The Press.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1857.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR,
WILLIAM F. PACKER,
OF LYCOMING COUNTY.

FOR JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT,
WILLIAM STRONG,
OF BERKS COUNTY.
JAMES THOMPSON,
OF ERIE COUNTY.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,
NIMROD STRICKLAND,
OF CHESTER COUNTY.

☞ Dr. R. SHELTON MACKENZIE, well-known in the world of letters as an accomplished writer upon literature and foreign politics, will assist in the editorial department of this journal.

☞ Owing to an unusual press of advertisements at a late hour last evening, we are compelled to omit some ten colums of letters from correspondents, and other intelligence.

☞ We deeply regret to hear of the decease of the accomplished wife of Ex-Postmaster General CAMPBELL. She died at Germantown, on the 31st ult.

THE EDITOR TO HIS READERS.

The first number of THE PRESS will to-day be laid *before the public. I need scarcely* explain the object and design of this journal. The tree must be known by its fruits. My ambition is to make a thorough newspaper, complete in all its departments: to address myself to the reason and the patriotism of the people: in a word, to supply daily a cheap, trust-worthy and intelligent medium of popular information. To accomplish these results will demand patient industry, large expenditures of money, considerable experience, and the employment of varied ability. The belief that a newspaper conducted upon this plan has never yet failed, determined me upon the present undertaking. The hope that there were *many, very many,* kind remembrances, personal to myself, here in Pennsylvania, and elsewhere, inspired me with additional confidence in its success. The agreeable relations I had sustained to most of those engaged in journalism, during my long connection with that profession, reminded me that this, if not always the most lucrative avocation, was, at least to my own mind, the most acceptable, because it re-opened a field of independent action, and hard, but edifying toil. An enterprise founded upon such motives cannot fail to prosper. I have invested in it all that I have in the world, and every effort and energy of which I am capable, shall be enlisted to render *it deserving of approbation and support.*

THE PRESS will speak for itself on all the great questions of the day. I have already announced (what, indeed, was universally and justly anticipated,) that the political department of my paper should be conducted upon Democratic principles. It is equally well-known that the measures and the men of the present Administration at Washington have my heartiest approbation. I have known the great statesmannow at the head of the Government, and acted in concert and confidence with him, ever since my first youthful association in politics and editorial life. The most agreeable services which it has fallen to *to my lot to perform, were those given to his* cause. My attachment to him grew not more from admiration of his pure and upright character than from a profound regard for his intellect, experience and patriotism. It was my good fortune, with many good men, to assist, not obscurely nor inefficiently, in crowning a life of usefulness and distinction to his country and himself with the highest honors in the world. The fruits of that result are already ripening for the Future. The wisdom of the popular choice is being daily vindicated by the quiet and content which have followed the stormy scenes of last year, as the sweet sunshine follows the destructive tempest. Had Mr. BUCHANAN *not been, as he was, my first* choice for President, and yet approved himself worthy of the high trust confided to his hands, by regarding, respecting, and protecting the rights of the citizen and the rights of the States, I should have done every thing that one man could do to uphold and to strengthen him, and to gather around him a united public opinion. The performance of that duty becomes a proud satisfaction, however, when the consistency, dignity, and ability of his administration, are so many proofs that he well deserved the persevering and enthusiastic preference of those gallant men who have clung to his fortunes through good report and through evil report, during *so many long years.*

I am not writing as a partisan—I am not ambitious of printing a mere party paper; for, while with firm faith and unfaltering footsteps I will follow constitutional principles to their logical and legitimate conclusions, I shall at the same time seek to convince those who may differ from me, by reason, not by recrimination—by argument rather than by declamation. And I am confident that no man, looking at Mr. BUCHANAN'S administration, up to this moment, with disinterested and elevated motives, will deny that that statesman has achieved the Presidency at an auspicious period for his own fame, and at a fortunate moment for the welfare of the Republic.

JNO. W. FORNEY.

THE PRESIDENT AT BEDFORD.

Bedford Springs has always been the favorite summer resort of Mr. BUCHANAN. Long ago, when he was a leading lawyer at the Lancaster bar, Bedford was a resting-place from his labors, the attraction to the able men of his profession throughout this State and Maryland, and the centre of fashion. It was a common event to find at that delightful Spa most of the great intellects of Pennsylvania. Mr. BUCHANAN has since rarely omitted his annual visit to Bedford, unless when absent in foreign countries. Though most of his old-time friends have been called hence, he will be heartily welcomed by their sons and their daughters.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

While the political department of THE PRESS will be entirely under our own control, its columns will be open to the discussion of all subjects of local interest and general State policy, so that all sides may have a hearing.

The communications must, however, be carefully condensed and carefully written.

OUR FIRST NUMBER.

The reader will perceive that every effort has been made to make every department of this journal *complete.* To this end no expense, no energy, no enterprise, has been spared. But in such an establishment some errors will occur. These will be remedied the moment we are more fully organized.

THE WEEKLY PRESS.

On the 8th of August, the first number of the WEEKLY PRESS will be issued. Terms—$2 per annum, *always in advance.* It will be a large quarto, the size of the New York *Weekly Tribune,* and will be filled with the best original and selected reading, worthy of all circles; and fully up to the expectations of the age.

Friends! give us your support in pushing he WEEKLY PRESS into a large circulation.

FRIENDS ON ALL SIDES.

If there is any thing in the idea that a good start is every thing in the race, we have abundant cause to be grateful. Friends greet us on all sides, and from every State in the Union. The thousands whom we have met in our chequered career, and these include men of all creeds, bear us in their best remembrance. We hope they will be as well satisfied with our doings as we are with theirs.

☞ *We regret* to announce the death of CLAYTON B. LAMB, a highly respected and influential merchant of this city. For years past he has been one of the active members of the firm of SIEGER, LAMB & Co., Third street. He died suddenly on Thursday evening at Saratoga Springs, whither he had gone on Monday last to enjoy a few days of relaxation. His death is a great loss to the mercantile community.

☞ Among other important articles postponed by the advertisements, which, our readers will perceive, have greatly encroached upon our editorial matter, is an elaborate review of the Kansas question, which will appear on Monday.

ENGLAND AND HINDOSTAN.

A few weeks ago, England was startled by the intelligence that an extensive revolt in the Indian army had occurred, and that the continuance, the very existence of British sway in Hindostan was in imminent peril. Pithily, but forcibly enough, did a London journal thus describe the crisis:—"Our house in India is on fire. We are not insured. To lose that house would be to lose power, prestige, and character—to descend in the rank of nations, and take a position more in accordance with our size on the map of Europe than with the greatness of our past glory and present ambition. The fire must be extinguished at any cost. All ordinary considerations give way before the greatness and suddenness of the danger." Another journal, arguing that British troops should be sent to India without delay—by the overland route, if necessary—adds: "It will be time to inquire into the causes of the mutiny by-and-bye; we do not speculate how a fire originated, when the question is where to run for the fire-engines; *at all events, we procure the fire-engines first.*"

Let us state the facts, as far as they have been communicated to the British nation;—for it is the principle and practice of the British Government to keep back information, when its being made known would inconvenience the Executive. So constantly and consistently is this system of half confidence kept up, that official despatches, political or military, are usual two-fold—one story, with unpalatable and unpopular facts glozed over, to throw dust in the eyes of the people, and the other, for the private instruction of the Cabinet, stating the case in more truthful terms. Sometimes, when such a sly, double-dealing person as Palmerston is at the head of affairs, there is a third and "most private" despatch for his own particular perusal.

Last May, two regiments of native infantry (Sepoys) were disbanded for insubordination. Soon after, another regiment, quartered at Lucknow, refused to use a new description of cartridges served out to them—declaring that pig-grease, the touch of which was prohibited by their stringent rules of *caste,* was used in making the cartridge paper. This corps left the parade ground in a body, carrying their muskets with them, but Sir HENRY LAWRENCE, the British officer commanding the district, turned a battery of artillery against the mutineers, compelled them to lay down their arms, and confined them to their quarters, disarmed and incapable of mischief. At Meerut, and other places, the Sepoys also refused *to receive the cartridges.* The first company who showed this insubordination were dismissed on the spot, and handed their arrears of pay. This was, in truth, rather an encouragement. The authorities saw their error, and when another company turned out, arrested and placed them in durance vile. A few days after this a general revolt took place. The barracks were set fire to. The wives and children of European soldiers were massacred. The European officers were shot down. Before any step could be taken by the authorities, a dozen native regiments—artillery, cavalry, infantry, and sappers and miners—were in rapid march for Delhi. Arriving *there the next day,* and encamping out of the city, they induced three regiments of native infantry, and one of artillery, to turn out and murder their European officers. A few of these escaped, *but the rest, with their wives* and daughters, were slain. The insurgents then entered Delhi, murdering every European within reach, seizing the bank and its treasure, and would have occupied the arsenal and magazine, if a British officer, loyal and self-sacrificing, had not blown them both up, perilling his own life by the explosion.

The mutineers next proceeded to proclaim the son of the late Mogul Emperor, as King and Lord of India—it would seem against his will—for it was from a communication made by him that the British authorities at Agra first heard of what had occurred. Immediate steps were taken to crush the revolt. *British troops* were collected from all quarters within reach. Several of the native princes promised their aid to the British, and appear to have acted with good faith. Martial law was proclaimed in the Meerut and Delhi districts. In order to dispel the prevalent idea that the Government contemplated the conversion of the natives to Christianity, notice was given disavowing any such purpose. At the date of the latest despatches, the British troops (on June 8) had encountered the rebels outside the walls of Delhi, driven them back into the city, taken twenty-six guns from them, occupied all the heights outside Delhi, and were prepared or preparing *to besiege that place.* General ANSON, commander-in-chief, had died of cholera, and was succeeded *pro tem.* by Sir HENRY SOMERSET. As many as 30,000 native soldiers had turned against the English. The *disaffection* was spreading, but was chiefly confined to the military. At Lahore, one-half the native troops had deserted the British flag. In Oude and the Punjaut the Sepoys continued loyal. In the Bengal army, eight regiments had mutinied in a month, and two had been disbanded. At Calcutta, the seat of Government in British India, every precaution had been taken against an anticipated attack.

To put down this revolt, the troops, returning *to Bombay and Madras from the Persian* war, were directed to proceed at once to Calcutta. Cavalry from Bombay had been ordered to Agra. Every regiment that can be spared from Great Britain and the Colonies had been ordered to India. But here arises the difficulty. It took five weeks, even with telegraphic aid, to obtain intelligence of this insurrection from Calcutta; it would take, at the shortest, a fortnight to prepare each regiment in England for embarkation for Indian service; and, even with all the "aids and appliances to boot" of the Overland route (across Egypt and down the Red Sea) occupy six weeks more to convey the troops to Calcutta. Here, *then, is an interval of thirteen weeks, at the* very shortest, between the massacre at Delhi and the arrival in India of a strong force from England. But the shortest and quickest mode of transporting 14,000,000 from England to Bengal was *not* to be adopted. The "Circumlocution Office" would not send them overland, but would take them by long sea voyage round the Cape of Good Hope, which would occupy seventy days, while by the overland route it would take only forty. This would make four months from the outbreak to the arrival of the troops to quell it. Within these four months, Hindostan may for ever be lost to England.

Such are the circumstances of this insurrection. What the consequences may be we can only surmise, as yet. But believing that Providence carries out the principle of retribution with nations, as with *individuals, and knowing* with what pertinacity of misgovernment, what constant ingenuity of misrule, what utter contempt for even the seeming of humanity and justice, England has crushed India to the dust, we arrive at only one strong conviction—that the period has arrived when British sway in Hindostan will be met by hands with swords in them. It is allowed, in the philosophy of politics, to judge of the future by the past, and we know that the great empires of the world fall—fall suddenly, fall disgracefully, fall unlamented—after they reach the summit of renown, dominion, riches, and pride. England seems to have reached her culminating point—*from that, the path is down hill.*

THE POST OFFICE.

On our first page will be found a communication from a distinguished citizen of Philadelphia in favor of converting the building now occupied by the officers of the customs into a city Post Office. We have determined to abstain from all participation in the contest between the friends of special localities for the city Post Office. But it is clear to our own mind that a very large majority of the people of Philadelphia incline in favor of removing the Post Office from the present building to some one of the thoroughfares farther West.

MODEL LETTER.

The reading of the following letter occasioned much applause at the celebration of the Western Railroad *excursionists,* at Washington, on the 21st ult:

WASHINGTON, July 21, 1857.

Gentlemen: I have had the honor to receive your invitation to meet the guests of the city from the west at Cornely's Saloon, this evening, but I sincerely regret that pressing engagements will deprive me of this privilege. I was most happy to give them a cordial welcome this morning. Railroads are truly said to bind the different portions of the Union together in bonds of iron, but neither iron nor adamant is so effectual for this purpose as kind and patriotic hearts from different and distant States united together in bonds of mutual respect and affection, and in a common love for one whole, great and glorious country. These bonds are always strengthened by such visits as we have received from our western friends, and I most heartily wish them safe and prosperous returns to their homes. Yours respectfully,

JAMES BUCHANAN.

STATE POLITICS.

THE CANVASS FOR GOVERNOR.

In the midst of the general calm which has settled upon the political waters, the canvass *for the election of another Chief* Magistrate of Pennsylvania can hardly be called a contest. Each of the three great parties has nominated its candidate. The Democrats have nominated WILLIAM F. PACKER, the Americans ISAAC HAZLEHURST, of Philadelphia, and the Republicans DAVID WILMOT, of Bradford County. If there is any contest, it will be between General PACKER and Judge WILMOT. But there is really no issue upon which the Democratic candidate can be successfully opposed. He is the representative of a conservative and harmonizing sentiment—that which triumphed a year ago, while Judge WILMOT is the embodiment of an element against which, whatever may have been the fact in 1856, there is an almost unanimous protest, so far as public opinion can be estimated or ascertained. Besides, General Packer is in every *sense* a Pennsylvanian of the good old stock—a finished gentleman—an experienced legislator—and a man of warm, generous, and noble impulses.

Judge WILMOT will not evidently make his canvass upon State issues. He is nothing, if not abolition. And here is his great weakness. His appeals, so patent a year ago, have grown stale. They will be but in harmonious discord to those who then acted with him. He comes forward with no trophies of prophecy fulfilled; with no evidences of theories established; with no new offers for those who are ready to give him their votes. It is a sad calamity to him that Kansas is rapidly marching forward to *substantial and peaceful* prosperity. It is a mournful truth for him to admit that the plain old-fashioned principle, that the "majority shall rule," is certain to sweep bordor ruffianism and Topeka conventions into a common grave. It will be a comfortless and profitless attempt to make headway against facts so stubborn and notorious as these. But Judge WILMOT is a bold and able man; and has, no doubt, made up his mind to bear his fate with due resignation.

THE JUDICIARY.

Let other States complain as they may, the Elective Judiciary has thus far worked admirably in Pennsylvania. There are exceptions to the rule, but the local and State Judiciary includes some of the first intellects of our day. The Democrats have been more *than usually fortunate in their two nominations* for the Supreme Court.

The first-named Democratic candidate, Hon. WILLIAM STRONG, of Berks county, is known to every leading member of the bar in the State. He is a conscientious, able, and deeply-read lawyer; he has served in Congress with distinction; and since the close of his public service, has ascended steadily to the first rank of legal minds.

The second-named candidate, Hon. JAMES THOMPSON, *of Erie, is a well-tried jurist, of* many years' experience. He has occupied a seat in the National House of Representatives, where he soon made a reputation as a sound and convincing debater, and a thorough Constitutional lawyer.

The opposition have nominated excellent gentlemen as their candidates; and we are happy to acknowledge it. But it is a matter for grave reflection, whether the political complexion of our Judiciary has not assumed an *aspect* of primary importance: not, indeed, that mere party affinities should override eminent capacity; but that our judges should be, by education and by conviction, right upon those great Constitutional principles which are almost constantly coming into collision with adverse theories. We need not refer to familiar cases. Forewarned is forearmed.

CANAL COMMISSIONER.

Hon. NIMROD STRICKLAND, the Democratic *candidate, is one of those rare men, whose* nomination to office reflects credit upon the people. Though at all times a decided partian, yet in a community like that of Chester county, where he resides, he has sustained through a long life the reputation of an honest, upright, and exemplary citizen. We only regret that the office of Canal Commissioner is not, at this day, equal to his large deservings.

THE OCTOBER ELECTION.

The City of Philadelphia, at the next election, elect seventeen members of Assembly, and two Senators. This number will probably be sufficient to determine the political complexion of the next legislature, whether it is Democratic or Republican. The old city elect four members of Assembly, the old county thirteen members of Assembly, all on one ticket. The two Senators are to be voted for over the whole city and county. One is in place of C. B. PENROSE, deceased, the other in place of N. B. BROWNE, whose term has expired.

The Recorder of Deeds, Prothonotary of the District Court, Clerk of the Quarter Sessions, and Coroner, are also to be elected, each for three years. We are not certain that there is to be an election for District Attorney, or whether the Court appoint for the remainder *of the term.* The election of Governor, Judges of the Supreme Court, and Canal Commissioner, render the ensuing election highly important.

THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY CASE.

There is some doubt as to the length of time and power of the Court of Quarter Sessions, in *relation* to the appointment of a person in place of Mr. CASSIDAY. The new law gives the Court the power to appoint one person. This power the Court exercised in the selection of Mr. MANN. *It is believed that they now have* the power of appointing a person to act until the election, when a District Attorney, the coadjutor of Mr. MANN, is to be elected. If the Court have the power to appoint a person to act during the term for which Mr. MANN is elected, two years from next October, the whole object of the legislature, in having one on each side, would be defeated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, July 31, 1857.

The tariff act passed by Congress at its recent session, went into operation on the 1st instant. So far, it has justified the predictions of those who favored a reduction of duties on imports. There have been no serious complaints of its provisions, nor has there been any falling off in the revenue. On the contrary, the receipts at the various custom houses have been very large. In Boston, and I *imagine the same is the case with other seaboard* cities, the importations last week doubled those for the like period of the last year. Many of the supporters of that act advocate a still greater reduction, but the justice and good sense of such a measure will better appear by the receipts for October and November Great quantities of merchandize brought into the country prior to the 1st, were kept in the bonded warehouses, so that they might be taken out at the reduced rates, and the probability is that these will be in the market before the time I have stated.

There is one modification of that act which will be recommended by the Department, and meet with the ready concurrence of both Houses. Under the old system the rates of duties were decimal in their character; they were 100 per cent., 40 per cent., 25 per cent., and *so on. This worked* well. It simplified accounts. Calculations could be made more rapidly and with greater accuracy; and besides, the decimal arrangement in matters *of commerce* is a national idea with us. We have now schedules of 24 per cent. and 8 per cent. They complicate accounts and create difficulties. The 24 per cent. should be increased to 25 or reduced to 20, and so with the others of a similar character.

The decimal system is a national idea with us. Its convenience and general superiority to any other is universally admitted. Congress was so thoroughly satisfied in this regard that it directed an agent should be sent out to induce the adoption of the system by the governments of Europe. Professor ALEXANDER, of Maryland, was appointed, and he will shortly take *his departure* for England for that purpose.

Hon. FAYETTE MCMULLIN, Governor of Washington Territory, will leave by the California *steamer of the 5th of August next.* He goes alone, intending to make his appointments from the pioneers and citizens of the Territory. It is but fair and just to those people that they should be consulted and favored in what so nearly concerns their welfare as the administration of their government.

Opinion is fast inclining to a preference of iron steamships for commercial purposes to those now and heretofore more generally in use, *because each* day developes their greater cheapness, durability and capacity with an equal, certainly, if not greater rate of speed; and this fact is brought to bear with the President *in furtherance of grants* from the Federal treasury to ocean steamers to carry the mails. England, it is said, has now afloat steamers consuming annually 2,000,000 tons of English coal. American steamers do not consume one-tenth of that quantity of coal. If generous encouragement be given to American lines, like that *afforded* by France and England to their lines, it is argued that the city of Philadelphia, with her great resources in Pennsylvania, will rival Scotland in the construction of iron steamers, and at the same time be rapidly creating new markets for her coal.

For the consulates and commercial agencies, there are no fewer than 650 applicants. They come from every part of the Union; some even from the interior counties of interior States, where the inhabitants get their knowledge, if they have any at all, of ships and shipping interests from random newspaper paragraphs and sea tales. But the fiat has gone forth that there are to be, until the assembling of Congress, in December, only three or four necessary appointments, and we forget everything but commiseration for the hard lot of those who must be disappointed. It may be that in the meantime opportunity will be taken to study up in VATTELL, MARTENS, and others of the same family, not losing sight of the work issued some year ago by *the State Department, embracing regulations and* suggestions for the edification and behoof of our international officials; and whatever else we shall do, we cannot fail to rejoice that intelligence on this too much neglected subject, will still further be diffused throughout the country. X. Y.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, July 30, 1857.

The rapid advance of Mr. Speaker Banks, whose nomination for Governor of Massachusetts, is a vast triumph over Gardiner, the present American Executive of that State, begins to alarm the Sewards and Weeds of New York. It is also by no means agreeable to the Fremont movement of 1856. Who knows but Mr. Banks may set up his own Presidential standard? He made a capital Speaker of the House; *he sailed through all the* troubles of his party with much tact; and he was so generally impartial, that Mr. Aiken, of South Carolina, offered the resolution complimenting him. Rely on it, he has his eye on the White House.

The French spoliation business is to have another trial next winter. A good deal of speculation is already going on on the subject. If the managers do not "engineer" it through the coming Congress, they may hang up the fiddle and the bow.

Col. James L. Orr, of South Carolina, and Hon. John S. Phelps, of Missouri, are both spoken of for Speaker of the next House. Col. Orr will, doubtless, be the man. John S. Phelps, or George W. Jones, of Tenn., will probably be at the head of the Committee of Ways and Means.

The Clerkship of the House is evidently between Col. Allen, of Illinois, Hon. John L. Robinson, of Indiana, and Hon. David Naar, editor Trenton (N. J.) *True American.* The South will not ask for both Speaker and Clerk, of course.

There can be little or no doubt that the erection of a new Presidential mansion will be one of the measures that will receive the favorable action of the next Congress. The President has acted wisely in refusing to reside in the present building during the unhealthy season. P.

TELEGRAPHIC.

[Special.]

BEDFORD SPRINGS, July 31.—The President declines all public display and receptions. He is in fine health.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—The majority of the Virginia Democratic papers sustain the *Inquirer & Examiner* in its support of the Administration's Kansas policy.

Rise in the Ohio River.

PITTSBURG, July 31.—The navigation is good, and the river is rising. The rates of freight are low, and boats plenty.

The Proposed Southern Line of Atlantic Steamers—$8,000 Subscribed—The Convention Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—The Convention to further the project of the establishment of a southern line of steamers to Europe, met again at Old Point, yesterday morning, pursuant to the adjournment. A series of eight resolutions were passed, delegating A. Dudley Mann to convey the sentiments of this Convention to the Knoxville Convention; also, to take charge of all correspondence concerning the proposed ocean ferry.

The general tenor of the resolutions warmly favor the project.

Speeches were made by Messrs. Mann, Barringer, Chandler, of Norfolk; also, eloquent addresses by several others.

The Subscription Committee reported that $8000 had been subscribed on the spot.

The Convention then adjourned *sine die.*

Washington Affairs.

Pension Office Warrants—The U. S. Treasury—The Gila Expedition.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—The number of warrants issued from the Pension Office during the month of July, under the Bounty Land Act of March, 1855, is two thousand one hundred and eighty-five; to satisfy which, nearly three hundred and twenty-five thousand acres are necessary. To satisfy the two hundred and one thousand warrants issued since the passage of the act, twenty-six and a quarter millions of acres are required.

The nett amount in the Treasury subject to draft, is eighteen and two-thirds millions, of which over eight millions are deposited in New York, nearly three millions in Philadelphia, two millions seven hundred and twenty-four thousand in Boston, and in New Orleans and San Francisco each a million and half.

A letter from Colonel Bonneville, in command of the Gila Expedition, says:—"There is being developed one of the most beautiful, fertile, and healthy regions of our country. In all places it furnishes evidence of a former more numerous people, more civilized and industrious, and no doubt more docile, than the wandering Apache, who now desolate it. Our efforts constantly at the heels of these Apaches, force them farther West, crowding upon more Western nations, which report their mountains inundated with new faces, who are forcing their way with rifle and revolver."

The Europa's Mails.

BOSTON, July 31.—*The Cunard Mail Steamship* Europa, from Liverpool, via Halifax, arrived here this morning. Her mails will be despatched to New York, by the Acornom steamboat train. They will be due in Philadelphia to-morrow afternoon.

Degree Conferred.

NEW HAVEN, July 31.—The Faculty of Yale College, yesterday conferred the degree of A. M. on the Rev. C. W. Thomas, of Texas, and D. B. Duffield, of Detroit; and that of L. L. D. on Lieutenant Governor Seldon, of New York.

Markets.

BALTIMORE, July 31.—Flour—Sales of Howard street at $5 75; and City at $5 62½. Wheat, red, quoted at $1 55@1 60; White at $1 75. Corn, yellow, at 87 cents; white at 88@90 cents. Whiskey sells at 29@30½ cents.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

There is what may be called a "plentiful lack" of public amusements, at present, in our good city. The legitimate places now open are the Academy of Music, John Drew's Theatre, and Parkinson's Garden.

Mr. John Drew and his accomplished wife have made arrangements to go on a starring tour early in the fall. They purpose to commence at Cincinnati, and have a line of very promising arrangements from that city to New Orleans and back, which will keep them profitably occupied for some time. Of course, as they cannot be spared *here,* they will return with all convenient speed, "like the bird that seeketh *its mother's nest.*"

Philadelphia is fortunate in possessing the finest Opera House in the Union—the finest, perhaps, all circumstances considered, in the world. It is capacious, without being oversized; it is rich in adornment, without being overlaid with fillagree work; it is capable of easily accommodating a great number of persons; the access, within and without, is particularly *easy and commodious; it is ventilated* on the best principles of science, and by the simplest means; it has abundance of scenery, painted by the first artists—and it should be remembered that Stanfield and Roberts, now among the greatest artists in Europe, were originally scene-painters; it has been constructed so that every one of the audience can hear every sound uttered, and see every motion made on the stage; it has better accommodation for the performers than we have ever seen in any theatre; it has started well; and, what is not the least satisfactory, it is wholly paid for, as the phrase is. "Comparisons are odorous," says Mrs. Malaprop, and therefore we shall not contrast our Academy of Music with the splendid gilded failure, bearing the same name in New York, where one-half the audience cannot *hear what may be said or sung, and the other* cannot *see* the persons who figure on the stage. But we may compare our Academy, nor dread her result, with the La Scala in Milan, the Fenice in Venice, the San Carlo in Naples, the Italian Opera House in Paris, and Her Majesty's Theatre in London. Each of these have separate good points—they are combined in *our* Temple of the Lyric Muse. Nor, when filled *with a brilliant audience, where native loveli*ness is set off, but not augmented, by fashionable attire, need we hesitate to point to it as "beautiful exceedingly," like the lady in Christabel.

Mr. Marshall, who is very harmoniously disposed, under existing circumstances, keeps the Academy open with Promenade Concerts, which are well attended on every fine evening. With the parquette *floored* over and level with the stage, a large area is secured. Statuary, casts, geraniums, shrubs, and even a murmuring fountain are the accessories. At the side is the orchestra—not the best arrangement, we fancy, as the private boxes behind must absorb some of the sound, while those opposite may also slightly deaden it. The Germania Orchestra, conducted by Carl Bergman, gives *the instrumental* music, and the vocal is supplied by such competent singers as Madame Johannsen, one of the best foreign singers who has ever appeared in this country; Miss C. Richings, a fine soprano, with clear articulation and graceful expression; Signor Amodio, the capacious and excellent baritone; and Mr. Frazer, favorably remembered as the justly popular tenor of the Seguin *troupe. These performers* have been appreciatingly received. On Tuesday evening, one of the Fire Engine Companies from Buffalo visited the Academy, and the New York City Grenadiers on Wednesday. These last brought with them their fine brass band, which, in the recess between the regular performances, played capitally—a return serenade, in return. There will be another of these Concerts this evening.

At *John Drew's* Theatre, the principal attraction during the week has been Mons. E. Godard, a French mronaut and professor of the art of sleight-of-hand, of whom rumor speaks highly. We have not had the opportunity of witnessing his performances. Mr. and Mrs. Drew play in the after-piece.

At Parkinson's Gardens, which are really very tastefully "got up," there is a vocal and instrumental concert every evening. The principal singer is Miss A. M. Sutherland, described as the "Scottish Nightingale," who sings Scotch, Irish, and English ballads, with no small degree of spirit.

THE CITY.

Our Reportorial Bow.—The individual who is to act the part of a man about town, and "do" the locals for the "PRESS," to the public, greeting: *He sincerely hopes, that the acquaintance now* about to be established will be mutually agreeable and profitable. In this department he may be occasionally compelled to open a budget of horrors, in the shape of murders, suicides, and shocking accidents; but the terrible details of such occurrences will be varied by those glimpses of light which even the darkest pages of city life sometimes exhibit. Although at the present season the ever-moving panorama of life presents a hue of sombreness and a lack of diversity, yet even in the midst of dearth, he trusts that he will be able to accumulate an ample store of incident and moral, with which to relieve and illumine the more ponderous lucubrations of those magnates of the press who hurl their bolts from the editorial columns. With the trivialities and verbose nonentities with which some writers deal, he shall entirely dispense; for with all due regard to facts, for which he entertains a devotion not excelled even by the veritable Gradgrind, he shall, nevertheless, confine himself to those which are important. While he presents to the reader an epitome, each day, of all that is transpiring within this metropolis, he shall at the same time hold *aloof alike from personality and private feeling* in everything to which he may be called to give expression. With this brief prologue, he respectfully tenders his regards to the public, and passes on to his summary of city news.

The Extension of our City.—New structures at the outskirts of the built-up portions of the city, embrace at the present time an unusually large proportion of our building operations. Rapidly the lines of brick and stone walls encroach upon the green fields, and those who have not visited the outer suburbs of the city since last summer, will be *surprised* to find the builder where the grass was waving in rich luxuriance and the grain was glistening in the sunlight. Such localities have many advantages to recommend them, and many are now favorite and very delightful places of residence. Away from the more crowded portions of the city there is "ample room and verge enough" for free air, free action, and uncramped quarters. Facility of conveyance has practically lessened the distance between widely separated localities, and no one need fear of being too far away from the centre of trade; the centre of trade truly, but not the centre of life; for the living stream is flowing to more quiet scenes, and unpeopled stores, monetary institutions, and piles of merchandise are becoming the solo occupants of the oldest portions of the town.

The number of building permits issued during the month, ending yesterday, was 142, of which 100 were for three story dwellings, 11 for two story dwellings, five for factories, five for shops, two for *stores and dwellings* combined, one for a foundry, one for an ice-house, one for a slaughter house, one for an office, and four for store-houses.

Arrests During July.—The following table prepared from the police reports of the Lieutenants of the different Wards, exhibits the number of arrests in the city of Philadelphia during the month ending yesterday:—First District, 204; *Second do, 290;* Third do, 187; Fourth do, 98; Fifth do, 150; Sixth do, 122; Seventh do, 110; Eighth do, 52; Ninth do, 128; Tenth do, 233; Eleventh do, 236; Twelfth do, 160; Thirteenth do, 27; Fourteenth do, 11; Fifteenth do, 39; Sixteenth do, 97. Total, 2144. Besides these there were sixty-nine arrests by the Reserve Corps, making a grand total of 2213 persons. A large majority of these arrests were of a very trivial nature, being mainly for drunken and disorderly conduct. The most important arrests have been of persons charged with the crime of arson, now rapidly decreasing in this city through the commendable exertions and vigilance of Mr. Alex. W. Blackburn, whom Mayor Vaux, wisley appointed as Chief of the Fire Detectives. A colored man, named Randall Green, was yesterday committed by a magistrate to answer this charge in setting fire to his residence in Essex street. The evidence against him was of a strong and conclusive character.

A Hotel Thief Disposed of.—Yesterday afternoon, before Alderman Eneu, who is the sitting magistrate at the Central Police Station, a final hearing was had in the case of John Callum, *alias* John Thompson, the *notorious hotel thief,* who is charged with extensive pilfering of various articles from the guests and boarders of the Washington, Girard House, and other public places. Most of the *stolen property* has been recovered by reserve officers Smith and Carson. A considerable portion was found at the house of Mr. Kinsey, in Tacony, where Thompson had taken up his abode for the summer. Mr. Kinsey says he was not aware of Thompson having any baggage whatever in the room. There being a flight of stairs, he could take things to his room without being seen. The remainder of the articles were found in pawnbrokers' establishments. Callum was arrested, a few evenings since, by reserve officer Smith, who saw him leave the Girard House with a number of stolen hats in his possession. He gave his name as Thompson, and stated that he was a boarder at Jones' Hotel, both of which allegations were found to be false, through a letter which he had in his pocket at the time of the arrest. A large amount of money, in five dollar gold pieces, was found upon him, which was, no doubt, stolen. His depredations at our various hotels, during the past month, have been on a very large scale. After a hearing, Alderman Eneu committed him to answer the charges preferred against him at the next term of court.

The Municipal Telegraph Office.—Among the many objects of interest in our city, the Telegraph office, at *the corner of Fifth and Chestnut* streets, claims a large share of the attention of strangers. The members of the Eagle Hose Company, No. 2, of Buffalo, recently visited the office, and were afforded every facility in ascertaining the details of the operation of the municipal telegraph by Mr. George W. Key, one of the gentlemanly operators. A proposition has been made to enlarge this telegraph station. The room at present occupied is entirely too small for the transaction of even the ordinary business; and when we take into consideration the fact that numbers of lost children are daily brought to it, we are inclined to concur fully with the proposition. There is no agency employed for municipal purposes more important than the local telegraph, and its efficiency should not be restricted by a need of the proper accommodations.

Domestic Misery.—Upon the records of the Police Department of this city, almost daily appear cases of domestic unhappiness, calculated to excite the sympathy rather than the scorn of the community. There have been no less than three of this character during the present week, cases in which the hand of violence has been laid upon defenceless women by brutal or intoxicated husbands. Of course there is no redress except the mere penalty of the law in such matters—a poor recompense for outraged feelings, lost affection, and conjugal misery. Our laws for the punishment of wife-whippers should be modified. Protection to women from this species of violence is sadly needed. As matters now stand, a small fine and the Court charges are all that are required from the brutal husband. The trivial penalty virtually gives the offender a free course in his career—a fact disgraceful to a civilized community.

List of Officers attached to the Philadelphia Navy Yard:

Commodore—Chas. Stewart, Commandant.
Commander—Sidney Smith Lee.
Commander—Thos. Turner, Ordnance Officer.
Lieutenant—William Rockendoff.
Lieutenant—A. W. Habersham.
Purser—A. D. Wagner.
Surgeon—Lewis S. Ridout.
Passed Assistant Surgeon—William Lowber.
Chaplain—Rodman Lewis.
Chief Engineer—Samuel Archbold.
First Assistant Engineer—R. C. Potts.
Third Assistant Engineer—E. A. C. Duplaine.
Gunner—Benjamin Burton.
Carpenter—C. W. Babbitt.
Sailmaker—Jacob Stephens.

Within the last four years there have been sent to this yard for repairs the following steamers viz: Fulton, Mississippi, San Jacinto, (twice;) Susquehanna, Saranac, and Princeton; and of sailing vessels, the sloops of war Jamestown, (twice;) Vandalia, Cyane, St. Louis, St. Mary's, and Preble, (twice;) these have also been fitted out or fitting out. Within the same period, the following new steamers, viz: Wabash, Minnesota, Arctic and Shubrick, and also three light ships.

These vessels have been built or repaired at a less cost than can be done at any other yard in the country, as is well known to all who have paid attention to the subject. Extensive alterations have been made in the engineer's department of the Saranac; the old copper boilers have been removed, and new iron ones substituted, which will effect a saving of 30 per cent. in fuel, besides giving 12 feet in the length of the ship, (on the berth deck) more room to berth the crew, and 12 feet in length in the after-hold for the storing of provisions. The boilers and castings were made at the establishment of Messrs. Merrick & Sons, and are a splendid job, looking like a piece of cabinet work. All the work in this department has been done in the yard; and Mr. Archbold, the chief engineer, has reported that, in his department, *the vessel will be ready for sea on the 8th of* August.

The number of men employed in the yard is above eight hundred, divided as follows, viz:

Carpenters, ninety-one; gun carriage makers, ten; sawyers, ten; carpenters' laborers, twenty-four; boat builders, ten; blacksmiths, ninety-nine; joiners, one hundred and three; caulkers, fifty; spinners, twenty-two; laborers, two hundred and nineteen; engineer laborers, twenty-six; yard laborers, thirteen; watchmen, sixteen; riggers, twenty-one; sailmakers, eighteen; spar makers, twenty-eight; painters, twenty-four; steam engineers, twenty-six; gunner's crew, four, plumbers, fifteen; blockmakers, ten; masons, four; teamsters, five.

Registry of Water Rents.—During the month of July, there was collected and paid into the City Treasury, by Joshua M Raybold, Register of Water Rents, $7151 83.

The Department of Highways.—During the month of July 133 permits were granted at the office of the Department of Highways to builders, for the occupancy of portions of certain streets, for which there were received $53.30 Since the 1st of January, $478 75 have been received for licenses of this character

Wholesale Massacre.—The noted fraternity of Dog Detectives who left this city on Tuesday last to operate upon unmuzzled canines, returned yesterday. They report to their captain, Jim Francis, that they caused a considerable diminution in the ranks of the race, although they experienced some little difficulty with the owners of the *Burlingtonian pets.* Strychnine was found to be a most effectual method in bringing about "the case of" the dog "creation."

Delightful Excursion.—The Knickerbocker Association of this city will give their second annual