The Press.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 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.

"THE PRESS" TO THE PRESS.

It to receive from men of all parties in the public press—Democrats, Republicans, and Americans, words of confidence and of kindness for our undertaking and ourselves, is any evidence of merit, then, indeed, this enterprise, of ours is assured of a most prosperous reign.

THE BUSINESS OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

The ordinary routine of business discharged under the authority and direction of the General Government has, with the advanced wealth, greatness, and importance of the nation, attained an extent scarcely appreciated by the mass of the American people. In our views of national politics, we are, in a considerable degree, apt to lose sight of it. It is true that the Blue Book is attentively examined by thousands of anxious expectants whenever the political guillotine is in working order, and from its immense list of employees, running over five hundred closely printed pages, the conclusion is naturally enough reached that a great amount of labor must be performed, to give so large a number of persons even a moderate share of employment. The annual messages of our President, with the accompanying documents, containing accounts of the operations of the different departments, also serve to call up before the mental vision the aggregate practical business of the Government during each year. Yet, notwithstanding the general dissemination of such information, it often happens that in our excitement about some one isolated question of governmental policy, we fail to recognize how extremely small a relation it bears to the great machinery which is constantly, though silently, at work.

The limits of a newspaper article scarcely admit even of a condensed enumeration of the leading duties of the Executive branch of the Federal Government, to say nothing of details.

Thus, our State Department is in constant communication with the diplomatic agents accredited to this country, our own numerous representatives abroad acting in the capacity of Ministers or Charge d'Affaires at all the leading capitals of the world, and with our consuls and commercial agents in every important commercial city. It also issues passports to citizens desiring to go abroad, arranges applications for pardons for offences against the laws of the United States, and attends to the preservation of the public acts and resolutions of Congress and the public records.

The Interior Department has under its direction the Public Lands, Pensions, Indian services, and the Patent Office. The General Land Officials charged with the survey, management and sale of the public domain, and the issuing of titles therefor. The Commissioner of Pensions examines and adjudicates all claims arising out of the various acts of Congress granting pensions for military or naval services in the revolutionary and subsequent wars. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs has charge of the important duties growing out of the relations of the Government to the Indian tribes. The Commissioner of Patents has a wide field of action in issuing patents for new inventions, collecting agricultural statistics, and distributing seeds, plants, and cuttings. There are also various other important duties entrusted to the Interior Department.

The extended ramifications of the Post Office Department reach every section of the country, and by the foreign mail connections supply a safe and cheap medium for the mutual intercommunication of intelligence with all parts of the world. Its leading divisions are the Appointment Office, the Contract Office, the Finance Office, and the Inspection Office. To the Appointment Office are assigned all questions of the establishment or discontinuance of Post Offices, changes of sites and names, appointment and removal of Postmasters, mail agents, &c. To the Contract Office is assigned the business of arranging and placing under contract the mail service of the United States, and the vast correspondence and varied business such extended transactions give rise to. The Finance Office supervises the management of the financial business of the Department, enters the issue of warrants and drafts to pay contractors and other persons, and has the superintendence of the accounts of Postmasters, the charge of the Dead Letter Office, and of the issue of postage stamps and stamped envelopes. The Inspection Office inquires into all cases of mail failures, depredations and violations of the Post Office laws, notes delinquencies of contractors, and sends out mail bags, locks and keys.

The Secretary of the Navy has charge of everything connected with the naval establishment, including instructions to commanders, orders of officers, appointments, enlistment and discharge of seamen, the general direction of the marine corps, besides the superintendence of the business of the various bureaus, embracing the machinery of Navy Yards and docks, the building and repair of vessels of war, the purchase of materials, equipments, provisions, clothing, ordnance and ordnance stores, the manufacture or purchase of cannon, guns, powder, shot, shells, maps, charts, barometers, medicines, and medical stores.

The enlistment, discharge, payment, provisioning and clothing of the army of the United States, and the general direction of its movements, as well as the repair and construction of fortifications, supply of ordnance, ammunition, &c., fall within the scope of the War Department.

The Attorney General's office supplies the legal advice constantly demanded by the business of the Government, by its current transactions, the examination of the titles of land purchased, applications for pardons, the consultations and arguments of suits, &c.

The Secretary of the Treasury is charged with the general supervision of the financial transactions of the Government, the execution of the laws concerning the commerce and navigation of the United States; the superintendence of the survey of the coast, the light-house establishment and marine hospitals. The Comptrollers and Auditors prescribe the mode of, and receive and adjust, the accounts, The Treasurer, with his Assistants, receives, and upon the presentation of the proper warrants, pays out, the moneys of the United States. The Register keeps the account of public receipts and expenditures. The Solicitor superintends civil suits. The Light-house Board directs the building and repairing of light-houses, light vessels, buoys, &c. The Coast Survey office superintends the survey of our coasts, renders available to mariners the information thus obtained, and discharges various other duties.

Besides the central organization of the departments at Washington, they each have in constant service numerous subordinates in various sections of the country.

This brief recapitulation of some of the leading features of the every day business of the government, may assist in giving the reader a just conception of the vast transactions constantly transpiring under its direction, and lead him to reflect how agents are ever on the alert, in all quarters of the world, to protect and promote American interests, to note the movements of other powers, to mark the bearing of their projects and designs upon our welfare, to avert threatened mischiefs and dangers, to watch over our vast commercial transactions, and how our seamen are clothed wherever they may wander, with the protecting mantle of their nationality. How the agents of the national government accompany the pioneer in his progress west, and, ever the boundaries of his acquisitions, are ready to furnish him with his title deeds. How the founder of the government are dispensed to those who have maintained the honor of their country's flag on sea or land. How the inventive genius of America is ensured the well merited reward of its labors. How to the remaining aboriginal inhabitants is extended all the protection and sustenance possible, in view of the insatiate demands of national progress on the one hand, and their own improvident and intractable disposition, on the other. How the vast work of supplying more than twenty-five millions of the most intelligent and the greatest reading people on the earth, scattered over an immense scope of territory, with cheap and speedy means of communication with each other, and with all the rest of the world, as well as furnishing them with incalculable quantities of printed matter, is so well performed, that every settlement, no matter how remote, possesses the requisite facilities. How we are constructing vessels of war, fortifications, ordnance, &c. How we are commanding respect from the most distant nations by displays of formidable naval power, resenting insults, chastising indignities, maintaining our rights, and while wisely guarding against the great danger, and avoiding the enormous expense, of monster standing armies, preserving such a nucleus of aggressive and defensive, naval and military warfare, that the earth contains no foe, and leaves no room to apprehend any combination of foes, whose declaration of war against us would fill our hearts with terror, or jeopardize our liberties. How the legal adviser of the government is ever on the alert to protect it from imposition and fraud. How the money necessary to defray all these expenditures is quietly, peacefully, and abundantly poured into an overflowing treasury; the credit of the government preserved upon the most substantial basis; and its obligations promptly met by its own agents. How incidentally all the great interests of the country are protected, within the true limits of constitutional authority, by the operations of the revenue system; how the country is supplied with a large amount of a pure and reliable currency; how the mariner has his track through perilous seas marked out by day, and beacon lights of warning kept beaming to shield him from danger by night. How, in short, the great duties devolved upon the General Government by the Constitution, are discharged, and the purpose of its framers to "form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defences promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty" to themselves and to their posterity, is accomplished.

In reviewing the widely extended sphere of operations embraced in the practical workings of the Federal Government, we are naturally reminded of the great advantage to the whole body of the American people, without special reference to mere partizan ideas or views, of having the general business of the nation supervised and directed by an honest, faithful, diligent, experienced and an able President. We doubt very much whether we have ever had an Executive better qualified to bestow such attention to the practical, working, legitimate business of the office than the present one, and every step of the existing Administration so far, has marked at once his ability and his devotion to his duties.

Another reflection is well worthy of the consideration of the reader. If the General Government properly discharges the important functions assigned to it in express and unquestionable terms by the Constitution, why should we be forever seeking to load it down with other business, and to entrust it with new powers of doubtful expediency and of questionable constitutionality. This subject is well argued in the late address of the Democratic State Central Committee. It is needless for us to recapitulate here the points so well made in that document. The machinery of the Federal Government was established to perform certain purposes of vital importance to us as a people. When well administered, it can, and does perform those purposes admirably. But all attempts to impose upon it additional unconstitutional, and therefore unnatural, labors, are fraught with peril to the whole frame-work of our Government, and should therefore never receive the sanction of those who justly comprehend the nature of the Union and desire its perpetuation.

THE CIRCUMLOCUTION OFFICE.

It has been doubted, by persons ignorant of the working of the system, whether DICKENS, in his "Little Dorrit," did not exaggerate or caricature the routine of the departmental offices under the Executive in England. It has been supposed that his accounts of the Circumlocution Office were more imaginative than real, that he had soared from fact into fiction, and merely indulged in an agreeable pleasantry. Nevertheless it was truth, serious and lamentable truth—and, being so, other nations ought not to be above taking a lesson from the satire.

One of the most matter-of-fact, and, at the same time, most witty of modern writers, is Mr. Justice HALIBURTON, who, as "Sam Slick, the Clockmaker," has done more to exhibit British North America as it is than any other author. Holding a responsible position in the colonial judiciary, a man of mark and note, an author who is responsible for his statements, Mr. HALIBURTON certainly may be held as reliable authority on many points. A few months ago, he delivered an Address in Glasgow, (Scotland,) "On the Present Condition, Resources and Prospects of British North America," a main purpose of which was to vindicate the claims of the British Colonies to be represented in Parliament. Alluding to the late war with Russia, and the fact that Britain derived no direct aid from her Colonies in that contest, Mr. HALIBURTON said:

"In your turn, you may well say, 'Do you (the colonists) put forward your business, your illustrations, and rejoicings, at our success at Sebastopol (if success it was), and your legislative grants in aid of the compassionate fund, as a suitable contribution to the expenses of the war?'

"It is a reasonable and a rational question to ask, and here is an answer to it. An offer was made to raise two regiments in Canada, and conduct them to the Crimea, to be commanded by colonial officers but to be, like others, under the command of the General-in-chief, whoever he might be. THE OFFER WAS RETURNED FROM LONDON UNANSWERED: *it had been addressed to the wrong office.* I will not repeat the indignant comment made on this contemptuous and contemptible conduct; the offer was not repeated, and its reception is not forgotten."

Comment is unnecessary. The charge was made in the most public manner, in the first commercial city in Scotland; the Address was subsequently published, and widely circulated; facts have repeatedly been alluded to in the English journals; and, as yet, no attempt has been made to impugn its truth. Assuredly, there *is* a Circumlocution Office across the Atlantic—and elsewhere, perhaps.

On the other hand, when personal interests are to be advanced, the action is direct and immediate. For example, Lord PANMURE, the War Minister, had a nephew named DOWNIGIN, who was a lieutenant in one of the regiments on duty in the Crimea. His Lordship, telegraphing to the commander-in-chief (the late Lord RAGLAN), on public business, added as a postscript, the significant words: "REMEMBER DOWN." It is pleasant to record, as the issue of this disinterested interference, that "DOWN" *was* remembered. On account of his great military genius, no doubt, and not because he was nephew to the War Minister, Down was rapidly advanced to the rank of captain and major, and now figures in Queen VICTORIA'S army list, as Lieut.-Colonel DOWNIGIN. Here, at least, there was no circumlocution. To "Remember Down" was assuredly the "Open Sesame" to promotion.

THE TRUE PHYSICIAN.

The heroes who are surest of immortality are the successful soldier and the courageous statesman. We commemorate their triumphs in statuary and in song. We hold them up as examples to our children. We give them our applause in life, and our gratitude in death. But there are other heroes not so well remembered. We allude to the true physician, at once the counsellor, the friend, and the gentleman; often the adviser in the hour of gloom; always our support, after God, in the hour of sickness. What perils does he not brave! Roused from his sleep night and morning; travelling in all weathers; compelled to give up all pleasures to his profession; called from church to the patient's room; he has no time he can call his own. But this is not all. When the angel of death rides on the wings of the air; when contagion and pestilence sweep the streets like a battery of grape and cannister; when the boldest fly before the mysterious destroyer, and selfishness seeks safety where benevolence should meet danger; the good physician stands at his post, and often dies there—while trying to save others' lives sacrificing his own. It is not more than two years ago since the yellow fever depopulated Norfolk and Portsmouth, Virginia. Several accomplished physicians fell victims to their sense of duty. We fear they are already forgotten. While the victorious captain and successful statesman are remembered in marble and in brass, the physician who gave up his own life in the effort to save others is lost sight of—his very name has passed from the popular memory—and often his grave is undistinguished by any mark save what individual affection has reared. Of such a man an English poet wrote sixteen years ago:

> "By earth's vile dross unbribed, his generous aid,
> Sought the lone shed where fevered want was laid,
> And fearless thro' contagion's fires he run;
> *But what refined the saint consumed the man.*"

EUROPEAN REVIVAL OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

In 1834, after a long struggle, the British Parliament enacted that negro slavery should cease in the British dominions, and appropriated the sum of $100,000,000 to be expended in "compensation," among the proprietors of estates in the West Indies. Subsequently, the French Government also abolished slavery, but without deeming it necessary to draw on the public treasury, to re-imburse the planters. The result is a matter of public notoriety. The African race, freed from the necessity of labor, yielded to their natural pre-disposition of inaction, were content to idle in a state of complete laziness, and, for the most part used as much industry as would procure for them the more necessities of nature. If they did work, it was only by fits and starts, and their ideas of compensation were so extravagant, that, after repeated trials, most of the West India proprietors found themselves unable to meet the expense. Nearly a quarter of a century has elapsed since the experiment was commenced. For a long time past, the majority of sugar and coffee plantations in the British colonies have scarcely been cultivated at all. The idea was entertained (but soon abandoned as impracticable) of employing European labor, but the cost was terrific—for it included the sacrifice of human life. In warm and tropical climates, it is utterly impossible that white labor can be employed.

The African race, and that race only, are capable of working under the heat of those regions. The white man speedily sinks under it. Therefore it is limited to one race alone.

When Mr. WILLIAM GLADSTONE was Colonial Secretary of England, he sanctioned the introduction of Coolies into the West Indies, thinking that the free-labor of a race born in and adapted for hot climates, would be advantageous. In point of fact, this was slavery, under a new name and phasis. We have some curiosity to know the proportion, per cent., of the Coolie free-laborers who returned to their native place. Most of them, we suspect, were "used up" before the term of their "free" servitude was ended.

Considerable sensation arose in England, during the past month, in consequence of the announcement that, in Martinique, as many as 1200 "free" negroes had been imported from Africa, to serve, as apprentices, for ten years, with liberty to return home when the decade had expired—by that time, in all probability, the "free" apprentices will have expired also, for the actual necessity, as a matter of pecuniary interest, (to say nothing of common humanity,) which compels a Southern planter to avoid overworking the slaves, his property, will not exist here. The principle will, most probably, be to get the full value of their wages out of them. As to negroes from Africa going anywhere, at their own free will and pleasure, the idea is simply absurd. Such things as *free* negroes do not exist in Africa. They are the goods and the chattels of petty native chiefs, who, at so much a head—paid down in cash, cowries, or goods—would dispose of their own wives and children, as "free apprentices."

Interrogated, in Parliament, on this question, Lord PALMERSTON admitted that he had received information sometime ago that the French had an offer from a firm at Martinique, to supply them with 1200 free negroes. They could not ultimately become slaves, but they must undergo an apprenticeship, that they might not degenerate into the slave trade as far as capital was concerned. He had communicated with the French Government, and had received an assurance that the contract should not go to the renewal of the slave trade, and that every means should be taken to secure the humane treatment of the laborers."

LORD GRANVILLE, and other members of the Cabinet, did not take the matter quite so coolly as the Premier did. They protested that if this *should* deteriorate into any thing tending, or seeming to tend, to a revival of the Slave Trade, they would be in arms against it. Brave words!—but almost at the time that there were being uttered, the self-same thing was doing, or done, in the Island of Trinidad, one of the British colonies. A large cargo of African "free laborers" had been landed there—certainly without any opposition from the local Executive—and there was a general feeling of satisfaction, all over the island, at the prospect of its coffee and sugar plantations being again brought into profitable cultivation.

Thus the matter stands. The wedge is introduced. The "free laborers," worked within an inch of their lives, will probably have cause to envy the condition of their race in our Southern States.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, August 2, 1857.

It is a great misfortune that the difficulties against uniting the two Oceans by the Tehuantepec route, result almost entirely from quarrels between the American claimants of the right of way. Mr. Buchanan has been repeatedly, and long ago committed in favor of this so-called "Isthmian crossing." I do not know, but I have no doubt, that if he and Robert J. Walker had had the making of the Treaty of Guadaloupe Hidalgo, by which, in 1848, we made and bought peace from Mexico, the right to make a Railroad over, or to cut a canal through the Mexican isthmus of Tehuantepec, would have been accomplished by making the whole territory *our own;* and had *this* been a result of the Mexican war, what blood shed, and confusion, and disgrace it had spared to the Mexican people! The public sentiment is in favor of a route between the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific overland through Mexico. It is a pity that the rivalry between Hargous and Sloo, and Hargous and Falconetto, and the difficulties between a hundred little rival interests, connected with, or subordinate to the main contestants, should delay, or it may defeat this great desideratum. Great Britain is best with a deep dread of our growing progress and prowess on this continent She is wise too in her fear, for while she may confine us here, and keep us struggling for what belongs to us here, perpetually paying all the little nations to postpone the absorption of all other powers on this side the great water under our flag, she is left to the mastery of Europe, or to the best share of its management. Let but our flag float over all this continent, or at least over that part of it, which pants for a government of humanity and of reason; and who knows but the eagle may plume his wings for a higher and a broader flight? Hence the British policy of taking every possible advantage of the conflict between rival American claimants for the right of way across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. While they are at issue she is safe. She can be for Sloo one day, and for Hargous the next; and play her part through all. It is a shame that the administration has not yet had a free, fair chance at this great question. Why cannot these rival corporations or combinations be brought to a fair compromise?

I understand that Mr. Giddings, of Ohio, famous for his ultra anti-slavery feelings, is not expected to take his seat in the next Congress. His health is quite feeble.

There is a very bitter feeling of hostility growing up among the American old line whigs of Maryland, against the brutal rowdyism of the Strikers, who now control the elections in that State.

The beautiful farm of the late Hon. Andrew Stevenson, of Virginia, is for sale. Quite a number of Pennsylvanians have lately moved into Virginia, and bought plantations, applying to them the earnest labor and cultivation which have made your farmers renowned. It is said that one of these men is after Mr. Stevenson's property.

There is a very strong Union feeling growing up in South Carolina. The exclusive business of secession is about over. There is a decided movement in favor of national and conservative notions. South Carolina is like the rest of mankind, and by no means disposed to fight her best friend, which is after all the Union.

By the way, and to close: Your paper has set all the *quid nunncs* to wondering. They expected various things from you, those over-wise Solomons. I have heard them talking of what you *would* do. and *could* do; and *dared not* do, with an owl-like solemnity that would force a wrinkle on a dead darkey's face. This much is true, anyhow; you have the manes with you. Every generous, national, warm-hearted, and honor-loving man, is with you. I never saw a finer feeling anywhere than that which greeted your first number in Washington. SOLITAIRE.

Serious Disturbance.—On Sunday afternoon, a very disgraceful disturbance occurred between a number of disorderly characters at the corner of Seventeenth and Callowhill streets, in the Fifteenth Ward. Police officer Quinn, of that District, had his nose broken, and was otherwise badly hurt. Two or three of the participants were subsequently arrested, and placed in the lock-up.

LETTER FROM NEWPORT.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

NEWPORT, Aug. 1.

This is the day when custom decrees that the Newport season shall open; yet, it is evident, this year, that we are still in the green bud, and the only hope is that the flowering, if postponed, may be none the less perfect. The cottages in Newport take so many fashionable people from the Hotels, and these too are so scattered that there is a want of concentration of the elements actually existing for gayety. A centre is wanted where all shall meet on common ground; as in the continental watering places, where life is so much better understood than here; and unless some Luther of pleasure arise, with zeal and influence to carry through a re-construction of the habits of Newport, it is probable that the Hotels must give way under the solid influence of quiet comfort in the cottages. To comfort the Hotels should oppose pleasure. The question of *what is* pleasure? must then be gravely considered. Is it in wearing dresses too fine for walking? By doing so the cliffs are lost as a feature, and to the surprise of foreigners, not a creature is ever to be met on this most beautiful walk, except on Sunday afternoons, when fashion permits its votaries to walk there in silks and satins and chantilly shawls. The climate permits out-door amusements here, and here only; yet our fine ladies never leave the Hotels except in carriages—each in her own equipage, at half-past five. It might be Calcutta, but it is not of Newport as it should be, but Newport as it is, that I am to tell you. The world is seldom set right through opinion, and I register mine and pass on.

The best of the hotels is the Bellevue, anciently Potter's, before there was such a thing as "a season" at Newport, and it retains some traces of its early origin in its long low-ceilinged drawing-room and narrow passages; yet, here fashion has elected to raise her flag, and it is the fullest and gayest of houses—the prettiest woman in the house is Mme. X——, with her soft Creole manners and *parleur ouate*, set off by crimson lips,—then there is quite a bouquet of only less pretty faces—Mrs. L., Mrs. R., Mrs. S., Miss K., Miss P., Miss C.,—all recognized belles, waiting for "the season." The two Mr. Russels are here, nephews of the Duke of Bedford the youngest, Odo, attached as Secretary to Lord Napier's legation; the elder brother, Arthur, Private Secretary of Lord John, is clever enough to do no discredit to his lineage, which calls for so much. We take the hotels by age, and come naturally to the Ocean House, that illustration of fashionable caprice. With the best situation, the best bed-rooms, the largest and finest drawing-room and widest piazzas, it is left to the mercies of the million, not tender ones we know. No one will stay at the Ocean House, and except a handful of persons, one knows it is a mere mob there; Mme. La Grange is there, but as yet has made no sign; she is resting from the Danaic fatigues of a shower of gold. At the Atlantic the Baltimore upper ten have set up their rest, but this is the quietest of all the hotels. The Fillmore, next to the Bellevue, claims to divide its sovereignty, and truly with some show of reason when one looks at the beautiful Mrs. M., whose graceful elegance reveals her race—the stately Mrs. C. and the fast Misses W., are the most prominent Fillmorites—always excepting Mrs. P., that immense favorite.

The Dutch Minister and the Spanish Secretary give a color of diplomacy to the whole. The first hop came off last Thursday at the Fillmore, but was rather a manifestation of weakness than a demonstration of strength. The weather was abominable, and although "some days must be cold and rainy," yet few are philosophical enough to accept the proposition and not act on it. Accordingly the Cottagers lit their lamps and sat down to their gas-burners that night, and the soiree at the Fillmore felt the *contre coup* of the shower—It was cheerful, but by no means gay.—The new dance, "The Lancers," was brought out under the auspices of Count F., whom we have among us. The axis of the season is to be Mr. W's *fete champetre* on the 10th of August, to which 2000 people are bidden. The flutter is immense, and the question of bonnets or no bonnets has been decided in a committee of ten.—Hats for the married women—*coffeur en cheveux* for the dancers. King Solomon could hardly have done better; these *fetes* are peculiar to Newport in this country, and are the most brilliant entertainments given—they require a fine house. The Ocean is a back ground; a tent 80 feet square to dance in, and Fortunatus's purse to pay for it all. The result is satisfactory. The one small cloud of uncertainty is the fog. Could this be bought off, no premium would be too high, but your true woman of fashion would march up to the cannon's mouth for a *fete* or a ball, and she cannot be expected to shrink from a fog. There will not be one feather the less for the chance of its destruction—there are all sorts of courage, and all are captivating.

This has been an old-fashioned summer, as to fogs, hardly does the sun show his face when it is suddenly veiled by a thick fog; but even fogs have their bright side, and while the St. Lawrences of cities are grilling under a bright sky, we wring our hair and rejoice in a temperature of 70. ***

THE COURTS.

COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS—Judge Allison. In the matter of the Commonwealth vs. Snow, a New York merchant, charged with being a receiver of stolen goods, Mr. Wm. L. Hirst, on behalf of Mr. Sandford, of the New York bar, applied to the Court to accept bail for Mr. Snow, and offered for that purpose Henry S. Harper, who upon being sworn said: I live in Frankford, in the Twenty-third Ward; I own real estate in the county of Philadelphia worth over $10,000; I own property on York street worth $8,000, on which there is $3,500 encumbrance; I own property on Russell and Bath streets worth $7,000, on which there is an encumbrance of $2400; I own property on Maple street worth $2,000, on which there is $800 encumbrance; I own a lot on Richmond street worth $1500, on which there is $550 encumbrance; I own a lot on Frankford Road worth $2,000 over all encumbrances; I own a lot on Fourth street and Germantown Road worth $1500 over all encumbrances; I own a lot on Canal and Third street worth $2,000 or $2,500; I own a lot in West Philadelphia, on Crean street, 95 feet front by 154 feet deep, worth $4,000, with $1200 encumbrance; I own two houses in Sepviva street, worth $1,000 each clear; I have stocks worth $25,000 not quoted at the Board of Brokers

Cross-examined by Mr. Mann.—I am a married man; I have been living in Frankford for over three years; lived before that in Jenkintown; sold my place there to Mr. Caleb Cope, for $6,000 cash; I purchased the property on York street, from William E. Johnson; I paid no money for it; I bought it in trade; Mr. Longstroth drew the deed; the York street property is not yet finished; I expect to get $800 a year rent for it from *cloties; the upper story is built* for meetings of societies; the Maple street property I bought from Dr. Rowen, of Chestnut street; I gave him a bond for $1000 on the Virginia and Kentucky Railroad, and a bond for $1000 in Insurance Company stock; I do not know what Insurance Company; I gave him no money for it; I think what I gave was worth $1500; I bought the Richmond Bath street property from D. Lukens, of Spring Garden street; *none of my deeds are recorded, but I intend recording them;* I know the defendant, Snow, but have no intimate acquaintance with him; I have been offered $1200 to go his bail in this case, and a bond of indemnity.

Mr. Mann objected to this bail being accepted, on the ground that the only valuable property which was sworn to, the deed was dated the 6th of January, 1857, and the time had expired on the 6th of July. There was therefore nothing to prevent that property from being again conveyed by the grantor to whom he pleased. The deed to the West Philadelphia property was dated August 1st, 1857, only Saturday last; the Canal street deed was of the same date; the Russell and Bath street deed, the same date; the Maple street deed, the 20th of July, 1857; the Frankford Road and Erie Avenue deed about June; and he did not suppose he could, if the defendant forfeited his bail, collect $200 out of the whole of this property. He would therefore ask the Court under all the circumstances to refuse bail.

Mr. Hirst contended that the bail was ample—that the defendant being a stranger was placed under great difficulties in procuring any bail at all, much less such ample bail as had just been offered. He said if this bail was not accepted, it was equivalent to saying no bail would be taken.

Judge Allison said that he did not, in a case of *such general importance as this, feel satisfied with* the bail tendered, and he should, therefore, feel it his duty to refuse the application. Bail refused.

HABEAS CORPUS CASE.—The case of James Mullin, charged with the murder of —— Schaffer, on the writ of habeas corpus. Messrs. L. C. Cassidy and J. P. O'Neill, for the defendant; and District Attorney Mann for the Commonwealth.

Catharine Fisher, sworn—Remembers the occurrence; it is over three years ago; took place in Phillip street, between Jefferson and Master; it was after dark, below a lamp; Schaffer was on the left hand side going down; I was on the door-step of the house; I knew James Mullin slightly; I could not swear positively I saw him there that night; I once did, but I could not swear to it now.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cassidy—The man, I thought, was Mullin; he was about three or four doors from me; he walked across and struck the young man Schaffer; I don't know with what he struck him; a man named Cox was tried and acquitted of this charge; I then spoke of Mullin; I *saw him about eight months* ago; he had been away; I saw him before on Germantown road; there were three persons there that night; I took them to be Mullin, Cox and McGucken; have no doubt of Cox and McGucken; have none as to Mullin; at the time believed it was Mullin.

Mary Black, sworn.—I saw the occurrence; Jas. Mullin passed over and struck Schaffer under the ear; it was with something like a slung shot that he struck him; Schaffer was passing down the street at the time; Schaffer died about four weeks after that.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cassidy.—Schaffer was no relative of mine; knew him about a year before he was killed; it was a dark, drizzling night that he was killed; I was standing at my mother's door, on Phillip street, with my sister, Catharine Black; I saw the three men across the street; I had no talk with Mullin; I had a talk with Schaffer; I saw the three men standing down the street before Schaffer came down; it was on Monday evening; it was dark between six and seven o'clock.

Re-examined by Mr. Mann.—The three young men were standing together; I was four doors off from them then; when the deed was done, Mullin picked up a brick and called me a bad name.

Catharine Black, sworn—I live in Philip street, four doors from where Schaffer was hurt. I was in the house knitting, and went out and saw Schaffer go down the street; saw the three young men, and one of them stooped down and hit him with something; I saw him fall and hollos murder; I don't know who went up to him; I never saw him after until he was dead; don't know what the cause was of his death. No cross-examination.

Sarah McGowen sworn—Lived in Phillip street in 1850; saw three fellows running down the street and one man hallooing murder; I heard the noise and *saw the three fellows run*, and I hallooed; "*Hallin, that's you.*" No cross-examination.

This closed the testimony. Mr. Mann then said as the indictment was for murder, it was, of course, a case in which no bail could be taken, but it would be well to have a medical testimony as to what weapon was used to produce the death of this young man, as the grade of the offence would then be determined. The case was continued till tomorrow morning, for the examination of the medical witnesses.

TELEGRAPHIC.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Venezuelean Duties—Small-Pox among Indians—Hail Storm in Virginia, etc.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—The State Department has been officially advised of the passage of an act by the Venezuelean Congress, imposing an additional or subsidiary contribution of ten per cent. upon duties collected at the various Custom Houses in the Republic, from and after the 1st of July last.

Information has been received of the breaking out of the small-pox among the Kickapoo, Kansas, Indians. Eight had died. Prompt measures were taken to arrest the progress of this disease, and Physicians employed to vaccinate each member of the tribe.

On Friday evening, Lewisburg, Va., and vicinity only, was visited by a hail storm which, for extent and destructiveness, was without precedent in that part of the country. The whole of the vegetable and growing crops were nearly annihilated. Some of the hail-stones measured five inches in circumference.

Gen. Henningson left the city to-day for the South.

Judge Mason retired to-day from the office of Commissioner of Patents. Samuel T. Shugert, present chief clerk, will act as Commissioner until a successor is appointed.

Arrival of a French Steamer—Health of New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, August 3.—The French war steamer Tonnerre, from Vera Cruz, bound to Havana, has arrived at the quarantine, having put into the river in consequence of the yellow fever breaking out among her crew.

The deaths in the city during the last week were 106, to raise her flag, and it is the fullest and gayest of houses—the prettiest woman in the house is Mme. X——, with her soft Creole manners and *parleur ouate*, set off by crimson lips,—then there is quite a bouquet of only less pretty faces—Mrs. L., Mrs. R., Mrs. S., Miss K., Miss P., Miss C.,—all recognized belles, waiting for "the season." The two Mr. Russels are here, nephews of the Duke of Bedford the youngest, Odo, attached as Secretary to Lord Napier's legation; the elder brother, Arthur, Private Secretary of Lord John, is clever enough to do no discredit to his lineage, which calls for so much. We take the hotels by age, and come naturally to the Ocean House, that illustration of fashionable caprice. With the best situation, the best bed-rooms, the largest and finest drawing-room and widest piazzas, it is left to the mercies of the million, not tender ones we know. No one will stay at the Ocean House, and except a handful of persons, one knows it is a mere mob there; Mme. La Grange is there, but as yet has made no sign; she is resting from the Danaic fatigues of a shower of gold. At the Atlantic the Baltimore upper ten have set up their rest, but this is the quietest of all the hotels. The Fillmore, next to the Bellevue, claims to divide its sovereignty, and truly with some show of reason when one looks at the beautiful Mrs. M., whose graceful elegance reveals her race—the stately Mrs. C. and the fast Misses W., are the most prominent Fillmorites—always excepting Mrs. P., that immense favorite.

The Dutch Minister and the Spanish Secretary give a color of diplomacy to the whole. The first hop came off last Thursday at the Fillmore, but was rather a manifestation of weakness than a demonstration of strength. The weather was abominable, and although "some days must be cold and rainy," yet few are philosophical enough to accept the proposition and not act on it. Accordingly the Cottagers lit their lamps and sat down to their gas-burners that night, and the soiree at the Fillmore felt the *contre coup* of the shower—It was cheerful, but by no means gay.—The new dance, "The Lancers," was brought out under the auspices of Count F., whom we have among us. The axis of the season is to be Mr. W's *fete champetre* on the 10th of August, to which 2000 people are bidden. The flutter is immense, and the question of bonnets or no bonnets has been decided in a committee of ten.—Hats for the married women—*coffeur en cheveux* for the dancers. King Solomon could hardly have done better; these *fetes* are peculiar to Newport in this country, and are the most brilliant entertainments given—they require a fine house. The Ocean is a back ground; a tent 80 feet square to dance in, and Fortunatus's purse to pay for it all. The result is satisfactory. The one small cloud of uncertainty is the fog. Could this be bought off, no premium would be too high, but your true woman of fashion would march up to the cannon's mouth for a *fete* or a ball, and she cannot be expected to shrink from a fog. There will not be one feather the less for the chance of its destruction—there are all sorts of courage, and all are captivating.

This has been an old-fashioned summer, as to fogs, hardly does the sun show his face when it is suddenly veiled by a thick fog; but even fogs have their bright side, and while the St. Lawrences of cities are grilling under a bright sky, we wring our hair and rejoice in a temperature of 70. ***

Serious Accident at Niagara.

BUFFALO, August 3.—A piece of rock, about a hundred tons weight, fell from a precipice on Goat Island, Niagara, yesterday, three hundred feet below the British Falls. Three persons underneath were badly hurt. Mr. G. W. PARSONS, of Cleveland, it is feared, received fatal injuries.

Baltimore Market.

BALTIMORE, August 3.—Sales of Flour to-day, 2000 bbls. of City Mills at $7. Wheat is firmer at $1 55@1 65 for white. Corn—Sales of white at 88@91c; yellow at 85@87c. Whiskey quoted at 29@30½.

Baltimore Primary Elections.

BALTIMORE, Aug. 3.—The Primary Elections for delegates to the American City Convention, are being held to-night. Two sets of delegates are being voted for in many wards, and there is hot work and much disorder. In the second, fourth, and sixth wards, there has been much fighting, but nothing of a serious character has as yet occurred.

Markets by Telegraph.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 3.—Sales of Cotton to-day—1600 bales at 14¾@15c for middling. The market closed firm. White Corn quotes at 80c. Shoulders sell at 11¼c; Sides at 13¾c. Freights on Cotton to Liverpool ⅝d. The remainder of the markets are dull, and without change in prices.

The Kentucky Election.

LOUISVILLE, August 3.—A State election for Congressmen and other officers, was held to-day. In this city the majorities for Hon. Humphrey Marshall, American, for Representative to Congress from the Seventh District, over Thomas H. Holt, Democrat, and of Thomas D. Jones for State Treasurer, over James W. Garrard, Democrat, are estimated at about eleven hundred votes. The election here was proceeded with quietly.

No returns have been received from the country.

Disturbance at Baltimore—Two Men Shot.

BALTIMORE, August 3.—Last night, shortly after nine o'clock, a man named John S. Berry was deliberately shot at the corner of Baltimore and North streets, by one of a party of young men who were seen lurking at the opposite corner.

This is but one of several cases of violence that have occurred in this city during the last twenty-four hours. Early yesterday morning, a man named Connor shot Lewis Sherman, with whom he had a previous difficulty at a drinking house. Both of the men were seriously wounded.

Missouri Election.

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 3.—Returns of the election of Governor to-day, in Franklin county, show a probable majority of 300 for James S. Rollins, the American candidate. In Herman, Gasconade county, Rollins received 62 votes, and R. M. Stewart, the Democratic candidate, 21 votes. *In Jefferson City*, at 2 o'clock this afternoon, the vote stood:—Rollins, 125; Stewart, 185.

ST. LOUIS, August 3, midnight.—In this city scattering returns have been received. In the Fifth Ward Rollins has a majority of 409; in the Eighth Ward a majority of 206, and in the Ninth Ward 6. In the Third Ward Stewart has a majority of 46.

The Expected Steamer.

NEW YORK, Aug. 3—Midnight.—No tidings have as yet been received from St. Johns, N. F., of the steamship Persia. It is presumed she has passed that point without having had an opportunity of sending on shore her news bag for the agent of the Associated Press.

Ship News.

NEW YORK, August 3.—Arrived, ship Richard Morse, from Liverpool; barque E. Von Hamilton, from Bremen.

BOSTON, August 3.—Arrived, barque Gibraltar, from Genoa; schr. Gen. Vegie, from Port au Prince.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

NEW YORK, Aug. 3, 1857.

Bets have been heavily made as to the speed of the *Persia*, which was to leave Liverpool on the 25th ult. She would be out over seven days to-day. As yet, no sign of her. The *Ericsson* is also due, and sailed on the 22