

Hon. S. A. DOUGLAS, Hon. JOHN L. DAWSON, Hon. S. L. RUSSELL, Hon. WM. H. KURTZ, Hon. J. GLANTZ JONES, and Hon. MOSES McCLEAN, have placed us under obligations for Congressional and Legislative favors.

The Governor's Message. Gov. BILLEN'S Message is concluded in this day's issue. The doctrines set forth are not only advocated with great ability, but are sound to the core in themselves—such as will be endorsed by every true Republican, and when the present fever of political and religious excitement shall have passed away, by the great body of the people.

Greenleaf's Arithmetics. KELLER KURTZ has placed on our table, Greenleaf's Primary Arithmetic, upon the inductive plan, designed for primary and intermediate schools.

The election for President and Directors of the "Gettysburg Railroad Company," on Monday last, resulted in the choice of the following persons. Several members of the old Board declined a re-election.

A Convention of soldiers of the war of 1812 assembled in Washington city on Monday last, the 8th of January. The object of the Convention was to induce such legislation, on the part of Congress, as will put soldiers of 1812 on the same footing with regard to bounty lands as soldiers of the Mexican war.

We know that we have perhaps as clever and obliging a set of Patrons as that of any newspaper establishment in the State, and on that account we never like to trouble them more than we can help.

The Democratic U. S. Senators have had a preliminary meeting, and will shortly make a demonstration defining the position of the Democracy upon the subject of secret societies for political purposes.

MISSISSIPPI. U. S. SENATOR.—Hon. Wm. F. JOHNSON, Hon. Simon Cameron, Hon. Thad. Stevens, and Messrs. Curtin, Wilmot, E. Joy Morris, Joseph R. Chandler and Judge Synner, are named for U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania.

THE CANAL BOARD.—On Tuesday the official term of Seth CLIVER was closed, and Col. H. S. MOTT was installed as his successor.

The Lancaster Examiner announces that Gov. POLLOCK has tendered the office of Attorney General under his administration to THOMAS E. FRANKLIN, Esq., of that city, and the appointment has been accepted.

The steamship North Star, from Aspinwall, with California dates to the 16th ult., arrived at New York Wednesday morning, with 200 passengers and \$1,119,623 in gold.

On the fourth page will be found a sensible article on "The Hard Times"—another on "Raising Potatoes"—with a lot of items of news, &c.

Mr. T. MARTIN, formerly of this place, has started a Know-Nothing paper at Lock Haven, Clinton county, Pa.

THE ALBANY.—There can now be little or no doubt of the loss of this slope of war, with all on board. Such information has come to hand as to satisfy the Government that this calamity must be added to the dark list for the year 1854.

Abolition of the Canal Board.

A bill has been read in place by Mr. SMITH, of Philadelphia, and referred to the appropriate committee, to abolish the Canal Board. To this measure we raise our objections. The policy advocated by the Whig party one, two and three years ago, was to sell these improvements, and thus rid the State of what they termed an "incubus."

We know it has been the studied intention of the Whig party to underrate the value of the improvements—to poison the minds of the people against them—to make current the belief that they are unproductive. Add to this end garbled extracts from reports and false statements of figures have been given to abuse the public mind.

Honesty and fair dealing towards the people who have been duped into an opposition to our public improvements would have said that a bill for their sale should be first passed, and if they could not be sold, then "give them away." This is Mr. POLLOCK'S doctrine, and it is the doctrine of the Whig party.

The Speaker of the House at Harrisburg, on Tuesday, announced the Standing Committee. The following are the most important: Ways and Means.—Messrs. McComb, Ball, Stewart, Fry, Linderman, Stockdale, Cummings, (city), Fearon, Downing.

Judiciary.—Messrs. Chamberlin, Thompson, Franklin, McClain, McCalmont, Boal, Simpson, Reese, North.

Agriculture.—Messrs. Criswell, Rittenhouse, Powell, Carlisle, Lathrop, Widdell, Muse.

Education.—Messrs. Stewart, Shearer, Free, Ford, Pennacker, Christ, Hulbs, McConkey, Stetley, Fletcher, Wickersham, Boal, Dougherty, Shary.

Railroads.—Messrs. Eyster, Thorne, Palmer, Ball, Laporte, Morris, Frinley, Stetley, Clover, Carlisle, Cummins, (Somerset) Wood, Morrison.

William White, of this place, has been retained as an Assistant Doorkeeper of the House. In the Senate, on Wednesday, Mr. Price read in place a bill to repeal the act reducing the rate of interest from eight to six per cent.

In the House, a bill to abolish the tavern license laws was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

In the House of Representatives, at Washington, on Thursday last, Hon. JOSEPH R. CHANDLER, of Pa., made a speech in reply to the Know-Nothing speech of Mr. Banks, who, he said, had made special and inculpatory remarks regarding the Roman Catholic Church, involving in the inculcation a charge of latent treason against its members, or, at least, an imputation.

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The tax of N. Longworth, of Cincinnati, is \$30,320. There is some comfort in being poor after all. We don't throw away the half of \$30,000 in taxes!

The Pittsburg Union states that a Convention of Know Nothings, composed of delegates from different sections of the State, was in session in that city week before last. It is supposed by some that the Convention met to select a United States Senator, a work heretofore performed by the Legislature.

One Week Later from Europe.

The American-steamship Baltic, with Liverpool dates to the 30th ult., being one week later, arrived at New York on Thursday. The propeller Sarah Sands had put into Cork for repairs.

The event of the week is Napoleon's speech to the Legislature. It is warlike in tone, but makes no mention of any prospect of peace. It was immediately followed by a loan of 500,000,000 francs being promptly voted. The attitudes of Austria and Prussia are unchanged.

Affairs before Sebastopol had not changed. Sorties by the Russians are continued from the city, and one has been made from the harbor. The Russian bulletins generally claim important advantages over the besiegers. It is rumored that the Russians made a sortie on the 12th, and were repulsed with a loss of seven hundred killed and eleven hundred prisoners.

Private advices from London say that the course of politics favor the probability of a speedy termination of the war. Austria, it is believed, will assume the offensive, and influence all Germany to her side. The people in the German States, it is confidently stated, will force their governments to accept the propositions of the allies.

The Spanish Chambers are discussing the propriety of the sale of Cuba. Mr. Soule was present during the discussion.

Morgan, the Know-Nothing candidate for Mayor in Pittsburg, has been defeated by Volz, the Citizens' candidate, by 473 majority. The independent ticket has elected a majority of Councilmen, thus totally defeating the Know-Nothing. Adams, the Independent Candidate for Mayor in Allegheny city, is also elected over the Know-Nothing candidate.

A Boston correspondent of the New York Evening Post says that the Free-Soilers of Massachusetts propose that a new Know-Nothing party should be formed, on the basis of opposition to Catholicism and to Slavery, while all foreign Protestants shall be treated as native-born people. Their State Committee are in favor of keeping up their present organization in order to be the better prepared to further this new movement.

THE FORCES IN THE CRIMEA.—According to a correspondent of the London Times, the combined forces landed by the allies at Old Fort, in the Crimea, on the 14th of September, amounted to 67,000 men, since which time up to the middle of November, reinforcements arrived in the Crimea, making the total force 114,415 men. From this must be deducted the loss in battle, in the trenches, by sickness, &c., leaving on the 12th of November an effective force of 94,115 men.

INDEPENDENCE MONUMENT.—In the North Carolina Senate, at the last dates, a bill had passed first reading, similar in details to those which have passed the Legislature of eight of the old original States, to contribute their quota towards erecting in Independence Square, Philadelphia, a monument to commemorate the Declaration of Independence.

A decent Sunday has just been enjoyed in New York, for the first time in half a century. The new Mayor, Wood, astonished the denizens of Gotham, by having closed up nearly all the grog shops, and forced those which remained open, to look as if shut.

OMINOUS.—The publication of the Standing Stone, the organ of Know-Nothingism in Huntington county, has been suspended for the want of support.

THE FIRST SHALL BE LAST.—The Evansville (Ind.) Journal says that an old gentleman aged sixty-five years was married a few days ago, in Knox county, in that State, to his sixth wife, and he has only married five women. His first wife is his last wife, and she is now in her forty-fifth year. She has been married three times, and her first husband is her last husband.

CORRECTION.—The accident which is reported to have occurred on the York and Cumberland Railroad, lately, may be supposed by many to have been on the road between York and Harrisburg. This is, however, incorrect; the accident occurred on the York and Cumberland Railroad, near Portland, in Maine.

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The Cat Out of the Bag.

The canal, not the abandonment of a single Whig tenet, but only urge a course which will, first, effectually expel the Goths and Vandals, and, ultimately, PROBABLY IMMEDIATELY, RESULT IN PUTTING WHIG MEASURES AND WHIG POLICY IN THE ASCENDANT.

We long supposed that the ultimate object of the leaders of Know-Nothingism was to place Whig principles in the ascendant in this country, and the above extract from the Richmond Whig, is pretty conclusive that we were right. Anti-Masonry done its share of work in driving many from the Democratic party, and making them Whigs, and the secret order of Know-Nothings is designed for the same purpose.

The election in this State, it is said, was a triumph of Know-Nothingism. If this be so, those at the head of the organization take very good care that the elected shall be Whigs and the defeated Democrats. In all the elections which have occurred, we have yet to learn of a single democrat elected to the office of Governor, by the Know-Nothings.

In announcing the election of Mr. Hiestler, as Speaker of the Senate, the Inquirer says: "Mr. Darsie, a Whig member from Allegheny, strangely enough, voted for Mr. Hiestler. The course of this gentleman has excited much surprise."

ERIE, Jan. 8.—The Lake Shore Railroad, at Harbor Creek, was torn up, to day, by a mob, by order of the Commissioners of Highways, and they were this afternoon engaged in tearing down the bridge over State street. Judge Miles and Sheriff Vincent was pelted with snow balls and stones, for interfering to prevent the work of destruction.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 10.—In the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania this morning a writ of assistance was granted, and ex-pulice Marshal Keyser was ordered to proceed to Erie, and enforce the decree of the court. He will start this afternoon.

A SON OF THE GREAT NAPOLEON BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—It is said that General Canrobert is believed to be the son of the Emperor Napoleon I., and of Madame de Raincy. He passed the early portion of his life in the enjoyment of the ease and inamiance which a large fortune can bestow, and it was not until called from his life of dissipation to attend upon the dying bed of his mother that he learned the secret of his birth.

A CHILD KILLED BY A RAT.—A most singular and fatal occurrence took place at the house of Mr. B. M. Morris, at Richmond, Va., about two weeks since. We learn from the Post that about six months ago, a negro woman, in the employment of Mr. Morris, heard her child cry, in the room next to her, and went in to see what occasioned it.

THE STRENGTH OF GUNPOWDER.—Some idea of the power of this extraordinary agent, prepared from nitre, sulphur and charcoal, may be inferred from a statement made to us, within a day or two, of the blowing operations on the North Pennsylvania Railroad, three miles north of us, where a mass of rock, estimated to weigh twenty tons, was thrown one hundred yards distant, making a hole in the earth where it first struck, large enough to bury a horse, and then bounded on farther. Another stone, about the same size, was thrown out at the same time.—Ger. Tel.

New York, Jan. 9.—On Tuesday Jan. 2, Mr. Sidell, the Paying Teller of the Merchants' Bank, on making up the amount of specie in the vault, discovered a deficiency of exactly \$25,000.

MAIL ROBBERS.—Within the last two months, something like twenty mail robbers have been arrested in different parts of the country, and about half of them have been tried and condemned to imprisonment. The department appears to be exercising great vigilance in ferreting out depredations of all kinds upon the mails.

LONG SENTENCE.—Baker, the young man of 18, who was convicted for participation in the burglary on E. B. Ward's store, and attempt to kill his clerk, was sentenced, in Detroit, on Monday, to fifty years' imprisonment in the State's prison.—When he leaves the State's prison he will be 68 years old, or in the year 1905.

Gunpowder is no longer to be the great destroyer. A Mr. Perkins has a steam gun which will throw a ball weighing a ton a distance of five miles! He wants a ship of 10,000 tons to anchor off Sebastopol with his gun on board, and promises to destroy the place without losing a man.

Pen, Paste and Scissors.

Court commences to-day. Shad are plenty, this soon, at Savannah. Senator Buckalew has taken his seat in the Senate.

The application of soda will cure snake and insect bites. Prof. Tiffany, of Carlisle College, is delivering Know Nothing lectures in Pittsburgh.

James Harlan, anti-Nebraska Whig, has been elected U. S. Senator by the Legislature of Iowa.

A toper has been killed in Connecticut by drinking excessively of essence of peppermint. Prussia is much alarmed. The people are decidedly in favor of the Western Powers, whilst the King and Court are Russian.

The Kansas Delegate, Mr. Whitfield, has written a letter for publication, in which he considers his election as solely a triumph of the principles of the territorial bill.

Mr. De Bow, in his late compendium of the 18th Census, estimates the deaths in the year 1850, throughout the United States, at one in fifty.

To make hens lay perpetually—Hit them on the head with a big club. Other modes have been recommended, but this is the only one we have found effectual.

A negro witness in Detroit stated that he had been blessed with five wives and forty-eight children, of whom twenty-eight still live, all boys but one.

The Cashier of the Lewis County Bank, safety fund, which exploded in November, has \$2 in specie; circulation \$125,000; assets neither here nor there.

Petitions are in circulation in the neighborhood of Pottstown, for the repeal of that part of the School Law establishing the office of County Superintendent.

In five years the number of believers in spiritual rappings has increased to one hundred thousand. Thousands of "mediums" have sprung up, and eleven newspapers are supported.

The great tunnel of the Pennsylvania Railroad, when it is arched, will cost \$430,000. It is 3612 feet long, 24 feet wide, 22 feet high, has 4 shafts, and is intended for double track.

SALMON IN CALIFORNIA.—The waters of the Upper Sacramento are teeming with the finest salmon, which are caught and carried to San Francisco, where they are sold at three cents per pound. So plenty are they that many spoil and are thrown away before they are sold.

TO GET UP A HOLIDAY.—Find some destitute family to whom you can secretly send a barrel of flour. Let your right hand pay for it, without allowing the left to know of the deed. Try it, and your heart will have a holiday.

As Dobbys very justly observes, the heartstrings of a woman—like the tendril of a vine—are always reaching out for men to cling to. The consequence is, before you are going, your are gone—like a one-legged stove at a street auction.

Arkansas is a queer country. If you go there with a five dollar piece, they tar and feather you for being a rich man. If you are poor, they give you fever and ague, and let it kill you. Curious country altogether.

Your stairs are very dark, Mr. Dodson. Do you think I can find the bottom? "Nothing easier, my dear Madame. All you have to do is to let go the banisters and make a stumble."

The Chinese are a queer people to go to market. A friend at Canton, writes "Kemlich Van Tassel," that a neighbor of his had just laid in his winter's provisions—a hind quarter of horse and two barrels of bull dogs. The latter saluted to keep.

COUNTERFEITING IN PRISON.—The Michigan papers assert that the prisoners in the State prison at Jackson have actually been engaged in the manufacture of bogus coin, and by the aid of accomplices outside the walls, have put the same in circulation.

MURDER BY A BOY.—During a quarrel between two boys in Cincinnati (Ohio) on Tuesday week, one of them, named Bickler, stabbed the other, Bittle, in the throat with a knife. He died in a few minutes from loss of blood.

The following lines were found at the bottom of a vote for Alberman at the late election in Boston:

WHY WE WANT. Experience, that's about the right; Conscience, to say what's right; Intelligence, to know what's best; Backbone, to stand the fight.

HOGS AT CINCINNATI.—The Cincinnati Price Current reports 81,467 as the number of hogs received there for the week ending on Tuesday evening, and the total to date, 256,726; against 279,875 to corresponding date last season.

FOUR BIRDS WITH ONE STONE.—James T. Ball, a youth of Prince Georges county, Md., lately killed four birds, with one stone. Two birds with one stone is as much as our fathers ever dreamed of.

J. J. NAILLE, Esq., of Hanover, has been appointed Rector of the Preparatory Department of Franklin and Marshall College, at Lancaster, and will enter upon its duties at the opening of next session.

DISTRESSING.—On the 1st inst., a dwelling-house was burned in Palatine, Marion county, Va., and an old lady named Brumerage perished in the flames. The house, its contents, and the body of the old lady were entirely consumed.

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE IN CONGRESS.—On Friday week, the new delegate from Nebraska, appeared in the House of Representatives and gave in his name as Napoleon Bonaparte Giddings. The report that he was a Benton man is contradicted. He is said to be a friend of the administration of Gen. Pierce.

MAIL ROBBERS.—Within the last two months, something like twenty mail robbers have been arrested in different parts of the country, and about half of them have been tried and condemned to imprisonment. The department appears to be exercising great vigilance in ferreting out depredations of all kinds upon the mails.

The Mesilla Valley, and the other territory acquired from Mexico, by the last treaty, is now under the laws of the United States—the proclamation was made on the 15th of November, in the presence of Gov. Merrivether, Gen. Garland, &c. The American flag was hoisted and saluted.

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To the Editor of the Star.

DEAR SIR.—Recent events have rendered it proper for me to resume the epistolary correspondence which had been suspended for a considerable length of time between us. On ordinary occasions, it gives me pleasure to renew and revise the social intercourse that an interchange of sentiments is calculated to produce between congenial spirits; but in the present instance, I am sorry to confess that this happy result is not likely to crown our correspondence. For my own part, I am ready to meet you half way—but you seem to be uncompromising, un-social, and unwilling, to make any restitution for the past, or any promises for the future.

It seems you can not appreciate the indignity you commit against the American character; the insult you offer to the sovereign people of these United States in thus drawing the line of distinction between her citizens, by those unjust and uncalled for allusions to the religious and birth place of many of them. The result of the late election in this county, it would seem, calls you not a little. As it pointed you to record a result altogether unfamiliar to your columns, it seems you have adopted a course which should, in your humble servant's estimation, be altogether unfamiliar to the columns of the journals of a country that boasts of being the asylum for the persecuted and oppressed of all nations.

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