The Press.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1857.

FIRST PAGE.—Return of the Poles from Exile; The Magazines; Literary Criticisms; Communications: The Tariff—Have You Visited the Sailor's Home; The City; City Police; General News; Singular Death from the Bite of a Cat; Philadelphia Markets.
FOURTH PAGE—The Hall of the Castle, by the Authors of the O'Hara Tales.

THE PRESS IN CALIFORNIA.

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of *four hundred and eighty-five dollars* from our friends in California, by the last steamer, for subscriptions to the California PRESS, and also an order from McMINN, news agent, of San Francisco, for seven hundred extra copies, in addition to the two thousand furnished to our regular agent, Mr. SULLIVAN. We have no room to give to the public all the letters received by the last steamer from kind friends, promising to exert themselves still further in favor of the California PRESS, but the following extracts from leading journals in that State, for which we are indebted to Mr. SULLIVAN, will not be uninteresting to our largely increasing list of readers in the Atlantic States:

[From the Sierra Democrat.]

FORNEY'S PHILADELPHIA PRESS.—J. W. Sullivan, the accommodating San Francisco newsman, favored us with the first number of this new Democratic paper, edited and published by Col. John W. Forney, former editor of the *Pennsylvanian*. It is a large, neatly printed sheet, and, of course, an able expounder of the faith.

The *Press* has considerable to say about California and Californians. Its editor is reputed to be in the confidence of the great Pennsylvanian at the White House, and, altogether, it will be an acquisition to the semi-monthly supply of papers by the steamer; and we hope it will receive a hearty support in this State.

[From the Herald, Crescent City, Del Norte county.]

FORNEY'S "PHILADELPHIA PRESS."—A special edition of this valuable paper prepared for California, will be hereafter forwarded by every steamer. The people of this State, particularly the Democratic portion of them, have long felt the want of a steamer paper from the east of their own politics, which they could depend on as reliable, they having been compelled heretofore to rely almost entirely on opposition journals for political intelligence. This want will be supplied by *The Press*, which paper, though but recently established, has already gained a national reputation for ability. As a newspaper, it is not excelled by any other journal; as a political paper, there is not one forwarded to California, for general circulation, that approaches it in ability and fairness. J. W. Sullivan, of San Francisco, is agent for it, and will supply all demands.

[From Mokelumne Hill Chronicle.]

FORNEY'S PHILADELPHIA "PRESS"—ADDRESS TO CALIFORNIA READERS.—The following from *The Press* to the readers of California, we take pleasure in laying before the readers of the *Chronicle*:

"We have received a number of letters by the two last steamers from California, calling upon us to publish the '*Steamer Press*' for California, and we have concluded to make the experiment, leaving it to our readers in the Golden State to say whether it shall be continued. *The terms of 'The Press'* will be found in this paper, and the terms of '*The Steamer Press*,' published fortnightly, the same as the New York steamer papers.

"California contains a large proportion of citizens of Pennsylvania, many of them the friends of the editor of this journal. Among the inhabitants of California are also to be found thousands who know his name and whose confidence and friendship he has enjoyed. With this steamer we forward a large edition of *The Press*, and invoke our friends to give us their aid in circulating it."

In furtherance of the above, we take pleasure in informing our friends that J. W. Sullivan is the authorized agent of *The Press*, and that Messrs. Rosenfeld & Hellman are the agents at Mokelumne *Hill; who will receive a supply* on the arrival of each steamer.

[From the Santa Cruz Pacific Sentinel.]

We have received a copy of a new paper entitled "*Forney's California Press*," published in Philadelphia. It is one of the best and cheapest newspapers published in the Atlantic States. Jerry Sullivan, of San Francisco, is the agent for California.

[From the Mariposa Gazette.]

A NEW PAPER.—We received from J. W. Sullivan, agent for California, a copy of the first number of *Forney's Philadelphia Press*, a paper which in typographical appearance, and a general variety of news and other interesting reading matter, will, we think, compare favorably with any of the Atlantic journals. The *Press* is an advocate of the present Administration, and will be likely to find favor with the reading public of California.

[From the Placer Courier.]

THANKS.—We are thankful to J. W. Sullivan, of San Francisco, for a bundle of Atlantic States' papers, in which we find *Forney's Philadelphia Press*, a new Democratic paper, published in Philadelphia. We advise the reading public to try a few numbers of it. It is ably edited, and contains twenty-eight columns of interesting reading matter.

It is our determination to make the California PRESS one of the most popular and readable journals in America. The next number will be ready on Monday, January 4, at noon.

THE NEW DEVELOPMENT IN KANSAS.

While the people of Kansas have in every shape, voluntary and legal, protested against the Lecompton fraud; while their representative or delegate in Congress has protested against it; while Governor ROBERT J. WALKER and Secretary FREDERICK P. STANTON, both men of strong Southern attachments, and one of them a native of the South, have denounced it as unworthy of the age; the ready answer of its advocates, at least to us of the free States, has been: "We admit that it is hard to insist upon such a Constitution—we admit it is wrong to force it upon the people who spurn it with loathing as a thing abhorred; but then slavery was the only issue in the late Presidential battle, and as slavery is sure to be voted out on the 21st of December, the mere matter of the Constitution can be soon amended after Congress has compelled the people to take it." Such arguments as these, backed up by the idea that, after all, there was no practical issue at stake, lulled the minds of many good, easy men. And then the fact that nearly every leading man in the South had declared that Kansas was not intended by climate or by events to become a slave State, was the clincher to the nail in the coffin of all adverse argumentation. If it needed anything else to settle the ghost of objection to the Lecompton fraud, and to its virtue and justice, a few allusions out by the "Black Republicanism" were sure to perform the work.

But the apparition will not down. THE PRACTICAL QUESTION HAS TRANSPIRED! The election of the 21st has passed off; and slavery is decreed in Kansas. It was given out, as we have said, in more than one quarter, that if the Constitution was accepted, slavery should be prohibited. We were even told that the pro-slavery men, and that CALHOUN and his accomplices, would themselves vote out slavery if only the people would take the Lecompton Constitution. The sequel is before us. A most contemptible faction in Kansas voted *for* this Constitution and *for* slavery; and now like *submissive and law-abiding men we are called* upon to accept the decree as a boon.

Had the slavery clause been stricken out, and the odious provisions protecting slavery in that Territory been retained, the majority of her people refusing to vote on account of the test oath; and various other disabilities imposed upon them in advance of the vote, binding them to submit to a Constitution upon which they were not permitted to vote, and convicting them of perjury in the event of refusing to obey its provisions, we should still have raised our voice against the decree, and in so doing, we believe, would have been sustained by an overwhelming majority of the Democracy of Pennsylvania. It is against the Constitution framed at Lecompton by a minority Convention that the people of Kansas protest. It is against the instrument which in its Bill of Rights, declares that it is "an inalienable and indefeasible right of the people of Kansas to amend or alter their Constitution whenever they please," and in its schedule, which follows, that whenever the Constitution may be amended they shall not be permitted to make any amendment affecting the right of property in slaves: it is against this high-handed attempt to elevate the right of property in slaves over every other domestic institution, that the people of Kansas protest. It is against the assumption by the Convention of legislative functions; against the provision for the creation of a monster bank; against the aristocratic and anti-Jeffersonian disqualification of adopted citizens; against grants to railroads; against the unprecedented and partial selection of a site for a State Capitol; against the arrogant provision of the right to tax and legislate over the lands of the United States within the borders of Kansas equally with the lands of individual citizens—it is against these and many other clauses of this Constitution that the people of Kansas have arrayed themselves.

But even if the instrument had been all that the Washington *Union* originally declared it to be; even if it deserved the extatic eulogy conferred upon it by that journal; if the people of Kansas, who are to live under it, refused so to regard it, we—a portion of the constituency of those representatives in Congress who are to accept the instrument or to reject it, we—a portion of the Democratic party which voted for Mr. BUCHANAN in 1856, and pledged ourselves that the people of Kansas should form and regulate their own institutions in their own way—should steadily sustain them in their course.

We perceive that censure has been cast upon the men who have voted to make Kansas a slave State. At all events, we repeat our admiration of their courage. Their course was natural. They saw a number of Northern men solemnly pledging themselves to vote for the 'Lecompton' Constitution, with slavery or without slavery, and they determined to make sure of their interests, to leave nothing to inference and to doubt; and so they voted in the slavery clause. And, notwithstanding the cunning preparation for the protection of slavery in the event of the rejection of that clause, they preferred the other course, and now call upon those Northern men who promised to abide by the election of the 21st, to come forward and fulfill their obligations!!

But may we not now readily excuse our fellow-countrymen who on the 21st in Kansas refused to vote? They found themselves, as we have said, in danger of being challenged to support a Constitution upon which they had no right to express their opinion. Who will say that the fact before his eyes that nineteen counties out of thirty had been practically disfranchised in the election of delegates to the Convention, that the people of Kansas were under any obligation to vote for a contrivance so odious? Who will say that they were obliged to vote for it in the face of the broken pledges of CALHOUN and his followers to submit their work to the ballot-box? The great body of the people of Kansas stood aloof from the contest, and allowed the minority to proceed in their own way, (however we may differ from their policy,) thus presenting to the American Congress and the American people, the sublime spectacle of an overwhelming majority of the citizens of a free Territory *refusing to be bound by the mandates of a faithless cabal, and waiting the hour when they might legally indulge in the expression of those opinions, which is the inalienable right of all citizens of the United States.*

The practical question, we repeat, has transpired; WHAT IS NEXT TO BE DONE? What will Congress do? Will this miserable farce of the 21st of December be elevated into the dignity of a popular vote? Rather, will not the patriotic men of all parties in the National Legislature, combine in favor of such an enabling act as has been presented by the distinguished Senator from *Illinois? We do* not regard the President of the United States as committed to the recognition of this treble Lecompton fraud—a treble fraud, having its inception in the June election for delegates to the Convention, in the proceedings of the Convention, and in the preparation of the Bill of Rights, the schedule, and the body of the Constitution itself, and now, finally, in the manner in which it has been referred to the popular vote. We believe that the President of the United States, calmly considering the vast responsibility of his position, and investigating the fully developed volume of public opinion on this subject, will not ask Congress to force this Constitution upon the reluctant people of Kansas.

NEW JERSEY UPON POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY.

In pursuance of the recommendation of the Continental Congress, New Jersey adopted, two days before the Declaration of Independence, a form of government temporary in its character, but which, with some legislative alterations, continued to be the Constitution of the State for nearly seventy years. Its defects had often been pointed out, and were *universally acknowledged*, but the dominant party of the day, of either politics, never deemed it its interest to hazard its present power for a speculative good, by proposing the call of a Convention to the people.

The whole power of the Government was vested in the Legislature, (which was the representative of counties and not of population,) who, in joint meeting, annually elected the Governor, and filled all the judicial and other offices in the State, to the amount of several hundreds, many of them being very valuable, and possessing great local influence. The Governor was *ex officio* Chancellor, and of course must be a lawyer of eminence, and the choice was therefore confined strictly to members of that profession. The Governor might be one day a farmer, the next a merchant, next a suit of black, and the next, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of New Jersey, prancing on a high-metitled charger, in full revolutionary uniform, with his gold epaulettes and plumed chapeau, surrounded by his aids and military staff, in gorgeous military array.

Still the Legislature was the fountain of all power, and united in itself all the legislative, most of the executive, and a large portion of the judicial functions of the Government; and yet *the election of this all-powerful body* was often controlled by a few county officers, whose terms of office were expiring and who were looking for re-appointment to the joint-meeting.

In 1843, several eminent citizens of New Jersey, under the lead of one of the present distinguished Senators from that State, took up this great question of reform, and addressed the people at public meetings, without distinction of party, explaining clearly the *radical* defects of their present Constitution, which had been framed whilst it was still a colony, and was originally intended only as a temporary expedient. The consequence was the election of a Legislature strongly in favor of immediate and thorough reform, who, on the 22d of February, 1844, passed an act to provide for the election of delegates to a Convention to prepare a Constitution for the government of this State, *and for submitting the same to the people thereof for ratification or rejection.*

This act provided for the election of delegates on the 18th March, and they were to meet in Convention on the 14th May; and for the purpose of ascertaining the sense of the people as to the adoption or rejection of the Constitution agreed upon by the Convention, an election was to be held in the several counties of the State on the second Tuesday in August, and every person qualified to vote for delegates to the Convention authorized by *this act were entitled to vote* at such election.

In this old-settled State, one of the original thirteen colonies, this same act extended the right of suffrage upon this great question to *all white male citizens of the United States*, above the age of twenty-one years, who had resided in the State for one year next preceding the election, and who had been actual residents in the *township*, ward, and *county* where they offered to vote for three months next preceding such election.

The delegates to this Convention, composed, by general agreement, of the leading men of both political parties in the State, after a session of forty-six days, agreed upon the present Constitution, which was adopted, *with but one dissenting voice*, and was immediately published by Governor HAINES and distributed over the State for the information of the citizens to whom, on the 13th August, 1844, at an election held for that purpose, it was submitted for ratification or rejection. Out of 23,871 votes polled, there was a majority for the Constitution of 16,750.

Such is the simple history of the present Republican Constitution of New Jersey; and will not the people of this glorious little State, *whose revolutionary battle-fields of Trenton*, Princeton and Monmouth are watchwords to every friend of liberty, demand for their brethren in Kansas the same unalienable rights of framing the Constitution with which *they* are to be admitted into the Union—from the call of a convention, the free and fair election of its delegates, and the final submission *of the whole Constitution agreed upon*, to the ratification or rejection of the people? We are sure they will ask for nothing more, and will be content with nothing less, and that they will reject with scorn and contempt the base Lecompton frauds, the product of a small squad of unscrupulous politicians, in defiance of the known and ascertained will of an overwhelming majority of the people of this fair and fertile Territory.

MR. FORREST.

It gives us much gratification to say, with immediate reference to the statement, in the yesterday's evening papers, that Mr. EDWIN FORREST "lies dangerously ill, at the American Hotel, in Cleveland, Ohio," that a telegram was received from him last night, stating that he expects to be at home, in this city, during the present week.

WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE OXFORD AND M'GHEE FRAUDS?

It will be remembered by the readers of THE PRESS, when, at an early day we exposed and denounced the frauds at Oxford and M'Ghee—and when, for so doing, we were sustained by this entire community and by the whole State, including men of all parties—an attempt was made in some quarters to construe our course into an assault upon Mr. BUCHANAN'S administration. These frauds, so glaring and so boasted over by those who perpetrated them in Kansas, were allowed to pass unnoticed and unrebuked by the Washington *Union*. But when the President's Message appeared, *no censure* was inflicted upon Governor WALKER and Secretary STANTON for the part they acted in detecting and defeating them. The course of THE PRESS, and those independent journals that united with it in execration of these frauds, the course of WALKER and STANTON was thus sustained by the authority of the Chief Magistrate of the Union. In the discussion which has grown out of the subsequent effort of the Lecompton Convention to force an obnoxious Government upon a protesting people, slight reference is made to these frauds. They were so monstrous, that even Southern men, with few exceptions, refused to touch them. They sunk into infamy, and a united public opinion condemned them as unworthy of our age, and even unworthy of the bold, bad men who resorted to them. It must not be forgotten, however, that the very Constitution which Congress is now called upon to compel the people of Kansas to accept, contains a provision, making these very frauds a basis of apportionment *for a new Legislature*, called under that Constitution which, strange to say, assumes legislative as well as judicial powers, and by this Legislature two United States Senators are to be elected, to hold their places for six years, and to hold them by means of false votes never polled!

We revive this circumstance for the purpose of letting our readers see that even these frauds, though unanimously and indignantly repudiated by the people of Kansas and by the people of the entire Union, *have been embodied in the Calhoun Constitution*, and are expected to be made, with the consent of Congress, a part of the future action of the Government of Kansas!

SENATOR HUNTER'S ORGAN.

The Richmond *South* is understood to be the organ of the Hon. R. M. T. HUNTER, Senator in Congress from Virginia. The *South*, the Charleston *Mercury*, and the New Orleans *Delta*, represent that interest in the slave States, which is looking deliberately to the dissolution of the American Union. They expect to unite the Southern people against the Northern people upon the basis of the Lecompton Constitutional Convention, and in their abuse of Governor WALKER, Senator DOUGLAS, and others, opposed to that Constitution, hope so far to influence the Southern mind as to compel all conservative men elsewhere to unite with them in a sectional organization.

How far does Senator HUNTER approve these assaults? He is understood to deprecate and deplore the present excitement in Kansas, but it is due to himself and to the people of the North, as well as to his own constituents, to say *whether he is committed to the calumnies of* his organ, and whether he is ready to become a party to the scheme which looks not only to the overthrow of the Democratic party, but, as a consequence, to the overthrow of the American Union? Senator HUNTER is a candidate for President. The delegation in Congress from Virginia are supposed to favor his pretensions. Now, we repeat that justice to all these interests requires that he should come forth, and, failing to do so, be held responsible for the disunion efforts of his organ and the attacks made by this organ upon men with whom he has been in the habit of associating politically and personally.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28, 1857.

The Kansas affair has been entirely supplanted by the new trouble in which the President is so unexpectedly involved by the rash, precipitate, and unauthorized proceedings of Com. Paulding, in the arrest of Gen. Walker within the territory of Nicaragua, and the breaking up of his enterprise. This incident threatens to kindle a new dissension in the ranks of the Democracy. The flame will grow and rage more violently as the news of the affair spreads abroad, reaching the shores of the Gulf of Mexico, it will, like a prairie fire, sweep everything before it, and involve the whole South in one grand configuration of filibuster *fervor*.

At the North, Walker, his character, motives, and schemes are held in little favor, and his defeat by what means soever, will cause little grief. But in the South it is very different. The filibuster feeling is a very prevalent one among the warlike Southrons, and this feeling has received a new and powerful impulse from the failure of the South to secure Kansas as a slave State. Southern expansion is now the great idea, as essential to maintain, at least, an approach to equilibrium of the North and South to preserve the Union, and to draw the South off from the unwise policy of seeking to extend slavery into the northern latitudes. The Democratic party throughout the Union will acquiesce in this policy. The acquisition of Cuba or of some adjacent Southern country, is the very best step to calm and extinguish the discord which has for some time disturbed the quiet of these States. It was *wisely said* to Mr. *Buchanan, a few days ago*, by a gentleman whose opinion he asked as to the best remedy for the Kansas trouble; "Change the programme; substitute *Cuba* for *Kansas*, and the *Ostend manifesto* for the *Lecompton Convention*." The President smiled and brightened up at an idea which went home to one of his warmest feelings and aspirations. All the troubles, disagreements and misadventures that may occur to him, in an administration which begins already to be an eventful one, will be forgotten in the splendor of the realization of the aim and object of the Ostend Manifesto—the acquisition of that magnificent possession, "Cuba querida."

These feelings in the South will impel their representatives to a violent denunciation of the conduct of Paulding to Walker. I cannot imagine a justification for such conduct. The Administration will be cleared of all responsibility in the matter. Captain Engle, to whom Walker surrendered, has just arrived, and delivered his despatches to the Secretary of the Navy. A meeting of the Cabinet has been called at an early hour to-morrow, to consider this matter; meantime it is asserted that Paulding proceeded without orders, and Captain Engle admitted as much *this evening, saying, "we don't require orders* to know how to perform our duty." The friends of our gallant navy will lament this incident, as calculated to increase the ill-feeling which already exists in Congress against that arm of the national defence. Paulding will have occasion to make as precipitate a return to the States as he has compelled Walker to make. The formidable, and, though often-conquered, never-subdued little filibuster, will be here to-morrow, rooms having been taken for him at Brown's. General Henningsen is here, and was preparing to join Walker when the news of the latter's return arrived.

The *arrival of Senator Toombs is an event of* unusual interest in the present state of parties. He proceeded immediately to the White House, and had a long conversation with the President, in the course of which he expressed his decided dissent from the President's views in regard to our neutrality obligations and our cooperation with Great Britain in guarding the coasts of Central America. The hope has been indulged that, as the father of the enabling act of the last session, Senator Toombs, would support Douglas' proposition. I fear he will not, though he is much less violent than others who stand by *the Lecompton wrong. He laughs scornfully at* the folly and impudence of the upstart denouncers of his gallant associate chief and co-laborer in so many hard-fought battles. There is no man in Congress who could wield a larger influence, and achieve a higher fame than this able debater and fearless legislator, by rising superior to an absurd and weak sectional feeling, and taking his position on the high ground occupied by Douglas and Walker. I do not despair that he will yet contrive the satisfactory adjustment of this difficulty. X.

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.—Five companies of Colonel Sumner's Regiment, First Cavalry, have, within a few weeks past, been ordered from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Riley, K. T., and have taken quarters at said post for the winter. Fort Riley, by this addition, is now garrisoned by six companies—officers as follows:

Major W. H. Emory, First Cavalry, Commanding Post, and First Regiment Cavalry.

Assistant Surgeon R. H. Coolidge, Medical officer, Company F., Sixth Infantry, Brevet Major L. A. Armistead, Captain Sixth Infantry.

Company A, First Cavalry, Captain W. N. R. Beall, First Lieutenant J. N. Perkins.

Company B, First Cavalry, Captain D. B. Sacket, First Lieutenant P. Stockton.

Company D, First Cavalry, First Lieutenant D. S. Stanley, Second Lieutenant L. L. Lomax, Post Adjutant.

Company G, First Cavalry, Second Lieutenant G. D. Bayerd.

Company H, First Cavalry, Captain E. W. B. Newby, First Lieutenant James McIntyre, A. A. Quartermaster, and A. A. C. S., Second Lieutenant E. Long.

C. H. CHAPIN AT MUSICAL FUND HALL LAST EVENING.

At the appointed hour last evening, Musical Fund Hall was filled with a large and highly respectable audience, to hear this popular pulpit orator, on the subject of "Social Forces."

It is hard to say, when we consider the extreme oneiomency of the evening, whether the large audience assembled to hear this intellectual treat, was a greater compliment to the abilities of the distinguished lecturer, or the good sense and refined taste of our citizens. The good taste and commendable enterprise of the People's Literary Institute is of course not to be overlooked in this connection.

At a quarter before eight, Mr. Chapin appeared upon the stand, when Secretary Collins, after stating to the audience that Mr. Beecher would lecture at that place on the evening of the 21st of January, introduced the lecturer of the evening, who came forward, looking as hale and rotund as ever, and commenced his lecture.

The discourse which followed was replete with all those characteristics that tend to make a lecture interesting to a popular audience.

Without being overstrained or far-fetched in any particular, it was *sufficiently brilliant in its* imaginative flights and rhetorical bursts to please, delight, and profitably entertain.

The introduction to this graceful, yet powerful production, was a fit preface to the whole. All things moved. The glaciers on the towering Alps, which feed the onward flowing rivulet at its base below, were said to move.

Yet, so steady and imperceptible was their motion, that at a single glance the beholder failed to recognise the fact. The truth was, however, that *all things* moved, and humanity and society formed no exceptions to this rule; and to consider the moving *forces of society* was the object of his lecture. To speak with scientific accuracy, it might be said that there was but one motive force, and that was *mind*—human intelligence *moving through the ideas of men.*

In a brief analysis of this subject, the speaker proposed to consider *three* capital agencies as embodying the forces that move society. These were the Mechanical, Intellectual, and Moral.

Under the head of the first, the lecturer argued with much force the effect of soil and climate as a developer of mind and action, and in the course of which he concluded a sublime tribute to human genius, by saying that the keels of our merchantmen had written our autograph all around the globe. The very soul and spirit of machinery—if we may use the phrase—was here dissected.

When we saw some noble piece of machinery, the speaker said, it was taking a look at a man's intellect turned inside out, and which might well overawe us in its embodiment of resistless power.

The distinction between the genius of Watt and Fulton, on the one hand, and Shakspeare on the other, was here skillfully drawn. If, upon the whole, the latter was regarded as the greater, it was only because the former had merely *invented*, whilst the latter had *created*; the one merely moulded into form by the aid of gravitation, whilst the other, from the resources of mind alone, evolved his spiritual creations.

Speaking of the concentrating influence of machinery in bringing great power into a small compass, the man of the nineteenth century was said to be a condensed Methusaleh!

The grandest idea about the mechanic arts in their highest sense was, that they lifted the man above his work, and enabled him, amid the dust and cinders, to catch a glimpse of those higher beauties only found in the regions of thought. It would be hard, indeed, if our great mechanical inventors were to be productive of nothing higher than corn and cotton; their tendency, he considered, was to elevate and humanize the race.

But now, *approaching the second topic of the* lecture, he said that the dead might of machinery was not like the *intelligence of man*. And in considering the *intellectual* as one of the main *forces*, the speaker recognized three distinct means through which this force was affected; these were, intellectual apprehension, public conviction, and education.

Truth, considered in the abstract, was like a great coiling chain—one in itself, but made up of innumerable links. For this reason no one truth could properly be said to be totally distinct from every other, and, accordingly, even the most magnificent inventions bore upon them the unmistakable lineaments of plagiarism.

The discovery of America was not in the brain of Columbus, but in the womb of the fifteenth century.

The *power of thought* was here depicted with signal ability, and was shown to be infinitely more resistless in its onward march than legions in battle array.

At this point, Mr. Chapin rose to one of his most exalted oratorial flights, and as he moved along in all the majesty of thought and power of delivery, with which he is so peculiarly gifted, his eloquence was like the surging billows of the deep, evolving from the crest of every succeeding wave a still nobler and sublimer climax.

The influx of social force was to be found in every additional work of art and every new-born thought. The great opposition which truth had always to encounter was next dwelt upon, and the speaker said we ought to thank God if abstract *truth ever became a concrete power.*

It was true that the ordained agencies of government, public opinion, and not *with* it, which he referred to as an evidence that there was a distinction between public opinion and public conviction. His analysis of the character of true and spurious martyrdom to public opinion was here drawn with so much original wit and spicy comment that the audience were fairly convulsed with laughter, while the speaker's remarks were literally drowned amid bursts of applause. He know that *good* men were often liable to persecution, but he remembered with a great deal of pleasure that their assets were always equal to their liabilities.

Now, as public conviction was one of the effective levers through which society could be moved, the *best plan* of securing it was of paramount importance.

In this connection, it was said that *education* was the main instrument through which public conviction could be reached; so, that after all, *a plan of education* really comprised the sum and substance of all our puzzle about the best means of effecting social, and hence moral and intellectual improvement. Viewing this vast subject of educating the race in an extended sense, it was said by the speaker, that we must necessarily pass through trials, that coming generations may be blessed; the graves of the dead were but the stepping stones of the living.

To meet and suppress falsehood, was the work of philanthropy, although error from its nature must always be short-lived. No matter how plausible it may seem for the time being, its shell would always be cracked *in passing through the mill of* events. The education of the human mind to appreciate and apply the truth, was the great work to be accomplished to move humanity into a higher state of being; an education not consisting in the mere acquisition of facts, but that which would fit the mind for applying knowledge properly after it is acquired. Properly, education should not be regarded as a mere prop to the man, but rather as the man himself. The boy who came from college with his mouth full of Horace and tobacco smoke, was only fitted for the great duties of life in proportion as he had learned to use his faculties in *harmony with truth and righteousness.*

Lastly, an increasing conviction of law was introduced as a most important point in this great social problem. The race were but slow in coming up to the important conviction that the world was being governed by a universal law, and he would say, happy the race that in all its doings maintained a superior reverence for the right, and that did not attempt to mendamize the ten commandments into a highway as a road to fortune.

The lecture, of which the above is but a very hurried and disconnected synopsis, was received, not only with apparent satisfaction, but with expressed enthusiasm, as was well attested in the *frequent and hearty applause with which it was* greeted.

LETTER WRITTEN BY WILLIAM PENN.

[From the Harrisburg Telegraph.]

During a visit to the Land Department we were shown the annexed copy of a letter written over *one hundred and seventy-five years ago* by William Penn, the founder of our State. It appears to be the credentials of an agent of the Society of Free Traders, an organized body of merchants which once existed in London, whose objects were to trade with Canada at that period a comparatively unknown country. The "Emperor of Canada" was supposed by the company to be a celebrated Indian chief. The letter is written on a piece of parchment two and a half feet wide by three in length. The letters are about an inch in length, slightly inclining to the right, bold and of very symmetrical formation. The first letters of the first and second lines are large and highly *ornamented, a style which is yet kept up by some* of our first-class publishers, who introduce ornamental initial letters to chapters in their books. The signature of Penn is nearly an inch long, with the same inclination to the right, but the letters are not quite as bold or gracefully formed as those in the body of the document.

TO THE EMPEROR OF CANADA:

The Great God that made thee and me and all the world Incline our hearts to love peace and Justice that we may live friendly together as becomes the workmanship of the Great God The King of England who is a Great Prince hath for divers Reasons granted to me a large Country in America which however I am willing to Injoy upon friendly terms with thee And this I will say that the people who comes with me are a just plain and honest people that neither make war upon others nor fear war from others because they will be just I have set up a Society of Traders in my Province to traffick with thee and thy people for your commodities that you may be furnished with that which is good at reasonable rates And that Society hath ordered their President to treat with thee about a future Trade and have joined with me to send this messenger to thee with certain presents from us to testify our willingness to have a fair Correspondence with thee And what this Agent shall do in our names we will agree unto I hope thou wilt Kindly Receive him and comply with his desires on our behalf both with respect to Land and Trade The Great God be with thee Amen

WM. PENN.

PHILIP THEODORE LERNNAN, Secre'e.

London the 21st of the fourth month called June, 1682.

FINE BOOKS AT PUBLIC SALE.—The sale of beautifully-illustrated Books will be continued this and to-morrow evening at Thomas & Sons' Auction Rooms.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The Indian Bureau has received official information denying the truth of the reports that the disaffection of the Indians in Utah Territory, created by the Mormons, had been communicated to the Indians on the borders of California, and especially those in the southern portion of that State. All remained quiet, and, so far as appearances were concerned, there was no reason to anticipate a different state of things.

Private letters from California state that two *regiments of volunteers were ready, at the tap of* the drum, to advance against the Mormons, and that ten regiments could be mustered in less than sixty days for the same service.

Official Despatch from Com. Paulding.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The following is the official letter from Com. Paulding, detailing the circumstances of the arrest of Gen. Walker:

FLAG SHIP WABASH,
Off Aspinwall, Dec. 15, 1857.

SIR—My letter of the 12th instant informed the Department that I had broken up the camp of Gen. Walker, at Punta Arenas, disarmed his lawless followers, and sent them to Norfolk in the Saratoga. The General came here with me and will take passage in one of the steamers for New York, where he will present himself to the Marshal of the District.

The department being in possession of all the facts in relation to Walker's escape with his followers from the United States, as well as the letters of Capt. Chatard and General Walker to me, after he landed at Punta Arenas, the merits of the whole question will. I presume, be fully comprehended. I could not regard Walker and his followers in any other light than as outlaws, who had escaped from the vigilance of the officers of the Government, and left our shores for the purpose of rapine and murder, and I saw no other way to vindicate the law and redeem the honor of our country than by disarming them and sending them home.

In doing so, I am sensible of the responsibility I have incurred, and confidently took to the Government for my justification. Regarded in its true light, the case appears to me a clear one, the *police being fair and strong. General Walker* came to Point Arenas from the United States, having, in violation of the law, set on foot a military organization to make war upon a people with whom we are at peace. He landed there with armed men and munitions of war, in defiance of the guns of a ship of-war, caused there to be raised a military flag, with nothing to show that he acted by authority, he formed a camp, hoisted the Nicaraguan flag, called it the "Headquarters of the Army of Nicaragua," and signed himself the Commander-in-Chief.

With this pretension he claimed the right of a lawful Government over all the persons and things within sight of his flag. Without right or without authority he landed forty men at the mouth of the *river Colorado, seized the fort of Castillo on the* San Juan, captured the steamers and goods of merchants in transit to the interior, killed men and made prisoners of the peaceful inhabitants, sending to the harbor of San Juan del Norte some thirty or fifty men, women and children, in the steamer Morgan. In doing these things without the show of authority they were guilty of rapine and murder, and must be regarded as outlaws and pirates. They can have no claim to be regarded in any other light. Humanity, as well as law, justice, and the honor demanded the dispersion of these lawless men. The remnant of the miserable beings who surrendered at Rivas were conveyed in this ship last summer to New York, and their sufferings are yet fresh in the memory of all. On board I witnessed the sufferings that must necessarily be inflicted upon an innocent and unoffending people, these lawless followers of Gen. Walker, misguided and deceived into a career of crime, would doubtless have perished in Central America, or their unrelated and festering bodies have been brought back to their friends at the expense of their country.

For the above reasons, which appear to my mind quite sufficient, I have disarmed and sent to New York the followers of Gen. William Walker and his outlawed and piratical followers, for trial, or for whatever action the Government, in its wisdom, may think proper to pursue.

Captain Quinnby, of H. B. M. ship Brunswick, offered to co-operate with me in removing the party from Point Arenas, but, as they were my countrymen, I deemed it proper to decline the participation of a foreign flag.

In a letter of December 18th Com. Paulding gives the particulars of the landing of the marines and seamen at Point Arenas, under circumstances of great difficulty; yet everything was done in so seamanlike and skilful manner, that it was accomplished in the shortest possible time, and without loss or accident. To the excellent discipline and the loosening of the officers and men, the nation is indebted, in the performance of this most unpleasant service, for the exemption of all casualty or accident. There was no one injured, and no loss of any kind was sustained. No commanding officer was so supported by a body of officers and men in a manner more highly to commend his admiration and respect.

The Cabinet had the matter before them to-day. Although the arrest of Gen. Walker is not strictly justified by the instructions to Commodore Paulding, it is regarded as a case so much justified by the circumstances under which, as explained by him, it was effected.

Gen. Walker will be released from his present arrest, and it is probable a process will be commenced to bring him to trial for a violation of the neutrality laws.

Captain Engle had a long interview with the President to-day, and detailed to him all the circumstances connected with the arrest of General Walker.

General Walker arrived in this city this evening, accompanied by Marshal Rynders, and T. F. Meagher and Malcolm Campbell, his attornies. He was received with cheers by a large concourse of people as he entered his quarters at Brown's Hotel.

Shortly after Marshal Rynders with General Walker repaired to the State Department, when the former stated to General Cass that he had received a communication from Commodore Paulding on the subject of his having arrested Walker for engaging on unlawful expedition against Nicaragua; that Walker had promised him upon his honor to surrender himself to Paulding, and he came to the Southern District of New York, on his arrival in that city. That Walker had done so, and that he (Rynders) had accompanied Walker to Washington to ascertain the views of the Department.

General Cass replied that the Executive Department did not recognize General Walker as a prisoner, and that it was only through the action of the judiciary he could be lawfully held in custody to answer any charges which may be brought against him.

Marshal Rynders then informed General Walker that he had no further authority to detain him, and both withdrew.

FROM KANSAS.

ST. LOUIS, December 29.—Dates from Leavenworth, Kansas, to the 25th instant, give the vote of that city, at the election on the 21st, as 235 for pro-slavery provision in the Constitution, and 9 against.

Much excitement prevailed at the polls. There were many Missourians present, some of them voted, after taking the form of oath administered, viz: Are you at this instant an inhabitant of this Territory? Several messengers were arrested, but Judge Lecompte issued writs of *habeas corpus* for their release.

General Calhoun was burned in effigy.

Ely Moore was shot in the leg by a German.

It was rumored that Acting-Governor Denver had issued an order for the arrest of Lane.

The News of General Walker's Capture at New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 28.—The news of the capture of Gen. Walker, on the soil of Nicaragua, by a United States officer, was received in this city with general indignation. An announcement of *the fact was made to the audiences at Spaulding* & Rodgers' Amphitheatre, and the St. Charles Theatre, immediately on its receipt, and caused great excitation.

Calls have been issued for a mass meeting, to be held to-morrow at twelve o'clock, M., *for the purpose* of considering the act.

An intense feeling prevails here in favor of immediately reinforcing Colonel Anderson, who holds possession of Fort Castillo.

Election at Quebec—Serious Riots.

QUEBEC, December 29.—At the election, which took place yesterday, several serious riots occurred at the polls. Three Irishmen were killed and many others injured. The military was called out to disperse the rioters.

The candidates of the Ministerialist party were successful by 2,000 majority.

The Clipper Ship Grey Eagle in Distress.

CHARLESTON, December 29.—The steamship Columbia which has arrived at this port, reports that on the 22d inst. she was spoke the clipper ship Grey Eagle, from City Point, Va., bound to Rio Janeiro, a cargo of flour, dismasted, but she refused to have assistance. The Columbia took off seven of her passengers.

United States Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Nos. 21a22—before reported. Argument commenced for appellants; continued for appellees.

Markets by Telegraph.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 29.—Flour is dull and unchanged. The receipts are light. Wheat quotes at 75a80c for red, and 85c for white. Oats 28c. Whiskey unchanged.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 29.—Flour dull; 400 bbls. sold at $3.55 for superfine, and $3.80 for extra. Whiskey 14½c. Hogs unchanged; 1,200 sold at $4.80a$5. There is nothing doing in provisions.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 29.—*Flour dull; sales of 2,000* bbls Howard and City Mills at $4.50a$4.75, on time. Wheat steady. Corn quiet; 45a48c for white and 47a50c for yellow. Whiskey is dull.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 28.—Cotton.—Sales of 5,500 bales. Flour has a declining tendency. Sterling Exchange steady.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 29.—Cotton—2,500 bales sold at a decline of ⅛; middling fair quoting at 9½c.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

BROWNSVILLE, Dec. 17, 1857.

As the currency question appears to be the all-absorbing topic at the present time, permit me to make the following suggestions:

It is well demonstrated fact that