The Press.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1857.

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THE KANSAS CONSTITUTION.

The Kansas Constitution has at length been published. In most respects, it is not essentially different from the generality of the new Constitutions of the United States. In several particulars, however, it is liable to grave objections, on account of provisions which are unusual, and which may naturally be expected to be obnoxious to many of the citizens of Kansas. The character of these exceptionable provisions is well stated in the letter from Washington, published in another column.

The clause which prescribes the qualifications of the Governor partakes of a Know-Nothing character. It is as follows:

"SEC. 3. The Governor shall be at least thirty years of age; *shall have been a citizen of the United States for twenty years*; shall have resided in this State at least five years next preceding the day of his election, or from the time of the formation of this Constitution; and shall not be capable of holding the office more than four years in any term of six years."

There are but very few of the State Constitutions of the Union which impose a restriction of this kind. In most of them, all that is required is, that the Governor shall be a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the State for a period of from five to twelve or fifteen years.

The Convention prescribes a system of apportionment which, in several respects, is manifestly unfair. The letter of our correspondent, in another column, explains this fully. The *National Democrat*, a leading organ of the Democracy in Kansas, published at Lecompton, Kansas, makes the same objection. It says:

"THE APPORTIONMENT UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION.—The most notable thing in this respect is the allowance of four representatives and two Councilmen to Johnson county. The apportionment is evidently *based upon the Oxford returns, and is virtually an endorsement of that most outrageous fraud*. Johnson county is put upon an equality with Doniphan and Atchison counties, which each have four representatives. In Councilmen, Johnson is superior to either Doniphan or Atchison, which together have only three members. *This will never go down with the people; it certainly ought not to be sanctioned by them.*"

The whole provision relating to the apportionment of the State is as follows:

"At the first election holden under the Constitution, for members of the State Legislature, the representative and senatorial districts shall be as follows:

"1st Representative District shall consist of Doniphan county, and shall be entitled to 4 representatives; 2nd, Atchison, 4; 3d, Leavenworth, 8; 4th, Brown and Nemaha, 1; 5th, Calhoun and Potawatomie, 1; 6th, Jefferson, 2; 7th, Marshall and Washington, 1; 8th, Riley, 1; 9th, *Johnson*, 4; 10th, Lykens, 1; 11th, Linn, 2; 12th, Bourbon, 2; 13th, McGee, Dorn, and Allen, 1; 14th, Douglas, 5; 15th, Anderson and Franklin, 1; 16th, *Shawnee*, 2; 17th, Weller and Coffey, 1; 18th, Woodson, Wilson, Greenwood, Godfrey, and Madison, 1; 19th, Breckinridge and Richardson, 1; 20th, Davis, Wise, Butler, Hunter, and country west, 1—total number of Representatives, 44.

"1st Senatorial District is Doniphan, 1 Senator; 2d, Atchison, 1; 3d, Doniphan and Atchison, 1; 4th, Leavenworth, 3; 5th, Brown, Nemaha, and Potawatomie, 1; 6th, Riley, Marshall, Dickenson, and Washington, 1; 7th, Jefferson and Calhoun, 1; 8th, *Johnson*, 2; 9th, Lykens, Anderson, and Franklin, 1; 10th, Linn, 1; 11th, Bourbon and McGhee, 1; 12th, Douglas, 2; 13th, *Shawnee*, 1; 14th, Dorn, Allen, Wilson, Woodson, Godfrey, Greenwood, Madison, and Coffey, 1; 15th, Richardson, Davis, Wise, Breckinridge, Butler, Hunter, and all west of Davis, Wise, Butler, and Hunter, 1—total, 19."

Thus Shawnee county, with a population of *eight hundred*, is to have two Representatives and one Senator, while Johnson county, with a population of *four hundred*, is to have twice that number, or four Representatives and two Senators—just *four* times the representation to which she is entitled, if Shawnee county is fairly treated—and for all this there is no better authority than a fictitious return rejected by Governor WALKER, and notoriously fraudulent. If a system of bold gerrymandering of this kind is tolerated, one-fourth of the people residing in favored districts would be enabled to maintain dominion over three-fourths of the whole body of the citizens residing in other sections.

So far as the slavery question, as connected with the Kansas Constitution, is concerned, the Lecompton *National Democrat* says:

"Our opinion of the final action of the Convention, as briefly given in our last issue, has not been changed by such an examination of the Constitution as we have been able to give it. We still think that *the whole subject should have been submitted to the people*. But, at all events, *the slavery question should have been fully and fairly put to the people for their decision*. This, as we understand it, HAS NOT BEEN DONE. *No matter how the people may vote, if this Constitution should prevail, Kansas will be a slave State.* We would not object to this result if the people should so will it; but we think they should have a full opportunity to determine the character of the institutions of the new State."

We have here a leading Democratic paper, published in Kansas Territory, maintaining the position that under the provisions of the Constitution, Kansas will inevitably be a slave State, no matter how the people may vote. The Constitution contains the following provisions in relation to slavery:

"SLAVERY.

"Sec. 1st. The right of property is before and higher than any constitutional sanction, and the right of the owner of a slave to such slave and its increase, is the same and as inviolable as the right of the owner of any property whatever.

"Sec. 2. The Legislature shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves without the consent of the owners, or without paying the owners, previous to their emancipation, a full equivalent in money for the slaves so emancipated. They shall have no power to prevent emigrants to the State from bringing with them such persons as are deemed slaves by the laws of any one of the United States or Territories, so long as any person of the same age or description shall be continued in slavery by the laws of this State: *Provided*, That such person or slave be the *bona fide* property of such emigrants: *And provided, also*, That laws may be passed to prohibit the introduction into this State of slaves who have committed high crimes in other States or Territories. They shall have power to pass laws to permit the owners of slaves to emancipate them, saving the rights of creditors, and preventing them from becoming a public charge. They shall have power to oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity, to provide for them necessary food and clothing, to abstain from all injuries to them, extending to life or limb; and in case of their neglect or refusal to comply with the direction of such laws, to have such slave or slaves sold for the benefit of the owner or owners.

"Sec. 3. In the prosecution of slaves for crimes of higher grade than petit larceny, the Legislature shall have no power to deprive them of an impartial trial by a petit jury.

"Sec. 4. Any person who shall maliciously dismember or deprive a slave of life shall suffer such punishment as would be inflicted in case the like offence had been committed on a free white person, and on the like proof; except in case of insurrection of such slave.

The schedule provides that "the president, with two or more members of this Convention, shall examine said poll-books, and if it shall appear upon said examination that a majority of the legal votes cast at said election be in favor of the "Constitution with slavery," he shall immediately have the same transmitted to the Congress of the United States as hereinbefore provided. But if upon such examination of said poll-books it shall appear that a majority of the legal votes cast at said election are in favor of the "Constitution with no slavery," then the article providing for slavery shall be stricken from this Constitution by the president of this Convention, and slavery shall no longer exist in the State of Kansas, (*except that the rights of property in slaves now in this Territory shall in no manner be interfered with*,) and he shall have transmitted the Constitution, so ratified, to the Congress of the United States, as hereinbefore provided."

These provisions seem to imply, that in case a majority of the people of Kansas vote for the Constitution without slavery, the whole extract quoted above is to be stricken from the Constitution; but the provision is left that "the rights of property in slaves now in this Territory shall *in no manner* be interfered with." The view of the Lecompton *National Democrat* evidently is that under this Constitution, there can be no provision whatever for an abolition of slavery in the Territory, but all existing slaves, and their increase, can be held forever as slaves until the Constitution is changed. Slavery cannot be abolished as it was in Pennsylvania and other Northern States, for to abolish it would certainly "interfere" with the right of property in it. So that, substantially, the slavery question is no more submitted to the people than any other part of the Constitution, except, perhaps, so far as regards the importation of slaves into the Territory after the Constitution is adopted, which might, apparently, be forbidden if a majority of the people voted "for the Constitution without slavery."

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

There is such an absurdity—such a logical impossibility—in the outcry that the course of the Democratic papers against the Calhoun Convention will divide the Democratic party, that we feel tempted briefly to notice it. The exhibition of the entire Democratic press of the North being silent on the schedule of the Calhoun contrivance would have been a melancholy novelty in this age of inquiry. The schedule itself was a literary and political curiosity. The refusal to submit the Constitution to a negative vote—the decree that all must vote *for* it—the laughable manner of putting the slavery issue, and the way JOHN CALHOUN, like the mock duke in the play, is clad with the robes of Governor, or of Lord President, as the Chicago *Times* has it, constituted a rare series of texts for comment. The case was so new and so rich, that the Southern papers proceeded at once to discuss it, and not a few to condemn it. But the "ravenous pens" of the Republicans were at once filled with epithets and denunciations of the whole farce, and they were flinging reminders about them, like so many missiles of war. All this time the Democrats of the free States are expected to remain silent for fear of dividing the Democratic party. What a sight that would have been, to see the whole column of Democratic journalists standing by without daring to fire a shot! In the midst of this silence of the Democrats, while the Republicans were taunting us with breaking promises, and with refusing to speak out—while we were told we were waiting for orders how to move—the telegraph assures us that the whole people of Kansas are in a state of open protest against the Constitution; that Governor WALKER is boldly against it; that Judge DOUGLAS opposes it, and that the great body of our own people are convinced that it was all wrong. How much, pray, would the Democrats have gained by this silence of their organs?

THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE SOUTH.

We perceive that three of the Southern States, through their Legislatures, demand the removal of Governor WALKER by the President of the United States. As an evidence of the spirit which animates these assaults, we take the following extract from the *Mississippian* of the 21st of November, in reference to the action of the Mississippi Legislature:

"On the main issue there was no conflicting opinion in either branch of the Legislature. All united in approving the action of the Democratic Convention—all coincided in the conviction that Walker had violated the non-intervention principles of the Kansas bill, and that he had progressed from one grade of criminality to another, from the enunciation of his 'isothermal' decree against the South and his insolent declaration to the Constitutional Convention, to his arbitrary usurpation of the authority of the Territorial Legislature to decide upon the validity of the election of its own members, and his rejection of the pro-slavery delegates. All united in the conviction that if the President does not clear his skirt of these criminal acts—if he does not disavow them as unwarranted by his instructions and unsustained by his approval—he deserves the same measure of denunciation which has been poured in bitter torrents upon the guilty head of Governor Walker.

"The only question of difference related to the time when this verdict should be pronounced. Some said the case is already made out—the proof establishing the complicity of the Administration with Walker, in the perpetration of these weighty wrongs upon the South, is already clear; others argued in favor of a suspension of the sentence until further opportunity is afforded the President to vindicate his Administration from so damning an act of treachery to the Constitution, and fraud upon the States which, in the Presidential election, generously gave him their confidence and support.

"Thus has the Mississippi Legislature, speaking in tones of thunder, in the name of the sovereign people it represents, vindicated the action of the Democratic Convention, and nailed as base coin to the counter the calumny that the Convention acted prematurely, and did not reflect the public will; and more than all, thus have the Democracy of Mississippi—unawed by the frowns of Federal power, unseduced by its corrupting patronage, unmoved by the suggestions of cowardice—again vindicated their devotion to their rights and their cherished doctrines, and proclaimed to the men in power and out of power, to all the world, that they will follow no lead which has not for its guidance the principles of justice and equality embodied in the Cincinnati platform, and which constitute the only shibboleth of their faith.

"With painful anxiety—with some misgivings—and yet with a hopeful confidence, not entirely abandoned, we will, in conformity to the actions of our political friends, await further developments at Washington. And when the mysteries of this monstrous Kansas iniquity are brought to light, we will place our readers in possession of all the facts, and will avow our opinions upon their merits with the freedom which becomes an independent press, denouncing wrong and exposing treachery, let the blow fall where it may."

It is a singular circumstance that we do not hear a word against this violence and proscription from the Washington *Union*.

We have this to say, that the whole people of the free States will rally to President BUCHANAN and to his Administration should they resist the domineering attempt thus made upon him, and no journal will go further in that direction than the PRESS. The occasion may soon come when *those* who look forward to neither patronage nor influence, inspired by their long attachment to the President, and animated by the consciousness that they are defending him against unprovoked attacks in the discharge of his high duties, will once more be found in the breach, willing to make any sacrifice for the good cause. We shall then be able to show again the motive which controls us in the discharge of our duties as the independent editor of an independent journal, and we have no doubt that the vehement persecution of the extreme enemies of the Administration against Governor WALKER will arouse in defence of that statesman, and of the Administration, the same glorious spirit which in 1850, under the lead of HOWELL COBB and Messrs. TOOMBS and STEPHENS, rescued Georgia from the hands of the disunionists.

THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE.

The opponents of the principle that the majority shall rule run into some fearful mistakes. But the worst is, to suppose that this is a contest between the advocates and adversaries of slavery and the South. The defenders of the minority dynasty in Kansas should not lay this flattering unction to their souls. It is a struggle for a right, "as old as free government itself." Thousands of men, unjustly as we conceive, assail the rights of the South in regard to their peculiar institution. Against these men we have always done, and always expect to do, battle. There are, however, certain inalienable rights which nobody, until the present moment, has pretended to contest. By common consent—by universal agreement—"THE WILL OF THE MAJORITY," as applied in the Nebraska bill, stands first. We have all differed about allowing the people to vote as to slavery, *but we have never differed as to placing in their hands those material and sacred issues which protect them in their persons, their property, and their religion.*

On this grand basis the whole fabric of our freedom is based, as upon a rock. It is upon this basis only, by including the slavery question with those more sacred and inalienable franchises, that this Union has been maintained, and that the South is defended against a fierce and relentless fanaticism. To say that because the people may vote upon the slavery question, they must, *therefore*, surrender all other rights in the formation of the fundamental law, is to reverse all our ideas of free government, and to throw us into the arms of feudalism itself.

COUNTERFEIT BANK NOTES.

Mr. T. B. PETERSON, the enterprising publisher, has started "*Peterson's Philadelphia Counterfeit Detector and Bank Note List*," which will be issued monthly, and promises to be reliable and fully impartial. In this country, where paper money is literally "lord of the ascendant," and banks of all sorts and species (not *specie*, just now) are thickly scattered through its length and breadth, there is an actual *necessity* for such publications—to know counterfeit from true notes, to show what banks have broken, and to inform the public with the exact rate of discount on the notes of every bank in the Union. Mr. PETERSON, albeit an enterprising and business-like publisher, is not a broker, and cannot, of himself, supply the information which he promises. But he goes to the fountain-head for accurate *data*, having succeeded in obtaining the co-operation of Messrs. DREXELL & Co., the well-known brokers, South Third street, who undertake to throw their experience, their observation, and their business knowledge into this publication, and will correct it, in the most authentic manner, to the date of issue, each month. We rarely refer, in this part of our paper, to what appears among the advertisements, but Mr. PETERSON's announcement is so full of interest to all who have to receive or pay paper money, that we are justified in drawing attention to it, and in suggesting that, in the present "hard times," the proper mode of procedure is to subscribe for the publication, paying for it in advance, to insure its success. The thing has been much needed, and no doubt will be well done.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

FROM WASHINGTON.

No Action to be taken in Caucus on the Kansas Question—Southern Men Opposing the Schedule—Judge Douglas adheres to his position—Land Office Decision—Important Statistics, &c.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4, 1857.

It is the general impression that no action will be taken on the *Kansas* question in the caucus. Members are disposed to wait the communication of the Message, and the facts it may disclose.

Soon afterward, however, there will be, I learn, some discussion on the subject. Hon. Mr. Jewett, of Kentucky, and other prominent members of the Democratic party, will speak out their decided opposition to the Calhoun schedule. The Northern men, then, are not singular in the opinions they have expressed.

Judge Douglas still stands firm upon the ground he originally assumed. His interview with the President has not had the effect to change the views he entertains on this question in common with Governor Walker and THE PRESS.

A quorum of both Houses is present. The Commissioner of the General Land Office has written to Mr. Towne, of Chicago, Illinois, that from the moment a settler enters, *in person*, on land open to pre-emption, with the *animus menendi*, or with the intention of availing himself of the privilege of the pre-emption law, and does any act in execution of that intention, he is a settler. He is protected until he fails, on his part, to comply with the conditions of the law.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in compliance with the standing order of the House of Representatives, has prepared and had printed the detailed estimates of appropriations necessary to carry on the Government during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859. These estimates will be laid upon the desks of members of the House on the 21 day of the session. They foot up as follows:

Estimates for the year 1858-59	$50,312,943 13
Appropriations for current year	7,165,224 49
Existing appropriations, available	16,586,588 35
Total estimates	$74,064,755 97

As these estimates are based upon existing laws, it is not within the power of the Executive Department to reduce them; the expenditures of the Government can be diminished only through the action of Congress, by setting down the service now required to be performed. As things are now, this will, doubtless, be done, so as to limit the expenses to the actual receipts in the Treasury, and thus avoid the necessity of a loan to carry on the Government in a time of peace.

The following tabular statement shows the balances remaining in the Treasury, being the amount subject to draft, on the first of the months mentioned:

Date of Report.	Returns to.	
Jan'y 1st, 1857	Dec'r 22, 1856	$22,011,212 58
Feb'y 1st, "	Jan'y 26, '57	21,496,881 93
Mar 1st, "	Feb'y 23, "	24,467,742 52
April 1st, "	Mar 23, "	24,722,821 54
May 1st, "	April 27, "	23,262,126 73
June 1st, "	May 25, "	22,838,246 24
July 1st, "	June 22, "	20,159,011 11
Aug 1st, "	July 27, "	18,689,896 38
Sept 1st, "	Aug 21st, "	19,587,223 50
Oct 1st, "	Sept 21, "	17,181,464 84
Nov'r 1st, "	Oct 26, "	9,802,227 17
Dec'r 1st, "	Nov'r 23, "	7,328,451 06

The reduction in the balances is to some extent due to the payment on the public debt. If more of the debt had been redeemed, the balance at the beginning of the present month would have been in the neighborhood of $15,000,000. The receipts into the Treasury have not been very much below the current payments for current expenses. They are at this time, as I have once before written you, nearly half a million a week below the expenditures; yet it is the belief of officers conversant with the subject, that this will be reversed, and in a short while the receipts will equal and exceed the expenditures.

Official information has been received at the office of the Light House Board, that various changes important to mariners have been made in lighting and buoying the approaches to the port of Liverpool. The positions of thirteen buoys have been changed, four new ones have been established, and five dispensed with in consequence of shiftings on the banks.

These alterations make the Queen's channel the channel to be used at night. In the Victoria channel the position of the buoys are adapted to the growth of the banks, and their general arrangement is maintained as before. It may be navigated by daylight, great care being taken to make due allowance for the tide which, during both flood and ebb, sets across this channel, and over the banks on either side of it. The navigation of the Crosby channel in thick weather will be facilitated by equalizing the distances and straightening the line of buoys. The Formby light-vessel must always be passed on her southwest side. The new buoy on Beggar's Patch should be given a wide berth. X. Y.

The Kansas Constitutional Convention.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 3, 1857.

Having been a frequent attendant on the debates of the late Kansas Constitutional Convention, and having a personal acquaintance and knowledge of many of its members, I propose to state certain facts in connection with it which have not yet been noticed.

It is asserted that the present mode of submission was a compromise between the conservative members of the Convention, or between the conservatives and ultra pro-slavery men. This is not in accordance with the facts.

There were three modes of treatment of the Constitution proposed. The plan of the fire-eaters was to send the Constitution to Congress without submission to the people. The submissionists were divided into two parties, one under the lead of Mr. Calhoun, who is the father of the present mode of submission, and the other under Judge Elmore, who proposed and advocated a fair and full submission of the whole Constitution to the people. Previous to the final disposition of the question, a test vote was twice taken upon the full submission, and once upon the present mode, and the plan of a full submission received a larger vote than the Calhoun plan. But Calhoun, though inferior to Judge Elmore in intellect, information, and character, was greatly his superior as an active party manager, and, principally through his management, the party for a full submission, though at first in the majority, was finally beaten in caucus and in the Convention, and forced either to submit to the present plan or have the Constitution sent at once to Congress.

This plan was advocated, both in the Convention and out of it, by the more far-seeing of the ultra pro-slavery party, on the express ground that *it would make Kansas a slave State*—that the Abolitionists would absent themselves from the polls—that the pro-slavery party alone would vote—that a pro-slavery Constitution would thus be adopted, and sent to a Democratic Congress, which would be compelled to sanction it. Or, if the free-State men did vote upon the Constitution, they would adopt the "Constitution without slavery," which contained a pro-slavery clause recognising and perpetuating slavery in the Territory.

The present mode of submission, while under discussion in the Convention, was characterized by the anti-submissionists as a "swindle, a fraud, a cheat, a mockery." All their artillery of sarcasm, humor, argument, and invective were plied to expose it. Their speeches would furnish a mine of argument and indignation against it. After it finally passed, several of the more violent anti-submissionists resigned, and others withdrew from the Convention in disgust and chagrin at the result of their proceedings.

Now, the Convention adjourned on the night of November 7th, at half-past eleven P. M., and the Constitution, as I was informed by a member of the Convention that night, was signed by but thirty-five members. I know that Mr. Calhoun and his friends became very fearful that the Convention would be left without a quorum. How does it happen that it is now, as reported, signed by forty-eight members?

It was effected through Mr. Calhoun and his friends, who brought to bear all their tact and address upon the recusant fire-eaters, and convincing them that the South, by this mode of submission, would gain a new slave State in Kansas. It was through this argument that they were induced to sign it and give it their support. The advocacy of this plan, by the Charleston *Mercury* and its coadjutors, proves how well-founded were Mr. Calhoun's plans and arguments.

The Constitution contains features in themselves objectionable to the Democratic party. It provides for the creation of State banks, and it contains a Know Nothing clause, restricting the candidates for Governor to those only of the citizens of the State who shall have resided in the United States twenty years.

Those, however, are points which, however objectionable, cannot furnish ground for the rejection of the Constitution. There is, however, *a fraud* recognised in the Constitution, and furnishing the basis of important provisions, which will require the gravest consideration.

In the creation of representative and council districts for the new State, the fraud of the Oxford city returns has been made a basis in estimating the population of Johnson county. The entire official vote of this county did not exceed 400, but it was swelled to over 1800 by the return of 1600 fictitious names from Oxford city, a hamlet containing but three dwelling-houses.

This question will be readily understood by a comparison of Johnson county with Shawnee county, both of which are made council districts. The upper house of the Legislature is called the Council. The official returns from Johnson county showed a vote of not over four hundred. The returns from Shawnee showed over eight hundred, and yet Johnson county is given double the representation of Shawnee, though Shawnee has twice the population. Judge Elmore, one of the representatives from Shawnee county, inquired the reason of this discrepancy, and was informed by Mr. Boling, the chairman of the Committee on Elections, that the returns from Oxford city had been included in forming a basis for the representation of the county. This question becomes still clearer when you are informed that Johnson county is a strong pro-slavery county, and Shawnee free-State.

Another fraudulent distribution of representation was detected by the officer having charge of the returns, in the office of the Secretary, upon comparison with the official returns, by which one pro-slavery county, which returned about three hundred votes, was given two representatives in the lower House, and two free-State counties united only gave one, though they returned five hundred votes. There were other variations from the official returns in districting the Territory, showing an utter disregard of the official returns, but none so glaring as those mentioned above.

It was not surely intended by the Constitution of the United States that, in the admission of a State, every Constitution purporting to be republican should be received by Congress; and it should at least be a matter of serious deliberation whether a Constitution which defrauds the people of their just right of representation, in a manner so palpable and demonstrable, should be regarded as a republican Constitution.

MADAME LOLA MONTEZ' LECTURE.

Last night the Musical Fund Hall was literally crowded—the attraction being a lecture by Madame Lola Montez on the "Heroines of History," and "Strong-minded Women." It was a composition at once brilliant and learned, pathetic and witty, with a pretty strong dash of good-humored satire. It treated of Women of the Sword and of the State,—heroines of the "Pen,"—heroines of "Beauty and Genius,"—modern "Strong-minded Women,"—heroines of the "Home," and "Women of the Tongue." The applause, from as appreciative an audience as ever the fair lecturer ever addressed, (she always speaks of Philadelphia as the Florence of America,) was warm throughout, and, at some especial points, even enthusiastic. The most touching portion related to heroines of "the Home," and the most amusing was that, in which, suggesting a *Men's*-rights' Convention, she delivered, with dramatic effect, such a speech as might have been delivered on such an occasion by one of the injured *harder* sex.

We have to state, with much gratification, that this is the close of Madame Lola Montez' career as a public lecturer. We break no confidence, and do not intrude on the secrecy of private life, by mentioning that this fair and gifted woman is on the eve of a very brilliant matrimonial alliance. She purposes, in ten days from this time, to be *en route* for Paris. Her return to this country, for a short visit, may be expected in the spring. And so we take leave of her as a lecturer, and, with due gallantry, wish her all imaginable happiness in this approaching new phasis of her eventful life.

THE WELSH NIGHTINGALE.—Miss Williams continues highly attractive at Concert Hall, in her dramatico-musical entertainment, "The Lady's Dream," and will repeat it this evening.

THE LATEST NEWS
BY TELEGRAPH.

Washington Affairs.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The appearances are that the House will effect an organization on Monday without trouble. The contest is particularly warm for the posts of postmaster, doorkeeper, and printer.

It is now definitely understood that printed copies of the President Message will be sent in advance to the cities of Philadelphia and New York, if no further.

The Republican Caucus.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—It is understood that the caucus of the Republican members of the House will be held at 10 o'clock on Monday morning. Messrs. Grow of Pennsylvania, Blair of Missouri, or Washburne of Maine, will probably receive the nomination for Speaker. It is the present intention to make no other nominations.

Fugitive-Slave Case in Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 4.—Eight days since the agent of Dr. Vallandingham, of Frankfort, Kentucky, captured a fugitive slave at Naples, Ill. While en route for Kentucky the negro was taken on a writ of *habeas corpus* before Judge Wallace, who ordered his release. He was, however, again arrested, and taken before United States Commissioner Rea, who, after a hearing of the case, decided that the fugitive must go back to slavery again. The fugitive was then re-arrested on a writ issued by Judge Wallace, before whom some nice questions of State sovereignty are now being discussed. It is claimed by the counsel for the fugitive that he is free under the fugitive-slave law and the Dred Scott decision, as well as under the State Constitution. In the meantime Dr. Vallandingham has been arrested on the affidavit of the fugitive, charging him with the crime of kidnapping. The latter case is now in progress before Mayor Wallace.

The Craddock Murder Case.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 4.—The preliminary hearing in the case of the Commonwealth *vs.* Miller and others for the murder of Pascal D. Craddock, was concluded at 7 o'clock this evening. All the seven prisoners accused by Miller were discharged. The testimony of Miller, and the cross-examination to which he was subjected, occupied two days. All the defendants, except Miller, severally introduced testimony proving alibis and their good character. There was also abundance of testimony showing Miller's character to be bad, and that he was unworthy of belief.

The discharge of the parties implicated by Miller was hailed with tremendous applause by the large crowd in attendance.

The District Attorney, Mr. Craig, moved the commitment of Miller on the charge of perjury, but the justices replied that he was already held on the charge of murder by his own confession.

The Ohio River.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 4.—The weather is cloudy to-day, with some rain. The Ohio rose two feet in the last twelve hours, and is still rising rapidly.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 4.—There is now nine feet seven inches of water in the Ohio, and falling.

Markets.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 4.—The markets here are generally unchanged. Exchange on New York 103 a 103½.

Fifteenth Ward Relief Association.—The Association of the Fifteenth ward is working up admirably, and since the organization a vast amount of good has been done among the poor of that section of the city. The members of the Executive Committee are most assiduous in their efforts to relieve the distressed condition of many families, and the citizens of the ward are promptly responding to the calls of the proper committees for "material aid" to prosecute the great work of relief. At the meeting held in the Third Associate Reformed Presbyterian church, corner of Twentieth and Fairview streets, on Thursday evening, the Committee on Reports submitted a statement of the operation of the Association for the past month, by which it appears that 391 families received needed assistance in food and fuel during that period. The receipts from fees, donations, &c., amounted to $638.75; the expenditures for food, &c., were $121.92, leaving a balance of $213 93, of which amount $160 was appropriated at the last meeting. The Precinct Committees report much distress among families in the ward, and urge upon the members of the association untiring action in the work of Christian benevolence in which they are engaged.

From the Steward's report we find that the following articles have been furnished the storeroom, corner of Nineteenth and North streets, under the charge of Mr. David Morris: 813 pounds sugar, 316 pounds coffee, 4 pounds tea, 61 pounds firkin butter, 9 bushels beans, 21 barrels middling flour, 1 barrel superfine flour, 25 pounds superfine flour, 150 pounds oat meal, 3,250 pounds corn meal, 300 pounds brown soap, 1,600 pounds codfish, 25 pounds mould candles, 5 bushels potatoes, 3 bushels turnips, 1 barrel cabbage, 1 sack salt.

MATTERS AND THINGS IN NEW YORK.

ABDUCTION.—A young lady, aged sixteen years, who resides with her sister in Forty-fourth street, having been missed by her relatives, the police were put in search of her. Late on Wednesday night the officer entered a house of ill-fame in Howard street, and there discovered the young girl, who gladly accompanied him. From her statement it appears that on Monday night last she met with a well-dressed gentleman, of foreign appearance, in the cars on the Sixth Avenue Railroad, who endeavored on that occasion to persuade her to accompany him; but some parties in the car, to whom the young lady was known, prevented her doing so. The following morning, however, as she was going to school in Forty-fourth street, near Broadway, she again met the same man, and by threats and menaces he compelled her to accompany him to the house of infamy in Howard street. Here she was nominally engaged as a domestic, and remained there until discovered by the officer.

A QUESTION.—The following curious notice is posted at the City Hall. No name or address is signed to it:

"Is there any work in New York? If there is, have the kindness to leave directions where a fellow can get it—in order that starvation may not set in.

"NEW YORK, Dec. 2, 1857."

The following story is copied from the Wilmington (Del.) *Journal and Statesman* of yesterday: "A horrible affair took place last week in Dover Hundred. The particulars are as follows: A woman who had served in the capacity of housekeeper for Mr. Joseph Parker for some time, was taken sick on Friday evening last, and several of the neighbors were called in to her assistance, and to attend to her wants. But before medical aid could be had she died the following morning. In order to have her laid out, it became necessary to get her clothes, which were kept in a trunk, but upon it being broken open, to the astonishment of all present, an infant child was found secreted amongst the clothes. The unfortunate woman, to conceal her shame, after having given birth to it, had placed it there. She was interred on Sunday last. An inquest was held over the mother and child by deputy coroner Clayton F. Hawkins."

HANDSOME PRIVATE RESIDENCES, &c.—Thomas & Sons' sale next, Tuesday, will include handsome residences, Pine street, Lombard street, and Franklin street. Also, valuable building lots, Walnut and Locust streets. A mortgage for $1,925; stocks, loans, &c. *See pamphlet catalogues issued to-day.*

"FARLEY."—This elegant country seat and farm is offered at private sale. See Thomas & Sons' advertisement, auction head.

James Freeman, auctioneer, sells this day, at 12 o'clock, at the auction store, a lot of wines, brandies, whiskey, &c., of the choicest brands. By order of administrator. See advertisement.

THE AMERICA'S MAILS.

The Cunard mail steamship America arrived at Boston on Thursday evening. She brings us full files of English papers, the London dates being the evening of the 20th ult., and Liverpool to the morning of the 21st. The very full and well-prepared telegraphic despatch which was forwarded from Halifax and printed in Thursday's PRESS, leaves but little of importance for to-day. We have compiled some additional particulars of the financial news, however, and a few other selections of general interest.

Parliament was to meet December 3, "for the despatch of divers sundry and important affairs." The suspension of the Bank charter was the chief cause of this step, and the session would probably be chiefly engaged in a discussion of that subject. Indian affairs will also occupy a large share of the attention of members.

It is generally thought the address in the House of Lords will be moved by Viscount Eversley, the late Speaker of the House of Commons, and that it will be seconded either by Lord Belper or Baron Wensleydale. In the House of Commons it is thought that the address will be moved by Lord Haddo, the eldest son of the Earl of Aberdeen, and seconded by Mr. Hanbury, member for Middlesex.

A rumor asserts that Lord Elgin is on his way to England, having flung up his mission to China.

On Monday Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart., was reelected lord rector of the University of Glasgow.

On Thursday the 19th, the Hon. William Hamilton Merritt, M. P. (Canada), had an interview with Lord Stanley of Alderley, at the office of the Board of Trade, on the subject of a continuation of steam communication between Liverpool and Chicago.

The submarine cable was laid between Cagliari, the capital of Sardinia, and the island of Malta in seventy hours, and was completed November 17. By this step the despatch of the next news from India will be accelerated more than twenty-four hours.

We subjoin the latest intelligence from the Continent, received at London by telegraph:

FRANCE.

PARIS, Thursday evening.—M. Fould, the Minister of State, has left here for England. His visit is reported, as on a former occasion, to have reference to monetary matters, with a view to concert unity of action between the banks of England and France.

There is a rumor, founded on good authority, that the French papers will receive a hint to moderate their tone as regards what they term "the English massacres in India."

The Emperor returns from Compiegne on Sunday.

FINANCIAL.

[From the London Times, Nov. 20.]

THURSDAY EVENING.—In all mercantile quarters there has been a decided amendment to-day. Not a single failure has been reported, and some special causes of anxiety lately prevalent have been entirely removed. The stock market opened with firmness at the prices of last evening; and, although a slight reaction subsequently took place, a steady tone was again manifested at the close. Consols for money were first quoted 89¾ to ⅞, whence, owing to the impression that a further advance in the rate of discount might be contemplated at the Bank, where the court did not break up until a late hour a decline occurred to 89½ to ⅝.

Finally, upon its becoming known that no alteration would be made, transactions were again entered into at 89¾ to ⅞ for money, and 89⅞ for the 7th of December. One or two of the principal dealers brought some stock upon the market during the morning, but the public generally showed a disposition to continue their investments. Loans on Government securities were in active demand at 10 per cent. Bank stock left off at 212 to 214; reduced, 88¾ to ⅞; India stock, 212 to 214; India bonds, 45s. to 35s. discount; and Exchequer-bills, 16s. to 10s. discount.

The private letters from Paris describe a better feeling. Some of the American houses are beginning to get remittances, and the situation of the Bank of France is improving. At other continental cities there are likewise signs of an approaching tendency to a revival of confidence.

A further amount of £20,000 Australian gold was sold to the Bank to-day. It is also understood that 50,000 sovereigns have been returned from Ireland.

The £526,000 in gold by the Australasian will be delivered in London to-morrow. It is expected that a large portion, if not the whole, will be sold to the Bank.

It has been announced to-day, by telegraph, that the cable of the Mediterranean Extension Company has been laid between Cagliari and Malta, a distance of about three hundred miles, with perfect success. Hence there will be an acceleration of a day or two in the news by the next Indian mail.

The bar silver brought by the last West India packet has been sold at 61½d per oz., showing no alteration in the rate.

[From the European Times, (Liverpool) Nov. 21.]

FRIDAY EVENING.—The gloom which for the past few weeks has spread over the commercial community has not been removed; the cloud of distrust still hangs over us; and without any prospect of relief until the meeting of Parliament.

The demand for money is exceedingly active, both at the Bank of England and in Lombard street; and although no advance has taken place in the rate of discount at the bank, many rumors have been flying that such a step would be necessitated, and that the directors would be compelled to advance the rate to eleven per cent. These reports most probably gained strength by the heavy failures reported during the week—chief amongst which was the Wolverhampton Bank, one long established, and of old, high commercial reputation. The accounts from Scotland and Ireland, however, are more satisfactory, and the demand for gold has for the time, as far as they are concerned, evidently exhausted itself, and prospects of a return of the bullion to the bank collars at an early period are fully entertained.

The pressure upon almost all classes at the present critical period should cause general forbearance. The discount houses are limiting their accommodation, and in all cases require full rates for the best paper, considerably higher for other descriptions. The timely arrival of gold per the Emeu has produced a favorable feeling, and the exports of specie to the Continent and the East have been almost entirely suspended. The advices from the United States are more satisfactory, and we have had some amounts by the mail steamships returning to this country, chiefly, however, for the purpose of covering bills.

The high rates for money here have rendered the export of the precious metal an unprofitable proceeding. The intended summoning of Parliament is the most satisfactory announcement that could have accompanied the suspension of the Bank charter act. While the causes of that event are fresh they must be thoroughly sifted and exposed.

The account in to-night's *Gazette*, under the item of notes issued, states that £2,000,000 of the total amount are issued under the authority of the Government letter of November the 12th. In the week ending Wednesday night last, the coin and bullion was further reduced, and on the above day stood at £6,484,096, being a decrease in the week of £686,412.

The return from the Bank of England for the week ending the 18th November gives the following results when compared with the previous week:

Public deposits	£5,483,881	Increase	£169,222
Other deposits	13,959,165	Increase	1,023,651
Rest	3,433,500	Increase	69,144

On the other side of the account:

Gov. securities	£6,407,134	Decrease	£3,037,694
Other securities	20,299,270	Increase	4,185,817
Notes unempl'd	404,501	Decrease	553,209

The amount of notes in circulation is £22,150,094, being an increase of £1,966,739 and the stock of bullion in both departments is £6,484,096, showing a decrease of £686,412 when compared with the preceding return. Of the £22,554,595 notes issued, £2,000,000 are issued under the authority of the letter from the First Lord of the Treasury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. Massey, the new member for Salford, and Under-Secretary in the Home Office, has been making a very foolish speech to his constituents. When asked if he had anything to communicate respecting the new Reform Bill, he replied that he had not—that he was not a member of the Cabinet, and did not know its secrets. This confession of ignorance on the part of a member of the Government was received with marked disapprobation.

Several Parisian firms are said to have convoked their most important creditors to concert with them the necessary means to prevent a public failure, and probably come to a provisional suspension of payment.

A Berlin letter of the 15th says: A noted and undoubted improvement has taken place not only in the King's bodily, but his mental health within the last five days. He supports carriage exercise without fatigue, sleeps soundly, has recovered his appetite, articulates freely, and has nearly recovered all the connecting links of his memory. Meantime, scarcely a doubt exists in the minds of the highest medical authorities that the King's brain is affected by the disease called "softening;" a disease pronounced to be incurable; or, at all events, leaving the door open to renewal of congestional attacks.

The Sardinian Government has decided to set at liberty the heroine of the Mazzinian attempt, Miss Jessie Meriton White, annexing to her liberation the condition, or rather the order, that she would quit the country within five days.

INDIA.

A correspondent of the Bengal *Hurkaru*, writing from Cawnpore, says that in more than one place on the walls of the chambers in which the English ladies were confined previous to their murder, are scratched the words, "Remember us," "Revenge us."

General Neill has left a family behind him. "A national provision for them, and that a generous one," observes the *Times*, "is an honor which such a general can justly claim from the tomb. Such a provision will be an honor to the dead and to the living—to him who earned it, and to those who receive it."

AN OATH OF VENGEANCE.—The following has been communicated to the *Poonah Observer*:—"By recent letters received from Brigadier Havorlock's force, it appears that on the arrival of the detachment of the 78th Highlanders at that place of skulls, Cawnpore, after the massacre of our countrymen, women, and children, they by some means or other found the remains of one of General Wheeler's daughters. The sight was horrible, and aroused them to that pitch, that, gathering around, they removed the hair from the poor girl's head, a portion of which was carefully selected and sent home to her surviving friends. The remainder they equally divided amongst themselves; and on each man receiving his carefully served out portion, they all quietly and very patiently applied themselves to the tedious talk of counting out the number of hairs contained in each individual's lot; and when this task was accomplished, they one and all swore most solemnly by Heaven and the God that made them, that for as many hairs as they held in their fingers, so many of the cruel and treacherous mutineers should die by their hands! an oath that they will, no doubt, most religiously keep."

THE KING OF DELHI.—A letter received in Glasgow on the 16th repeats the rumor which the *Morning Herald* published from Calcutta, to the effect that the King of Delhi and the Queen had been killed. The letter, which is dated Calcutta, 8th October, says: "General Wilson, the officer in command, knowing the temper of his men, and feeling the necessity of the case, had issued orders that no harm should be done to women and children, but that no quarter was to be given to the men. He was bound, however, to enforce the official command to secure and protect the persons of the State criminals. He, therefore, placed the royal rebels under arrest, the guard being supplied from the different regiments in rotation. On its coming to the turn of the 1st Bengal Fusiliers, only sixty-four men of which survived the assault, the guard rushed on the King and Queen with their fixed bayonets and speedily despatched them. The officer on duty rushed forward to prevent the vengeful retribution, but was instantly served in the same way."

Richardson Brothers & Co.'s Circular.

[Per steamer America.]

LIVERPOOL, 11 Mo. 20, 1857.—Cotton opened firmly in the early part of the week at the advance noted in our last. Since Tuesday, however, there has been a great pressure on the part of holders to sell, and yesterday prices had declined to as low a point as they ruled on that day week, the recovery having been entirely lost. Market to-day a shade better. Sales 2,000 bales.

Imports this week 11,557 bales. Total sales 20,530 bales; of which speculators took 3,430, and exporters 2,250, leaving to the trade 14,800 bales.

Quercitron Bark has attracted considerable attention at the reduced prices, and a large business has been done at 6s. 9da7s. 3d per cwt for Baltimore, and 8s. 9da9s. for Philadelphia.

Lard is very dull, and although holders would accept 60s no transactions have taken place.

Tallow opened firmly in the early part of the week, at an advance of 2s per cwt., but has since declined, and closes at 48s for P. Y. C. and North America. For delivery for the first three months of next year, 49s is asked. Stock in London is estimated at 40,000 casks, against 15,000 same week last year.

Beef.—There has been scarcely anything done this week, and the few retail sales made have been at a decline of 5s per tierce on inferior description, and about former rates for prime.

Pork.—Nothing doing. Nominal value 80sa85s; but Irish is offering for forward delivery at the latter figure.

Bacon.—Very quiet, and is offering at reduced prices, without bringing forward buyers.

Cheese.—A large quantity was put up to auction on Tuesday, principally of medium quality, but there being no bids, except at a decline of 4sa6s per cwt, the bulk was withdrawn. Since then, however, the above decline has been submitted to.

Since our last the demand for all articles of the trade has partaken more of the nominal than real character, and there has been almost a complete cessation of business.

The lower classes of red Wheats have been somewhat pressed for sale, and considerably reduced prices would have to be accepted to effect the same.

Indian Corn has also been more freely offered, and is obtainable at a further reduction in price.

Deliveries of Wheat from our own farmers for the past week consist of 91,010 qrs, against 109,848 qrs same week last year. Average price 51s 8d per qr, against 64s 4d corresponding week last year.

Our market, this morning, was only slenderly attended, and but a very limited business again resulted in any article of the trade; prices of most articles are somewhat irregular. White Wheat may be written 2da3d per 70 lbs cheaper, and red about 2d; the low price we have now arrived at attracts some attention, but at the moment people are not generally disposed to increase their engagements.

Flour was most difficult of sale, and the late arrivals of barrels are offering freely at a decline of 1a2s. per barrel, and which quite puts a stop to any demand for Irish.

Indian Corn was in very slow request at 6da9d per qr. decline on mixed and yellow, but white, from scarcity, was held at former rates.

Oats, slow demand, at 1d. per 45 lbs. decline, and Meal most difficult of sale, although offered at less money.

Imports from 11mo 13th to 11mo 19th inclusive, consist of 11,981 qrs Wheat, 3,740 qrs Indian Corn, 3,227 sacks and 8,762 barrels Flour. Exports for same period, 4,905 qrs Wheat, 3,043 qrs Indian Corn, 1,373 sacks and 1,479 barrels Flour.

We quote the value of American white Wheat 6s 8da6s 11d; extra 7sa7s 6d; red 5s 9da6s 6d; extra 6s 8da7s 2d per 70 lbs. Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Ohio Flour 25sa26s 6d; Western Canal 24sa25s 6d per bbl. Indian Corn, mixed and yellow, 34s 6da35s; white 41s per 480 lbs.

THE CITY.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

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

WHEATLEY'S ARCH STREET THEATRE, ARCH STREET, ABOVE SIXTH.—"Othello"—"The Toodles."

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

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

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

Oratorical Display.—Probably, more than any other city in the Union, Philadelphia has been celebrated for its street notorieties. We have special reference to that class of curious individuals who are excessively fond of making speeches in front of newspaper offices, bank buildings, and other public places, on the most unintelligible subjects, and for the only purpose, as we imagine, of hearing themselves talk. We frequently meet persons of this description in our perambulations about town, and in common with others are induced to pay respectful attention to their exciting harangues. We have recently noticed an addition to this already large force in the person of a rather elderly woman, fond of liquor and speechifying, who on an evening or two since, by the force of her eloquence, collected a very large crowd around her, at the corner of Sixth and Chestnut streets. While professing no political creed, she stated that she was decidedly opposed to Democrats, Whigs, Republicans, and Americans—all of whom were severely denounced. One ambitious youngster, who professed adhesion to the Democracy, had his feelings deeply wounded by her speech, and he resolved, in defence of his cherished principles, to be revenged.

Gathering together several smaller urchins of similar sympathies, he ordered them to commence groaning and hissing, which they did with remarkable unanimity. Enraged beyond measure, the excited woman endeavored to capture and punish the disorderlies, but without success. Returning to her place she resumed her remarks, creating thereby no little disturbance. She was just about to finish a powerful invective against the "Democracy" when she became surrounded by *stars*; and under the influence of the powers generally attributed to these shining bodies, she was removed from the scene of her oratorical effort, and placed under the fostering care of that good old nurse, Solitude, who, with a kindness unknown to the minions of the law, without fear of molestation, will allow her to exercise the promptings of her genius, and dye her hands (metaphorically) in the blood of her opponents.

We have in memory one greatly afflicted with the "oratorical disease." This ruling passion of a class of weak minds took strong possession of him, and he seized every occasion to manifest it with a refreshing disregard of propriety.

His rhetoric may be described as noisy, voluble, unintelligible, and diffuse, exemplifying almost every change of voice, variety of attitude, and diversity of gesture given by Fowler in his celebrated "Dramatic and Oratorical Expression," though not applied exactly as laid down in that acknowledged authority. Our friend, by the way, like *other* great men, has a weakness for good liquor, though he generally imbibes a bad article on account of the scarcity of something better. He figured quite extensively during the recent "unemployed" meetings, and was *the* chosen speaker at most of these gatherings. His remarks on the "dignity of labor" were always cheered, though not a few wondered why the orator was constantly idle. The last time he presented himself before the public gaze, as the workingman's advocate, he was full of the "rights and wrongs of labor," and let out the intellectual accumulated in this style:

Workingmen of Philadelphia: This is a great country, and we (workingmen) are its ornaments. (Applause.) We are passing through a great crisis, such as was never before seen and will never again occur. (Renewed applause.) I tell you that we are the people, and should rise in our majestic strength and say to the speculators who feed upon our life-blood, that the hungry lion will not be quieted. (Enthusiastic applause.) Send such men as me, such men as us, to Congress, and we will make the right kind of laws for the down-trodden workingmen of Philadelphia. Let us go to the legislative halls, who understand your wants, and all will be well. (Terrific applause and shouts of "Good" "That's so!" and cheers.)

Now is the time to strike the deadly blow at oppression, and crush out tyranny. We are in the right, and must succeed. We can never fail, so long as we seek to overthrow the manufacturers and capitalists. (Overwhelming and deafening applause, which continued several minutes, during which the greatest enthusiasm and excitement prevailed.)

Mr. President, continued our orator, growing warm and energetic, the glory of a good deed is eternal. We are contending for the dignity of the men of hardy frames and honest hearts, and we must prevail over our foes. We can never fall from the position we have assumed——

At this moment the platform gave way, and all who were on it were precipitated roughly to the ground. The orator was much bruised about the head and face, and made a narrow escape from being seriously injured. After wiping the dirt from his clothes and the blood from his face, he wended his way homewards, wisely resolving to seek other occasions than those offered by "unemployed" meetings for his "oratorical displays." Thus has he fallen from the position he assumed.

The Poor of the Nineteenth Ward.—The Nineteenth ward is in a worse condition than any other ward in the city, as by far the greater number of their inhabitants are of that class who depend upon their daily toil for the means of obtaining the necessaries of life. The panic having closed the avenues of trade, they are left without work and, consequently, without bread. Great numbers of persons who, prior to the present time, never knew want, are now without the means of obtaining food. To alleviate their misery a society has been formed; but so great is the destitution, and so few able to contribute, that the society has been unable to do much thus far. Some two or three years ago the Provident Society of the Nineteenth ward earned an enviable reputation. The same men who so worthily conducted its affairs are engaged in the present undertaking, and will no doubt as faithfully disburse whatever may be received for that purpose. Will not some of our liberal citizens who have somewhat to spare, come forward and aid the "Provident Society" in their effort to relieve the distresses of the poor? Give them the means: their already acquired good name is sufficient guarantee of the application of all donations in a proper manner.

Stephen Taylor, Esq., City Controller, is the president; Adam Warthman, Esq., Fourth below Franklin street, treasurer; Alderman E. J. McGonegal, secretary, No. 535 Frankford Road; either of whom will be pleased to receive donations of provisions, clothing, money, &c.

A Commendable Object—Grand Concert in aid of the Poor.—We learn that active preparations are now being made for a grand concert in aid of the orphans of St. John's Asylum, which is to take place on Friday evening, the 11th instant. Mr. E. A. Marshall has very kindly granted the use of the Academy of Music for the occasion, and a number of distinguished vocalists have volunteered their services. It is expected that this concert will be one of the largest and most brilliant of the season. The object in view is certainly commendable. The concert, while it will afford agreeable entertainment to those who patronize it, will bring relief to many of the neglected orphans of our city.

Vagrant Thieves.—John Brown, John Davis, and John Roxborough were arrested by Officer Wallace, yesterday morning, on the wharf, having in their possession a quantity of rope, valued at forty dollars. They were brought to the Central Police Station, and committed to answer by Alderman Eneu. The reporter of an evening paper, in alluding to these three prisoners, states that "they appeared before the alderman almost enveloped by animation." This is certainly brilliant and luminous.

Serious Stabbing Case.—During an altercation which occurred in Duffy's court yesterday afternoon, a man named Ludwig Kossuth was stabbed in the left side by a man named Henry McDowle, and it is thought fatally injured. McDowle was arrested and taken before Alderman Moore, of the Fourth ward, who committed him to await the result of the wound inflicted upon Kossuth. The affair caused considerable excitement in the neighborhood. The wounded man was conveyed to the Pennsylvania Hospital.

Grand Jurors, commencing December 7, 1857: William T. Doyle, George Esher, David Farrell, Thomas M. Femington, Samuel J. Finley, George Gamber, William C. Haines, Thomas Hardcastle, Andrew J. Holman, John Kessler, Jr., Albertus King, John S. Lowry, Henry Marcus, Jacob S. Myers, Martin Murphy, Thomas McDonough, Wm. V. McGrath, John McWhorter, John H. Parker, William W. Sharp, James Wilson, Charles Young, Richard Young, Charles W. Zimmerman.

Larceny of Money.—Yesterday afternoon, before Alderman Eneu, Walter Peters was committed on the charge of the larceny of three hundred and twenty-five dollars in money from the store of Mr. Mingle, No. 103 Market street. The accused went into the store and inquired for a gentleman, whom he was informed was engaged. While the back of the proprietor was turned the larceny was effected.

Malicious Mischief.—Yesterday afternoon James Kingsbury was taken before Alderman Eneu on the charge of driving his furniture car into the back of Thomas Nicholson, on the rail-track in Dock street, in consequence of which the spring of the hack was broken. The accused was held to bail to answer.

Death from Want and Exposure.—Coroner Fenner held an inquest yesterday morning on the body of a colored man named Alfred Dill, about twenty-seven years of age, who died at a late hour on Thursday night, from want and exposure. A verdict was rendered by the coroner's jury in accordance with the circumstances.

The Corner Stone of the Pennsylvania Training School for Feeble-minded Children will be laid on the new site of the institution, in Media, Delaware county, on December 8th, at 12 o'clock M. The presence of several distinguished persons, who will assist in the exercises, is expected.

Serious Railroad Accident.—Last evening a lad named Thomas Golden, aged about twelve years, was run over at Port Richmond by a coal car, and had his legs crushed in a very shocking manner. He was taken to the Pennsylvania Hospital.

Visit of the Mayor of Baltimore.—Mayor Swann, of Baltimore, is now in this city. Mayor Vaux yesterday entertained him with the usual hospitalities of the city, and conducted him through the public buildings in the row and other institutions.

Rev. I. D. Williamson, D. D., repeats his great sermon on the "Immortality of the Soul" to-morrow evening, at 7½ o'clock, in the Church of the Messiah, Locust, east of Broad street. Dr. Williamson is one of the ablest theologians in this city.

The Retail Business along many of our principal streets, as we learned by inquiry yesterday, is extremely dull, although the prospect for a change for the better is decidedly encouraging.

The State Poultry Exhibition, after a successful week, closes this evening. The exhibition has been one of surpassing interest, and has been visited by thousands of our citizens.

The police returns made to Mayor Vaux yesterday were entirely devoid of interest. The different districts were unusually orderly during Thursday night.

THE MONEY MARKET.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4, 1857.

Depression and inactivity continue to prevail in every department of trade. The time for the easy purchase and shipment of our agricultural products has nearly gone by, and the greater portion of the cotton and breadstuffs remain in the hands of the producers. The farmers and planters partake of the general distrust, and find an additional motive for delay in sending to market in the reduced prices, which many of them, in spite of all reason and experience, believe will prove only temporary.

The merchants evince no disposition to contract new obligations, and all seem disposed to lie quiet until the great business of liquidation has gone on further towards completion. In this state of commerce are to be found many features of encouragement for the future, and every reason for the belief that when active operations are recommenced, they will be conducted upon a solid basis of caution, prudence, and healthy confidence, which will insure us for some time to come from the anxieties and embarrassment which have so widely resulted from our immersion into the opposite conditions of the past two years.

The proposed exchange of Allegheny county bonds for Pennsylvania Railroad stock, which the president of the company has endeavored to effect on behalf of the bondholders, has fallen through; the county commissioners having decided that they had no legal power to make the exchange. An application will probably be made to the next Legislature for the necessary authority, when the proposed arrangement will be carried out.

The Baltimore *Sun* says:

The suspension of Robt. Clinton Wright, of this city, is announced. This will be generally regretted, as Mr. Wright has long been one of our most enterprising and esteemed merchants, being largely engaged in the Rio trade. He states that his suspension in nowise affects the house of Maxwell, Wright, & Co., of Rio, with which he is connected.

The Evening *Bulletin* says:

We have a much more active coal trade to report this week than we expected a week ago, the mild weather having re-opened the canals, which were closed for two days by the ice. The following is a statement of the receipts of coal from the Lehigh and Schuylkill regions, for the week and season:

1857.	Lehigh. Week.	Season.	Schuylkill. Week.	Season.
Canal	19,518	890,759	28,011	1,236,597
Railroad	9,976	418,236	47,155	1,732,525
Total	29,494	1,308,995	75,176	2,969,122
SAME TIME LAST YEAR.				
1856.	Week.	Season.	Week.	Season.
Canal	19,345	1,180,425	32,195	1,146,020
Railroad	6,007	157,872	47,639	2,121,514
Total	25,352	1,338,297	79,834	3,267,534

RECAPITULATION OF THE SEASON.

	1856.	1857.	
Lehigh Canal	1,180,425	890,759	Dec..289,666
" Railroad	157,872	418,236	Inc..260,364
Schuylkill Canal	1,146,020	1,236,597	Inc.. 90,577
" Railroad	2,121,514	1,732,525	Dec..388,989
Total	4,605,831	4,278,117	Dec..327,714

SCHUYLKILL NAVIGATION COAL TRADE.—The following are the receipts of coal for the week ending Thursday, Dec. 3, 1857:

	Tons.	Cwt.
From Port Carbon	8,548	15
" Pottsville	940	00
" Schuylkill Haven	16,442	10
" Port Clinton	2,080	00
Total for week	28,011	05
Previously this year	1,206,586	01
Total	1,234,597	06
To same time last year	1,146,021	03

The following table gives a classification of the several articles imported by the United States during the year ending June 30, 1857:

Sugar	$42,776,501	Woollens	$31,286,218
Molasses	8,259,175	Raw Wool	2,125,744
Coffee	22,426,758	Cottons	28,685,727
Tea	5,775,175	Flax and Hemp Goods	11,961,124
Iron fabrics	25,054,109		
Copper	5,648,723	Raw Hemp	2,353,891
Tin	5,866,096	Laces and Embroideries	5,894,890
Lead	3,369,102		
Hides & Leather	14,640,159	Clothing	1,918,988
Salt	2,022,583	Hats and Straw Goods	2,246,923
Rags	1,448,125		
Flaxseed	3,203,824	Gunny Cloth	2,139,793
Saltpetre	1,156,825	Watches, &c.	5,156,871
Indigo & Madder	2,385,081	China & Glass	6,134,270
Fruits & Spices	4,167,499	Furs	2,355,540
Drugs, Oils, &c.	6,600,980	Wines	4,274,181
Guano	1,201,476	Brandy, Gin &c.	5,016,000
Books & Papers	1,762,826	Cigars & Tobacco	5,601,555
Silks	30,837,292	Miscellaneous	43,663,514
Total in 1857			$348,428,342
Last year			310,432 310

Of the excess—$37,996,032—over last year in the total of above purchases, no less than $23,171,042 is from the increased value of sugar and molasses alone, as follows:

IMPORT OF SUGAR AND MOLASSES—1856-7

In 1856, 545,754 lbs. sugar, value of	$22,529,969
In 1856, 23,617,674 gallons molasses	4,334,668
Total last year	26,864,637
Of which from Spanish islands	23,899,281
In 1857, 777,093,215 lbs sugar, value of	42,776,501
In 1857, 32,705,814 gallons molasses	8,259,175
Total this year	50,035,676
Of which from Spanish islands	46,620,186

The estimates of the appropriations required for the expenses of the United States Government, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859, as reported by Mr. Cobb, the Secretary of the Treasury, are as follows:

CIVIL LIST.

Foreign intercourse and miscellaneous, including the expenses of collecting the revenue from sales of public lands, public buildings, and expenses of courts	$9,090,603 92
To supply deficiencies in the revenue of the General Post Office	3,654,900 00
Pensions	769 500 00
Indian Department	1,437,104 49
Army proper, &c., including miscellaneous objects	14,076,619 49
Military Academy	182,804 00
Fortifications, ordnance, &c.	3,485,113 00
Naval estimates	13,680,448 23
Steam mail service	935,850 00
Total	50,312,943 18

To the estimates are added statements showing, first—Appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1858, made by former acts of Congress, of a specific and definite character, as follows:

Miscellaneous, including expenses of collecting revenue from Customs	$4,809,910 14
Compensation to General Post Office for mail service	700,000 00
Arming and equipping militia	200,000 00
Civilization of Indians	10,000 00
Interest on public debt	1,445,314 35
Total	$7,165,224 49

Second—Existing appropriations not required for the service of the present fiscal year, and which may be applied to the service of the year ending June 30, 1859, as follows:

CIVIL LIST.

Foreign intercourse and miscellaneous	$7,350,616 48
Interior Department—Pensions and Indians	1,341,570 98
War Department	3,599,920 06
Navy Department	4,294,479 93
Total	$16,586,588 35
Grand total	$74,064,755 97

There is also a statement of the several appropriations which may be carried to the supplies fund, amounting to $566,031 26.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD.—The following is the amount of coal transported on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, from the 1st to the 3d inst., inclusive:

	Tons.	Cwt.
From Port Carbon	6,029	13
" Pottsville	1,744	10
" Schuylkill Haven	11,825	02
" Auburn	447	07
" Port Clinton	2,926	07
Total for three days	22,972	10
Previously this year	—	—
Total for year	—	—
To same time last year	30,166	06

The following are to-day's quotations for Specie, by Cronise & Co., Bullion and Specie Brokers, 40 South Third street, payable in bankable funds:

Amer. ½ Dollars, old	1.05	Am Gold, old coinage	1 07
" ¼ " "	1 03	Sovereigns	4 96
Mexican Dollars	1.03	" old	4 93
South Am. "	1.05	Napoleons (20 Francs)	3 91
Spanish Pillar Dollars	1 00	Ten Guilders	4 03
Five Francs	98	Ten Thalers	7 95
German Crowns	1 08	" " Prussian	8.10
French "	1.10	Ducats	2.25

American Gold.........2 to 2½ premium.
New York Exchange......1½ to 2½ "
Boston " ......1½ to 2 "
Baltimore " ......1½ to 1½ dis.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK EXCHANGE SALES,
December 4, 1857.
Reported by R. Manly, Jr., Stock Broker, No. 80½ Walnut street.

FIRST BOARD.

1000 C & A R 6s '83...70	1 Penn R...39½
400 Schuyl Nav 6s '82.61½	4 do ...39½
100 do ...'82.61½	10 Cam & Amb R...98
1000 do ...'82.61½	2 do ...98
2000 N Penn R 6s...54½	7 Reading R...27
500 do ...54½	5 do ...27
2000 do ...54	1200 New Creek... ½
500 do ...54	50 Schl Nav pfd..s5.18
1000 do ...54	8 Bank of Penn...14½
500 do ...53½	1 do ...14½
3000 Trenton R 6s...67	12 do ...14½
1000 Penn 5s...84½	15 Louisv Bk...b5.108
200 do ...84½	10 do ...b5.108
200 City 6s...C&P.84½	9 Farm & Mech Bk. 52
100 do ...84½	1 Mechanics Bk...23½
500 Elm R 7s.2d mrt.51	10 F & Mec Bk Cam..40
5 Morris Canal pfd.91	

BETWEEN BOARDS.

4000 Leh Val R 6s...64½	50 Reading R...26½
1000 do ...s5wn.64½	10 Harrisburg R...53
1000 do ...s5.64½	50 Schl Nv pfd .s5wn.18
200 N Penn R... 9½	50 L Island R...10
60 do ...s5. 9½	10 Bank of Penn...14½
30 Penn R...lots.39½	100 Girard Bk b5 lots. 9½

SECOND BOARD.

1350 Schl Nav O B l'n.85	10 Penn R...39
3000 N Penn R 6s lots.54	8 do ...39
1000 do ...2 days.54	15 Long Island R...9½
1000 Schl Nav..6s '82.61½	1 Bank of Penn...14½
1000 Mor Cal 6s b5wn.73	50 Girard Bank...9½
1000 City Coup 6s 2ds.94	50 do ...9½
1000 City 6s...new.91½	50 do ...9½
505 Penn 5s...84½	50 do ...9½
1 Lehigh Scrip...35½	50 do ...b5. 9½

CLOSING PRICES—STEADY.

	Bid.	Asked.		Bid.	Asked.
U States 6s '68	111		Sc N 6s '82 pref	18	18½
Phila 6's int off	84	84	Wmsp't & Elm R	13	14
" " RR	84	84½	do 1st mort 7's	63	71
" " New	91	92½	do do 2d m	50½	61
Pennsylv 5's	84½	84¾	Long Island	9½	10½
Reading R	26½	27	Vicksburg	6½	7
do Bonds '70	74	75½	Girard Bank	9	9½
do Mrt 6s '44	81	86	Lehigh Zinc	½	1
Penna RR	39	39½	Union Canal	4½	4¾
Morris Canl Con	46	48	New Creek	½	¾
Schu N 6s 82	61½	61½	Catawissa R R	6½	7½
" stock	11½	12			

BY THE PILOT LINE.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 4—5.20 P. M.

There is an evident return of "want of confidence." A fear of disasters abroad weighs down the entire community, and until this fear is proved to be groundless, I do not see any chance of any movement towards a return of that confidence so essential to financial health. The banks, as might be expected, are doing harm by being tighter than ever, and adding to the panic, and the money lenders are holding out for higher rates, looking to another harvest.

Literally nothing is doing. No one who has not the best State stocks, and the very best railroad securities to pledge, can get a dollar. Those fortunate to possess these securities can get money at 6a7 per cent. on call, while the best signatures pay from 18a24 per cent. in the street. Sterling exchange is quite inactive at 108½a109½ for sixty days. Paris, 5.25a5.17½.

Gold is active. The California bars have been all bought up at 100½a100¾; sovereigns are bought freely at $4.90; Napoleons $3.88, and American gold at 100½a¾. A very large sum—probably a million and a half—will go out to-morrow, and as much more on Wednesday. The gross receipts of specie in Boston, and New York, and New Orleans, for November, have been $10,745,417, and the exports of specie during the same month from the two first-named ports, have been $3,329,910.

The meeting of the drug and spice importers to reduce their credits, was held yesterday, and resulted in the adoption of a resolution recommending an adherence to the four-months system.

The injunctions against the Mercantile, Charter Oak, and Exchange Banks of Hartford, Conn., have been removed, and the banks will shortly resume business as usual.

The business of the Sub Treasury to-day was as follows:

Total receipts, $72,820.75—$72,000 from Customs. Total payments, $175,382.56; total balance, $3,955,243.93.

There has been a heavy decline in almost the entire list of stocks. The market was very dull, and an utter dearth of outside buyers. A great reaction is looked for, equal to that of October, and you will recollect I predicted this more than a week ago, when every one seemed to have turned bull. Erie closed at 17½; Illinois Central at 91; New York Central at 74½; and Galena and Chicago at 73½; Reading fell off ½, and La Crosse and Milwaukee, 1.

Railroad bonds also tend downward, with a very dull market; and the same may be said of bank shares and State stocks. Several prominent brokers told me that they have never witnessed a much duller day.

There was a revival at the Corn Exchange. Flour is 15c better than yesterday, and consequently 10c worse than Wednesday's closing price. The grain market, however, is depressed, and provisions are not much changed; if anything, they are rather lower. At the Second Board there was a further important decline, as will be seen by the bulletin of sales.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE SALES, Dec. 4.
FIRST BOARD.

1200 U S 6s, '67 ex int	109	175 Erie Railroad	18
6000 N Y St 6s, '73	109	200 do s60	17½
5000 Ohio 6s, '86	103	350 do	17½
5000 Mich State 6s	91	200 do s3	17½
1000 Tenn 6s, '90	85½	150 do	17½
5000 Missouri 6's	79	200 do s10	17½
3000 Virginia 6's	88½	100 do	17½
5000 Ill Reg Bds	87½	155 do	17½
3000 Erie Bds, 1875	39	50 Harlem R	9
4000 Erie Conv '71	30½	100 Harlem Pf R b10	20
1000 L Cr & Mil L G	30	100 Mich Southern	20½
1000 Ill Cn Bds c	85	20 do	28½
22 Union Bk	100½	50 do s3	20
10 Bk State of N Y	90	100 Reading R	53½
5 Bk of Commerce	92	840 do	53
25 Amer Ex Bk	88	100 do b60	53
50 Metropolitan Bk	95	100 do s60	51½
100 Am Coal Co	23	300 do s30	52
78 Del & Hud Co	104½	900 do s10	52½
50 do s30	104	70 Mich S & N I Pref	34½
50 do s30	104½	50 do	34½
11 Penna Coal Co	61½	250 Panama R	93½
100 Cumb Coal Co	10½	250 do	93
50 Canton Co	17½	50 do s60	92½
208 N Y Cen R b60	75	25 do	93½
10 do	74½	20 Gal & Chic R	76
63 do opg	75	50 do s10	75
25 do b7	75	27 do	74½
30 do p&c	74½	200 do s10	74
150 do opg	74½	50 do b30	74
100 do	74½	50 do	73½
2340 La Cr & Mil	12	155 Clev & Tol R	44
300 do s5	11½	100 do	43½
50 do b10	12	300 do	43½
100 do s10	11	100 do	43
150 do	11½	250 do	43½
20 Chic & Rk Isl R	75½	50 do	43½
30 do	75	35 C B & Quincy R	62

MARKETS.

ASHES.—The market is quiet—sales of Pots at $6.87½a$7, and Pearls at $6.37½a$6 50.

COTTON.—The market is irregular, and only a few sales have been made at a decline under the America's news of ¼a½ of a cent. We quote middling uplands at 11 cents, and good middling at 11½ cents.

FISH.—The demand is moderate, and prices are nominally unchanged.

FLOUR, &c.—The demand for western canal flour is more active, and the market is better and more settled. The inquiry is in part for export, but mainly for the home trade.

The sales are 12,000 bbls at $4.55a$4.65 for common to good State; $4.75a$5 for extra do; $4.55a$4.65 for superfine Indiana and Michigan; $4.75a$5 65 for extra do; $5.75a$5.80 for common to good extra Ohio; $5.80a$7 for good to choice do; $5.75a$7.25 for St. Louis brands; and $5.35a$7.75 for extra Genesee, the latter price for "Leroy Mills," an extreme price.

Canadian Flour is 5c better, and in fair request; the arrivals are not large; sales of 600 bbls at $4 60a$4 70 for superfine, and $4.95a$6.30 for extra brands. Southern Flour is offered freely, and the better grades are dull and lower. The sales are 800 bbls at $5 10a$5 30 for mixed to good brands; Baltimore, &c, $5.40a$6 90 for the better grades.

Rye flour is heavy and inactive at $3 30a$4.35. Corn meal is in limited demand at $3.50 for Jersey. Buckwheat flour is saleable at $2.12½a$2.25 per 100 pounds.

GRAIN.—The demand for wheat is moderate—the arrivals are not large and the demand is mainly for milling, and there is more steadiness. The sales are 7,000 bus at 99a$1.15 for damaged Southern; $1.20 for white Indiana; $1.40 for white Michigan, and $1.41a$1.50 for white Kentucky.

Rye is lower and is dull; the supply is fair; sales of 2,700 bus at 75c for Northern. Oats are better and more active—sales of State and Western at 43a48c. Barley and barley malt are unchanged and quiet.

Corn is rather better—the demand is fair for the local trade and the supply not so large; sales of 15,000 bus at 67a77½ for new Southern yellow, 79 for old and new Southern yellow mixed, 85 for old Southern yellow, and 82 for Western mixed, in store.

NAVAL STORES.—Spirits Turpentine, owing to the small supply on sale, is very firmly held, but the demand is only moderate—sales of 400 bbls at 43c cash. Crude remains dull and prices somewhat nominal. Common rosin is in limited request, but prices are without essential change—sales of 700 bbls at $1.32½ per 310 lbs. delivered by lighter. In other descriptions there is nothing of moment doing.

OILS.—The inquiry for all kinds continues very limited. Linseed is less animate, but prices are unchanged—sales of 3,000a4,000 gallons at 53a54c. Crude whale is still languid; and in the absence of sales prices are merely nominal. There is a little more inquiry for crude sperm for export, induced by the low prices current, but holders are demanding higher rates, which checks business; better sell it, however, when there is a demand, than force it on the market when orders may be withdrawn. Some importers are now asking $1.03, but there are no buyers at present that will pay over $1 per gallon, cash, and this may be considered an extreme price. Other kinds are equally inactive, but prices are unchanged.

PROVISIONS.—The demand for pork is limited and prices tend downward, sales 200 bbls at $17a$17 50 for mess—the inside price for delivery next week; and $15 50a$16 for prime.

Beef is heavy at the decline—the demand is of a retail character, and the arrivals liberal; sales of 170 barrels at $5.75a$6.75 for country prime, $9a$10 for ditto mess, $11.50a$13.50 for repacked Western mess, and $14a$14.75 for extra ditto.

Prime mess is in fair demand at former prices. Beef hams are dull at $14a$16.75. Bacon is in fair request; sales of clear for California at 12 cents. English middles are quiet and prices are nominal.

Cut meats are in moderate demand at 7½a8 cents for shoulders and 9½a10½ for hams. Dressed hogs are in fair demand at 6a6½ cents. Lard is firm—the stock of prime is light; sales of 120 barrels and tierces at 10a10½ cents, and small lots at 10½a10¾ cents.

Butter is plenty and the demand is light at 12a16 cents for Ohio, and 14a20c for State. Cheese is plenty and quiet at 6a8½.

RICE.—Prime is scarce and other grades are dull and heavy; sales at $3a$3 25 per 100 lbs.

SUGARS.—More has been done this morning and prices are a shade better—sales of 400 hhds Cuba at 6a7½c, mostly for refining. The feeling was much improved, and the demand for our refiners was good.