have the necessary capital, skill and labor to produce all the iron and steel, and manufactures of iron and steel, required for our consumption, or that may be required for our consumption for centuries to come, and also to enable us to supply the markets of other countries, in fair competition, with the iron and steel of other nations. These tables show that our production of iron and steel, and manufactures of iron and steel, was greater, in proportion to population, in 1850 than it was in 1840, and that it was greater in 1855 than it was in 1850, giving us the right to assume that, influenced by the same causes, it will be greater in 1860 than it now is, and in time will be sufficient for our own consumption, and then give us a surplus for export. But taking into consideration our present population and accumulated capital, with the amount of capital annually drawn from other countries in the course of emigration, and the great cost of carriage to the interior of our country, with the late improvements in the modes of production and manufacture of iron and steel, it would not be rash to expect a full supply for our own consumption, between this and the returns of the census of 1870.

The tax upon iron and steel, and the manufactures thereof because of general use, in all sections and in all industrial pursuits, has been considered as equitable and fair a tax as it was possible to impose upon the country, consequently no material change has been contemplated or recommended; but, if continued at present rates, it is not supposed the same amount of revenue will continue to be derived from it, even should the use of iron, as no doubt it will, be extended to many other purposes, and be consumed in much greater quantities. In commercial intercourse with other nations, based upon equivalent exchanges, as it must always be, if profitable and continuous, we may well look forward to the time, when we shall produce, within our own limits, all articles that are essential to national defence, and the use and comfort of our own people; and of these there is none more necessary to the defence of the country and the use and comfort of the people, and of which we have better means of producing in the country, than iron and steel, and the manufactures of iron and steel. Yet the production should not be stimulated by unequal and unjust taxation, nor the period of an abundant supply, from our mines and factories, retarded by impolitic legislation. The home production of iron and manufactures of iron and steel is on the increase. The tables prove the production and manufacture of these articles have increased with our increased population, and that we import less, in proportion to our population and consumption, than formerly."

The *Boston Post* says this compact extract presents a forcible view of the importance of this vast interest. Iron is one of the essentials of social economy; essential to agriculture, commerce and manufactures; essential to our national independence, progress and defence; essential indeed to progress in civilization. Russia produces in vast quantities the raw material, but it exports it to such an extent that its use, in the interior provinces, is an article of luxury: the peasantry, or serfs, using wood where iron is now considered indispensable. This is the article that Great Britain once determined that America should not be permitted to manufacture at all; and it was for years a matter of debate whether even the raw material should be allowed to be imported into the mother country from her colonies.

No sooner was American enterprise released from its shackles than it bent itself to develop this interest. In 1790 it made a feature in Hamilton's report on manufactures. In 1809 the Secretary of the Treasury portrayed in just terms the inexhaustible resources of our country for this manufacture, and in 1810 treated it as firmly established. It has had its years of depression, and its difficulties and struggles: but, after all, its course has been steadily onward. In 1835 it was estimated that the value of the made and manufactured iron was over forty millions of dollars; and it has now reached the proud figure named in the report, of seventy-eight millions!

How far the use of this wonderful metal will extend time only can develop. We have before us a list of articles manufactured from iron, drawn up twenty years ago; but in it are neither vessels, houses, nor articles of furniture. The consumption of iron for these purposes, and hundreds of others, is daily increasing. But large as may be the demand, our iron mines, and the materials necessary to work them, are absolutely inexhaustible.—New beds of ore are continually brought to light, and the old world and the new will continue to supply the labor that will work them. The more this interest is examined, the larger will appear its national importance.

The Official Popular Vote of the Union.

We are at length enabled to make a pretty accurate and complete table of the popular vote of the United States on the Presidential question. The true figures are about thus—the first-named twenty-seven States being official, and the remaining four very nearly correct:

	Buchanan.	*Fillmore.*	*Fremont.*
Alabama,	46,637	28,862	.....
North Carolina,	48,286	38,886	.....
Missouri,	58,160	48,521	.....
Kentucky,	74,917	66,922	371
Maryland,	39,051	47,462	281
Delaware,	8,102	6,175	306
Georgia,	56,417	42,552	.....
Ohio,	170,874	28,125	187,497
Indiana,	118,672	22,386	94,816
Illinois,	105,344	37,451	96,290
Vermont,	10,577	546	39,962
Connecticut,	74,876	2,742	42,402
Rhode Island,	6,680	1,675	11,467
Iowa,	36,241	9,444	44,127
Michigan,	52,139	1,561	71,153
Massachusetts,	39,240	19,726	108,190
New Jersey,	46,492	24,115	23,315
Pennsylvania,	230,000	85,290	147,548
New York,	195,314	124,205	275,440
Wisconsin,	52,843	579	66,090
Louisiana,	22,164	20,709	.....
Tennessee,	73,638	66,178	.....
New Hampshire,	32,732	420	38,342
Virginia,	89,975	60,037	291
Florida,	6,358	4,833	.....
Arkansas,	21,906	10,787	.....
Maine,	38,036	3,235	65,814
South Carolina,	35,000	.....	.....
Mississippi,	35,472	28,127	.....
California,	50,000	35,000	19,000
Texas,	30,000	15,000	.....
Total,	1,884,771	835,235	1,338,528

Buchanan's majority over Fremont in the Union is 546,243. The total vote is over 4,000,000, being about double what it was in 1840. Mr. Buchanan has got 250,000 more votes than any other Presidential candidate ever received.

COL. WM. HOPKINS.—The Easton *Sentinel*, noticing the proceedings of the Democratic Convention of Washington county, which recommended Col. Hopkins for Governor, speaks in very strong terms of that gentleman's qualifications. It says:

"Col H. has an extensive acquintance with the affairs of our commonwealth—an acquaintance derived from experience in the various positions of trust he has already filled, and should the convention fall upon him as the candidate, we know of none better fitted to bear the mantle. He is a true and unswerving Democrat, and one who has rendered his party essential service.

Gen. Cass and Howell Cobb.

Col FORNEY, in his able and eloquent address delivered lately at Westchester, Pa., paid the following merited and beautiful tribute to two distinguished national democrats:—

"It would be invidious to signalize those who came here in our behalf from other states, and it would be almost impossible to specify those who spoke on the right side and who grew up amongst us, but I am sure the democracy of Chester county will pardon me if I refer to two names conspicuous in the recent conflict, the one because this was the theatre upon which he won an ennobling triumph over prejudice, and the other because his fame is national and his merits universally admitted and venerated. Howell Cobb is the type of a high toned constitutional nationality. He came here from the south to speak to northern communities, inflamed by abolition misrepresentations, and, in too many cases, poisoned by preconceived judgments against himself and the region where he was born. Without abating one jot of his opinions, without compromising a single principle of the creed of which he is so eminent a champion, without yielding an inch to the arrogance and the recklessness of his adversaries, he went forth, and with his persuasive eloquence, his unrivalled candor, and that characteristic fairness, which, while it challenged reply, never shrunk from controversy, he confounded those who came to denounce, and he converted those who came to listen. And I know you will allow me to add that much of the good result which crowned your exertions here flowed from the captivating arguments which he delivered upon your invitation. Take next that other name, that northern, that western name, the name of the venerable Lewis Cass. In the midst of our congratulations let us not forget him who, when beyond the Psalmist's age, mounted the hustings and spoke day after day to listening crowds, travelling hundreds and thousands of miles, that his appeals might be heard by his countrymen and his example followed by them. It is true that on the scene of some of his proudest triumphs, it is true that in the State which he has done so much to rescue from barbarism, and upon the theatre where he has long been a distinguished actor, a sudden irruption of fanaticism has temporarily prostrated him, and an ingrate posterity answered to a brilliant life of usefulness and patriotism by a declaration against the Constitution and the Union which he has so long defended. Ingrate, let me say, not by way of including the crowd of good men and true who gathered around him from the beginning to the end of the fight, but ingrate in the sense which comprehends the men who are now realizing in their own prosperity the value and the efficiency of his philanthropic and heroic efforts.

Mr. Burke, in one of his finest speeches, referred to a British statesman who had touched, during his lifetime, two great extremes of national prosperity; and I have often been reminded of the picture while reviewing the career of the Michigan statesman. Beginning with his own humble adventures, and while the great west was in the infancy of its development, he has marched onward from scene to scene, from stage to stage, comprehending within its range alike his own rapid and brilliant advance and the rapid and brilliant advance of his country itself. But suppose that the angel of this auspicious man, foreseeing the many virtues which made him the most eminent, as he is one of the most fortunate leaders of his age, had opened to him in vision, in his early youth, that in the fourth generation the thirteenth president of the United States—he having seen the first elected—should take his seat in the chair of the chief magistracy of the Union; and suppose, amid the exciting scenes of the earlier life of Lewis Cass, that angel should have drawn up the curtain and unfolded the rising glories of his country; and whilst he was gazing with admiration on the advancing grandeur of America, the same genius should have pointed out to him a spot of earth hardly appreciated in the mass of the national interests, and should tell him—'*Young man, there is the northwest*—which at this day serves for little more than to amuse you with stories of savage men and uncouth manners; yet shall, before you taste of death, show itself equal to the whole of that commerce which now attracts the envy of the world.' Had this state of his country been foretold to him, would it not require all the sanguine credulity of youth, and all the fervid glow of enthusiasm to make him believe it? Fortunate man, he has lived to see it! Fortunate, too, that the greatest act of his life has been to contribute to that victory which has secured to his country uninterrupted peace and freedom, let us hope, throughout enduring ages. What need such a man repine at the false judgment of a perverted public opinion?"

Land Robbery on a Large Scale.

During the present session of Congress, every effort will be made to swindle the government out of the public lands. Land speculators and adventurers of every hue, who glide through the world by diddling the public, will lay all kinds of plans and invent all kinds of schemes, to enrich themselves at the expense of the people. Encouraged by the wholesale manner in which Congress disposed of the public lands during its last session, they now infest the vestibules and lobbies of the capital, and and with the worn out plea of "public good" cry "more—give us more." The Pacific and other railroad schemes already before Congress, are nothing less than gigantic attempts to swindle, and we sincerely trust that every attempt of the kind to rob the government of the public lands will be defeated. There are men at Washington, in and out of Congress, who are constantly inventing plans by which to defraud the government and enrich themselves. They get up railroad and other schemes by which to accomplish their object.

The close of the present Congress, if we are informed aright, and can judge correctly of the signs of the times, will exceed all preceding sessions for attempts to swindle the Government. There are men in Congress now who know they will never have another chance to "make a good thing out of it," and are determined to make good use of their time. Already we see gigantic and impracticable plans proposed to build a Pacific Railroad, and branches from all quarters of the West and Southwest to connect with a Pacific Railroad. We are opposed to all those plundering, swindling schemes, and sincerely trust they will be rejected.

In noticing one of these immense schemes, the *Cincinnati Enquirer* says:

"From all parts of the country and from the press of all parties, do we hear condemnation of the bill now pending in the House, entitled the Pacific Railroad scheme. The corrupt speculators, politicians and lobby-men engaged in it, have been baffled by a timely exposure of the provisions it contains. Such a great fraud could only be successful by being hid from public scrutiny and observation:—By it not only are two hundred millions of acres of land given up to speculators and railroad corporations, and the government bound to pay five millions of dollars a year for post-office services, but there is no guarantee whatever exacted of the railroad corporations that they will finish the road. The latter can take up the fertile lands as far as Fort Kearney, but when they come to the great desert, with its fifteen hundred miles of arid waste, they are at liberty to abandon the road and let the Government finish it."

The New York *Evening Post*, whose conductors are favorable to a Pacific Railroad, on the same subject says: "As friends of the Pacific Railroad, we counsel every honest member in Congress to strangle the monstrous imposition and fraud. Let no man be seduced by the pretence that opposition to this measure is opposition to the great measure to which all political parties are, in some measure, pledged. The people understand the difference between this bill and the bill they want; and they know perfectly well that its passage will prove the most fatal blow which the Pacific Railroad scheme can possibly receive—that it will render its consummation an impossibility—and that the only desirable consequence of its success will be the extinction of the men who have been engaged in its concoction."

The honest members of Congress—and thank God there are some such—should use their best efforts to expose the objects of the framers of these land monster schemes and defeat them. And when they return to their constituents they will be welcomed home as good and faithful servants of the people.

CITY AND COUNTY AFFAIRS.

CHRISTMAS DAY.—A merry, happy Christmas to our patrons. The compliments of the season to you all, and may health, wealth, prosperity and long life attend you. What a pleasant re-union, at the festive board, will take place on Thursday. Christmas is here—yes, happy, joyous Christmas of the olden time.

Who among us does not remember the halcyon days of our childhood, when we hung our stockings by the fire place, and when the good St. Nicholas, more familiarly known as "Kriskingle," filled them with the nice things of the season. For the benefit of the little folks who are now looking for the Saint, and may be desirous of knowing how the old gentleman travels, we subjoin a favorite poetical description which cannot fail of being interesting:

VISIT OF ST. NICHOLAS.

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse:
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums danced through their heads:
And mamma in her 'kerchief and I in my cap,
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap:
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter:
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutter and threw up the sash,
The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow,
Gave the lustre of midday to objects below;
When, what to my wandering eyes should appear
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer.
With a little old driver so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name:
"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer! now, Vixen!
On! Comet! On! Cupid! On! Donder! and Blixen!
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!
Now dash away, dash away, dash away, all!"
As the leaves before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
So, up to the housetop the coursers they flew,
With a sleigh full of toys—and St. Nicholas too.
And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof,
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
As I drew in my head and was turning around,
Down the chimney St Nicholas came with a bound:
He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot:
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a pedlar just opening his pack.
His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples how merry,
His cheeks were like roses; his nose like a cherry:
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow;
And his beard on his chin was as white as the snow.
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke, it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a little round belly,
That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.
He was chubby and plump; a right jolly old elf.
And I laughed when I saw him in spite of myself.
A wink of his eye, and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread,
He spoke not a word but went straight to his work.
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk.
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod up the chimney he rose.
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle:
But I heard him exclaim ere he drove out of sight,
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"

ODD FELLOWSHIP IN LANCASTER COUNTY.—The returns of the Order of Odd Fellows, received by Mr. WESTHAEFFER, D. D. G. M., shows that there are fifteen Lodges in the County with about 1400 contributing members, of which nearly six hundred belong to the three Lodges in this city, namely, the Lancaster, Monterey and Fulton Lodges. The reports further indicate that the Order in this district is in a flourishing condition. We append the names and number of the different Lodges, with the time and place of meeting, the names of officers and number of contributing members, which will be interesting as a matter of record and reference to those interested in the progress of the Order:

Lancaster Lodge, No. 67—Lancaster—Thursday Evening—341 Members. Patrick Cassidy, N. G.; Peter Hill, V. G.; J. M. Westhaeffer, Sec'y.; John Evans, A. Sec'y.; C. M. Erben, Treas.

Susquehanna, No. 80—Columbia—Monday—141 Members. James Myers, N. G.; George Milford, V. G.; T. Kuch, S.; Peter Finley, A. S.; Davis E. Murphy, T.

Elizabethtown, No. 126—Elizabethtown—Thursday—59 Members. George Redsecker, N. G.; Jacob Grove, V. G.; B. F. Bear, S.; Geo. W. Boyer, A. S.; F. S. Bryan, T.

Donegal, No. 120—Marietta—Tuesday—61 Members. Sam'l Sonders, N. G.; John Naylor, V. G.; E. D. Roath, S.; A. H. Summy, A. S.; David Harry, T.

Pequea, No. 161—Paradise—Saturday—35 Members. Dan'l Brun, N. G.; Samuel F. Foster, V. G.; J. G. Foster, S.; Henry Crawford, A. S.

Monterey, No. 242—Lancaster—Friday—151 Members.—Michael F. Steigerwalt, N. G.; Henry H. Huber, V. G.; James M. Channel, S.; A. B. Kauffman, T.

Mount Joy, No. 277—Mount Joy—Tuesday—46 Members. G. W. Porter, N. G.; Andrew Myers, V. G.; Benjamin M. Greider, S.; James Mooney, A. S., Adam Sheller, T.

Conestoga, No. 334—Safe Harbor—Saturday—70 Members. Wm. Courtney, N. G.; David Morgan, V. G.; S. H. Lawton, S.; M. E. Mellinger, A. S.; Jacob Sourbeer, T.

Strasburg, No. 361—Strasburg—Tuesday—28 Members.—John E. Girvin, N. G.; John J. Kinkead, V. G.; William Clark, S.; Franklin Clark, A. S.; Jacob Hildebrand, T.

Kosciusko, No. 374—Rawlinsville—Saturday—80 Members. Jacob C. Otto, N. G.; Frederick Hill, V. G.; D. M. Dunkle, S.; W. A. Crawford, A. S.; Hugh O'Nall, T.

Cocalico, No. 406—Reamstown—Saturday—94 Members. John S. Royer, N. G.; J. M. Kline, V. G.; E. H. Rhoads, S.; Henry S. Mickle, A. S.; Andrew Ream, T.

Earl, No. 413—New Holland—Monday—71 Members. H. Nagel, N. G.; Franklin Thompson, V. G.; Elias Glausser, S.; Wm. Setley, A. S.; Michael Schneader, T.

Little Britain, No. 420—Oak Hill—Saturday—61 Members. Joseph C. Jamison, N. G.; Benj. Passmore, V. G.; Wm Wood, S.; Isaac Wood, A. S.; Robert Patton, T.

Fulton, No. 454—Lancaster—Monday—59 Members. Edw. Carter, N. G.; H. H. Musselman, V. G.; Sam'l D. Fraim, S.; Sam'l Welchens, T.

Drumore, No. 509—Fairfield—Saturday—44 Members. L. Hipple, N. G.; F. W. Swagart, V. G.; F. McSparren, S.; N. N. Hensel, A. S.; John Kennedy, T.

CITY POST OFFICE.—The improvements made in the Post Office in this City, since Mr. SWARR has taken charge of it, are the subject of commendation all round. Every convenience and comfort for the citizens as well as the officials in the establishment have been attended to, and it is a pleasure to witness the promptness and efficiency displayed in the management of the office. Mr. S. and his excellent subordinates, Messrs. Morton, Fahnestock and Reigart are all kind and obliging in disposition, and are universally popular with all who have business at the office. They deserve, as they are receiving, the thanks of the community.

THE WATCHMEN'S CALL.—The Watchmen having turned *Poets*, will be about on Thursday (Christmas) morning with their Addresses. Be prepared with your *Quarters* and *Fifties*. Remember the guardians of the night in your Christmas gifts.

MR. WHIPPLE'S LECTURE.—There was quite a large and appreciating audience present, at Fulton Hall, on Wednesday evening last, to hear the lecture of E. P. WHIPPLE, Esq., of Boston. His subject, "JOAN OF ARC," was treated in a masterly and captivating manner.