THE DEMOCRAT.

MONTROSE, PA:

Wednesday, February, 28, 1849.

☞ The change in our publication day is to last only this week. It was made to allow us to publish the County Statement, "four times in the month of February," according to the requirements of the Statute.

☞ To accommodate our Great Bend friends, we have greatly discommoded ourselves to publish the proceedings of the great Rail Road convention that week, which were only to be had there among. Attention is directed to them in another column.

Gov. Johnston and the North Branch Canal.

Our neighbor of the Republican consistently, at the last quite put out with us because we had the temerity to impute to Gov. Johnston the will to veto North Branch Canal bill now before the House. We are sorry our neighbor feels so much excited about it now, for we are sure he will feel much worse when the whole force of the case is developed. Lest he may be ignorant of movements and events," however, we will presume him that we did not make the assertion without good and sufficient warrant. We have at our possession, furnished by friends of the North Branch now in Harrisburg, the most positive and positive proof to substantiate all we charged, and more than we charged. And we now challenge him, what we can prove by *a letter of his own party*, as well as by private information, that Governor Johnston is not only ready to veto the bill if inclined by Mr. Fuller, of Luzerne, but that he is also bringing all the force he can command to the Whig ranks to bear against it to kill it. That our neighbor has probably learned ere this; but if he has not, he will learn it if he will patiently await the ides of March. We should have suppressed this the disclosure made by Messrs Cooper and Biddle both warm pure Whigs, in their words to members in the House a few days ago, would have been sufficient to satisfy our readers of the impropriety of the course of the Republican in attempting to screen Gov. Johnston from the imputation. If he has not, we shall have more to say in another column of this paper.

The force of the case—and the use it will be—was fully admitted by Mr Biddle—that although *unfriendly*, at first, to the bill—finally to the completion of the North Branch, he is *not* inclined to its completion by a loan, and only desires it by means of some such scheme of finance as is now contemplated by the bill pending in the Senate. The bill at almost an identical character with Mr Cooper's drawn up *under the Governor's own supervision*, as we are assured, is now in the hands of one of his leading friends in the Senate, to be pushed to a vote the moment his friends in the House shall have managed to kill off the bill now and in session. Pleasant action of our neighbor, and by his own confession and expound the muscles of his countenance with indignation, but he will find, we are sure, disappointed.

We never looked upon Gov. Johnston as anything but an adroit an skillful demagogue, nor gave him any credit or *zeal* the public for the completion of the North Branch. It in time he proof such a geographical of more effect while around in this region you do going last fall and also to still longer dwindle those who were misled by his professions, deserved to worthy & pressing notice in his message; but further than that we are warranted in believing he is not much disposed. If the case, why does he seek to oppose the bill now before the House? He knows very well it is not a bill as that he has proposed can not pass the body the present session. The Democrats and they number two-thirds of the friends of the North Branch in the House—will unanimously vote it till it comes to raise the funds for the completion of the canal and by means of opening bank, dodging or of the creation of more shinplasters. And he has been taken upon that point he has fully decided it. Why not, then, permit his friends, now urging them, to support the bill in its present shape, if he is sincere in his professions of interest in the work? The refusal to do so, and the rejection of the present bill by his leading friends in the House, is to any man *in our interest* as of lamentable seriousness and doubtful doing in regard to it.

Hon. J. N. Conyngham.—The last *Bradford Reporter* contains a correspondence between the members of the Bar of Bradford county and Hon. J. N. Conyngham, President Judge of that District, whose commission is about to expire. The former tender the latter a public "supper" which the Judge very respectfully declines because his own feelings are averse to such processions. Few men are more deserving such a compliment than Judge Conyngham. We are much pleased to hear him frequent talked of by our exchanges as the Democratic candidate for Governor at the next Gubernatorial election. No man could make a better run on the North than he.

☞ The vacancy of the *Tioga Eagle* was thus terribly under the scourging we gave him two weeks ago, and makes up all kinds of wry faces and grimaces at us, besides calling us all the naughty names he can find in his billingsgate vocabulary. "Let the galled jade wince." By the way, Col, was not that a most silly falsehood of yours when you charged us with saying in our reply to you, that "we would uphold Wilmot right or wrong?" You not only know yours if that it is false, but everybody else will know it to be false, and especially as the paragraph you quoted from us gave it a flat contradiction. We are surprised glad, if you *must* "lie yourself out of the scrape," you have not more sagacity than to contradict yourself at the same breath!

Improvement on Webster.—The *Tioga Eagle* man is certainly a scholar, and doubtless wishes to be considered so. He spells pigeon, p-i-d-g-e-o-n. This is certainly an improvement on Webster, and we recommend him to Professor Goodrich as a rare prodigy. We hope he will spare us the title of "learned gentleman," hereafter, as we have this moment surrendered all pretensions.

At loss for a subject.—The *Tioga Eagle* planer must be at loss for a subject for his lucubrations, judging from his weekly (*weekly*) allusions to, and prattings about, the "rules and regulations which have governed the party in this district for some 15 or 20 years" &c. How much regard had *he*, and the clique he represents, for those rules and regulations at the Congressional election of 1846? Will he tell us in his next bulletin?

☞ The last Wyoming Patriot brings the announcement of the retirement of its former editor, Wm. Bolton, Esq., who resigns his chair to S. S. Winchester, Esq., who will publish a new paper to be called the "Wyoming Democrat," after the 1st of April

Prospects of the North Branch.

The prospects of the North Branch, we are sorry to say, are once again beclouded. Since our last the bill that is before the House, has undergone a vast try of fluctuations and changes, at one time being killed in a far open contest, and at another compromising the position of a resurrection. On Wednesday, after having been debated all day by various friends and foes, the vote upon it was ordered, when it was rejected by a vote of ayes 46, nays 50. This was thought by many to be the end of it; but the next morning, a motion to reconsider the vote upon it was adopted by a vote of ayes 52, nays 39, which again brought it before the House. On motion of Mr. Little it was then postponed for the present.

What now will be its fate it is impossible to predict. It may, and we sincerely hope it will, pass the House, when we all disappear; but if it does not, we are fully satisfied, and indeed that is the character of our advocacy, that no bill for the completion of the North Branch will pass this session. The Democrats are fully determined that if Gov. Johnston and his Whig friends kill the bill now before the House, they will resort to a mass any scheme he may propose that looks to bank multiplication and shinplasters to raise the funds. In this they would be fully sustained and fully justifiable, may rest assured the demands and necessities for the completion of the canal are.

An Infamous Proposition.

In the House of Representatives, on Monday week, a Mr. Sinnet, from Ohio, offered the following amendment to the Constitution, as a substitute for the bill before the House for carrying into effect the 10th article of the treaty with Mexico. It needs but few words to this Schedule as a Whig, for nobody but a Whig can harbor and act out the double dealing treason and infamy that expounded in the proposition.

"That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and instructed to enter negotiations in connection with the Government of the Republic of Mexico for the surrender to said Republic of all the territories known as New Mexico and Upper California, or so much thereof as lies west of the Rio Grande, of any title therein which is required by the United States under the fifth article of the treaty between the United States and Mexico, made and concluded at Guadalupe Hidalgo, on the 2d day of February, A. D. 1848, the said cession to be made upon a consideration to such further and the payment of the United States, as release to Mexico all the claim or demand for the several claims now guaranteed by the said treaty to the United States, and to be paid by the United States, as aforesaid."

Such is the proposition. Of 73 to 63, the Whigs not the only ones who voted in favor of it and every Democrat in the House voting against it. That is a good omen, and we trust the Legislature will adhere to the determination thus expressed and save the State from another slum-planter reign.

Election Anecdote.—Cleveland has been nominated for Congress in the 3d (New London) district, Conn. He is decidedly the most popular Democrat in that Federal-bound State, and stands a first rate chance of being elected. The district is now represented by John A. Rockwell, Whig.

Sick or it.—Gen. Taylor offered the Presidency to Bailie Peyton, and to Gov. Crittenden before he got to Cincinnati, perceiving that it was likely to be a troublesome affair. So say the papers.

Small Bills.—A correspondent of the Monroe Democrat, (whom we presume to be one of its editors, who is a member of the Legislature) says:

The project for the issue of two millions of small notes is defunct. Occasionally, a stray Whig or so, will squint at it in debate, yet thus far, not one has had the temerity to avow himself "flat footed" in its favor. The public sentiment is too soundly fixed upon the currency question to be wheedled into a retrograde movement, however specious may be the pretext.

The Daily Iris.—The specimen number of this paper, published by E. T. Evans, Binghamton, has been received. It is the size of the weekly Iris, neatly got up, and reads well. We wish its enterprising proprietor all possible success. Terms 10 cents a week, or $5 a year.

Letter from Col. Asa Dimock.

Harrison co., Pa., Feb. 15, 1849.

Mr. O. G. Hurlbut—

Editor of "The Montrose Democrat"—

Dear Sir:

I observe by your paper of the 6th inst., that a correspondent of yours, whom you are pleased to style "a well known Democrat," has done me the honor of bringing forward my name as *a northern candidate for Canal Commissioner*.

It is true I consider myself a "Northern man" Northern Pennsylvania is the place of my birth, and where the better days of my life have been spent; and while we were it left to my choice, I could wish to spend the remainder of them. For the last four years however, I have resided in the interior of the State, but I look forward to the time when I may make Susquehanna County my home and abiding place.

I have no claims upon Susquehanna County as a candidate, more than every good citizen, who has endeavored to be faithful to the trust reposed in him. The people of Susquehanna county have already conferred upon me distinguished favors, and reposed in me delegated trusts; which I have endeavored to discharge with fidelity, to the best of my ability. I own it would be a disunction, with which I should feel myself highly honored, to be selected as "*The Northern Democratic Candidate for Canal Commissioner*." Yet I would not desire my friends to place me in that position, to the exclusion of abler, and perhaps better men.

If you have occasion in your midst when you would prefer to use my name, and whose nomination you think may be successful, I will be obliged to all pretensions, and with pleasure unite in bringing him forward; and when a nomination is made, my best endeavors to secure his election.

To sustain from the inroads of federalism, those great and glorious principles, for which we have so long contended as Democrats, we should merge all minor differences among ourselves; and pursue the ancient landmarks, and usages of our party, that led to the high exaltation of Democracy," upon which we may all unite.

The present triumph of federalism, in the State and the Union, is but *temporary*. If the Democratic party are united we shall be triumphant: and our principles applied to the administration of our government, gladden again the hearts of the people, with happiness and prosperity. With my best respects to my fellow citizens of Susquehanna, I am &c.

Yours Truly,

ASA DIMOCK

☞ The Senate of this State on Saturday passed the bills for extending the charters of the Montgomery county and Chambersburg Banks. The House passed the bill to extend the charter of the Farmers and Mechanics' Bank of Philadelphia. The bill to repeal the Gas & Ohio Railroad also passed the House on that day by a vote of ayes 57, noes 42.

Plank Road Convention.

At a numerously attended meeting of the inhabitants of Great Bend and vicinity held at the house of Joseph McLallen on the 26th inst. WILLIAM DAYTON, Esq. was appointed President, with LAURIE GRIFFIS, JAMES NEWMAN, CHARLES DIMON, ABRAHAM DUBOIS and ELIAS T. YOUNG, Vice Presidents. *Geo. Baldwin*, Esq., and Dr. C. *James Brooks* were elected Secretaries.

On motion, a committee of thirteen were appointed to draft resolutions, as follows, to wit: Col. F. Lusk, T. Baldwin, M. Gibson, D. Thomas, Geo. Baldwin, P. Decker, W. F. Bradley, I. Stow, J. Brooks, N. Ives, James Carnes, James Griffin, E. Brown and John B. Johnston.

The committee, after a short absence, through their chairman, Col. F. Lusk, reported the following preamble and resolutions.

Whereas, the citizens of Susquehanna County, for a number of years past, have assiduously devoted time, perseveringly exerted energy, and liberally appropriated treasure by contributions, receipts &c., in and in offering an admission of the New York and Erie Rail Road into their county on terms which might be accepted by the company in charge of said Road, anticipating, as they reasonably might, an equal advantage when from the unbounded wealth of the Commonwealth, who have been enormously but patriotically taxed not only for the support of State Government, but especially for the construction of public improvements, in which they are not immediately interested; and whereas the said Rail Road having entered our County, is now in the full tide of successful operation, promising to our citizens a speedy transmission of the many local productions which they have long and anxiously held in prospect, therefore—

Resolved, That with mortification and regret, we are assured there are some persons even in the interior and western part of *this* County, who are lending their countenance to the designs of a few greedy *speculators in village plots* from the State of New York, who would divert the business and travel of Montrose and vicinity from the Great Bend Depot, and direct it, by the construction of a Plank Road, to a Depot about four and a half miles from this place, which Depot, now exists, only an imagination.

That from all the information which we have been able to collect upon the subject, we are fully satisfied, that, with a view to shortness of distance and the desirable facilities for a speedy and permanent construction of a Plank Road between Montrose and the New York and Erie Rail Road, the "Great Bend route" is decidedly preferable to any other in contemplation.

That in our belief, the promise of a *free bridge* about two miles below the line and in the State of New York, as a mere *offering* by which to mislead the more sanguine but less practical citizens of a Plank Road—that a well graded and wisely conducted Bridge Company sanctioned by law and acting under its authority, bound in duty to the Susquehanna County to keep the public in such all necessary repairs or rebuild should occasion require, and prepared to receive in turn a reasonable compensation in the form of "tolls" from travellers, is and specially repugnant to the continued existence of a good bridge across the Susquehanna River at this place or vicinity; and that the responsibilities thus imposed on essential safeguards and guarantees for the safety of the traveling public.

That our confidence in the ability and liberality of the advocates of a Plank Road between Great Bend and Montrose convinces us that such road can be constructed without the aid of York State capitalists.

That the Hon. Senators and Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania now in general assembly met, be and they now hereby are respectfully desired to pass an act incorporating a company for the construction of a Plank Road from the Borough of Montrose to the Susquehanna River at the village of Great Bend in the county of Susquehanna aforesaid.

That copies of the proceedings of this Convention be directed to our State Senator and Representatives who are hereby requested to present the same to the legislative bodies of which they are respectively members.

On motion it was resolved—

That Isaac Reckhow and Elias T. Youngs be a committee to call upon the Secretary of the Great Bend Bridge Company and request of him for publication a certified copy of a resolution said to have been adopted by that Company at their late annual meeting, regulating the "tolls" to be hereafter exacted of persons passing with teams to and from the Rail Road Depot.

[The Committee above named, after a short absence presented the following—]

"The Committee appointed by the Plank Road Convention to wait on the Secretary of the Great Bend Bridge Company for a certificate touching the "tolls" Priced by said Company &c., report —That they called upon the Secretary, (the Rev. James B McCreary, who on being made acquainted with the object of the visit, delivered to them an attested copy of a resolution found upon the records of said Company, which is herewith presented to the convention.

ISAAC RECKHOW }
ELIAS T. YOUNG } "January 1849."

"*Resolved*"—

"By the President and managers of the Great Bend Bridge Company, that persons crossing the Bridge with a two horse team to or from the Depot of the New York and Erie Railroad be charged *six and a quarter cents toll*"

"A certified copy of the Record."

"JAS. B. McCREARY, *Sec.*"

Resolved, unanimously—That the Editors of Montrose, with our thanks for the interest which they have ever so ably manifested in the progress of public improvements and the success of individual enterprise in our neighborhood, be requested to publish the proceedings of this convention.

Signed by the Officers.

☞ Gen Taylor and suite arrived at Washington on Friday and took rooms at Willard's Hotel. A full account of the General's reception and appearance will be given in our next. He is said to be quite feeble. Sorry to hear it. The Whigs will kill him off as they did Harrison in less than six months.

Gov. Johnston of this State has trapsed off to Washington to, as a pet—by invitation of General Taylor." Possibly he may get some appointment worth more than the Governorship, in which case we presume he would be very likely to accept.—Mr. Speaker Dorsey would then be the Governor until another election.

Homestead Exemption.—The Homestead exemption bill, or bill to exempt property of a debtor to the amount of $300 from sale for debt, has passed the Senate by a vote of ayes 18, noes 11—every Democrat but one voting for it. Mr Strong made a speech in its favor, which is said to have been a very good one. The fate of the bill in the House is uncertain—the committee to which it was referred having reported adversely to it.

Delaware U. S. Senator.—The Legislature of Delaware, on Friday elected John Wales, of Wilmington, as Senator of the United States in place of the Hon John M Clayton, resigned.

Ohio Senator.—Simon P. Chase, a Free Soiler, (only saw Whig and some say Democrat, was elected by the U. S. Senate by the Legislature of Ohio on Friday last on the 9th ballot. Mr. Chase is a Cincinnati rival of Judge McLean, and to be a man of a good deal of talent, and the author of the "Buffalo Platform"

☞ The New York religious press of last week are down upon General Taylor for his endorsement of the Sabbath at Louisville, Memphis, &c., by addressing public assemblies.

☞ "More Anon" is informed that we are disposed to receive from our office to publish his poetic effusions. When he talks of our paying him for "room gone to fill a dozen columns" per week, he startles us: besides we do not consider an item he has furnished us last week publishing, much less paying for. We can find enough poetry for our room in our own neighborhood, be it spirited to publish the proceedings of those conventions.

Godey's Lady's Book for March is a model number, containing no less than thirty-five engravings of various kinds—two mezzotint and countless portions from forty different writers. It has twenty-four extra pages. When we take into the consideration that the Lady's Dollar Newspaper, a semi-monthly print, is thrown in gratuitously to those who pay their $3 for the Lady's Book, it becomes at once the *cheapest*, as well as the best magazine published.

The State of the Question.

During the first weeks of the present session of Congress, had bills for the organization of Territorial Governments in New Mexico and California, with the Wilmot Proviso in them, been brought to a direct vote in the House, they would have passed by an overwhelming majority, and, ere this, probably have been acted upon in the Senate. The friends of the Proviso were confident, united, and determined: its opponents were not prepared for a hand struggle. The election just closed, if it had proved anything, had proved that the large majority of the American People were in favor of Free Soil.

But there was delay! The House instructed the proper committee to report such bills—the committee promptly obeyed —and that was an end of it. The friends of the Proviso were at any time numerous enough to compel action; but certain strategists, of influence and consideration, contrived to baffle all attempts to bring the bills under consideration. The ardor of the Wilmot Proviso men cooled off; Southern tacticians plied their arts; Calhoun brought his battery to bear; Conservatism began to deprecate agitation, Servility, to whistle compromise." The confidence of the free State Representatives in each other was impaired; and the Senate device for adjusting the controversy by a State organization, was a new element of distrust and discussion. The result was, that the fast friends of the Proviso became suspicious, apprehensive, and almost concluded that the safest course would be to let the bills alone, fearful that, if called up, the virtue of the House would be unequal to the task of standing by them.

It was a temporary depression—a groundless panic. Last week, new life was infused into the ranks of Freedom by the speeches of Wilson of New Hampshire, Buckner of Kentucky, Starkweather of New York, McClelland of Michigan, and others, whose arguments and appeals, in themselves, and in the response they received from the House, demonstrated that all was well Whigs and Democrats, slave State and free State men, came to the rescue.

Now, then, is the time for *action*. Let there be no more delay. Had Gen. Taylor lain within his entrenchments at Monterey, the battle of Buena Vista would never have been fought and won. Crockett's maxim is full of good sense—"First be sure you are right, and then go ahead." Let us have prompt and decisive action in the House—its effect will be felt at the other end of the Capitol.

New Mexico needs a government—she is free from Slavery—she asks to be preserved free. Give her a free Government. California, all, needs a Government—a strong Territorial Government—she, too, is free, and asks to be kept free. Why delay? The time for action has come. The four quarters of the earth are pouring their living tides into that country—it has no law; no Government; property and life are without protection, just where and when they are most imperilled. Slaveholders as well as non-slaveholders, are pushing their way into the Territory, and, unless Congress speedily interpose, a new element of violence and strife will be added to the anarchy which already reigns there. Let not the responsibility of withholding the authority of the Government, and the protection of our laws, from our brethren in that far country, rest upon the shoulders of the friends of Freedom. They have the majority in the House—they represent the great majority of the country—they are sustained by the people of California and New Mexico—they propose merely to continue in those Territories the Freedom which already exists there—they have Reason, Justice, Humanity, the Civilization of the Age, the Rights of Man, and the Sanctions of Heaven on their side. Let them act, then. Put through the bills; send them to the Senate, and, if that body substitute them by the Douglass dodge, restore the original bills, and return them to the Senate. Let it take the responsibility, if it please, of defeating the will of the People, and withholding Governments from our Territories, because it cannot send Slavery there!

The Proviso is no act of tyranny towards any section of the country, imposing on one section burdens or restrictions from which another is exempt. If the Southern man be prohibited from holding slaves in the Territories, so will the Northern man be. It is an act which the Southern members generally have been expecting, to which some really feel no objection, and which would be hailed by many citizens of the South itself—*National Era*

Arrival of the Cambria.

The steamship Canada arrived at Halifax, N. S., on Wednesday, last, 10 days from Liverpool. Her intelligence, which is very interesting and exciting, was expressed from Halifax to St. Johns, and thence telegraphed to New York.

In a commercial view the news is of the first importance. In nearly every department of trade increasing activity and buoyancy prevails. Cotton has still further advanced, a full any change has taken place in Breadstuffs, it is improved. The stock market is constantly improving, and American as well as English securities are on the advance.

England.—Parliament was opened by the Queen in person. The Speech from the throne was rather lengthy, and for a wonder actually possesses a meaning apart from the jingle of words. But it does not possess sufficient general interest to justify its transmission by telegraph.

The speech places the fact beyond a doubt, that the Government have no idea of stultifying their past free trade doctrines, but are resolved steadily to carry out their principles to their final consummation.

Lord John Russell said in debate that he had been formerly in favor of a fixed duty on corn, but the House not having chosen to adopt that mode, but having chosen to act on entirely free, I hope that no attempt, above all, I hope no successful attempt will be made at renewing any duty upon that main article of sustenance."

This settles at once all speculation upon the course of conduct likely to be adopted by the present administration. With the navigation laws also the government propose to be equally decisive, and a new bill for their amendment will be immediately introduced.

The declared intentions of the Ministers to make every retrenchment compatible with a complete efficiency in the various branches of the Civil, Naval and Military Departments of the State, have produced general satisfaction, and the liberal free trade policy, which they have determined to uphold, will probably prolong the tenure of office to a more distant period than they could have anticipated before the opening of Parliament.

The Rt. Hon Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer, K. C. B., recently English Ambassador in Spain, has been appointed to succeed Sir R. Packenham, as British Minister in the United States.

The ravages of the Cholera continue about the same as when the Niagara sailed. Later intelligence from India has been received, but is wholly devoid of general interest.

The excitement created in Europe by the reports of the boundless riches found in California had somewhat subsided, when the news by the last packet came more acutely the spirit of enterprise, and the newspapers again teemed with notices of all kinds of shipping adventurers in connection with this auriferous region.

It is no longer an El Dorado, but a veritable *terra d'oro*, the confirmed statements of mineral wealth in the California hills now leaving no doubt but that an immense tide of emigration will float towards that quarter.

The bank of England accounts do not exhibit any particular feature worthy of note. Money continues plentiful, and first class bills have been readily discounted as low as 2 per cent.

Ireland.—Charles G. Duffy has been brought up before the Courts on a new bill, and is to take his trial at the present term under the Crown and Government Security Act. This course was thought advisable by the law officers, in consequence of the demurrer which was partly ruled in favor of the prisoner upon the bill found at the last commissions.

It has been recommended by the Lord Lieutenant to renew for a limited period the suspension of the *habeas corpus* act in Ireland, and the bill has already been read the first time in the House of Commons.

France.—There is very little news from the continent of importance or general interest, except as it regards France. Immediately after the sailing of the Niagara, intelligence was received in England, that the breach between the Assembly and the President had widened into a fearful gulf.

A real or sham plot was disclosed to the French Ministry, and for a few days Paris again assumed the appearance of a beleaguered city. The streets were occupied by not fewer than 80,000 men; and General Changarnier plainly intimated that the first barricade that was attempted to be raised, would be the signal for a general slaughter.

Whether the Red Republicans were surprised or unprepared to cope with the extensive military concerted—certain it is that Paris for a few days trembled on the verge of a new revolution; the issue of which can scarcely be doubted, as Marshal Bugeaud was despatched from Paris to bring up a strong division of the Army of the Alps ostensibly to command Bourges during the state trials but with no less object than that of overawing the Red Republicans in Paris.

The differences between the Grand Mobile and the Army of the Line only added fuel to the flame which hourly grew in intensity. The motion for getting rid of the propositions of M. Rateau to dissolve the National Assembly, was only defeated by a narrow majority of 116 over 405.

Since that vote a greater tranquility has prevailed, and once more we have to announce that the struggle passed off without mortal strife. Numerous arrests were however made.

In the National Assembly, on the 26th ult, the Minister of the interior announced that he had been directed by the President of the Republic to present a bill against clubs.

The Assembly had already enacted severe penalties with the view to repress excesses and remove dangers so alarming to society. Government had ordered a number of clubs to be close l in the capital and the departments, and denounced the offenders to the tribunals.

It was impossible that confidence could be reposed while clubs were permitted to exist. They formed a state, and no free government could allow such an anomaly to exist without endangering its existence.

LEGISLATIVE DEBATES.

TO DAILY MESSES. COOPER AND SUNDAY.

On the Bill to the Completion of the North Branch Canal.

Mr. Cooper addressed the House in its favor. In the course of his remarks he alluded to the report made by him on Wednesday last, relative to the North Branch, and the minority report made by Mr. Biddle.

Mr Cooper said the report read by himself was, it is true, not submitted in a meeting of the Committee, but to all of the gentlemen of the Committee, except one who was not in his seat. Mr. Cooper said he had been told that it went into the Committee of the Committee, and that he did not depend on his own judgment; but it was carried to the Governor. He (Mr C.) was a Whig, and if Gov. Todd had not said he was an ultra Whig, he should say he was an ultra Whig. Mr. C. said he had always opposed Executive dictation. The Executive should be required to call on the Legislative Branch.

Mr. Biddle rose to make some remarks by way of explanation, but took his seat on the declaration of Mr Cooper that he had spoken.

Mr. C resumed and said, he was sorry the measure just published when he found that a report had been submitted to the Executive. It astonished the Speaker, that a member or a Committee should so far forget what is due the Legislature as to consult the Executive.

Mr. Biddle then rose, and said he could not permit a man of his kind without exception, and deeply interested in this measure, to make imputations on the North Branch Committee, but he would let the report lie (Mr B.) or it might be got to that part throwing the whole responsibility of the measure on the Governor, when he objected to it. He said he said to the Executive, if you will give us a map of this policy, I will with pleasure go with you. That, said Mr. B, was the proper mode to act. Any friend of the Governor ought to and get, or any one attached to make every retrenchment compatible with a

Mr. Cooper said he never made covert attacks. He repeated and asked every member on the floor whether what had been admitted had not been sacrifice of legislative dignity.

Mr. C said the whole question was not cast on the Governor. The committee said that the profits expected from the completion justified the proposed expenditure; the canal almost inseparable objections to an increase of the State debt, and referred to the language of the Governor, which is quoted in the report, *verbatim et literatim*. Mr. C did not wish to be misunderstood. He was not making an attack on the Executive. Mr. C. then quoted from the message of the Governor, and said he was sorry that a recommendation of this work? Was it not in as strong terms as language could make it? The Executive was wise. He (Mr. C.) could not believe that he would recommend one thing in his message while in his heart he was opposed to it. The report of the minority, which declares that he is not in favor of this improvement, Mr. C. said, had done great injustice to the Governor. He (the Governor) never believed that that line, ninety-four miles long, could be completed without money. He understood its resources, the means whence profits were ultimately to be derived to more than compensate for the expenditure, and came forward as a wise and statesmanlike man, and recommended it in his message. Mr. C. asked if the gentleman would be satisfied that the Committee had not cast the responsibility on the Governor? If they had done so, it would have been more than the Governor desired. Mr. C said he hoped hereafter every member would act for himself, without asking another department for its advice.

Mr. Biddle said he might have been satisfied with making the explanation he had already made. Acting without reference to the Governor was the favorite course of the gentleman from Adams, but that gentleman must excuse him if he could not go with him.

In regard to the majority report, it was read to the astonishment of every member of the committee, except one besides the gentleman from Adams. It was handed to him (Mr. B.) as a part of a report, and a synopsis of what the report was to be.

Mr. B. said, in conversing with his friends as to the North Branch, he understood it was not to be a party question, and that at the next session we were not to hear that this was a Whig measure, and that the people were taxed for it by a Whig administration. And while, said Mr. B., we were trying to make this understood, a report was made that we would not do it, if it were not the wish of the Governor, and that "the almost insuperable objections" of the Committee to an increase of the State debt were overcome by the recommendation of the Executive. Mr. B. said he was not going to let that part go forth without consulting the Governor. He, Mr. B., merely wanted to know if he recommended additional taxation for the completion of the North Branch Canal. He did not stand there, Mr B said, to thwart the Executive, but he voted for and honored him, and should always stand by him, whether attacked openly or secretly.

Mr. B. said he made the minority report at his own instigation. He did not refer it to the fact that the report made by the gentleman from Adams, was not signed by one of the majority of the Committee.

Mr. Culdeman then addressed the House in opposition to the bill, and quoted from the annual message, to show that taking the whole of it together, the Governor was not in favor of the completion of the North Branch in the way proposed by the bill.

Mr. Cooper said, some had made the expression, "save me from my friends; I will take care of my enemies," and it certainly was a wise saying. He read the message when delivered, and made up his judgment as to the recommendation of the Executive then, and he honored him for the manliness with which he presented his views on this and other measures. He had conversed with the friends of this measure and the friends of the Governor, and every one thought it a recommendation.

Mr. Cooper then proceeded to show that the Governor, in his message, recommended the appropriation of a million more to the North Branch, in order to make the two and a half millions already expended as profitable and said this was not playing the demagogue. He (the Governor) did recommend the completion. It could not be denied, it was on the record and would stand there through all time. William F. Johnston—My Cooper said he begged pardon; he should have said the Executive—did not intend to keep the word of promise to the ear and break it to the hope."

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb 19.—Ohio Legislature against Pennsylvania—Prospect of Collision—The Speaker of the House this morning laid before that body the following Telegraphic Dispatch from the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Ohio—to wit:—

Columbus, (Ohio,) Feb. 17.—*To the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania*: The General Assembly of this State has passed Resolutions protesting against the contemplated repeal, by you Legislature, of the act granting the Right of Way to the Ohio and Erie Railroad through Erie County, and declaring their intention to resist measures of retaliation in case the Right of Way shall be denied. The Resolutions will be forwarded to the Governor, by mail

Respectfully, J. G. Bryan,
Speaker H. Representatives.

The reading of the resolutions produced some sensation in the Assembly, some meeting them with gravity—others with much merriment, with allusions to the disorder which so long reigned in the Ohio Assembly &c.

Philadelphia, Feb 20th.—Ship Cambria in Distress—Other Ships Lives Lost.—The British ship Cambria, 13 weeks from London and Cork, for New York, put into the Delaware breakwater yesterday, in distress, having almost lost, destitute of provisions and water. *Lafayette* passengers boarded on the passage, and *seven* more were buried upon the shore on the arrival of the ship. The Pilot Cabin is affording the sufferers all possible relief.

Change in U. S. Cabinets.—Hon. Thos. Ewing has arrived at this post from Congress, which place she left on the 31st ult. The Capt. landed his passengers all in good health. He found a transportation ready for them by the American ship Pickel Ophic. She reports that all were well at Cavanilla points on the Isthmus, and that it was generally healthy.

Important from Santa Fe.

New York, Mar 17th, 1849.—We have dates from Santa Fe to the 10th Dec. Major Beall was soon to take the field against a large party of Indians in the vicinity of Red River, with the view of compelling them to make a treaty of peace the Indians were constantly committing depredations on the inhabitants of Chihuahua.

Kit Carson was at Santa Fe on the 1st of November. A Judicial envoy from Texas had arrived at Santa Fe with the intention of entering upon office. The Republican indicates the pretentions of Texas to sovereignty over any portion of New Mexico. H. M. Smith, District Attorney had reached Santa Fe.

New York and Erie Telegraph.—This new line was successfully operated yesterday from this City to Newburg. The wires are up from Honesdale west to Lake Erie, and the gap between Honesdale and Newburgh will be completed by the end of the month, when we shall have another and a direct line of telegraphic communication with the West. The wires to Newburgh across the North River near Catskill, from Breakneck Hill to Butler Hill. The stretch is about 2,000 feet, and the light of the sag above the River is 200 feet. Mr. E. Cornell was the contractor for this line, and the wire was carried across the river, under his direction, by Mr. G. S. Thompson. It is cast steel cord.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Bad News for Office Seekers.—General Taylor is said to have written a letter to a gentleman in this city, wherein he speaks freely of his course in disposing of office-holders and office-seekers. He says: "There will not be one office for an applicant in twenty, and all who are disappointed will, as a matter of course, become my most implacable enemies for life attributing their failure to any cause but the correct one, viz: that of qualifications and want of vacancies.

The General proceeds to say that he will act in these matters "solely for the honor and good of his country," and not inquire whether the candidate "is whig or democrat or whether he voted for or against me." This only carries out the declaration of General Taylor through every stage of the canvass. He can do so; but no party President, strictly such, can take a stand so independent. His honest whig friends will not quarrel with him for this course, and the democrats have no right to find fault with him.—*N. Y. Weekly Dispatch.*

Individual Liability.—We are glad to notice that on the motion of Mr. M'Culloch, of Westmoreland, the House, on Monday last, incorporated the individual liability feature into the charter of a coal company—the Whigs, as usual, opposing it, notwithstanding all their professions in favor of bank reform *before* the election.—*Penn.*