

# The Republican Compiler.

GETTYSBURG, PA.

MONDAY MORNING, JAN. 8, 1855.

## Free Lecture.

Dr. A. C. GREENE, of Philadelphia, proposes to deliver a Lecture on the use, abuse and structure of the Eye, some evening this week, probably Tuesday or Wednesday. The time and place may be known by posters. Being designed to benefit the public and enlighten the community on that valuable sense, the eyesight, his Lectures are free, so that all may attend. The Lecture is of a moral and instructive nature, and the Lecturer, Dr. Greene, the press say, is eloquent, and handles his subject with great ability. Let all attend.

We are under obligations to Hon. S. L. Russell for valuable Congressional favors.

On Tuesday last, the Directors of the Poor appointed R. S. Paxton, Clerk, in room of J. J. Baldwin, resigned. ALEXANDER COBBAN was re-appointed Treasurer, and JOHN SCOTT, Steward.

JACOB ARCHERBAUGH, Esq., has been re-appointed Mercantile Appraiser for the county.

R. G. M'CREARY, Esq., was re-appointed Auditor of the Public Offices, at the late Court.

The Concert of the "Singing Birds," (Prof. A. J. PORTERFIELD, Conductor,) on Monday evening, drew an audience of ladies and gentlemen which packed the Court-house to its utmost capacity. It is thought that there never before was a larger crowd of persons in the building at one time. And the exhibition was fully worthy of the handsome turn-out—far surpassing general expectation, as it did ours, and evincing a degree of cultivation in singing really astonishing in children so young as the "Singing Birds" generally are. But the happy faces and gay dresses and beautiful groupings of the little folks were not the least interesting features of the exhibition—the sight was worth a quarter to look upon. The "Philharmonics," under the leadership of DEWITT C. DAKNER, were also present, and delighted the audience with a number of pieces of instrumental music.

The Concert was repeated on Tuesday evening, to accommodate those who could not find room on Monday evening, and the attendance was again large.

BRITISH PERIODICALS.—The attention of the reader is directed to LEONARD SCOTT & CO.'s prospectus, in another column, entitled "British Periodicals," embracing the *London Quarterly*, *The Edinburgh*, *The North British*, and *The Westminster Review*, and *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*. To adopt the truthful language of the publishers: "These periodicals are the critical censurers of the British scholastic and literary world. By their criticisms, they aid readers in the selection of standard valuable books; and by the epitomes which they present, often obviate the necessity of consulting works too voluminous for general examination. They fill a place which American magazines cannot supply; for they discuss topics relating more strictly to the affairs, political, religious, scientific, and literary, of the continent of Europe. They are conducted by the best talent of Great Britain; and are engaged with the most important questions which interest or agitate the civilized world. Whoever subscribes to them all, may read the ablest representatives of the principal parties into which the people of Great Britain are divided."

In the House, at Harrisburg, on Thursday, Mr. McCLEAN presented the petition of Josiah G. Eyer, for license to travel as a foot pedlar in the county of Adams. Also two petitions from citizens of the townships of Union and Conowingo, in the county of Adams, praying for a repeal of the Act of last session authorizing a State road from Gettysburg to the Buck tavern, in the county of Lancaster, so far as relates to the said townships.

Mr. McClean also read in his place and presented to the House, an Act to repeal the Act authorizing said road, so far as extends to the entire county of York, and the townships of Union and Conowingo, in the county of Adams.

D. McCONAUGHY, Esq., the Honorary Secretary for Adams county of the "Cosmopolitan Art and Literary Association," receives and remits subscriptions, and furnishes certificates of membership, and distributes works of Art, &c., to members. Persons desiring the advantages of membership will call on him at his office. Distribution on 30th of January.

Ma. BUCHANAN.—The Lancaster (Pa.) Intelligencer says that from letters received by friends of Mr. Buchanan, in that city, it seems he intends to return home in the month of October next—and not in the spring, as stated by some of the papers. He will then have remained abroad more than two years, the period he expected to be absent when he left. Mr. Sickles, his secretary, who returned home in the Atlantic, tendered his resignation before leaving London.

DIED OF HIS INJURIES.—Mr. Samuel Platts, of York, Pa., who met with a severe accident about a month ago, on the railroad, by which both his legs were very badly crushed, after suffering extreme pain, died on Friday week. He leaves a wife and ten children.

OUR MEDIATION.—It is stated that Lord Elgin, during his late visit to New York, expressed no confidence, or rather an entire want of confidence, in the efficacy of any proposal from the United States to mediate between the belligerent powers in Europe.

\$700,000 IN GOLD COINING.—The steamer Star of the West left San Juan on the 23d for New York with 250 passengers and \$700,000 in gold.

TEXAS ADVICES state that Hon. Sam Houston has resigned his seat in the United States Senate, to take effect at the end of the present session.

Discussion of Railroad officers to-day.

## Meeting of the Legislature.

The State Legislature convened, in accordance with law, at Harrisburg, on Monday last—quorums being had in both Houses.

The Senate, after the calling of the roll, (thirty members being present,) proceeded to the election of Speaker, with the following result:

Messrs. Brown, Cresswell, Fry, Goodwin, Haldeman, Heister, Hoge, Jamison, M'Clintock, Platt, Quiggle, Sager, Walton, Wherry—14 voted for Byron D. Hamlin, Democrat.

Messrs. Grubb, Ferguson, Plunkett, Frazier, Frick, Jordan, Killinger, Lewis, Mellinger, Sellers, Shuman, Zinner, Taggart—13 voted for James Hendricks, Whig and Know Nothing.

Four votes scattering.

Messrs. Darsie and Price, not willing to lend themselves to the Know Nothing bargains which the trading Whigs had made, threw their votes away, and no organization was effected. After several ballots, the Senate adjourned. Mr. Hamlin and Mr. Hendricks voted for various party friends—Mr. Buckalew, Democrat, has not yet returned from South America.

The House was called to order by Mr. Jack, the Clerk of the last House. Ninety-nine members answered to their names. An election for Speaker was then gone into, when Henry K. Strong, Whig and Know Nothing, was chosen on the first ballot:

For Henry K. Strong, Whig and Know Nothing, (of Philadelphia)—Messrs. Avery, Baldwin, Ball, Barry, Bergstresser, Beal, Bower, Caldwell, Chambers, Clapp, Clover, Cresswell, Cummings, of Philadelphia, Cummings, of Somerset, Donaldson, Downing, Eyster, Pearson, Fletcher, Forster, Fous, Franklin, Free, Guy, Gwinner, Haines, Harrison, Herr, Hodgson, Holcomb, Hubbs, King, Kirkpatrick, Krepps, Lane, Laporte, Lathrop, Leas, Leiderman, Lott, Lowe, McCalmont, McCoombs, McConkey, McConnell, McCullough, Maddock, Megill, Mingle, Morris, Morrison, Muse, Page, Palmer, Pennypacker, Powell, Reese, Rittenhouse, Ross, Kutter, Sherer, Simpson, Smith, of Allegheny, Smith, of Blair, Smith, of Philadelphia, Steel, Stehley, Stewart, Sturdevant, Thorne, Waterhouse, Weddall, Wickersham, Witmer, Wood, and Ziegler—76.

For Richardson L. Wright, Dem., (of Philadelphia)—Messrs. Baker, Bush, Carlisle, Christ, Craig, Dougherty, Dunning, Edinger, Frailey, Fry, Gross, Johnson, McClean, Maxwell, Orr, Salada, Stockdale, and Thompson—18.

Messrs. Wright and Yorkes voted for Charles Frailey, Dem.; Mr. Strong, for R. B. McCoombs. Messrs. Crawford and North did not vote.

Mr. Wright was the Democratic caucus nominee.

The Whigs, as such, made no nomination for Speaker, although it has always heretofore been their custom to do so. Mr. Strong was nominated in secret Know Nothing conclave, and as the choice of such secret arrangement, received every Whig and Know Nothing vote. Upon this fact the Pennsylvania remarks: "For the first time in the history of our Government, a Secret Society has obtained the control and management of this great Commonwealth, together with the duty of protecting our lives and property, and do not hesitate to say, that every thing connected with such control is arranged in their Lodge Councils. Every other party that has ever had an existence in our State or Union, has met, without knowing precisely who was to be their candidate for a post like that of Speaker, until the matter should be determined among themselves, with the recommendation of their constituents. But in the instance of which we now speak, everything was previously arranged in the Lodges of the Know-Nothings, and the members directed to vote for a particular candidate, without a question as to its propriety. No exercise of judgment is permitted—no preferences acknowledged. The Secret Council has spoken, and its mandate must be obeyed. To question its authority, is to draw down the direst maledictions."

The Senate, on Tuesday, proceeded with the balloting for Speaker, and having got as far as the 18th ballot without a choice, or change in the vote, adjourned. Nothing of importance transpired in the House.

The Senate organized on Friday, by the election, on the 29th ballot, of Hon. WILLIAM H. HEISTER, Democrat, of Berks county, as Speaker, by a majority of one, over Mr. Skinner, opposition. Mr. Darsie voted for Mr. Heister, and Mr. Price did not vote at all.

In the House, A. W. Benedict was elected Clerk over Mr. Jack; Benedict 69, Jack 20, Henry 3. A. L. Henneshots was appointed Assistant Clerk; S. Bentley was elected Sergeant-at-Arms; J. J. Horn, Doorkeeper; and E. D. Evans, Messenger.

The Governor's Message was sent in on Friday, and read to both Houses. It is an admirable State paper, and should be perused and pondered by all. We give a part of it to-day—the remainder will appear in our next.

The Know Nothings of Baltimore are having "quite a time of it" over Mayor Hinks's nominations for city officers. Nor is this to be wondered at, when it is considered how inordinately hungry the crew is with which he has to deal. All who had ever had a chance at the public tip, and had got the taste of office, as well as the hundreds who had spent their lives in the hunt of place, but "couldn't come it," happily calculated that the election of Mr. Hinks would be the certain means of accomplishing their desires; and as there were probably twenty of these hunters after the same bone, the race was unusually animated, and the disappointment to nineteen of them unusually great. Hence, the passions of indignation are loud and deep, because all the Know Nothings have not received appointments, when they have a Know Nothing Mayor. Some of the Mayor's nominations are objected to because they are unavailable and impopular—some are charged with not being members of Know Nothing lodges—and in other cases the Mayor is faulted with overlooking and disregarding the claims of other parties who had been pressed by their friends for the several situations. Of the first batch sent in by him, six were confirmed; three rejected, and one laid over. Beautiful harmony!

But the most important fact connected with this business is, that nine out of ten of Mayor Hinks's nominees were lately whigs! We, from the first, expressed the belief that Know Nothingism was but a trap and a cheat to snarl Democrats, and when it had then turned to its selfish purposes, to use them in helping the disappointed into power and place. Now let us watch the result.

It is rumored that Mayor Hinks talks of resigning. He is getting more than he bargained for!

Mr. FORTON:—Permit me, through your paper, to return my sincere thanks to the ladies of the Ger. Ref. Congregation, of this place, for the agreeable surprise they occasioned my family, a short time since, in the way of a regular old fashioned pastoral donation. I will not undertake the task of enumerating all the articles presented: suffice it to say, each member of my family—and mine is not a small one, only eight responsibilities—was nicely remembered. Moreover, it would fail me to say, how many good things, in the shape of cakes, pies and sausages, accompanied the above, all showing the thoughtfulness of the donors at a Christmas season. To needy ministers such marks of temporal kindness are not only profitable in these times of high prices, but exceedingly pleasant to dwell upon. Once more I say, thank you for all these timely gifts; and may the good Lord supply all your spiritual need with the higher and richer blessings of his grace.

JACOB ZIEGLER.

Gettysburg, Pa.

The Democratic members of the House of Representatives, at Washington, in caucus, on Wednesday evening, passed a resolution to the effect that the duties imposed by law on the goods, wares and merchandise imported into the United States from foreign countries, should be so modified at the present session of Congress, preserving the principles of the tariff of 1846, as will materially diminish the amount of revenue annually collected from customs.

THE FIRST OF JANUARY IN WASHINGTON.—The President's mansion was thrown open on Monday at noon, according to custom, and thronged by an immense number of visitors, all of whom were received in that plain, hearty manner which has ever characterized President Pierce. Besides the receptions of the President and members of the Cabinet, Mayor Towers, Ex-Mayors Maury and Seaton, Mr. Walter, the architect, Col. Berret, City Postmaster, and a large number of the prominent citizens of Washington, kept open houses for the reception of their friends.

"THE UNION."—We notice by the Philadelphia papers that the Union Hotel of that city, has passed into the proprietorship of Messrs. EVAN EVANS and UPTON S. NEWCOMB.

Perhaps the best joke of the season, says the Boston Journal, is the fact that after the election in Lynn, it was discovered that one of the newly elected Aldermen, chosen by the Know-Nothings, was an Irishman, and lately changed his name from Connelly!

## Horrible Accident and Death.

A most melancholy accident and death occurred in Westmoreland, on Friday, the 29th ult., which resulted in the death of Mr. John Wymore. Mr. W. went down into a well for the purpose of cleaning it out, which he had accomplished and expected to go up with the next bucket, but unfortunately before the last bucket reached the top of the well, the well gave away, and 15 or 20 feet of the top wall fell in upon him. The news soon spread, and in a short time the premises were crowded, and all seemed horror-stricken at the probable fate of the unfortunate man. Every effort was made to hoist the stone as rapidly as possible, thinking that he might still be alive, but the process was a slow one, and after eight hours hard work his body was recovered; when found his face was turned up, head back against the wall in a half reclining position, and had a couple of very severe wounds on the head, either of which were sufficient to cause his death, and it is supposed that he was instantly killed. He leaves a widow and three or four small children, without any of the necessities of life. Petitions were immediately circulated among the citizens and a sufficient amount of money was raised during the day to keep his family above want until the severe season is over. His remains were interred in the grave yard near town on Saturday afternoon last.

## ARRIVAL OF THE ASIA.

### Five Days Later from Europe.

Sebastopol Not Taken.—Austria's Ultimatum Refused.—Both Armies Reinforced.—The Czar Determined to Fight it Out.

HALLFAX, Jan. 3.—The royal mail steamship Asia has arrived here, bringing dates to the 23d, which is five days later than the advices per Atlantic.

The news, though of an interesting character, is not very important. The English papers continue to be filled with the details of the movements of allies in the Crimea. England is making every effort to conciliate the German Powers.

It was reported in London that the Czar had refused to accept the ultimatum of Austria, and it was supposed that Austria would now attempt to coerce Russia into it.

From the Crimea there is little news but what has already been published. The weather was very severe. Two or three storms had taken place, and caused much suffering among the allies.

The investment and bombardment of Sebastopol continues. There had been some skirmishing, but no other battle had been fought.

Both the Allies and the Russians were almost daily receiving reinforcements. The Russians are fortifying, on an immense scale, every available point.

The allies are easily and regularly supplied with provisions, mostly from Austria.

The Russians are reported to be suffering for the want of provisions. The soldiers working in the trenches fall down exhausted for want of food.

A despatch received in Paris from St. Petersburg, says that the Czar, instead of being alarmed at Austria joining the allies, and the probability that Prussia would do so, is making the greatest preparations to carry on the contest to the uttermost against the combined forces.

Prussia has sent an Envoy to London, but the object of his mission has not transpired.

The English Parliament was absorbed in discussing questions concerning the war.

Rumors of various kinds are daily in circulation in London, in regard to the movements of the Allies.

There is nothing important from France or Spain.

In the election in Orleans county, N. Y. Esba Whalen, the know-nothing candidate for Assembly, (in place of Alexis Ward, deceased,) is probably defeated by Mills, the regular democratic nominee. No whig ticket was run.

MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.—A letter to Dr. Durbin states that all the missionaries connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church in China would probably withdraw from the empire by the close of the present year.

Ex-Governor Moorhead, of Kentucky, died at his residence in Covington, on the 28th ult., aged 58 years.

## A Message from the President.

To the House of Representatives, on Tuesday last, a message was received from the President of the United States and read. He says in returning to the House of Representatives, in which it originated, the bill entitled an act making appropriations for the repairs, preservation and completion of certain public works, heretofore commenced under authority of law, it became necessary for him, owing to the late day at which the bill was passed, to state his objections to it very briefly, announcing at the same time a purpose to reserve the subject for more deliberate discussion at the present session of Congress, for while by no means insensible to the arduousness of the task, he concedes the two houses of Congress are entitled to an expression of the considerations which have induced dissent on his part from their conclusions in this instance.

What, he asks, is intended by the phrase internal improvements? What does it embrace, and what the constitution? Not only is it not an expression in the constitution, but it has no sufficient meaning to be of any value as a means for a safe conclusion, either of constitutional law or practical statesmanship.

If there is any power to construct railroads and canals, there must, by the same force of construction, be power to construct bridges, and drain-marshes, and provide means of irrigation—in fact, improvement of the earth for the development of natural resources.

He says he had occasion more than once to express his judgment, and took it for granted that it was a fundamental proposition, that the Federal Government is the creature of the States—that sovereign power is in them alone; and all power of Federal governments is derivative. All power not delegated to the government is reserved to the States, respectively, or to the people. Starting from this, and denying that power for a system of internal improvements is to be found in the preamble to the Constitution, he proceeds to examine the various clauses in that instrument under which power for a system of internal improvements is claimed, coming to the conclusion that there is no specific power for such works, and no provision broad enough to cover them. This view has been maintained by the soundest expositors of the government.

Congress can only construct such works as may be necessary to carry out specific power. He refers to the cases of Jefferson, Jackson and Polk and other commendation and approval; and then estimates the vast expenditures which would necessarily be involved in a system of internal improvements. If the improvement of the navigability of a river or harbor be necessary for military or naval purposes, the subject is then a matter for legislative discretion.

The message was quite a long one. In conclusion, the President says the considerations he has submitted, added to the embarrassment of the whole question, impels him to suggest the policy of confining appropriations by the general government to works necessary to be constructed from its undoubted powers; and of leaving all others to individual enterprise, or to separate States, to be provided for out of their own resources; or, by a recurrence to provisions of the constitution which authorizes the levying of tonnage duties with the consent of Congress, for the improvement of harbors.

AN IMPORTANT LAW.—The following sections of an act of Assembly, passed the 12th day of January, 1852, do not seem to be generally known. The want of a knowledge of the existence of the law often subjects parties applying for letters of administration, or letters testamentary, to inconvenience, inasmuch as the Register is forbidden to grant such letters without first registering the birth of the child:

Sec. 6. That no letters of administration or Register, upon the estate or effects of any person hereafter dying within this State, or if person shall be validly certified the said Register, in order that the same may be duly registered according to the forms and provisions of this act, or as strictly in compliance therewith as it may be in the power of the party so to do.

Sec. 7. That no appointment of any guardian of the person or estate of any minor hereafter born, by any Orphans' Court within this State, shall be valid, until the date of the birth of such minor, and the date of the death, as well as the name of his or her parent or parents, shall be duly registered according to the provisions of this act, as strictly as the same can be complied with, unless from the death of any witness, or from some other cause sufficient upon strict investigation by the said Court, such proof cannot at the time be conveniently made, in which latter case it shall be made as soon as it may be practicable.

ROBBED BY A GYPSY.—A colored man named Charles, living at the Warm Bath Springs, in Virginia, was robbed a few days ago of \$1,200, by one of a gang of gypsies. It appears she told him that if he would let her have \$1,200 in specie she could make it grow to a bushel full. Charles produced the money; she was locked up, apparently, in a trunk; the woman mumbled and made some mysterious passes with her hands, and then left, to return in four days, during which time the trunk was not to be opened. She did not appear again, and when the trunk was opened it was found to contain, instead of a bushel of specie, nothing but pieces of lead and copper!

A POOR HOUSE OPENED WITH A BALL.—A lady's dress for the opera costs a hundred to a hundred and fifty dollars; a private box at the opera costs thirty dollars a night; the rooms in the Drevort House are rented at fifty thousand dollars a year, without board; turkeys are a shilling a pound; Havana cigars are sixpence a piece; the last gift book published by Appleton cost twelve dollars; Barnum gets seventy-five thousand dollars for his biography; canvass-back ducks are two dollars a pair; and fashionable hair-dressers charge two dollars for fixing a lady's curls for an evening party. The times are hard, and there is no denying it.

The free soilers assembled in Boston a few evenings since, for the purpose of debating the propriety of sustaining an independent organization of the party. Speeches were made by Charles Francis Adams and Stephen C. Phillips in favor of the movement, when an adjournment for a fortnight was resolved upon.

THE CHIMERA IN PARIS.—More than four hundred daguerrotype pictures have been already sent from the seat of war to Paris, representing the acts and deeds of the army both on land and sea, under all aspects and circumstances, and with most mathematical precision. So far has this been carried, that all the reports to the Minister of War are accompanied by daguerrotype pictures of most remarkable beauty and precision.

A MRS. WOODCOCK, of Montrose, Iowa, gave birth, on Monday, Dec. 11, to four living children, all boys. Quite a brood of young Woodcocks, and Mr. W. will doubtless soon see long bills.

MURDER.—The Alexandria Sentinel says that Henry Clay Sinclair, of Fairfax county, Va., was killed at Dranesville, a few days ago, by a man named Pickett. The murdered man was very much out of his wits.

A local election in Newburyport, Mass., to fill vacancies in the municipal bodies, has resulted in the election of one Know-Nothing candidate, and three opponents of that order.

Well executed counterfeit pieces of the Bank of the Valley of Virginia, and ten and twenties of the Merchants' Bank of Lynchburg, Va., are in circulation.

Gleason's Pictorial, having been purchased by M. M. Ballou, has been changed in the title to "Ballou's Pictorial."

## Fruits of Democratic Rule.

The Mexican war created a debt of seventy millions of dollars, and although peace was declared, and the country had resumed its peaceful aspect before the Fillmore administration came in, yet no diminution of that amount was secured during its existence. It was the policy of that administration, says the *Eric Oberver*, like all other anti-Democratic Administrations, to spend the public money as fast as it came into the treasury, and trust to the future to provide means to meet the liabilities of the general government when they should fall due; or perhaps, adopting the idea enunciated by one of its leading exponents that a public debt is a public blessing, it did not desire to see the liabilities of the government reduced. Hence, when the present Administration began its career, it found the debt of seventy millions remaining. The Executive, in his inaugural address, expressed a determination to conduct the government upon economical principles, and affirmed that if he did not succeed in this effort, at least one great purpose of his administration would fail of accomplishment.

It was resolved that the public debt should not only not be increased, but that if possible it should be diminished. The resolution is made good. The debt is reduced from seventy to about forty-seven millions, notwithstanding some ten millions of dollars have been taken from the treasury to fulfill the stipulations of the Gadsden treaty. In addition to this, it is shown by the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, just submitted to Congress, that no less than twenty-six and a half millions of dollars remain in the treasury subject to draft. This is one of the fruits of a Democratic administration of the government, of having an Executive at the head of affairs, who believes that a public debt is an injury, instead of a benefit to the public; and who makes a practical application of the principle. Whatever faults the administration may be supposed to have committed in other respects, there can be no question but that its management of the finances has been in the highest degree beneficial to the people.

## Biennial Sessions.

The Harrisburg Patriot advocates biennial sessions of the Legislature, and asks the opinion of the press throughout the State. We are decidedly in favor of the proposition, and consider it a very large majority of the people of Pennsylvania desire it; indeed there are those who think that biennial sessions would be too frequent. We hope ere long to see a move in the legislature tending towards the accomplishment of this object. In speaking of the propriety of the measure the Patriot says:—"We maintain that there is not the slightest necessity for having an annual session of our Legislature. We have before us the volume of acts passed the last session. The whole number is seven hundred and fifty-five, and not one fifth of them are general acts—acts which affect the interests of the entire Commonwealth. The expenses of that session amounted to over one hundred thousand dollars, and yet we cannot see that our people are wiser or better than they were before."

We have advocated this doctrine of biennial sessions for some years, and the wisdom of the policy becomes more and more apparent, and the reasons in its favor more unanswerable. Let the County Courts have exclusive jurisdiction of divorces and local corporations, and all such matters, and clear our statutes of the mass of special legislation that encumbers them. There is neither propriety nor justice in burdening the State with an enormous expense in having a Legislature every year, which trifles weeks away in changing a man's name, or granting him a divorce. While we have these yearly sessions, Legislators feel that they must make a show of being busy, and the desire to do something leads them into the enacting of laws that are injudicious and dangerous. Then, as a question of economy, as a means of preventing injurious legislation, and of promoting the best interests of the State at large, we most heartily advocate a trial of the biennial sessions.

OFFICE SEEKERS.—There is a very strong prospect that Governor Pollock will have a stirring time of it as soon as he is inducted into office. A majority of his appointments are no doubt already made, although but a few of them have been made public. For floor inspector at Philadelphia, said to be the most lucrative office within his gift, we hear there are no less than 300 applicants! For whiskey inspector—another snug little birth—only some 250 patriots have signified their willingness to serve the people. How many of them went for "Pollock and Prohibition," we have no means of knowing. For numerous other offices, such as Adjutant General, Lazaretto Physician, Keepers of Arsenals, &c., there are applicants enough to swell the list something over a cool thousand, and even this list, long as it appears, will be considerably augmented when the fact is known that a few crimps are to be thrown to the Lazaruses who have heretofore claimed to be Democrats, but turned recruits at the late election. Well, we wish the lucky ones joy. They will no doubt farm—make hay while the sun shines, for if we are to judge by the past, their reign will be brief.

EVIDENCE OF HARD TIMES.—The New York Courier sums up the following irresistible evidence of hard times, which must convince the most skeptical:

"Brandy is selling at a shilling a glass; a lady's dress for the opera costs a hundred to a hundred and fifty dollars; a private box at the opera costs thirty dollars a night; the rooms in the Drevort House are rented at fifty thousand dollars a year, without board; turkeys are a shilling a pound; Havana cigars are sixpence a piece; the last gift book published by Appleton cost twelve dollars; Barnum gets seventy-five thousand dollars for his biography; canvass-back ducks are two dollars a pair; and fashionable hair-dressers charge two dollars for fixing a lady's curls for an evening party. The times are hard, and there is no denying it."

IMPORTANT DECISION.—Justice Black, of the Supreme Court, has given a decision in several cases from Allegheny county, where an Alderman fined tavern keepers \$50 for selling liquor on the Sabbath. The defendants claimed the right of trial by jury, denying the jurisdiction of the Alderman. The decision affirmed the judgment of the magistrate, holding that such cases were not suits at common law, but criminal proceedings under a special act. All the other judges agreed with this decision except Judge Lewis, who contended against the whole principle of summary conviction as an invasion of the right of trial by jury.

DAMAGES AGAINST A RAILROAD.—Horace Colt, of Massachusetts, has recovered \$3,000 damages from the Southern Railroad Company for alleged personal injuries. It appears he was standing up in the cars at the time of a collision, and received a slight shock or jerk, as one would be liable to in such a case while standing. From this shock, it is said, spinal affection has resulted, which has doomed Mr. Colt to the life of a helpless cripple. He sued for \$20,000 damages.

WHAT THE ENGLISH PRESS KNOWS OF AMERICA.—The number of the Illustrated London News received by the last steamer, informs its English readers that at the late New York election the contest for the Governorship of the United States was a very close one.

There are thirty-eight towns in the United States called Salem.

## MESSAGE OF GOVERNOR BIGLER.

To the Honorable the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly:

GENTLEMEN:—Whilst the events of the year just closed, present many causes for joy and congratulation, and afford a abundant reason for thankfulness to a beneficent Providence for his goodness and mercy—our prosperity and happiness, as a people, I regret to say, has not been unalloyed. The general growth of the country, the progress of the arts and sciences, and other causes of moral and social comfort, have not, it is true, been interrupted; but the loss of valuable lives and property, by the casualties of the elements, has been unusual, both in number and extent; and in certain sections of our Commonwealth the afflictions of pestilence and disease have also been sorely felt. Nor should we estimate lightly the suffering that manifestly exists amongst the poor in our cities and towns. The drought of the season deprived the husbandman, to some extent, of the anticipated rewards of his labor, and lessened the means of human subsistence; whilst the depression in monetary and business affairs has deprived many laborers and mechanics of their usual earnings. The means of subsistence are thus greatly enhanced in value, at the same time that the opportunities of earning them are greatly diminished. The field of charity is consequently wider than usual; and to meet its reasonable demands, on the part of those blessed with an abundance, will be to sustain the Christian character, and measurably to merit the continued bounty of Heaven.

The operations of the Treasury for the last year will be presented to you in detail, by the head of that department. The results are highly satisfactory, showing a steadily increasing revenue from nearly all the ordinary sources.

The aggregate receipts for the fiscal year of 1854, including loans and the balance in the Treasury, on the 30th of November, 1853, amounted to the sum of \$6,665,912 01. The gross payments for the same period, to the sum of \$5,424,983 29; leaving a balance on the 30th of November, of \$1,240,929 72.

The extraordinary payments consisted of the following items, to wit: loans repaid, \$235,888 50; to the North-Branch canal, \$206,552 76; to the construction of the new railroad over the Allegheny mountains, \$161,921 03; to the payment of debts on the public works, \$389,946 38. Of the balance remaining in the Treasury, a portion is applicable to the payment of the State debt, and the remainder to current demands.

The simple, or ordinary operations of the Treasury for the same period, were as follows, to wit: the receipts, exclusive of loans and the balance in the Treasury on the 30th of November, 1853, realized from permanent sources, amounted to the sum of \$5,218,099 00. The ordinary expenditures, including the interest on the State debt and all the payments on the finished lines of the public works, excluding the payments on new works and loans, amounted to \$4,116,744 84; being \$1,101,490 15 less than the receipts.

This statement may be regarded as the workings of the Treasury simplified; and as establishing the gratifying fact, that the present reliable revenue of the State, exceed the ordinary or unavoidable expenditures, over a million of dollars; and that, relieved from the demands for the construction of new improvements, the Treasury could pay a million or more of the public debt annually. It will be also perceived that the income from these sources is steadily increasing. For instance, in 1846, with the State tax at present rates, and the same extent of improvements in use, with nearly all the present sources of revenue in operation, the gross receipts amounted to but little over three and a half millions.

No more reliable estimate of the operations of the Treasury for 1855 can be made, than is furnished in the results for 1854. The ordinary receipts may be safely estimated at a million of dollars above the unavoidable expenditures. A portion of this excess will be required to complete the new Portage railroad, and the North Branch canal; and the remainder should be faithfully applied toward the payment of the State debt.

The aggregate receipts on the public works for the past year, as reported by the Canal Commissioners, amounted to the sum of \$1,876,078 88; and the expenditures to the sum of \$1,101,570 54; leaving a balance of \$774,508 34, from which, however, should be deducted the sum of \$37,900, properly chargeable to the year, for new locomotives and other unavoidable expenditures—thus reducing the net profits to \$736,608 34. If we add to this, \$131,000 received from the Pennsylvania railroad company for the three mill tax, which is claimed by some as a part of the income from the public works, we find a net revenue of \$867,600; a sum equal to the interest on seventeen millions of the five per cent. debt of the state.—The aggregate receipts were \$57,121 less than for the year 1853, and the reduction in expenditures amounted to over \$159,870. The withdrawal of the business of the Pennsylvania railroad from the Portage road, readily accounts for this difference.

Viewed in every aspect, this exhibit is gratifying. Few similar systems of improvement in the country present a more favorable picture. Some of them in other States, have recently been reduced to a condition of virtual insolvency. The increase of business on the State works for the two last years, has exceeded our anticipations; and but for the necessity which seemed to exist for a reduction in tolls to meet surrounding competition, the revenue would have been largely increased. The general movement now on foot amongst railroad companies, to advance these rates, may perhaps relieve the State to some extent in this respect.

The Delaware division makes a most gratifying exhibit. The gross receipts counted \$365,327 07, and the expenditures \$93,738 67, showing a net profit of