The Press

PHILADELPHIA:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1857.

☞ On the first page will be found editorials on Russia, England and India, and Putnam's Monthly—communications on the Prospects of Philadelphia, the Common-School System, and a Roman Farm—correspondence from Pittsburgh, London and Paris—Fashions for September—General News, &c., &c.—On the fourth page No. 5 of the Lottery of Travel.

POLITICS IN NEW YORK.

It is singular and significant, the difference between the city of New York and the State of New York. The city is, at all times, the fortress of constitutional principles. Like Philadelphia, it may be Whig or American, or Democratic, but it is always *National*—always true to the Federal Constitution. But the State, unlike Pennsylvania, is too frequently carried off by the theories of such statesmen as Mr. SEWARD; and this latter tendency has been greatly assisted by the unhappy divisions which have taken place between the friends of constitutional principles within her borders. It is curious that a State so essentially dependent upon liberal principles in politics, and in trade, should have fallen so entirely under the ban of Abolition impracticability. The field for the operation of the higher doctrines in New York has been remarkably wide; and we have, not a doubt that if all men of conservative, or rather of national inclinings, could get together, Mr. SEWARD and his followers would be compelled either to change their tactics, or else to hide themselves in the most obscure corners of the State. Over here in Pennsylvania we do not boast so much of our commercial superiority as does New York—indeed, we have no right to do so; our manufacturing greatness has rather localized us—but it is a very high feather in our cap, that, while we have been a good deal beset by the friends of protection, per se, because of our manufacturing superiority, and hence a good deal open to sectionalism, yet have we been steadily, and almost without exception, true to those broad and lasting principles of commercial freedom, which New York, with all her dependence upon free trade, has persistently resisted. But we are right glad to greet the dawning of a better state of things.

In the Democratic Convention which met at Syracuse on the 10th of September, the leaders of the party met together, and, after a struggle, made a new union, and new nominations. Ex-Senator DICKINSON spoke with characteristic humor and boldness; Ex-Governor SEYMOUR reappeared upon the political stage, and was warmly welcomed. We hail our old and valued friend EDWIN CROSWELL's appearance in the gathering as a sign of good health to himself and good health to the party; Mayor WOOD's speeches were vigorous and to the point; Hon. JOHN COCHRANE was suggestive and earnest; and Mr. SICKLES, the young member of Congress from New York city, was present in high spirits, and surrounded by a host of devoted friends. It would have refreshed the scene had JOHN VAN BUREN been a participant. His ready wit and humor, and his wonderful knowledge of *the crowd*, would have assisted matters to an auspicious conclusion. With such men as these, however, it seems impossible that New York should go wrong at the next election. They are bound that she should go right; and now that their troubles have all been settled, we are fain to hope that the truce will last at least beyond the next winter's snow.

While reading over the proceedings of the Syracuse Democratic Convention, speeches, resolutions, and all, the manliness and courage of DANIAL E. SICKLES are conspicuous. This gentleman, very young as he is for his fame and his talents, has had a mighty share of antagonisms to contend against, and is constantly in the very forefront of New York politics and law; but he bears himself bravely, and is sure to make his mark in the coming Congress. Such a man *will* rise. He has the mettle, and the material for the advance. Capable of exciting enmity, it is true, (what bold spirit is not?) he is yet successful in securing friends, who cling to him because he is true to them at all times.

The New York Democratic ticket is said to be a good one. The nomination of Judge DENIO, for re-election to the Supreme Court of the State, was a handsome tribute to judicial independence. He had decided in favor of the constitutionality of the odious acts of the SEWARD Legislature, depriving the people of the city of New York of their rights, and conferring power upon a sort of inquisitorial commission; but in this he was guided by the law, and not by his party prejudices. The Democrats respected his conscientious scruples, and nobly placed him upon their ticket for re-election. Such demonstrations as these will *alone* save an Elective Judiciary from contempt.

THE SEPOY CARTRIDGES.

The first intimation of the *emeute* in India (we know not yet whether to call it rebellion or revolution) was accompanied with the news that the native troops had revolted on account of certain *greased cartridges*. Every one does not know what this means; so we shall explain it.

Among the improvements in modern warfare, introduced by the East India Company into Hindostan, is a new description of cartridge, in which the ball, instead of being spherical, is elongated, terminating in a cone. This new shape enables the missive to proceed straight forward, like an arrow from the bow, when discharged from the musquet, instead of losing force and speed (as the round ball does) by turning over and over, in its progress through the air. It is necessary to increase the force with which the cartridge is emitted from the gun, that it should very tightly occupy its place in the barrel. The cartridges, therefore, are exactly fitted to the barrel, and, to enable them to be driven home by the ramrod, the paper of which they are made is lubricated with grease. When the cartridge, thus greased, is put into the gun-barrel, whoever has to load the gun must bite off one end, to allow the powder to be placed within communication of the touch-hole, through which it receives the spark or flame which discharges the weapon.

Now, this is what the Sepoy (literally the liberal) complained of. He believed that the cartridge was greased with the fat of pigs—an unclean animal among the Asiatics, whether of the faith of Brahma or Mahomet—and his religious prejudices were outraged, by being compelled, in biting off the cartridge end, to bring his mouth in contact with the abhorred grease—to touch it with his hand was an abomination, but to put his lips to it was a violation of his most cherished belief.

A judicious man, governing British India, as Lord CANNING does, would have called in all the obnoxious cartridges, and thus made a concession to the religious opinions—prejudices, if you will—of the people. But Lord Canning is not a judicious man. He is simply a well-connected nobleman, considerably out-at-elbows, who took his degree in the Circumlocution Office, and was made Viceroy of British India, because out of the large emoluments of his official situation, during five years, he could save sufficient money to make him comparatively wealthy, on his return to England. He broke up several Sepoy regiments because they refused to use the cartridges which were believed to be prepared with the fat of swine. Of course, the unfortunate infatuation of handling their faith! It is the fashion, says an English writer, *to* laugh at the greased cartridges. Those who laugh must be supposed to laugh in pure ignorance. In what light would Catholic soldiers view a command to descrate the Host? In that same light would all Mohammedan and Hindoo soldiers view an order to use cartridges the paper of which was composed of the ingredients prescribed by the authorities in this country for the Indian army.

THE NEW ATLANTIC CABLE.—It is almost certain that no further attempt to establish telegraphic communication between England and Ireland, will be made earlier than next summer. There seems every probability of the cable being sold, at full cost price, to the East India Company, who want direct communication between London and Calcutta. If the proposed line be established, there is no reason, except the unavoidable multiplicity of intermediate stations, why the conveyance of intelligence between these two seats of empire should not be almost immediate in its rapidity. With all drawbacks, twenty-four hours should be the extreme period occupied in the transmission of a message.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.—An article in this subject, in reply to a communication in THE PRESS of Saturday, signed "Observer," is crowded out to-day.

FARMERS HIGH SCHOOL OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Profound thinkers have passed high encomiums upon agriculture, as the noblest pursuit that ever engaged the attention of mankind. He who makes two blades of grass grow where but one grew before has been pronounced a benefactor of his race. Many of the great men of America, as well as of all other countries, have often longed for the quiet and unobtrusive, but interesting, usefulness of a farmer's life while they were engaged in the performance of the most important and honorable public duties amid the applause of their countrymen; and their happiest moments have been those spent in agricultural employments. WASHINGTON had his Mount Vernon, JEFFERSON his Monticello, JACKSON his Hermitage, CLAY his Ashland, WEBSTER his Marshfield, and BUCHANAN his Wheatland. It has so happened, however, in this country, that agriculture has, in the estimation of many, been robbed of its true dignity, and been regarded, mainly, as a sphere for physical, not for intellectual labor; as a pursuit in which matter rather than mind was called into requisition. Hence, the idea has extensively prevailed that those who have obtained liberal educations should, as a necessary consequence of such acquisitions, abandon agriculture and seek more congenial employment, either in the learned professions, or in manufacturing or commercial occupations. The importance of employing the highest order of mental activity in properly directing agricultural pursuits has not been generally acknowledged. A new work, however, is rapidly becoming inaugurated. Agriculture, from having been for many centuries a mere routine of labor, has well nigh passed through the intermediate grade of an art, into one of the most interesting as it certainly is one of the most important, of the sciences; and the conviction is growing, that the proper comprehension of the laws of vegetable life, and the best methods of enhancing the productive powers of the earth, afford themes which may well engross the earnest attention of the most gifted minds. No subjects more directly concern the welfare of the whole human family.

We are pleased to notice that an important step in the right direction, in this respect, has been taken in our State, which, with a very little timely assistance, (when we consider the importance of the object it contemplates,) cannot fail to prove entirely successful. We allude to the establishment of the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania.

It is located upon a farm of two hundred acres, much of which has already been somewhat improved under the direction of the Board of Trustees, in Centre County. A farmer's house, a large barn, and some outbuildings have been erected, and the cellars of a college building have been excavated. The latter edifice is to cost $55,000, and to be capable of accommodating a large number of students. The Trustees have now at their disposal, besides the large farm donated by Gen. JAMES IRWIN, $25,000 received from private sources, and $25,000 received from the State, and if individuals or societies will contribute $25,000 more, the State will also advance $25,000 additional—making a total of $100,000. This sum is considered sufficient to put the school into practical operation. The system of instruction proposed embraces every branch of knowledge calculated to be directly or incidentally beneficial to the farmer. It is designed to accommodate pupils for the low sum of $100 per annum.

On the 2d of September a meeting for the election of Trustees was held on the High School farm. Forty-four delegates, chosen by various County Agricultural Societies, were in attendance. Hon. FREDERICK WATTS, of Cumberland, JAMES MILES, of Erie, and JOSHUA P. EYRE, of Delaware, were unanimously chosen Trustees. Judge WATTS was elected President, Gen. JAMES IRWIN, Secretary, and EDWARD C. HUMES, Treasurer. An effort to raise the remaining $25,000 was decided upon. One-third of the amount was promised by various gentlemen present, and the President was authorized to appoint committees to solicit subscriptions in each county of the State. We cannot doubt, that by a little exertion the desired amount can be readily obtained. It is of great importance to all classes, and to none more than those who reside in the cities, (for upon them the burden of high prices of provisions falls most heavily,) that agriculture should be brought to the highest state of perfection. With such immense natural resources spread out before us, that by their proper development we could feed the world, agriculture has not received that attention it richly merits, and probably never will, until the system of specially educating young men as farmers, as contemplated by the Farmers' High School, is adopted. We therefore hope this project may be fully successful.

MESSRS. HARPER versus THEIR COUNTRYWOMEN. *Harper's Weekly* has disappointed us. From the manner in which it throw itself into the brush, to receive our arrow directed against *Harper's Magazine*, we expected that it would have been more courageous. But the better part of valor is discretion.

We esteem *Harper's Magazine* as an admirable periodical. We have a sort of liking for *Harper's Weekly*—and without having been able exactly to understand on what it rests its pretensions to be a "Journal of Civilization," we enjoy the good sense of many of its articles—and have even used its "Man about Town" platitudes, (by Richard Swiveller, junior, Esquire,) as a substitute for laudanum. But we lament to observe the decay of its *pluck*. Seriously speaking, we think that it ought not to have stolen away out of the discussion it throw itself into.

Harper's Magazine for August attacked American men for want of politeness, saying that the American was "too often known abroad by his high pretensions and low breeding." *Harper's Magazine* for September, boldly declared, without any reserve or qualification, that the large class called "American women" were bold-faced, loose-tongued, daring, ungracious, flaunting, loud-voiced, bronzed, recklessly-daring, self-assured, bold-eyed Amazons. On the part of the fair sex of this country, we pleaded "Not Guilty" to this grievous indictment, and called on *Harper's Magazine*, the accuser, for the proof.

Instead of giving such proof in the October number of their *Magazine*, Messrs. HARPER published an article in their *Weekly*, in which it said that the American ladies "who flourish at watering-places and the fashionable resorts, are *too noisy, frivolous, and bold*," and that "the generality of American fashionable women are not fitted to be good wives and mothers."

But the *Magazine* originally drew no distinction as to those who "flourish at watering-places" and, broadly condemning *all* American women, made no special condemnation of "fashionable" women only. In truth, then, both *Magazine* and *Weekly* have libelled the fair sex.

Perhaps a reply to our remarks is to appear in the *Magazine*? We shall be glad to see what the wholesale libeller of his country-women has to say. We can wait for a few days.

PRESCRIPTIONS. There are two species of *prescription*. One, purely legal, with which we have no concern at present; the other, medical, which engaged the attention of the American Pharmaceutical Association on the fourth and final day of their meeting, in this city, in Convention.

The Association have made a declaration, and solemnly passed a resolution. The declaration is to the effect that the extemporaneous prescriptions of physicians are frequently written in a careless manner, and that their quantities are carelessly symbolized.

The resolution conveys a request, running through about thirteen lines of small type, (and therefore very wordy,) to the effect that physicians should write legibly. It is to be hoped that they will try and do so—it is scarcely to be *expected*. For the most part, bad writing is a habit. Now and then it may arise from some organic cause—for we recollect that the late Dr. BUCKLAND, the geologist, though he could carve, and even dissect, with skill and delicacy of touch, no sooner took up a pen than the attempt at caligraphy which was the result, resembled the meanderings of an intoxicated spider, just emerged from an ink-bottle, upon a sheet of paper, more than anything else!

Lawyers frequently write illegibly—for rapidity engenders carelessness, which becomes habitual. There is a story of a celebrated English lawyer, familiarly called "Jock Bell," who had *three* modes of writing—one which he could read, but his clerk could not—another which his clerk could read, and he could not—and a third, which no one could decipher. This was the gentleman who was introduced as the leading counsel in the celebrated case of BARDELL vs. PICKWICK, reported by CHARLES DICKENS.

But the caligraphy of lawyers does not involve the possibility of mischief to any one concerned, not even to *property*, while careless or bad writing in a physician's prescription may be fatal to *life*. It is actually necessary, therefore, that the names of the medicines ordered, with their quantities, should be most legibly written—and the more so, seeing that custom has provided that not the full names of the medicines, but only contractions of the names, shall be written down. A physician may design to order a scruple (twenty grains) of Calomel, in pillular form, so that each dose would contain two or three grains of the medicine. If he write the prescription as carelessly as is sometimes done, the thing may be mistaken for Corrosive Sublimate, also a preparation of mercury, and a deadly poison. One is the *Sub-muriat*, the other is the *Oxymuriat Hydrargeri*, and in the scrambling, hasty, illegible manner of writing now actually affected by medical men, one thing might be mistaken for the other, and (unless the dispenser, who makes up the prescription, be sagacious and well-informed) a mistake involving life might be made.

Out of this arises the great question—what training do those dispensers get, and what security have the public that they are competent for the great responsibility which they assume? Another day we may answer it. Meantime, we recommend physicians, and all persons, to write legibly—if they can.

STATE POLITICS.

An Error.

The *Times* is in error in saying that one of the proposed amendments to the State Constitution will limit the number of Senators from Philadelphia. The Constitution of 1790 provides that no city or county shall elect more than *four* Senators, and this was left unchanged by the Reform Convention of 1838, and is not affected by the proposed amendments to be voted upon next month. Those amendments provide for single Senatorial and Representative districts in this city, but do not reduce the number to which she is entitled. As to Senators, the number will remain at four, as fixed by the Constitution of 1790, which is the number allowed by the apportionment act of last winter. The reduction in our Senatorial representation is owing to consolidation, and to no constitutional change, actual or proposed. We believe the plan of single districts proposed by one of the amendments is a good one, and will be generally approved, and it ought not to be prejudiced by allowing the error of the *Times* to go uncorrected.

Lancaster County.

We are pleased to record that the Democracy of Lancaster county have placed the name of WILLIAM PATTON at the head of their ticket for the Senate. Mr. PATTON has long been identified with the political issues of the county, and his zeal and untiring exertions last fall, in the election of Mr. BUCHANAN and the State ticket, entitle him to the further confidence he has received at the hands of his party. We will publish the whole ticket, and *all* the resolutions passed by the Convention, as soon as our space will admit of it.

The Democracy of Montgomery county meet in Convention at Montgomeryville, today, to nominate Assembly and county officers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SOME THOUGHTS ON LAND SPECULATIONS.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13, 1857.

The disposition of the public lands has always been a subject of excitement in legislation and government. Parties have been organized and divided upon this issue ever since the beginning of the Republic. The vast amount of revenue resulting from the sales of these lands has tempted the States, or has lain in the treasury as a pretext for fatal special legislation. Some years ago—not long—our public men flattered themselves that a settlement of this most vexatious problem had been attained. The rivalry on the subject of distributing the proceeds among the several states yielded before the wise and apparently practicable scheme, always kept in view, but never till then fully organized, of *opening the public domain to the actual settler*. This ultimatum was supposed to be the very perfection of legislative justice, and so indeed it was intended to be. But what has been the result? While in many cases the actual settler has been aided and protected, the craft and cunning of the speculator have enabled him to overcome the spirit of the law. In this way, not only have vast fortunes been accumulated by a few men, without promoting the general good in the least, but prices have been raised beyond the minimum of the law, upon the poor and the enterprising emigrant and settler. The way this is done is about as follows: An operator in lands, who sees and covets a fine tract of land, employs a gang of men, who go to the land sales and buy as *bona fide settlers*, and after, they got their titles in scrip, they transfer these lands to the speculator, and get a small compensation for their trouble. Vast bodies of land are thus concentrated upon individuals, who too often demand exorbitant advances upon their investments. When these individuals lay out towns and invite and cultivate emigration to them in good faith, they can be, and have been, of great advantage to the country; but unfortunately, in too many cases, they stimulate speculation by getting up *bogus* cities, or by holding on to their purchases till prices have appreciated to the incalculable injury of the surrounding communities. In most every case they extort from the settler. It is known that in the State of Ohio, at this very day, immense tracts of land, belonging to a few persons, and frequently to one person alone, are lying uncultivated and uninhabited, in the midst of flourishing neighborhoods. The owners will neither sell nor improve. They can afford to retain possession, and they do so in defiance of the appeals of those who are anxious to promote the general welfare. But, by far the worst result of this system of concentrating the public domain in the hands of the few, is the frightful spirit of speculation and stock-gambling, to which it has given rise. The donations of lands to the gigantic railroads of the West, while it has greatly increased the value of the alternate sections belonging to the Government, has stimulated those ungovernable infatuations of speculation to which we have alluded. We are now reaping the bitter harvest of this system. Thousands of innocent men feel it in their distant homes in the far-off Territories, while the engineers in the great city of New York—not, I am glad to say, in Philadelphia—wait in splendid mansions for the tempest to pass off, that they may emerge into splendid speculation once more.

I throw out these suggestions for what they are worth. They may attract the attention of some practical mind in Congress. They certainly should suggest to all patriotic legislators the reflection, that something ought to be done, if not to cure the present suffering, at least to prevent a recurrence of the evils under which so many great interests are groaning. OCCASIONAL.

LETTER FROM A. DUDLEY MANN, ESQ.

WASHINGTON, September 12, 1857.

DEAR SIR: Although I repeatedly perused your excellent journal during my recent absence from this city, I did not meet with a copy of its issue of the 12th August until it was placed in my hands two or three days ago by a friend. The opinions and views therein expressed in your leader, in relation to the enterprise with which my name is prominently associated, are of so liberal and patriotic a character, that I cannot refrain from manifesting in this manner my high appreciation of the sentiments which prompted their utterance. Those sentiments are as ennobling as was that magnanimous spirit which created us a nation; they are such, if they can be made to prevail, as will perpetuate our Union upon terms equitable to every citizen thereof. *The most profitable of all lessons for the non-slaveholding States to learn is proper respect for the slaveholding ones; and this lesson you have, in a succinct but most judicious outline, furnished.*

There is not a solitary member of the Union that will not be benefited by my proposed enterprise, and beyond the limits of the South none more than Pennsylvania. Her capital may be brought within ten hours of Hampton Roads, and her commercial emporium within seven, by the extension of the Wilmington and Seaford Railroad to Cherrystone. A new and profitable market will be opened for the products of her interior mines.

The absorbing idea of to-day is the Atlantic Submarine Telegraph. The wondering world no longer marvels at its promised performances. Practical experiment has disarmed incredulity, and the consummation of the undertaking is regarded as good as a *fait accompli*. To-morrow it will be united with reality, and the absorbing idea will then become the iron steamship of 30,000 tons. Mechanical science is exerting all its energies to overpower old Neptune, to render the sea as safe as the land. What can it not accomplish that is not positively forbidden by natural, immutable law?

The principle in navigation contained in the Great Eastern I regard already as a success, even if she herself shall be defective in many particulars. In every instance the experiments which have been made in naval architecture and engineering conclusively prove that power is indispensable to speed, and that the larger and stronger the hull of a vessel, the greater the power propitiously which may be employed to advantage for propelling it onward.

The iron leviathan will require deep water, safe moorings, and smooth coasts. They can find them nowhere else so well, alike in winter and summer, as at the entrance to and on Milford-Haven and the Chesapeake Bay. Traffic will be forced to avail itself of them. With such facilities as they will possess for ameliorating the condition of travel and trade—expediting movements and diminishing prices between the two hemispheres—they will be spared the necessity of seeking business. They will have enough to do without. As soon as messages are exchanged hourly between Europe and America, voyagers and commerce, and the mails will be satisfied with nothing less than the utmost attainable speed on the Atlantic. Before the end of the present Presidential term the passage will be made between the Virginia Capes and the Bristol Channel inside of seven days. From those Capes to the Pacific, overland and via the Gulf of Mexico, the travel will be accomplished in six days, and from thence to Australia and China in fifteen days more, in all from Europe to either of those countries, (across the southern portion of North America,) in 28 days. This will be in advance of the existing British Mail contract time more than twenty days!

One of the great objects of my enterprise is to draw the traffic intercourse between Europe and China, Australia, the Sandwich Islands, California, New Grenada, Peru, Chili, and the West Indies, over the United States. This will be the most extraordinary revolution in transportation between distant points of the globe ever perfected or imagined by the most prolific brain. Who so anti-southern as not to ardently desire such a consummation! It will make our heaven-favored country the centre of the earth's surface, realising to it from foreign nations billions and trillions of dollars.

As you have treated my enterprise with so much of friendly consideration, I may venture to inform you that I have not the shadow of a fear of the failure of its complete development. The stockholders, who are limited to a share of $100 each, are multiplying rapidly from day to day. The list of subscribers is already graced by the names of many of the most distinguished statesmen of the age.

I will remark, in conclusion, that the enterprise asks no aid or *subvention* whatever from the Government. The only remuneration which it expects for mail carrying is its fair earnings according to established postal rates. Yours truly,

A. DUDLEY MANN.

Editor of the Press.

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—On Wednesday evening Signor Romani's romantic *ballet* called "Faust" will be produced here, and it is said that the manner of its production will be greatly superior to any performance of the same class ever exhibited in this country. The manager of the *troupe* (which is Italian) is *maitre de ballet*, for Mr. Lumley, at Her Majesty's Theatre, London. The performers are celebrated all over Europe. Great cost has been incurred in getting up this ballet of "Faust," but perfection in stage representations cannot be obtained cheaply. We have received the programme (for it can scarcely be called the *libretto*) of the new performance. It has been translated and adapted by Miss Caroline Richings, and from that translation we obtain sufficient indication of its plot and purpose. The subject is supplied by Goethe's fine drama of "Faust," which was founded on the German tradition of a great scholar, who sold himself to the Evil One, for a season, during which he was to possess and enjoy youth, pleasure, and wealth. Goethe, though very far (in mutual life) from being a man of moral action and delicate feeling, has created, in the person of Margaret, one of the most charming and sensitive of dramatic heroines. She is retained in this piece. In three acts and ten *tableaux*, the life of Faust is wholly run through. In the first act, we have Faust in his study, haunted by vague desires, and in a very suitable mood for temptation. To him at this crisis appears Mephistopheles, a demon of peculiar aspect and insinuating address, who suggests that Faust will sell his soul. Faust refuses, but presently, with the assistance of an associate-imp, who assumes the beautiful appearance of Margaret, Mephistopheles gives him a charmed draught which renews his youth, and swindles him out of the signature to the soul-selling deed. N. B.—If the deed were not duly registered at the Recorder's office, what would its validity be? The second Act shows Margaret in her native village, on the eve of marriage with her lover, who has just returned from the wars. Mephistopheles appears, companioned by Faust, and fascinates Margaret, who is elected Queen of Beauty and Virtue. After this, she is tempted by the Seven Deadly Sins—and, just as she is yielding, breathes a prayer to Heaven, which saves her. This act terminates with a splendid scene, of Margaret's Coronation. In the last Act, there is considerable "business," Margaret's mother, lover, and friend being introduced. Margaret is the innocent cause of her mother's death, by poison, and surrenders herself to Faust, who kills the lover. Margaret, on the eve of being arrested for murdering her mother, refuses to find safety by flight with Faust, and is lodged in prison. Here occurs the most intellectual action in the whole piece—Margaret's struggle between the fear of death and the security which flight with Faust promised her. Her better angel prevails—she goes forth to execution. Then follows what, in Goethe's play, is called The Walpurgis Nightdance, in the Hartz Mountains, terminating with the death of Margaret, and the ascent of her purified spirit to heaven, while Faust is precipitated to the fiery gulf below. It will be seen that there is great scope for pantomimic action in this piece. The *motif*, all through, is the contention between the principles of Good and Evil, as exemplified by the characters of Margaret and Faust.

BURTON'S NATIONAL THEATRE.—This comedian's name as a beneficiary attracted a very fashionable and inconveniently crowded house at the National, on Saturday night. The pieces were well acted, and went off with great spirit. Burton has a method of infusing energy into his compeers, and his own humor seldom flags. We never heard heartier laughter. Mr. B. made a neat and pleasant speech, and avowed that the brilliant assemblage before him demanded more eloquent thanks than he was able to utter, complimented himself on the beauteous and elegant display of the fair sex that graced the boxes, and reverted with much feeling to the presence of many of the old-time patrons of the drama, whose smiling faces had given him countenance on many similar occasions in years gone by. Mr. Burton repeats his benefit bill this evening.

Our readers will bear in mind the sale of modern and ancient oil paintings, to be held at the auction store of Wolbert & Scott, 431 Chestnut street, this morning, at 11 o'clock. The collection embraces some works of rare merit, and are to be sold without reserve.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE PRESS.]

Official Statement of Exports and Imports for the last Fiscal Year—Revenue Cutters Received—Appointment—Removals—Court-Martial—Naval Courts.

WASHINGTON, September 13, 1857.—The subjoined statement, exhibiting the value of foreign merchandise imported and exported, and the value of domestic produce exported during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1857, has just been made out at the office of the Register of the Treasury:

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

Specie	$12,461,799
Free goods	54,267,567
Dutiable goods	294,160,835
Total	$360,890,131

FOREIGN EXPORTS.

Specie	$9,058,570
Free goods	4,913,862
Dutiable	10,691,647
Total	$23,664,079

DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

Specie	$60,978,952
Merchandise, (including products, &c.)	278,006,713
Total	$338,985,665

Total exports, foreign and domestic....$362,649,144

Mr. J. B. GUTHRIE, special agent of the Treasury Department, has telegraphed to the Secretary of the Treasury that the six new revenue cutters which were seized by the United States Marshal, at the suit of Messrs. KNAPP, WILKINS & Co., of Pittsburgh, the attachment having been issued for materials furnished the builders, Messrs. MERRY & GAY, of Milan, Ohio, have been replevined, and are now on their way, under orders, to lay up during the winter at Sandusky, from which place, at the opening of navigation next spring, they will sail out on their first service.

JNO. H. LITCHFIELD has been appointed keeper of the Long Island Head Light House, Massachusetts, in place of RICHARD NICHOLS, resigned; salary $250 per annum.

There have been the following removals since Friday: JNO. S. NEVINS, second-class clerk, Register's office; salary $1400 per annum.

R RICKETTS, third-class clerk, fourth Auditor's office; salary $1000 per annum.

GEORGE W. HALL, second-class clerk, fourth Auditor's office; salary $1400 per annum.

A naval court martial has been ordered to assemble in Washington city on the 23d inst., for the trial of Lieut. L. H. LYNS, to consist of the following-named officers:

Capts. R. B. CUNNINGHAM and A. A. HARWOOD; Commanders W. W. HUNTER, T. J. PAOK, T. A. JENKINS, JOHN RODGERS, and J. D. MARCHLAND. J. M. CARLISLE, Esq., Judge Advocate.

On Saturday, before Naval Court No. 1, Surgeon GREEN and Captain BOARMAN were examined for the applicant in the case of Lieut. MARCH. Lieut. WOODHULL was then called on the same side. Adjourned.

In Court No. 2, Lieut. WILLIAMSON's case, Captain TAYNALL, Commodore STRINGHAM, and Lieut. CHARLES HOWARD testified in favor of the applicant.

In Court No. 3, Mr. PHILLIPS read the defence in Commander LOCKWOOD's case. Lieut. GLASSON's case was then taken up. Adjourned. X. Y.

Another Failure in New York.

NEW YORK, Sept. 12.—Messrs. Carpenter and Ide, dealers in straw goods, have suspended. Their liabilities are large.

Later from Hlhe. and Texas—Marine Disaster.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—The Southern mail furnishes New Orleans papers as late as 6d.

Havana dates to the 3d instant are furnished. The stock of sugar in port was estimated at 200,000 boxes. Exchange on New York was quoted at 2@2¼ per cent. discount. Freights were nominal. The vomito was still unabated. The crops in the interior were flattering. The report that the vomito had appeared at Sagua la Grande was denied.

A cargo of Minie rifles had arrived in Texas at Bexar on the 24th ult. The plantations in the Cibodo would not produce a thousand bales of cotton.

The Charleston *Courier* reports the brig Portland, from Philadelphia, for Charleston, with coal, grounded at Cornelius Inlet, and is now full of water. The vessel is insured.

The front range beacon, on Sullivan's Island, has been rebuilt, and is in operation.

The Persia off Cape Race.

St. JOHNS, Sept. 13.—A steamer, supposed to be the Persia, from Liverpool bound to New York, passed Cape Race about 5 o'clock on Saturday morning. Her dates are to Saturday, the 5th inst., one week later than by the Europa.

Fires in Boston.

BOSTON, Sept. 12.—A fire broke out in Northampton street, in this city, this morning, in the extensive cordage factory of Messrs Sampson and Tappan. The damage to machinery and building amounts to about $10,000, and is insured. It was probably the work of an incendiary. The third story and roof of the factory were burnt. It had been in operation only a month, and yesterday was the first time that the whole of the machinery was put in operation.

The Metropolitan House, in Tremont street, was damaged by fire this morning to the extent of $2,000.

Another Alleged Wife Murder—Arrest of the Husband.

NEW YORK, Sept. 12.—Matthew Banin, an Englishman, about 40 years of age, was taken into custody on suspicion of having caused the death of his wife. It appears that Mrs. Banin has been sick for several months, and that on the morning of the 11th inst. the accused ordered her to get up and prepare breakfast for him, but being unable to do so, she declined, whereupon, as is alleged, he dealt her a heavy blow in the face or on the head, and then left the house. Upon the infliction of the injuries, Mrs. Banin grew worse, and died in an hour afterwards. The accused was held to await the result of the coroner's inquisition. The deceased resided at 66 East Thirty-fifth street.

Departure of the Vanderbilt and Atlantic.

NEW YORK, Sept. 12.—The mail steamers Vanderbilt and Atlantic sailed at noon to-day, the former with $12,000; the Atlantic had no specie.

The U. S. Frigate Mississippi.

NEW YORK, Sept. 13.—The barque Evadne, from Rio, reports speaking the U. S. steam frigate Mississippi on the 6th of August, in lat. 6 deg. south, long. 34 deg. 10 min.

Non-Arrival of the Baltic.

NEW YORK, Sept. 13.—There is no sign of the expected steamship Baltic from Liverpool. The weather has been thick all day and still continues so.

Race between Flora Temple and Brown Dick.

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 12.—A trot between Flora Temple and Brown Dick took place here to-day, Flora again proving victor, winning three straight heats. The time made was: First heat, 2m. 33¼s.; second heat, m. 30¾s.; third heat, 2m. 30s.

Accident to an Aeronaut.

HAZLETON, PA., Sept. 12.—Mr. Charles Wise made an ascension in the balloon "Old America," from Tamaqua, this afternoon, taking the place of his father, the well-known aeronaut, Mr. John Wise; the latter declining to make the ascent himself on account of the inefficiency of gas supplied by the works of that town. The balloon came down in the pines of Luzerne county, and landed in a tree a total wreck. The aeronaut was uninjured, and arrived here a-foot this evening.

Double Tragedy—Suicide and Extraordinary Death from Fright and Excitement.

CANTON, Bradford county, Pa., September 12.—W. H. Greenman, Esq., a lawyer of this place, committed suicide to-day by cutting his throat, while laboring under a fit of delirium tremens. Mr. Spaulding, the proprietor of the Canton Hotel, fell in a fit on seeing Mr. Greenman's corpse, and died immediately. There is the greatest excitement prevailing here, as the parties were widely known and respected.

Anniversary of the Battle of North Point.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 12.—The anniversary of the battle of North Point has been celebrated to-day with military parades, target firing, &c. The Old Defenders celebrated the day at North Point. A number of political clubs paraded this afternoon.

Further Mexican News.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 12.—The files of Mexican papers received by the steamer Texas, give particulars of the still existing trouble between the civil and ecclesiastical authorities.

Further insults have been committed upon the American consul at Mazatlan, arising from the case of the American schooner Oda.

A new difficulty has also occurred between the Government and the British charge d'affaires, on account of the insults to the British flag during the absence of the charge from his post.

Intelligence from Yucatan states that the Revolutionists were gaining ground.

California Steamer Below at New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS.—Sept. 12—Evening—The steamer Philadelphia is reported below, coming up. She will bring California dates to the 5th ult.

The steamer Central America left Havana for New York on the morning of the 8th inst.

Markets.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 12.—Sales of 1200 bales of cotton to-day, at 15¼@15½. Corn is declining. Exchange on London is quoted at 109, and bills on New York range from ¾ to 1¼.

THE CITY.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

WHEATLEY'S ARCH STREET THEATRE, ARCH STREET, ABOVE SIXTH.—"A New Way to Pay Old Debts"—"Cape May."

WALNUT STREET THEATRE, N. E. CORNER OF NINTH AND WALNUT STREETS.—"Damon and Pythias"—"Two Buzzards."

NATIONAL THEATRE, WALNUT STREET, ABOVE EIGHTH. "The Dutch Governor"—"The Mummy"—"Found on Fact."

Another Foul Murder.—Within a stone's-throw of the scene where Mrs. Veldez was so cruelly butchered a week ago, another tragedy occurred on Saturday evening. The facts are as follows:

The murdered man is named Peter McVey, aged about thirty years, a baker by trade, and residing in Catharine street, near Thirteenth. He is represented as an honest, industrious, temperate man, and at the time of his brutal murder, was on his return home, having his bread cart with him, his customers being attended to. During the day, McVey had labored assiduously at his business, and did not appear to have indulged in anything of an intoxicating character. Unfortunately, however, his cart came in collision with a furniture car driven by a young man named John Gallagher, residing in Flower street, who, in a violent state of excitement, made the murderous assault upon McVey, which has resulted so seriously.

Richard Conway, who resides in the vicinity of Bedford and Sixth streets, assures us that he was on the corner of Seventh and Shippen streets when he saw the deceased coming up Shippen street, near Seventh, with a bread cart. The deceased ran against John Gallagher, who was driving a furniture car, when the latter sprang from his wagon, placed his hand in his pocket, and, in a loud voice, asked, "What in the hell are you doing?" The deceased then excused himself, and Gallagher said that he would take no excuse whatever. Some words followed, when Gallagher put his pocket and struck the deceased in the face. He fell into the street, from the effects of the blow given, within a quarter of an inch from the gutter.

Francis Murray, residing at the corner of Seventh and Shippen, went to the assistance of McVey, and with the aid of another person, got him upon his feet. They then gave him a glass of water, when the police came and inquired for a cart, for the purpose of taking him (the deceased) to the Hospital, who was then evidently dead. McVey did not speak from the time he received the blow and fell. During the interval Conway went for a cart, and in the meantime the officers had obtained a cotton, and after carrying the deceased to Seventh and South streets, a physician was met with, who examined his pulse. He said the man was dead, and it was useless to convey him to the Hospital. Subsequently, the deceased was taken to the First District Station House (Southwark Hall.) Gallagher left his furniture car, and immediately started off on a run. Conway states that he saw no knife used.

The deceased is a stout built man, and leaves a wife and two children to lament his sudden and terrible death. By means of strict industry, he had been enabled to purchase the property in which his family resides. McVey has resided in Catharine street about eighteen months, and in this country about eight years.

Gallagher is aged about twenty-two years, and is also very robust in his build. His character for peace and quietness has long been good, and it was only on Saturday that sentence was to have been passed upon him for a murderous assault upon a Mr. Spolbrink, the proprietor of a feed store at Fifth and Bedford streets, having been previously convicted in the Court of Sessions. It was, however, postponed until Saturday next.

The wounds inflicted upon McVey appear to have been done by some sharp instrument, from which the blood flowed copiously. There is one on the chin, and another in close proximity. There is also a serious bruise upon the left temple, the result, no doubt, of the fall.

It will be seen that the testimony, as detailed below, is of the most contradictory and conflicting character.

CORONER'S INVESTIGATION.

At 9 o'clock on Saturday evening, the Coroner impanelled the following jury:—Frank Taylor, P. H. Mitchell, E. Rush Holzer, Enos Wh