

Madame de Mellan and her daughter had listened with anxiety to the alarming sounds in the corridor, and they dared not venture out with curious crowd that thronged there. All at once the French consul, followed by a stranger dressed in the uniform of the royal army entered their box and said to them, "I beg you to accept my arm, ladies, and to follow me to my house, for it belongs to every child of France."

Madame de Mellan and her daughter, who were too much disturbed to seek an explanation of so many mysterious incidents, followed his advice without hesitating. The widow took the arm of Albert, and Anna, that of the consul. By the candelabras which diffused a bright light in the entrance of the theatre they could see as plainly as in mid-day, a pale and bald-headed man, with bare shoulders, carried off by the police, amid the outcries of the mob. "My God!" exclaimed Madame de Mellan, "that is Albert!"

"No, madame," replied the consul, "that is not Albert de Kerbriant; he is a miscreant, who plotted against you and mademoiselle an abominable snare. He is a galley-slave, escaped from the galleys of Toulon; he is marked on the shoulders with the letters T. F., as you could see if the crowd would let you approach him."

Madame de Mellan and her daughter were both so moved they could make no reply. In the house of the consul there was an interesting change of mutual explanations and surprises, which brings our narrative to a very natural and legitimate denouement. All the rights usurped by the impostor were restored to the real Albert de Kerbriant.

The emotion that succeeded to this evening of alarm prevented the ladies from giving Albert de Kerbriant the reception he deserved; but the next day Madame de Mellan and her daughter could hardly find praise strong enough to give their young and agreeable rescuer; and that very day, at the dinner table of the consul of France, it was decided that the marriage of Anna and Albert should be celebrated at the church of St. Louis, in Toulon, and that the admiral should himself be invited to witness the contract.

Pioneer Festival.

We have already given our readers an abstract of the business transacted at the Pioneer and Historical Festival, held at Owego, on the 22d of February. The last number of the Owego papers contains an extended notice of the speeches and incidents of that interesting occasion, from which we make the following extracts: On our outside will be found the Odes prepared for the occasion.

The old settlers present were called upon to announce such as had deceased, in their respective counties, during the past year; but the call was not generally responded to. John Jones, an early settler of Chemung, was named by a gentleman from that county; but none were named as having died in any other of the counties included in the association, except Tioga.

Hon. C. P. Avery, of Tioga, responded to this call, in behalf of Tioga county, as follows:—

Here approaches one of the most melancholy duties of our Annual Festivals. Recording the names of the deceased. Tioga List:

MASON WEBSTER. Died Dec. 26th, 1854, aged 86 years. Date of his settlement in this county, 1791. He was from Lenox, Berkshire Co. Mass. A worthy man and good citizen.

CHARLES PUMPELLY. Died Jan. 6th, 1855, aged 75 years. Date of settlement here, 1803; from Salisbury, Connecticut. He was a member of the convention, 'as a delegate from Broome county, this village being then within its limits, which framed the Constitution of 1821. A man of great energy of character, mild disposition and hospitable feelings.

WILLIAM PLATT. Died Jan. 12th, 1855, aged 63 years. From West Chester county in this State. A man of rare Christian virtues.

JAMES CONKLYN. Died Jan. 6th, 1855, at the venerable age of 92 years. A worthy citizen.

ERASTUS GOODRICH—Son of Judge Noah Goodrich. Died June 29th, 1854, at Buffalo, while on his way home from his son's house in Illinois; aged 66 years.

ATLANTON GOODRICH—Son of Captain Elikim Goodrich. Died Nov. 6th, 1854, aged 61 years. Both from Glaneston, Ct., and both men without reproach.

MRS. SALLEE SABLES—Widow of Richard Sables, a revolutionary pensioner. Died Jan. 22d, 1855, aged, by some accounts, 96, by other computations 105 years.

ROSSITER PARVELE. Died at the house of one of his sons in this county, aged 72 years; of Guilford, Ct. Not a permanent resident here, but a worthy gentleman and deserves a mention.

JOHN SNEYARD. Died Jan. 26th, 1855, at Athens, Bradford co., near the line of this county; aged 53 years.

EREMIAH WOOD. Died Feb. 8th, 1855 in his 82d year. Date of settlement here 1799; from Rutland co., Vermont. A man of unspotted integrity.

EREMIAH LEACH. Died on Monday last, the 19th inst., aged 66 years. He came, with his father, Caleb Leach, from New York City to this village in 1806, and removed in 1808 to the town of Tioga, where he died. His native place, Plymouth county Mass.

Mr. Leach was a man of scientific attainments, of a native mechanical genius and of a great worth of character.

Mr. A. announced that his funeral takes place this day from his house in the town of Tioga, and that the funeral procession would reach the grave-yard of the Presbyterian Church of this village at half-past three o'clock in the afternoon, when his acquaintances and friends would have an opportunity of paying the last tribute of respect to his memory.

Among other venerable persons present we noticed the following:—

Hugh E. Fiddis, of the town of Tioga, aged 90 years in August last. Date of immigration, 1794-5. Also Mrs. Fiddis, his aged and excellent wife.

Joseph Gaskill, aged 75 years. Date of immigration to this town March 20th, 1789.

Jesse McQuigg, whose father, John McQuigg, became a resident of the village of Owego in 1789. Mr. McQuigg recollects Owego well when it numbered but three families, his father's Jas. McMaster's and Amos Draper's.

Jonathan Platt, aged 71 years. Date of immigration to Nichols, in company with his father, 1793.

The venerable Elisha Forsyth, who passed over the site of Owego from Wyoming in 1787, when it boasted of but one white family, (Amos Draper's.) His father held a Connecticut title in Wyoming, which proved worthless. Mr.

Forsyth helped to erect afterwards the first frame building in Owego.

The aged William Ferguson, of Owego, son of the pioneer and pensioner, Daniel Ferguson.

Judge Briant Stoddard, son of Orrin Stoddard, one of the leading proprietors of the Boston purchase. Date of immigration to the old town of Union, 1788. Was associate Judge of Broome county, Member of the Legislature, &c. Now in the 81st year.

The venerable Judge Willsey, of Candor. Rev. C. Greatsinger, of Chemung.

The venerable Parley Coburn, now in his 81st year. Date of immigration to Warren, Bradford co., 1800.

Elder Dimock, of Montrose, an aged and venerable gentleman.

The aged Mrs. Forsyth and Mrs. Willis, daughters of the pioneer, Thomas Parks, who took a lively interest in all the proceedings of the day.

Daniel Mills, of Barton; Elizar Talcott, of Owego; John F. Satterlee, of Athens; Russell Gridley and Salmon Mead, of Candor; Messrs. Hunt, Coryell and Forman, of Nichols; Dr. Joel S. Paige, formerly of this village, who came from his home in Genesee co., to attend the Festival; the venerable Wm. Hoffman, of Chemung; Judge McBurney, of Steuben; Judge Robinson, of Broome; Judge La Porte, of Towanda; and very many others whose names, owing to the shortness of the time and the great amount of business to be done, the Secretaries did not obtain.

Curious and valuable relics of the olden time exhibited at the Festival;

An old family Bible printed in 1716 at Amsterdam, Holland, containing records of the Van Valkenburg family, reaching back to 1670. Several members of this family were living at Wysox in May 1778, when the houses of the settlement were destroyed by the Indians.—The wives of Sebastian and John Stroppe, whose maiden names were Van Valkenburg, Eva Van Valkenburg, their father and mother and several children were captured. The houses and every thing of value that could not be carried away as plunder, were consumed. The Bible would have shared the same fate of the building but for the resolute heroism of the family, in rescuing it from the flames. The captives were taken at once to Tioga Point, where they were with the English rangers and Indians, under Butler, embarked in their canoes for Wyoming; and were there when they returned with their booty and scalps from that desolate valley.

The captives were soon after ordered up the Susquehanna, under an Indian escort, to Maughawtawano, Owego, Bainbridge and Unadilla, and in the fall retraced their steps to Tioga Point. Part of this journey was made upon the trail upon the bank and partly by water in canoes. Upon the victory of Hartley that fall near Sheshequin, and upon the apprehension of Sullivan's approach the next season, they were marched with many other captives, up the Tioga, Canisteo and down the Canesaga creek and Genesee river to Fort Niagara; thence to Lachine and other points in Canada, where they were detained for over two years. At the end of this time they were exchanged by cartel and sent to Skenesborough, now Whitehall, and thence to Catskill, where they remained until peace was fully established, after which they again emigrated to Wysox and rebuilt.—During all their wanderings this Bible was with them—a treasure beyond all price—enabling them to rise sublime above their dark fortunes. It is a very large and heavy. The sides and back are of white oak, nearly, if not quite half an inch in thickness and covered with leather the corners and edges tipped with brass, and the covers held together in front by moveable and massive brass clasps. Its length a foot and a half and in thickness nearly six inches. Upon the leather and wood are marks of the fire from which it was saved.

When we realize the toil of a captivity, upon foot by the Indian trail, the great distance this family travelled, and the supplies which their natures required and which they were obliged to carry to keep from starvation, we may well believe that the captives regard what the venerable old lady, Mrs. Willis, said, when Judge Jessup was speaking of its weight in the afternoon exercise.—"The love of God in their hearts made the burden light."

For the facts connected with the captivity of this family, we are indebted to those publications by Judge Avery, entitled the "Susquehanna Valley," and for the presence of this valuable relic at our Festival we are indebted to Mr. Harry Stroppe, a grandson of Sebastian Stroppe, who lives upon the storied ground, and who had the kindness to make a journey with his daughter, of nearly forty miles, to be present on this interesting occasion.

Another interesting article exhibited was the original document, signed by the Indian Chiefs, in 1786, ceding the Owego half township to Amos Draper, whose Indian name was Oghwaga-sen, meaning *Patridge*. This was exhibited by Mr. Avery.

Another—a spy glass of some two feet in length. A trophy of the border warfare of the Susquehanna, taken by the intrepid Col. John Franklin. Exhibited by Mr. Gore, a descendant of Obadiah Gore, whose name is identified with Wyoming annals.

Another—a bass drum, used by the Forsyth Military Band, who enlivened the Festival with their music, the shell of which was used in some of the hard-fought fields of the revolution.

This band and also the excellent Brass Band in attendance, who discoursed capital music through the day and evening, gave their services through the whole Festival, as a free will offering, without fee or reward, to the pioneers; for these old veterans are popular with everybody.

In arranging and preparing the music, Mr. Hosford, of the Music Emporium, was active and public spirited.

Independent Engine Company No. 5, had decorated the Hall a few days previously for one of their own assemblies, and courteously left their pictures and tasteful drapery and trimmings for the Festival, for which they had the thanks and best wishes of every one in attendance.

Nor should special mention be omitted of the numerous and highly respectable attendance of Ladies and Gentlemen from Bradford county. That County was not only admirably represented by many of her best men from Towanda, Athens and other points, but also by the fairest of her fair ladies, who graced the occasion with their presence, adding life, brilliancy and intellectual enjoyment to the proceedings of the day and evening.

AN INSINUATION.—A late number of an Indiana paper announces the destruction of the editor's hat; whereupon a neighboring journal expressing the hope that there were not many pretios.

Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

TOWANDA:

Saturday Morning, March 10, 1855.

The New Post Office Bill.

We find in the *Globe* a synopsis of this bill, which is likely to work many important changes, not to say improvements in our postal system. Everything is to be prepaid after July, and the postage to California is to be ten cents instead of six.

The bill provides that, in lieu of the rates now established by law, there shall, after the commencement of the next fiscal quarter, be charged for every single letter in manuscript, or paper of any kind in which information shall be asked for or communicated in writing, or by marks or signs, conveyed in the mail for any distance between places in the United States not exceeding three thousand miles, three cents; and for any distance exceeding three thousand miles, ten cents. For a double letter the charge is to be double, for a treble letter, treble, and for a quadruple letter, quadruple these rates.

Every letter or parcel not exceeding half an ounce in weight is to be deemed a single letter; and every additional weight of half an ounce, or less than half an ounce, is to be charged with an additional single postage.—Upon all letters passing through or in the mail of the United States, except such as are to or from a foreign country, the postage is to be prepaid, except upon letters and packages addressed to officers of the government on official business, which shall be so marked on the envelope.

And from and after January 1, 1856, the Postmaster-General may require postmasters to place postage stamps upon all prepaid letters upon which such stamps may not have been placed by the writers. All drop-letters placed in any post office not for transmission through the mail, but for delivery only, are to be charged with postage at the rate of one cent each; and all letters which are hereafter advertised as remaining over, or uncalled for, in any post-office, are to be charged with one cent each, in addition to the regular postage, both to be accounted for as other postages now are.

No postmaster or other person is to be allowed to sell any postage stamps or stamp envelopes for any larger sum than that indicated upon their face, or for a larger sum than that charged therefor by the Postoffice department; and any person who violates this provision is to be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction, is to be fined in any sum not less than ten, nor more than five hundred dollars.

THE INCREASE OF THE ARMY.—Congress has responded to the call of the War Department, and increased the army by four regiments of the line—two cavalry and two infantry. The cavalry to be organized under the law of 1846, creating the regiment of mounted riflemen, and the infantry in conformity with existing laws. This is right; and we applaud the measure.—It was demanded by existing necessities on our expanded frontiers, from which daily comes to us the startling intelligence of continued Indian massacres, stamped with more than usual merciless barbarities. We are of the undoubting belief that the increase of the regular forces of the country was called for, by every consideration of humanity, policy, and expediency. There are at this time large numbers of recruits at the depots in New York and Boston, intended, as we understand, for the organization of the infantry regiments, and about one thousand cavalry recruits at Jefferson barracks (Western men) that can fill one of the cavalry regiments without any delay.

Among the votes given for SIMON CAMERON in the Convention on Tuesday, 26th inst., will be found recorded the name of the Senator from this district. We regret to announce that upon every ballot, Mr. Pratt voted for Mr. CAMERON. Participating in the nomination of Mr. BUCKALEW, he voted for him at the first meeting of the Convention—but in the meantime, a "change has come over the spirit of his dream," and he voluntarily plunges into the abyss from which there is no return. His misrepresenting the wishes of his constituents, might admit of palliation, but the dark cloud which now settles upon his name and fame, time will never dissipate.

We call the attention of our readers to a letter in another column from Judge WILMOT, in regard to the publication and alteration of his letter to CAMERON by Ex-Speaker CHASE. It is somewhat severe, but not more so than the occasion demands. We are somewhat anxious to see what excuse Mr. CHASE can give for a trick so contemptible as that practised by him in this case. The mutilation of a letter to change its meaning, purposely to misrepresent the author, is a crime but little short of forgery, and which should damage the perpetrator in public estimation.

Those of our citizens having Pianos which require tuning will do well to avail themselves of the stay of Mr. LLOYD, whose advertisement appears in another column. The instruments which he furnishes have a celebrity equal to any in the Union.

SENATOR BADGER, N. C.—It is stated that the U. S. Senate, on Saturday night, in executive session, unanimously adopted a resolution expressive of the deep regret of the body at the retirement of this distinguished Senator, whose term has expired.

United States Senator.

At twelve o'clock, precisely, the Speaker and members of the Senate being introduced into the Hall of the House of Representatives, both bodies went into convention, pursuant to adjournment, for the purpose of electing a U. S. Senator in the place of Hon. JAMES COOPER, whose term of service expires on the 4th of March next.

The Speaker of the Senate presided. On motion of Mr. Frailey, the convention proceeded to a third ballot; when

Messrs. Crabb, Cresswell, Fraizer, Fry, Haldeman, Hendricks, Hoge, Killinger, Piatt, Quiggle, Sellers, Shuman, Barry, Boal, Caldwell, Carlisle, Clover, Crawford, Criswell, Cummings, (Phila. Co.) Cummings, (Somerset,) Donaldson, Eyster, Fletcher, Frailey, Free, Gross, Guy, Haines, Hubbs, King, Kirkpatrick, Krepps, Lane, McConkey, McConell, Morrison, Muse, North, Palmer, Reese, Rittenhouse, Rutter, Sallade, Sherer, Smith, (Allegheny,) Smith, (Blair,) Stehley, Stockdale, Sturdevant, Weddell, Wood, Yorkes, Zeigler, and Stroug, *Speaker*—55, voted for SIMON CAMERON.

Messrs. Browne, Goodwin, Hamlin, Jamison, McClintock, Sager, Walton, Wherry, Hiester, (Speaker,) Baker, Bush, Christ, Craig, Dougherty, Dunning, Edinger, Fry, Johnson, McClean, Maxwell, Orr, Thompson and Wright—23, voted for C. R. BUCKALEW.

Messrs. Ball, Clapp, Foster, McCombs, Magill and Stewart—6, voted for JOSEPH BEFFINGTON.

Messrs. Darsie, Frick, Price, Skinner, Chamberlin and Whitmer—6, voted for THOMAS WILLIAMS.

Messrs. Ferguson, Franklin, Herr, McCullough and Page—5, voted for JAMES VECCHI.

Messrs. Jordan, Avery, Fearon, Leas, and Love—5, voted for J. W. MAYNARD.

Messrs. Baldwin, Holcomb, Laporte, McCalmont and Wickersham—5, voted for DAVID WILMOT.

Messrs. Lewis, Hodgson, Maddock and Pennyacker—4, voted for Wm. H. IRWIN.

Messrs. Taggart, Harrison, Lindenman, and Mengle—4, voted for J. P. JONES.

Messrs. Gwinner, Smith, (Phila. city) Steel and Thorn—4, voted for R. T. CORNAD.

Messrs. Pratt and Waterhouse—2, voted for E. JOY MORRIS.

Messrs. Mellinger and Dowling—2, voted for THADDEUS STEVENS.

Messrs. Bowman and Simpson—2, voted for J. S. LITTLE.

Messrs. Lott and Powell—2, voted for JOHN W. HOWE.

Buckalew—1, voted for J. S. BLACK, Fleuniken—1, voted for J. S. BRADY.

Bergstresser—1, voted for J. C. KUNKLE, Foust—1, voted for J. TOMP.

Morris—1, voted for H. M. FULLER.

There being no choice, a fourth and fifth ballots were had, with the same result. Mr. Browne moved that the Convention do adjourn to meet on the first Tuesday of October next.

Mr. Haldeman moved to amend by inserting to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

The previous question was called and sustained, and the amendment of Mr. Haldeman was disagreed to—yeas 63, nays 66.

The question then being on the motion of Mr. Browne, it was agreed to—yeas 66, nays 65, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Browne, Buckalew, Darsie, Ferguson, Fleuniken, Frick, Goodwin, Hamlin, Jamison, Jordan, Avery, Baker, Baldwin, Ball, Bergstresser, Bowman, Chamberlin, Christ, Clapp, Edinger, Fearon, Foster, Foust, Franklin, Fry, Gwinner, Harrison, Herr, Hodgson, Holcomb, Hubbs, Laporte, Lewis, Mellinger, Pratt, Price, Sellers, Skinner, Taggart, Walton, Wherry, Leas, Lindenman, Lott, Love, McCalmont, McClean, McCombs, McCullough, Maddock, Megill, Mengle, Morris, Orr, Page, Pennyacker, Powell, Simpson, Smith, (Phila. city,) Steele, Stewart, Thorne, Waterhouse, Wickersham, Wittmer, Wright—66

Nays—Messrs. Crabb, Cresswell, Fraizer, Fry, Haldeman, Hendricks, Hoge, Allegood, Barry, Boal, Caldwell, Carlisle, Clover, Craig, Crawford, Criswell, Cummings, (Phila. Co.) Cummings, (Somerset) Dougherty, Donaldson, Downing, Dunning, Eyster, Fletcher, Frailey, Free, Gross, Guy, Haines, Johnson, King, Kirkpatrick, Krepps, Lane, Killinger, McClintock, Piatt, Quiggle, Sager, Shuman, Hiester, (Speaker,) McConkey, McConell, Maxwell, Morrison, Muse, North, Palmer, Reese, Rittenhouse, Rutter, Sallade, Sherer, Smith, (Allegheny,) Smith, (Blair,) Stehley, Stockdale, Sturdevant, Thompson, Weddell, Wood, Yorkes, Zeigler and Stroug, *Speaker*—65.

This vote disposes of the question for the present session, being equivalent to an adjournment *sine die*. It was understood that the presiding officer had some doubts about the regularity of a motion to adjourn *sine die*, hence the postponement to the first Tuesday of October. Upon that day the Legislature may meet in two ways: by adjourning until the day; or by being called together by the Governor. Either of which contingencies is not likely to occur. Or the Legislature, by joint resolution, might resolve again to go into Convention, and reconsidering the vote to postpone, proceed to an election.

In the meantime there is a probability that the seat occupied by Mr. COOPER will be for a time vacant. Congress meets in December, and until the election by the next Legislature Pennsylvania will have but one U. S. Senator. Some of the newspapers are investing Governor POLLOCK with the power to appoint. Such is not the case. U. S. Senators are only appointed to fill vacancies occasioned by death or resignation.

THE WHEAT CROP.—The *Milwaukee Daily Sentinel* says the weather, thus far, has been favorable to the Winter Grain, and we hear good reports from our own as well as the adjoining States. In Ohio, the farmers say that the crop sowed last fall looks well and that the prospect of a heavy crop is a flattering one.—Like assurances are given in the Illinois papers. Respecting the crop in Michigan, the *Detroit Free Press* says:

"From all sections we hear that the wheat is looking exceedingly well. The quantity upon the ground is greater than in any former year, and with no intervening calamity, the crop will be unprecedented."

WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 26, 1855.

Editor Reporter—In your paper of the 17th inst., you call the attention of your readers to the remarkable circumstance, that Maj. KINGSBURY had taken captive, on his farm, a pure white crow, which was now on exhibition at Towanda. After perusing your remarks I called at the Patent Office, where every description of the feathered tribe, from the Humming Bird to the largest Ostrich, of every variety of color and form, brought from almost every portion of the Globe, are on exhibition, free of access to citizen and stranger. There I found a beautiful pure white crow, the personification (except color) of the real black crow, which was taken on the waters of the Potomac Bay, below this city, where I was informed by the gentlemanly conductor of the Patent Office, the white crow is quite common. I was also shown a beautiful white Blue Bird, which was caught near Cape May. I am not familiar with ornithology, nevertheless I look upon this species of creation with admiration; and although I am not able to throw much light upon the history of the white crow, I apprehend that it is a distinct and original species of the crow, assimilating in all respects, except color, to the black crow. I infer this from the fact that we find no cross or mixed colors as in fowls or other races. The pure white and black crow, although of the same paternity, presents the anomalous fact of retaining their distinctive and unchanged colors!

If this view of the question held good in the human race, I should have less confidence in practical abolitionism! Science and careful investigation of chronology, however, has established pretty conclusively the phenomena that in the eighth generation, the dark shade has exhausted itself, and the pure white man, like

"Richard, is to himself again!"
"But, mix and turn, as you will,
The black and white crow is the same, still!"
D. M. BULL.

LIQUOR LAW LEGISLATION.—The Senate Committee on Vice and Immorality, have made a long report upon the subject of restraining the sale of Intoxicating liquors. The Committee, after viewing the various propositions suggested, propose a stringent law, as the best measure of reform the Legislature can adopt, with any regard to the demands and the aggravations of an evil they dare not disregard. It adopts the machinery of the existing general laws, requiring all who would sell under five gallons to take license from the court in all parts of the State, after full advertisement of their application, and subject to objection and contest by their neighbors, and the decision of the court after hearing all parties as to the occasion of the license. All are to be put under bond, with warrant of attorney to enter judgment for a faithful observance of the law; the license fees are increased threefold, and none can sell under a quart who is not licensed to keep an inn, and all inns must have at least six rooms and twelve beds for the exclusive use of travellers. In addition to this in the city of Philadelphia, there is to be a Board of three Appraisers, whose certificate must be necessary before a license shall be granted. Violators of law are to be punished with fines, imprisonment and forfeiture of license. Intoxication in public places is fined and punished as an offence; the furnishing of liquor to those who drink on the premises of intoxication, is punished as a distinct offence; besides a responsibility enacted for all resulting damage. The Committee do not present this as a final measure of reform, but as the best which can be obtained under the present public sentiment upon the subject.

THE BOUNTY LAND BILL.—The old soldiers' Bounty Land Bill as passed and signed by the President, is very much changed from the original bill as it passed the Senate. The estimate of the amount of land required by the Senate bill, as communicated in an official report of the Commissioner of the Land Office, was over 200,000,000 of acres. That quantity is reduced by the operation of Mr. Richardson's amendment to one-tenth, or about 20,000,000 acres, and includes only the surviving soldiers of the wars from 1790 to this time, their widows, and children who are now minors. This description embraces a comparatively small number of persons. The vast majority of the soldiers are dead, their widows have followed them, and their children are advanced in life. The bill requires the holders of warrants granted under the act, to pay the fee of the Registers for its location, which is about a dollar and a half.

PROGRESS OF PROHIBITION.—The State of Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin, Connecticut, Indiana and Illinois, have adopted laws, entirely prohibiting the sale of liquor.

Ohio has adopted one punishing the adulteration of liquor, and prohibiting the sale of all except wines from the native grape, beer, and cider.

New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Iowa and California are the only Northern States in which no such law exists. No Southern State has yet adopted any prohibitory law.

DESTRUCTIVE STORM AT ELMIRA.—A regular West India white squall occurred in Elmira on Tuesday night last, which occasioned much damage in blowing down chimneys, unroofing houses, &c. The car house of the Williamsport and Elmira Railroad was blown down and destroyed. Three engines that were in the car house were much injured. The signs, treboxes, &c., throughout the town were scattered.

Mr. McCoy's hotel near the depot, took fire during the storm and received considerable damage.

[From the Independent Republican of March 1, 1855.]

Letter from Judge Wilmot.

TOWANDA, Feb'y. 24, 1855.

To the Editors of the Republican:

GENTLEMEN:—I have just read, in the *Montrose Democrat* of the 22nd inst., a letter purporting to have been written by me to Simon Cameron.

The letter published is GARBLED and FALSE, in that part blazoned in capitals, there is a most material omission.

Mr. Chase in his insane desire to do me an injury, has gone far to verify the truth of the portrait drawn of him last fall by a democratic cotemporary. It will be recollected, that one of the papers published at the State Capital, zealous in the support of Governor Higler, presented a *disgraceful* under the title of "ROEBUCK'S"—a name the very impersonation of falsehood. The efforts of Mr. Chase to misrepresent to his readers, the position of Gov. Higler upon the *Roebuck* question, obtained for him the complimentary notice, in the columns of one of the Governor's metropolitan organs.

I now charge him with having published over my name, a *garbled* letter; omitting a material part, with a view to change its sense, and to falsify my language and position.

The paragraph published by Mr. Chase, in italics and capitals, reads thus:

"In respect to yourself I have expressed no word of encouragement or commendation. ON THE CONTRARY, I HAVE REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR YOU OVER ALL YOUR RIVALS, (Buchanan, Fremont, &c., &c.) AND THIS WHEN IT WAS SUPPOSED THE PARTY WOULD HAVE THE UNDISPUTED POWER TO MAKE AN ELECTION."

I am here made to express on the 22d of January last, the date of the letter, a preference for Mr. Cameron over all his rivals;—that is, over the gentlemen, AT THAT TIME, publicly and generally known as candidates for United States Senator. That the publication is carefully designed to convey this meaning is apparent from the language; but it will be made more clear from the comments of Mr. Chase. In commenting upon the above garbled extract, Mr. Chase says:

"Men of Susquehanna County! can you read the above letter and believe your senses? Would you have believed that David Wilmot could sink himself so low—could show himself the unprincipled demagogue who has not hesitated to denounce Simon Cameron in public and private, as a man void of all moral and political integrity, as a 'pro-slavery huck' who had endeavored to bribe him to his support—we ask could you have believed him capable of the baseness, while taking such a position here, to sit down and write Gen. Cameron that he was his preference over all other candidates for United States Senator?"

This is fixed beyond evasion, that Mr. Chase designedly so published my letter, as to make me declare myself in favor of the election of Gen. Cameron. Herein consists the deliberate and wicked misrepresentation—a shameful suppression of a part of the letter, which if published, would have effectually precluded any such construction.

I expressed in my letter, no preference for Mr. Cameron over the candidates then before the public. By no fair or even possible construction of the letter I wrote, could it be tortured into an expression of my desire for his election. Yet this is the foundation upon which Mr. Chase pours out upon me denunciations and revilings—insulting and reiterating charges of duplicity, baseness, intrigue, dishonesty—a desire to sell my principles to the highest bidder—until his pure soul takes affright, and he contemplates the picture with "sadness and alarm."

Immaculate man! Paragon of truth, integrity and honor! Can you not make another public appeal to the spirit of a sainted father—invoke once more the endearing ties of domestic life, as an evidence of the high value you place upon a spotless character? The sacred recollections of the one, and the holy obligations of the other, should have constrained you to the observance of that law, which declares, "neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbor." Do you know the penalty God has affixed to the crime of bearing false witness? Hear and tremble:

"And the Judges shall make diligent inquiry: and behold, if the witness be false witness, and hath testified *falsely* against his brother; then shall he do unto him, as he hath testified to do unto his brother; so shalt thou put the evil away from among you."

Be assured, foolish man! that God will in time vindicate His high enactments. In His beneficent providence it is ordered, that a pit a man diggeth for his neighbor, therein, he that diggeth it, shall himself fall.

I preserved my copy of my letter, and can therefore give its words; but the embellished paragraph, in which the *gross* fraud is perpetrated, by the omission of an important part, reads substantially thus:

"In respect to yourself I have expressed no word of disparagement or unkindness. On the contrary I have frequently expressed a preference for you over all your rivals of the old line democracy, Buchanan, Fremont, Hirst, Dawson, &c., &c., and this when it was supposed the party would have the undisputed power to make an election."

The words "OF THE OLD LINE DEMOCRATIC PARTY," or "OLD LINE DEMOCRACY," or words of this import, are OMITTED; and those words, clearly *definite and limited to a particular class, those rivals, over whom I had given Mr. Cameron a preference.*

I was not referring to the then present state of the Senatorial question, as would clearly appear by a correct reading of the letter; but to the subject as it had presented itself before the political character of the Legislature was known. I say in the letter when speaking of having repeatedly expressed a preference for Mr. Cameron—and this when it was supposed the party would have the power to make an election." What PARTY was it, that it was supposed would