Bradford Reporter.

Towanda, Wednesday, Jan'y 26, 1848.

The Cotton Manufacturer and the Cotton Grower.

Fierce struggles of sectional interest have distinguished the political action of the people of this Union, from the period since it was assumed that Congress had the right to engraft the Protective principle in the Revenue system. Most of the Middle and Northern states have more or less interest in Manufactures: some of them have their Capital chiefly invested in them. To encourage and sustain these manufactures, and professedly to protect the labor of the artizans of this country thus employed, against the ruinous pauper-labor system of Europe, Congress is, ever and anon, pressed to adjust the Tariff Laws, by high rates of duties on all fabrics which come in competition with American manufactures.

These applications meet with uncompromising resistance from the Southern and non-manufacturing states. The same influences operate in both cases. The manufacturer wants a monopoly for his fabrics: the South will not consent in this way to pay a bounty to Northern Manufacturers; it wants free competition—unrestricted trade—for the reason that they are the growers and not the manufacturers of Cotton. The Constitution is successfully appealed to, by the South, as positively forbidding legislation for the benefit of one section of the Union, to the prejudice of the other. These conflicting interests have, at times, been the cause of fearful agitations: and have resulted in a settled jealousy between the North and South. What the South would do, were it equally its interest to favor a high tariff, is very evident, from the strenuous position always persisted in by those States, when the profits of Slave labor are likely to suffer a diminution. There is a mighty little difference, in this respect, between the demands of the Cotton Manufacturer and the Cotton Grower. In either case, Congress is invoked to *protect* Capital. In the North, Capital is invested in Manufactures; in the South, it is invested in Slaves. In the North, it seeks to benefit the Capitalists and the Artizan; in the South, the Capitalist alone is benefitted. The North, with a show of plausibility, aver that the protection they ask for, is *not direct*, but incidental. That they do not seek to diminish the revenue, for the sake of protection, but to combine the advantages of both. They protest against the ad valorem rates, because they lessen the value of their property, by a free influx of the foreign article. The South makes even a poorer show. It demands of Congress direct protection of Slave labor—a positive interference in its behalf; and asserts, that by the terms of the Constitution they are entitled to it. Hence the Slave-holder has run mad, at the *prospect of limiting Slavery to its* legitimate boundaries. He threatens the dissolution of the Union, and pours out his wrath on the North without stint. For what does he do this? Simply because his investment in Human Slaves is likely to become less valuable. The profits on his Capital are to be diminished—the human being he holds in bondage are to be depreciated in value. But why are they to depreciate in value? No single right of the slave-holder is encroached, by prohibiting the further extension of Slavery. They have the same soil to till—the same guaranties and laws to protect them—whether Slavery is, or is not, extended. Suppose we had no rupture with Mexico, and no soil of hers to acquire?—is it pretended that the South would not be in the enjoyment of all its rights? What then is there in this rupture, and the probable acquisition of territory, that affects her rights? How can the acquisition of this territory depreciate or sustain the value of Slave property? In no possible way, but one: and that is, that Congress, or some power, having the right so to do, gave the slave holder the assurance, that new territory should be annexed, and that it should be Slave territory.

In no way, only on a supposition of this kind, can the "Wilmot Proviso" affect the rights of the South. If they have been breeding Slaves, and raising them in numbers beyond what is now needed in the now Slave states, with the assurance that Government would by the lives and treasure of the country, acquire territory, and secure a home market for this surplus—then, on such a presumption, the value of Slave property might depreciate by the adoption of the Wilmot Proviso—but if, as is the case, no such market was promised or expected, then they have no cause to complain. What right has the South to demand that Government shall provide for them a home market for their slaves—or new territory for their labor, as the old became wasted and impoverished? Is it not asking for protection to Capital, invested, not in machinery, but in human slaves. Can anything more be made out of it, but a struggle for Capital; a guarantee of profits in Slave labor and Slave traffic? This is all that there is at the bottom of the fierce and threatening attitude of the South. If Northern manufacturers, or rather capitalists, ask for protection to their investments, in the manufacture of cotton and other purposes—straightway the slave holder is in arms; he blusters, calls conventions, and solemnly assures us, that if laws are to be made the especial benefit of the Cotton Manufacturer, the Cotton Grower will demand a dissolution of the Union. Thus is the conflict carried on between the Cotton Grower and the Cotton Manufacturer. The former, if he is not protected, will dissolve the Union; and if the same boon is promised the Manufacturer, the Union must be dissolved. The South will have it her own way, or down comes the stars and stripes.

Recall of Gen. Scott.

That Gen. Scott is recalled, is now pretty certain. The correspondent of the Pennsylvanian gives the following reason for his return:—"You have no doubt been made acquainted before this, with the fact of Gen. Scott's recall. Gen. Towson took out the despatches himself, and will wait for the Commander-in-Chief at Puebla, where the Court Martial is to convene instead of Perote, as previously determined. The motives for Gen. Scott's recall, however, has been erroneously stated. I have the highest authority for asserting that his presence here is deemed indispensable to a proper understanding of the mode in which the war is to be hereafter pursued. This, *and none other*, is the cause of his recall."

The Southern Policy.

We have never for a moment doubted the policy of the South, in the annexation of territory to our Southern border. We have been deeply impressed with the conviction that there is but one way of perpetuating Slavery, and that is, by diffusing or extending it. That the only way for it to wear out and disappear, is its confinement to the States where exists; that there is no danger that any of the Free States will ever revive it; or that any States formed out of Free Territory will ever adopt it.

Slavery will waste and die in the midst of a dense population; it must have space to diffuse itself, for the superficial culture of the soil by slaves, absolutely requires that the fields worked by them, should be left fallow, and that too for many years, that they may gather new energy. In no other way can Slave labor be profitable, or compete with Free Labor. It is idle to attempt to evade these facts, by the miserable subterfuges and inventions of politicians.

Mr. Calhoun boldly and frankly declared that the annexation of Texas was a measure adopted by the South, for the protection and extension of Slavery. Mr. Calhoun is aware—every slave-holder knows, and if interrogated will not deny—that the confinement of Slavery to the states where it exists, will prove its utter extinction. It is rank deception to attempt to create the impression that the South does not seek for the acquisition of Mexican territory to extend Slavery over it.

But, we commenced with the intention only of calling attention to the opinions of the South. We might select from most of the Southern papers, to show this; although some of them conceal the true intention of the South, as their best policy—but will confine ourselves, for the present, to one of the leading Southern journals. The extract is from the Savannah Georgian—as follows:

"THE ACQUISITION OF TERRITORY, NECESSARY TO THE SOUTH.—Is it to be understood from the arguments of Southern, as well as Northern Statesman, that the institution of slavery is to be continued to the area which it now occupies? and that no more territory should be added to the Union, upon which it can be established? If so, it is time that the attention of the southern people should be turned to this view of the subject. That is a most selfish policy, unworthy of a great, magnanimous nation, which legislates for the present, forgetful of the future, which is willing to profit by the sagacity and patriotism of its ancestry, while careless of transmitting the same, or similar blessings to posterity, which would be disposed, for the purpose of avoiding immediate trouble and harrasment, to bequeath injustice, oppression, danger and ruin to unborn generations. Yet such we pronounce to be the policy advocated by southern statesmen who oppose the acquisition of territory, without the Wilmot prohibition, upon the ground that it will throw the apple of discord into our present confederacy. What if it does? It is high time that the danger should be met, appreciated and overcome, as it will be; and that is a coward policy which shrinks from the contest.

Is the principle to be firmly established, as well by the votes of southern as of northern men, that slavery is to be forever restricted to the country where it now exists? What a prolific germ of ruin will it bequeath to our children! Has human eye ever been able to discover in the future, the period, however remote, when the institution of slavery will cease to exist? Do not reason, observation, experience, common sense, all inform us that the lapse of time increases, instead of diminishing the dangers of abolition? That slavery, from day to day, by the natural increase of the negro race, is establishing itself upon a broader basis, and that the dangers of emancipation are proportionably increased? Does not the precedent of emancipation by the British West India Islands conclusively show us that it is a measure ruinous at once to the white and colored race, most fruitful in evil, most barren of good? And where is there to be found a shadow of reason for supposing that the result of such a step in our own country would be more deleterious at a future, than we know that it must be at the present time?

Slavery is an institution which we of the south believe to be a blessing to both races of our people. We proclaim that our slaves are better treated, better clothed, better fed, more intelligent, more happy than the laboring classes of any part of the world, and defy contradiction. We believe that true philanthropy is opposed to emancipation—that an enlightened humanity shrinks from its consequences with horror. Have we reason to believe that our children will think otherwise? that the lapse of a few years will create so great a revolution in all the relations of social life and the deep-seated springs of human action, that what would be a curse to us would be a blessing to them?—The position is untenable, the idea absurd. By the dispensation of providence, operating through the agency of man, slavery has been introduced and is now established in this country. It exists for wise and *benificent purposes*. At any rate, we cannot see how it is to be abolished.

Our duty, therefore, is to legislate as if the relation of master and slave was permanently established; our policy should be to regard the interests of the master; our humanity, to increase the value of the slave, for in proportion as he is valuable, he is happy,—in proportion as he is valueless, he is miserable. Now, we inquire, if slavery be forever confined to its present limits, if, while every other institution of the country is thriving and prospering, this is to be cramped, restricted, tied down; if, with the increase of the slaves there is to be no increase of the area of territory which shall hold them, will not the interests of the master be sacrificed? will not the value of the slave be destroyed? will not the ability of the owner to supply his wants be diminished? will not both of them suffer? and is the time so far removed as not to be regarded at all, when such a policy will make our negro race as miserable as the laboring population of the British isles? We shall recur to this subject again."

* * *

"The slaves will accumulate in a few of the states of the Union—accumulate immensely by importation from the other states, and the natural increase at home—until the three or four millions, which are now held in servitude, will have trebled or quadrupled in numbers. In proportion as their number is increased in a limited space, their value will be diminished. In proportion as their value is diminished, their comforts will be lessened. And it is not unreasonable to believe that the time will come when that convulsion, over which northern fanaticism would revel with such fiendish delight, may be effected, and when the value of slave property will have become so trifling that the owner will be more than willing to get rid of his slaves. But what a horrible freedom will that be to the African! A freedom proceeding from the utter worthlessness of his labor, which pre-supposes starvation, with all its concomitants of desperate crime, and wretched degradation."

We have other evidences of the Southern policy—in the shape of extracts from the newspapers of the South, public meetings, &c.,—which we shall present to our readers in good time.

"Pennsylvania's favorite Son."

We see that some of the papers are still applying this title to Mr. Buchanan. It is a great mistake. He is no longer a citizen of our State, having voluntarily expatriated himself. He lately wrote a letter to the Commissioners of Lancaster co., repudiating his residence, in order to avoid the payment of taxes on about $55,000, money at interest, and succeeded in relieving himself from a tax of 5 or 600 dollars. Thus he voluntarily relinquishes his citizenship to avoid paying the taxes necessary for the support of the government, and the payment of our debts.

Prescription and the Washington Union.

When the Senate of the United States, for an imaginary insult to their dignity, refused the editors of the Washington Union access to the privileged portions of their chamber, debarring them the right of lolling upon their sofas, the Organ, tuned to its highest key, sent a most prolonged complaint over the length and breadth of the land. Its cry then, was "proscription," "proscription." Their unjust and high-handed act in excluding its editors—a direct thrust at the liberty of the press—struck a new chord in the Organ, and relieved its usual monotony, by eliciting from it a new tune. It harped upon the flagrancy and injustice of the persecution. It appealed to the patriotism and independence of the country, to maintain the freedom of the press, to assert the liberty of speech, and preserve inviolate their rights and privileges. A most holy and steadfast horror of any attempt to stifle public opinion, also, seemed to pervade it, and it ceased not to "cry aloud and spare not." The call was not unheeded: it produced a simultaneous and universal burst of indignation from the public press, while the Democracy of the country gave it substantial proofs of sympathy and encouragement. A mighty voice—not to be unheeded—that thought and speech should be untrammelled, went forth. The triumph is complete—the vindication perfect—and applying the diapason, the Organ goes back to its wonted key, and deals out its old tunes.

The Senate, very wisely, at their present session, have rescinded the obnoxious resolution, and the proscribed editors are once more in the full enjoyment of all the liberties, privileges and rights of the most favored.

We now call the attention of the Union to a case of proscription still more flagrant and unjust. One aiming more directly at the Freedom of the press, and striking more boldly at liberty of speech and thought. In the case of the Union, the body which denounced it, did it under the impulse of resentment for a fancied insult; in this case, the exercise of the hones' and conscientious convictions of the reason is denied, and papers proscribed for advocating doctrines taught by the immortal Jefferson. We allude to the flagrant and proscriptive conduct adopted toward the Cleaveland Herald, and the democratic papers of this Congressional district, in the distribution of government printing. We are told as plainly as can be said—"You must give up all attempts to think for yourself; you must become mere vassals and mercenaries, or you will be denounced and proscribed." Such is virtally the language made use of by those whom we have aided to place in power. Such conduct aims directly at the Independence of the press; if carried out, it would corrupt and subsidize that guardian of the people's rights, and make it a mere tool in the hands of power.

But we shall now look in vain for the storm of indignation with which the Union overwhelmed those who sought to trammel the actions of that press. Its thunders are hushed, its anathemas are spent. The patronage of the General Government can go to reward the *leperos* of the Democratic party—honest advocates for Free Soil can be proscribed without eliciting from the Organ one note of disapprobation. It is too busy, scolding, fretting, coaxing and denouncing—and keeping Members of of Congress "right side up."

Delegates to the State Convention.

Many of the counties in the State have elected their Delegates to the Democratic Fourth of March Convention. As that Convention elects Delegates to the National Convention, the results in the different counties are looked to with some anxiety. From the Pennsylvanian and the Democratic Union, we would be led to conclude that the indications were that this State was *unanimous* for James Buchanan. This is not the fact. Those papers are industriously endeavoring to deceive the people upon that point. They are attempting to mis-represent the true state of things, to make capital for their favorite. The truth is, that of the Delegates already elected, *two to one are unfavorable to Mr. Buchanan*. Philadelphia city and twenty-five counties have already elected, and the result is Mr. Buchanan has but 21 Delegates, while forty three are known to be against him.

The result in this State is extremely doubtful. The friends of the other candidates are confident that Mr. Buchanan will be in the minority in the State Convention. From present appearances, and from information which we think we can rely upon, the Convention will be very close. So nearly balanced, that its decision will exert but little influence (besides the Delegates) for the successful candidate.

The efforts of the friends of Mr. Buchanan to deceive the public, are disreputable, indeed. The people do not estimate a man's worth in ratio to his chances for success, and this over-weening and unscrupulous zeal can effect nothing.

The Difference.

The *Pennsylvanian* very justly expresses its surprise and indignation that the Federal members of the House should vote that the war "was unconstitutional and commenced by the President,"—when, *in the last Congress*, the Federal members generally, some of whom are now members, voted that the war existed by "the act of Mexico." What excuse will palliate such vile conduct, or explain such outrageous inconsistency? They stand in an unenviable and ridiculous position. But the Pennsylvanian has expressed no horror for the conduct of those Democrats, who without exception voted against the extension of Slavery, and at the next session, voted the other way. Have not the Federalists as good right to claim the vote against the War, a triumph, as the Pennsylvanian has, the vote against the Proviso? There is a difference, it is true; one inconsistency was committed by Democrats—the other by Federalists.

New York Theatrical Company.

This company, under the management of Mr. J. H. POWELL, it will be seen by an advertisement in another column, proposes to entertain our citizens on each evening of the coming week, with a series of dramas, plays, farces, &c. The Theatre will be opened on Monday evening next at Woodruff's Hotel. Mr. Powell is well known to our citizens as an excellent performer and an unrivalled manager. He will meet, we have no doubt, with his usual reception.

POSTAGE UPON NEWSPAPERS.—Unless Congress should grossly disregard the public wish, the unjust alterations made in the postage law, in regard to newspapers, at the last session, will speedily be repealed. The Pennsylvania Legislature has instructed our Senators and Representatives in Congress, to vote for its repeal.

Proceedings of the Penn'a Legislature.

[Correspondence of the Reporter.]

HARRISBURG, Jan. 19, 1848.

A new feature has been introduced into Pennsylvania legislation. The House of Representatives have adopted a resolution inviting the clergyman of this place to attend at the hour of commencement in the morning and open their deliberations by prayer. As the resolution is general in its terms, it, of course, extends to all denominations, and the pastors of the several churches by common consent, take their respective turns in performing the sacred office of chaplain to the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania. The House also passed a resolution to close the Hall on sabbath day, which serves effectually to exclude loafers and loungers from idling away their time in the members seats while the members are at church. The Senate, which is under whig influence, still sits in darkness. They offer up no public prayers as they commence the business of the day and their doors are open on the sabbath, for the admission of visitors as well as members.

In accordance with the requirements of the constitution, Francis R. Shunk, the Gov. elect was sworn into office in the Hall of the House of Representatives—the speaker and members of the Senate, Heads of department, &c, being present at the ceremony. After the requisite oath of office had been administered to him by the Speaker of the Senate, his excellency delivered his Inaugural address, a copy of which I send you herewith. The address is every way worthy of Francis R. Shunk, and commends itself to the approval of every true friend of Democratic principles.

The election of State Treasurer took place on Monday, and resulted in the choice of Hon. Arnold Plumer of Venango co., who had previously received the nomination from the Democratic caucus. Mr. Plumer has been long known as an active and prominent member of the Democratic party. He enjoys a high reputation as a gentleman of fine abilities, and correct business habits which eminently qualify him for the trust reposed in him.

The Board of Canal Commissioners was organized last week, by the induction of Judge Longstreth as a member. They reappointed Mr. Wilson of this place as secretary, which is the only appointment they have made. Messrs Burns and Power left immediately to give their personal attention to the repairs that are now in progress on the public works.

Harrisburg is exceedingly dull this winter. The most amusing occurrences that have happened, as yet, are the meetings got up by the different wings of the whig party to effect a demonstration in favor of their respective candidates for the Presidency. On Monday night the Taylorites were to have their great gathering. Placards had been stuck up, in advance, at every corner, and as the hour approached, the drum was sent through all the streets rolling its "music of war,"—the bells rang and transparencies were paraded in all the most conspicuous places, all to beat up recruits for the great Taylor meeting. Of course every body went "to see the elephant," and the Court House was pretty well thronged, but it was soon evident that the feeling for General Taylor was not what called the people there. The friends of old Zack however proceeded to business, organized the meeting and appointed a committee to draft resolutions, which of course, recommends Gen. Taylor for the Presidency.—During the absence of the committee, John C. Kunkle Esq. of this place, made a speech in favor of Taylor in which to embraced the most radical views in favor of the war and indemnity,—a bitter dose for some of his whig friends, but they must swallow it or spit out Gen Taylor. Well, to upset all this, the *Scott* men held another "great meeting" last night. The same measures were resorted to drum up customers as at the Taylor meeting, and with about the same success. The Court House was filled, mostly by persons drawn there from curiosity, but as nobody chose to interfere, the Scott men had it all their own way, and the way they lampooned the Taylor men will not soon be forgotten. One of the speakers in alluding to Gen. Taylor said, "Ask if he is a whig and the answer will be, "I don't know." Ask if he is a Democrat, and the answer will be "I don't know." Ask if he has any political principles and he dont know." Taken altogether it is a most beautiful family quarrel, and will probably eventuate somewhat like the fight between the Kilkenny cats.

On the Democratic side the strife in Pennsylvania is between Mr Buchanan and Mr. Dallas, and, it is yet uncertain which will carry the state, several counties recently heard from have gone for Mr. Dallas, which if it do not give the majority to him, will, at all events, so reduce the majority for Mr. Buchanan that his friends will hardly wish to boast of their success. But present indications favor the belief that General Cass will distance them both in the National Convention. Ohio and Indiana have already held their convention and made him their candidate. The news from Virginia also is that the county conventions are declaring for Cass—and it is more than probable that the south will ultimately settle upon him as their man, leaving the Pennsylvania disputants in the shade.

Mr. Wilmot returns to Washington to-morrow. He is quite recovered from his illness, and will at once resume his seat on the floor of Congress.

G.

CLERICAL ERROR IN THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.—An error has been discovered in the table of the financial statement made to Congress, which places the U. S. Treasury in a more favorable position than supposed, by nearly seven millions of dollars. The error was discovered by the person who made it, Mr. Barclay. The letter of that officer to the acting Secretary of the Treasury, announcing the discovery of the mistake says:

"An error was unfortunately made by my omitting to insert in the estimate of receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1848, four items of receipts for treasury notes and loans specified in the statement B, showing the receipts and expenditures for the quarter ending September, 1847, prepared in the office of the Register of the Treasury, to accompany said report, and which four items amount in the aggregate to the sum of $6,915,038. If this omission had not been made, the estimated means for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1848, would have been increased by that amount, and would consequently have reduced the estimated excess of expenditures over the means on the 1st of July, 1848, from the sum of $15,720,114 27, to the sum of $8,814,035 27, and also the estimated excess of expenditure over the means on the 1st July, 1849, from the sum of $36,274,055 99, to the sum of $29,358,977 99."

THE SMALL POX.—We learn that this dreaded disease has found its way into Susquehanna county. In Silver Lake, Lenox and Forest Lake, there have been several cases already, and many more exposures.

Susquehanna County.

A large democratic meeting was held in the Court House at Montrose, on Monday evening, Jan. 17, 1848. Col. AMHERST CARPENTER was chosen President, and the proper officers appointed. The meeting was addressed by G. A. GROW, Esq., whose remarks upon the war questions we learn from the Democrat, were admirable, eloquent and impressive.

Resolutions were adopted favorable to the National and State Administrations, and expressing the views of the meeting upon the War, Tariff and other subjects.

F. Lusk, Esq., offered the following resolution, which, after some considerable discussion by himself in favor of, and Messrs. Leet, Grow, and others against it, was laid on the table by a very decided vote:

Resolved, That we have undiminished confidence in the integrity, ability and patriotism of the Hon James Buchanan the "favorite son of Pennsylvania" and trust that higher honors await him.

A resolution was also adopted, repudiating in toto the two-thirds rule forced upon the Democratic National Convention of 1844. On motion GEO. FULLER was elected a delegate to the Democratic Fourth of March Convention.

Mr. Clay's Prospects.

People generally, are not aware of the fluctuations which take place in Presidential chances.—Candidates are made and unmade in a day. A single stroke will elevate, or a blunder prostrate. Mr. Clay, finding that his friends were disposed to desert him, and rallying around Gen. Taylor, pays a visit to Washington. At once, his stock, before depreciated, rises to par. The timid are awed, the refractory humbled, and the desponding encouraged. His personal presence at the fountain-head of all political gambling, has put a new aspect upon the face of affairs. His influence over the leaders of the Whig party is unbounded, and he can at any time rally them to his support. So, that although several of the Southern states have already declared for Gen. Taylor, the Whigs will be obliged to take up with "Harry of the West," as their candidate. He is not to be neglected, or thrust aside.

Congress.

The Senate for two weeks past, has been chiefly occupied in discussing Mr. Cass' Ten Regiment Bill, in presenting petitions, &c. On the 21st inst., a message was received from the House announcing the death of the Hon. Mr. Hornbeck, a member of that body, and transmitting the proceedings in relation to it. Mr. Cameron responded in an appropriate eulogy upon the deceased, and after the passage of the usual resolutions, the Senate adjourned.

The House has had under consideration the President's message. The death of Hon. Mr. Hornbeck, was announced by Hon. Mr. Brodhead, in a brief but touching eulogy. The proceedings generally, are of but little public interest.

The Presidency.

Gen. Cass has received the nomination of the Indiana State Convention which met on the 8th of January ult. The vote was unanimous for him, with but two exceptions.

The Mississippi State Convention has instructed the Delegates from that state for Geo. M Dallas for President.

Tennessee held her convention on the eighth of January, and appointed delegates to a National Convention, but expressed no opinion as to who should be the candidate.

FREE TERRITORY.—In the New York Legislature, Mr. Myers' resolution in favor of preserving freedom in the Territories which had already passed in the House, (108 to 5) passed the Senate by a vote of 26 to 1. The one vote being given because the resolutions were not strong enough.

Later from Mexico.

Rumors of peace Negotiations—British Mediations—Reported Embarkation of Santa Anna—The new Congress—Defeats of the Guerillas—Skirmish at Cholula—Release of American Prisoners.

PETERSBURG, January 20.

The Ledger's Overland Express from New Orleans reached here this morning, with papers of the 14th inst.

Several vessels had arrived in the river from Vera Cruz. Among the rest is the steamship Virginia, that left Vera Cruz on the 4th. She touched Tampico on her way to New Orleans.

The most important intelligence by this arrival are indefinite but current rumors of secret negotiations being in progress that promise peace.

Despatches were received at Vera Cruz on the 31st ult., by the arrival of a courier from Mr. Boyle the British charge d'affairs at the capital. They were immediately despatched for New Orleans on board H. B. M. brig of war Daring. Nothing positive was known concering the despatches, but the opinion that they were negotiations for peace had been formed at Vera Cruz from the fact that they had been sent in a vessel of war instead of waiting for the steamer.

Col. Miles, with 1500 men, left Vera Cruz on the 2d inst for the capital. Gen. Marshall was at Jalapa on the 20th ult., awaiting the arrival of the train expected under the command of Col. Miles.

John Reynolds, attached to Company D, of the 8th Regiment of Infantry, was hung at Jalapa for having murdered some Mexican woman.

It is reported in the Mexican papers that Santa Anna had embarked at Acapulco for the port of San Blas.

A letter from Querataro states that the Government was doing all in its power to get the members of Congress together, and it was believed it would assemble about the middle of January.

Advices have been received from Mazatlan to the 30th ult. The guerillas, under Mijares, has made an attack upon Cape, but were completely routed, and Mijares, and many other Mexicans were killed.

An expedition was despatched on the night of the 21st against Cholula, to apprehend some Mexican officers. A skirmish took place, when these Mexicans were killed and wounded.

A number of American prisoners, who had been taken at various times by the Mexicans, had been sent to Col. Childs from Zacatlan, by Izunzes, the former Mexican Governor of Puebla, asking an exchange for Col. Parvor, but if that was not admissible, that an equal number of Mexicans should be restored to liberty; and in case neither proposition should be acceptable, asking that the prisoners should be received as restored voluntarily.

Col. Childs, in replying to this message, announced that he could not comply with either of the propositions, the Mexicans being greatly indebted to our army for the great number of prisoners liberated in the progress of the war. He returned his sincere thanks to the Governor, Izunzea, for his kindness to the prisoners thus voluntarily restored and would take pleasure in emulating his kindness towards the Mexicans who might fall into his hands.

SINGULAR SUICIDE.—A young lady who was scarcely seventeen years of age, committed suicide a few days since in St. Louis, because her father prevented her from adopting the stage for a profession.

SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS

OF FRANCIS R. SHUNK,

Delivered January 18th, 1848.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS.—In appearing before you, to renew the solemn obligation of fidelity to the Constitution, and my pledges for the faithful execution of the duties, to which the suffrages of the people have again called me, I avail myself of your presence, to express to you, and through you to my fellow citizens of the Commonwealth, my gratitude for the favor with which they have regarded my efforts, to discharge duties of my trust, in good faith. The practical knowledge which I have accuired, of the various and complicated duties of the Chief Executive Magistrate of the State, increases the distrust, I have always felt, of my ability so to perform them, as to justify the public approval; and constrains me to solicit a continuance of the same kind indulgence, which has hitherto extended to me so generously.

In taking the solemn oath, which the Constitution exacts from all who are clothed with the delegated will of the people, it is proper to recall to mind the principels upon which our government is based—that their spirit and meaning may be apprehended, their value appreciated, and the obligation to guard them, with untiring vigilance, enforced.

In the formation of our government, political power has been resolved into its simplest element. It is the POWER OF THE PEOPLE, by the expression of their will, in free and equal elections, to RULE; and this assumes for its basis, the great fundamental truth, that *man is capable of self-government*.

This great political principle, only partially developed before, was, by our republican fathers made the ground-work of written constitutions, which defined and limited the powers of government, prescribed the duties of those to whom its administration was entrusted. This is the animating principel of our whole system. It shields life and liberty, the acquisition and enjoyment of property reputation. Assuming the inherent and exclusive right of the people to institute government for their peace, safety and happiness, it secures religious freedom, free and equal elections, the trial by jury, general education, the liberty of the press, and all the essential guards of religious, political, civil and and personal right. This democratic power of government, is the security of liberty in all its forms—and no other fundamental, political power, is recognised in this country.

Its happy influence is traced, in the rewards which follow industry and enterprise among us with such astonishing rapidity. But as wealth increases, causes that are inherent in human nature, produce inequality in its distribution. The fathers of our government, foresaw the tendency of this, and that it might eventuate in the creation of a permanent aristocracy of wealth. Wisely guarding against it, they not only abolished the laws of primogeniture and entails, and enacted our equal laws of descent and distribution, but they secured to us, their posterity, the equal right of acquiring, possesing and protecting property, by making it an essential article of the Constitution.

Still, political society is, and always must be influenced, to a considerable extent, by the differing circumstances of the people. Capital and labor, if regarded seperately, have apparently different interests:—and yet these powers, if left to their unrestricted action, under the salutary influence of our system, mutually sustain and cherish each other.—Those who represent each, will, in the progress of affairs, change their positions; laborers will become capitalists, and capitalists laborers;—and these quiet, and peaceful, and equalizing revolutions, will be a progress; neither power predominating, or injuriously controlling the other; but both contributing in perfect harmony, to the promotion of the general welfare.

It is to this free and natural combination of labor and capital, under the controlling influence of religious and civil liberty that we must ascribe the unexampled progress of civilization and refinement amongst us, the advance of science and the arts, and the illustrations which surround us on every side, of the power of man to exalt his moral and intellectual nature. Yet it is a fact, not to be concealed, that the interests, so beneficially and justly united by the wise policy of our system, are not always content with that equality of rights, which is in fact the best security of both. Capital, with untiring industry, is ever seeking, from the Legislature the grant of special protection and perpetuity of privilege.—This, if admitted, is at once destructive of the balance between these powers, which it should be the aim of government steadily to maintain, and works most injuriously to the citizen, leading to oppression on the one hand, and to dependence on the other. Thus, the beautiful order of the whole system is deranged, and the foundations upon which this noble structure of government has risen, to command the admiration and control the destinies of the world, are undermined. To counteract this injurious tendency of capital, and to confine it within the just limits prescribed by the Constitution, is the high and imperative duty of every citizen, and especially of those to whom the official guardianship the public interest are confided.

Impressed with the force of this obligation, and with a fixed purpose to maintain all the principles of our government, I adhere to the opinions I had the honor to announce in my first Inaugural address; and I avail myself of this occasion to add, that I hold every attempt on the part of those who are entrusted with delegated and limited powers, to create public debt without providing ample means for its payment, within a reasonable period; to make contracts in the form of grants to individuals for binding prosterity; to create new powers of government, without the consent of the people; to place any delegated powers, which are dependent upon the popular will, beyond its control; to increase or diminish any executive, legislative or judicial power, as defined by the Constitution, is interdicted by that instrument, or manifestly unwise and impolitic.

These opinions are only a response to the public sentiment, in regard to the principles of the government, which sentiment is always in advance of those who affect to distrust the judgment of the people, and doubt their capacity to rule themselves.

With an earnest desire fully to realize the imposing solemnity of my position, and feeling my dependence upon our Heavenly Father, I humbly invoke His assistance that his strength may sustain, and His wisdom direct me in the performance of all the duties of the high office to which I am called; that I may always recognise the responsibility of those to whom the people have delegated any portion of their sovereignty, and use the power conferred upon me, for the single purpose of promoting the public good, preserving inviolate all the cherished principels of liberty, and adding to the stability of the foundations upon which they rest.

FRS R. SHUNK.