to als worldly goods did not give him a tithe of pleasure he derived from the bestowal of twenty dollars. He thought, too, of the three hundred dollars he had lost by a misplaced confidence; yet even as the shadow cast from that event began to fall upon his heart, the bright face of John Levering was conjured up by fancy, and all was sunny again.

Mr. Everett went home to his family on that evening, a cheerful minded man. Why? not because he was richer by nearly two thousand dollars. That circumstance would have possessed no power to lift him above the shadowed, fretful state which the loss of three hundred had produced. Why? He had bestowed of his abundance, and thus made suffering hearts glad; and consciousness of this pervedad his bosom with a warming sense of delight.

Thus it is, that true benevolence carries with it, ever a double blessing. Thus it is, that in giving, more is often gained than in eager accumulation, or selfish withholding.—*Pictorial Drawing Room Companion.*

Accident at Niagara Falls.

On Tuesday of last week, three men, who it is supposed fell asleep in a small boat a short distance above the Falls, were lost in the cataract. Two of them went over immediately, the third caught hold of a log, where he remained for several hours, the particulars of which are given from the correspondence of the N. Y. *Herald:*

As I was an eye witness of the horrible scene which the rapids at Niagara presented during Tuesday's accident, it may interest many of your readers to learn a few particulars, which will enable them the better to realize the awful position in which, for twenty hours, the late unfortunate Joseph Avery was placed.

The log on which he sat, and occasionally stood upright, was firmly jammed between some rocks, about half way between the bridge which crosses the American branch of the river and the Falls. At the same time he was in the very centre of the river, which there boils foam, and whirls towards the tremendous abyss of the cataract. Of the force of the idea. To draw anything in the shape of boat or raft against it is simply hopeless. Therefore the only feeble chance of saving the man was to have let a boat down the rapids from the bridge by ropes, and should he have succeeded in entering into it to allow it to drift across, if possible, to a small island, called Clapin's Island, about half way between the log and Goat's Island, which divides the Canadian from the American rapids.

When I reached the bridge, at about two o'clock, the American shore and the bridge were lined with spectators in a state of the most thrilling and intense excitement. The more eager were propounding all kinds of extravagant plans for saving the man, for the most part founded on a total ignorance of the gigantic force of the torrent, which rendered any plan that involved hauling or dragging through the water utterly useless, inasmuch as the jagged rocks would never have allowed anything but a mangled and shapeless corpse to reach the bridge or shore, even if it had been possible to overcome the violence of the stream at all. The man had now been sixteen hours on the log. One boat had been lost; a second had one of its ropes entangled round the log, and it was terrible to witness the desperate and agonizing efforts of Avery to detach the rope; but the strain upon the boat rendered it impossible. Those on the bridge who were exerting themselves to save the man reluctantly gave up all hope of doing anything with the boat, and, having made a piece of timber attached, now turned all their efforts to the launching of a raft—his last faint chance of salvation from the fate that awaited him.

This raft consisted of two large beams of wood, united by planks nailed across, and on one end of it was lashed a barrel; the other was provided with ropes, crossed in various directions, to enable the man to lash himself to the raft by getting under them, and a small tin case containing spirits and food. The raft was so long that when lowered from the bridge it touched the water before those above let go their hold, and it was with great rapidity carried down in the direction of the victim.—But now occurred, perhaps, the most melancholy incident during the whole exciting period of Avery's agony. One of the ropes, not being wound round any post or other object which might have given it a purchase, was litterally torn through the hands of some twenty men who were holding it, notwithstanding that they made the most obstinate efforts to hold it, and had, several of them, their hands all bleeding from the passage of the rope.—The raft then drifted away, for it was impossible, with a single rope, to exercise any control over its movements. Meantime, the man on the log had been repeatedly in and out of the boat, and continued to make desperate efforts to release the rope from the log. He still appeared capable of considerable exertion. After great delay, and some discussion on the bridge as to the measures to be adopted, a second raft was prepared, and another life-boat which had arrived from Buffalo was mounted upon it, and thus secured from being swamped as the preceding boats had been.—This second raft was let down the rapids in the same way as the first, and by about six o'clock the man succeeded in getting upon it. A universal shout of triumph arose from the crowd upon the shore and bridge. All waved their hats and handkerchiefs in token of encouragement. Alas! the next moment the raft struck against a rock, and at the moment that Avery was about to climb into the boat, he lost his hold (enfeebled by twenty hours of cold, wet, and suffering,) and was seen a few minutes later to raise himself to his full height for an instant on the extreme edge of the cataract, and utter a shriek which some imagined to be the words 'Good bye,' but which was probably a mere inarticulte cry of despair, and all was over. The dead silence which followed and lasted for nearly two minutes on the bridge was most awful. Then for the first time the men who had been working like lions all day long beneath a burning sun began to feel fatigue. They had done all that human power could do, and God had decided the result. W. N.

Bursting of a Soda Fountain.—Wednesday, about 9 o'clock, P. M., an accident occurred at the mineral water manufactury of Schuyler & Reybold, on the Hamilton road, between Walnut and Vine streets, by the explosion of a fountain used for making gas for the mineral water, scattering the boiling liquid over four men, who were at work in the room, burning the whole person of Mr. Schuyler so seriously as to render his condition critical. Mr. Reybold was burnt in the face and on the shoulders and arms badly. He will most likely lose both of his eyes. The man who attended to the manufacture of the mineral water, and one of the drivers, were both burned. Their names we did not learn. The Machinery, which cost the company near $2,000, was all torn to pieces by the explosion.—*Cincinnati Gazette, July 22.*

Crops in New York.—We have taken considerable pains to ascertain the condition of the fruit crop, and feel perfectly safe in assuring our citizens that they may confidently expect an overflowing market and a consequent cheapening of everything in the fruit line. We have personally examined a number of orchards in the adjoining country, and from them judge the quantity of the fruit to be about one thousand of the quantity that "pipe" will be to good demand before many weeks.—*Syracuse Star.*

THE DEMOCRAT.

The Largest Circulation in Northern Pennsylvania—1132 Copies Weekly.

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

MONTROSE, JULY 28, 1853.

Democratic Nominations.

CANAL COMMISSIONER,

Thomas H. Forsyth,

Of Philadelphia County.

AUDITOR GENERAL,

Ephraim Banks,

Of Mifflin County.

SURVEYOR GENERAL,

J. Porter Brawley,

Of Crawford County.

☞ *Persons in the Eastern section of the County, wishing to pay for the "DEMOCRAT," procure Blanks, or get Job Work done, can do so by calling at our Law Office, directly opposite the "Lusk House,"* Great Bend, Pa. (tf.)

☞ Our office for the transaction of business is removed from Tyler's Store to a room over the printing office, down town. Our friends will always find a gentleman, during business hours, at the printing office, to wait on them.

Democratic Standing Committee.

The Democratic Standing Committee of Susquehanna County are requested to meet at the Franklin Hotel, in Montrose, on Saturday August 6, at 1 o'clock, P. M. for the transaction of business. A full attendance is solicited.

M. C. TYLER, Ch'n.

Montrose, July 28, 1853.

To Correspondents.

The favors of S. J. were mislaid and overlooked. They will appear soon.

Student—is accepted.

Terestia—Your lines will appear soon.

The Latest News.

The steamer Northern Light arrived at New York on Monday with California news to the 1st inst. She brings about $400,000 in gold dust, with intelligence that $2,000,000 more is on the way. Gov. Bigler has been re-nominated in State Convention on the first ballot.—The other names before the Convention for Governor, were Richard Roman, the present State Treasurer, and Richard Haven, of Marysville. Two destructive conflagrations had occurred in the mining towns of Shasta and Rough-and-Ready, by which property to the amount of nearly $300,000 was destroyed.—Another duel had been fought between two editors, with rifles at thirty paces, but without material injury to either party. The intelligence from the mines continued to be favorable.

The United States Steamers Fulton and Princeton, and Sloop of War Decatur, sailed from Portsmouth, N. H. on Monday afternoon for the fishing grounds.

Mrs. Bradley, a highly respectable lady of New Haven, Ct. was brutally murdered on Sunday last while the rest of the family were at church. The house was robbed, and the supposed murderer has been captured.

A fire occurred at Watertown, N. Y. on Saturday evening, in the furnace and machine shops of Hiram Woodruff. Loss, $50,000.

The Collins steamer Arctic arrived at New York on Saturday evening. The all-absorbing eastern question is the burden of her news. The London papers do not seem to regard the occupation of the Danubian provinces by the Russian forces, as a sufficient cause for war, and hopes are still entertained that the matter will be adjusted without involving Europe in a desolating war. The Arctic's news has caused a decline in breadstuffs.

The New York Crystal Palace is daily thronged with visitors. The exhibition of articles is not near complete, and will not be for some time. Articles for exhibition, both Foreign and American, are arriving every day. In another column we give some interesting particulars from the *Herald* and *Home Journal.*

The particulars of the accident at the Falls are of thrilling interest.

☞ We learn that an accident occurred on the Lackawanna and Western Railroad, near Factoryville last week, by which a young man named Wilbur was dangerously injured. It appears that he was riding on a coal train, when one of the wheels gave way in the train, throwing several cars off the track. His limbs had not been amputated at the last accounts, though it would seem they must be eventually.

Pennsylvania.—Arrangements have been made for a thorough canvassing of the State, after the first of August by John B. Gough, Hon. Neal Dow, of Maine, Gen. Carey, of Ohio, Rev. P. Coombs, of Phila., and Mr. Jackson, all of whom are expected to lecture, in different parts of the State, on the Liquor Question.

Obituary.—Hezekiah G. Seymour, Esq., late engineer of New York State, died at his residence at Piermont, on the 24th instant. His illness had been of some duration. Mr. Seymour, at the time of his death, had three railroad contracts—that between Cincinnati and St. Louis, a $9,000,000 contract; that between Maysville and Lexington, Ky; and that between Toronto and the St. Lawrence. He was the principal engineer on the New York and Erie Railroad.

The New Policy on Spain.—The new ministerial paper which has just been started in Madrid, gives the following as one of its sentiments in the programme of principles on which it is to be conducted:

In fine, it is necessary that the Spanish people, strong in the records of their powerful and ancient monarchy, make their flag that impressible in Cuba, as a sacred and precious emblem of the Catholic religion, which has always been in the holy places. The title of King of Jerusalem, which belongs still and always to the Queen of Spain, cannot and ought not to be an empty title.

The Catholic Question.

For a long time past—more especially since the Presidential election last fall—a large portion of the press has been engaged in discussing what it has been pleased to call the Catholic Question in this country. We at first regarded it as an attempt by certain men, for *certain* purposes,—to raise an excitement among the people,—to create a prejudice against a large body of sectarians in this country, which should redound finally to their own personal aggrandizement; or perhaps create an alarm among the leaders of that sect, and thus accomplish certain political punishments which they judged that particular sect to merit.

—Such men are never wanting—they may be found everywhere. Alarmists in the strictest sense, their volatile characters enable them to seize upon all subjects,—to make themselves the saints of earth, or the sinners of perdition,—angels of light, or demons of darkness,—the rebukers of sin, or the workers of its iniquity,—in short, anything and everything as circumstances may seem to demand, only that they can best keep in agitation the great public mind, and gather some treasure from the wrecks strown about upon the surface of its turbulent waters.

—In a large majority of instances the efforts of such men end in splendid failures. The public mind, in this country, cannot be kept in perpetual excitement. Our institutions, our climate, our people, constitutionally sober, all forbid success to selfish, sinister and fanatical zealots. But occasionally, they strike the public pulse aright,—some extraneous circumstances perhaps aiding at the time,—and the dire efforts of their work are then seen in great public outbreaks, in popular disturbances and revolutionary movements.

—All past history admonishes us, that the most dangerous cord, the most sensitive nerve running through the body of any government or community, is that of Religion. No matter what may be the tenets, formulas, or faith of any particular sect, there is one great nerve from priest to layman, from layman to layman, and from heart to heart again, which, when touched, thrills the whole body like an electric shock,—it rises volcanic and terrible, it fears no fate, it recks no consequences, for how can man better die—

"——Than facing fearful odds
For the graves of his fathers and temples of his Gods!"

There is no subject on which men are so little prone to be governed by reason,—there is none other of which they are so tenacious, none which they will guard with such iron determination. They will not permit convictions of conscience to be trifled with or sacrificed;—and most especially is this true of the American people. The flight of the puritans to this country,—from their unhappy England, is a most perfect illustration of this truth, while from the inquisition of old Spain, the prisons, the stake, the rack and the gibbet of England, the guilliotine of France and the dungeons of Germany, a voice of a thousand tongues proclaims, in accents of torment and death, that religion is the only faith of men for which they will sacrifice everything, and in which they *will not* be controlled by brute force.

—There is something about the faith of religion, that strikes down deep in the heart of men. There is no other subject on which men are so apt to become bigots, fanatics and zealots. Only fix some religious trust in their hearts, and you can rouse them sooner and easier by assailing that faith than in any other way; and make them far more enthusiastic, make them submit to greater sacrifices and face greater dangers with ready cheerfulness. Cromwell could sweep a hundred battle fields with the certainty of an avalanche or thunderbolt, so long as he inspirited his Ironsides with the battle cry of "*Religion and the Most High God,*" when he could not gain even *one*, though far less difficult, with the cry of "our Commonwealth and her Protector."—Self-preservation, national greatness, country, kindred, home and all the thousand associations and blessings of life will be forgotten, and the harmless nature of a child become transformed into that of a tiger, if you assail the religious convictions of the soul. That it should be so is both natural and right, but the very fact teaches us a solemn admonitory lesson, to beware how we touch that sensitive and sacred nerve in any sect, creed or persuasion of religious men.

—Religious convulsions, dissensions and disputes, have caused more bloodshed, have desolated more Thrones and sent more headless Kings to their tombs,—have overturned more States, made more plebeians of nobles and more nobles of plebeians, in the past eight or nine centuries, than any other cause. The history of the old world from the ninth century to the seventeenth is stained all over with revolution and blood. In the conflicting religious elements of those times may be found, by close investigation, the producing cause of almost the whole difficulties that desolated the then civilized nations of the earth. And since that latter period has man's nature undergone such a wonderful transformation, as that like causes will not produce like results? Does not all present experience deny such an assumption? Are not men now, just as tenacious of their religious creed, of their rights of conscience, as at any past time? Will not the persecutions of sect against sect, or the the intermixing of governmental affairs with those of the Church, or political proscription on account of christian belief and practice, produce the same results in the world now as they formerly have done? Do not the same morbid appeals to sectarian pride, sectarian jealousy and sectarian *rights*, rouse the same passions, serve the same hearts and form the same resolution that they always have, and from the very nature of men and things, always must?

—If men will not be persuaded that there is great danger to be apprehended in this country by a proscription of any religious denomination by others, they should at least leave their minds open to one reflection.—They should consider that the very subject contains the same element that it did in past ages—that the persecutions of Protestants against Catholics and Catholics against Protestants, informed Europe in civil war, and drove thousands of Catholics across the Atlantic, filling its dungeons and supplying its racks with victims, the same conflict between the same sectarian bodies in this country would produce the same results here, or those equally unhappy. If Catholicism and Protestantism were the elements then, we have the same elements now, in this country, and each equally devoted to its particular tenets and objects.—True, neither has here the state relations that they had then and there, but in the struggle of proscription the object to be attained is the same, else why proscribe? Now, *partisan* presses and orators have the subject in discussion, hence the proscription is a political one; and, if political, it is the strong power,—the overshadowing influence of the government that is sought for by the party proscribing. To this conclusion are we driven,—it cannot be dodged.

—As another evidence that the above conclusion is correct,—that such is the object of the leaders of this crusade, we need but to look at the men who are carrying it on. These are principally Whig politicians and Whig presses,—men who have always been notorious for their embrace of any doctrine or ism that should place them in possession of the government of this country. "That sweet Irish brogue" did not sound so sweetly to Gen. Scott and his partisans, *at* and after the election as it did while the campaign was pending. All efforts exhausted and proving fruitless to knit the affections of that class of our people to the fortunes of that party, in the twinkling of an eye was the tone of their press changed, and studied denunciation took the place of fulsom flattery. The object sought to be attained is easily seen. A war of religious prejudice is now being waged, for no other purpose under heaven but to raise a great American party under the lead of disappointed and ambitious political men, and thus succeed in political measures. It can be no other object, else why the whole press of that party so united and so systematic in the attack, and why, too, should a political press be all at once so very jealous of religious rights, and the business of religious presses and sectaries?

—It will thus be seen that this "Catholic question" is not one that has arisen by circumstances connected with the progress of religion in any form, but has been taken up, first a *collateral* political issue, and then presented as a political question entire. And we here declare in all sincerity, and we know what we declare, that if the "Catholic question" shall bring peril upon this country, there is far more to be feared from the results that must flow from pursuing the policy above spoken of, than from any designs that Catholicism ever could have had of itself, for such a policy drives that sect to the very act of aggression by way of self-defence. And what will not men do, when made desperate by an attack upon the rights of their consciences? What would not do the Presbyterians, the Baptists, Methodists, or any other denomination, should they once see the press of one of the two great political parties of this country teem, week after week, with vulgar defamation of their clergy, rights and religious faith? They would rally around the banner of that faith, and they would die, if need be, dealing death-blows in its defence. Such are, ever have been, and ever will be, and such they should be in this age of American greatness and of religious rights.

—Whether Catholicism be an error or no, it is not for us to decide. Neither is it for us to decide the question whether its leaders are sincere in their creed. That it has a large body of sincere and devoted believers no one can doubt. They may be sincere in an error, and even though that be so, under our government and laws they have equal rights—no more—and should have equal rights and no more given them. Persecution and pestilence have tried their sincerity for ages, and all have failed alike to daunt their courage or shake their faith. It has survived the most sweeping revolutions, and the most persevering efforts of ages to crush out its vitality. Thrones have been combined in deadly war against it, and they have fallen in the contest, while it has survived. That the bosom of that Church has very bad men, is no more than what is true of every other sect on the globe, but to take the sayings and doings of those bad men, as a sample of the whole Christian Church, would be very bad logic and very false philosophy. There may be, and doubtless is, zealots and fanatics among the Catholic clergy and press, but to make a sweeping judgment of the whole sect by them, is what no other sect would be willing to submit to in their own case. So, the political press that will cull out the sayings and doings of Catholic bigots, and spread them before the public for political purposes, as the endorsed emanations of the Church itself, libels Truth and forfeits public confidence. And all other denominations, too, should reflect that their turn may come next—that the press or the party that will do so in the one instance, will not lack the recklessness to do so by them, whenever it may chance that, by so doing, they might unite the votes of all other sects, or a majority of them, by the act. The set of men that try to make religion a machine to elevate them to political power and consequence, are base enough at heart to put down the pillars of the state, and lead, with the temper and lawless passions of Murat, Danton, or Robespierre, a tyrant that shall light the pile of their country's doom.

—Politics and religion have no natural affinities. The corrupting influences of the one should never be permitted to come near and mingle with the purity of the other. And above all, never should they be united in organized action. The purity of our government, the rights of conscience which every man esteems above all else, as well as the perpetuity of republican institutions all over the world, all unite in demanding their total separation. Leave the great truths of Christianity to be illustrated, elucidated and sustained by Christian churches and organizations, and they will stand the test of ages, but combine them with political organization, and all that is pure and good in man will be lost in an ocean of corruption and sin. Let the elements of christianity war between Christian sects and the contests will serve to remove error, prejudice and wrong, refining as it were the gold. Error is always discovered and crushed down by discussion and reason, while the truth becomes brighter and more prevailing.

—At some future time we may have more to say on the subject.

A Romantic Railroad.

A correspondent in alluding to the fact that the most interesting portion of the N. Y. & Erie Railroad is located within the borders of Susquehanna County, asks: "Why have you not bragged of this a little; of course keeping dark about the $10,000 a-year bonus?" Our friend is quite right. While Susquehanna is the banner County for Corn, the banner County for Dairy Butter, and the banner County for Neat Cattle, our modesty ought not to prevent us from mentioning, that of the entire 460 miles of iron track from the pier at Jersey City to the pier at Dunkirk, the most interesting portion, and that which most attracts the attention of tourists, is located within the borders of our county. Napoleon's Engineers were highly applauded for constructing an easy carriage road over the Alps. It was indeed a bold undertaking, and admirably executed; but how will the Simplon compare with that stupendous leap of the Erie track from the Delaware to the Susquehanna, and over the ravines and valleys along the banks of the latter river. We believe that no other Railroad Company, in this country at least, can boast such extraordinary achievements of the Engineer and Mechanic, as those which we encounter in a ride from the Summit to Great Bend, a distance of only 16 miles. There is certainly no monotone of views from the car windows in riding that distance, but from the rapid manner in which the cars glide over the descending track, the passengers inside can have but little idea of the character of the road over which they are passing, and the bewitching landscapes which, at this season of the year, are waiting in their holliday attire to be gazed at and admired.

The Summit is 1,366 feet above the level of the sea, while the village of Susquehanna is only about 1,000 feet—a difference to be overcome in traversing eight miles. A short distance from the Summit station, going west, we come into that extraordinary rock cut, the backbone of the Erie road. We never could reconcile our notions of safety with the passage of this rock cut. On one side we look up at a sheer precipice of 200 feet, the monstrous rocks actually overhanging the passing train, and pressing each other so slightly that it would seem a breath might loosen them for the fearful plunge. Should one of those huge boulders come down upon the track, we hope that it may not be upon a passing train.—What with open drawbridges and boiler explosions, we have accidents enough.

Four miles from the Summit the cars leap over the Cascade ravine, 184 feet in depth, on a substantial wooden bridge 250 feet in width, with a single arch. The span of the arch has a rise of 50 feet, and we believe far surpasses in width any other in the world constructed of timber. The traveller, whirled along in the cars, will see nothing of this beautiful work, and will scarcely believe that for a moment he has been suspended nearly 200 feet above the earth.

From this bridge, looking north, we catch a glimpse of the valley of the Susquehanna, which a few yards further burst upon our view in all its loveliness. Approaching Lanesboro' we run along a terrace cut in the mountain side 200 feet above the valley, and look down upon a landscape, the shortest glance at which will forever haunt the traveller with its vision of beauty. It would seem as if this lovely river and vale had gathered their choicest charms into one gracious greeting, to cheer the traveller after the passage of the wild and desolate mountain behind.

A run of two miles from the Cascade bridge brings us upon a scene that Nature and Art has combined to render attractive. The stone viaduct over the Starucca vale, 1,200 feet long, 110 feet high, with 18 splendid arches of 50 feet span, will be an enduring monument of the enterprise of the Company—the skill of Mr. Kirkwood and the mechanics under his direction—and Susquehanna may well be proud that such a work has been located upon her soil. She may well boast of her hills and valleys, when they are instrumental in bringing into existence such monuments of Art as this viaduct.

A moment's ride from the viaduct, and we look down the chimneys of the village of Lanesboro', from a tressle bridge 450 feet long and 70 high. In any other part of the road this beautiful fabric would excite a sensation, but every eye is turned back to the viaduct which here comes into view by the curve in the road. The river, the bridge, the village and the viaduct, make up a perspective that is too quickly lost to the eyes of the passengers.

Two miles from Lanesboro' we stop at the bustling village of Susquehanna—Vulcan's head quarters for the Susquehanna Division. The traveller will get something of an idea of the business of this place by the labyrinth of turnouts, switches, engines, cars, &c. The extensive shops of the Company give employment to a large number of men, and great activity in every branch of business. It is a bee hive of industry. The Susquehanna is here crossed in the most romantic manner possible, by a pair of wooden bridges, 800 feet long, their inner abutments resting on an island in the middle of the river. Eight miles further through the fertile valley brings us to Great Bend, and completes the 16 miles we have faintly described as by far the most interesting and romantic portion of this mammoth thoroughfare.

The $10,000 a-year bonus we think is pretty well balanced now by the numerous branches of the parent track, running into the interior of Pennsylvania, and bringing no inconsiderable amount of business to the Erie Road.

The Great Excursion.—The steamer Queen of the West, Capt. McBride, arrived yesterday at 12 o'clock, from Cleveland, having on board the excursion party from the West, numbering about one thousand persons, over one hundred of whom belong to the editorial corps, from Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Pennsylvania. They proceeded to the Falls immediately on their arrival, where they spent the remainder of the day. The party take the cars on the State Line road this morning at 8.45, and proceed to Cleveland. In the evening there is to be a grand demonstration at the Weddell House commemorative of the opening of the new line of railroad to Indianapolis.—*Buffalo Courier, July 22.*

Cholera.—The disease has been raging fatally among the boatmen on the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, above Harper's ferry, and cholera has become the prevailing complaint at Kent Island, Md.

New York Correspondence.

New York, Saturday, July 23, 1853.

Messrs. Editors:—

Our hotels are crowded with guests who are making the annual pilgrimage to the watering places of the North, and while on their travels, generally contrive to remain in the City for a few days, as there is at all times and seasons something of interest to be seen and enjoyed in the good city of Gotham. The great celebrity of the hotels of New York, in regard to the splendor of the furniture, the good cooking and supply of the table, the convenient and airy rooms, and all the other concomitants to make life endurable, makes a short sojourn in town a matter of enjoyment probably not to be found elsewhere. Hotel keeping has assumed the importance of a real science in New York, and has been the school for a great many successful proprietors in other places. The Metropolitan and St. Nicholas Hotels are magnificent structures. Combining comfort with splendor and all the privacy of a home.

The Crystal Palace is visited daily by a large number of persons who express their admiration in unqualified terms, notwithstanding its present incomplete condition in consequence of continued receipt of goods which arrive daily at the building. In two or three weeks more I shall no doubt be able to inform you of its entire completion. The display of goods is rich beyond anything ever before seen in this country. In the British part of the exhibition, the display of silver ware in its various manufactured forms, exceeds in magnificence and taste, at present, all others of the same kind in the Exhibition. The French in the manufacture of porcelain, sustain the world-wide celebrity which they have maintained for so long a time. In the various products of their skill in the light, tasty and fancy articles, they still hold the palm. Italy has contributed a large number of pictures, and pieces of statuary, some of which are very beautiful, but they do not reach that exalted excellence which some of the artists of other countries have attained. The United States will have no occasion to blush at her portion of the Exhibition. In the different inventions of articles for use she is unapproachable, and also in the ornamental. She will not suffer by the contrast of her neighbors. The department in which the working machinery is to be placed is not finished, and therefore I forbear from making any comments. When it is completed it will be one of the most important as well as interesting features of the Exhibition. The principal cause of the delay in that part of the Exhibition is on account of the Directors feeling anxious to give every opportunity of showing to advantage the working of the different machines, have caused to be erected an extension to the main building, by which every facility will be obtained of observing the operation of each machine by those interested. The interior of the building is a brilliant sight,—the vastness of the edifice can only be seen and felt by a promenade through the aisles, naves and galleries. It is altogether of an oriental character. The lightness of the architecture agreeing with that style both in the general and ornamental design. The rush of visitors on the return of the Gothamites to town at the close of the season, is confidently expected to be great. The political world in and about our diggins has assumed a number of phases of excitement and discontent, growing out of the Hard and Soft shell troubles, and from present appearances the spirit of rancor and hatred seems more bitter than ever. Each faction complains of receiving less of the spoils than the other, and from the great number of office-seekers, a great deal of difficulty has been experienced in making the different appointments. It is a well known fact that politicians are unreasonable, each supposing that he has superior claims to his neighbor, and hence whoever may be successful, will be the cause of dissatisfaction and disappointment to another. This feeling seems to pervade throughout our whole State, and threatens to be a disastrous consequence at the next election.

From Washington we have no news of importance. A few appointments have been made, however. Mr. Soule will leave for Europe in the Liverpool steamer of the 5th Aug. It is reported that John M. Daniels, editor of the Richmond *Examiner*, has been appointed Consul to Sardinia. Some of the old Fogies will be glad to get rid of his caustic castigations. The Evening *Star* announces the following appointments: Daniel S. Gregg of Illinois, Commissioner to the Sandwich Islands, J. T. Golding as Consul to Laguayara, G. R. Dwyer, Consul at Masambique.

The *Picayune* at New Orleans has received advices from Santa Fe, New Mexico, to the 11th June.

An order had been received by the Mexican Minister of War for the withdrawal of Gen. Trias and his forces from the further occupation of the Misile Valley, which order was promptly obeyed. The valley is left therefore in the same condition as previous to commencement of the difficulties. A meeting had been held at Santa Fe for the purpose of petitioning Congress at the next session, to adopt measures for the removal of the California Indians from New Mexico.

By the last advices from Europe the Eastern question still remained unsettled with every prospect of its continuing so. The Russian Forces of the river Pruth, but negotiations had again opened between the other powers which may result in the Czar withdrawing his troops. France has replied to the Russian note of grievances, and completely routed his argument. It is pronounced a very able paper.—The Collins steamer is due this evening or to-morrow morning, by which we may learn whether there is to be war or not.

Market quotations are uncertain. The advices by the Franklin has caused a considerable advance in breadstuffs, and on receipt of which throughout the country the advance in flour was 25 per cent more than in the city.—This will create a loss to those who purchase at those rates, as the advices by the next steamer may depress again.

The Last Shanghae Story.—The editor of the Doylestown Intelligencer has been presented with an egg, which is entirely covered with Chinese characters. The characters are plainly visible when the shell is held up to the light, like the water mark in writing paper.

The Crystal Palace.

The crowd of visitors to the exhibition has experienced no diminution since our last visit and the display becomes more attractive every day. The hours of admission—from ten o'clock in the morning till seven in the evening—are still unchanged, nor have the public as yet received any intimation that the building will be thrown open during the evening so that the working classes may have an opportunity of seeing what it contains. If some such arrangement as this is not made soon we fear very much for the popularity of the exhibition. Under the present regulations the working classes are entirely excluded from the pleasure of seeing the collected products of the art and industry of the different nations of the earth. Let the Palace be thrown open till ten o'clock at night, so that the tradesmen and their families may have an equal chance with the moneyed classes. If gas has not been introduced into the building already the Association must have it done as soon as possible, if they have any regard for the good-will of the public. Besides, if kept open till ten o'clock at night it will be visited by thousands who are at present deprived of the opportunity of seeing it without the loss of both time and money.

Since our last visit an addition has been made to the United States department which attracts a large share of attention. This is a large painting, representing Liberty in the act of crowning a bust of Washington with a laurel wreath, while by her side are lying the emblems of industry. It belongs, we believe, to some other department, but this is considered the most appropriate place for it. The painting may be seen on the front of the gallery appropriated to the United States, on the corner of the west and north naves. Large additions have been made to the works of art in bronze, among which the group representing a Shepherd attacked by a Leopard is particularly deserving of notice. It is full of spirit, and has many excellent points about it, with very few defects. The chief fault we find in it is that the whole group is not high enough for its length. However, this is a defect that will be overlooked by the public.—This statue may be seen in the north nave.

Among the specimens of their handicraft and skill which are on exhibition at the Crystal Palace, from the manufactory of Ames & Co., at Chicopee, Mass., is a sword prepared for presentation to that venerable and accomplished officer, Col. Thayer, of the Engineer Corps U. S. Army. The design and execution are both highly creditable. Still more so is the spirit manifested in the offering itself. On one side of the scabbard is this inscription:—

His first class of
1817
Graduate of 1820-21-22, to
COL. SYLVANUS THAYER,
CORPS OF ENGINEERS,
U. S. A.
Superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy,
West Point,
1817—1833.

On the reverse side, within a wreath which bears the names of all the survivors, viz:—Baker, La.; Walker, U. S. A.; Donelson, Tenn. Courtenay, University of Va.; Dimmock, Va; Capron, N. Y.; Wheelwright, N. Y.; Wallace, Indiana; Allston, S. C.; Scott, U. S. A.; Morton, Miss.; Henshaw, Kentucky; Bainbridge, U. S. A.; Wheeler, Mo.; Mansfield, U. S. A.; Bliss, Md.; Morris, U. S. A., Abercrombie, U. S. A.;—is the following:—

"Tho' some have fallen
Their memories still live in the Breasts of those who survive.
Who offer for all this token of grateful respect."

The surviveng members of this original class, (fifty-three in number,)—three of whom graduated at the West Point Academy in 1819-20, eleven in 1821, and four in 1822—determined eight months ago, to have a social reunion, on classic ground, this summer, of as many as could assemble together, and to present to their former commander, able and venerated, a testimonial of their respect and gratitude.

The proposed reunion took place at West Point on the 13th inst. The individual members who composed it, after cordial greetings, indulging in animated reminiscences of the early past, comparing notes with each other as to their own condition and prospects, and interchanging information as to the universal feelings and the various fortunes of their absent comrades, adopted this sword as an appropriate memento, and appointed a committee to tender the same to their former impartial and dignified superintendent, Colonel Thayer.

Among the many curiosities exhibited in the Crystal Palace, there are none which will attract more attention than the arms from the Tower of London. They are preparing for exhibition, and will be ready in a few days.—For the following sketch of the history of firearms, and the catalogue which is appended, we are indebted to Mr. Julius Kroehl, engineer:—

Shortly after the invention of powder, men found it necessary to use this explosive material for propelling heavy bodies against their adversaries. For that purpose they used tubes, closed at one end and often at the other into which they put the charge and fired it off by means of a match. According to the size of the projectiles, they were called field-pieces, such as cannons, mortars, howitzers, and small arms, such as muskets, guns, rifles, carbines, and pistols.

The first firearms reported to have been employed, were used in the battle of Cressy, in 1346; they were called cannons, but are not believed to have been more than large blunderbusses. The first cannons were made of wood, around which a good many layers of linen were placed and fastened by iron hoops. In the latter part of the 14th century a composition of copper and tin was introduced, which was called gun metal and which is still used. Gustavus Adolphus, the great King of Sweden, used in the Thirty Year's War, cannons which consisted of long strips of iron, packed closely together and bound by iron hoops and leather, two of which are still to be seen at the arsenal in Berlin. They are called "leather cannons."

The smallarms are divided in smooth and rifle bores; rifles have been used as early as 1381, for we find that in this year the free city of Augsburg promised to furnish the German Emperor with thirty rifles in the wars with his vassals. Men have always been endeavoring to improve upon the manner of firing their arms. The pieces might be divided into match-locks, wheel-locks, fire-locks or guns, percussion and needle guns.

The first guns were fired with matches, like the common cannon. This being a very tedious work, a small hammer was attached to the gun and a slow match fastened to it; by pulling the trigger the hammer was brought down to the pan and so ignited the powder; hence they were called match-locks. The wheel-locks were invented in the year 1517, in the free city of Nuremberg, a place celebrated for the industry and ingenuity of her citizens. The lock consists of a hammer, which holds a flint or a very hard iron ore, touching a wheel which is wound up by a wrench, and has a spiral spring inside; by pulling the trigger, the catch loosens the wheel and the drawn spring makes the wheel revolve very quickly against the flint, which produces sparks, setting fire to the powder. In the year 1521, the Spaniards introduced these guns in their army, and called them muskets. The origin of this name appears to be from muschetta, which means market hawk; the people then used to call the different pieces by the names of different birds such as eagle, nightingale, &c.

The flint locks were invented in France in the middle of the 17th century, and called by the French fusiles, and guns by the English.