asked Arthur, in an angry tone, "what brought you here? You have no right to interrupt this marriage."

"Speak not, of what you know nothing, Arthur," said his father.

"*My right* is stronger than *your will*. Come with me but a few moments, and you shall acknowledge it." And he laid his hand on the arm of his son, and attempted to draw him away: but Arthur shook him off, almost fiercely. "No, father, no!" he exclaimed, "I leave not this building, until Florence Howard is my wife."

"Son, will you kill your father?" cried Colonel Mansfield, in an accent which betrayed so much internal anguish, that Arthur could no longer withstand the appeal, but followed him hastily from the church. A presentiment of some terrible revelation took possession of his mind, and he trembled so violently, that he was obliged to lean against a tree for support. "Now then, father," said he, "I am ready to hear."

Colonel Mansfield looked at him hopelessly as he replied "The blow *must* fall, Arthur, and it is in vain to delay it. Florence Howard can *never* be your bride."

"She *shall*, father, by heaven, she shall!" exclaimed Arthur, starting wildly from his position. "She loves me, and no power on earth shall prevent me from making her mine."

The mournful expression, settled still more deeply on the countenance of the unhappy parent, and it was with difficulty he could control himself sufficiently to articulate. "It cannot be; for she has already been claimed by a sterner bridegroom—*Florence Howard* died when an infant. It is not she whom you would have wed."

Arthur darted forward and grasped his father's arm. A deadly pallor overspread his face, at the horrible idea which flashed like lightning over his imagination. "Who is it, then," cried he in a voice of despair, "who is it? God save me from a confirmation of my fears. I know I had a sister once; but she died also—did she not father? I am a fool to ask the question—but tell me only that she is dead, and I will bless you—"

"Bless me not, my son, nor curse me—for I am sorely punished. Your sister, your own sister Alice, is living, unless this struggle has killed her—living in the church where we have just left her."

"In mercy, father, unsay those words! I will not believe them! you do but play on my credulity"

"As I live, I have spoken the truth," said Col. Mansfield; and he gazed steadfastly on his son without a sign or expression of feature that could give the lie to his words.

Arthur sunk down on the ground, and buried his face in the long church-yard grass. He was completely unmanned "Oh, my father!" he cried in a heart-rending voice, "Is it *you* who have done this cruel wrong to your children?"

"It is the evil spirit of avarice and ambition," he answered sadly, "which led me to commit an act that I have in vain repented of without the power of recalling. No, the guilt and misery must go with me now to my grave." He then explained in as few words as possible, the circumstances already narrated, and added, "you must leave us to-morrow, and never until this heavy sorrow has passed from your heart. The unhappy girl, who is the sharer of your wretchedness, shall be my care. She must never know what I have told you. Alas! that the fortune which I coveted for her, should be her greatest curse!"

Arthur turned away, and impelled by an irresistable impulse, re-entered the church. Florence had only partially recovered from her fainting fit, for the scene, without, which has taken us some time to relate, was, in reality, but of a few moment's duration. She was still lying in the arms of her maid, who, from a sort of superstitious feeling, that there was something wrong in this marriage, had betrayed the secret at the last moment, to her father—and Colonel Mansfield had been delayed in his arrival at the spot by an accidental mistake of the church, by his coachman. A furious drive had brought him just in time.

It was all over. Arthur made a few rapid strides to the side of his sister, and stooping down, kissed her forehead—"Farewell, Florence," cried he, "farewell forever! We shall never meet again!"

The clergyman, who was still in waiting, listened in astonishment to these words. He saw Arthur rush like a madman from the church. He saw Colonel Mansfield walk gloomily and sorrowfully in, and raise Florence in his arms, and bear her to a carriage. No notice was taken of *him*—his presence, and the purpose for which he was there, seemed alike forgotten. The mystery was still a mystery—unsolved, unexplained by a single word. They were all gone, and he was left alone.

[*Concluded next week.*]

News from the South.

BALTIMORE, June 10th.

The Southern Mail has arrived and brings New Orleans dates to the 3rd June.

A new Crovasse has formed 10 miles below the city, as large as that at Sauve's plantation.

Madame Guillot, formerly Miss Elise Clement, sometime since, charged by a Mr. Michaud with having forged his name to a note for $10,000, was arrested and held to bail for $25000.

An affray occurred at a coffee house in the third municipality, and a man named Wardell was killed by another man named Lynch. The dispute arose about cards.

The Corpus Christi Star, (Texas,) of the 14th says that Magrain, when returning from Laredo, encountered two Indians; having two double barrel guns with him, he succeeded in escaping. Many arrows were shot at him—saw signs of many Indians.

A Tornado passed over Salubria, which blew down many houses, and unroofed some others. No lives lost.

Gov. Wood of Texas, has issued his proclamation ordering the State elections for the first Monday in August.

The North Carolina papers say that the small pox was extending at Greensboro.—There had already been ten deaths and several new cases.

An affray occurred at Chesterfield District, South Carolina, between two men, Stroud and Miller. The bowels of Stroud were cut out:

A large number of spots on the sun are now visible.

THE DEMOCRAT.

MONTROSE, PA.

Thursday, June 14, 1849.

For Canal Commissioner,

COL. ASA DIMOCK.

subject to the decision of the Democratic State Convention.

☞ "A Taylor Democrat" is informed that, upon reviewing the subject of "Peter Pointer's" soft, wishy-washy trash in the last *Register*, we have concluded that it is too decidedly stale and insipid to merit the slightest notice. It is pronounced even by whigs, (who openly ridicule it) to be the weakest and silliest of all the many silly things that ever emenated from the *once* famous and classic halls of N——ville. It was doubtless intended to invite controversy, for which the author has a peculiar *penchant*. The reply, therefore, is respectfully declined—*for the present*, at least.

Special Court Proceedings.

We unintentionally omitted to chronicle the proceedings of the Special Court held by Judge Woodward, in the Court House last week. We will make all due amends now.

Meylert, Administrator of the Estate of Charles Chandler, deceased, vs. Samuel L. Halsted, ejectment for lands in Lenox township—discontinued.

Abel Green vs. Francis Perkins et. al., ejectment for lands in Lathrop township—after evidence, Court instructed the Jury to find for defendant.

Little, Streeter and Dimock for Plaintiff; Case, and Richards for Defendant.

Obediah Green vs. Joseph Wartrous, et. al., ejectment for lands in Bridgewater township—discontinued

Court adjourned Wednesday morning.

The 4th of July.

This annually recurring and three glorious national holliday is again almost upon us; and yet we see no movement made in this vicinity that indicates its being celebrated in a becoming manner. Are all asleep? Is the spirit of '76" wholly gone? Cannot *something* be done to commemorate the day in a proper manner? What shall it be?—Who responds?

Another General Gone.

The Telegraph brings the unwelcome announcement of the death of another of our bravest Generals—Hon. N. P. Gaines. He died in New Orleans on the 6th inst., of the prevailing epidemic, after an attack, one report says of ten days duration, and another of less than two hours.

The death of Gen. Gaines will cause deep and universal regret throughout the country. Following so closely upon the demise of Gen. Worth, it will add a deeper pang to a nation's grief. He was the eldest officer in the army, having received his first commission in 1799—more than a half century ago. His first prominent act was the arrest of Aaron Burr, for which he was appointed by Mr. Jefferson, Marshal of the United States. His subsequent services during the war of 1812, and during the many Indian wars on our frontiers since that time, are too well known to the country to need repetation. In all the positions which duty has assigned him, he has acquitted himself with a [illegible] his conduct is familiar to all, and although censured in some quarters for it at the time, yet subsequent events showed his views eminently correct and profound

Gen. Gaines was born in Virginia, and at the time of his death was upwards of eighty years of age. His life was therefore ripe and full of honors. He has left a young and devoted wife (who has not heard of Myra Clarke Gaines'; to mourn his loss, but her grief will be in a measure assuaged by a nation's sympathy.

Keep Cool Neighbor.

We are profoundly sorry that our innocent remarks two weeks ago upon the *Register's* overweening asininity (which sucks out in almost every editorial contains) to have Mr. Little again a candidate for the Legislature, has had the effect to disturb our usually quiet and stoic neighbor's equanimity to the extent indicated by his last issue. Passion, or that which tends to create passion or excitement, we know, should at all times be avoided, as deleterious to health and long life; but especially at this time, when the cholera, to which these often serve to "prepare the way," is increasing its ravages all over the country, it is highly censorious. We plead guilty to error in this respect, for which, with hat in hand, we crave our neighbor's pardon; but in the matter of fact we stated, we can make no retraction or apology—no, notwithstanding the perfect avalanche of hard names, epithets and invectives he has deigned to lavish upon us.

In brief, our neighbor, waxing exceeding wroth, and summoning to his aid all the potency of impudence, abuse and untruth, denies that he has nominated Mr. Little for the Legislature, even in the most indirect manner. Let us see. Suppose the Bradford Reporter were to publish an article suggesting and recommending with much spirit and enthusiasm, Sherman D. Phelps, of Wyoming, for the next Legislature. We take it into our head to copy that article and endorse it, heading it with the starting caption "Improvement Suggested," &c., and in doing it evince equally as much enthusiasm as the writer of the article manifested: would we not be virtually nominating Mr. Phelps in the estimation of the community? To nominate is to *name*; if, therefore, we *named* that gentleman with acquiescence, we should *nominate* him to all intents and purposes. Precisely so is it with our neighbor "over the way." He copied an article, (and cordially endorsed it,) from the Bradford Argus, which suggested with unmistakable satisfaction that Mr. Little be "returned by *acclamation*" to the next Legislature. This "by acclamation," if it means anything, means *unanimously*—without Whig opposition—yea, *with Whig support*. In copying and endorsing these suggestions did he not, therefore, fairly and plumply *nominate* him according to the strict definition of that term? We submit it to a candid public to judge.

We suggest, therefore, again that our neighbor should keep cool, neither giving up to excitement or passion any more, as it may, in these cholera times, cost him his precious life. And then—O! then what *would* become of the Whig party!

Godey's Lady's Book for July is a perfect gem —superior, in every particular, to any that has preceded it—containing richer engravings and more pages—84 of the latter. Godey has fully kept his promise, and presented a specimen number of his new volume that challenges successful rivalry—His book is now in the zenith of popularity, it having increased its circulation 30,000 copies since one year ago. We don't wonder that it is popular.

Pass Around the Warning.

We perceive, with much satisfaction, that the Democratic press of the State is fully awakening to the importance of securing a TRUE Democratic majority in the next Legislature, and are already uttering the warnings, and taking the usual reconnoissance of the enemies works, preparatory to the contest. We publish to-day two brief, but well-written, articles from those sterling Democratic prints, the *Pennsylvanian* and *Keystone*, upon the subject, to which we invite the special attention of our readers in Susquehanna. They take the true view of the situation of affairs, and the duty of Democrats in the premises. The necessity of selecting none but *Democrats of the most unquestioned character* as candidates cannot be too frequently or strongly urged We want, as the *Keystone* truly remarks, "*none but thorough straight-going Democrats*"—none of your semi-Whig, Bill Johnston, small notes, anti-individual-liability, anti-elective-Judiciary nondescripts, to *mis*-represent us in the next General Assembly. Such is the feeling, at least among the Democracy of Susquehanna, and such, we are quite confident, is the sentiment of the Democracy of the State. The former, in particular, having become considerably awakened and sensitive upon this point, by the gross and unexcusable defection of one of their Representatives (not of this county, however,) at the last and preceding sessions, we are very sure will be cautious and exacting hereafter. They will require men to be *Democrats*, and to pledge to the measures recommended and enforced by the lamented Sage the their cordial support, before they will give them their votes. Having been betrayed into a support of Whiggery once, they will be exceedingly wary of a like decoy in future. Do they err in this sentiment?

Senator Benton's Speech.

Further accounts of Senator Benton's great Speech (which *was* a great speech) continue to reach us. He takes the most ultra Wilmot Proviso grounds in relation to slaves in our new territories, and urges them with the peculiar ability and force of his powerful mind. His position is entirely defensive, it having been forced upon him by the resolutions of the Legislature of his State, passed at its recent sitting, by a meagre majority. These resolutions he repudiates in toto, as anti-Republican and impolitic, and cavilerly casts them in the shade by bringing to light counter instructions, passed in 1820. These we subjoin, embodying as they do principles vital to the interests and liberties of our country:

"Resolved, That the peace, permanency and welfare of our national Union depend upon a strict adherence to the letter and spirit of the eighth section of the act of Congress of the United States, entitled 'An Act to authorize the people of the Missouri Territory to form a Constitution and State Government for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, *and to prohibit slavery in certain territories*," approved March 6, 1820.

Resolved, That our Senators in the Congress of the United States are hereby instructed and our Representatives requested to vote in accordance with the provisions and the spirit of the said eighth section of the said act, in all the questions which may come before them in relation to the organization of new Territories or States, out of the territory now belonging to the United States, or which hereafter may be acquired either by purchase, by treaty, or by conquest."

These resolutions Senator Benton announces his determination to support, or to allow the people of Missouri to select some other Senator in his stead. If they sustain him—of which no one having any knowledge of political affairs in that State, entertains a doubt—then will the free soil principle tri[illegible] one, too—in 1852, is quite generally believed.

"Letting the Cat out of the Bag."—Our Whig cotemporary, in his indignant denial, last week, that he was anxious for Mr. Little's return to the Legislature, unwittingly, (no doubt,) gave the lie to his own words, besides "letting the cat out of the bag." Witness his declaration that "Mr Little's feelings were averse to a re-election," &c. Now how does *he* know what Mr. Little's feelings are unless he, or some "intimate friend," has consulted him upon the subject? And if this is the way he has obtained his information, then how dare he deny that he is ready and most willing to adopt him as the candidate of his party in the coming canvass? We are confident that no man with a decent regard for truth would deny it.

But in what a sorry plight does this admission place Mr. Little, as a Democrat! Is it to his credit that he is fawned around and courted by whigs, and his name sought to head their ranks? We submit it even to himself and his friends, with all candor, to answer. Besides, we will say frankly and candidly, that, were we in *his* place, we would choke off so incautious and reckless a parasite as our neighbor is fast proving himself, if we had to buy him off. His price, like his value, would be meagre, but his flattery and praise will sink any Democrat, if continued to be spread on, to the very nadir of political infamy and perdition.

"Heard of Such Before."—Horace Greeley, speaking of "Executive Removals" and General Taylor's no-party pledges, says: "it is no part of our business to vindicate the *consistency* of Gen. Taylor, or the *wisdom* of his *no-party professions*," and adds: "*We* never had stress on his notions on this subject, nor asked votes for him on the strength of them. We had heard of such before!"

Aye, aye! Mr. Greeley, *you had heard of such before!* The party to which it is your misfortune to belong is up to such rookery—is it not! Well, the public will admire your candor in confessing it, although you have "told no news." Few need at this day be informed that it is by just such duplicity and fraud as this, and *never* otherwise, that you are enabled, as a party, to triumph in this country.

The Cholera in New York.—The following statement shows the number of cases of Cholera, also the number of deaths by the same, since the first of this month:

Date.	*Cases.*	*Deaths.*
June 1st,	8	4
" 2nd,	13	4
" 3rd,	35	9
" 4th,	23	9
" 5th,	29	11
" 6th,	60	10
" 7th,	36	19
" 8th,	26	12
" 9th,	40	19
" 10th,	16	10
	289	110

The general health of the city, the Sun says, was never better than at present, and were it not for the name of cholera, the cause of mortality that daily occur would attract little attention among our half million people.

The Third Trial for the election of Congressmen from the 4th District, Mass., took place on Monday. But 10 towns out of the 37, have been heard from. In these Thompson, Whig, gains 255 over Palfrey Free-Soil. There is probably again no choice.

☞ The Steamer Emily collapsed her boilers while leaving her wharf at Apalachicola, Fa., on the 28th ult., killing seven persons, and badly scalding nine others.

More of the "Figures."

The Washington Union re-publishes from the Extra Globe of May, 1841, a table showing that at the commencement of General Jackson's administration in 1829, there were in office at the seat of the national government, only *forty-six* democrats to *two hundred and forty* whigs. The democratic party continued in office for twelve consecutive years; and yet at General Harrison's inauguration in 1841, there were still more federalists than Democrats holding office in the departments at Washington. Here are the figures:

In 1829, on the advent of General Jackson to power, there were in office, in the several departments, 246 federalists and only 56 democrats!

In 1831, there were 185 federalists to 122 democrats.

In 1841, there were 276 federalists, to 221 democrats.

"Thus it appears that after twenty years of uninterrupted democratic ascendency, there were, on the accession to power of the whig party, in 1841, *fifty-two* more whigs than democrats holding office at the seat of government—the 276 whigs receiving in the aggregate the sum of $331,328, and the 224 democrats the sum of $286,715. Excess of whig salaries, $44,613.

"Such was the state of things when the government was turned over to the whigs in 1841. This excess was enormously increased at the very outset of the Harrison dynasty. In two short months the excess of whig over democratic salaries was carried from $44,613, up to the sum of $117,113. The Union publishes a further statement, showing that during the brief period of *five months*, under Harrison's administration, more removals were made in the different classes of offices enumerated below, than during the full period of *twelve years* of democratic rule:

"*Removals of some of the higher class of officers.*

	During 12 yrs. before March 4 1848	During only 5 mos. after Mar 4, 1841.
Bureau Officers in D. C.	7	6
Survey'rs Gen. pub lands	2	5
Officers in Mints	1	3
Governors of Territory	1	3
Secretaries of Territory	2	3
District Attorneys	16	13
Marshals	20	19
Collectors	45	35
Surveyors of Customs	12	20
Naval Officers	7	6
Postmasters, since 1813,	16	33
	128	115"

These statements show pretty conclusively that as far as regards the officers at Washington, all the toleration of opinion which General Taylor has *promised* was exercised both by General Jackson and Van Buren. It is worth while to keep these facts in mind in the midst of the controversies which are raised in regard to the propriety of dismissing men from office for opinion's sake.

Diplomatic Appointments, &c.—It is now stated as positive that the following diplomatic appointments, have been, and are about being, made by the Cabinet

Abbot Lawrence of Mass., Minister to England

vice, George Bancroft, to be recalled.

Wm. C. Rives, of Virginia, Minister to France,

vice, Richard Rush, to be recalled.

Ex-Governor Graham, of N. C., Minister to Spain. [He has since declined the appointment.]

Geo. P. Marsh, of Vt., Minister to Berlin.

Babie Peyton, of La., Minister to Chili.

Col. McKinney, of Miss., Charge to New Granada.

J. L. Crittenden, of Ky., Consul at Liverpool.

Lorenzo Draper, of N. Y., Consul at Havre.

Ex-Governor Kent, of Me., Consul at Rio Janeiro.

Charles Fenno Hoffman is still insane—*enough to accept a clerkship in one of the Cabinet Bureaus at Washington.*

Another Swear.

The *Mobile Advertiser*, a leading Taylor paper in Alabama, administers the following scathing rebuke to the *National Whig*, the organ of President Taylor at Washington, and other prints of the same character, which are continually outraging truth and decency by asserting that the multitude of Democrats who have been, and are continually being, turned out of office, are turned out because of their "incapability, dishonesty and unfaithfulness," and not from political differences of opinion:

"We hesitate not to say for our own part that the position assumed by the National Whig in relation to removals and appointments, meets our decided condemnation. It is calculated, we think, to disgrace the administration, and the sooner it is repudiated the better. When the Whig gravely asserts that "not a single removal of an incumbent, not a single refusal to re-appoint a Democrat, has been dictated by the fact that the incumbent or applicant is a Democrat," and that the "Administration proceeds in all its consultations and decisions in respect to appointments to office, upon the sole ground of capacity, fidelity to the constitution, and honesty," we know that it is simply not true. We know and so does every man, that political considerations have influenced the Administration in many removals, and it is right and proper that they should. It is utterly absurd, ridiculous and disgusting to pretend to the contrary. The doctrine of the Whig leads to the inevitable conclusion, that every man removed by General Taylor was either incompetent or dishonest, and hence, removal carries with it personal insult and disgrace.—We are not prepared to consent to any such doctrine—rather, we enter our solemn protest against it. Probably, as a general rule, the gentlemen removed are as unexceptionable, morally and socially, as competent and as much beloved in all the private relations of life as their successors. Such is the case we know in this city, and we should be the last man who would admit any doctrine that could be construed into an assault upon their character and reputation as gentlemen. They were removed purely and exclusively on political grounds. There is no mistake about it, and it is utterly useless for any one to pretend to the contrary. They were removed on political considerations, and on that ground, and that alone, we are prepared to defend the act of removal. We want nothing better. We dispise all these cowardly subterfuges.—Why attempt to dodge and evade the real point and true issue in this matter of removal? There is but one honest and correct view for Whigs to take, and that is, that it is the duty of the Administration to remove Democrats and put Whigs in their places, and why quibble about it, and try to dodge it? Let us be honest to ourselves and just to our opponents.

Protection.

The Whigs are far from agreeing on this subject. Formerly every Whig was a protectionist, now many have learned more correctly the true law of trade and the science of government. The N. Y. Tribune contains the following communication from one of its correspondents, nailing one of simple Horace's celebrated fallacies:

"In your Tariff article of Thursday morning, you deny that the tendency of Protective duty is to enhance price. Now I confess myself, though a Whig, in a state of chameful ungertainty in regard to the entire question of the Protective policy. And yet one thing seems to me clear—namely, that price must be enhanced by a Tariff, otherwise its purpose is not answered. I am probably showing my utter ignorance of the matter, but I ask information.

"Taking, for instance, *iron* instead of Plant is your argument true? A higher duty—that is, an enhanced price—is asked to enable the manufacturers to live. If no increase of price is obtained, and that permanently, what is the good of "Protection?" Does it reduce the rate of wages, (I hope not,) or *how?* Then how does a Tariff, without an increase of prices, make manufactures profitable?"

☞ The cholera still rages in the South and West. It does not, however, appear to be on the increase.

BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

Reported for the Montrose Democrat.

CINCINNATI, June 12.

The Nashville papers state that the illness of Ex-President Polk is not occasioned by cholera, but from diarrhea.

NEW YORK, June 13, 9 A. M.

By the arrival of the Phœnix, we have dates from the city of St. Domingo to June 1st. The city was in a state of great excitement in consequence of the President and his generals having deserted the army and abandoned several strong posts. The enemy had made for the city, but were driven back by Santa Anna, after which Santa Anna took command, when the whole country arose in his behalf. [Here the report become illegible, by which means a few words were lost.—The import of them however, was, that Santa Anna had marched upon one of the cities previously surrendered to the enemy, and commenced operations for its re-capture.—*Ed Dem*]

SECOND DESPATCH.—2½ P. M. The Board of Health report 44 new cases of cholera and 11 deaths for the last 24 hours.

The sugar refinery of Harris & Co., on Duane street, was consumed by fire last evening. The loss is very heavy.

Butter is in pretty fair demand with sales of 200 packages Western, at previous rates.

LOUISVILLE, June 12.

The Steamer Embassy, bound for St. Louis, collapsed both flues of her starboard boiler below Green River on Saturday morning, and a number of her crew and deck passengers were killed and blown overboard. Twenty-eight others were severely scalded—some of them, it is feared, seriously.

NEW YORK, JUNE 11—2 P. M.

The cholera is on the decrease. Only 24 new cases to-day, and 12 deaths.

There is at present no better prospect of stopping the great Crevasse, and the water still continues to rise. All efforts to check it have been abandoned

Bear in Mind, Democrats of the State.

The next Legislature will have the duty to perform, of dictating the State for members of the Senate and House of Representatives. Never was it more essential that you should be careful in your selections for the Legislature. Other questions of importance will come before that body, requiring great ability and steadfastness to adjust. Let us avoid the humiliating events of the recent session, by *selecting none but Democrats of the most unquestionable character*, to represent us in the legislature. Every Democratic member is a trustee, and no one should be nominated who is not fully aware of all that is expected of him, and of all that he will have to do. The first duty, therefore, is *to place no man on the Democratic ticket, who is not entirely unexceptionable as a citizen, straight-going Democrat.* Let us have no more conservatives in seats that should be filled by responsible and conscientious men.—*Pennsylvanian.*

Importance of good Nominations.

We perceive that in some of the counties preparatory steps are being taken toward the formation of tickets to be voted at the coming election As we have heretofore frequently observed, and tried to enforce upon the attention of our readers, the primary meetings are of the utmost importance. Without good candidates, honest and competent men, success is hardly desirable, for by the election of those who are not honest and competent, the party is only disgraced and the public cheated And how can the people expect good candidates to be nominated without they move in time. Is fore their action is forestalled by some intrigue and management in?

The fact that the federalists now have the Governor and legislature, renders it necessary to check on for the Senate and House of Representatives, doubly important at this time. There were professing democrats in the last legislature, who were entirely unworthy of their position. They were a reproach to the party that elected them, and disgraced the position they occupied. It is to be hoped that none will be found in the next.

Besides, an effort ought to be made to augment the talent in both branches of the legislature. It is humiliating to hear the remark generally made, that the Pennsylvania legislature is every year deteriorating. This ought not to be so. The people ought to move and make selections themselves, of their best men, and not be imposed on by such as choose to press themselves forward, who are not always the most meritorious or competent.

By a proper effort on the part of the democracy in the vacant Senatorial districts, a democratic majority in the Senate is attainable. This is of immense importance in the present condition of affairs, to check executive wrongs. It is, therefore, to be hoped, that our friends will not permit local or personal jealousies in any of the districts, to jeopard the success of the democratic candidate. Great results flow from small causes, which, at the time, seem comparatively unimportant. The election of Wm. F. Johnston to the Senate, in a district where there is a decided democratic majority, made him Governor of Pennsylvania. The party should, at all times, nominate sound and reliable men; but at the present time, owing to the peculiar state of affairs, there is a necessity for a little more than ordinary care. We do most sincerely hope, that our friends will take this subject into earnest and timely consideration.—*Keystone.*

For the Democrat

Mr. Editor.—In the last coon organ of this place is a communication from a spirit struggling for immortality as a writer, who signs himself "Peter Pointer." His subject appears to be "Proscription," or an attempt to reconcile Gen. Taylor's pledges with his practice—a matter that seems to sorely puzzle even the simple and unsophisticated "Peter's" brains. In his quandary, however, he has recourse to an oracle whom he calls "Uncle Tom," and *he* solves the mystery in a giffy, by saying that Gen. Taylor made no pledges not clearly explained by his subsequent declarations that he was "a Whig," would have voted for Clay in '44, "a Whig, but not an ultra Whig &c," which seem to have fully satisfied "the boy" Peter, who can straightway to his "party organ" with it, full of satisfaction. Now I would ask one more question: if this explanation of "Uncle Tom" be correct, how happened the nephew, "Peter," to be so in the "fog" about it as to need to go to the old gentleman for an explanation? If there was no grounds for misapprehension in Taylor's position, how came the ag[illegible] so swamped!

QUILL.

Query.—We have frequently heard the question asked whether the *Register* was in favor of an *Electtive Judiciary*; but as that print has been so stupidly or studiedly dumb upon that question, we have never been able to give an answer. Will our neighbor please enlighten the public with his views upon that topic in his next issue?

☞ The U. S. store ship Lexington arrived at New York on Sunday last, from San Francisco, California, with $137,000 in gold, being the largest amount of gold ever shipped to the United States from that region. She had been absent thirty-five months.

Cholera in Owego.—A telegraphic despatch from Binghamton on Saturday says that a letter, just received from Owego, declares positively that a case of cholera had occurred at that place that day which had every prospect of a fatal termination.

Cuba—Slavery—Slave Trade—Annexation.

Wm. C. Bryant, editor of the N. Y. Evening Post, is now in Cuba, where it is said, he intends to spend the summer for his health. He occasionally writes letters for his paper, which are full of information and interest, from a recent one of which we make the following extract:

One day I stood upon the quay at Matanzas and saw the slaves unloading the large lighters which brought goods from the Spanish ships lying in the harbor—casks of wine, jars of oil, bags of nuts, barrels of flour.—The men were naked to the hips; their only garment being a pair of trowsers. I admired their ample chests, their massive shoulders, the full and muscular proportions of their arms, and the ease with which they shifted the heavy articles from place to place or carried them on their heads. "Some of these are Africans," I said to a gentleman who resided on the island. "They are all Africans," he answered, "Africans to a man; the negro born in Cuba is of a lighter make."

When I was at Guines, I went out to look at a sugar estate in the neighborhood, where the mill was turned by water, which a long aqueduct, from one of the streams that traverse the plain, conveyed over arches of stone so broad and massive that I could not help thinking of the aqueducts of Rome. A gang of black women were standing in the *secadero*, among the lumps of clayed sugar, beating them small with mallets; before them walked, to and fro, the major domo, with a cutlass by his side and a whip in his hand. I asked him how a planter could increase his stock of slaves. "There is no difficulty," he replied, "slaves are still brought to the island from Africa. The other day five hundred were landed on the sea shore to the south of this, for you must know, Senor, that we are but three or four leagues from the coast."

"Was it done openly?" I enquired.

"*Publicamente*, Senor, *publicamente*; (publicly, Sir, publicly,) they were landed on the sugar estate of *Pastor*, and one hundred and seven more died on the passage from Africa"

"Did the government know it?"

He shrugged his shoulders. "Of course the government knows it," said he: "every body else knows it."

The truth is, that the slave trade is now fully revived; the government conniving at it, making a profit on the slaves imported from Africa, and screening the pirates who bring them from the paaits of the English. There could scarcely be any arrangement of coast more favorable for smuggling slaves into a country, than the islands and long peninsulas, and many channels of the southern shore of Cuba. Here the mangrove thickets, sending down roots into the brine from their long branches that stretch over the water, form dense screens on each side of the passages from the main ocean to the land, and render it easy for the slaver and his boats to lurk undiscovered by the English men of war.

During the comparative cessation of the trade a few years since, the negroes, I have been told, were much better treated than before. They rose in value, and when they died, it was found not easy to supply their places; they were therefore made much of, and everything was done which it was thot would tend to preserve their health, and maintain them in bodily vigor. If the slave lives of course will be of less consequence to their owners, and they will be subject again to be overtasked, as it has been said they were before. There is certainly great temptation to wear them out in the sugar mills which are kept in motion day and night, during half the year, namely, through the dry season. "If this was not the healthiest employment in the world," said an overseer to me on one of the sugar estates, "it would kill us all who are engaged in it, both black and white."

Perhaps you may not know that more than half of the island of Cuba has never been reduced to tillage. Immense tracts of the rich black or red mould of the island, accumulate on the coral rock, are yet waiting the hand of the planter to be converted into profitable sugar estates. There is a demand, therefore, for laborers on the part of those who wish to become planters, and this demand is supplied not only from the coast of Africa, but from the American continent and southwestern Asia.

In one of the afternoons of Holy Week, I saw amid the crowd on the *Plaze de Armas*, in Havana, several men of low stature, of a deep olive complexion, beardless with high cheek bones and straight black hair, dressed in white pantaloons of cotton, and shirts of the same material worn over them. They were Indians, natives of Yucatan, who had been taken prisoners by the whites of the country and sold to white men in Cuba, under a pretended contract to serve for a certain number of years. I afterwards learned that the dealers in this sort of merchandise, were also bringing in the natives of Asia, Chinese they call them here, though I doubt whether they belong to that nation, and disposing of their services to the planters. There are six hundred of these people, I have been told, in this city.

Yesterday appeared in the Havana papers an ordinance concerning the "Indians and Asiatics imported into the country under a contract to labor." It directs how much Indian corn, how many plantins, how much jerked pork and rice they shall receive daily, and how many lashes the master may inflict for misbehavior. Twelve stripes with the cow-skin he may administer for the smaller offences, and twenty-four for transgressions of more importance; but if any more become necessary, he must apply to a magistrate for permission to lay them on. Such is the manner in which the government of Cuba sanctions the barberity of making slaves of the freeborn men of Yucatan. The ordinance, however, betrays great concern for the salvation of the souls of those whom it thus delivers over to the lash of the slave driver. It speaks of the Indians from America as Christians already, but while it allows the slaves imported from Asia to be *baptized*, it directs that they shall be carefully instructed in the doctrines of our holy religion.

Yet the policy of the government favors emancipation. The laws of Cuba permit any slave to purchase his freedom on paying a price fixed by three persons, one appointed by his master and two by a magistrate. He may, also, if he pleases, compel his master to sell him a certain portion of his time, which he may employ to earn the means of purchasing his entire freedom.

It is owing to this, I suppose, that the number of free blacks is so large in the island, and it is manifest that if the slave trade could be checked, and those laws remain unaltered, the negroes would gradually emancipate themselves—all at least who would be worth keeping as servants. The population of Cuba is now about a million and a quarter, rather more than half of whom are colored persons, and one out of every four of the colored population is free. The mulattoes emancipate themselves as a matter of course, and some of them become rich by occupations they follow. The prejudice of color is by no means so strong here as in the United States.—Five or six years since the negroes were shouting and betting in the cockpits with the whites; but since the mulatto insurrection, as it is called, in 1843, the law forbids their presence at such amusements. I am told there is little difficulty in smuggling people of mixed blood, by the help of legal forms, into the white race, and if they are rich, into good society, provided their hair is not frizzled.

You hear something said now and then in the United States concerning the annexation of Cuba to our confederacy; you may be curious, perhaps, to know what they say of it here. A European who had long resided in the island, gave me the account:

"The Creoles, no doubt, would be very glad to see Cuba annexed to the United States, and many of them ardently desire it. It would relieve them from many great burdens they now bear, open their commerce to the world, rid them of a tyrannical government, and allow them to manage their own affairs in their own way. But Spain derives from the possession of Cuba advantages too great to be relinquished.—She extracts from Cuba a revenue of twelve millions of dollars; her government sends its needy nobility, and all for whom it would provide, to fill lucrative offices in Cuba—the priests, the military officers, the civil authorities, every man who fills a judicial post or holds a clerkship is from old Spain. The Spanish government dares not give up Cuba if it were inclined.

"Nor will the people of Cuba make any effort to emancipate themselves by taking up arms. The struggle with the power of Spain would be bloody and uncertain, even if the white population were united, but the mutual distrust with which the planters and the peasantry regard each other, would make the issue of such an enterprise still more doubtful At present it would not be safe for a Cuba planter to speak publicly of annexation to the United States. He would run the risk of being imprisoned or exiled."

Of course, if Cuba were to be annexed to the United States, the slave trade with Africa would cease to be carried on as now, though its perfect suppression might be found difficult. Negroes would be imported in large numbers from the United States, and planters would emigrate with them.—Institutions of education would be introduced, commerce and religion would both be made free, and the character of the Islanders would be elevated by the responsible rule which a free government would throw upon them The planters, however, would doubtless adopt regulations ensuring the perpetuity of slavery; they would unquestionably, as soon as they were allowed to frame ordinances for the Island, take away the facilities which the present laws give the slave for effecting his own emancipation.

Movements in California.

From the *Alta Californian*, of March 22d, we learn that a large number of the Delegates elect to a Convention proposed to be held for the formation of a Provisional Government for California, have addressed to their constituents a recommendation, with a view to secure the fullest representation of the country, that the meeting be further deferred, to meet at Monterey on the first Monday of August next. The signers of this address have resigned the power delegated to them; and, looking to the probability that the number of inhabitants will very soon be such as to require the immediate formation of a State Constitution; they also recommend that the delegates to the proposed Convention in August, should be vested with full power to frame a State Constitution, to be submitted to the people of California.

From the same paper we make the following extracts in relation to the question of slavery.

The meeting at San Francisco, which adjourned on the evening of the 17th of February to the evening of the 24th, to further consider and act upon the question of negro slavery in the Territory of California, convened at the appointed hour, and was organized by Capt. J. L. Folsom resuming the chair.

Mr. Perkins read the first resolution, and spoke eloquently in behalf of the exclusion of negro slavery in California. On his concluding, the first resolution was put to vote and adopted.

The second resolution was then brought before the meeting and agreed upon; when

Capt. J. L. Folsom vacated and called W. S. Clark to the chair, and then addressed the meeting in a lucid, forcible, and impressive manner, declaring that the public mind being almost unanimous on the subject, should make a decided manifestation against the extension of slavery in the Territory of California.

After the President resumed the chair, the remaining resolutions were put to vote, and passed unanimously.

On motion of Col. Stevenson, the fifth resolution was re-considered, when that gentleman offered an amendment to the same, to the effect of prohibiting the employment of apprenticed negroes in the territory. The resolution as amended was adopted. It is as follows, the amendment being designated by italic letters:

5th. That the delegates who are to represent the district of San Francisco in the Convention that is to be held at San Jose for the formation of a provisional constitution, are hereby desired, requested, and instructed by all honorable means to oppose any act, measure, provision, or ordinance that is calculated to further the introduction of domestic slavery, *or of free negroes as apprentices, by indenture or otherwise, to be employed in the Territory of California.*

Whig State Convention.—The Whig Central Committee have issued a call for holding a State Convention, at Harrisburg, on the 16th of August next to nominate a candidate for Canal Commissioner.