



POTTSVILLE. Saturday Morning, Dec. 14, 1844.

Our acknowledgements are due to the Hon. Alexander Ramsey for an early copy of the President's Message, and other documents.

Politics and Politicians.

THE EQUALITY OF MEN.—Laws in this country are but the emanations of public opinion or the avowed will of a numerical majority; and as those who depend upon their labor and energies always form the larger portion of society, with them is lodged an almost absolute control over the condition and interests of the whole people; and supremacy is literally in their hands, limited only by their own pleasure.

ANOTHER DEATH OF THE RAIL ROAD.—We regret to learn that on Friday last, a son of Mr. Milnes, of Schuylkill Haven, was knocked down by the cars on the Rail Road, which passed over him severing an arm and a leg. He died shortly after.

ANOTHER DREADFUL ACCIDENT AND LOSS OF LIFE ON THE RAIL ROAD.—On Thursday, a Coal train was going round, a coupling broke and the train became detached. After the engine and part of the train passed through the first bridge above Port Clinton, the watchman, supposing the whole train had passed, went to examine whether any sparks had fallen in the bridge, according to his usual custom.

TERMINAL ACCIDENT AND LOSS OF LIFE AT HARRISBURG.—The Cumberland Valley Rail Road bridge, crossing the Susquehanna at Harrisburg, took fire on the 5th inst., burning down 20 of the 24 spans. In the efforts to arrest the progress of the flames, one of the spans gave way, precipitating the fireman and a number of citizens amidst the falling timbers, into the river below, killing instantly, John Youling, Thomas De Moss, and two young men by the names of Shookmaker and Dumas, and a young man from Cumberland county.

poraries in the impudence of his pretensions, and inflaming the elements of discord and discontent, to rise upon the convulsions of society above its surrounding masses; to mystify plain men by its meaning declamation; to array passion and prejudice against experience; to fret society into a delirious and perpetual fever, and for private ends subvert a corrupt and fluctuating will for the rule of reason and right.

A FLARE UP WITH MEXICO.—A very spicy and belligerent correspondence has taken place between our Minister at Mexico, Wilson Shannon, and the Mexican Secretary of State, Mr. Rejon, with regard to the Texas affair. It would appear from the correspondence that the United States, or rather John Tyler, stipulated to protect Texas against all enemies while the question of annexation was pending, and so gave Mexico to understand. This was done in a very imprudent and bungling manner by Mr. Shannon; he copied the printed instructions given to him by Mr. Calhoun, which were intended only for his private use and guide, almost word for word, interspersed with epithets any thing but complimentary to Mexico, charging her with savage cruelty, &c.

COVENANTS.—In Senate Mr. McDuffie has offered a joint resolution in favor of the Annexation of Texas on the basis of the late treaty rejected by the Senate. Mr. Benton has given notice that he will also introduce a Bill for annexation.

THE MAGAZINES FOR 1845.—We have already received, Godley's Ladies' Book, Graham's National Magazine, Arthur's Ladies' Magazine, and Peterson's Ladies' National Magazine, for Jan. 1845.

OLD CHURCH.—The oldest Church in the United States stands near Smithfield, Isle of Wight county, Va. It has been a splendid building, and it is now projected thoroughly to repair it. This Church was built in the reign of Charles I. The material was imported from England and is of the most substantial kind.

THEATRICAL.—Mrs. Lewis took her benefit on Monday night, and a benefit it was in truth; the house was crowded from pit to gallery.

NATIVE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Native American Republican Association of Potomac and vicinity, held at the house of Daniel Hill, in the borough of Pottsville on the evening of Dec. 10, 1844.

Mrs. Penson's Benefit.—Mrs. Penson takes a benefit on Monday night. We hope our theatrical citizens will turn out upon the occasion; though not exactly a Siddons, or a Jordan, or a Fanny Kemble, Mrs. Penson has merit as an actress; she reads well, is natural, and walks the boards as native there, and to the manner born.

THE PLAGUIQUES.—The most astounding frauds ever practised on the elective franchise are in the course of development. A number of affidavits have been sworn to which state that a number of persons voted, some two and others three times, the same day in the same name. All the tickets were opened by the Judges, and frequent, when a Clay ticket was presented it was torn up by the Sheriff and a Polk ticket substituted.

MILL CREEK RAIL ROAD.—We learn that a company has purchased this Railroad from the present proprietor, Mr. Hollins, and intend laying down substantial wide tracks, similar to the Reading Railroad, as early as possible to connect with the former at Port Carbon.

FORN INTELLIGENCE.—The Steamer Catalonia arrived at Boston on Saturday last, bringing intelligence fourteen days later. The news is barren of interest. Everything seems quiet in Europe except Spain—even Rebel in Ireland seems to sleep during the absence of O'Connell, who is rusticated at his castle of Darrynane—Commerce is thriving, and every thing seems to be improving in the manufacturing districts in England.

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A HURRICANE IN CUBA.—A friend has handed us the following extract from a letter from Havana, giving a graphic description of a hurricane which visited Havana, a short time since.

"A tremendous hurricane devastated this city and especially the north side of Cuba, on the 14th and 15th inst. It began to blow on the first of the month, a common, decent gale; to dispense with royals and top gallant sails, and all those 'kites'; but on Friday, about 8 or 9 o'clock, on it came upon us without our measure: no wind, as Capt. Gallagher, of the Barque 'Louisiana', but electricity, since no wind could do what it did—Poor Gallagher, lay at the wharf bows—or, during the whole time of the 15 or 16 hours of the fury—on his larboard was the large Spanish ship 'Parna Habanera', against which the 'Louisiana' was blown down, carrying away her mizen topmast, and when she righted, her top quarter spar lost, and the copper at the water line of the Spanish ship! so that had it not been for this ship being large and strong, and her cargo not all out, so as to make her staunch and stiff, the poor 'Louisiana' would have exposed her heels and ankles by capsizing entirely and showing her keel. The beautiful 'Fingado', or large schooner, about 40 by 200 feet, which was our 'Rialto', where the Merchants meet and congregate, as Shakespeare says in his Moor of Venice, 'fell with a crash', about 3 or 4 A. M. of the 15th, and crushed 'three', 'four', 'five' or 'six' poor wretches under the fragments, for so various are the reports, and no certain published knowledge of it, in this country, where all such matters are left to public rumor and report. But the most astonishing effect of the 'electricity', or 'wind' or whatever it was concentrated in more than steam or gunpowder force, was the immense large 'Sheets at the 'Mechanical' arsenal, for the purpose of hoisting out or putting in the masts of the largest men of war. They appeared to be 80 or 100 feet high—about 3 feet in diameter at the butt—leaning from their base, steeped in massive stone, at an angle over the water, pointing the east of about 50°—and stayed back at both sides with the heaviest cables, and chains—and the top gearing, cap and blocks very heavy and strong, giving the whole structure perhaps the weight of several tons, increased by the gravity of the inclination, directly against the wind, at the time; and this whole machinery fell directly backwards, thus lifted up with all its weight, a light pine stick or spar from a perpendicular position! It fell on the workhouses and a building occupied by several of the workmen, and crushed the very bed which a man and his two children had left only five minutes; the father having a Providential something intuition that they were not safe, where they were, and had just removed his children and himself from where they would have been crushed to atoms in a few minutes, had they remained where they were! I have known of two other instances of similar providential escapes from the falling of walls on the beds, which by seeming accident, occurred did not occur that night. I could not pretend to give you even a piece of an outline of the devastation and damage done here, and vicinity, and in the country and on the coast. The beautiful 'Parna' just out side of the walls of Havana, had every tree, more than 600, excepting one solitary Antiquarian, which stood in defiance of the elements at the head of the pass, all prostrated and laying in the direction of the S. W. in the same order—and symmetry in which they had stood! as if one and the same blast felled them all at the same moment. On the morning of the 5th, the wharf and harbour presented a scene of wreck and desolation, which lingers all description. Seventy-five coasting schooners, many of them prime sea crafts, of 100 tons, and worth from \$2000 to \$5000, sunk, capsized, smashed, or thrown high and dry on the shore, and against the city walls—and cargoes, floating about near them in every shape of view—sugar—tobacco—casks, barrels, boxes, &c. &c. The American brig 'Trenton', totally demolished, bowsprit and all by running foul, from her dragged anchors, of one of the Spanish war steamers—and the captain told me that he could not count ten whilst the whole of his masts and spars, sails and rigging were going overboard—all hands on deck at the time, and not a man wounded or hurt in the least degree!

Besides these, almost every sea vessel in port are more or less greatly damaged or injured. But the country! the country! perhaps eight to ten millions of dollars would not pay for the damage done to crops, estates and buildings. Hundreds of thousands of houses, dwellings, such as they were, of all descriptions, totally or partially destroyed and rendered untenable—their inmates driven to the inclemency of the wind and rain, to seek shelter from falling roofs, walls and fragments! many estates, sugar and coffee—not a tree or plant left standing—cane, coffee, Plantains, (the life staff of the country white and black) levelled to the ground, torn, twisted, split, or uprooted from the ground—and desolation staring in the afflicted owner's face, with famine coming in its rear! No pen but an inspired one can portray the actual and looked for misery of the inhabitants of this hitherto so favoured Island, that its special protection and exemption were proverbial boasts and thanks. All we have yet heard from Matanzas, Candelaria, Mariel, Cabanas, Cuzco, &c. portrays similar disasters and ruin—and many think the sugar crop (one million of boxes 43-44) will fall short of 44-45 from 30 to 60 per cent of the last season—and so far coffee, not enough to bear the name of a crop; and perhaps short of the required consumption of the island! Tobacco has taken of all the duties for six months for Boards and Scantlings, Rice, Potatoes, Beans, Vegetables, hay & such things, to encourage their introduction, from those States to relieve the inhabitants.

THE GAO REPEAL AT THE SOUTH.—Some of the Southern wing do not hesitate to utter their dislike of the 'lick bug' they received last week on the Repeal of the Gag Rule. One of them (we think Pickens of S. C.) thus writes to the Richmond Enquirer: 'The vote was strictly a Northern and Southern vote; and I confess I feel deeply mortified and concerned. It will tend to inflame our Southern friends, and to produce, I fear, much mischief. It is thought by some that the movement covered a hidden purpose to strike down a certain Southern Statesman, (Mr. Calhoun, of course,) by throwing him in direct opposition to his State and thus compel him to resign to private life, or otherwise doom him to a fixed minority in the whole country. Whether this be the object or not, I shall not stop to inquire. I look upon it with fearful forebodings, as indicating a want of sincerity and good faith, as well as good feelings on the part of our Northern friends. The result has produced a profound sensation here.'

IMPORTATION OF POTATOES.—Within the last ten days there have been importations of potatoes from England and France into N. York, amounting to several thousand bushels, and still larger quantities are expected by the packets to arrive during this and the next month. The prices in Liverpool are for ordinary about 22 cents a bushel, and from that for better qualities up to 30 and 35 cents. Freight duty and other expenses increase the cost when landed to about 45 cents, leaving at present prices a handsome profit to the importer.

THE VIRGINIA SENATORS.—The Governor of Virginia, in his late message, says:—'The course of our Senators at the last session requires our Legislature to instruct them. Mr. Rives spoke for Texas and then voted against it. Mr. Archer supported it neither by his argument nor his vote. This course of conduct, which is not only an insult to the State authorities of Rhode Island; and that, in his judgment, it would be highly improper for the Executive, or General Government, to interfere in any way with its disposal.'

All sorts of Items.

The Hon. a Stevenson, in a note published in the Richmond Enquirer, declines being a candidate for U. S. Senator.

The Lower House of the Virginia Legislature has resolved by a vote of 74 to 51, to receive the State's share of the proceeds of the sales of the Public Lands.

Reuben M. Whitney has been appointed recorder of the land office at Washington, in place of Mr. Williamson, removed.

I am a broken man, said a poet one day—'So I should think,' was the reply, 'for I have seen your pieces.'

A recent Grand Jury of Erie County, N. Y., presented the Naturalization Laws as a nuisance necessary to be abated.

Interesting to Accountants and Writers.—It is said that when ink marks on paper are erased, by scratching out, that a little rub of the spot with the edge of fresh India rubber, will render it fit to receive a new mark without the ink spreading, and is better than pounce for that purpose.

U. S. Senator Elected.—Hon. Thomas Corwin has been elected to the U. S. Senate by the Ohio Legislature. Mr. Corwin received 60 votes, and David S. Disney, 46.

A public meeting has been called in Cincinnati, to take into consideration the subject of postage reform, and urge a reduction to two cents on letters, with the entire abrogation of the franking system.

James Buchanan was nominated for Secretary of State by the Pennsylvania Polk and Dallas Electoral College. He's a nice boy, but he can't do it.

Railroads.—Thirty petitions for railroads, in New Hampshire, have already been presented in the Legislature of that State.

The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Journal of Commerce writes, under date of 5th inst: A strong Dorr party has been got up in the democratic ranks, and it is to be made the basis of a new radical Democratic movement.

There is a storm gathering in the ranks of the democratic party. The question whether Mr. Calhoun shall have the option of remaining in the State Department, instead of being a matter of mere speculation, has become a source of menacing dissension.

The Nashville Union, which is considered the especial organ of the President elect, gives the following as the views and intentions of Polk: 'The election of James K. Polk settles for four years the questions of a national bank and the distribution of the land revenue. These two subjects are therefore withdrawn from the contest of the people, from the next contest in our State. The same verdict, however, distinctly leaves the present tariff law an open question—the President elect will go into office prepared to submit this interesting subject to the wise deliberations of Congress.

AWAKENING IN RUSSIA.—It will be recollected that Messrs. Harrison & Eschsch, of this city, in connection with Mr. Winous' Baltimore, contracted with the Emperor of Russia, to make a large number of locomotive engines, for the great railroad extending across Russia in Europe. These gentlemen, immediately after their contract was formed, wrote to Russia, and entered upon the discharge of their important duties. The following is an extract of a letter from one of the parties. It is dated Alexandria, Russia, Oct. 3, 1844.—'Our work is moving on with much activity. We have as yet not done more than to make up our minds to imagine we have enough to look after. Our materials from England are rapidly arriving, and more than one half of all we require, until the opening of the navigation next year, is already stored at the workshop. I made purchases, whilst in England, of a quantity of iron, of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. This you will find is rather an extensive business, but our undertaking is a large one, and requires large supplies, and compared with which our small operations appear small indeed. Everything now seems to indicate that we shall complete our work, large as it is, and that it will be profitable to us when finished. Our contract with the government now exceeds three millions of dollars, and we are now engaged to make other work for the government amounting to nearly a million and a half more. This we shall not likely agree to do, so that we shall have work enough. We are now on the verge of winter again, and soon shall have every thing locked up with ice and snow. We had a slight fall of snow, (the first of the season,) three days ago, but it did not amount to much, and is now warm again. We have not had frost enough to kill the dahlias in our garden.'

The President John mentions a report that a letter has been received from Mr. Polk, in reply to earnest solicitations that he would pledge his exertions to procure the liberation of Dorr, in which he says that the question is one which belongs exclusively to the State authorities of Rhode Island; and that, in his judgment, it would be highly improper for the Executive, or General Government, to interfere in any way with its disposal.

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I am coming, as the bullet said to the soldier.

TO CHILDREN.

'Sweet thought, bright thine! look on my face, Eyes that are in the world of you, Grow bright—and hear'st a ray of joy, And smile in thine again.'

We know that you are the world's love—(They love all gentle things)—And when you smile, the world is glad—And spread the wings of angels.

Who looks upon you with a smile of love—Who gives—and makes his joy—Leave us the world's beloved child—And take them in the smile.

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