Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1857.

Not only the freedom-loving and constitution-abiding but the conservative press of the country, agree that the dissenting opinion of Mr. Justice Curtis in the Dred Scott case is one of the ablest judgments ever uttered from the bench, whether in England or America. It is pronounced a combination of the calm, strong logic of Marshall with the rich and varied learning of Story, adding a neatness and precision of statement, a finish of legal style, peculiar to the writer himself. It must be remembered that Judge Curtis was placed on the bench of the United States Supreme Court during the excitement of the Fugitive Slave Law, and that he represented then, the views of the Webster Whigs, who conceded to the South all it claimed at that time. His pro-slavery views were so strong, in fact, that he became obnoxious to the general sentiment of New England, and has ever since been looked upon with suspicion. His legal ability however, has never been questioned, and it is the general opinion among intelligent lawyers of all parties, that in point of learning, perspicacity, and convincing power of thought and expression, he has no equal on the Supreme Court bench. The opinion therefore, of such a Judge, with such antecedents, in a case like that of Dred Scott, tells with two-fold force when given on the side of Freedom.

The extreme length of the opinion precludes the possibility of publishing it at length in our columns. At the same time, the deeply interesting nature of the topics discussed in it, warrants a brief abstract of it, and direction of the attention to some of its most marked characteristics. The Boston *Courier* says that besides the general ability, clearness and power which are stamped upon every paragraph of this memorable opinion, it is remarkable for its wide range of topics, and its fullness of learning with which all are handled. The rules of special pleading, the doctrines of the common law, the science of the conflict of laws, historical questions, points of constitutional law, are all discussed with an accuracy of statement and depth of learning which would lead one to suppose that each had been made a peculiar and favorite branch of study.

The introductory paragraphs deal with a very nice point of special pleading, which could hardly be stated in such a manner as to be made intelligible to an unprofessional reader. Special pleading, indeed, is getting to be a lost art among members of the bar themselves. Suffice it to say that the subject presented is treated not merely with affluent learning—which a certain diligence in cramming can readily command,—but with a clearness of statement and a searching analysis which only lawyers can appreciate and which they must contemplate with admiration. The great and good Story, who was wont to commend to his pupils the earnest study of special pleading as an excellent legal training, would exult, were he living, to see what good fruit his advice had borne in one of those who had eat at his feet.

Judge Curtis then proceeds to consider the question whether the plaintiff appeared upon the record in a capacity to sue in the courts of the United States, or, in other words, whether he were a citizen of the United States; the pleadings setting forth no other disqualification than such as might arise from the fact that he was of African descent, and that his parents were once slaves. Laying down the proposition that citizens of the United States at the time of the adoption of the Constitution can have been no other than citizens of the several states under the confederation, he proceeds incontestably that in five of the states in existence at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, namely, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey and North Carolina, free colored persons were citizens.—Free colored persons were not then, nor are their descendants now, disqualified from being citizens of the United States, unless the Constitution itself directly deprives them of that right. But the Constitution itself has not described what native-born persons shall or shall not be citizens of the United States, and it has not empowered Congress to do so. He answers a supposed inference to the contrary, drawn from the authority given to Congress to pass naturalization laws; and comes to the conclusion that all persons born within the several states who, by force of their constitutions and laws, are citizens of those states, are therefore, citizens of the United States. He answers with temperate logic and conclusive reason the assumption that the Constitution was made exclusively by and for the white, and that all colored persons are out of the pale of its protection. He sums up the result of his masterly argument, fortified by careful historical research, in the following propositions:

1st. That the free native-born citizens of each State are citizens of the United States.

2d. That as free colored persons born within some of the States are citizens of those States, such persons are also citizens of the United States.

3d. That every slave citizen residing in any State, has the right to sue and is liable to be sued, in the federal courts, as a citizen of that State in which his residence is.

4th. That as the plea to the jurisdiction in case shows no facts, except that the plaintiff was of African descent, and his ancestors were sold as slaves; and as those facts are not inconsistent with his citizenship of the United States, and his residence in the State of Missouri, the plea to the jurisdiction was bad, and the judgment of the Circuit Court overruling it was correct.

Judge Curtis then proceeds as follows:

I dissent, therefore, from that part of the opinion of the majority of the court in which it holds that a person of African descent cannot be a citizen of the United States, and I regret I must go further, and dissent both from what I deem their assumption of authority to examine the constitutionality of the act of Congress commonly called the Missouri Compromise act, and the grounds and conclusion announced in their opinion.

Having first decided that they were bound to consider the sufficiency of the plea to the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court, and having decided that this plea showed that the Circuit Court had not jurisdiction, and consequently that this is a case to which the judicial power of the United States does not extend, they have gone to examine the merits of the case as they appeared on the trial before the court and jury upon the issues joined on the pleas in bar; and so have reached the question of the power of Congress to pass the act of 1820. On so grave a subject as this, I feel obliged to say, that in my opinion, such an exertion of judicial power transcends the limits of the authority of the court, as described by its repeated decisions and as acknowledged in this opinion of the majority of the court.

The word "assumption," is italicised because the use of this expression by a man of such calmness and gravity of mind, and of such eminent judicial decorum, is a significant fact, and will have no little influence in forming the public sentiment before which the decision of the majority of the court must come, sooner or later, for ultimate judgment.

Judge Curtis then goes on to state that as the case was dismissed for want of jurisdiction, by the majority of the court, on account of the personal disability of the plaintiff, it was a final disposition of the case; and that the opinion of the court on any matter not legitimately before them is not binding. The court was not called upon to discuss the Missouri Compromise at all; and a great constitutional question should not be reached in this way.

He next proceeds to the question whether the plaintiff's *status* as a slave was changed by his residence within the territory of Wisconsin (where he has been carried by his master, Dr. Emerson,) that he was not a slave in Missouri at the time the action was brought. His opinion is that Dr. Emerson's voluntary residence with the plaintiff in Missouri for two years, was a virtual emancipation of the latter, especially when taken in connection with the fact that the plaintiff was married in Wisconsin, with Dr. Emerson's consent.—The inconsistency of this contract of marriage with the *status* of slavery, is set forth by a process of masterly and irresistable legal reasoning, which is the more remarkable from the fact that the point was not made at the argument at all.—The conclusions to which Judge Curtis arrives are stated as follows:

To avoid a misapprehension on this important and difficult subject, I will state, distinctly, the conclusions at which I have arrived. They are:

First—The rules of international law respecting the emancipation of slaves, by the rightful operation of the laws of another State, or country, upon the *status* of the slave, while resident in such foreign State, or country, are part of the common law of Missouri, and have not been abrogated by any statute law of that State.

Second—The laws of the United States, constitutionally enacted, which operated directly on, and changed the *status* of a Slave coming into the territory of Wisconsin with his master, who went there to reside for an indefinite length of time, in the performance of his duties as an officer of the United States, had a rightful operation on the *status* of the slave, and it is in conformity with the rules of international law that this change of *status* should be recognized everywhere.

Third—The laws of the United States, in operation in the territory of Wisconsin at the time of the plaintiff's residence there, *did act on the status of the plaintiff*, and change his *status* to that of a freeman.

Fourth—The plaintiff and his wife were capable of contracting, and, with the *consent* of Dr. Emerson, did contract a marriage in that territory, valid under its laws; and the validity of this marriage cannot be questioned in Missouri, save by showing that it was in fraud of the laws of that State; which cannot be shown in this case, because the master consented to it.

Fifth—That the consent of the master that his slave, residing in a country which does not tolerate slavery, may enter into a lawful contract of marriage, attended with the civil rights and duties which belong to that condition, is an official act of sound patriotism. And the law does not enable Doctor Emerson, or any one claiming under him, to assert a title to the married persons as the fruit, and thus destroy the obligation of the contract of marriage, and bastardize their issue, and reduce them to slavery.

It is beyond a question on the pleadings, that the Circuit Court of Missouri, by sustaining that title, was in conflict with previous decisions of the same tribunal, and that the Supreme Court of the United States have never felt bound to respect the decision which is latest in time, and that they have not hesitated to go against the decisions of state tribunals in matters of purely local law. The excellent dissenting judgment of Mr. Chief Justice Gamble of Missouri is cited with due commendation.

The preliminary questions being thus settled in behalf of the plaintiff, Judge Curtis then approaches the great point of the constitutionality of the Missouri Compromise, commonly so called: or, in other words, the constitutional power of Congress to forbid slavery in any part of the territory purchased of France by Mr. Jefferson.—This portion of the judgment will be of the most general interest, from the character of the topics discussed; and the consummate ability (though not superior to other portions) will be the most universally recognized and felt. He examines the question by the light of history, shewing by contemporaneous records, the great importance which justly attached to the exercise of power over the territories, and the great improbability that the framers of the Constitution should have failed to clothe Congress with full and adequate powers.—The argument that the word "territory" in the Constitution is limited to the territory then ceded to the United States, is met by a consideration of the most obvious rules of constitutional construction, as well as by the fact, that at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, North Carolina and Georgia had not ceded their interest in the public lands, but were confidently expected to do so. It is also insisted that the provisions of the Constitution respecting *territory belonging to the United States*, do not apply *to territory* acquired by treaty from a foreign nation. This objection must rest upon the position, either that the Constitution did not authorize the federal government to acquire foreign territory, and consequently has made no provision for its government when acquired, or, that though the acquisition of foreign territory, was contemplated by the Constitution, its provisions concerning the admission of new States, and the making of all needful rules and regulations respecting territory belonging to the United States, were not designed to be applicable to territory, acquired from foreign nations.

But it is now certainly too late to inquire into the validity of the Louisiana purchase, though grave doubts of the power of Congress to do so were entertained at the time. And if territory can be acquired by Congress, it can be governed by Congress, when acquired; and by needful rules and regulations. He goes on to define judicially, the last clause of the third section of the fourth article of the Constitution, as follows:

I construe this clause, therefore, as if it had read, Congress shall have power to make all needful rules and regulations respecting those tracts of country, out of the limits of the several states, which the United States have acquired, or may hereafter acquire, by cessions, as well of the jurisdiction as of the soil, so far as the soil may be the property of the party making the cession, at the time of making it.

The limitations of this power are to be found in the express prohibitions to Congress, and will as in the legislative construction of the word "needful." Negro slavery can form no exception al case. The very first Congress, in which there were fourteen members of the Convention which framed the Constitution, exerted over the subject of slavery in the North-western territory; and similar power was exercised by subsequent Congresses. There are eight distinct instances, beginning with the first Congress and coming down to the year 1848, in which Congress has excluded slavery from the territory of the United States; and six distinct instances in which Congress organized governments of territories by which slavery was recognized and continued, beginning also with the first Congress and coming down to the year 1822. These acts were severally signed by seven Presidents of the United States, beginning with General Washington, and coming regularly down as far as Mr. John Quincy Adams, thus including all who were in public life when the Constitution was adopted.

As a point of judicial construction, he entirely demolishes the notion that the question of slavery is excluded from the power of Congress, and meets and answers, by the clearest legal reasoning and most ample historical proof, every argument adduced to the contrary. The territory acquired was for the common benefit of all, but collectively and not individually. The Constitution cannot have conferred the right on every citizen to hold slaves in the territory, and yet have made none of those municipal regulations which are essential to the existence of slavery. The question cannot be affected by any stipulation supposed to exist in the treaty of 1803, by which France ceded the territory, because this Court can never undertake, and has always declined, to set aside a law because made in contravention of a treaty. Such a decision would be an invasion of legislative power. But the stipulation in the treaty had reference only to the property of the persons who were then residents of Louisiana, and not to the conditions on which they should go into Missouri, which was then a *wilderness*.

The judgment concludes with these calm and simple words:

For these reasons I am of opinion that so much of the several acts of Congress as prohibited the slavery or involuntary servitude within that part of the territory of Wisconsin lying North of 36 degrees 30 minutes North latitude, and West of the river Mississippi, were constitutional and valid.

I have expressed my opinion, and the reasons therefore at greater length than I could have wished upon the different questions on which I have found it necessary to pass, to arrive at a judgment on the case at bar. These questions are numerous, and the peculiar nature of some of them required me to exhibit fully the grounds of my opinion. I have touched no question, which, in the view I have taken, it was not absolutely necessary for me to pass upon, to ascertain whether the judgment of the Circuit Court should stand or be reversed. I have avoided no question on which the validity of that judgment depends. To have done either more or less, would have been inconsistent with my duty.

In my opinion the judgment of the Circuit Court should be reversed, and the cause remanded for a new trial.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

THE COSMOPOLITAN ART JOURNAL for March is on our table. It is a capital publication, independent and manly in tone; beautiful in illustration, and particularly interesting in its literary department. The numbers before us contains a detailed account of the Annual Distribution of the Cosmopolitan Art Association, at Sandusky, January 28th, 1857. The prizes drawn by Pennsylvanians on the occasion, were as follows:—"Child of the Sea," Mrs. Maria Norris, Erie. "The Little Truant," Thomas Jones, Johnstown. "Spring," Mrs E. L. Howland, Cedar Run. "Magdalen," Mrs. S. McGill, Waterford, Erie Co. "Cupid Disguised," Alex. McKinney, Greensburg. "Old Flint Lock," E. W. McGinness, Pottsville. "Going to Church," H. B. Balch, Meadeyville. "View in Sullivan Co." James B. Moore, Cannonsburg. "Fishermen of Judea." Adam Getley, Pittsburgh. "Deer Hunting—The Shot," K. L. Blood, Brookville. "Meditation," A. G. E. Maurer, Wisconisco. "Susquehanna River," David Ahl, M. D., Newville. "A Winter in Hollidaysburg." George Norris, Pittsburgh. "Fruit and Still Life," John W. Beecher, Sunbury. "American Landscape," Harris Wilton, Wrightsville, York Co.—"The Highland Hunters," J. F. Weaver, Clearfield. "The Toilet," Editor of Register, Hollidaysburg. "A View in Switzerland," Dr. John S. King, Mercersburg, Franklin Co. "The Jolly Wreckers," Rev. R. M. Reichal, Nazareth. "A Winter Sketch," Thomas O'Connell, Minersville. G. B. Overton, Coudersport, drew a medallion of Washington. Henrietta Foster, Phillipsburg, Miss Jane McCliney, Butler, and H. A. Sturgeon of Carlisle, drew Medallions of Webster. D. Bensinger of Fountain Spring, drew a Medallion of Franklin. Editor "Republican," West Chester, drew a medallion of Calhoun. Isaac N. Corersin, Monongahela City and J. M. Richards of Minersville, drew Medallions of Clay. The Association is in a flourishing condition. The coming year promises to be unusually attractive to subscribers.

Local Affairs.

Tamaqua Borough Election.—The following named gentlemen were elected on Friday last:—*Chief Burgess*, Stephen Jones. *Councilmen*—Benjamin Daniel Shepp and Edward Sveland. *Constable*—Joseph Mackey. *Auditor*—H. F. Shiffele.

"Anthracite."—This is the title of a new County, which it is proposed to create from portions of Schuylkill, embracing the boroughs of Tamaqua and Port Clinton—the townships of Union, Mahonoy, Rush, West Penn, Schuylkill, East Brunswick and portions of West Brunswick—Tamaqua to be the seat of Justice.

Our thermometrical report for the week is as follows:

		P. R. & P. TELEGRAPH OFFICE, Pennsylvania Hall, Pottsville.			
Sat., March 21,	8 A. M.	46 degrees above zero			cloudy.
Mon., " 23,	"	44	"		snow.
Tues., " 24,	"	48	"		cloudy.
Wed., " 25,	"	47	"		—
Thurs., " 26,	"	36	"		—
Fri., " 27,	"	40	"		clear.

Minersville Borough Election.—This election on Friday of last week resulted in the election of the following named gentleman:—*Chief Burgess*—Thos. Williams, Dem. *Town Council*—Moses Weiser, Opp.; C. S. Porter, Dem; and Thomas T. Davis, Rep. *School Directors*—Jacob Lawrenke, Opp.; Chester Stratton, Opp.; and Thos. T. Jones, Dem. *Town Clerk*—George Lawrence, Opp. *Auditors*—John B. Price, Opp.; R. F. Bannenan, Opp., and Joseph Christ, Dem. *Supervisor*—James Watkins, Opp. *Assessor*—Englehard Hummel, Dem. *Constable*—Joseph Levan, Dem. *Treasurer*—Newton Baker, Opp.

Fatal Accident.—On Friday evening, 20th inst., at 6 o'clock, Mr. James Hogan, a machinist and extra engineer, in the employ of the Reading Railroad Company, at Palo Alto, was caught between two iron coal cars, and crushed. His injuries were internal, from the effects of which he died at his residence at Palo Alto, on Tuesday morning last, aged about 25 years. Mr. Means was about 25 years of age. He leaves a wife and three children. Mr. Means was an estimable citizen; well known in Pottsville, and enjoyed the respect of all who knew him personally. A post mortem examination was held the day succeeding Tuesday last, for the purpose of ascertaining the exact nature of the injuries which caused his death.

We are happy to learn that Professors Johnson and Frost are again in town for the purpose of holding a Musical Convention. They propose to commence the Convention this afternoon at the Lutheran Church in Market street. We hope our musical friends will avail themselves of this opportunity to improve their musical taste and execution, as these gentlemen are acknowledged to be among the best teachers of music in the country.

We understand that they are accompanied by Misses Briggs and Whitehouse and will entertain our people with a concert or two during their stay.

Sudden Death.—On Sunday evening last, Mrs. Spotts, an aged German widow lady, while walking from her residence in the upper part of Minersville Road, to Norwegian street, was suddenly taken ill at Third and Calloughill streets, and fell in a stupefied condition on a door step at that point. She was immediately conveyed into the residence of Mr. Douty, in an insensible condition, where in about ten minutes, she expired. The body was subsequently conveyed to Mrs. Spotts's late residence. The cause of death was apoplexy. She ate a hearty supper previous to starting out, and was apparently enjoying usual health. Mrs. Spotts leaves a family of grown up children, some of whom are married.

A Complimentary Supper to Col. Wm. G. Johnson, on the occasion of his retirement from Pennsylvania Hall, as landlord, took place at the Hall on Tuesday evening last. The company—numbering some forty gentlemen—upon assembling, appointed F. W. Hughes, Esq., President, and E. W. Yardley, Esq., Vice President. After discussing the substantials on the board, Mr. Hughes rose and after some complimentary remarks, proposed the health of Col. Johnson. It was heartily responded to by the Company, and elicited from the Colonel a speech, in which he referred to the period when he taught "the young idea how to shoot," in the western part of the State, and of his fifteen years management of the Hall. Around the board he recognized but one person who sat at his table in the Hall at the period that he first became its host—that gentleman is, the Hon. James H. Campbell. After the Colonel sat down, Mr. Campbell made a few remarks, in which he referred to the able management of Col. Johnson, and the invariable kindness extended to his guests. Several universal toasts were then offered, which were responded to by Messrs. Pitman, Innes, Donaldson, and others.—A toast to George Miller, Esq., now a resident of Green Bay, Wis., and formerly identified with the Coal interests of this region, was offered by Mr. Richards, which elicited a hearty response. The affair was very pleasant indeed, and will we doubt not, to Col. Johnson assume the shape of a delightful memento of his connection with Pennsylvania Hall, as well as a substantial testimonial of the American citizens, and numerous friends.

Apropos of the Hall, we understand that Mr. Beard, of Reading, declines leasing it. It is therefore, open to application.

"Politics and Politicians."—On Tuesday evening last, our citizens were favored with a lecture from Rev. Dudley A. Tyng on the above named subject. The Associate Presbyterian Church was comfortably filled with an appreciative audience. The lecture is worthy of a separate notice and shall receive it to-day. Mr. Tyng opened with the modern definition of the word politics, as rendered by the political bully, the trimmer, the Friend, the wife of the politician, and the honest farmer. Their conditions wanders far from the definition of America's great lexicographer, who says that politics are the science of government; that part of ethics which consists in the regulation and government of a nation or state, for the preservation of its safety, peace and prosperity. In the eyes of the modern politician, politics is a system of running and lying during a canvass, the grand result of which is division of the spoils when the victory is won. From the Presidency down to Constable, the fitness of men elected, has been gradually declining, until at last at the ropes of the political derrick, twenty millions of freemen tug, to elevate to the top of the National capital, Tom Thumb. From primary meetings to larger conventions, delegates are elected by unscrupulous partizans, until finally assembled in National Convention, the contending demagogues array their forces, and the man who goes the furthest in political rascality, receives the nomination. Finally, two demagogues, neither of which the people want, are before the country; the people blindly accept one or the other; go it strong for party; one or the other is elected; then commences the scramble for office in the distribution of which men of ability and worth are requisite as the securing of harmony in the ranks for the success of the party in the next campaign. This is politics in their modern acceptation. Not the science of a wise and Christian government; the peace and prosperity of the people; a judicious administration of government. Mr. Tyng urged every American citizen to attend to politics in their true sense; to vote conscientiously for the best man on any ticket, if principles do not override the choice. Mr. Tyng spoke of the ministers of the gospel as men and citizens, of the interest they naturally feel in the well being and good order of society; of the deep interest they are demanded to feel in a pure administration of political affairs. Their personal welfare is concerned as men and citizens. He denounced the cry which is raised against so called political preachers.—There may be errors in that respect committed in the pulpit; but they are rare. Truth will not shrink from the light, while wrong and oppression writhe under the infliction.

Mr. Tyng's lecture was interspersed with many gems of appropriate thought, which curvocated brilliantly amid the solid wealth of truth that pervaded his address. We will not mar their beauty by attempting to give them literally. As a literary composition the lecture was unexceptionable; it was delivered in an easy, conversational style; while its sentiments were truly American. Instructive and entertaining, the lecture made we have no doubt, a deep impression on every mind present. Ministers, men and citizens like Mr. Tyng cannot be crushed. Opposition they may experience from men possessed of no Christian principle; but they rise eventually above the attacks, conscious of the rectitude of their conduct, the purity of their principles, and with an all-abiding faith in the efficacy of Truth.

With Mr. Tyng's lecture, the present course of the Young Men's Christian Association, closes. We hope that the success attending upon their efforts this season, will induce them to make the course an annual affair.

[FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.]

County Superintendent.

The regular election for County Superintendent occurs in May. It is an office of great responsibility, and if its duties are properly discharged, of corresponding benefit to the Common Schools of the County. To accomplish the contemplated design of this office, we take the liberty of recommending J. N. Nutting, Esq., a graduate of our Eastern Colleges—for fifteen years, engaged in the practical duties of a Teacher—three-fourths of that time in our own county. He is every way qualified for this position—of unexceptionable moral character—a good disciplinarian and apt to teach." He would, if elected, carry out the true design of the appointment, by devoting the balance of his time, usually at living lectures during the winter season, on the great interest of intellectual culture—the proper mode of instruction, &c. &c.

We feel assured that it would not be a "sinecure" in his hands—a mere visitation of the schools once or twice a year, without any practical benefit, but would devote to the welfare and progress of Education in general.

SOUTH END.

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

Deaths in Boston last week, 70.

Reading has thirty-eight schools.

Deaths in Baltimore last week, 116.

Deaths in New York last week, 459.

Deaths in Philadelphia last week, 262.

President Buchanan's salary is worth $300,000.

The silk worm malady continues in France.

Deaths in Washington during February, 75.

Water will be let into the Union Canal to-day.

The Vice President is at his home in Kentucky.

Gen. La Vega and Col. May are in Washington.

In Harrisburg there are forty-three houses of ill-fame.

The majority of the Mormon children are said to be girls.

The Spring trade of New York and Philadelphia is brisk.

Camphor is a certain and sovereign antidote to strychnine.

Dean and his wife are to reside in New York, so it is stated.

The Penitentiary of Washington, D. C., contains 75 inmates.

Mr. Buchanan's Cabinet is estimated to be worth $5,000,000.

Handsome Circassian girls are selling in Constantinople at $50.

They are making paper at Cleveland out of Lake Superior moss.

The last week's sales of real estate in New York amount to $5,226,175.

McKim, the alleged murderer of Norcross, is suspected of other murders.

Some five hundred Waldenses are about to emigrate to the United States.

Elam Rust, senior editor of the Decatur (Ill.) *Herald*, died on the 7th inst.

Miss Dix is at Harrisburg urging the erection of a retreat for imbeciles.

Freights to Great Britain have advanced about 2d on grain and 3 a 6d on flour.

Bayard Taylor recently travelled in Lapland, with the thermometer 45° below zero.

A. Davis and J. B. Adams have assumed control of the *Herald of the Union*, Scranton.

The Judges of the Iowa Supreme Court are now to receive an annual salary of $2,000.

The trial of the Rev. Mr. Kalloch, of Boston, has been postponed until the 17th of April.

The United States sloop-of-war Falmouth was spoken, on the Equator, March 4th, all well.

The Legislature of Maine has adopted resolutions of respect to the memory of Dr. Kane.

The Philadelphia appointments, from the town of the people of that city, are not acceptable.

The editor of the New Haven (Ct.) *Register* has been re-appointed collector of that port.

The corner-stone of the City monument will be laid at Lexington, Ky., on the 4th of July next.

The lighting of Cincinnati, Ohio, with gas, cost $25,000, during the year ending March 1st, 1857.

The St. Paul (Minnesota) papers record the death of Bishop Cretin, of the Catholic church.

John Shipley was fined $10 and costs at Providence, on Wednesday, for kissing Anna A. Gordon.

The Philadelphia Opera House will be open for operatic representations for a few evenings yet.

William Simpson, a young and promising native artist of St. Louis, died a few days ago in that city.

The grand jury of Washington have found a true bill against Col. Lee for the murder of Mr. Hines.

Five new towns have been founded on the north shore of Lake Superior, in the territory of Minnesota.

A monument is to be erected at Washington to Lieutenant Holmes, the young hero who was lost in the Dead Sea.

They are about to erect a new city hall at St. Louis, on a lot costing $135,000 in city bonds.

The City Council of Memphis offer a fee of $5,000 for the best plan of a bridge over the Mississippi at that point.

Pomonography has been introduced into the Normal school in Philadelphia, as a branch of the education of teachers.

The halls of the Montezumas are about being lighted with gas. Large gas works are in progress of erection at Mexico.

The Universal Agricultural Exhibition, which was to have taken place in France next June, has been indefinitely postponed.

The common council of Buffalo have just fixed the public expenditures of that city for the year 1857, at the large sum of $436,975.

A church based on non-fellowship with slave holders has been organized in Newport, Ky., by the labors of the Rev. John G. Fee.

On the 9th instant, a gentleman skated into St. John's, N. B., from a place distant 55 miles, in five hours, with the wind against him.

The theatres in Boston give no entertainments on Saturday night, but in lieu thereof they give an afternoon's performance each Saturday.

The Post Office Registry system does not answer. It appears that the system actually facilitates fraud by pointing out the money letters.

John Dean, the New York coachman, who married Miss Baker, has obtained possession of his wife. They will reside in the future in Hudson street, New York.

The mayor of Brooklyn is about to order the Brooklyn bells rung at 9 o'clock of this night, astronomical time, as is the custom already in New York.

Wagoneller, the alleged absconding Cashier of the New Castle Bank, was arrested in Philadelphia on Wednesday, and taken on to Pittsburg.

Seamen for Liverpool are scarce at New York, many vessels waiting for crews. Twenty dollars a month and thirty dollars advance is paid for good sailors.

The Salem Gazette says the following sign may be seen swinging at a blacksmith shop in Essex:—"No horses shod on Sunday excepting sickness or death."

The *Oswego* (N. Y.) Times speaks of a new epidemic known by the name of "brain fever," as truly alarming throughout Madison and Onondaga counties.

A fire occurred at Plymouth, Indiana, on Sunday last, by which nearly the whole business portion of the town was laid waste. The loss is estimated at $100,000.

At Harrisburg, recently, a young and beautiful girl, about sixteen years of age, daughter of an old and respectable citizen, eloped with a sporting man. Foolish girl.

It was decided on Monday, by one of the New York Courts, that a nonchaloon may marry the daughter of his employer, even if she should move in the Fifth Avenue circle.

The Louisville *Democrat* says a duel between two ladies is on the tapis in that city.—If it comes to pistols, rifles, rifles and cotton will probably prevent serious consequences.

A western editor inserted the following in the columns of his valuable paper:—"The gentleman who borrowed our umbrella is requested not to return it, as we have hooked a better."

The ladies of Boston are preparing to enter into the American Union of States, viz:—Oregon, Minnesota, Kansas and Nebraska—adding eight more Senators to the 62 already in Congress.

Dr. Wm. Yates, who first introduced vaccination into the United States, died at Morris N. Y., on the 7th instant, at the extreme age of 90 years. He was a native of England, but arrived here in 1799.

Mr. Buchanan is the oldest man who has ever taken the Presidency. Gen. Cass is said to be seventy four years old, and is the oldest man that has filled the office of Secretary of State in this country.

In New York on Wednesday night, a Miss Margaret Cunningham was either pushed or fell from a window, and was fatally injured. A man named Barr the cause of the affair, subsequently shot himself.

The name of the reporter at Harrisburg charged by Speaker Getz with having used improper means to secure opposition to certain bills, is I. H. P. McReynolds, correspondent of the Philadelphia *Argus*.

A call is published in the Williamsport (Pa.) Press, for a meeting of the citizens of Lycoming county, to form a Historical Association for the purpose of collecting and publish facts of interest to the neighborhood.

It appears from an official return that from May, 1849, up to July, 1856, 2868 kilometers (1791 miles) of railway had been constructed in France, and that 500 of them are now being worked, and 1474 in construction.

A few days since there was an advance of five crackers in the New York market, owing to the war in China. The news by the Alps has given the market another twist. The last transactions are sales of 2,000 boxes at $2,37½.

The most reliable accounts from every section of the country, give very encouraging hopes for a bountiful harvest. The growing crops from one end of the country to the other, are represented as looking remarkably fine.

The editor of the *Cayuga Chief* wants some knight of the toddy-stick to tell him how much the community would be injured were there no rum sold? *Who would be injured? Is there any liquor, truly which would suffer for the want of whiskey?*

Ex-Gov. Ramsey, at an Agricultural Fair in Minnesota, said there is yet room in that territory for a million and a half more of farmers. He thinks Minnesota will some day produce more corn and wheat than any other state in the Union.

Archbishop Hughes has purchased the splendid mansion of John R. Murray, Esq., in the Fifth Avenue, New York, and will remove there on the 1st of May. It is in contemplation to erect a Roman Catholic Cathedral in the same vicinity soon.

It is a singular fact that the Bond street tragedy has depreciated the price of property in that street. People are moving out of it, and an unusual number of houses are "to let" and "for sale." It is a striking instance of the effects of crime upon property.

The Sand Patch Tunnel now in process of construction on the Pittsburg and Connellsville Railroad, will be when completed 4,675 feet in length, and at an elevation of 7,235 feet above the water. It will be one of the largest tunnels in the United States.

The Boston *Post* wants to know why credit should not be given to physicians in notices of deaths, as well as to undertakers in the funeral cortege? A newspaper obituary announcement should read—"Died at the hands of Dr. Saddlebags, John Doe, aged so and so."

The Louisville *Democrat* says that J. B. Stewart, Esq., a lawyer of that city, has received $40,000 for his services in securing the Resolute claim from the Government. The suit was compromised by the Government paying $180,000, of which Mr. Stewart gets one half.

Joseph Ingles Matthias, Treasurer of the Arch street Theatre, Philadelphia, formerly a printer in the *Ledger* office, died last week, aged 35 years. Mr. Matthias was much esteemed for his social qualities and urbane disposition. Poor Joe! "after life's fitful fever he sleeps well."

The production of Sugar in Louisiana has been equal the last year to about 80,000 hhds., against 449,000 in the year 1853. The duty is now reduced to 24 per cent., instead of 30. Last year the importations into the United States were 545 millions of pounds, valued at $22,550,000.

The Bank of Newcastle, Pa., has exploded. The Cashier (Mr. Wagoneller, formerly of this county,) has absconded with fifty thousand dollars of the funds of the bank, leaving only four dollars in coin in the vaults to meet liabilities amounting to $100,000. He was deeply involved in various speculations.

To Kansas.—Railway tickets are set down thus from the following points:

Boston to Kansas, (approximately)	$34 00
Buffalo or Dunkirk,	30 00
Cleveland,	24 00
Chicago,	16 00

Children under 12 years of age half price.

The following oath is said to have been administered in the Iowa Legislature to a little boy ten years of age, chosen to fold up documents:

"You do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and of this State, and to *fold papers* to the best of your ability, so help you God."

Gov. German, of Minnesota has issued a proclamation for an extra session of the Legislature of that Territory, on the 27th of April, for the purpose of enacting the necessary laws to enable the people to form a State Constitution, and also for the purpose of disposing of the lands granted at the last session of Congress in all of the railroads of the territory.

Late advices from Newfoundland report that the proposed transfer of the fisheries to France is subject to the action of the British Parliament and also the Legislature of Newfoundland. This puts an entire new phase upon the matter, and, there being no probability of the Newfoundland Legislature agreeing to the transfer, the fisheries will remain as at present.

A Committee of the Washington Board of Health, which has been investigating the causes of the epidemic disease at the National Hotel, concur in regarding the disease as one of "blood poison," produced by the inhalation of a poisonous miasm, generated by animal and vegetable decomposition, which entered the hotel through the sewer connecting with the Sixth street sewer.

Lieut. Habersham, in his recently published work, entitled "My Last Cruise," notices a curious phenomenon, which was seen at sea.—It was a brilliant meteor, which although visible for hot more than a second, presented a most perfect representation of the human eye. He says: We distinctly saw it contract and dilate twice during that limited period, immediately after which the lids, as it were, closed and shut it from our view."

There is positive information in Washington that Brigham Young and his crew have burned the United States archives, court records, &c., in Utah territory; that they have demanded the appointment of one of two schedules of federal officers, both headed by Brigham Young for Governor, with the avowal of the purpose of driving any other out of the territory by force of arms. The truth is, the Mormons are already practically in a state of rebellion.

In the Supreme Court at Portland, on Tuesday, Geo. B. Elden, keeper of a high school at Windham, was tried for assaulting a pupil.—Judge Davis charged that the master in a school acted in the same capacity as a parent at home, had the right to enforce obedience to school rules by proper punishment, and left the jury to decide whether the right was exceeded in this case. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty. The case was tried previously before a justice of the peace, and the teacher was fined $5, and appealed.

Are Americans Olive Branch speaks of a secret marriage of a pupil of a female seminary in Montgomery county recently. The young lady was the daughter of a "wealthy father living East who had placed her at the Seminary to get her away from her Romeo, but she asked permission of the principal to spend Christmas in Reading and it was granted. Arrived there she sends word to her lover, who comes there and marries her instanter. She then went back to school, but the "secret came out" a few days ago, and created an excitement."

POLITICAL.

PENNSYLVANIA LOCAL ELECTIONS.—John H. Poor, American, has been chosen Mayor of Carbondale.

Maj. A. Jordan Swartz, Dem., has been elected Mayor of Reading. 12 of the 15 councilmen are of the same party.

Charles T. Miller, Opp., has been elected Burgess of Norristown. The other town officers elected are of the same political complexion.

THE California appointments have been disposed of. Benjamin Franklin Washington is appointed collector; Mr. Tillford, late State Senator and formerly recorder of San Francisco, naval officer.

THE Republicans of Morrisville, across the river from Trenton, gained a complete triumph at their borough election on Friday. Morrisville was formerly a stronghold of Democracy.

MR. BOCOCK, Attorney-General for the State of Virginia, has resigned, and the Governor has ordered an election to fill the vacancy, which is to take place the fourth Monday of May next.

MR. APPLETON's intention is to resign the Editorship of The Union at once, and return to his home in Maine. Rumor says that he will receive a local appointment from Mr. Buchanan; probably the Collectorship at Portland.

NEW YORK APPOINTMENTS.—They are:—*Collector*—AUGUSTUS SCHELL; *Surveyor*—MR. HAYT; *Navy Agent*—MR. SAUNDERS; *United States Marshal*—CAPTAIN RYNDERS; *Postmaster*—MR. FOULKE; *Naval Officer*—L. H. BIRNSALL.

THE Departments are overwhelmed with applications, personal and by mail, for the minor appointments, growing out of a misapprehension of the principle of rotation, which, as a general rule, is intended to apply only to the larger class of offices.

THE KANSAS CONVENTION.—Advices from Kansas state that in compliance with a resolution of the Topeka Convention, Mr. Robinson has withdrawn his resignation as a candidate for Governor of the State of Kansas, and declared his adhesion to the principles of the Topeka Convention.

A committee was appointed by the Convention, to frame a petition to the President, asking that the public lands be held subject to pre-emption for ten years from the present time.

KANSAS FREE STATE CONVENTION.—The Kansas Free State Convention was in session at Topeka on the 16th and 17th instant, C. F. Currier, presiding. The Committee on a platform reported a series of resolutions, setting forth that the people of the Territory cannot participate in the election under the recent Constitutional Convention act, without compromising their rights as American citizens, that it is contrary to their peace; that the Topeka Constitution is still the choice of a majority of the citizens, and urging upon Congress the immediate admission of Kansas as a State under it; that peaceful relations between the citizens are regarded as indispensable to the welfare of the people and the territory, and they earnestly appeal to all men to submit all differences of opinion, growing out of the question of domestic institutions, to the ballot box, provided that any attempt to abridge or impair the freedom of speech or the ballot box, will be held as a just cause of departure from this policy; that no tests shall be made for membership of the Free State Party, save the exclusion of Slavery from Kansas. The resolutions further declare an indexible determination to abide exclusively the ples of squatter sovereignty enunciated in the Kansas Nebraska bill.

THE EXPLODED BANK OF NEWCASTLE.—Of this institution, the Pittsburg *Dispatch* says:

The New Castle Bank has been in operation about eighteen months. When organized a Wall street operator, named Sherman, obtained control and put in a German named Neiler as cashier.—Within a few months it became known that Neiler had loaned its notes to Sherman to the amount of fifty or sixty thousand dollars; whereupon a prosecution was instituted against Sherman, who disgorged ten thousand dollars—and