From the Morning Star.

SKETCHES OF MEXICO—No. 5.

Landing at Vera Cruz—Mexican Embassy—March to Mexico.

After the conquest of Tabasco, Cortes proceeded along the coast, till he arrived off San Juan de Ulua. The natives appearing friendly, he landed his forces on the sandy and desolate shore. This was the very spot where the city of Vera Cruz now stands. If the Conqueror had been permitted to cast a glance into the future, and look on the events which have since transpired on that spot, a strange vision would have met his view. He would have seen that barren plain where the north wind shifted the burning sand into hillocks, covered by a flourishing city, the great mart of European and Oriental trade: and he would have seen that city smoking in ruins, and the degenerate posterity of his hardy followers, driven before a stronger and bolder race.

The Indians flocked from the adjacent country to see the wonderful strangers, and the Spanish camp was crowded with a motley throng of every age and sex. They brought with them presents of fruit, vegetables, flowers, game, and ornaments of gold. Next many days after their landing, the governor of the province, named Teuhtlile, presented himself at the camp. He was received with much ceremony by Cortes, and returned this attention with polite though formal courtesy. His first inquiries were respecting the country of the strangers, and the purpose of their visit.—Cortes told him that he was the subject of a great monarch who dwelt beyond the sea; that having heard of the greatness of the Mexican empire, his master had sent him to wait on the great Montezuma with a present, as a token of his good will, and a message which he must deliver in person. Teuhtlile then commanded his slaves to bring forward the presents intended for the Spanish general. It consisted of ten loads of fine cotton, several mantles of beautiful feather work, whose rich and delicate dyes might vie with the most beautiful painting, and a basket filled with ornaments of wrought gold. Cortes received these presents with suitable acknowledgments, and told the governor that "*the Spaniards were troubled with a disease of the heart for which gold was a specific*." He ordered his own attendants to lay before the chief the articles designed for Montezuma. These were an arm chair, richly carved and painted, a crimson cap of cloth, adorned with a gold medal, and a quantity of collars, bracelets and other ornaments of cut glass.

While these things were taking place, Cortes observed among the Indians one busy with a pencil. On looking at his work he found he was making a sketch or extract of the Spaniards, their arms, costumes, &c. This was the famous picture writing of the Aztecs, and Teuhtlile informed him that these pictures were to be presented to Montezuma. Cortes was pleased with the idea, and to heighten the impression which he wished to produce, he ordered out the cavalry and artillery. The Indians gazed with wonder on the bold and rapid movement of the troops, but when they heard the thunder of the cannon and the rushing of the balls as they dashed through the neighboring forest, shivering the trees in their course, they were filled with consternation. All this was depicted by the painters with a fidelity which astonished the Spaniards.

The conference being ended Teuhtlile withdrew from the Spanish camp, leaving orders that his people should supply the troops with provisions, till further instruction from the capital.

The information which Teuhtlile had gathered was immediately conveyed to the capital. The Indian monarch found himself greatly embarrassed, and undecided as to the course which he ought to pursue.—A superstition so far that they were supernatural beings, perhaps the descendants of the good Quetzalcoatl, restrained him from meeting them with arms; but he saw the danger of admitting those terrible strangers to his capital. He resolved to send an embassy with such a magnificent present as should impress them with high ideas of his power and resources, and at the same time forbid their approach to the capital.

The Mexican embassy soon presented itself before the camp. It consisted of two Aztec nobles, accompanied by the governor Teuhtlile, and a hundred slaves, bearing the presents of their sovereign. On entering the general's pavilion, the ambassadors saluted him by touching the ground with their hands and carrying them to their heads, while the air was filled with clouds of incense, which rose from the censers borne by their attendants. Rich mats were unrolled, and on them was displayed the gifts of Montezuma. The Spaniards gazed with wonder and delight on the costly treasure spread before them, which more than realized their brightest dreams.—There were shields and helms embossed with pure gold, collars, bracelets, and imitations of birds and animals of the most exquisite workmanship in the same costly metal, sandals, fans and crests of variegated feathers, intermingled with gold and silver thread, and sprinkled with pearls and precious stones. But the things which excited the most admiration were two circular plates of gold and silver, "as large as carriage wheels." The one of gold, which represented the sun, was valued at twenty thousand *pesos de oro*.*

The ambassadors having presented their gifts, delivered also the message of their master, expressing great respect for the Spaniards, and their king; but forbidding them to approach the capital, and intimating a wish that they should leave the country. Cortes was vexed at this answer, and turning to his officers he exclaimed, "This is a rich and powerful prince, but it shall go hard, but we will visit him in his capital."

Not long after the departure of the Mexican embassy, the Spanish general received a deputation from Cempoalla, the chief town of the Totonacs, a powerful nation dwelling on the Sierras and the broad plains which skirt the Mexican gulf towards the north. Their country had been recently conquered by the Aztecs, and they bore the yoke impatiently. The fame of the Spaniards had reached the chief, who sent these messengers to invite the wonderful strangers to his capital. They were received very graciously by the general, who saw that he might turn this spirit of discontent to his own advantage. After informing himself as far as possible of their disposition and resources, he dismissed them with presents, promising soon to visit their master. This promise he soon after fulfilled, and was received with great hospitality by the Indian chief.

Cortes early saw the necessity of forming a settlement which should serve as a place of retreat in case of reverses, a magazine for stores, and a port for shipping. With such address he gained the approbation of his men to this plan. The military was changed to a civil government, and the foundation of a city was laid.—They called it La Villa Rica de Vera Cruz The friendly natives brought in materials, stone, lime, wood and brick. Every man put his hand to the work, the general laboring with the soldiers. In a few weeks the work was accomplished. A town had arisen as it by magic—small indeed and scarcely worthy of its aspiring name, yet answering well the purpose for which it was built.

The new city was scarcely completed when Cortes made a second visit to Cempoalla in order to aid the chief in a dispute which had arisen with a neighboring city. He reconciled the contending parties without bloodshed, and was received with great joy by the people. True to his purpose, Cortes now informed the Totonic lord, that the great object of their mission was to wean them from their heathenish abominations, and brought him to cast down his idols, and to cause the symbols of the true faith to be set up in their place.

To this the chief replied, "that his gods sent him the sunshine and the rain, they were good enough for him, and he would resist any violence offered to their shrines." The zeal of the christians was not to be restrained by menace. They had witnessed the barbarous rite of human sacrifice, and Cortes declared that "Heaven would not smile on their enterprise, if they countenanced such atrocities; and he was resolved to demolish the idols that very hour if it cost him his life."

The soldiers caught his enthusasm, and scarcely waiting for his commands, they moved towards the principal *teocalli*, which rose high on a pyramidal foundation with a steep ascent of stone steps in the middle. The natives divining their purpose, rushed to arms. The warriors gathered from every quarter, and the priest, with dishevelled hair flowing wildly over his shoulders, called them to protect their gods. All was confusion and uproar, but the general, with his usual promptitude caused the cacique, and some of the priests to be seized. He then commanded them to quiet the people, for if an arrow was sent against a Spaniard it should cost every one of them his life.—This succeeded, and the humbled chieftan, covering his face with his hands, exclaimed that "the gods would avenge their own wrongs."

CASSANDRA.

The huge idols were dragged from their foundations, and rolled down the steps of the pyramid, and amidst the shouts of the Spaniards, and the groans of the natives, they were consigned to the flames. The floor and walls of the temple were cleansed and an altar raised, surmounted by a lofty cross, and hung with garlands of roses.—A procession was formed, and the Totonic priests—converted at the folly of opposition—wearing white robes, carrying lighted candles in their hands, joined the concourse. An image of the Virgin, half smothered in flowers, was borne by the procession, and placed above the altar.—Mass was then performed, and the eloquence of father Olmedo so moved the audience, that Indians and Spaniards, if we may believe the chronicler,—were melted into tears. "Cortes then embraced his Totonac allies, now brethren in religion as in arms, and set out for Villa Rica."

Having remained there a short time in order to make preparations for his march to Mexico, he returned with his troops to Cempoalla. Fearful that amid the dangers and toils which they must encounter, his men might falter in their purpose, and getting possession of the ships, abandon the enterprise, he formed the bold resolution to destroy the fleet without the knowledge of the army. He communicated his design to a few friends, who entered into his views, and having persuaded or bribed the pilots to report that the ships were not sea-worthy, he ordered them to be dismantled, and whatever was movable to be brought on shore, and the ships sunk. One vessel alone was saved.

When this intelligence reached the army at Cempoalla, it caused the deepest consternation. The stoutest heart quailed at the prospect before them. Murmurs deep and loud, arose against the general, who they felt had betrayed them.

Cortes was never in a more trying position; but his presence of mind did not forsake him. He called his men together, and after representing the necessity of the step which he had taken, he concluded, "As for me, I have chosen my part. I will remain here while there is one to bear me company. If there be any so craven as to shrink from sharing the dangers of our glorious enterprise, let him go home in God's name! There is one vessel left;—let them take it and return to Cuba. They can tell them, how they have deserted their commander, and their comrades, and wait patiently till we return loaded with the spoils of the Aztecs."

The politic orator had succeeded; and as he concluded they testified the revulsion in their feelings by their shouts "To Mexico!—to Mexico!"

Having obtained of his Totonac allies, thirteen hundred warriors and a thousand porters to drag the cannon, and transport the baggage, on the 16th of August, 1519, the Spanish general began his march towards the capital. Having passed the *tierra rulenta* they begun the ascent of the Cordilleras. Their route lay along the spur of the huge Cofre de Perote, one of the great volcanoes of New Spain. Its fires had long been extinct, but acres of lava and blackened scoria proclaimed their once tremendous power; while the trees of enormous growth among the crevices attested the antiquity of those events. Over this scene of desolation the path often led them along the brink of the precipices, down whose depths, of two or three thousand feet, the eye beheld another climate; and while they shivered in the piercing blasts, which swept from the snow summits, they saw beneath them the glowing vegetation of the tropics. They passed several Indian villages and cities, but met with no hostilities till they reached the little republic of Tlascala.

The Tlascalans belonged to the same great family with the Aztecs. They were a bold and warlike race, dwelling in the fruitful valleys, overshadowed by the sierra of Tlascala. They were at deadly enmity with the Mexicans, who had long sought to subjugate them; but they had bravely maintained their independence against their powerful neighbor. Strong in the natural resources of the country, and in their own unconquerable spirit, they held at bay the mighty power, which had swept over all the tribes of Anahuac. Cortes saw the advantage of an alliance with this people, and hoped easily to obtain it, but in this he was mistaken, for they met him with the most determined and desperate resistance. It was not till after four hard fought battles, in which the Spaniards though always victorious, were much weakened, that they were willing to accept terms of peace, and admit the strangers within their walls.

These bold republicans regarded military prowess as the highest kind of merit and, they changed suddenly from open enmity to the warmest friendship for the men, who had shown themselves more than their equals in arms. The Spaniards were invited into the capital, where they were received not as conquerors but as friends, and entertained with the greatest hospitality.—During their stay here, they received an embassy from Montezuma, loaded as usual with golden gifts, inviting them to Mexico.

After staying three weeks in this city, which Cortes pronounced equal in size and strength to Grenada, the Spanish army took up its march to Mexico, by the way of Cholula. Six thousand Tlascalan warriors volunteered to bear him company,—a reinforcement to his little army, which was very acceptable. The Cholulans received them with apparent friendship, but they formed a plot—it is supposed at the suggestions of Montezuma—to cut off the whole army. This was discovered by Marina, the Indian interpreter, who had become strongly attached to the Spanish interest. Cortes without waiting for them to mature their plan, ordered an immediate attack on the city. The panic-struck inhabitants were cut down by the artillery which swept the streets with terrible effect. The buildings were set on fire, and a scene of carnage and destruction ensued, which cannot be described. The groans of the dying, the frantic cries of the vanquished, were mingled with the shouts of the Spaniards as they rode down their enemies, and the yells of their Tlascalan allies, who gave full scope to their long cherished hatred, and took revenge for many an ancient wrong. These scenes lasted some hours, when Cortes, moved by the entreaties of the Cholulan chiefs, called off his soldiers, and received the submission of the conquered city.

CASSANDRA.

* *A peso de oro* was equal to eleven dollars and sixty-seven cents.

The Postmaster General's Report

Is a full, clear and explicit, and will be received with universal satisfaction.

The number of mail routes within the United States, at the end of June last, is 5390, extending over 178,672 miles, and employing 4760 contractors. The annual transportation of the mails on these routes was 46,541,423, at an annual cost of $2,-654,426, making the average cost about two cents and eight and a half mills per mile. The increase of the number of inland mail routes during the year was 649, extending over 10,930 miles, at an increased cost of $142,440. On the last of June there were five foreign mail routes at an aggregate length of 15,070 miles, and involving a Government expenditure of $264-500, exclusive of the cost of mail messengers and agents, amounting to $107,042. The number of postmasters appointed during the year was 6,518, of whom 2,660 were appointed to supply resignations, 233 to supply vacancies by death, 262 by reason of change of the sites of the offices, 1444 on account of removals, 1919 to fill new offices. The whole number of Post Offices in the country was 18,417. During the year, 1,979 have been established, and 369 discontinued. The gross revenue of the Department for the year was $5,-552,971 48, of which $4,575,663 86 accrued from letters. The expenses were $3,212,034 42, leaving an excess in favor of the Department of $340,018 05, and making all of its available funds $1,132,040 82. The expenses for mail contracts have increased in all sections of the country, but particularly in the West. The increase of the receipts over the expenditures will be $146,896 28. Sixteen mail steamers are in service in maintaining the communication between the Atlantic and the Pacific. The Secretary recommends that measures should be taken to regulate the mail service with the West Indies and South America, and to systematize the services of California and Oregon. He recommends a reduction of the inland letter postage to a uniform rate of three cents, pre-paid, and five cents not pre-paid, and that the Postmaster General be empowered to make a further reduction to two cents, whenever, after the present proposed reductions, the revenues of the Department shall have exceeded its expenditure for two consecutive years, five per cent. He also recommends that a reduction to twenty cents be made on correspondence to and from the Pacific coast, South America, the Eastern continent and its islands, and points beyond either, and to ten cents on all other sea-going letters except when the rates shall be otherwise fixed by postal treaties. He recommends a reduction on the postage of newspapers sent out of the State to one cent, and also a reduction upon pamphlets, periodicals, &c. These reductions he calculates, will diminish the revenues of the Department for three or four years, and the deficit must be met by the surplus used in the hands of the Department, and by appropriations by Congress. He thinks the franking privilege should be retained, but that the Department should be paid from the Treasury for the transmission of all free matter.

The remainder of the Report is taken up with matters comparatively unimportant.—*N. Y. Courier.*

THE DEMOCRAT.

The Largest Circulation in Northern Penn'a

S. B. & E. B. CHASE, Editors.

MONTROSE, PA.

Thursday, December 12, 1850.

☞ We are obliged to defer some original matter, intended for our first side, in order to give the Message entire. It will appear next week. We shall also be obliged to postpone, one week, the commencement of that original story, before spoken of.

☞ We go to press one day in advance of our date. To-morrow, (Thursday,) being Thanksgiving.

☞ "Aid to Fugitives" is unavoidably crowded out, to our deep regret.

THE MESSAGE.

We displace everything else, on our out-side, to make room for this document. We see nothing about it to excite either astonishment or admiration. It is written in a clear and concise style, which gives it some merit as a production; but at the same time it betrays timidity rather than frankness. In the respect, the difference between the and the late President Polk's messages, is very striking.

He does not make so uncompromising war upon the Tariff of '46 as we expected. He talks rather in the detail in reference to that, and says no a word about restoring the Tariff of '42. He expressly disclaims all favor with High Protective Tariffs; but advocates specific in place of *ad valorem* duties, carefully conveying the idea, however, that the present scale of duties is high enough with very few exceptions. He seems to have come to a kind of "half-way house" between the Democratic and Whig doctrines; and if his views are endorsed by his party, we may safely infer that they are becoming considerably enlightened in Democratic principles; and, in '52, should they claim to be the especial friends of the '46 doctrine, it will create no more surprise than the views of the President, as expressed in the Message now. A Tariff for protection and revenue, as an incident, was purely the Whig doctrine in '46. In '48 they said less about that subject, and in '50, it appears, have abandoned it altogether. The fact is, time has demonstrated the utility of the principle on which the Democratic party has based this question; and it has also shown the hollow-heartedness of Whig sympathy for the industrial classes of the country. We say time has shown this, and the Whigs have sagacity enough to see it; and acting up to their favorite doctrine of any thing for spoils, we are not greatly surprised at seeing them abandon their high Tariff notions. It is only carrying out the principle by which they now claim to be the regular Old Democratic party, and the supporters of Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and others.—They will be turning no greater somersett to abandon specific for *ad valorem* duties than they have already turned, by abandoning a high protective Tariff for a moderate one. And, with all, they are used to it and no doubt will perform the leap beautifully.

He says nothing about the Fugitive Slave Law, though the *hints* at it in a general manner; and trace the ingenuity he displays in arguing that all responsibility of both good and bad laws rests on Congress; timidity and sycophancy are clearly discernible on the man. We cannot see how a Representative, whose vote makes up not one hundredth part of the votes necessary to give legality to a bill, can be held more responsible than the President by whose sole assent it becomes a law of the land. Such logic puzzles us. Every man, who voted for that law, or denounced by the same persons who see nothing but the pink of perfection in Mr. Fillmore who signed it, thus giving it force and effect. Were he like some of his predecessors, we should see his views on that law proclaimed with boldness and unreserve. However, we suppose it is all in good keeping with the favorite doctrine of these latter days; that the views of the Executive should not be made known, lest Congress might not act independently; and further, that all responsibility rests with Congress, and there only as such is seen *Democrats*. Really we have sometimes thought it unfortunate for our party and fortunate for the Whigs, that they cannot have a majority in Congress when they have the Executive Chair. As it is, by a kind of counter logic, they endeavor to cast all the odium of their own ridiculous blunders upon us, under the pretence of adhering to a principle. We should like to see the curtain drawn aside completely once, and every excuse removed, that the actors might be revealed in their true light. Should such an event once happen, the next election would be a glorious day for the Democrats.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

It will be seen by reference to another column of our paper, that a union meeting or convocation of this order is to be held at the Presbyterian Church, in this village, on the evening of Christmas. Should everything be favorable it is expected that several neighboring Divisions will be present in full regalia. By the way, a Division of the "Daughters of Temperance" has lately been instituted in Harford, and—"Heaven bless the Daughters"—we hear it hinted that they too will be present to cheer (not bewitch) the hearts of the "sons" with their smiles; thus giving them the assurance of their cordial co-operation in the great work of Reform.

We are authorized to extend an earnest invitation to the public to attend, which we hope will be accepted generally. We may now look around us in vain for any other organization, which is mentioned for the purpose of promulgating the Heaven-blessed principles of Temperance Reform. A few years since, it was far different; and where, we ask, are those men of influence—Philanthropists—Christians—who were then so zealous in this cause? Have they become wearied and disheartened and left the field when they saw such glorious fruits as the reward of their labor? We fear it is so, and that the whole of their labor is lost; so far gone, that, should it be commenced again, years would be required to do what has been undone. Why is this so? The vice with all its concomitant horrors, is increasing fearfully every day. Old men and youth are alike falling victims, and Moralists—Christians—all passively by, and in, by far too many instances, refuse even to lend their influence to sustain the noble-hearted band, who are struggling to stay the fearful tide, that bears down in its progress the fondest hopes of men.

We trust all creeds and denominations will be present, leaving prejudice at home, and at least, extend the poor boon of sympathy to those who would do good to society, their fellow-citizens and themselves.

☞ Who of our subscribers will bring us some wood immediately? We must have some wood and, by the way, some Coal too. Bring it along for now is the time we need it.

☞ Mr. Asa Keeler was tried last week, at Tunkhannock, for the murder of one of his neighbors in Sept. last, and acquitted. The deed was committed rather in self-defence by a blow with a chair, the circumstances of which our readers will doubtless recollect as detailed in our paper at the time. The prosecution was conducted by Messrs. Peckham and R. R. Little; the defence by Hon. John N. Conyngham, McClintock, H. B. & H. Wright, Brisbin, and Piatt.

In Congress, *Monday*.—In the *Senate*, the President's Message was referred to appropriate Committees, and several private bills passed. In the House, the Message was referred and standing Committees announced. Upon the reference of that part of the Message relating to the Fugitive Slave Law, a spirited debate arose on the subject of Slavery between Mr. Giddings, of Ohio, and McClernand, of Illinois.

The Late Hon Chester Butler.—The death of Hon. Chester Butler, Representative in Congress, from the 11th District in this State, was announced in the Senate on Wednesday last, by Hon. James Cooper, and in the House by Hon. J. R. Chandler, with appropriate remarks in commendation of his many virtues; and both Houses adopted the usual resolutions of respect to the memory of the deceased.

Returned from California.—W. S. Kennard, who left Bridgewater, this County, together with several other young gentlemen, a year ago last March, has arrived at home; and we understand has obtained "a pocket full of rocks," the well merited reward of such an enterprise.

The U. S. Army.—The present strength of our army is 12,326 men, though not all are fit for duty. Of the number 7,796 are apportioned to Texas, New Mexico, California, and Oregon, and 4,530 in the other States and Territories.

Agricultural Bureau.—We see by the Congressional Reports that our Senator, Mr. Sturgeon, has already given notice of his intention to introduce a bill to establish an Agricultural Bureau.

OUR BOOK TABLE.

"Peterson's Ladies National Magazine for January, 1851.—Mrs. Ann S. Stephens and Charles J. Peterson, Editors. Terms $2 a year; 3 copies $5; 8 copies $10. Address Charles J. Peterson, 98 Chestnut st., Philadelphia.

Nothing need be said in commendation of the work. For neatness in execution; superior engravings; and able popular writers, it justly ranks among the *three* dollar Magazines. This number contains eight original embellishments, among which "Pray God Bless Papa and Mamma," a home scene, is the best. In this number is commenced the tale of "Dora Atherton," and "The Mother's Sacrifice." In the next number Mrs. Stephens begins another continued novel.

"The United States Magazine and Democratic Review," for December. Edited by T. P. Kettel. Terms $3 per year. Address Kettel & Moore, 170 Broadway, N. Y.

Table of Contents.—1. Jamaica in 1850; 2. Secret histories and mysterious men; 3. The highway Law; 4. Valder a drama in 3 Acts; 5. The late election, N. Y. Politics; 6. Military rank; 7. Pacific Rail Road; 8. Life and Writings of E. A. Poe; 9. Political Portraits with pen and pencil. Hon. Alexander W. Buel, of Michigan; 10. Financial and Commercial Review; 11. Notices of New Books.

SITTINGS.

—Hon. James M. Mason was re-elected to the U. S. Senate, from Virginia, for six years from the 4th of March next, on Saturday last.

Florida.—The Legislature of this State was organized on the 28th ult. The Democrats have a small majority on joint ballot and will elect a United States Senator.

Ohio.—Both branches of the Legislature in this state was organized on Tuesday, Dec. 3d.

—Alfred Termyson is appointed Poet Laureate of England.

—Mayor Barker, of Pittsburg has been tried and convicted of misdemeanor.

—The currency of the world is stated by Thompson, in his *Reporter*, to be nearly as follows: bank currency, $650,000,000; specie in circulation, 655,000,000; specie in banks $455,000,000. Total, $1,760,-000.

—The population of Cincinnati is now 116,078. In 1840 it was 46,382, showing an increase of 64,695. St. Louis has now 81,107 inhabitants. In 1840 it had 16,-469, an increase of 64,638.

Episcopal Convention.—The Special Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Church adjourned *sine die* at an early hour Friday evening, in New York, without coming to any decision upon the question of electing a Provisional Bishop. The Diocese will therefore continue without a Bishop until the convocation of the next Annual Convention in September, 1851.

The Union party in Georgia.—The returns from this State, show that the "Union Party" has swept it by an immense majority.

Jenny Lind in Baltimore.—The Swedish Nightingale was to make her debut in this city, on Monday last.

The Havre de Grace Bank Case.—The Grand Jury of Harford county have presented the following persons for embezzling the funds of the Havre de Grace Bank:

Moses Y. Beach, N. Y.,	charged with embezzling	$10,000
Henry Beach, N. Y.,	do	10,000
J. Hollister, of Buffalo,	do	10,000
John Palter, of Buffalo,	do	10,000
N. Jenkins, of Milan, Ohio,	do	10,000
J. P. Gay, of	do	10,000
E. Collins, Havre de Grace,	do	10,000

The Governor of Maryland will immediately issue his requisition for the persons thus indicted.

—The Personal War between the friends and opponents of Mr. Buchanan, is still carried on very fiercely in Lancaster.

—Jenny Lind has forwarded to the Cashier of the Calais Bank, Me., a check of $600, to be presented to Mrs. Sarah Clark, widow of Joseph N. Clark, late of Calais, who lost his life in rescuing the crew of the Swedish brig Johanna, of Stockholm, in September last.

—Mount Vernon, the residence of General Washington, in Virginia, was so named after the English Admiral Vernon, a brave officer, who first brought Washington to the notice of the English Cabinet, and which led to his getting his first commission.

Col. Johnson.—The Legislature of Kentucky is about to erect a monument to the memory of Col. Richard M. Johnson. The members of the Legislature were affected to tears by an eulogy on the old hero, by one of their number.

—The report that the unfortunate family of Professor Webster had gone to Fayal is incorrect. One of the daughters, only has left, the widow and remaining daughters continue to reside in Cambridge.

—The will of the famous Pioneer of the Lehigh, Josiah White, bequeaths a portion of his fortune to charitable purposes.

—The quantity of coal sent to market on the Reading Railroad, exceeds by nearly three hundred thousand tons, the quantity forwarded last year by the same outlet.

—A Welch newspaper, the name of which is *Y. Deich*, has been commenced in New York. There is a nervousness in the diction which thrills the reader. The following is its motto, which is remarkably telling:—*I ddarllenu, ystyried, a ystyrio cogaul, a goffe, goffe, gwnded, a wnel parhaad*

Cotton.—The crop this year will be below an average. There will be a deficiency in the New Orleans market of over 2,000,-000 bales.

—The Rev. Dr. Serenus Dwight, one of the brightest lights of New England, and an eminent divine, died in Philadelphia, Nov. 30. He was formerly President of Hamilton College, New York, which he resigned on account of ill health.

Chinese Magyars.—Gutzlaff, the Chinese Missionary, says that he has discovered in an interior province of China, a tribe who speak exactly the same language as the Magyars of Hungary. This tribe is entirely ignorant of Christianity. Two Hungarian gentlemen, named Hindly, are going out to China with the Missionary on his return for the purpose of visiting these Chinese Magyars.

The decease of Protestantism.—The Tribune of Saturday publishes Rev. Joseph H. Berg's Answer to the Lecture of Archbishop Hughes, on the decline of Protestantism.

A Great County.—Lancaster county in this State has a population of 100,760.

—Several youngsters while engaged in serenading a wedding party at Bloomsburg last week, were shot by a Mr. Robinson, with a loaded shot gun. The *Star of the North* says:—"We are glad to hear that the boys who were wounded by Mr. Robinson are all recovering. One proved much more severely wounded by the shot than was at first thought, but he is now getting better.

Mr. Robinson was, on Thursday morning, arrested on four warrants. On one he was held to bail by Justice Painter with two sureties in $2 000 each. On two others, he was held to bail with one surety in $500 each, on each warrant. On the other warrant Justices Kahler held him to bail in $200.

A Mayor as is a Mayor.—Mayor Barker, of Pittsburg is making something of a stir. The grand jury have found a true bill against him for a misdemeanor in office. One of his policemen has been found guilty of perjury—another of larceny, and another of an assault with intent to kill.—This model Mayor is a pretty high boy and does not manifest much respect for authority. He says the councilmen are a set of d—d scoundrels, and that one of the judges of the supreme court is a better judge of whiskey than of points of law. Being applied to by the Captain of the watch for the keys of the cell, he refused to give them up. If he is convicted of the offence charged against him, he will probably be sent to prison, never again to be taken from thence to be elevated to power, by the will of a very foolish and ill-judged constituency.—*Dem. Union*.

☞ Where are the Temperance societies? What have they been about? Have they been watching up the spigot and letting out at the bung-hole? In 1847 according to the Philadelphia custom house, about 173-000 gallons of brandy were imported and in 1849 nearly half a million have been imported. Alas! Alas! the reform seems to be going backwards. This alarming increase in the raw material is in addition to the home-made distillation.

☞ The Reading *Gazette and Democrat* in replying to a contemporary who takes ground *against* any attempt to carry into effect Mr. Walker's proposition in 1847 says:

Mr. Walker and Mr. Mc Kay—both what the Whigs call "ultra free-traders," proposed a duty of 40 per cent. on iron, when it was worth in England nearly twice as much as it brings now. But the protectionists in Congress rejected this proposition, and insisted upon having the Tariff of 1842, or nothing. The consequence was that, in attempting to grasp too much, the iron men lost all; and they have their friends the Whigs, to thank for it. They begin now however, to see their mistake; and to discover that they must look to the Democrats for all the relief there is any probability of their reciving. They are disposed to abandon the Tariff, as a party cry, and to cease using their money and influence, at elections against the Democrat. They make *demands* upon the Democratic party, for it owes them nothing; but they say that if Congress will grant them the slight modification of the duty upon iron which was offered them by Democratic 'free-traders,' four years ago, they will be satisfied to withdraw from politics, and to abandon all agitation of the Tariff question.

Such being the feeling on one side a corresponding disposition is being manifested on the other. The Democrats are willing to show that they are true to their profession—that, so far from being the enemies of the manufacturers and working men, they are really their best friends. The general desire is now expressed, that some slight alteration in the rates of duty upon iron should be made, in order to quiet agitation and give permanence to the iron trade and the various branches of business dependent upon it. The election is over, and our party has triumphed without the aid of interested allies. But it would unquestionably be to the advantage of the Democratic party as well as of the business interests have the tariff question withdrawn from the arena of politics. If this can be —not by abandoning the Tariff of 1846— not by destroying the sound Democratic principle incorporated in that act—not by giving heavy bounties to the manufacturers of the country—but simply by yielding to a class somewhat peculiarly situated, a measure of what we were perfectly willing to give them four years ago, and which will not compromise our position in the least —if the tariff question can be taken out of politics by these means, the Democrat will surely say nay to them.

THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS—Second Session.

Washington, Dec. 2, 1850.

Senate.—At 12 o'clock the Senate was called to order, the following Senators being present:

Messrs. Bradbury, Hamlin, Hale, Norris, John Davis, Winthrop, Phelps, Clarke, Upham, Smith, Baldwin, Dickinson, Seward, Cooper, Sturgeon, Spruance, Wales, Pratt, Pierce, Mason, Hunter, Mangum, Badger, Berrien, King, Clemens, Morton, Benton, Bell, Turney, Ewing, Chase, Shields, Whitcomb, Dodge of Wisc., Walker, Jones, Dodge of Ia., Felch, Cass.

Mr. Sturgeon offered a resolution that the Secretary inform the House that a quorum of the Senate is present and ready to proceed to business—which was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Dodge, of Iowa, it was ordered that Senators be allowed newspapers equal to the cost of four daily papers.

On motion, it was ordered that the hour of meeting shall be 12 o'clock.

A message was received from the House that a quorum was present in that branch.

Mr. Berrien submitted a resolution that a committee of two be appointed by the Chairman to act with a like committee of the House, and inform the President of the United States that a quorum is present in each House, and ready to receive any communication from him—adopted. And Messrs. Berrien and Dickinson were appointed such committee.

The message was soon after received from the President and read, when at about 3 o'clock the Senate adjourned.

House.—The roll was called, when it was found 160 members were present.

The Joint committee retired at twenty-five minutes before two o'clock, and having returned, reported that they had seen the President, and that he would communicate with Congress without delay. Five minutes after, the Message of the President was received and read by the Secretary of the Senate.

Mr. Wentworth, of Ill., gave notice of his intention to call up the River and Harbor bill at an early day.

A memorial was presented from Hon. Jared Perkins, contesting the seat of Mr. Morrison, Democrat, from New Hampshire. After further unimportant business the House adjourned.

Senate, Dec. 3.—Mr. Mangum offered a resolution, which was agreed to, that the President *pro tem* appoint the Standing Committee of the Senate.

Mr. Cooper announced the death of Hon. Chester Butler, of Pennsylvania, and the usual resolutions were adopted.

Mr. Benton introduced his Internal Improvement bill, of which he gave notice yesterday.

The Senate then adjourned.

House.—Mr. Chandler announced the death of Hon. Chester Butler, of Pennsylvania, in some feeling remarks, when the customary resolutions of regret were passed and the House adjourned.

Senate, Dec. 5.—Hon. A. P. Butler, Senator from South Carolina, and Hon. Jefferson Davis, Senator from Mississippi, appeared and took their seats.

The President's Message was referred to the appropriate committee.

The message and documents were then ordered to be printed in two volumes.

The Senate then adjourned until Monday.

House.—On motion of Mr. Robinson, a resolution was adopted to appoint a select committee to inquire and report effectual means of carrying into prompt operation, the Bounty Land Bill.

The Speaker was then authorised to appoint the standing committee.

The House then adjourned until Monday.

Brutal.—One of the most brutal and inhuman acts of which we ever heard, came to our knowledge a few days since, the particulars of which, as related to us by a gentleman conversant with the facts, are briefly these:—A laboring man, lately in the employ of the Mount Holly Iron Works, in this county, lost a son some 12 or 13 years of age, by death. The coffin, being made according to the dimensions sent, was found on placing therein the remains, to be entirely too small. Whereupon the inhuman father coolly took up the corpse, and carrying it to the wood pile, deliberately chopped *off both the feet above the ankle*. Such an act of monstrosity, in a community like this' is enough to curdle our heart's blood, and make us wonder to what manner of species we belong.—*Carlisle Democrat*.

☞ *Industry and Economy* will get rich while sagacity and intrigue are laying their plans.