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The Fourth of March.

Extensive preparations are being made, at Washington city, for the inauguration of President BUCHANAN. It will be a great day for the Metropolis, and, we trust, it will also be the harbinger of bright and happy days for the whole Union.

It was once, says the New York Atlas, not so difficult to fill the office of President as now. The States were few in number, the power of the Nation lay along a narrow slip of the Atlantic coast, the glorious West was a vast wilderness, and *Cotton* was not yet king. The difficulties of administering the government were comparatively few, and National legislation was an easy task. But now, how different! So many new States have come into the Union, and so many more are knocking at the door for admittance, so extended is the area of freedom, so vast is the increase of our population, so great and powerful the resources and progress of the western portion of our Union, so important has become our domain upon the coast of the Pacific, and so wide and extended is our commerce, that the President of the United States is become the head of one of the greatest nations in the world, and the Presidency is no longer the place for a weak man, or a mere political instrument.

Fortunately for us, says the same paper, a most eminent statesman is about to take the helm—one of large capacity, large experience, and a large heart—one who will rank with the founders of the Government in patriotism, and with the greatest men among their successors in point of ability. This opinion is not confined to a few—it pervades the whole country. If the Presidential election was now again to take place, with the feeling which prevails among the people, Mr. BUCHANAN would be elected almost unanimously. No man ever approached the Presidential chair, save the Father of his country, with the popular confidence so deeply displayed towards him. Even his most violent opponents have changed their tone, and are willing to give him a generous, if not a warm support.

Mr. BUCHANAN's course is plain and palpable. He has only to carry out his declarations to administer the Government for the good of the whole Nation, and to know no North or South, no East or West, in the administration of the public affairs, to secure for himself an imperishable fame. That he will do so, no one who knows the man can doubt for a moment. Let his hands, then, be strengthened by his friends, let unity mark our support, and cordiality go with confidence, and the whole country will have reason to bless the day that ushers in the new administration to power.

The State Convention.

The Democratic State Convention will have to nominate a candidate for Governor, for Supreme Judge, and for Canal Commissioner. The gentlemen spoken of for the nomination are:

FOR GOVERNOR.

Col. William Hopkins, of Washington.
Col. Samuel W. Black, of Allegheny.
Hon. John L. Dawson, of Fayette.
Gen. William F. Packer, of Lycoming.
Hon. William H. Witte, of Philadelphia.
Hon. Ephraim Banks, of Mifflin.
Hon. George R. Barrett, of Clearfield.
Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, of Somerset.
Hon. William M. Heister, of Berks.
Hon. Howell Hepburn, of Allegheny.
Hon. J. Porter Brawley, of Crawford.
Gen. Seth Clover, of Clarion.

FOR SUPREME JUDGE.

Hon. Ellis Lewis, of Philadelphia.
Hon. William Strong, of Berks.
Hon. Samuel Hepburn, of Cumberland.
Joshua B. Howell, Esq., of Fayette.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER.

Hon. Nimrod Strickland, of Chester.
Hon. David Laury, of Lehigh.
R. K. Campbell, Esq., of Greene.
Hon. M. C. Trout, of Mercer.

☞ There may be a few other gentlemen named for the various offices, but, if so, they have escaped our notice. From the above list however, all of whom are excellent men, the Convention can scarcely make a mistake, no matter who may be selected. The Convention meets at Harrisburg on Monday next.

An Important Bill.

The bill offered some time since by Mr. Hancock in the Pennsylvania Legislature, and which has been reported upon favorably by the Committee on Banks, prevents the President of any Bank from borrowing, either as drawer or endorser, a greater amount than three per cent. upon the amount of capital paid in, and which prevents any Director from borrowing either in person or through any house or firm of which he is a member, more than two per cent. of the capital at one time, is an important restriction, and had it been the law, thousands of dollars would have been saved in late years to note holders in this Commonwealth—provided it had not been wilfully violated, as was the case with the late President of the Lancaster Bank, who took out more than eight thousand dollars at one time, in utter disregard of the charter of the Bank. We understand that Mr. Hancock's bill is very stringent in its provisions, and well calculated to prevent such unlawful speculations as led to the disastrous failure of the Lancaster Bank.

☞ The Legislature have agreed to adjourn over from Saturday next until the Monday week following, for the purpose of granting the Hall of the House to the State Convention, and also enabling the members to witness the inauguration of President BUCHANAN.

U. S. SENATOR.—Hon. JOHN R. THOMPSON, a sound and unwavering Democrat, has been re-elected to the United States Senate for six years, from the 4th of March, by the Legislature of New Jersey.

☞ Hon. A. E. ROBERST, of the U. S. House of Representatives, will please accept our thanks for an important public document.

☞ Col. SAMUEL W. BLACK and Col. WILLIAM HOPKINS, two prominent candidates for the Gubernatorial nomination, were in town last week, looking well, and in excellent spirits.

☞ Mr. POWNALL, of the State Legislature, has our thanks for public documents.

ELECTION OF STATE TREASURER.—Both branches of the Legislature have agreed to go into an election of State Treasurer on the 11th of March.

☞ The President elect will leave Wheatland the latter end of this week, or, at farthest, on Monday morning next, for Washington City.

☞ Hon. JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE, the Vice President elect of the United States, is now in Philadelphia, stopping at the Merchants' Hotel, where he arrived on Saturday night.—He is expected to be at Wheatland in a day or two, and will probably accompany the President elect to Washington.

☞ The Grand Jury of New York have found true bills against Mr. Eckel and Mrs. Cunningham, charging them with the murder of Dr. Burdell. Young Snodgrass was directed to be held to bail as a witness.

The Lancaster Bank Assets.

The Inventory of the assets of the Lancaster Bank, taken and filed by the Assignees, shows a recklessness and profligacy on the part of the late officers and a portion of the Directors truly surprising. The wonder is, that the Institution did not blow up long since. Thousands upon thousands of dollars were taken from its vaults and converted to the use of the officers and their pets, without any responsible endorsers, and in several instances no endorsers at all. In fact, the Bank seems to have been used as a sort of family concern, without any regard to the interests of the stockholders or the public at large. The Inventory shows that the enormous amount of over $300,000 is considered entirely lost, the Appraisers considering those debts of no value whatever.

Such wholesale swindling operations are almost without a parallel in the history of banking in this State—they even eclipse the fancy financiering which brought about the failure of the Savings Institution less than two years ago. No wonder that for several years past the honest hard-working mechanic or shopkeeper could get no accommodation from the Lancaster Bank, no matter how substantial his endorsers were. The rogues in ruffles monopolized all the funds, and speculators in fancy stocks, grain and flour speculators, railroad and coal land speculators, note shavers and other fancy individuals, took the money out at pleasure, and thereby plundered the community.

During all this time, for long years, the Directors, good easy souls—those of them, we mean, who are not implicated in the robberies that were practised—appear to have been sound asleep and dreaming over the enormous dividends they were semi-annually receiving upon capital paid in, and hypothecated stock notes, upon which not a dollar was paid.

As we stated last week, prosecutions have at length been instituted against Messrs. Bachman and Longenecker, the late officers of the Bank, and it is to be hoped that full and ample justice may be meted out to them, according to their deserts. The following clear and pointed article, which we take from the *Examiner*, is a sufficient answer to the objections raised in a certain quarter against the arrest of these men:

The commencement of prosecutions against the former officers of the Lancaster Bank is a subject of much gratification to all right thinking men. It shows that the moral sense of our community has not yet become so entirely blunted, nor the regard of the people for wealth and station so overpowering, as to allow great wrongs to go unpunished, either through indifference or the influence of a servile respect for social position. Three gentlemen have stepped forward and demanded that the wrong-doers shall be brought to justice, and for this act they deserve the thanks of every honest man and woman in the community. Even if the laws should prove inadequate and the offenders escape, or if they should be found innocent of the alleged offences, the prosecutions will not have been instituted in vain. The community will be relieved of the charge of complicity with real or supposed crime, to which it would otherwise have been justly obnoxious.

An objection has been started to these prosecutions in some quarters, on the ground of *expediency*—it being alleged that the parties implicated were about paying certain monies to the bank which will now be withheld. We have no faith in this allegation.—If the parties are honest they will pay their debts so far as they are able—if they are not honest they wont.

But even if it were true that the bank will lose by the arrests, that is no reason why they should not have been made. The great interests of morality, justice and public policy were at stake, on the one hand, against a few paltry thousands on the other. The bank had no right to let the offenders escape in consideration of their refunding a small portion of the money they had appropriated to their own use. To do so, would be to offer a bonus for the commission of fraud. If it were once understood that bank officers could appropriate to their own use half a million of the funds entrusted to their care, and when discovered escape punishment by refunding five per cent. of the amount stolen, a direct premium for dishonesty would be offered.—The spirit and letter of the law is alike repugnant to such procedure. One of the earliest acts of our colonial legislature was the passage of a law (in 1718) declaring that *if any person or persons shall agree to take satisfaction for any stealing or goods stolen, such person shall forfeit* TWICE THE VALUE *of the sums agreed for or taken*; but no person shall be debarred from taking his goods back, *provided he prosecute the felon.* That law has received the approval of succeeding generations, for nearly a century and a half, and remains in force at this day. Thus it will be seen that the suggestion of those creditors of the bank who would "take satisfaction," in the shape of a few pennies on their respective claims, for a great wrong done the whole community, is not only inherently mean and dishonest in itself but directly in violation of the law. The assertion of one of the city papers, that "ninety-nine out of a hundred depositors would rather take their money and let them (the arrested parties) run," is surely a gross slander upon this community. We would fain hope that the assertion is not true of more than *one* out of a hundred.

One of the earliest laws of this commonwealth commences with the assertion that the object of all punishment is *the protection of society and the reformation of the offender;* and that object has continued to be recognized as the foundation of all criminal proceedings. Would it not be entirely defeated if no prosecution had been instituted in the present case? Would the offenders have been "reformed" by being let off on the payment of a small sum of money, or would the example have deterred others from the commission of like offences?

We repeat the opinion, that the gentlemen who instituted these prosecutions are entitled to, and will receive, the hearty thanks of every honest man and woman in the community.

THE WASHINGTON UNION.—The New York *Post* has a Washington correspondent, who says:—"The *Union* newspaper, which is designated as Mr. Buchanan's official organ, will undergo a complete change, under the management of John Appleton, of Maine.—It will be published with new type, in quarto form, like the London *Times*, with a variety of departments, for the purpose of adding to its interest as a miscellaneous journal. It is also intended to have a correspondent at every American legation, to insure valuable and correct information from abroad. For the foreign department, a gentleman has been suggested of distinguished qualifications, but whose political affinities are not considered as in harmony with the incoming Administration."

A Road to California.

A bill providing for the construction of a wagon road (to be guarded by U. S. troops,) from Fort Kearney, in Nebraska, to Honey Lake Valley, on the border of California, has passed both branches of Congress. The sum of $300,000 has been appropriated for the purpose of covering the cost of construction.

☞ The President of the United States has issued his Proclamation, convening the Senate on the 4th of March, (according to custom) for the purpose of acting on Executive business.

Dr. Kane.

We learn, with regret that the health of our distinguished countryman Dr. Kane, has not improved by his visit to Havana. A private despatch received by his family represents that he is in a dying condition. This, though probably not unexpected, will be sad news to his friends.

☞ We learn from the Harrisburg Telegraph, that the mammoth ox, fed by John McGovern, Esq., of Manheim township, in this county, was recently purchased by Mr. William Metzgar, of that Borough, and slaughtered on Friday last.

Corruption in Congress.

It will be recollected by our readers that several weeks ago grave charges of corruption were made against certain members of Congress—upon which a Select Committee, composed of members of all political parties, was appointed by the Speaker of the House for the purpose of investigating the matter. The Committee have been industriously engaged in ferreting out the corruption, and have at length made their report. But, at the very threshold of the proceedings, on Thursday last, and even before the report was read, Messrs. BENNETT, of New York, and GROW, of this State, the two leaders of Black Republicanism in the House, made a furious onslaught on the Committee, and endeavored to prevent the report from being received and read. They arraigned the Committee with bitter and acrimonious imputations, and manifested a degree of ardor and sensitivness truly surprising, but which evidently indicated extreme solicitude for the fate of their Black Republican colleagues implicated in the report. Their aim was to suppress the document entirely—but in this they signally failed. The indiscreet party zeal of these gentlemen has involved the Black Republican party in an issue which will scatter its forces into fragments before the people of the country.

The report was finally received and ordered to be printed. Four members are charged with conduct which induced the Committee to recommend their immediate expulsion—viz: Messrs. GILBERT, MATTESON, and EDWARDS, of New York, and Mr. WELCH, of Connecticut—all leading and active members of the Black Republican party. To the honor of the Democratic party, be it said that not a single member of that side of the House was either directly or indirectly implicated. The subject is postponed until to-morrow, when it will be seen whether the Black Republican party will add another plank to their platform, by following the lead of Messrs. BENNETT and GROW and identifying itself with the cause of the four members involved in the grave charges specified in the report and the resolutions.

We subjoin the resolutions. They show the conduct of each member charged on which the recommendation of expulsion is based.

The report reviews the testimony in the case of Mr. Gilbert, and concludes by offering the following resolutions:

Resolved, That William A. Gilbert, a member of the House from New York, did agree with F. F. C. Triplett to procure the passage of a resolution or bill through the present Congress for the purchase by Congress of certain copies of the book of the said Triplett on the Pension and Bounty Land Laws, in consideration that the said Triplett should allow him to receive a certain sum of money out of the appropriation for the purchase of the book.

Resolved, That William A. Gilbert did cast his vote on the Iowa land bill depending heretofore before this Congress for a corrupt consideration, consisting of seven square miles of land and some stock given, or to be given, to him.

Resolved, That William A. Gilbert, a member of this House from New York, be forthwith expelled from the House.

The following resolutions are appended to the report in the case of Mr. Edwards, of New York:

Resolved, That Francis S. Edwards, a member of this House from the State of New York, did, on the 23d day of December last, attempt to entice Robert T. Paine, a member of this House from the State of North Carolina, to vote contrary to the dictates of his judgment and conscience on a bill making a grant of lands to aid in the construction of a railroad in the Territory of Minnesota, by holding out a pecuniary consideration to the said Paine for his support of the said bill.

Resolved, That the said Francis S. Edwards be, and he is hereby, expelled from this House.

The following resolutions are appended to the report in the case of Mr. Welch of Connecticut:

Resolved, That William W. Welch did corruptly combine with William A. Gilbert, a member of this House from New York, to procure the passage of a resolution or bill through this House for the purchase of certain copies of the work of F. F. C. Triplett on the Pension and Bounty Land Laws for money to be paid to the said William A. Gilbert on its passage.

Resolved, That William W. Welch did attempt to procure money from James R. Sweeney for reporting favorably on the claim of Roxana Kimball from the Committe on Invalid Pensions at this Congress.

Resolved, That William W. Welch, a member of this House from Connecticut, be forthwith expelled from this House.

The following resolutions are appended to the report in the case of Mr. Matteson of New York:

Resolved, That Orsamus B. Matteson, a member of this House from the State of New York, did incite parties deeply interested in the passage of a joint resolution for construeing the Des Moines grant when here, and to use a large sum of money and other valuables corruptly, for the purpose of procuring the passage of said joint resolution through this House.

Resolved, That Orsamus B. Matteson, in declaring that a large number of the members of this House had associated themselves together, and pledged themselves each to the other not to vote for any law or resolution granting money or lands unless they were paid for it, has falsely and wilfully defamed the character of this House, and has proved himself unworthy to be a member thereof.

Resolved, That Orsamus B. Matteson, a member of this House for the State of New York, be, and is hereby, expelled therefrom.

From California.

Ex-Governor Burnett has been appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of California.—The Apacha Indians have been committing great depredations in Sonora. The copper mine at Fort Yuma is developing richly. The earthquake on the 9th extended throughout California and lasted several minutes. Walls and chimneys were prostrated, and one woman killed. People rushed out of their houses greatly alarmed, and many streams diverted from their used channels. The Supreme Court has declared invalid the act imposing a tax of fifty dollars on persons not intending to become citizens. It is rumored that a fillibustering expedition against Sonora is about leaving San Francisco. The California Price Current advises a suspension of shipments from the Atlantic cities, the markets in California being already over-stocked, and the receipts of merchandise continuing exceedingly heavy. The cold weather in the mountains has prevented mining operations.

A HYPERBOREAN STATE.—Notwithstanding the general belief in the chimerical character of the project for the erection of a new Commonwealth, to be called Superior, it seems to be steadily assuming definite shape and importance. The Legislatures of Wisconsin and Michigan have approved of and agreed to the surrender of their respective shares of the territory required for the new State. The matter will probably come before the next Congress, as a memorial on the subject is to be forwarded to Washington. This inchoate State will comprise afl the upper peninsula of Michigan, with its immense mineral resources, the Northern part of Wisconsin, and the Northern corner of Minnesota.

A TRAITOR AT HOME.—The notorious MANEAR, one of the three arch traitors of the present Legislature, visited his home week before last, accompanied by a "bully" from Harrisburg. A correspondent of the York Gazette says, that he and his "body guard," on reaching Dillsburg, were received by a large crowd of people, who signified their approval of his conduct by pelting him and his partner with *eggs* during their entire progress through the street!

The Usury Laws.

Any quantity of reasons, says the Harrisburg *Patriot*, have been given and every argument of any force used by the millionaires and merchant princes of Philadelphia and the large towns, to convince the Legislature that the usury laws should be repealed, and the trade in money left free. The last reason which attracted our attention was given by, or on the part of a wholesale merchant, who complains that, under the existing laws, only six per cent. can be exacted from country purchasers who fail to meet their notes when due, and ask an extension of time. Well, how much does Shylock want? He has sold his goods on time, at a profit of 20, 30 or 40 per cent., for which he has received his customer's note payable three or six months after date. This looks like a large profit—large enough to satisfy any christian man. But our merchant prince is not satisfied. If his debtor should fail to pay at the appointed time, he asks the privilege of making his own terms for an extension of time—of exacting the pound of flesh nearest the heart of his debtor—who would probably rather submit to any extortion than have his doors closed by the Sheriff.—This is the modest boon asked by the merchants and Shylocks of Philadelphia. If there is in the capital, among the one hundred and thirty-three representatives of the people now in session there, either reason, humanity, or christianity, they will lose no time in setting the seal of reprobation upon this sordid, selfish movement of the money kings—men whose souls are locked up in banks and safes, and who would squeeze the hearts of the poor in their hands if they thought they could turn the drops of blood into gold. It is idle to say that a repeal of the usury laws would make money cheap by creating greater competition in the market. The direct contrary has been the result wherever the experiment has been tried; and, indeed, if it were not so we should not see the money power asking for the measure. All the fine spun arguments which we read in favor of the repeal are mere paid for sophistries, as flimsy as a spiders's web. Capital has already too many advantages over labor, and a wise Legislature would rather curtail than extend them. A darker cloud—a more killing blight could not be spread over the prospects of Pennsylvania than the repeal of the usury laws. Led astray by the same false reasoning which is now used, the Legislature of Wisconsin tried the experiment, and the State was nearly ruined in a year—whole counties were mortgaged for money borrowed at 25, 30, 40, and even 50 per cent., and the mortgages foreclosed in chancery—ruin stood, like a frightful spectre, at every hearth-stone, and bankruptcy, brought about by free trade in money, was the rule, not the exception. The usury law was re-enacted by the succeeding Legislature, but for five years the State staggered under the blow, and although seven years have elapsed since the re-enactment, she has not yet entirely recovered from the evil consequences of the repeal. If the shavers and sharpers of the commercial metropolis desire free trade in money, let them have a special act for their exclusive benefit, giving them the privilege they ask in all transactions among themselves—but save the rest of the State from the baneful effects of such a ruinous, cut-throat policy.

Religion--North and South.

The following striking appeal to the Christian charity and sober sense of the clergy of the Northern Methodist Episcopal Church, forms part of a letter from the editor of the Nashville *Christian Advocate* to Bishop Morris, of Ohio:

"Will you, reverend sir, interpose? Will you and your colleagues throw oil upon the troubled waters, and strive to calm and quiet the prejudices of such of your preachers and people as are warring against the interests of the Church of Christ? They know not whereof they affirm. They do not know the condition of the South; they are unacquainted with the elements of Southern society. Thousands of the citizens of the North are misled by designing men, who cater to their passions and prejudices. They judge of slavery by the representations of irresponsible writers who caricature Southern institutions and slander Southern Christians. Will they be persuaded to let us alone? We are doing a great work. We preach Christ, and not politics. We are looking after the sheep in the wilderness, not as wolves to scatter, tear and slay, but as shepherds, to feed and provide for the flock of Christ. You have full enough to employ all your men and your means in instructing the horde of ignorant and infidel men who throng your cities, skirt your prairies, dwell upon your sea and lake shores, build your railroads, dig your ditches, and serve as menials in the houses and on the farms of your wealthy citizens.

"What is your church doing for the free blacks at the North? Sir, I was surprised when I looked at the statistics of your Cincinnati conference. The returns show that you have in the bounds of that conference ninety-eight colored members! My dear sir, how many thousands of colored people live in your great Queen City, to say nothing of the country around? And with all the sympathy of your preachers and people for the black man, you have less than one hundred members in your whole conference. Compare Cincinnati with the city of Charleston—a city with perhaps a population not one-third so great as yours—and there you will find a colored membership in the Methodist Church of not less than five thousand. In the South Carolina conference alone there are no less than forty-five thousand colored people in communion with the church! Well may I ask, who cares for the soul of the negro? Ah, sir! it is easy to say, be ye warm, and be ye fed, but the good Samaritan ministers to the wants of your suffering. Say to your brethren, 'Let them alone; they are following the example of Jesus and the instructions of the inspired Apostles. Let them alone; and go and preach the Gospel to your own poor.'"

Reducing the State Debt.

Penrose's plan for reducing the State debt by selling the Main Line for half its value and investing a large share of the proceeds in Sunbury and Erie Railroad stock, is laughed at even by his Black Republican associates.—If the Main Line is sold at all, it must be for money, and if the State debt is to be reduced, it must be by redeeming a portion of the loans now overdue with that money. But it strikes us that it would be very foolish policy to sell the Main Line now at any price short of its actual cost, nor do we believe that any bill for that purpose can be passed by the present Legislature. We should like to see the Sunbury and Erie road finished, but it is little short of madness to ask a loan from the State, oppressed as she already is with debt. That is a plan for reducing the liabilities of the Commonwealth all the credit of which belongs properly to Mr. Penrose.—*Patriot & Union.*

The Tonnage Tax.

An effort is being made to abolish the tonnage tax on freight carried over the Pennsylvania Railroad, or, to express the thing in proper terms, to filch $300,000 yearly from the State Treasury. It certainly would be a fine operation if those engaged in this design could succeed, but viewing the fact of $40,000,000 of debt as an incumbrance under which the State is now laboring, we think that giving away $300,000 a year would be a case of liberality, which the circumstances of the State finances do not warrant.

The great debt was contracted in building the public improvements. The heaviest part of the money was expended in the canal extending to Pittsburg. A private company subsequently built on the banks of this canal, or at least beside it, a railroad calculated to take from it a great part of its trade. Permission to do this was given this company only upon the condition of paying a partial compensation for the loss which the State improvements would sustain, and we can see no reason why they should ever be released from paying it.—*Easton Sentinel.*

☞ Governor Pollock has offered a reward of one thousand dollars for the arrest of the murderer of Mr. Norcross, who was killed on the 16th of January last, on the line of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Murder at Altoona.

A young physician, named Samuel T. Norcross, a native of Lexington, Mass., was brutally murdered at Altoona, in this State, on the morning of Friday, the 16th of January, by a man named David Stringer McKim, who started from Pittsburg with him as a traveling companion, Norcross being quite unwell in consequence of an abscess in the side.—The murderer is still at large, though it has been but a short time since he was seen in this city.

High Constable Blackburn, of this city, has been on the search for McKim for some time past. The officer, after visiting Pittsburg and obtaining a full description of the alleged murderer, visited Chester and Delaware counties, where it was found that he was charged with the larceny of 23 horses. He also discovered that McKim had three wives, his lawful one residing in Delaware, and the others in New Jersey.

At Altoona it was ascertained that a man answering the description was seen lurking about the building in which the inquest upon the murdered man was held until a verdict of murder was rendered by the jury. He then disappeared, and was not traced again until the officer arrived at Reading; here it was found that he had spent several days, and then left with two women of loose morals, after having purchased dresses, jewelry, &c., for them. From this place he went to Pottsville with his female companions, rented and furnished a house for them at an expense of about $800, and here he would have been arrested but for the foolishness of a gambler who made his acquaintance.

It appears that while the supposed murderer was on his way to Pottsville with the women, the gambler entered into conversation with one of the women, and by this means received an invitation to visit the house to be opened by their friend. The gambler, finding that the man had some money, determined to inveigle him into a game, and strip him, but before he could accomplish his object, he (the gambler,) saw a description of Norcross's companion and supposed murderer, but, instead of having McKim arrested immediately, he (the gambler) commenced telegraphing to the Mayor of Philadelphia for a fuller description, and after two days had been spent in this way, the gambler came to the conclusion that McKim was the man, and telegraphed to the Mayor to send an officer up.

In the meantime the gambler had informed one of the women of the discovery he had made, and requested her to keep quiet; but she, feeling, I suppose, some compassion for the man that had clothed and fed her, informed McKim that he was suspected, and he, without admitting the truth, left Pottsville two days before the officer from Philadelphia arrived. McKim was seen after this in Philadelphia, but all traces now have been lost of him. His trunk is still at the Pennsylvania depot, and in it is a carpenter's rule with his name upon it. The furniture which he had in the house at Pottsville, and the jewelry which he gave the women, has all been seized by the authorities of Pottsville, and will be sold, and the proceeds given to the friends of the deceased. The women that lived with him were hooted and pelted with snow balls as they were going to the depot to leave the town. McKim is about 6 feet high, stoop shouldered; sandy hair, bald in front; high cheek bones, and there is a scar in the palm and on the back of one of his hands, caused by a pistol shot.—*N. American.*

The Bond Street Tragedy.

The New York correspondent of the Daily News, has the following in reference to the supposed murderers of Dr. Burdell:

NEW YORK, Feb. 18, 1857.

The Cunningham tribe being safely lodged in prison, public excitement is slowly subsiding. Mrs. Cunningham, Mr. Eckel and Mr. Snodgrass, are in the Tombs, where they are badgered by reporters from the different newspapers, by Councilmen and Aldermen, by hosts of city politicians, and every one else who can manage to spare the time to call on them. Every one of these persons come away with their notions about Eckel and Mrs. Cunningham being the guilty parties, very much confused. People are now able to view the facts of the case more coolly, and the suspected parties are gaining many friends who believe in their entire innocence. Out of the city, the guilt of Mrs. Cunningham is considered as settled—but this is far from the case. It should be remembered that the testimony has all been *ex parte*—that several witnesses, whose statements conflicted with the Coroner's favorite theory of the guilt of Eckel and Mrs. C., were not allowed to testify—that at the time of the marriage, in which Eckel is alleged to have personated Dr. Burdell, he had only been acquainted with Mrs. Cunningham ten days—that a widow, with five children and no fortune, excepting what could be gained by a dangerous crime, was no prize for a wealthy, gay, and comparatively young man like Eckel—and that had he determined to kill Burdell, there are many ways of doing it with less danger to himself. Another thing to be noticed, is, that the whereabouts of the Doctor. on the evening of the murder, has never yet been ascertained.

In the meantime the suspected parties act as though they were convinced of their innocence and their final acquittal. Eckel says he has no fears whatever; and Mrs. Cunningham, though not so demonstrative, expressess the same feelings. They both behave in their cells, like persons well brought up, and are treated as such. Their demeanor towards those that visit them is mild and polite, and they act like the well-bred intelligent lady and gentleman.

Snodgrass expresses himself as generally disgusted with the whole affair. He asserts his entire innocence, and reads the papers most assiduously; the other day he called on Mr. Raymond, of the *Times*, to thank him for a favorable article about himself and family, that appeared in that paper. He was formerly a member of Dr. Potts' Church, a friend of the family occupying the same pew, and is considered by those that know him best, as a reckless youth, with little brains, and none except trivial faults.

THE OHIO MAL-PRACTICE CASE.—Several weeks ago a convict in the Ohio Penitentiary was troubled with inflammation of the eyes, and was forced, against his will and protest, to submit to an operation by a physician of the prison. The result was total blindness of one eye. The physician, not satisfied with the mischief he had caused, insisted upon operating on the other eye. The man again protested and resisted—but he was bound and compelled again to submit, and the consesequence was total blindness of the other eye. What rendered the case more distressing was that the poor fellow had been convicted on not very reliable testimony, and his time of service was on the eve of expiring. The matter was brought before the Legislature, and referred to a committee, who, after investigating the facts, made a unanimous report "accompained with joint resolutions requiring the Attorney General to institute criminal proceedings against the Doctor and his abettors; also to prosecute civilly for damages to the patient; and finally admitting the unfortunate patient to the Asylum for the Blind."

A NEW DODGE.—A few days since a well dressed, gentlemanly looking man, leading a beautiful boy some five years of age, entered a jeweller's shop in Broadway, New York, and asked the price of a handsome gold bracelet; it was $125. The gentleman examined, and finally bought the article and put it in his pocket. He then took out a large purse, full of shining pieces and opened it. At that moment, he suddenly exclaimed, with a look of alarm, "Why! where is Charley?" and dashing the plump purse on the counter, he rushed from the store, in frantic search of his boy who had disappeared.

The clerk awaited the gentleman's return for some time, with the purse lying where he had cast it down in his excitement. No fear of trickery was entertained, as the purse evidently contained money amounting to twice the value of the bracelet. But when hour after hour passed without the gentleman's return, and it was found that the purse only contained brass medals, the size of half eagles, the clerk and his master both came to the conclusion that their customer was a slippery one, and that his innocent looking boy was not being brought up in the way he should go.

BANK BILLS.—The following bank bills have been reported in the Legislature from the Bank Committee of the House:

A bill to incorporate the Lewisburg Bank; a bill to incorporate the State Capital Bank; a bill to incorporate the Pittston Bank; to incorporate the Kittanning Bank; to incorporate the Allegheny City Bank.

GARROTING.—The people of New York are becoming very suspicious in regard to garroters, and at night they half suspect every man they see of belonging to that fraternity. A correspondent from that city gives a case substantially thus:

"The latest case of garroting presents some novel features. A few nights ago, a gentleman, Mr. B——, was walking down Eighth Street, and noticed a man apparently dodging his footsteps for several blocks. Soon he rushed hastily by him and again fell into the rear. Our hero clapped his hands to his vest pocket, and lo! his watch was missing. In a moment he smelt a rat, and being rather courageous, wheeled suddenly around, pulled out a revolver and presented it towards the mysterious stranger, and demanded a restoration of his watch. The latter attempted to escape, but he of the revolver threated to fire at him, the stranger paused, pulled out a watch and hastily handed it to the other. They then both ran off in opposite directions. Mr. B., arrived at home, immediately related the adventure to his wife; but what was his surprise, when that good lady pointed out to him his watch, hanging over the mantlepiece, where he had forgetfully left it when he started out. The watch obtained from the mysterious stranger was examined, and difference between the two was obvious. So Mr. B—— found to his sorrow that he had unwittingly committed a highway robbery, and was liable to imprisonment. He has not known a moment's peace of mind since, and is afraid to advertise for the owner of the watch, lest he may be some unflinching Shylock, who will insist on having the innocent "highway robber" punished as the law directs."

☞ A very sad case of seduction and suicide is narrated in the Cincinnati papers, as having developed itself on Saturday afternooon last. It appears that a German named Kaiser, who kept a meat store in Vine street, near Allison, had married fourteen years ago in Germany, and recently immigrated to Cincinnati, and commenced a successful business there—his family consisting of a wife and one female child. His wife was known as an apparently modest, quiet, hard working woman, well esteemed by all who knew her. About two months ago, Mr. Kaiser being sick, his wife took charge of the shop, and Mr. K. coming down stairs one evening, was astonished on detecting his wife and a man named Glossner, who kept a liquor store near, in an illicit amour. He drove Glossner out, but the seducer escaped. When Mr. K. returned to his shop he found it closed and his wife gone.—She was never seen alive again, and was supposed to be concealed somewhere. The villain who seduced her, rather gloried in his crime. Kaiser sadly pursued his business, and applied for a divorce. On Saturday last, when the ice broke in the Miami canal, the dead body of a woman was revealed horribly disfigured. It proved to be that of Mrs. Kaiser. An immense crowd attended the coroner's inquest, and the fact was established that on the evening of her crime she proceeded directly from her husband's store to the canal, where she put an end to her existence. She had on precisely the same clothes, had the keys of the store in her pocket, and the money she had that day taken in. Those who knew her, believed the offence was her first one, and that having been detected, she at once determined to die rather than live in disgrace.

Threats of lynching were made against Glossner, on learning the facts; but the police interfered, and saved the offender, to be dealt with by no other Court, perhaps, than that one *where offences never fail of punishment, either in this life or the next.—Dispatch.*

THE ISLAND OF CUBA.—The Queen of the Antilles is the glory of Spain. She is guarded with care and cherished with affection. Cuba contains, from thirty-two to thirty-five thousand square miles of the richest soil, and its products are immensely valuable. The population at the close of 1855 was estimated at 1,445,462, divided, according to Mr. Thrasher—whose misfortunes became so much a subject of interest with his American friends—as follows:

Whites,	564,698, or 39 per cent.
Free Colored,	219,170, or 15 "
Slaves,	662,599, or 46 "

This population has increased in the following ratio:

In 1775 it was	170,370
1817	554,998
1827	700,486
1841	1,007,624
1850	1,247,230
1855	1,449,462

Among the free blacks, strange to say, are a large number of property holders, and they are by no means so generally degraded as their brethren who are slaves.

The estates of the island are estimated to be as follows:—Sugar estates, 1,442; tobacco, 912; coffee, 1682; and grazing, 9,930. The annual value of the products is about $60,000,000, consisting in part of—sugar, $18,699,924; fruits, $14,839,050; molasses, $1,402,728; cigars, $1,267,496; tobacco leaf, $500,000; coffee, about $6,000,000; according to the tables of 1852. The imports of the island are about $30,000,000 annually, and the exports about $28,000,000.

VENUS AND JUPITER.—Our readers have no doubt noticed for some weeks these planets in the south-west. They approached each other gradually until Wednesday evening when they began to recede from each other, Jupiter going down earlier every day, and on the 11th of April coming into conjunction with the sun. The present time affords a favorable opportunity for comparing the brilliancy of these planets, the brightest of the whole; and it will be at once seen that although the mass of Jupiter is many hundred times larger than that of Venus, its light, compared with that of the latter, is faint and feeble—Venus being now quite near the earth, and nearly at its greatest brilliancy, whilst the distance of Jupiter from us is ten times as great. Indeed the light of Venus is now so intense that the planet can probably be seen without the aid of a telescope, every clear afternoon, about 3 o'clock, when on the meridian.

For the Intelligencer.

CHESTER COUNTY, Feb. 3, 1857.

MESSRS EDITORS:—It may appear extraordinary, but it is strictly true, that a very few weeks ago I was so far from having any thought of writing on the subject, that I had not even let the idea enter my mind that there could be men found in the ranks of the Democratic party—in the old Keystone State—so lost to all sense of honor and regardless of their own reputation, as to cast aside the obligations that they were under to their constituency, which has been the case with Manear, Wagonseller and Lebo, in voting against Col. JOHN W. FORNEY, the Democratic nominee for U. S. Senator. With what intention this was done is best known to the authors of so gross and damning an insult to the Democracy of the whole Union.

After the expression of indignation from all quarters, denouncing the traitors, who could have supposed that there would be found one man in the State of Pennsylvania, professing to be a Democrat, that had the temerity to to publicly boast that he had *Cameronized* the Legislature in favor of a Bank to be located at the village of Downingtown. And yet such is the fact. I, for one, was slow to believe the report, until I had such evidence from those whose veracity is unimpeachable, that I could no longer doubt the fact. Would it not be well, Messrs Editors, to give all such characters a wide berth, when they make their appearance at Harrisburg.

After passing through a sufficiently tempestuous campaign, in which I took an active part, I hoped to enjoy the victory in tranquility; but it is necessary for every true Democrat to be on the alert, and ward off the dirk of defamation which is aimed at the vitals of the party.

Seeing others contend with the storm, the fury of which you have borne a full share, and, in a measure have broken and rendered less hazardous to those who fight in the same ranks with you, I consider it the duty of all true Democrats to assist in the battle, and endeavor to present an unbroken front to the enemy. Though mutiny may occasionally break out, we shall be able to manacle the mutineers, and enjoy an enviable composure even in the midst of the tempest, especially as we know that on the 4th of March, a Captain will take the helm of the Ship of State who cannot be deceived in his bearings.

Yours, CHESTER.

The Editor's Book Table.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK.

The March number has been received. The steel engraving in this number is indeed a beautiful thing—it is entitled the "Mitherless Bairn" and is one of that perfect execution always to be found in GODEY. The fine colored fashion plates and patterns will be particularly prized by the ladies. The contributors are the first writers in the country, and well is the literary character of the *Book* maintained. Published by L. A. GODEY, Philadelphia.—$3 per annum—25 cts a single copy.

THE PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL JOURNAL.

The February number is on our table. Among its contents are the proceedings of the State Association at Harrisburg, several speeches by Gov. Pollock, and others, Reports by J. F. Stoddard and others, &c. Altogether this is an interesting Number. Terms, $1 per annum, in advance Edited by THOS. H. BURROWES, Lancaster, Pa.

☞ It is stated that in a circle of one hundred miles around Cincinnati, during the last six months, between 60,000 and 70,000 hogs have died of a distemper resembling in some, symptoms of cholera, in others, erysipilas, which seems to be incurable. Western New York has also been ravaged by the same pest, one distiller in the neighborhood of the town of Jordan having lost 15,