THE DEMOCRAT.

MONTROSE, PA:

Thursday, March, 8, 1849.

The Old and New Regimes.

At 12 o'clock on Saturday night last expired the administration of JAMES K. POLK, and with it, Democratic rule for a brief period. What that administration has been, and what it has done for the country during its eventful existence, the present (we hope) prosperous and ineffably happy state of the country will best attest. To this all its friends may recount with peculiar pleasure and pride as its most efficient and effective panegyrist, and before it all enemies and aspersers, fall dumb, confounded and rebuked.

It has been truly said that Mr Polk's administration fell on eventful times. Indeed, when was it otherwise? From its earliest dawn to its close, it has been one unvarying routine of important events and duties, unknown to previous administrations for a long period of time. The closing up of the Texas affairs—the adjustment of the Oregon controversy—the prosecution of a serious and costly war, and its termination in an honorable peace, leaving the country much more extended in territory, richer in public domain, and flush in the "sinews" of a nation—the establishment of treaties of Commerce with eight European and two South American powers, besides the Postal treaty with Great Britain—the admission of four new States, and the erection of Oregon into a territory—the establishment of the revenue *ad valorem* principle of duties—of a Warehousing system, of a nature unknown to that which in England has drawn the carrying trade into British vessels—of the Constitutional Treasury—of the cheap Postage system—and of an ocean steam navigation to Bremen and Chagres—these are among some of its most important and prudent conquests, which will bear it down to posterity encircled with a halo of glory that nothing can ever eclipse. When it will calm's survey the present with the period of his advent to power, can arraign him with the charge of broken promises to study his country's weal, or withhold from him the tribute of praise for the glorious manner in which he has guided the helm of our affairs? To say he has never erred would be to put up a claim for him to perfection not possessed by mortals, and which is not pretended. On some points—the slavery question for one of them—we think he has erred; but these errors, the taints of a south-n education and sectional prejudice and pride, are but drops in the bucket when weighed in a balance against the positive good his administration has accomplished, are small and entirely insignificant and trivial. Fortunate indeed will it be for the country, and glorious, if the succeeding *regime* shall commit no worse blunders. If it will pursue the policy Democracy points, and leave the country at the end of the succeeding four years rapidly advancing towards the acme of all true national greatness and glory.

The new administration came into power on Monday "amid a flourish of trumpets" and other insignia of rejoicing. What it is to be, and what is to do for the country, of course is for the future to disclose. Still, we have a right to conjecture. That it will be thoroughly, "ultra Whig," there is no longer a question. The appointment of the Cabinet is of itself a sufficient voucher for this; besides it is now authoritatively announced by those in his confidence. "I shall do all in my power to render my administration thoroughly Whig," quoth he to a Whig at the county at a late interview in Washington. So far the question is settled, no matter though he contracts himself of the most wanton duplicity and fraud to secure his election; no matter though he violates his most solemn assurances to the contrary, and deliberately, meanly forgets that he ever said he was "not an ultra Whig," would "not be the President of a party," and if ever he occupied the Presidential chair it would "be untrammelled with party prejudices and obligations." We say no matter for all of this, the swindle is consummated and his ambition is gratified. Let him do as he wills, and bide the day of reckoning which will swiftly come.

That Ruin!

The New York *Tribune*, in an article upon the favorable character of the *Europa's* news says:

"The effect of the present condition of business in England must be highly favorable upon the trade of this country. Our products are selling freely, and at fair prices; and the demand for our stock to prevent any rise in the price of bills, so that no embarrassment of our monetary affairs can be apprehended from a renewal of the export of specie. With the large importations of foreign goods into this country, we appear at present to be much more inclined to import than to export coin. *There have been, for a series of years, no healthy a condition of the general business of the country as at the present.*"

And this, says the *Lancasterian*, is the ruin that the wild and reckless policy of Secretary Walker intended upon the country. Here are the fruits that secured free trade which was to smother the energies of our people—destroy our manufactories—paralyze our trade, and wither our commerce. Here is the consummation of the predictions of the ruin which Democratic commercial policy was to visit upon the heads of an outraged and plundered people. Where now are the predictions of the enemies of the Tariff of 1846, when these startling facts and startling truths wrung from the pen of one of the most bitter enemies of that Tariff, even from the erratic Greeley, the above confession? NO! higher praise could be awarded to the much abused policy of the Democratic party, and no prouder vindication could be had of the correctness of Secretary Walker's financial and revenue policy.

☞ The *N. Y. Sun* has the following which is commended to the consideration of all for whom it was intended:

"REMOVING LADIES FROM OFFICE.—We published, some days ago, an account of movements going on for giving a man the office held by a poor widow, who keeps the light house on Stratford Point. Sunrise movements are going on in Pennsylvania to remove widows who have the management of Post-offices. Nothing could be meaner, in anything in the shape of a man, than coveting the offices of these poor women. It is the lowest depth of office seeking."

☞ The *Ohio Statesman* says: "There has a strange charm come over Congress of late, on the subject of slavery. The great anti-slavery Whig party of the North, as by magic, have become the most perfect lick-spittles to the slave power. The great rear of Northern Whiggery, that once threatened to strike off the chains of every slave in Christendom, is now mute and tongue-tied, thinking of nothing but a peek at the pap of Government."

☞ It will be observed that the bill for establishing a territorial government in California, passed the House on Tuesday, embracing the Wilmot Proviso, by a vote of 108 to 67.

The New Cabinet.

After more than a week's labor, hammering, trying and fitting the Cabinet of the new administration has been formed and announced. It is as follows:

Secretary of State—John M. Clayton, of Del.
Sec. of the Treasury—Wm. M Meredith, of Pa.
Home Department—John Davis, of Mass.
Sec of the Navy—Wm. B. Preston, of Va
Sec. of War—Geo. M Crawford, of Ga.
Post Master General—Thomas Ewing, of Ohio.
Attorney General—Reverdy Johnston, of Md.

Abbot Lawrence, of Mass, was offered the Navy Department, but declined it. He would have the Treasury Department or nothing, and so he got nothing. A powerful effort was made by a large portion of the Whigs of this State to prevent the appointment of Meredith, but it was unavailing.

It will be seen that the Cabinet is entirely "ultra Whig," containing even that blue-bellied tory Federalist, John Davis, who in his paper during the last war with England, declared it "unbecoming a christian people to rejoice over the success of American arms," and who was outdone by no one on the Senate floor in denunciations and invectives against the late Mexican war in which Old Zack won his laurels and made himself President. A capital bed-fellow for Gen. Taylor truly!

☞ CONGRESS is closed its disreputable existence on Sunday morning last at 7 o'clock, after one of the most excited and *rowdyish* sessions of 18 hours with scarcely a recess for a breathing spell. Not less than three fist-cuffs between members occurred during the last few hours of its session, one in the Senate, between Cameron and Foote, and two in the House, between Meade, of Va., and Giddings, of Ohio; and Johnson of Arkansas, and Ficklin, of Illinois. Johnson knocked Ficklin down, inflicting severe blows upon him and causing the blood to flow freely. Foote put his fist under Cameron's nose, and Cameron knocked him down for his pains. Such rowdyish scenes are a perfect disgrace to Congress and the country, and every member participating in them ought to be expelled at once and otherwise branded with infamy.

The bill for the creation of a Home Department passed both branches, also all the appropriation bills, the Minesota territorial bill, the census bill, the Gold dollar and double eagle bill, and the bill extending the revenue laws over California. The California territorial bill was not acted upon by the Senate. Mr. Walker's amendment to the appropriation bill was amended so as to authorize the President to extend the existing laws of this country over California for one year. Full reports next week.

UNSATISFIED.—Gov. Johnston and the Whigs, notwithstanding their loud and reiterated denunciations of Executive patronage, and professed decures of Executive patronage, and professed decures of the spoils of office, are not satisfied. Not satisfied with the heartlessness, mercenary, and double-dealing of their party when not in power. The Harrisburg correspondent of the *Pennsylvanian* says:

"Imagine the Governor of Pennsylvania, through his friend, asking the Legislature to give him the privilege of appointing the engineers and disbursing officers along a line of public work!

The plan to finish the North Branch Canal, the noblest enterprise that has been agitated for years, was killed once before this session, by the interference of the Executive, or persons representing his views upon the subject, because the House refused to pass a bill to authorize a re-issue of shin plasters. And now, when the friends of that great measure endeavor again to secure legislative action in a modified form, and upon conditions against which no sensible opposition can be urged, we find the Governor's friends again interfering and demanding the removal of the legitimate business of the Canal Commissioners to the Executive chamber of Wm F. Johnston.

The North Branch Canal.

The following is all that has been said or done about the North Branch Canal by our Legislature since our last. We are happy to observe that Mr. Little has abandoned his sham-plaster scheme and gone to work again on the true Democratic track:

Thursday, Feb. 28.

On motion of Mr. Little, the bill for the completion of the North Branch Canal was taken up, and the question being on the adoption of the first section,

Mr. Little moved to amend by striking out all after the enacting clause, and inserting a new bill, containing the following provisions:

The Governor shall negotiate a loan not exceeding $1,277,500, bearing six per cent. interest, redeemable in twenty years, said loan to be paid into the treasury in such amounts as the Canal Commissioners may deem necessary, not exceeding $300,000 with in the present year.

The revenues of the said Canal, from and after its completion, shall be pledged for the payment of the interest and principal of the loan.

Proposals for the loan shall not be issued until the Governor shall be satisfied by a certificate from the Auditor General and State Treasurer, that the revenues of the Canal now vested will be adequate to meet the current expenses and pay the interest on the State debt.

Before the loan shall be negotiated, the Commissioners shall be satisfied that the Canal can be completed for a sum not exceeding the amount of the loan, and that means have been adopted to secure a connection of the Canal with the Chemung Canal, at Elmira, N. Y., and for the purpose of making the surveys necessary, they may appoint an engineer at a salary of $1,750 per annum.

That after the completion, Anthracite Coal going North shall be charged a rate of toll not less than one cent per ton per mile; and a sum is realized sufficient to repay the principal and interest of the money expended in the completion.

That the Canal Commissioners may employ an engineer to take charge of the location and construction of the work, who may appoint assistants; the salary of the principal not to exceed $1750 per annum, and the pay of the assistants not to exceed $3 per day.

Mr. Fenlon moved to amend the amendment by striking out the last provision and inserting one authorizing the Governor to appoint an engineer, who shall have charge of the location and construction of the work, and disburse and pay out all monies on the said work and for the same.

On motion, the further consideration of the bill was postponed and made the special order for to-morrow week.

A GRAND battle has taken place in Gen. Taylor's camp—among his staff—his Cabinet-makers, or Cabinet materials. The old General goes in for leaving the territories to be governed according to the will of the people of the territories. To this, some of the parties to whom cabinet posts have been tendered, demur; they want the old General to pledge himself to abide by the decisions of the party—to do the party's good will and pleasure, but, in true Buena-Vista style, he tells them to go to——General Taylor never surrenders. This is why Messrs. so and so, decline posts in the Cabinet—they have found that the new President can neither be coaxed nor bullied.—*N. Y. Sun.*

GEN. CASS arrived in Washington on Thursday to take his seat in the Senate at the extra session on Monday. He is pronounced "in excellent health and spirits."

☞ Washington is said by all accounts to be literally overrun with Whig *patriots* just now, every public and private house (and some houses it would be vulgar to mention) being crammed from garret to cellar. From all quarters the rush has been tremendous, and unparalleled, many being puzzled to imagine whence they all came, and *all* astonished beyond measure to find so many devoted, self-sacrificing patriots in the country. Susquehanna county, we learn, has poured forth one or two less than a dozen of these glorious spirits, most of whom are yet at the capitol awaiting a summons to their country's service. Of course they *don't want* any office; but if any should be offered to them they will "not feel at liberty to decline it." We understand there are only three from this county who "would have no particular objections" to being chosen Marshall of Pennsylvania. Patriotic fellows! How they do itch to serve their country, and hate the "spoils." Hope Zachary will have mercy on them and spare them so unpleasant an infliction.

FREE SOIL RESOLUTIONS IN THE SENATE.—We are pleased to see the passage of the following resolutions by the Senate of this State on Monday week:

Resolved, That we, the Representatives of the people of Pennsylvania, being firm in our adherence to the Federal Constitution—its concessions and compromises—and yielding cheerful obedience to the legally constituted authorities of the land, do here by entire our solemn protest against the further extension of human slavery.

Resolved, That the cherished principles of freedom, the spirit of the age and of an enlightened policy, and the dictates of patriotism and philanthropy, alike forbid any further enlargement of the area of human bondage.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be, and they are hereby, requested to vote at all times, and under all circumstances, in favor of extending the principles of the ordinance of 1787 to the newly acquired territories.

The following are the yeas and nays.

YEAS—Messrs. Best, Bons, Brawley, Brooke, Crabb, Cunningham, Drum, Forsyth, Frick, Harris, Hugus, Ives, Johnson, King, Konigmacher, Lawrence, Levis, Mason, Matthias; Rich, Richards, Sadler, Sankey, Savery, Small, Smyser, Streeter and Darsie, Speaker—28.

NAYS—Messrs. Overfield and Potteiger—2.

☞ The *National Era* says that Mr. Chase, the new Senator elect from Ohio, was formerly a member of the Whig party, but that after the election of Harrison, he became allied with the Liberty party, with which he has since acted, and adds that "his devotion to the fundamental principles of civil liberty, the prominence assigned, in the cause he espoused, to *Personal Rights*, have naturally induced a large portion of the Democratic element into his politics." From other sources we are satisfied that upon all the leading party questions of the day, such as the tariff, currency, &c., he will act with the Democrats. The Democrats expect this, and the Whigs concede it. He received the votes of the Democrats in the Legislature, when it was found that Mr. Allen could not be elected. He is not son-in-law of Judge M'Lean, but married a niece of Mrs. M'Lean.

OUTLINES OF PHYSIOGNOMY.—J. S. Redfield, the publisher, (Clinton Hall, N. Y.,) has sent us a new publication, in pamphlet containing 92 pages, bearing the above title. A friend to whom we passed it for an examination, and who is a good judge, pronounces it a "capital work of its kind," and recommends it to the attention of all who would read the characters of man or beast from the features of the face. Price 25 cts.

HOW TO BE HAPPY—an admonitory Essay, for general and family perusal"—is the title of a very neat pamphlet of 94 pages just sent us by the Publisher, J. S. Redfield, Clinton Hall, N. Y. City. From a hasty review we are highly pleased with it, and deem it one of the most instructive, useful and important works of the day. The title is enough of itself to commend it to all, besides it is written in a captivating style. Price 25 cts.

ANOTHER GREAT PICTORIAL PAPER.—*Wilson & Co.*, of New York, have issued a most magnificent pictorial Inauguration sheet Double Broadsheet JONATHAN, in commemoration of Gen. Taylor's taking his seat in the Presidential Chair of the Nation. It is filled with fine large and beautifully printed engravings characteristic of the great event among which are portraits of Taylor and Fillmore the size of life. The principal picture is an exact representation of "Old Zack" delivering his Inaugural Address, surrounded by the great men of both political parties. The Doleful Doings of a Disappointed Patriot in search of an office—the rich Adventures in California—the Inauguration Ball—the Battle of Buena Vista and other subjects are also amply illustrated with painted and well executed engravings. The price of the sheet is 12½ cents only, or ten for one dollar.

The "Godlike" "Democratic Whig."—"Nativism" with a vengeance.—Whig love for the Laboring Classes!

It appears from the Congressional reports that on the 8th ult., in the Senate of the United States, Daniel Webster offered a resolution with the view of having a Law passed by Congress, "authorizing State paupers to exact security" from poor emigrants, "so as to prevent them from becoming chargable upon the Public Treasury!"

Who does not know that the Whig party have for some time claimed the cognomen of "Democratic Whig;" and that, by them, Daniel has been surnamed "The Godlike?" And now only see what a good Samaritan he is!

The "Whig" policy professes to increase the wages of labor; and in certain localities, doubtless, the laborers have *its* increased thereby. This induces the "pauper labor" of foreign countries, to flow hither. And is it not for "the greatest good of the greatest number," to have a proportionate number of laborers, so well as capitalists, come among us from abroad? We have land enough, if properly cultivated, to supply the destitute of the world with bread; it is for our interest as a people, to do so; and the sooner it is done the better. And the well-fed "Whig" need not "Pooh!" at the idea of encouraging poor foreign laborers to come here; for most of us sprang from just such persons as these whom "The Godlike" would send back starving to their own "distressed country," if they happened to be taken sick on their arrival upon our coast!

Some folks regard mankind as one great family; but this "Godlike," philanthropic "*Nativist*," seems to think that there are some hundreds of human families, of which the United States is one; and that as he happened to be born a member of this family, he is bound by every principle of philanthropy and good morals, to put up a barrier to prevent the emigration of all who cannot arrive here with a health-insurance, or with a chest of money!

But there of us who think there is but one human family, have a different view of the matter. We think it is as inhuman to require the "emigrant pauper" to give security for their support, or not to land on our shores, as it would be to require native paupers to give security for the maintenance of their unborn children, or not to have them born at all. We cannot perceive that there might in many instances in which the two cases would be parallel!

☞ A poor distressed country as ever was seen, where they hang both men and women for wearing the green.

POETRY IN WISCONSIN.—A writer in the Lafayette Republican "courts" the muses after this fashion:

"'Tis sweet to see the toad, the frog,
The lily and the pollywog—
But sweeter far it is for me
To lay my head on Susan's knee."

How he Escaped.

The Harrisburg correspondent of the Pennsylvanian has the following under date of Feb. 24:

"Governor Johnston left here yesterday morning for Washington City, *at the request of Gen. Taylor*, to meet him there. Mr. Cooper, U. S. Senator, left here for Washington the same day."—*Harrisburg Telegraph of to-day.* If the *organ* grinder who indites this significant morsel had possessed the frankness to inform the public *how* the harmonious pair left Harrisburg, it would have saved us from the task of exposing his Excellency in a startling and original character, (as the play bills would say,) never before represented by any governor of Pennsylvania. On Thursday, the "Whig Governor" having rendered himself invisible, it was whispered about that he was sick. Friday dawned; one by one the hours glided past, and yet the predictors of keenest scent failed to scuff treason in the wind, till after the morning train had left the depot. Then vague surmises fleet of wing were set afloat, and ere high noon arrived, the thousand tongues of rumor had filled the town with the surprising intelligence that the "Whig Governor" was not only restored to soundness of mind and limb, but that he had actually *vanished* from the place—gone off like a drift kite, cut loose from its bobtails, to follow the current setting southward towards the National Capital! At an early hour the "Whig Governor" was observed to make a halt at the corner of Third and Walnut streets—the beginning of the broad walk, leading to the hill, when instead of continuing his course as usual, towards the Executive Chamber, he wheeled to the right and quickened his pace out Walnut street, to the vicinity of the "raging canawl."—There, it is said, he met Mr. Frederick Watts, per agreement, whereupon the beautiful couple hurried to the cars, and were off in a jiffy.

Mr. Cooper, who was already on the hill to attend a meeting of the House Committee, no sooner received tidings of the mysterious exit of his excellency, than he too became excited, and bolting down into the borough, ordered a carriage and fast horses, and posted "overland" for the town of York, to intercept the flight of the illustrious fugitive, or, at any rate, learn whether he was bound for Washington by that route. Mr. Cooper succeeded in reaching York before the passengers who had left Harrisburg by the morning train, and when the latter did arrive, a watch was set to detect the lurking place of the "Whig Governor." The first and outside search was unsuccessful, when a happy thought seized upon one of Mr. Cooper's friends to examine the cars. Accordingly, the cars were ransacked, and sure enough in one of them, the ladies car, was found the Governor of Pennsylvania, brooding in a corner, and seking to shun observation.

Mr. Cooper instantly took passage, and went to Washington in the same train, with no a view no doubt to "head him off or die." Ye reckless Whigs, will ye take warning from the fate of the Kilkenny cats?

How he was Invited.

The Washington correspondent of the Pennsylvanian explains the character of the invitation said to have been extended to Gov. Johnston, by Gen. Taylor, to meet him in Washington:

I have already referred to the visit of Governor Johnston to Washington; and have noticed also, in some of the papers, the statement he was invited here by the President elect. A gentleman of the Whig party in Pennsylvania, and whose sources of information are reliable, has given me this morning the particulars under which that invitation was extended, if invitation it can be termed. It seems that Hon. Cornelius Darragh, Attorney General of Pennsylvania, was deputed by Gov. Johnston to meet General Taylor at Louisville, and represent his Excellency's views in regard to matters in Pennsylvania. He arrived at Louisville and an hour was agreed upon for the Gen. to receive the envoy of the Governor.—When that time arrived, Mr. Darragh, it is stated, was in a very unfortunate condition, and unable to keep the appointment. Gen. Taylor designated another next morning, when Mr. Darragh was again in the same unfortunate condition, and again unable to discharge the duties of his embassy. The General very naturally became cross and displeased, and addressed Governor Johnston a letter, stating that his agent had not been able to have an interview, and that if he had anything to communicate he could do so by letter, directed to Washington, or visit him there in person, after his arrival. The Governor chose the latter course, and hence his sudden appearance here, and the rumors to which I referred in my letter of Monday.

Additional Revenue.

The following is the response of the Auditor General and State Treasurer to a resolution of the House in relation to revenue:

AUDITOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, Feb. 26, 1849.

To the Hon. Wm. F. Packer, Speaker of the House of Rep.—Sir: in reply to the resolution of the House of Representatives, of the 3d inst., requesting "an estimate of the probable annual amount of revenue which would be derived from certain revenue bills," over and above what is now derived from the same sources," we have the honor to submit, herewith, an estimate of the *increase* of revenue which would be received from the following bills, being those referred to in the resolution.

"An act entitled an act supplementary to the several acts laying a duty on the retailers of merchandise,	$170,000
"An act supplementary to the several acts relating to the licensing of Inns and Taverns,	75,000
"An act taxing Bank Dividends,	30,000
"An act relating to Auction Duties,	5,000
"An act increasing the license of Brokers.	3,000
	$283,000

Any estimate of the probable increase of revenue to be derived from the same sources during the present financial year, must necessarily be very imperfect, as much may depend upon the early passage of the bills.—Besides, any new revenue law requires some time before it is properly understood and fully carried into effect. We think it a safe estimate, however, to state the probable increase at $100,000.

We have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servants, &c.

Reception of Gen. Taylor.

(Correspondence of the Pennsylvanian.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, 1849.

The reception of Gen. Taylor last evening, by the authorities and citizens of the National Capitol, was quite as enthusiastic as had been anticipated. The crowd in the immediate vicinity of the railroad depot, from half past six to quarter past eight, when the General arrived, was immense—probably not less that five thousand persons being present. As all the particulars of the reception at the Relay House, at the Washington Depot, and at Willard's, are given at length, and with great particularity, in the Washington and Baltimore papers of this morning, it will be unnecessary for me to go into details.

Brown's picture of General Taylor, in the rotunda of the Capitol, is a very excellent likeness, though he does not now appear to be quite as erect or to enjoy as robust health as when that picture was taken. This is probably owing to the fatigues of his journey, and to the accident which occurred to him on his passage from Cincinnatti to Wheeling, from which he yet suffers much inconvenience, being deprived in some degree in the use of his arm, and consequently unable to take by the hand the multitude who press forward to greet him.

From the General's brief speech on his arrival last night at Willard's, the defect in his enunciation, which has before, I believe, been frequently referred to, it is said to have been very apparent. Indeed, the impediment is such, I am informed as to place him clearly within the class of what are familiarly termed stutterers, though the defect was probably increased last night by his natural diffidence and modesty, and the peculiar circumstances in which he was placed.

A gentleman of Baltimore, a Taylor man and himself a politician of considerable prominency, who accompanied Gen. Taylor yesterday from Cumberland to Washington, says that the General conversed very freely in regard to the policy of his administration, but without committing himself on the great questions upon which he will be called to act in his executive capacity.

The General, he says, stated openly and unhesitatingly, that Horace Binney will be Secretary of the Treasury; and on his way from the Relay House to the Washington Depot, stated also, in the presence of Mayor Seaton and others, that no man would be proscribed by him for his political opinions, though he must necessarily, he regretted, make a great many removals.

The General dresses neatly, and in black, though without much regard to taste in the arrangements in this apparel. He is more portly than I supposed, and comes very nearly to what has been deemed the beau ideal of well-fed Alderman. His hair, white, and but thinly covering his well formed head, is allowed to straggle in all directions apparently without much regard to the military practice. His features are manly, but by no means handsome. In this particular, neither Brown nor Atwood have done him any injustice.

When the multitude cheers him, he has become accustomed to the uniform reply—"God bless you, gentlemen—peace be with you;" and when the ladies address him or wave their hands and handkerchiefs from the windows and balconies, the salutation returned is almost equally uniform—"Your humble servant, ladies." Looking out upon the concourse at the Relay House, he remarked, in a raised tone of voice—"Why, gentlemen, you all appear to be boys—are there no old men among you?" when an old and gray-headed veteran poked his head from the crowd, with the exclamation, "Here is one, General, who is older, I think, than you are." His countenance indicates honesty and firmness of purpose, and his general appearance and manners have of course made a very favorable impression.

On Wednesday, I learn, President Polk and lady will give their last levee, in honor of Gen. Taylor and family, at which they will of course be present.

LETTERS FROM COL. FREMONT, or extracts from them, are published in the National Intelligencer of Monday. The latest date is November 17, 1848, from Bent's Fort. He took the Southern route, to avoid snow storms, and speaks of the valley the southern branch of the Kansas River, as most fertile, abounding in wood, game and excellent grass, and affording facilities for settlements a distance of four hundred miles. The Indians were friendly.

He was then at the foot of the mountains, which were covered with snow as well as the country around. After crossing the chain of mountains, he would descend to the valley of the *Rio del Norte*, and follow the course of that river to its scource, thence to the valley of the Colorado, across the Wahsatch Mountains and the great Californian basin, to the supposed pass in the Sierra Nevada, somewhere between the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth parallel of latitude. He expresses a wish to examine this pass. He is accompanied by Capt. Cathcart, an English officer who served in India, and joined Col Fremont at St. Louis. The *voyageurs* were all in good health. When last seen they were within six miles of the top of the mountain, making their way through very deep snow.—*N. Y. Sun.*

PRESIDENT POLK having on Monday received a visit from the President Elect, the cabinet ministers immediately returned the visit in a body, at General Taylor's Hotel. The *Union* states that President Polk and family will remove on Saturday Evening from the White House, and leave Washington on Tuesday morning, in company with the Secretary of the Treasury, who proceeds with them to New Orleans. Some of the President's friends accompany him to Richmond. He expects to arrive at Wilmington on Wednesday, and remaining there one day as the invited guest of the town, reach Charleston on Thursday, to stay one day and partake of the hospitalities of the Common Council. Arriving at Savannah on Saturday, he will remain there over the Sabbath, and proceed thence to Nashville by the way of New Orleans.

THE two PRESIDENTS, with the two Vice Presidents, Cabinet ministers, Senators, &c., &c., assembled around the festive board, at the White House, on Friday. It was President Polk's farewell dinner. Much cordiality and good feeling prevailed. President Polk and family left the mansion on Saturday, and President Taylor and family were to move in during the afternoon.

THE PRESIDENT ELECT.—Yesterday evening about half-past two o'clock, the President elect, accompanied by Col Bliss, took a carriage and repaired to Georgetown. He was met on the brow of the hill on the east side of Rock Creek, by a committee and an open barouche, into which he was handed. When the barouche, conveying him, crossed the bridge, it was escorted to the City Hotel by the Georgetown Greys and the students of the College, each preceded by bands of music. On arriving at the hotel, the Mayor of Georgetown welcomed him in the name of the citizens, as the chief magistrate of the Republic "You have now sheathed the sword, Mr. President—a sword that was never drawn by you, but in defence of the country. You have been called to preside over the destinies of this great nation, and the triumphs of your military career are guarantees to us that they will not be eclipsed by the triumphs that await your civil administration. We rejoice Sir, to have such a chief magistrate as yourself our near neighbor, and I again extend to you the cordial welcome of my fellow citizens." The President elect said that he was overwhelmed with the kind reception he had received at the hands of the good people of Georgetown. "I have been forty years in the country's service, but my victories are not *my* victories. They are the victories of the soldiers who fought the battles. It was honor enough for me to have had the fortune of leading such soldiers to victory. You refer, Mr. Mayor, to Washington. The country has had but one Washington, and I fear it will be a long time before there will be another. I trust to be pardoned for trying to follow his example. I shall administer the government without fear or favor for any one." He then expressed his warmest thanks for the kind attentions which had been bestowed upon him, and returned to the room provided for him, where he exchanged salutations with his fellow-citizens, and received congratulations of the ladies of Georgetown with his accustomed courtesy and gallantry. At an early hour he returned to his head quaters, delighted with his visit.—*Washington Union, March 1*

THE PRESIDENT ELECT having regained his health and strength, received visitors on Monday. He made a formal visit to President Polk, by whom he was most courteously received, and with whom (says the National Intelligencer) he exchanged the respectful greetings due from each other in their respective situations.

The joint Committee of Congress waited on President Taylor on Monday, and informed him officially of his election to the Presidency. Senator Jefferson Davis addressed him, on behalf of the committee.—He made a very appropriate reply. Mr Seton, Mayor of Washington, was present with others.—*N Y. Sun*

ACCIDENT ON THE NEW YORK AND ERIE RAILROAD—The New York *Herald*, March 1 says: The passenger train of cars, which arrived on Tuesday evening from Binghamton, when six or seven miles above Piermont, while going at a very rapid rate, in order to make up for time lost in not meeting the up train of cars at the proper station, ran off the track, completely demolishing every cross bar at the distance of three or four hundred yards, tearing up several feet of iron rail and doing considerable damage to the cars. The passengers were obliged to remain in *statu quo* until another train of cars from Piermont, could be despatched for their relief. Such accidents are of too frequent occurrence.

A STRANGE LETTER has appeared in the papers, addressed to Senator Breese, of Indiana, by Gen. Shields, who was elected by the last Indiana Legislature to succeed Senator B. Gen. Shields was formerly a law student with Mr. Breese, but from the contact into which they were brought by politics, a coldness seems to have sprung up, at least such is the assertion of Gen. S. on the part of Mr. B. with receiving him coldly at Washington, ere he had yet recovered from his war wounds; also with having said that he was ineligible to the office of Senator from not being naturalized, and farther, that Mr. B. had written to papers in St Louis to the same effect.

The General asserts that he is doubly naturalized; first, by his father's naturalization while he was a minor, and secondly, by his own naturalization in due form of law, and that Senator Breese issued the papers, which are now among the Court Records of Effingham co., Indiana. He demands of Mr. B a certificate of that naturalization, which certificate, he says, Mr. B promised to give him some years since, when he contemplated joining the revolutionists in Canada; and warns him, that if he refuses, he must abide the consequences as he, General S., shall take such means to redress himself as he thinks proper.

On its first appearance we set the letter down as a forgery, but as Senator Breese has answered it, and both letters are in print, we are forced to believe it genuine. General Shields has by threatening violence and indeed by the whole tone of his letter, done himself irreparable injury. We regret it deeply—no man brought from the fields of Mexico a nobler reputation as a man and a soldier. This letter is an episode in his life, a new feature,—it betrays passion riding over judgement, and stains all the dignity of his Senatorial position. The reply of Senator Breese is calm and manful. He refuses to comply with a threat, though assassination should be the penalty. It has turned the current of feeling in his favor.—*N. Y. Sun.*

THE HEMPSTEAD MURDER.—A committee of citizens of Hempstead, L. I. visited the scene of the late conflagration in which Mrs. Miller and her children lost their lives. An affidavit was made before the Coroner by several persons, setting forth that they had strong suspicions of Jonathan Miller, the husband and father of the victims. A warrant was issued and he was arrested, examined, and subsequently acquitted.—Great excitement prevailed in the neighborhood.

Illinois Instructions against the Extension of Slavery.—The *Bureau Advocate*, published at Princeteown, Ill., says of the new Senator:

We learn that Gen. Shields is much gratified with the instructions of the Legislature and says that in complying with them, he is acting in accordance with his views and feelings.

Murder in New York.

The N. Y *Tribune* of Wednesday has the details of a bloody tragedy which took place in the 18th ward of that city on Tuesday last. A man named Thomas A. Walker, attempted to murder his reputed wife Mrs. Martha Eliza Walker, residing at No. 46 Lexington Avenue, near the corner of Twenty-fifth st. by shooting her with a six-barrel revolving pistol. The ball entered at her right shoulder, descended in an oblique direction, and passed out at the left side of her waist. It appears that the lady in question is the Mrs. Miller whose abduction from Stamford, Conn. by her husband some years since, created such a great sensation in the public mind. Her maiden name was Blackwell, and she inherited a considerable amount of property from an uncle of the same name. Subsequent to the uncle's death, a paper made its appearance purporting to have been given by Mrs. Miller, which she pronounced to be a forgery. Sometime after her marriage, she having without success, endeavored to obtain a bill of divorce from her husband, left him and went to Stamford, Conn. Mr. Miller, on discovering her whereabouts, went to Stamford forcibly conveyed her from that place in a carriage, and took her to Norfolk, Va. with an intention of embarking for France. From some circumstances that occurred at the time, they were prevented from doing so, and Mr. Miller came to this city with his wife, where they continued to live together for some time, but finally separated.

Mrs. Miller subsequently became acquainted with Mr. Walker, and as she alleges, was married to him, which, however, Mr. Walker denies to be the case. Mrs. Miller has resided in Lexington avenue since September last, in fashionable style, where he has occasionally visited her. About half past 2 o'clock, yesterday afternoon, he was at the house, and the servant girl residing in the family, hearing the report of a pistol, and immediately suspecting something wrong, called down Mrs. Wells, the aunt of Mrs. Miller, who was residing with her, and ran to the front door to see if she could make any discovery. Mrs Wells coming down stairs at the same moment, entered the front room and there discovered her niece lying prostate upon the floor, bleeding profusely from the wound which had been inflicted.

At an early hour the Coroner, having been apprised of the circumstance, also proceeded to the house, with a view of obtaining such information as could be obtained on the subject. He accordingly first interrogated Mrs Wells; but very little light on the subject was obtained from her, her answers being merely that she found Mrs W. in this state, and that Mrs Walker had not communicated to her directly who shot her, and would not in any way implicate Mr. Walker; great reluctance was manifested in her part to answer the questions propounded to her by the Coroner. On questioning Mrs Walker, the unfortunate victim, as to who shot her, she begged that she might not be aggravated, and turned her head; the Coroner then asked if she shot herself? she replied, No; he then asked her if her husband had shot her; to which she replied she would not criminate him; the coroner asked her who she meant by him, and whether she did not mean Mr. Walker she said she did, and that she had forgave him; some person asked if there were any hopes of her recovery; Dr. Holmes, who was present, informed her that her chances of living until morning were very slight, whereupon she remarked, "May God have mercy upon me;" she experienced more and more difficulty in breathing every moment, and in fact she appeared near her end. About 7½ o'clock the Coroner requested all present to retire from the room, as the medical gentlemen were momentarily expected. In the mean time Mr. Walker was conveyed to the Station House and locked up. He asserts that she shot herself.

[Mrs. Walker died the next afternoon.—A coroners inquest rendered a verdict that "Martha E. Walker came to her death by a ball from a pistol by her husband Thomas A. Walker. The accused was committed.

TAYLOR AND BRAGG AT BUENA VISTA.—The Mobile Tribune gives a different version of Col. Bragg's speech at the annual meeting of the bar, held in that city on the 20th ult; correcting an incident of history, as follows:

To Capt. Thomas, of Virginia, he accorded the highest praise for his heroism on that fatal field. This gallant officer, who had been driven from his position by the charge of the enemy, came up rapidly amidst the smoke and carnage of the fight to the aid of Col Bragg, and by his courage and skill helped to pour so deadly a fire upon the Mexicans that their headlong charges were broken. It was at this juncture that Gen. Taylor sat on "old whitey," near at hand, watching the effect of the deadly cannonade—his face drawn up rigidly with intense anxiety. When the artillery began to tell on the foe, his facial muscl relaxed, and then it was that he exclaimed—"give them——Captain Bragg." History will carry this blank to posterity filled with "grape" but it ought to be a stronger, though hardly so polite a word.

A PRETTY VALENTINE.—The family of one of our most respected citizens was awakened a few evenings since by an unusual noise at their door, when upon examination it appeared that a fine healthy female infant, some three or four months old, was found upon the porch, comfortably clothed and none the worse in appearance, from its apparently short exposure to the damp atmosphere. No clue has been found to its unnatural parents.

Who says Towanda is not a city, and is not getting along finely in modern improvements?—*Bradford Argus.*

FIRES.—A fire occurred in Williamsport, on Thursday of last week, which consumed the Public House of Robt. E. Hughes, on Market street and the canal, and the dwelling house of Edward Donnell, adjoining the same.

A fire also occurred in Pottsville, on Friday last by which the Stabling belonging to the Pennsylvania Hall, kept by Mr. Weaver, was destroyed and a horse burned to death.

The New York Globe is fearful that the whigs will put up Tom Hyer for President—as he won his laurels by fighting the battle of BONY FIFTY.