



The Independent Republican.

C. F. READ & H. H. FRAZIER, EDITORS.

MONROSE, PA.
Thursday, January 24th, 1856.

The Law of Newspapers.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue their subscription.
2. If subscribers desire the discontinuance of their newspapers the publisher will continue to send them until all arrears are paid.
3. If subscribers neglect to receive or take their newspapers from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible until they have settled their bills and ordered them discontinued.
4. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publishers, and the newspapers are sent to the former direction they are held responsible.
5. The Publishers will not be held responsible for advertisements published by the office, or removing and leaving them unattended for evidence of fraud.

Republican Notice.

The Republican Executive Committee of Susquehanna County, will meet in Monroe on Monday evening, January 28th inst., for the transaction of business. The members of the Committee are Samuel F. Carmath, D. D. Warner, Isaac P. Baker, J. W. Carthill, G. B. L. Wade, Silvanus Fuller, Amos Williams, and P. L. Norton.

Petitions for, and remonstrances against, the repeal of the present Liquor law of our State are pouring in to the Legislature. A bill has been introduced to repeal the law, and another bill has been reported by Mr. Wilkies of the Committee on Vice and Immorality, "to regulate tavern licenses and restrain the use of intoxicating liquors."

We notice, by the Legislative Record, that Mr. Ingham, the Republican Representative in our State Legislature from this district, has introduced a bill instructing our United States Senators to vote for the repeal of the Kansas-Nebraska act. We wish there was more likelihood that such a bill would pass, or if passed, that the instructions would be obeyed.

A public meeting was held in Chicago, on Monday evening, the 7th inst., at which resolutions were adopted unanimously, endorsing the recent struggle of the Free State party in Kansas as a great moral victory. A subscription was started to remunerate the Free Soil settlers for the losses sustained by them in defence of their rights, and about \$1200 was subscribed on the spot.

It is that so in the course of a debate in the House, on the 18th inst., Henry M. Fuller stated that he was not elected on the anti-Nebraska issue; and that, although a strong feeling did exist in his district adverse to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, he felt assured that he was now representing the wishes of a large majority of his constituents.

We should like to enquire of the people of this district, if that is so.

We are enabled to report a slight improvement in the mail facilities between Monroe and Topeka, Kansas, as indicated in our attempted exchange with the Kansas Freeman. When we first referred to the subject we had been sending our paper to the Freeman, for two or three months, but had never seen a number of that paper. Since that time, we have received just three numbers of the Freeman, all told, and in the last one, dated January 24, the editor, referring to our statement, says he has sent his paper regularly, and has never received but two numbers of the Republican.

SOMEWHAT NEW.—Mr. Albert Truesdell has laid on our table editorially a unique little article, a perfect little beauty of porcelain, glass, and brass, and as useful as ornamental—in short, a charming miniature brass clock, supported on a pedestal of porcelain, and completely covered but not concealed by a bell-shaped glass case. The price is only five dollars.

Mr. Truesdell will be "around among the folks" of Susquehanna County, and give them a change to buy his elegant little time-keeper.

We did not attend the "Mass Convention of the Democratic Party of Susquehanna County," advertised to come off on Monday last, but are informed that there were about a dozen persons present, mostly disconsolate wire-pullers and office-seekers. They thought it best to go through the motions for the sake of making a show on paper, and accordingly passed some resolutions and elected H. J. Webb and somebody else, (we did not learn who,) delegates to the State Convention to be held at Harrisburg on the 4th of March. Quite a melancholy affair.

The North American contains an article on country roads, and the importance to country towns of having numerous roads concentrate in them, for facility of access to the surrounding country. The importance of this subject is no doubt a good deal overlooked by those most interested. Other things being equal, or nearly equal, farmers will follow the best roads to market with their produce. If rivalry exists between your town and a neighboring one, go to work and get as many good roads extending into all parts of the surrounding country, to concentrate in your town, as possible. Then, unless your rival is equally enterprising, you will be likely to bear away the palm.

The North American states the number of roads centering in several inland towns of the State, as follows: York has eleven, Chambersburg eleven, Lancaster fourteen, Somerset twelve, Carlisle ten, Greensburg nine, Reading eleven, Uniontown ten, Washington ten, Honesdale three, Laporte six, Monroeton five, Towanda five, Tunkhannock six, Bloomfield six, Westchester seven, Norristown seven, &c.

United States Senator.
We announced in our last that Wm. Bigler had been elected United States Senator by the Pennsylvania Legislature. As the old line Democracy have a large majority in our Legislature, of course no other result was anticipated, than the election of a member of that party. But many are disappointed in the individual selected for the office. There were fourteen candidates before the Democratic nominating Convention, including C. R. Buckalew, H. D. Foster, D. R. Porter, Asa Packer, J. L. Dawson, J. Glancy Jones, &c. After an angry and protracted contest, Bigler was nominated on the 19th ballot.

A caucus of Republicans and Americans was subsequently held, forty-four members being present. On the third ballot, Hon. E. Joy Morris, member of the House from Philadelphia, was nominated as the Candidate for United States Senator. The nomination was confirmed unanimously. The following resolutions were adopted without a dissenting voice:

Resolved, That we are opposed to the admission of any more States into this Union; there fore Resolved, That Kansas and Nebraska should not be admitted into the sisterhood as Free States.
Resolved, That we are opposed to political Romanism, or the interference of any foreign ecclesiastical establishment with the political affairs of our country.
Resolved, That the naturalization laws ought to be so modified as to correct the evils which the present system entails on this country, and that rigid measures should be taken to prevent the importation of foreign papers and journals.
Mr. Morris addressed the Caucus, after an unsolicited nomination had been tendered him, and gave his unqualified sanction to the resolutions adopted.

The following is a report of the proceedings in the convention for the election of Senator: At 12 o'clock, M., the Senators entered the Hall of the House; the Speaker of the Senate took the Chair, and the following ballot was had for a Senator to represent the State for six years from the 4th of March 1st: For William Bigler—Messrs. Brown, Buckalew, Cresswell, Ely, Evans, Hogg, Ingraham, Jamison, Knox, Lambach, McClintock, Smith, Wilson, Welsh, Wilkes, and Patton. For George Lewis—Messrs. Anderson, Backus, Beck, Bernhard, Boyd, Anderson, Beyer, Brush, Campbell, Cary, Colburn, Craig, Davidson, Edinger, Fennell, Fisher, Fulton, Hill, Howell, Harrook, Harper, Hois, Hill, Hiller, Gilles, Hipple, Huneker, Inis, Irwin, Jones, Johnson, Lebo, Lelsinger, Longaker, Lovett, McCarthy, Maguire, Many, Mangle, Messer, Miller, Montgomery, Nunnemacher, Orr, Patterson, Pearson, Ramsey, Redabaugh, Riddle, Roberts, Robinson, Salisbury, Sank, Smith (Lynchburg), Smith (Cambria), Smith (Philadelphia), Smith (Wenona), Thompson, Vail, Walter, Whelan, Wright (Luzerne), Yearley, Zimmerman and Wright, Speaker, of the House—82.
For E. J. Morris—Messrs. Crab, Ferguson, Finley, Galt, Greig, Greig, Lewis, Pratt, Schumaker, Southern and Teggart, of Seneca; and Messrs. Augustine, Baldwin, Ball, Barry, Brown, Glover, Crawford, Dock, Gaylord, Gibson, Haines, Holcomb, Houston, Ingham, Loughery, Longaker, Lott, Malcolm, M'Comb, M'Chee (Clinton), Moorehead, Munroe, Phelps, Prueell, Reed, Srouse, Struble, Wintrose and Wright (Dauphin), of the House—43.
For John C. Fenwick—Mr. Morris, of the House—1.

Mr. Bigler was declared duly elected. The certificate of election was prepared, signed and read, and the Convention adjourned.

Position of Mr. Banks.

Extracts from his speech in the House of Representatives, in answer to interrogatories by Mr. Zollisloffer and others:

Mr. Banks, of Massachusetts, then rose to answer the question. He yesterday voted with pleasure for the resolution presented by the honorable gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Zollisloffer). It embodied a principle which he believed to be a sound one—the right of every gentleman to inquire into and understand the principles maintained by the candidate for whom he chose to give his vote. Had he a candidate for the Speakership he should stand upon that principle, claim the right to know his views upon questions in which he was interested, but he had no candidate. Nor was he himself a candidate for any office. He had accepted the nomination, and did not understand upon what principle gentlemen had voted for him except that such was their choice. He therefore did not feel himself called upon, as a candidate, to answer any interrogatories that gentlemen might be pleased to put to him; but having fixed opinions upon all the great questions in which the country was interested, as a member of the House representing a district of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts he was free to speak, and had no hesitation in responding to the interrogatories which had been submitted to the gentleman from Illinois by the gentleman from Tennessee.

In reply to the first question propounded by the gentleman from Tennessee, he would distinctly say that he did not regard the Kansas and Nebraska bill as a compromise, or the formation of Free States, inasmuch as it repealed the prohibition of the institution of slavery over the section of country to which that measure applied.

In regard to the second question he should give a general reply in the affirmative. He believed in the constitutionality of the bill. Not provided, and that it was within the power of Congress to prohibit the institution of slavery in all the Territories belonging to the United States. As to whether or not he should advocate the passage of such an act in regard to territory where it was clearly unnecessary in consequence of its prohibition by pre-existing local laws, he had nothing to say. Very likely, if he thought it unnecessary, he should be willing to vote for a bill without any prohibition; but with regard to the territory covered by the measures of 1850, he had at that time held a set here and believed it necessary, to prohibit slavery there, in that the Wilnot proviso should be passed, he wished it distinctly understood that he should have voted for it.

As to the third question, he did not believe that the Constitution carried the institution of slavery into the Territories of the United States. His understanding of that belief was based upon the declaration of Mr. Webster, that even the Constitution of the United States itself did not go to the Territories until carried there by act of Congress. He (Mr. B.) did not believe that the Constitution carried any Territory of the United States the right to hold slavery there. He recognized the right to protection of all property, on the part of the South as well as on the part of the North, in the Territories of the United States; but when he spoke of property he meant that which was considered as such by the universal laws of the world. He meant not that which was property only while held in particular States of this country, and which lost its character as such the moment it went beyond the limits of those States. Property in man, which the universal law of the world condemned, and which was property only while held under the local laws of certain sections of the country, where he had no disposition to disturb it, was not such property as was protected by the Constitution of the United States. But he had nothing to say upon this very delicate question in regard to the protection of property. He believed that the Constitution of the United States was intended to do justice

between the different sections of the country, to the South as well as to the North. He was for that to-day, and believed that justice should be done to both North and South, and in no speech or declaration that had ever fallen from his lips, so far as he could remember, had he expressed sentiments different from these. But he believed that the Constitution was contemplated by its framers as an instrument of ultimate universal freedom, and that it was looked to as such by the world at large; and that the flag was symbolized, which represented it, and made the territory over which it waved, in whatever quarter of the globe, so long as it covered American citizens, American territory, was the symbol of that ultimate universal freedom, and that it should ever wave, such, and nothing less.

As to the latter part of the last question, respecting the territory acquired from France it was but a repetition of the first interrogatory, with the addition of a statement of fact. He had to say that it had been doubted whether the institution of slavery existed in that territory at the time of its acquisition. Without going into the subject of the doubt, resting upon the question whether France, by the decree of 1791, had abolished the institution of slavery there, he thought that Congress was right in interdicting the institution over that territory, if such legislation was necessary to make it free. It was necessary, in order to gain to the South the right to carry the institution of slavery there, that the interdiction of 1820 should be repealed, he thought that the Congress of 1854 was wrong in enacting that repeal, but he could not say, with this light that had come to him on this question, that interdiction of 1820 having forbidden and abolished the institution of slavery, if it existed there, its repeal in 1854, inasmuch as it allowed slavery to go there, unless under impossible circumstances, was an act not promotive of the formation of free States.

The next question was, whether he was in favor of restoring the Missouri restriction, or for the entire prohibition of slavery in all the Territories of the United States? The Territorial question of the present time referred to the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska. As to the Territories to come hereafter, he should leave them to that hereafter. He would say to the gentleman from Mississippi and to the House that he was for the prohibition of slavery in the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska.
In regard to the first clause of this interrogatory, as to whether he was in favor of restoring the Missouri compromise, he had to reply that he desired that the prohibition of the institution of slavery in the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, as made by Southwestern States, should be made good to the people of the country and to its great hereafter. As to the manner in which it should be done, whether by a restoration of the technical line or by any other methods, appliances, or principles that should give to the American States the prohibition for which Southern compact, agreed, and took a consideration—he had nothing to say. He was for the substantial restoration of the prohibition of the institution of slavery, as prohibited in 1820.

He would reply to the other questions by saying that he stood ready, willing, disinterested, and determined to cooperate with the men of the United States who were for the substantial restoration of the interdiction of the institution of slavery in the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska. He was ready to act with the men of any party, of any principles, of any views who co-operate with him in regard to this great question.

Our Relations with England.
Editorial Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, 1856.
The official advice by the America do not in any change our friendly relations with England. Mr. Bachman writes that no real prospects of peace are entertained by the Ministry, and England in preparing the largest fleet ever floated for operations against Russia in the Spring. Louis Napoleon is still anxious to extricate himself from the war—having attained all the desired prestige of the occasion.
Gen. Cass is preparing a speech on the question of Slavery in the Territories, for Thursday, probably.
Mr. O. R. Singleton, a Member of the last Congress from Mississippi, has been confirmed as Consul at Havana, and Mr. Brown of Buffalo as Consul at Tangiers.

The President dispatched to the Senate, in Executive session to-day, Lord John Russell's letter of January 19, 1853, to John C. Fremont, Secretary of State. It declares that the British Government intend strictly to carry out the Clayton Bulwer Treaty, and to assume no sovereignty, directly or indirectly, in Central America. The Senate has removed the injunction of secrecy, and the letter will be published.
The Government has received no official information as to the recent bloody outrage in Kansas, announced by telegraph. Senators to-day informally confessed as to the policy of advising the President to send military aid to Kansas to preserve peace and protect the Territory against Missouri invasions.
Southern Senators predict that civil war is inevitable in a short time.

SHARPENING EDGED TOOLS.—The following is taken from a German scientific journal for the benefit of our mechanics and agricultural laborers: "It has long been known that the simplest method of sharpening a razor is to put it for half an hour in water, to which has been added one-twentieth of its weight of muriatic or sulphuric acid, then wipe it lightly off, and after a few hours set it on a hone. The acid here supplies the place of what is ordinarily used, by corroding the whole surface, uniformly, so that nothing further but a smooth polish is necessary. The process never injures good blades, while badly hardened ones are frequently improved by it, although the cause of such improvement remains unexplained. Of late, this process has been applied to many other cutting implements.—The workman, at the beginning of his noon-sleep, or when he leaves off in the evening, moistens the blades of his tools with water acidified as above, the cost of which is almost nothing. This saves the consumption of time and labor in whetting, which, moreover, speedily wears out the blades. The mode of sharpening here indicated would be found especially advantageous for scythes."

The star of Col. Kinney is said to be on the wane. His election as Governor of San Juan, or Greytown, was defeated by the exertions of the English, and particularly, if the rumor is well founded, by menaces emanating from an English man-of-war then at anchor in the harbor. Only six of his men remain faithful. The others have joined Walker, but with the understanding that they will return to him when called for. Moneyless he is, too, and in a measure desponding—the wreck of what he was. Martin, his successful rival, is entirely under the control of the British, and he boasts that he will at all times have an English man-of-war to back him in whatever he undertakes.

ELM COUNTY.—At a Democratic meeting held in Ridgeway on the 1st inst., the following manner, proposed to close the exercises by singing "Jordan's Stand." The hymn "O Jordan's Stand, Jordan's Stand." The worthy man was horrified by hearing the whole school immediately strike up "O Jordan's Stand to travel, I believe."—*Boston Journal.*
Henry S. McGraw, Democrat, was elected State Treasurer of Pennsylvania, on Monday last.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.

Editorial Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.
WASHINGTON, Monday, Jan. 21, 1856.
We are now visibly approaching the end of the contest for Speaker. Only one ballot was taken to-day, on which Banks needed a change of seven votes to elect him. Several unworkable propositions were successively made and tabled, after the House emphatically refused to rescind the anti-speaking resolution on Saturday. Fuller and Pennington declined; and finally Carlisle (South American) moved that Gov. William Smith of Virginia be Speaker, and obtained the previous question thereon. Only 47 voted in the affirmative—less than 20 Democrats, the rest South Americans. Adjourned.

I think an effort will be made to-night and to-morrow to concentrate the Democratic and South American plurality rule. If the effort fails, I believe we shall have a result somewhat this week, perhaps on Wednesday. The impotence of the Government and citizens for an organization is very great. Forney says he has never thought of abandoning the Clerkship until superseded.

The Show is fair sleighing depth, and the skies wintry. n. o.

The State of the House.

Congress has been in session more than seven weeks, and no Speaker has yet been chosen. The House is divided into three Parties—Republican, National Know-Nothing, and the Republican. We use the term, "Republican," to designate that class of members who putting aside all other issues, unite in accepting the issue forced upon them by the Administration and slavery—the Nebraska Bill and the Pro-Slavery policy embodied in, and implied by, it. Questions concerning the Tariff, Public Land, Naturalization Laws, &c., are subordinated with them to the main question of the organization of the House for or against the Nebraska bill, its principle and policy. The Republicans say, "and therefore vote for Mr. Banks, who stands as the exponent of that issue alone." The Administration men and National Know-Nothings say, "for, and therefore the former select Mr. Richardson, who introduced and carried through the bill, as its candidate, and the National Know-Nothing men Mr. Fuller, who has pledged himself to abide by the bill and all existing acts in relation to Slavery."

But, there is an intermediate group of members, elected as Anti-Nebraska men, who will not vote for any of these candidates.—If they would support Mr. Banks, he would be elected. They refuse; and their refusal prevents an election of Speaker on the majority principle. What are the reasons? Mr. Richardson, the Republican candidate, has a distinction in no man's affairs. For the life of us, we can find no other reason assigned by this gentleman for not voting with the body of Anti-Slavery men.

Surely, certain representatives of Anti-Slavery constituents underrate the interest of the People in this struggle. These care nothing for Mr. Banks personally, but they see that he is put forward as the representative of the will of the people, and of the integrity of the country—that the contest is between him and the Slave Interest—and that his defeat will be the defeat of the Anti-Nebraska movement, and another humiliation of the free States. Let the men who now support him surrender their ground, and they become from that moment irretrievably disorganized, and we may expect defeat on every question relating to Slavery that shall come before the House. Surely, the gentlemen who are scattering their votes, while voting for Mr. Banks, are encouraging the opposition to him, overlook the real nature of the struggle, and the vast importance of its consequences. Let them deceive themselves as they please, it is a contest between Freedom and Slavery; between the representative ties of the non-slaveholding voters and the Slave Power; and he, who from personal considerations, or a blind prejudice, or a selfish ambition, or an anxiety to promote other interests, prevents the decision of the struggle in favor of Liberty, assumes a fearful responsibility.

In the present House of Representatives—the great issue made is, this very Nebraska Question. The Administration Party makes it paramount—the National Know-Nothing generally by their own declaration, stand with them upon it. Now, what should every Anti-Slavery man do? Meet them on this paramount question, so that the free sentiment of the country may confront directly the Slavery-propagating sentiment. This is the judgment of nearly all the Anti-Nebraska members, and hence their selection of Mr. Banks. What is his position? He is known to have been a Democrat—and is known to be a Republican. But what Republican cares now for his opinion about a Tariff that he not the question? He has never been a member of the American Order—he is now a Republican. Who cares about his opinion on Abolitionism? That is not the question.

He stands as the exponent of the only practical question before the American People, recognized as of paramount importance, by the people of all sections—the question—shall Slavery or Freedom govern the Union? He stands as the exponent of that question—no man in voting for him, votes any principle, any opinion; his vote simply says, "that question is paramount—all others are and must be subordinate till that be settled."—*National Era.*

SEXUAL VIEW.—The Newport Kentucky News has the following many paragraph on the pretended "Nationalism" of the slaveholders. It is refreshing to contrast such honest confessions, coming from a slave State Party, with the doublet sentiments of many Northern prints: "The cry of sectionalism, the twin bugbear of disunion, is just now about the only weapon in the army of the cotton politicians of the country. Opposition to the spread of slavery, which runs counter to the interests of the mere hand-fetched interested in slave property, is called 'sectionalism' although it would spare our new territories from the blight of slavery, and leave them free for the occupation of the non-slaveholding whites of the country, North and South. The real sectional party of the day, is that which forgets the interests of the millions of non-slaveholders of the country, and prostitute law and official patronage to the support of slavery!"
ELM COUNTY.—At a Democratic meeting held in Ridgeway on the 1st inst., the following manner, proposed to close the exercises by singing "Jordan's Stand." The hymn "O Jordan's Stand, Jordan's Stand." The worthy man was horrified by hearing the whole school immediately strike up "O Jordan's Stand to travel, I believe."—*Boston Journal.*
Henry S. McGraw, Democrat, was elected State Treasurer of Pennsylvania, on Monday last.

NEWS FROM OREGON.

CAMP WALLA WALLA, Dec. 8, 1855.
To William H. Farrar, Adjutant of Regt. Sin.—Yesterday morning, as my command was on the line of march from the mouth of Touchet River to Whitman Valley, we were attacked by about four hundred Indians, with whom we kept up a running fight all day, and for a distance of about ten miles from the Walla Walla River. At dark on yesterday the battle was suspended, but the Indians withdrawing. We drove them from every position which they took, both in the brushwood along the river bank and on the adjacent hills. This morning the battle was renewed, and raged all day. At dark this evening the Indians again withdrew. The number of Indians who fought us to-day has been considerably greater than yesterday, and is supposed to exceed six hundred. To-morrow morning we expect a renewal of the battle, which in all probability will last for some time to come.

I regret to say that yesterday and to-day we have lost many brave and excellent men, who fell nobly fighting for their country. The loss of the Indians must be very great, as their killed alone, during the two days—cannot be less than fifty men. Among their killed on yesterday, was the noted chief of the Walla Walla; the celebrated Pe-Cu-Mox-Mox. He was taken prisoner by my command on the 5th inst., near his camp on the Touchet, and during the battle yesterday made an effort to escape. In doing so he was killed. Together with four others who were found prisoners at the same time, and who also attempted to get away. To-morrow, as I said, we expect a renewal of the battle, and I regret to say that we are not in a situation to repel the attack of the Indians with that vigor which is desired. This arises from our scarcity of ammunition, and the broken down condition of our horses. The animals have become so poor and unmanageable, that it will be a successful charge against the Indians, who are mounted on fleet horses, and can easily escape.

We are therefore compelled, in a measure, to limit on the defence of our present position, which we are now fortifying by making a stockade fort. Our ammunition will be exhausted, I fear, with another day's hard fighting; and unless we can procure a supply from Fort Henrietta, our position will be critical indeed. Of provisions, we have only enough for about three days, but we expect to get a supply in two or three days. I must insist upon supplies of all kinds being sent forward at once, as I do not intend to abandon this position until the last extremity. By so doing the enemy would be greatly emboldened. This dispatch is written in great haste, and is disconnected and exceedingly brief, and I regret to say that it may be unsatisfactory; but I wish to send the message forward immediately, so as to reach Fort Henrietta before daylight. At another time I will give you a more detailed report of all transactions that have occurred since leaving the fort on the Umatilla. Respectfully yours, J. K. KELLY, Lieut. Col. Regiment O. M. V.

STATE TREASURER'S REPORT.—The report of Col. Eli Sibley on the finances of the State, affords satisfactory news; but with the exception of the long-looked for consolation, that there is some prospect of a reduction of the State debt. We copy the following paragraphs: The following named counties paid into the Treasury their respective quotas of taxes for the current year, prior to the first of August, and as authorized by the act of the 29th of April, 1844, they severally were allowed the abatement to which the law entitled them, viz: Adams, Allegheny, Beaver, Berks, Bradford, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Clarion, Columbia, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Erie, Fayette, Franklin, Green, Juniata, Lancaster, Lawrence, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Mercer, Mifflin, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland, Philadelphia, Schuylkill, Union, Washington, Westmoreland, York. The receipts from taxes on real and personal property, exceeded those of last year, two hundred and ten thousand seven hundred and eleven dollars and forty cents. The amount of abatement paid is correspondingly large.

We have arrived at the long and anxious-ly desired period in our financial history when the permanent sources of revenue are equal to, and even greater than all the necessary expenditures of the government. In the same frugality, and economy, in the management of public affairs, that have produced this desirable result, and a continuance of the same efficient system of revenue, its returns annually increasing, with the constant appreciation of property and extension of business, we shall realize, at no distant day, the gradual but final extinguishment of our entire State debt.

The leading staple of our country is one which too little importance has hitherto been attached. Wheat and cotton are fairly distanced by Indian corn, for while the wheat crop of the year is valued at \$247,100,000, and the cotton crop at \$136,000,000, the corn crop reached \$360,300,000. Stated in bushels, the corn crop exceeds that of wheat much more largely, the former being 600,000,000 bushels, and the latter 165,000,000. The Indian corn crop is eminent-ly a national one, for there is no portion of the country capable of cultivation, but may be made to produce it. While cotton is restricted to the extreme south, and wheat is most abundantly raised in the north, corn grows every where. It keeps company with sugarcane and cotton pods in one section competes with tobacco in another, flourishes with hemp in a third, and beats the wheat crop in its head quarters. Every year it increases the production much more than that of any other crop, east, west, north and south. There is no other article of agricultural production which approaches it either in amount or value, and it seems likely to soon equal both wheat and cotton united. At the last meeting of our Corn Trade Association it was stated that the value of one year's crop of Indian corn exceeds the whole product of the California gold mines up to the present time. The sugar, tobacco and cotton crops united are but little more than half the value of the corn crop.

The steamship Halifax arrived at N. Y., with three days' later news from Europe. It is twenty hours behind the Atlantic, and has taken fifteen days to reach any port territory to business, and the Allen, in return, engage to supply Sweden with forest sufficient to resist all acts of aggression. The Austrian ultimatum against the assent of England and France were forwarded to St. Petersburg.

A bill to increase the pay of jurors and witnesses, has been reported in the Pennsylvania Legislature.

Republican Organization.

The following Call has been signed by the Chairman of the Republican Central Committee of five States, and will doubtless be signed by the others as well. It has been presented for their approval. But the time fixed for the meeting is so near that it has been deemed advisable not to wait further signatures before submitting it to the public.

Let it be distinctly understood that no nominations are to be made at this gathering but only the time and place of holding a National Convention (should such be deemed advisable) agreed upon. Should a different mode of ascertaining and concentrating the sentiment of the Republican party; with regard to the Presidency in 1856 be deemed preferable, that will of course be adopted and recommended. What is contemplated is the beginning of a National movement designed to unite all the opponents of Slavery Extension in the Republican party, and to resist to this end it is not necessary that anything like a Mass Convention should be summoned, nor even one composed of Delegates from the several Congressional Districts. From two to ten wise, intelligent and upright men from each State which sees fit to be represented will be ample. We trust measures will be taken, in every Free State at least, to secure such a representation at Pittsburgh on the 23d of February.

To the Republicans of the United States.
In accordance with what appears to be the general desire of the Republican party, and suggestion of a large portion of the Republican Press, the undersigned, Chairman of the State Republican Committee of Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New-York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin, hereby invite the Republicans of the Union to meet in a National Convention at Pittsburgh, on the 23d of February, 1856, for the purpose of perfecting the National Organization, and providing for a National Delegate Convention of the Republican party, at some subsequent day, to nominate candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency, to be supported at the election of November, 1856, by the following named gentlemen: A. P. STONE of Ohio. DAVID WILMOT of Pa. J. Z. GOODRICH of Mass. W. A. WHITE of Wis. LAWRENCE BRAINSIDE of Va. Will the Republican press please copy.

State Agricultural Society.
The fifth Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society convened in the Hall of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, on Tuesday, the 15th inst.—The President of the Society, James Gowen, being absent, the meeting was organized, on motion of Col. T. F. Knox, by electing Hon. Geo. W. Wilkes as President, and reporting the reports of the Committee on field crops, and that of the Treasurer and Secretary, were adopted.

This being the time for the election of officers, the following were duly elected.
President, James Gowen; Vice Presidents, Isaac B. Baxter, A. T. Newbell, Charles K. Engle, James Magee, Thos. P. Knox, Abraham R. McVaine, Adrain Cornell, George M. Keim, J. M. Stewart, W. Woodard, Angus M. Lukerbaugh, William Jessup, H. N. McAllister, Jacob S. Haldeman, William Heyser, John S. Scott, John McElearland, John H. Ewing, John Murdoch, Jr., William Waugh, William Bigler, James Miles; Additional Members of the Executive Committee, Frederick Watts, John Evans, A. O. Heister, Isaac G. McKinley, Simon Cameron; Corresponding Secretary, A. Boyd H. Hall; Librarian and Geologist, S. S. Haldeman; Librarian; Henry Gilbert.

THE NEXT PRESIDENT.—Were a Liverpool steamer over due a day, or a California remittance of gold half a million less than usual, it would create greater anxiety than does the delay of Congress in organizing for business. But there is one view of this battle in the House of Representatives, which is suggested by the Boston Advertiser, which rises to an importance that no indifference to public affairs can ignore. The House, distracted as it is, may be called upon to elect the next President, and the same partisan divisions which impede the election of a Speaker, must embarrass the selection of a President. In case of the failure of the Electoral College to choose a President, the election devolves upon the States, through their representatives in the popular branch of Congress and sixteen of them must unite on a candidate to secure his success. The State delegates stand at 14 Republican, 10 Democratic, 4 American and 3 divided. Those who remember the agitating scenes of 1824 will regret to anticipate a recurrence of such a crisis.

A CURIOUS TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR.—Professor Trench, in his latest work on the English language, points out a curious error in the 24th verse of the 22d chapter of St. Matthew. The words, "which strain at a gnat and swallow a camel," the professor thinks contain a misprint, which having been passed over in the edition of 1811 has held its ground ever since. The translators intended to say "which strain out a gnat and swallow a camel," that being the correct reading of the original, as appears in Tyndale's and Cranmer's translations, both of which have "strained out." It was the custom of the stricter Jews to strain their wine, vinegar and other potables through linen or gauze, lest unawares they should drink down some little unclean insect, as a gnat, and so transgress the Levitical law. It was to this custom the Savior alluded, intending to say that the Scribes and Pharisees, while they strain out a gnat from their drink, would yet swallow a camel at a gulp.

SLAVERY TO RULE EVERYTHING.—The editor of the Toledo Blade, now in Washington, writes to his paper some interesting letters. The following extract from one of them shows what the slavholders contend for. They are becoming bolder law men, and regard slavery as above the Constitution, and superior to it. Modern Democracy will probably concede the claim. What says the Statesman? "While I am writing, Mr. Etheridge, of Tiffin," is declaring that he denies that slavery goes over the Territories by virtue of and under the Constitution, but he emphatically declares that, as slavery was anterior, it is superior to the Constitution, and that the South holds its slaves in spite of the Constitution, and defies it. This looks a little like higher law."

HISTORICAL AND PIONEER FESTIVAL.—It will be recalled that a committee was appointed on the 23d of February last, at the Historical and Pioneer Association of the Susquehanna and Chemung Valleys, whose duty it should be to designate the place for the holding of the next Festival. That Committee consists of Judge Hollenback, of Luzerne; P. M. Osterhout, of Wyoming; Judge Jessup, of Susquehanna; Judge Avery, of Toga; Judge Laporte, of Bradford; Hon. Thomas Maxwell, of Channing; Wm. Stewart, Esq., of Broome; Judge McBurney, of Steuben; C. B. Drake, Esq., of Tompkins. A majority of the Committee have expressed a preference for Binghamton; and have thus discharged their duty assigned to them.

Van Dieman's Land exists no longer, the Queen having acceded to a petition from the colony, praying that the name of Van Dieman's Land should be changed to "Tasmania."