The Press.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1857.

CONTENTS OF FIRST PAGE.—The Educational Test; English Compliment to an American; The Boston *Post* on Kansas; Constitution of Kansas; The Magazines; Destructive Conflagration in Baltimore; News from Texas; Commercial Crisis in Europe; Descent by the Police upon a Free-Love Institution; General News; Wholesale Swindlers in the West.

FOURTH PAGE.—London and Its People; Eloquent Appeal; A Tale of Horror.

A SPECIE CURRENCY.

We have been edified by the various comments upon the late letter of our correspondent at the seat of the Federal Government, who ventured to express the opinion that Mr. BUCHANAN would take occasion, in his annual message, to restate his well-known views in favor of an extended specie basis for currency, and of the importance of collecting the revenues and paying the debts of the Federal Government in gold and silver. Some are silly enough to attempt to arouse the old prejudice of 1840 on the subject of low wages, but the majority, and the great majority of newspapers, no matter of what politics, are in favor of a thorough and radical change in the present banking system—one that will come nearest the known notions of the President.

A few years ago there was quite a protest in different States, far and near, against Pennsylvania, for expelling from her borders all notes under five dollars. The success of this experiment, and the triumphant confirmation of Mr. BUCHANAN'S views in his speech of February, 1840, in reply to JOHN DAVIS, has excited a general disposition in favor of prohibiting the circulation of all bank notes under twenty dollars. We have no doubt that this latter reform will be speedily accomplished. It is scarcely necessary that an act of Congress should be passed to accomplish this reform. Its obvious propriety and necessity are such, that any one State inaugurating it will speedily be followed by all the rest. Pennsylvania's course against small notes has furnished a proof to the whole country that the prohibition may be safely and wisely extended to notes of a larger denomination.

MR. BELMONT.

Much of the cant and curse of the day are included in the habit of personal praise of prominent men. If we can reasonably avoid this business in THE PRESS, we shall be glad. But occasionally the tendency to assail innocent men is apt to be carried to an extreme not less ridiculous. An instance is to be found in the following extract from the Washington correspondence of the *North American*, dated November 21:

"They started a story the other day that Mr. Belmont was to withdraw from his golden balls in Wall street, and go to Madrid as the pro-nuncio and negotiator of the purchase of Cuba. Though he may have fitness for sharp operations on 'Change, and have turned his recent mission to account, this sort of experiment would prove rather a question upon public forbearance. The idea has, however, never been entertained where the responsibility properly belongs, and it is not likely to be under any circumstances that can probably arise. In being sent to the Hague, Mr. Belmont was fully compensated for his subscription to the election of General Pierce, and this was about the extent of any merit or qualification that he ever presented."

What we have to say in reply to this most ungracious and unnecessary assault is, that, as "INDEPENDENT," of the *North American*, is anxious to be regarded a sort of confidential *attaché* of the State Department, and as one who receives all the doings of our Democratic Administration in advance of everybody else, he might refresh his memory, and, at the same time, rebuke himself for this most causeless calumny upon Mr. BELMONT, if he called upon Gen. CASS, the Secretary of State, and asked him for the despatches of both MARCY and CASS, in which MR. BELMONT'S distinguished ability and efficiency, while Resident Minister at the Hague, are admitted and commended. We do not think Gen. CASS would be near so ready to refuse copies of these testimonials as "INDEPENDENT" would be to refuse to publish them in his letter to the *North American*.

MONEY MATTERS IN EUROPE.

The American panic has been infectious. Having crossed the great waters, it has commenced to devastate England, and almost every commercial country in Europe is suffering, more or less, from its effects. In Great Britain, it has heavy smitten three interests—the banking, the trading, and the manufacturing. Three great banks have been prostrated—two in Glasgow and one in Liverpool. There has been a run for gold in various parts of Ireland, and the different bank agencies in Scotland were crowded with persons handing in their paper promises to pay, and feverishly demanding specie.

Some of the greatest commercial houses have been compelled to suspend payment—the alleged cause being that they had large dealings with the United States, and were wholly unable to obtain money from their numerous heavy debtors there. The Bank of England has advanced her rate for discounts to ten per cent., the highest rate yet known to have been fixed by that great establishment. Nor is this all—the markets have fallen, from sheer want of buyers, and, with heavy stocks on hand, the manufacturers abstain from purchasing cotton. The Government decline interfering with the Bank of England, and thus show full confidence in the solvency and resources and conduct of that almost national organization.

The object of the bank in raising the discount so high, unquestionably was to prevent the further exportation of gold. Ten per cent. on discounts is too high a price for gold to make its export profitable, and gold is as much a matter of merchandise as cotton, sugar, or rum. Indeed, so anxious are the French to check its leaving them, that a tax of three per cent. on all exports of gold from France was proposed to the Emperor, and, though not accepted, the proposition shows the feeling. The *Atlantic* brought over $130,000 in gold on Sunday, but the *Adriatic*, which sailed yesterday from New York, took back $500,000. So, the tide would seem to be in its reflux.

Yet bad as this condition of affairs confessedly and deplorably is, every one who looks even ten years back must admit that it might have been much worse. In some respects it *was* worse, in 1846-7, when, in addition to commercial involvements and difficulties, Ireland was undergoing the painful and terrible trial of being depopulated by Famine and Disease. At that crisis, as Americans well remember—for their bounty liberally and promptly helped to relieve the pressing want which was crushing the life out of the poor Irish—there was a deficiency in food, and a lack of the means to buy it. Not so at present. All over Europe the late harvest has been so unusually productive, that whatever other distress may arise, want of food there cannot be.

There will be a want, we think, of money wherewith the laboring classes can purchase it. Agricultural laborers will have the usual average of employment and the usual average of wages. But the working classes in the manufacturing districts are likely to be generally unemployed during the winter, and under such circumstances, they have frequently broken into rioting and plundering. The first law of nature is self-preservation, and starving men are not well disposed nicely to discriminate between *meum* and *tuum*—between what they want and what others possess. Already, as a private letter from Lancashire informs us, "in Blackburn, where most of the hands are out of work, the mills stopped, and the shelves loaded with immense quantities of manufactured cotton goods, unsaleable if exported, the workmen have already processions, in which were borne aloft huge flags inscribed 'Food or Blood.'"

If it be true, and we doubt it not, that there is a glut of manufactured cotton goods, without the usual money or produce market in which to sell or exchange them, there can be no difficulty in understanding why the price of the raw material is so much and so increasingly depressed in England. Two questions arise: First, with this glut of goods, are the manufacturers likely to do more than will just prevent the spoiling of their expensive and delicate machinery by disuse? Next, is there not a chance of the cotton market being glutted, from want of buyers, and the prices yet further coming down? In other words, if this state of affairs continue, may not the question be, not how *much* but how *little* gold will England send to America for cotton. Whether "England *must* buy our cotton" (during the next four or five months) seems in a fair way of being tested now.

MR. WHARTON'S ORATION.

In consequence of the extreme inclemency of the weather, the attendance at the College hall of the University of Pennsylvania, last evening, to hear the annual address before the Society of the Alumni of that institution, was not so large as the interesting character of the occasion deserved, although the orator, GEORGE M. WHARTON, Esq., had the satisfaction of knowing that what was lacking in numbers was made up in the intelligence of his audience.

Before the orator of the year was introduced, the Throne of Grace was addressed in a very fervent and appropriate prayer by the Rev. Dr. Odenheimer, at the conclusion of which Mr. Wharton said:

That in addressing the Alumni of the University on the occasion of this annual meeting, his mind recurred to similar occasions more than thirty years ago—times in which he had spent many happy hours under a similar tutorage; and also adverted to the various destinies of those who shared those happy recollections with him; the various parts of the world to which some of them had been called, and in which he paid a touching tribute to that one of their number who now sleeps beneath the waves of the Atlantic—evidently alluding to Professor Reed, who was lost in the ill-fated Arctic.

With this introduction, the speaker entered upon an interesting review of the mighty changes experienced in many parts of the world within those thirty years, in which the commotion of nations, and their progress in scientific discovery were briefly considered; but withal, it was added, that the localities of many of those scenes were apparently no better off now than they had been then.

In reference to the rapid strides of discovery within the past twenty-five years, it was said the introduction of steam, as a motive power, and that mysterious magnetic influence, electricity, as a means of transmitting thought, had, in a great measure, revolutionized all our former ideas of time and space.

It was not his design to introduce politics as such, yet if he might be allowed to make an allusion to it in a large sense, he might state as an historical fact that, though these modern agencies our aspirations as a nation had been greatly enlarged.

The idea had once existed in the minds of many that there was great danger of our domain becoming too large, and that the far removal of the extremities of our country from its heart would have the effect to weaken, perhaps to break it asunder, but all such apprehensions had been effectually done away by these improved means of communication. Men travelled six days to do business in the same space of time now that they had done when these apprehensions were entertained.

The vigor with which our Government had stretched out its arm over that peerless country, in the far West, was a signal example of the additional power of a nation to manage an extensive territory, acquired by these modern acquisitions to science.

Respecting the uses and advantages of the various classes of education, there was prominence given to the refinement of taste, the perfection of language, but, above all, to those mental qualifications so essential to man in after-life. In his opinion, the true view of education was, that unless the mind was properly trained for the practical pursuits of life, knowledge would be like placing tools in the hands of men unskilled in their use.

The impetus which our modern habits had given to the lust for wealth was here taken up, and happily commented upon. In times like these, it was said, when men employed lightning to send letters and print photographs, and when, by the aid of steam, we were now as near to England as our forefathers had been to Richmond, it was not to be wondered at that men expected to make as much money in one year as their forefathers had been able to make in twenty years; nor was it any more surprising that fortunes were being lost with corresponding rapidity.

Leaving this go-aheadative element of modern times, the speaker next took up the advantages of classic literature, and handled it with appropriate gracefulness. The fact that no one that he had ever met, who possessed a classical education, had ever shown a disposition to depreciate its value, he thought was a strong argument in its favor. But, independent of the mental enjoyment which they so richly afforded, their utility could hardly be overestimated.

The gift of speech—characterised by the speaker as one of God's greatest gifts to man—was appropriately introduced in this connection, and as a basis upon which to found an intelligent appreciation of the classics, we were pointed to the spies of distant ages for the models and ideas embodied in the liberal government under which we live.

For the great and glorious principle, that the power of government properly belonged to the people it governed, we were indebted to the land of Solon and Lycurgus—of Cicero and Brutus. Beside these grand principles handed down to us through the classics, there was a richness, a beauty, and an elevating sublimity embodied in them which we were certainly greatly impaired, if not entirely lost, in the attempt to translate them into other tongues.

The duty of every young man to acquaint himself with the true character of the Government under which he lives was deemed imperative as a qualification for the highest order of good citizenship.

Next in importance to the exercise of the intellect, which study promoted, and reason, which mathematics supplied, a knowledge of the laws of our country seemed to him to be most essential. Under our form of government every man, in a proper sense, was a *public* man, whether he considered himself as such or not. The influence, in a country like this, of man upon man, was such that the power of the least was not to be overlooked. Nor could this study be too early commenced.

When we came to be citizens we were expected to take upon us its responsibilities, and it was most reasonable that the assumption of them should at least be made the subject, in some degree, of intelligent preparation. Great stress was laid upon the value of universal education, and the expense attending it was, in his opinion, but a question of the triumph of the school-house or the jail. The differences between the representative bodies of this country and Great Britain were next glanced at, and handled—we assure the reader—at a signal disadvantage to the latter. The importance of having educated men in our halls of legislation was also ably vindicated.

The laws of wealth were next introduced, and of which honest industry and productive labor were considered as the only true sources. Wholesome rules respecting this department, worthy to be observed, were also given, and in which the solemn obligation of contracts, and the most scrupulous adherence to right, in all our business transactions, were eloquently urged upon those he was addressing. The desire to acquire property had become so intense that it was actually, in many cases, leading to *monomania*.

The sad times through which we were now passing was a proof of the want of a more perfect system in the conducting of our monetary affairs.

The causes of the rise and decline of national wealth, and their concomitants, should be made the subject of severe study. A beautiful picture was here drawn of the fair prospect of returning prosperity, when our seas should again be whitened with the canvas of sailing vessels, and studded with that less plutrescque, but perhaps more useful object, the smoke-stacks of our steamers.

The inconsistency of England's denunciations of the slave trade, and her present introduction of it, under the name of apprenticeship, was not overlooked in the speaker's rapid flight through the misapprehensions of knowledge, on this occasion. The brutal inhumanity of Englishmen, in their recent barbarities perpetrated upon their dissatisfied subjects, and that from sheer motives of revenge, was regarded as an evidence that the world in its point of Christian humanity was making but tardy progress.

In conclusion, Mr. Wharton addressed the Alumni before him in a personal strain that elicited frequent applause. The institution itself was now in its second century, and which was, he thought, a very respectable age for our young country.

In the course of these remarks, the principle of charity beginning at home was applied to the equal propriety of encouraging our own institutions.

Our own city had many points of which her children might justly feel proud. Without the slightest disposition to detract from the glory of Bunker Hill and Yorktown, he must be allowed to say that we have in our Independence Hall a relic unequalled in its historical interest by any other point in our country. In conclusion, he hoped that the Alumni of the college would ever be found the ready champions of our independence and our Union.

The oration occupied over an hour in its delivery, and was evidently listened to with much interest. The diversified character of its contents necessarily precluded the speaker's entering with any great depth of analysis into any one particular topic. It was delivered in Mr. Wharton's usual quiet, unimpassioned style, and as a chaste piece of composition, it was certainly admirably done. In the rapid synopsis here given, we have, of course, attempted no more than a mere summary of the points of the oration.

☞ A most interesting gratuitous lecture will be pronounced, at the hall of the University of Pennsylvania, on Wednesday (to-morrow) evening, by Professor MATILE, of that University. Subject, "LAW." Professor MATILE is a highly distinguished jurist, and has written and published ten or twelve standard legal works, in Latin, French, and German, and has occupied positions of great dignity in other countries. He is, as we hear, a gentleman of great literary experience and ability.

☞ A rich treat may be expected this evening at Concert Hall, where the Rev. THOMAS H. STOCKTON will deliver a Lecture and Poem on Bishop BERKELEY and COLUMBUS. The proposed field is full of interest and entertainment, and Mr. STOCKTON is in every way qualified to illustrate it.

☞ We welcome the reappearance, among our exchanges, of GETZ'S Reading *Daily Gazette*. It looks as bright and cheerful as ever.

From Puerto Cabello.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Exchange.]

PUERTO CABELLO, Nov. 7, 1857.—The barque White Wing, Captain Esling, leaves to-day for Philadelphia, of which opportunity I avail by sending fan account of passing events. The money panic in Europe and America has affected us very sensibly. Business is extremely dull, notwithstanding a good supply of native produce, which is without demand, owing partly to a stringency in monetary matters, and partly the non-compliance of purchasers to the exorbitant prices asked by producers. The following is a statement of market prices:

Coffee—Unwashed, 12c. per lb; washed, 14c. per lb., of this currency.

Cocoa of superior quality, per 110 lbs., $33; inferior quality, per 110 lbs., $28.

Cotton averages 17½ a 18c. per lb.

Indigo, F., per lb., $1 03.

Hides, which were last week 20a21c., are now only 18a18½c.

Deer Skins, per dozen, average $10.

Goat Skins, do do $5.50.

Fustic, per ton of 2,000 lbs, do $20.

Lignumvitæ, do do $12.

Brown Sugar, per lb, 6½a6c.

The country is quiet. The treasury is pretty well drained, but I understand it will be shortly replenished, through the negotiation of a Loan with Messrs. Rothschilds, of London, for the completion of internal improvements. The only American vessel in port is the brig George Lohse, from Baltimore, which will sail on return in a few days. Yours, H. S. LAFETRA.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Gore Ousley to Reside in Washington—Gen. Mora Looking to the Dictatorship of Central America—Action of Important California Land Claims—Assistant Engineers Warranted for the United States Navy, &c.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23, 1857.

Sir Wm. Gore Ousley is looking out to rent a house here, as the residence of his family during his absence in Central America. It is believed that, after visiting the several Governments there, and ascertaining their exact condition, he will return to negotiate with this Government on the points involved in the particular question confided by the British Government to his management.

I would not be surprised if, in order to harmonize the distracted elements of Central America, and make them, instead of being too weak almost to repel the invasion of buccaneers, strong enough to occupy a respectable position among the nations of the world, that American statesmen would make every effort for fixing upon a sure basis a Central American Confederacy.

But this, in the judgment of many acquainted with that region of Americs, and the character of its people, is an impracticable scheme. While they denounce Walker and fillibusters generally, yet they admit that until a strong leaven of American energy is thrown in there, nobody can look for either order or stable government.

One good effect resulting from Walker's invasion of Nicaragua, to be set against the overbalancing bad ones, is that it has caused the educated and influential class of its inhabitants to entertain more statesmanlike views with respect to their position in the world, and to exert themselves for the establishment of at least some pretence of Government, to replace the anarchy and confusion which have been their lot so long heretofore.

General Mora, of Costa Rica, is ambitious to place himself ultimately over all Central America, as did Santa Anna over Mexico, with the grand title and with the great power of Supreme Dictator; and it is to prevent the consummation of any result so disastrous to even the shadow of liberty now existing there, that Honduras, San Salvador, and Nicaragua, at this early day oppose him and his State. England, I have not the least doubt—will, without, of course, ever in the least acknowledging such aid—afford all the assistance the general may desire for the success of his ambitious projects.

Among the arrivals, there have been very few members of Congress. Next week will bring a goodly number, and the week succeeding will in all probability bring nearly all of them. It bids fair just now for an active canvass, by dozens of candidates, for the nominations of the Democratic caucus to the offices to be filled by the next House of Representatives.

Under date of November 18, 1857, a patent has been issued for the private land claim of Wm. D. M. Howard, known as the "San Mateo" rancho, situated in San Francisco county, California, on the Bay of San Francisco, containing 6,438.80 acres.

The Department of the Interior has received from the Surveyor General of California approved plats of survey for the following confirmed claims:

1st. "San Bernardino" rancho, confirmed to José del Carmon Lugo and others, containing 35,509.41 acres.

2d. "Cañada de Capay" rancho, confirmed to O'Farrell, Stevens, & Jury, 40,078.58 acres.

3d. "Arroyo de la Alameda" rancho, confirmed to José de Jesus Vallejo, 17,705.38 acres.

Subjoined is a list of the candidates, for promotion and admission into the engineer corps of the navy, who passed a satisfactory examination before the Board of Engineers convened at the United States navy yard, Philadelphia, on the 5th inst. The first thirteen have been warranted; the remainder will be warranted so soon as vacancies should occur:

George B. A. Tower, of Boston; B. B. H. Wharton, of Baltimore; John W. Tynan and Charles H. Levy, of Portsmouth, Virginia; Morgen A. English, of Washington, D. C.; Franklin K. Hain, of Reading, Pa.; Joseph H. Bailey, of Wilmington, Delaware; John Purdy, of Washington, D. C.; James W. Whitaker, of Trenton, N. J.; Frederick E. Brown, of New York; B. E. Chassaing, of Baltimore; Philip Inch, of Washington, D. C.; Wm. H. Buehler, of Harrisburg, Pa.; Henry Snyder, of Camden, N J.; Elijah Law, of Philadelphia; Joseph L. Butler, of Wilkesbarre; Samuel Fisk, of Lancaster, Pa; Levi R. Greene, of Providence, L. I.

The Interior Department has received advices dated at Franklin, Texas, October 22, from Superintendent J B. Leach, stating that a portion of his train has recently arrived at that place, and that the men were all well and the mules in good condition.

Col. Leach reports that the roads east of Fort Laramie were very rough, and much washed by recent heavy rains. Scarcity of water had compelled the train to deviate its course, between Memphis and Franklin, much further south than was expected, making the distance nearly 1,300 miles. Although the grass was scarce and very poor, Col. Leach succeeded in getting the train through without losing any mules.

Four working parties have been organised, and are at work upon the road between Franklin and Fort Fillmore. One party had gone on in advance to examine the country, and select points for boring for water.

Col. Leach confidently expects that, during the month of December, he will be able to report from Fort Yuma the amount of work necessary to be done, with the proper estimates.

Theodore H. Kimball has been appointed to a first-class ($1,200 per annum) clerkship in the Third Auditor's office, vice Wm. H. Chase, promoted to a second-class clerkship in the same office.

X. Y.

PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

Though the weather was very bad last night, it scarcely affected the public amusements. There was literally a crowd at the Walnut Street Theatre, where "The Enchantress" (*not* Balfe's) was played as a spectacle-operatic drama, most of the music composed by Dr. Cunnington, and Miss Richings as a very charming heroine. The scenery, by Mr. George Heister, was good—some of it splendid. There was a variety of dancing, by the Misses Wood and a numerous *corps de ballet*. The whole, a decided and deserved success. This piece will draw good houses for a week or two.

Arch-street Theatre was also full—thanks to a good and attractive bill. To-night, the melodrama of "The Ticket of Leo, or a Test for Gold" will be played, strongly cast, and enriched with scenic illustrations and costumes.

At Welsh's National Theatre, last night, Mr. Wesley Barnore commenced a series of varied performances, with a good circus company, admirably trained horses, and several educated Shetland ponies. The performances—which included a great many jokes from Eph. Horn, one of the clowns, (most of which arrived at years of maturity years ago)—went off with decided success, amid enthusiastic applause. The horsemanship was bold and graceful, and the gymnastic feats almost astonishing.

Sanford's was crowded last night—as, indeed, it generally is, no matter what the state of the weather. The dancing of the Sanford children particularly merits notice.

The Buckleys have fitted up Jayne's Hall, Chestnut street, below Seventh, as a temple of the tenth or Ethiopian muse. The performances, which commence with Ethiopian minstrelsy and dancing, will conclude with the amusing Bloomer Promenade. From the well known ability of Messrs. Buckley's *troupe*, and the central situation of Jayne's Hall, we should not be surprised to find it become one of the best and most fashionably attended places of public amusement in the city.

Miss E. L. Williams, who is advertised as "the celebrated Welsh Nightingale," appeared at the Musical Fund Hall, yesterday evening, in a speaking and singing entertainment, entitled, "Wild Wales," composed for her by Samuel Lover, author of "Rory O'More," and scores of popular Irish and other songs. There is more rhyme than reason in this piece, but no sense in the concluding detail—certainly only the dimmest approach to a story. A lady, in search of her lover, is supposed to go to sleep in a little recess covered by the stars and azure of the American flag. Miss Williams is the sleeping lady, and is supposed to appear (to herself) in a variety of characters—some of them realities, such as Miss Lucy Maitland, an old maid and other flesh-and-blood personages; some of them merely fanciful, such as the Spirit of Fancy, and (most admirably dressed) Zero, Queen of the Arctic Sea, Mercury, and so on. Each character sings a song or two, several of them equal in melody and poetry to the best lyrics Lover has yet produced. As far as the singing went, Miss Williams is entitled to high praise, and, either in the concert room or as *prima donna* in English Opera, would be certain to gain brilliant success. Her voice is musical, and well in command; and her articulation is distinct, without being too elaborate. She can be arch, as well as serious—as witness her song "'Twas one, 'twas two, 'twas three." In her manner of singing, as well as in her personal appearance, she reminded us of Miss Louisa Pyne, but is better-looking and has a good figure. What her *speaking* voice is we could scarcely make out, for there were only about one hundred persons in the Hall, and her voice, which sounded full and clear, reverberated so much, in the empty void, that we lost half of what she said. Her performances, it will be seen, resembles Miss Emma Stanley's in some points, but what we saw (and we sat out eight of the thirteen characters) was greatly inferior. The dialogue—we mean the monologue—alternated from prose to verse, but we caught few *points*; in our hearing, the audience caught only one—an allusion to the return of the Resolute, which was warmly applauded. Miss Williams did not display any *dramatic* ability. She changed her dress rapidly enough, but, in everything except Irish character (which was very un-Irish indeed,) we still had only Miss Williams before us, whatever the costume. We sum up, therefore, by declaring that, as far as we could judge under unfavorable circumstances of a very thin house, from very bad weather, Miss Williams, though she failed to personify and individualize character, in which Miss Stanley excelled, sang very well, and looked very well too; she as much excelled Miss Stanley as a singer as she is beneath her as an actress. She has the advantage, too, of being nearly twenty years younger than Miss Stanley.

The Galveston (Texas) *News* informs us that in the revised list of passengers lost by the wreck of the steamship Central America, we find the name of Walter Dyer, who was a resident of Galveston for some years prior to the Mexican war. When the war broke out he removed to Brownsville, and subsequently to the Isthmus of Panama, where for seven years he followed his trade of master shipwright. He was on his way to New York to attend a law suit he had pending there, when the fatal disaster of the Central America overtook him. Capt. Dyer was a Welshman by birth.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

TERRIBLE CALAMITY.

BURNING OF THE STEAMBOAT RAINBOW.

FIFTY TO SEVENTY LIVES LOST.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 23.—The steamboat Rainbow was burned, on Saturday morning, about ten miles above Napoleon, Arkansas. From fifty to seventy lives are reported to be lost, including all the officers of the boat. The boat, cargo, and all her books and papers, are a total loss. The Rainbow was a fine boat of 489 tons, and was built at New Albany, Ohio, in 1854.

Storm on the Ohio—Sixteen Coal Boats Sunk—One Hundred Lives Lost.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 23.—The steamer Republic, arrived at Louisville on Saturday, reports that sixteen coal boats were sunk during the storm on Wednesday last in the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, near Cairo, by which it is estimated that one hundred lives were lost. The boats contained 300,000 bushels of coal, valued at 30,000, which is a total loss. The crews were principally from Pittsburgh and Louisville.

The steamboat Gladiator reported other boats swamped and sunk, as low down as New Madrid.

Passengers from Evansville, report the storm along the lower Ohio as terrific.

None of the boats were able to run during its prevalence, and all had to lie up.

The steamboat Baltimore, from Manello, arrived last night, reports encountering a heavy gale at Parkersburg, on Saturday.

A severe gale prevails here this morning, accompanied with rain, snow, and hail.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 23—Evening.—The steamer Newcomb, arrived from below, passed Cairo twelve hours after the steamer Republic, does not confirm the reported loss of coal boats. It is therefore hoped that the reported loss of life is incorrect, or at least exaggerated.

From Washington—The Utah Expedition—The President Insulted.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—The visit of Sir William Gore Ouseley to the President, on Saturday, was one of courtesy merely. He has not yet officially informed him of the precise character of his mission.

The War Department designs sending two columns of military into Utah, from the Pacific side, one from Oregon, and the other from California.

While the President was receiving company today, not a little excitement was occasioned by loud and offensive language used by an attorney for claims to the President. The latter quietly withdrew to a private office which adjoins the audience room, and remained there until the cause of the disturbance reluctantly retired.

Governor Walker at St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 23.—Governor Walker arrived in this city on Saturday evening, *en route* for Washington.

Nothing new relative to Kansas affairs has transpired.

Railroad Collision.

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 23.—About seven o'clock this morning, two passenger trains on the Connellsville railroad came in collision, when about a mile from McKeesport. A passenger named Scott, of Westmoreland county, was seriously, if not fatally, injured. Several of the other passengers were hurt. The cars were literally crushed to pieces.

The McKeesport Murderers.

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 23.—The Supreme Court has affirmed the action of the Criminal Court in the case of Charlotte Jones. Henry Fife, and Monroe Stewart, who were sentenced to be hung for the murder of an old man and his sister, at McKeesport.

Fire at Troy, N. Y.

TROY, N. Y., November 23.—A fire, this afternoon, broke out in Wm. Taylor's planing mill, in the pier below Adams street. The flames spread to his lumber yard adjoining, where they were arrested. The loss is estimated at $7,000, on which there is an insurance of $2,000.

The Weather.

NEW YORK, Nov. 23.—The weather here is mild, with a drizzling rain.

BUFFALO, Nov. 23.—The weather is clear, with a light west wind. No ice has yet been formed in our harbor.

Canal Navigation Closed.

ST. CATHARINES, C. W., Nov. 23.—The Welland Canal is full of ice, and navigation is closed for the season.

BUFFALO, Nov. 23.—A break has occurred in the canal at Black Rock, which will probably suspend navigation for the season.

Naval Intelligence.

HAMPTON ROADS, VA., November 23.—The sloop-of-war Saratoga has arrived from Aspinwall.

The Powhatan sailed, in commission, to-day.

Markets.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 23.—The receipts of Wheat to-day have been heavy, and prices rule from 3a 5c lower. Sales of red at $1.05a$1.14; white, $1.15a$1.20. Corn, old white, 75a78c, and old yellow 78a80c; new 55a55c. Whiskey, 21a24½c.

SAVANNAH, November 23.—A general panic prevailed in the cotton market at this port, Augusta, and Columbus, to-day. Prices declined 1a1c.

CHARLESTON, November 23.—Cotton.—Sales of 1,900 bales at a decline of 1c.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 23d.—Cotton—The foreign advices, furnished by the steamer Atlantic, are regarded here as the most unfavorable that have yet been received. Prices suffered a decline of 1a 1c, in consequence. The sales to-day amounted to 12000bls.

Sugar closes firm, fair qualities having fallen 1a1c during the day.

Flour closes steady at $5.12½. Corn quoted at 49a50c for both old and new. The provision market is very dull.

CITY POLICE—NOVEMBER 23.

[Reported for The Press.]

A HONEY MOON IN THE WANE.—James Fitzpatrick, a hearty-looking young man, and his wife Jane, a fine, bouncing, rosy-complexioned young woman, came to the Mayor's office this morning with the misapprehension that our civic chief can undo the gordian knot of matrimony as well as tie it. They were united in wedlock by his Honor scarcely one lunar month ago, and they have just made the astounding discovery that nature never intended them to be conjugal partners. James, the husband, advanced to the bar, and showed some suitable embarrassment while making a statement of his case.

"I'm very sorry (said he) to put your Honor to any trouble, but Jane and I were both green-horns when we got your Honor to rivet us together, so we now want you to give us a bill of divorce, and I dont think aythor of us will ever bother you again with the same kind of a job, for we've found that wedded life is not what it's cracked up to be, and we're both intirely sick of it, I'm sure."

"You come to the wrong place for a divorce," said the clerk; "we do not deal in anything of that sort."

"I think you might accommodate us this time, seeing it's only for once," said James, in a tone of urgent and pathetic appeal. "Come, now, be a kind gentleman—cut us loose again, and we'll pray for you as long as we live."

"I tell you we cannot do it," said the clerk. "The law does not give us any such power."

"Sure that's a mistake," answered James. "What you put together you can take apart again, if you like; and it would be a shame if you couldn't. We got married in this very shop, and paid you sixty-two and a half cents for the job I'm sure I'll give you as much more, and thank you kindly to boot, if you'll just put us back again where you found us."

"It is of no use to talk," said the clerk, somewhat irritated. "We cannot do it."

Here Jane, the wife of four weeks, stepped forward to try the force of female eloquence.

"You wouldn't have the heart," said she, "to refuse such a trifle, considering that it won't take you five minutes to do the writing, and Jimmy offers to pay you for it when it's done. I don't see what's the use of making us stay married when we've both had enough of it. Just a few scratches of your pen will set everything to rights. just as it was before we came together; and I should think you might do that much, if it was only for the sake of accommodation."

"If you wish to be divorced, you must apply to another tribunal," said the clerk.

"I shan't apply to any other concern but this," said Jane, her eye sparkling with excitement. "Here's where I got married, and here's where I mean to undo it again, if there's any law or gospel in the city I tell you what, mister ——, but I guess you are not the head man of the establishment."

"No, I am not," answered the clerk.

"That's just what I thought," said Jane, turning to her discontented spouse. "Well, Jimmy, we'll wait till the boss himself comes in. He knows his business, I'll be bound, and will do the thing in half the time that we've been talking about it."

They both took seats accordingly to await the arrival of "the boss," but we were not there to witness the result of the interview. W.

Constable in Trouble.—Joseph Roberts, one of the constables of the Eighteenth ward, and Leonard Chester, who represents himself as the constable of another ward, have been held in $1500 bail each by Alderman Shoemaker, of the Sixteenth ward, on the charge of forcibly entering the house of Mannasseh Price, No. 240 Queen street—committing an assault and battery upon him—with robbing him of $375 in money and about $450 worth of clothing and jewelry. The complainant, who is well known to the police, alleges that the accused came to his house on the 8th of last month and stated to him that they had a search-warrant. They then took him into the kitchen when Chester took the money from his pockets by force. The accused, it is alleged, then broke into a bureau and also a trunk, from which they took several articles of wearing apparel, jewelry, a watch, two breastpins, half a dozen silver forks, a basket full of children's clothing, &c. The defendant then took the complainant before Alderman McConoughy on the charge of passing counterfeit money; but there being no evidence against him, he was discharged from custody. The complainant subsequently received back the jewelry and clothing, but all the money, excepting ten dollars, was retained by the accused.

THE CITY.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

WHEATLEY'S ARCH STREET THEATRE, ARCH STREET, ABOVE SIXTH.—"The Sea of Ice"—"My Precious Betsy."

WALNUT STREET THEATRE, N. E. CORNER OF NINTH AND WALNUT STREETS.—"The Enchantress."

JAYNE'S NEW HALL, CHESTNUT STREET, BELOW SEVENTH.—Buckley's Opera Troupe.

NATIONAL THEATRE, WALNUT STREET, NEAR EIGHTH.—"Equestrian Performances."

SANFORD'S OPERA HOUSE, ELEVENTH STREET, ABOVE CHESTNUT.—Ethiopian Life Illustrated, concluding with a laughable afterpiece.

JAYNE'S BUILDING, CHESTNUT ST., BELOW SEVENTH.—State Poultry Society of Pennsylvania.

The Board of Trade.—The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trade was held last evening, at their room, in the Exchange Building. The attendance was the largest for a long time.

The Chair was occupied by Vice President Morton, who announced that the first business would be the resolution of Mr. George L. Busby, relative to the consideration of the banking law.

Mr Busby stated that the Executive Committee had prepared a bill petitioning the Legislature for a free banking law, and he thought it highly proper that business men should get at a condensation of the general opinion concerning the subject, and unite upon some plan to present to the Legislature, which should regulate the currency of the country.

Mr. B considered that, as the merchants are conservative in their views, he should find in them no opposition to banks, as such That would, he thought be confined to persons who had become the victims of their own indiscretion. What we want is not the destruction of the paper-money system, but the regulation of its issue and a proper restraint upon its use.

We have just passed through a crisis, and that crisis has been the subject of a great deal of comment and speculation. There are those who rush in these matters to opposite extremes. The middle course is the one which the speaker thought it behooved the community to pursue. The individual liability of stockholders; the liability for the extent of their issue; the publication of their *status*, at brief intervals, and the prohibition to issue notes of larger value than twenty dollars, were, he thought, the best improvements that could be engrafted upon our banking law.

The banks of Scotland, which were remarkable for their almost invariable solvency, were subject to restrictions of this character. If it were possible to have a congress of business men from every quarter of the Union, who see that our present banking system is empirical, that it is inadequate, unsound, and irreliable, some plan might be devised, whether they are individuals or corporate bodies of accommodation."

Mr. Evans offered a resolution requesting Councils to transfer a certain item of the appropriation to the department of the board of guardians of the poor. Adopted.

Dr. Lafferty stated that some time since a gentleman named Joseph J. Mickley, died, leaving a considerable sum of money to the poor of the city. As the poor would receive none of this money unless some action was taken on the subject, he therefore moved that it be referred to the solicitor, with power to act. Agreed to.

Mr. Moseley, of the Ninth ward, offered a resolution that the house agent be requested to send unto the stated meetings of the board the population of the various departments of the Almshouse, in detail. Agreed to.

Dr. Moseley read the following statement of the number of persons in the various departments of the Philadelphia Almshouse, up to Friday, Nov. 13th, 1857:

Women's Out Ward....	360	Men's White Hospital..	291
Do Lunatic Asylum.	273	Do Lunatic Asylum.	172
Do Hospital.....	139	Do Boys' Out Ward..	10
Do Nursery.....	107	Do Child's Asyl'm	171
Do Obstetric Ward..	84	Men's Colored Hospital.	17
Do Black Nursery..	19	Do do Out Ward..	30
Do do Hospital..	12	Do White Out Ward.	863
Do do Hospital ..	19		
Do do Out Ward.	28	Total men and boys....	1554
Total women & child'n.	1041	Total No. in House....	2595

The President remarked that this table showed that there were other patients in the almshouse besides paupers, and who, on account of sickness, &c., were supplied with a better quality of food.

The following sums, on motion, were distributed to the visitors of the different districts:

First District.....	$150	Sixth District.....	$350
Second do	100	Seventh do	300
Third do	150	Eighth do	150
Fourth do	150	Ninth do	100
Fifth do	550	Tenth do	100

On motion of Mr. Henszey, section second of rule 29, governing the almshouse, was amended to read as follows:

The matron shall be entrusted, under the direction of the steward, with the care of that part of the house appropriated for the accommodation of females. She shall preserve good order and propriety of behavior among those committed to her charge. She shall observe that due attention be paid to cleanliness in every respect, and that the nurses and others employed under her direction be faithful in the discharge of their several duties, agreeably to the rules laid down for their government, and that they behave to the sick and infirm placed under their care with the greatest degree of attention and humanity. For all offences against the rules or discipline of the house, committed by female out-ward paupers under the charge of the matron, she shall have power to order confinement forthwith, and she shall, as soon as certain and practic