The Press.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1858.

FIRST PAGE.—Havelock; The Admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution, and its Probable Effect on the Future of the Democracy; A Monument to the late Captain Alden Partridge; Vessels in Port; Governor Wise—His Position before the Country; The Explosion and total Burning of the "Fanny Fern"—Painfully Exciting Narrative; Foreign Miscellanies; The City—General News. FOURTH PAGE.—List of Letters remaining in Post Office.

Opportunity for an Enterprising Young Man.

A printer, of Democratic politics, good business habits, able to command about $1,500 ready money, may hear of a first-rate chance to buy one-half of one of the most lucrative and prosperous newspapers in New Jersey, by applying at this office.

THE PRO-SLAVERY MINORITY TRIUMPHANT IN KANSAS—THE LAST AND DARKEST FRAUD.

When the meeting at Jayne's Hall, to support the will of the minority in Kansas, was in the midst of its pangs, a telegraphic despatch was brought to the officers declaring that the Lecompton Constitution had been adopted *with slavery*, or, *in other words*, that the adherents of CALHOUN had managed the matter in their own way, in defiance of the will of the majority. This intelligence fell upon the worthy gentlemen who had the delicate subject of the Lecompton fraud in charge, like a very wet blanket upon a very dry demonstration. It was not the entertainment to which they had invited the curious and unsympathising crowd, and they soon dissolved into their original elements, seeking comfort and consolation in private and penitential meditation. These same enterprising gentlemen have also been at work, during the last two weeks, to prepare another emetic for the Philadelphia public, in the shape of another set of resolutions in favor of the same Lecompton Constitution, which only yesterday saw the light of Washington city, and may never again see that of Kansas. These resolutions are expected to be adopted to-morrow by the delegates elected in the several wards this evening. But it happens that ill luck still attends them. The mail of Sunday morning brings intelligence that the great fraud in Kansas has been completed, in the rejection by JOHN CALHOUN of enough votes in favor of the free-State ticket for State officers and Legislature; and also that, by this act, HE HAS ELECTED THE WHOLE PRO-SLAVERY TICKET IN DISTINCT VIOLATION OF THE WILL OF THE MAJORITY, EXPRESSED AT THE ELECTION OF THE 4th OF JANUARY. The following article, from the St. Louis *Republican* of the 28th of January, tells the whole story:

FROM KANSAS.—ELECTION OF DEMOCRATIC TICKET CONFIRMED.—Colin Clarkson, who is on his way to Washington, in charge of the Lecompton Constitution, arrived here last evening from Kansas Territory. This gentleman confirms the statement already published by us of the result of the election for State officers and the Legislature, on the 4th. The Democratic majority in the Legislature was two—one in each house.

Gov. Calhoun was at Wyandot last Saturday, and Judge Lecompte and Otto at Kansas city, on their way to Washington, when Col. Clarkson left the Territory, and would probably arrive here to-morrow.

General Lane was moving with his militia between Lawrence and Leavenworth, professedly for the purpose of preserving the peace of the Territory, which, however, there seemed no disposition in any quarter to disturb.

There was a question as to the election of the Representative to Congress; it being believed that by the rejection of some votes illegally cast, that Carr, Democrat, would be declared elected instead of, as before reported, Parrot, the free-State candidate.

The "Democratic ticket" in Kansas, as we have already explained, is neither more nor less than the pro-slavery ticket; and is no more entitled to the name of the Democratic ticket than if constructed in Vienna, under the special direction of FRANCIS JOSEPH. This last fraud of CALHOUN, in Kansas, which cut Herods HEROD, and utterly casts all his own dark deeds into the shades of midnight, elects the pro-slavery ticket, gives to the minority the government of Kansas, and also elects two pro-slavery United States Senators in the event of the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton contrivance.

And it is under such circumstances that the special friends of the Lecompton fraud, in Philadelphia city, ask our people to make *another* demonstration in favor of admitting Kansas into the Union under that Constitution! Their first movement in this direction was inaugurated by the news of a false vote in Kansas, establishing the Constitution as a means of perpetuating slavery in what ought to be a free State if the people had a right to vote. They recoiled under this disastrous intelligence. But what will the people say, when, just as they are making a second demonstration in favor of the same Constitution, news is received showing that a new infamy has been perpetrated upon the people of Kansas, and that the pro-slavery ticket and pro-slavery Legislature, have *both been elected by Calhoun* in the face of the notorious will of the majority!

Strange that each of these attempts to make the Democracy of Philadelphia *sponsors* for a flagrant and a frightful fraud should be rebuked by an exposure so overwhelming!

We ought to congratulate those who are engaged in this business of sanctifying wrong in Kansas, upon the manner in which their efforts are assisted by Lord Regent CALHOUN.

And we now wait to see whether the Democracy of Philadelphia *can be separated from the Democracy of the interior by an endorsement of the Lecompton fraud, in the face of this last exposure.* We wait to know whether the Democrats and old-line Whigs of this metropolis are to be told by any Convention, that in giving 38,000 votes for JAMES BUCHANAN in 1856, they decreed that unblushing rascality *should prevail in Kansas.*

— Since the above has been placed in type, the telegraph from Washington informs us that CLARKSON has reached there with CALHOUN's Constitution, and confirms the statement that the pro-slavery party in Kansas have secured the Government. The struggle has now commenced in earnest.

"TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES."

The clear and convincing appeal of the Hon. FREDERICK P. STANTON, late of Tennessee, late Secretary and Acting Governor of Kansas, "to the People of the United States," which we copy from the *National Intelligencer*, will command universal attention. Mr. STANTON was one of the earliest and most gifted and consistent friends of Mr. BUCHANAN for the Presidency, and, whether out of Congress or in it, (having been for a number of years the representative of the Memphis, Tenn., district,) has always been a devoted and consistent advocate of the rights of the South. He accepted the position of Secretary of the Territory of Kansas, (infinitely below, as it was, his rare capacities and eminent deservings,) first, because of his attachment to Mr. BUCHANAN, and, second, because he enthusiastically approved the policy, at that time agreed upon by the Administration in regard to Kansas. He has returned from Kansas, out of office, and he now asks to be heard at the bar of his country. We need not solicit for his unsurpassed appeal the consideration of his fellow-citizens.

GOVERNOR WISE IN VIRGINIA.

We rejoice to see that the Richmond *Enquirer*, the time-honored organ of the Democracy, fearlessly throws itself forward in defence of HENRY A. WISE. Read the manly article of the *Enquirer* in another column. We have no doubt that Gov. WISE will be sustained, and, also, that *he will sustain himself.* We have already predicted as much in THE PRESS. And it only needed such an auxiliary as the *Enquirer* to make his triumph secure.

☞ In view of the exciting complication of affairs in Kansas, and the outrage of CALHOUN in giving the minority the entire organization of the proposed new State, this will doubtless be a most interesting week at Washington.

☞ We make no excuse for giving up so much room this morning to the Kansas question. The last new aspect of the case is one calculated to arouse the liveliest and most universal interest.

☞ Governor WALKER and Hon. F. P. STANTON both spent part of Saturday and yesterday at the Girard House, and were visited by many of our citizens.

THE SOUTHERN VIEW OF KANSAS.

We are told daily by the advocates of the minority rule in Kansas, that the moment the Lecompton fraud is forced through Congress, (as it must be, if at all, by *Northern Democrats,*) the people of Kansas can proceed immediately to supersede it. We notice, however, that no such concession is made by the organs of the extreme Southern interest, viz: the Charleston *Mercury*, the Richmond *South*, the *Mississippian*, the Mobile *Register*, &c. On the contrary, these papers regard the admission of Kansas under the Constitution alluded to as a *practical* question—and take the bold ground that Kansas is necessary to the slave States. The Legislature of Alabama have adopted the following resolutions on the subject:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, That in the event Kansas should apply at the present or at any future session of Congress for admission into the Union as a State, with and under the Constitution heretofore framed and adopted by her, and commonly known as the Lecompton Constitution, and shall be by Congress refused admission, the Governor of this State is hereby respectfully instructed, by proclamation, to assemble the qualified voters of this State, at the usual places of voting in their respective counties, to elect delegates to a State Convention, on a day to be by him appointed within ninety days from the time when he shall receive satisfactory evidence of such action by Congress.

2. *Be it further Resolved*, That the Governor shall, by his proclamation, fix a day for the holding of a Convention at the Capitol of the State, not later than twenty days after the day fixed for such election.

The Richmond *South* calls vehemently upon Virginia to come forward and take the same ground; and the Mobile *Register* says:

The issue presented is one which admits of no compromise or collateral determination. At last the question is directly and distinctly presented, will the Northern majority relieve admission to a State on the ground alone of having slavery in its Constitution? In vain will it be attempted to dodge this issue by the subterfuge of pretending to oppose the admission of Kansas because of the non-submission of the Constitution. In vain will the opponents of the admission seek to disguise the motive of their hostility with the ingenious pretext of a sanctimonious devotion to the principles of popular sovereignty, and the rule of the majority.

No such pretences or excuses will be admitted or listened to now. The issue is, whether or not the existence of slavery as one of its institutions shall exclude a State from entering the Union of Slaveroy. It is fully and fairly made, and cannot be escaped or avoided. The people of Kansas, in the exercise of their rights under the Constitution and the laws, and in strict accordance with all the legal processes of representative sovereignty, have adopted a Constitution with slavery. They have applied for admission into the Union. If their application is rejected, it will have been done alone because of the adoption of slavery.

We sincerely trust there will be no flinching or hesitation on the part of our Southern Representatives in Congress in the emergency before us. We hope they will meet the issue with an unbroken front; and let it be distinctly understood that the admission of Kansas with her present Constitution, and upon her present application, is the *sine qua non* of the continuance of the Southern States in the Confederacy.

A Southern writer in De Bow's *Weekly Press* exhibits in a striking light the imperative necessity resting upon the South to make Kansas a slave State. It is declared to be the necessity arising from self-preservation, and such as originates the highest law. Take the following extract from the article referred to, of the date of January 16, 1858:

"The surrender of Kansas to the operation of the majority rule, under the cry of popular sovereignty in the Territories, without conditional warrant, and her absorption by the non-slaveholding power of the country, would make the evil of the times no longer prospective, but instant and imminent. By the fact of this surrender, the South would become subordinant, and the North predominant, in the Union. Never again, in the Union, could the equilibrium of State sovereign representation between the South and the North be either maintained in or restored to the Senate. Never again, in the Union, could the equality of the South with the North be either maintained in or restored to the House of Representatives. No further barrier could be constructed between either the aggressive territorial or industrial majority of the North, and the weakened and diminished South. No other bulwark could be raised to guard either the moral or social integrity of the South against the disturbing and destructive legal and social systems of the North. The South, like Hector bound to the car of Achilles, would soon be dragged by the triumphant North around a ruined possession, quickly to be followed by the erasive ploughshare of the invading conqueror.

"The loss of Kansas to the South would involve the loss of Missouri; and the loss of Missouri would destroy the moral as well as political prestige of the South, and invade the integrity of their institutions. The moral prestige of States, like that of individuals, once destroyed, no earthly power can restore; and the integrity of State establishments, like the chastity of woman, once subjected to invasion, continues at the will of the despoiler. With abolitionized Iowa stretching along the northern boundary of Missouri, and abolitionized Kansas covering her western boundary, whilst there poured into her bosom, through Iowa and Kansas, from the more inhospitable lake and northern Atlantic regions, a continuous stream of agrarian radicals of any and all parties in those regions, alike determined to obtain control of her government, and to assert the rule of the majority in the line of emancipation, slave property in Missouri would become too precarious in its tenure to be holden, and the necessity for its sale or removal would at once arise. It may be confidently asserted that, under these circumstances, in five years, Missouri would cease to be a slaveholding State. Already, in view of the anticipated result, abolition journals have been started in Missouri, and candidates for Congress have unfurled the banner of emancipation.

"Now the loss of Missouri to the South would involve the loss of the Creek and Cherokee domain, the Choctaw and Chickasaw domain, New Mexico, and Arizona which otherwise could be saved to the slaveholding interests of the country, and the harmonious equilibrium of the Union. It is known that the Creeks and Cherokees number from thirty to forty thousand free inhabitants, holding at least ten thousand negro slaves. The facts as to the Choctaws and Chickasaws are in a similar ratio. The white man's blood in both nations predominates, strongly coloring each with the white man's mental forms and expressions. They have each a regular government, with distinct executive, judicial, and legislative departments, with a general common-school system, with Christian churches established in many directions, and with the arts of agriculture and mechanics considerably developed. Each is gradually preparing to enter the Union as a slaveholding State. But, with abolitionized Kansas and Missouri along their northern limits, the flood-gates would be thrown open, through which the Abolition tide would sweep with resistless energy, driving before it, or overwhelming in its deluge, alike the hybrid Indian and the negro slave, thus ultimately adding both domains to the colossal power of the North. New Mexico and Arizona would now be thrown between the 'free-soil' States formed out of the territories of the Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws, and Chickasaws, on the east, the 'free-soil' State of California on the west, and the 'free' States of Mexico on the south. Negro slave property, however anxiously desired, in neither could be held for a day, and they, too, would inevitably go to swell the hestriding power and monstrous proportions of the North."

We direct the attention of the Northern advocates of foul play in Kansas, and especially of those who argue that the Constitution of Kansas, which protects and perpetuates slavery, can be immediately superseded, in the manner in which the question is regarded by the Southern organs.

The Southern disunionists have determined to make Kansas a slave State, and, failing in this, to secede. Their whole scheme looks to one or the other of these alternatives. They hope, as a preliminary, to destroy the Democracy of the free States, by making the Lecompton fraud *a test*; and then to say to the Southern masses, "Behold! you have no friends in the North; all parties there are your foes; you have no chance in the Union, and you must leave it or perish."

We appeal from these designing men to the whole people. We invoke the Union sentiment against them. We call upon such heroes as WISE, of Virginia; MANNING, of South Carolina; JOHNSON, of Tennessee, and others, to take ground against these machinations of the enemies of the Union, before it is too late. If they do, they will sweep all these combinations against the Republic into a common grave, and entitle themselves to the lasting gratitude of the whole people.

☞ An allusion to the contest for the Pittsburgh post office appeared in the letter of our Washington correspondent a few days ago, in which he states that the editor of the *Daily Union* "would retain that place." The *Union* states, in reply, that its editor is *not* the happy incumbent, and is not a candidate for the prize. The truth is, our excellent friend, JAMES P. BARR, Esq., of the *Morning Post*, is a candidate for the post office at Pittsburgh; and, if appointed, he will make an upright and courteous public officer.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30, 1858.

HON. GEORGE BANCROFT, of New York, has taken open ground against the Lecompton fraud. He is very earnest in his opposition to it.

HON. JOHN BELL, Senator from Tennessee, has, it is said, taken the same ground.

Twenty-five Democrats of the House have already taken position against the policy of forcing the Lecompton fraud through Congress.

The Washington *Union* is now said to be conducted by Col. JOHNSON, who, only a few weeks ago, was one of the warmest enemies of the Lecompton fraud, which that paper so violently advocates. OCCASIONAL.

List of Letters advertised in New York, Saturday, January 30th, remaining in the Post office uncalled for, being for Philadelphia houses: J. B. Champion, E. H. Butler & Co., Davis, Birney, & Co., Charles Ellis & Co., *G. G. Evans & Co.*, Hart, Montgomery, & Co., Hoopes & Townsend, Captain David Irelan, Wm. D. Jones & Co., Saunders Lewis, Wm. S. Martien & Co., L. Martin & Co., Morgan & Co., Shreve & Co., Van Brunt, Tripler, & Combs, Wilson & Co., Williams & Co.

PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Those who failed in attendance at the operatic festival of Saturday evening lost a treat of no ordinary zest and flavor. The attraction of a comic opera, produced for the first occasion in the musical annals of the city, seemed not to have been undervalued by the musical public, for the house presented a full array of beauty and taste despite the canons of operatic fashion which set down Saturday as a *dies non*, or shall we say, in these latter days of "matinees," a *nox non*. "L'Italiana in Algieri" was written by Rossini, if we remember aright, so long ago as 1813, and from the time of its original presentation to the public it has never missed an appreciative hearing. The fault of its brevity is fully atoned for by its musical and comic effervescence, for we can truly declare we could not discover a bar that was "out," or a passage that was stupid. The plot is made of very trifling materials, and, if done into the ordinary prose of the drama, would be styled 'broad farce.' But yet, upon incidents so slightly salient, the veteran composer—who "still lives" to enjoy his great successes—has hung perhaps as many glorious musical gems as are to be found in the whole range of comic opera.

A brief outline of the plot we here subjoin: *Mustapha*, (tenor,) as Dey of Algiers, has an Oriental capriciousness of disposition, which, in the opening scene, betrays itself in open dissatisfaction with his wife *Elvira*, (Mlle. Cairoli,) who complains bitterly of her husband's neglect. *Mustapha*, with characteristic nonchalance, determines to get rid of his wife, and, to best fulfil his purpose, determines to make her marry some one else—an Italian slave of his, *Lindoro*, (Labocetta,) He communicates his views to his minister, *Aly*, (Barattini,) threatening him with early hanging if he does not assist in carrying out his wishes by helping him to a new wife from the Italian prisoners made booty of by the Algerine Corsairs. *Lindoro* is unwilling to accept the proffered boon of a wife, as his heart is already attached to some loving fair one in his native land. *Mustapha* urges *him most eloquently to yield his scruples*, as the lady he offers him is so full of charms that none but a heart of marble or iron could resist them.

Shortly after this telling scene, some Corsairs arrive in port with a rich freight of Italian captives, among whom is *Isabella*, (Mme. D'Angri,) with a friend, *Taddeo*, (Rocco.) *Isabella* is the belle of *Lindoro*, whom she is in search of at the time the pirates fell in with her vessel. Finding herself among strangers, to secure the protection of *Taddeo* she passes him off for her uncle. *Isabella* is brought by *Aly* before the Bey, on which occasion that functionary becomes indignant with *Taddeo*, who has accompanied the fair Italian with the idea of making love to her himself. *Taddeo* is subdued to discretion by the prospect of a halter. *Elvira* and *Lindoro* come to take their leave of the Bey, as they have been ordered to depart the kingdom.

At this interview *Lindoro* recognises *Isabella*, and by the latter's intercession, *Elvira* and *Lindoro* are allowed to remain. *Mustapha*, in order to secure himself a place in the affections of *Isabella*, confers upon *Taddeo* the office of "Grand Kermakan." This gives great popular sympathy with the recipient, and he expresses his impressions in a most amusing strain, commencing *Ho un gran peso*. An interview is again arranged between the *Bey*, *Isabella*, *Taddeo*, and the rest, and an understanding is had between the *Bey* and *Taddeo*, that upon the former's giving a particular *sneeze*, *all present are to retire save Isabella*, so as to permit a *tête-à-tête* uninterrupted. The important sneeze is given, but none take the hint, and the loving *Mustapha* is forced to put up with a sore disappointment. The scene is remarkable for its merriment, and naturally enough it made a telling hit upon the audience. This terminates the first act.

A plan is finally arranged by which the old Bey is completely outwitted. *Isabella* apparently agrees to love *Mustapha*, and *Lindoro* who sets, of course, as her confidant, communicates this piece of good news to the Bey, who is all eagerness to have the happy hour *approach when he may* call *Isabella* his own. Meanwhile, a vessel arrives from Italy: the passengers prove to be the friends of *Isabella*. The latter arranges a plan of escape with them. To keep the Bey bamboozled, *Isabella announces to the ardent Mustapha* that, as a preliminary step to crowning him with her affection she must, as a return for the great honors heaped upon her "uncle" (*Taddeo*,) insist that he (the Bey) shall be invested with all the rights and title of "Papatasi."

She proposes to perform the ceremony of "*investiture*," and in due course the Bey, with all his train, with *Isabella*, *Taddeo*, and *Lindoro*, appear on the scene which represents a sea-coast, with the vessel of the Italians in the offing. An irresistibly-comic passage of drollery ensues. The Bey is made to keep perfect silence, as part of the ritual of the ceremonies; he is made to coat himself at a table, his back turned towards the shore, while the attendants crowd the table with good cheer. During the excitement of these ceremonies, *Isabella*, *Taddeo*, and *Lindoro* escape by the aid of their newly-arrived Italian friends, while the unsuspecting Bey has no idea of the clever trick that is put upon him. He is left with his wife on his hand.

We regret that we have but little space to speak of the performance. Madam D'Angri has never at any time appeared to greater advantage. Her voice, full, round, and highly sympathetic, was admirably suited to do full justice to Rossini's musical expression. She achieved a perfect triumph, and from the audience won enthusiastic and deserved plaudits. Her acting was remarkable for its genial archness and exuberant humor. It was *fairly contagious*. We doubt if any actress now on the boards could have displayed more dramatic fidelity to nature. We cannot, in justice to her, omit to award special praise for the admirable rendering of her part in the far-famed trio *Papataci*. Gassier, as *Mustapha*, was fully up to the mark, and added materially to the success of the opera.

Labocetta had but little opportunity to put his voice to the test, but in the opening act there was a charming aria, *Languir per una bella*, which he rendered with touching tenderness. Rocco, as *Taddeo*, fairly divided the honors with D'Angri. Ass *buffo* of the first class, he must ever command admiration. He never exaggerates—never oversteps the modesty of nature. The fourth act of "Rigoletto" followed, and went off extremely well—just as we noticed, on a previous occasion, when this opera was performed.

This evening, Mozart's best opera, "Don Giovanni," will be played. It is one of the liveliest *operas on the stage*, dashed with some seriousness, and even an approach, if not to the sublime, at least to the terrible. The cast is remarkably strong, including Mesdames De Lagrange, D'Angri, and Gradoni, and Formes, Bignardi, Rocco, Gassier, Ardavani, and Lakome. This ought to be the most successful of all the performances yet given by the present company.

MR. FRAZER'S CONCERT, on Saturday evening, at the Musical Fund Hall, was most respectably attended, and the singing was generally very good.

At the Arch Street Theatre, this evening, John Banim's play of "Damon and Pythias" will be performed, (Mr. Davenport as *Damon*, and Mrs. Davenport as *Calanthe*,) with Poole's comedy of "Paul Pry," with Mr. Thayer, Mr. J. S. Clarke, Mrs. Thayer, Miss Kate Nagle, and Miss Cruise *as the leading characters*.

There will be a change of performance, at Sanford's, every evening this week.

The "Old Folks" are to give their concerts, at Jayne's Hall, on to-morrow and Wednesday evenings.

We notice that Barclay's Panorama of Jerusalem will be opened for view to-morrow evening, at the new Hall, corner Tenth and Chestnut streets.

Attempted Assassination of Napoleon III.

At half-past nine o'clock on the evening of Thursday, January 14, the Emperor was fired at while he was entering the Italian Opera on the Rue Lepelletier. Some persons in the street were wounded. The Emperor showed himself to the people at the doors of the Opera-house. He was met red with unbounded enthusiasm. He remained till the end of the opera. On his return at midnight he was hailed by the enthusiastic cheers of an immense multitude, which was waiting for him in the streets.

The Emperor and Empress, on entering the opera, were received with the warmest enthusiasm. The course of performance went on as usual. On hearing of the event which had taken place, their Imperial Highnesses, Prince Jerome and Prince Napoleon, the Princess Mathilde as well as Prince Murat, the ministers, and several marshals and great functionaries, the members of the diplomatic body, and the prefects of the Seine and of police, Procureur-General of the Court of Paris, and the Procureur-Imperial, attended their Majesties.

The inquiry was at once commenced, and several arrests were effected. Their Majesties left the opera at midnight. The Boulevards were *spontaneously* illuminated, and a great concourse of people cheered the Emperor and Empress most enthusiastically and touchingly, as they passed on their way to the Tuileries On arriving, their Majesties found a great number of persons, amongst them the Ambassador of England, the President of the Senate, members of the diplomatic body, and several senators, waiting to offer their congratulations.

A despatch to the *Globe* states that sixty persons were wounded, including two ladies at a window. Many arrests have taken place; amongst them are three foreigners. The projectiles used were conical. Three persons were killed.

The Emperor's face is slightly scratched by fragments of glass. The Emperor and Empress are perfectly well. At 12 o'clock the Imperial family attended a solemn mass with ministers of State.

The conspirators are Italians; four have been arrested. They came from England, and belong to a secret society of assassins.

Fifty-two persons were wounded by the three shells thrown at the carriage—some dangerously.

The Providence, R. I., *Journal*, of the 26th, gives the following remarkable instance of the mildness of the season: "A butterfly emerged from his chrysalis, at the Marine Hospital yesterday, and seemed greatly surprised to find that no better preparation had been made for him in the way of leaves and flowers. His beautiful wings of green and gold were folded in disgust, and he seemed inclined to go back and wait till the fields and gardens correspond better with the temperature."

Another Death from Intemperance.—Coroner Fenner held an inquest yesterday on the body of Elizabeth Hoy, aged thirty-five years, who died at No. 229 Franklin avenue, below Shackamaxon street, from intemperance and exposure. Verdict accordingly.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Deficiency Bills—Abuses of the System—Reform Demanded—A Committee of Democrats to wait upon the President—Lecompton goes to the Tomb of the Capulets—An Error Refuted—Pittsburgh Post Office, &c., &c.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31, 1858.

Of late years the abuse of deficiency appropriation bills has been growing into huge proportions. The discussion in the House on Friday last on the printing bill, which appropriates nearly a million of dollars *to supply deficiencies in appropriations* heretofore made, and which at the time were estimated and recommended to be sufficient for the purposes designed, has exposed some of the incantions and faulty legislation of recent Congresses. *But this is only one item in the system.* The whole deficiency appropriations, unless where they are made necessary by extraordinary circumstances which could not be foreseen by human sagacity, should be done away with, and this desirable result, I learn, the Committee of Ways and Means, which wields a vast power, for good or evil, in the House, are determined to accomplish.

The first deficiency appropriation is to be found in the general appropriation bill, approved the 23d of December, 1791, and "for making good deficiencies in the last appropriations for the compensation of sundry officers of the civil list," it appropriates the sum of $5,471. In after years these deficiency appropriations have gone on, at first very small in amount, until now, at each session, a deficiency bill is brought in as regularly as any other general appropriation bills. Excluding the *printing deficiencies*, the deficiency bill for the present fiscal year, which will expire June 30th, proximo, appropriates the large sum of ten millions of dollars!

The conclusion is inevitable, that either the estimates submitted for the expenditures of Government have been carelessly made out by the proper executive officers in previous Administrations, or that the Committees of Ways and Means in previous Congresses have not been searching in their investigation, and accurate in their action in respect to these appropriations. The Committees of Ways and Means, I am inclined to believe, are *rather to be commended than otherwise*, for they have been uniformly and strenuously opposed somewhat to bills which, while appropriating small sums for inquiring into the expediency of doing certain things, &c., &c., served as entering-wedges for millions.

Five thousand dollars is voted for ascertaining the practicability of doing a certain thing, and a clause is inserted and entered into for hundreds of thousands. *This is the class* of expenditures which swell up these deficiency bills, and a class of expenditures which are in violation of the spirit of the Constitution.

It is stated that the present House will *sustain* the present Committee of Ways and Means in holding executive officers to a strict accountability to the law, and establish it as a rigid rule that expenditures shall be made only for the objects *stated in the law*; and, *when they have been* exhausted, work must cease until the further necessary appropriations are made.

There is no more popular characteristic of the Democratic party than its approval of an economical administration of the Government—that the public money shall be expended only for necessary objects of Government and national importance, and for these only to the extent demanded. No man has insisted upon this with greater fervor than Mr. Buchanan, and the hope is entertained that his clear judgment and excellent statesmanship will guide our old ship of State safely through the present financial embarrassments, of a singular character, and bring her officers and crew under the discipline taught and practised by Jefferson and the other great pilots of the party.

Hons. James B. Clay of Kentucky, John B Haskin of New York, and William L. Dewart of Pennsylvania, after a consultation of Democratic members, have been selected as a committee to wait upon the President to-morrow (Monday), and inform him that the Northern Democrats, with a few exceptions, are opposed to the admission of Kansas into the Union, as a State, under the Lecompton contrivance of Calhoun and others, which has just reached here in an official form.

The President has had his message prepared and ready for transmission to Congress for more than a week, but it may be that the unmistakable *signs given by members of the House of Representatives* will change the programme which has been marked out. It cannot be known what will be the termination of the interview between these Democrats and the chief of a Democratic Administration. *However, it is a step which is looked* upon as leading to beneficial results. At least, good and fair men cannot but hope it will

It was trumpeted with a tremendous flourish by Senator Green and the Washington *Union* that *members of the Lecompton Convention* had written a letter wherein they controverted the declaration of Governor Walker and Secretary Stanton, that nineteen of the thirty-four counties in Kansas had been disfranchised, and wherein they *showed that four of the nineteen refused to have* an assessment taken, and the remaining fifteen were annexed to and voted with other counties. It is no glaring a fabrication that these must be *stupid who can be imposed on by it.*

It is as well to state that these are all free-State counties. Even if the sheriff did not take an assessment, it was, under the law, the duty of the probate judge to discharge that duty, and in case of his failure, the *duty of the Governor.* But there is not a particle of proof that these four counties refused to vote, and without a registry they could not vote. So with the fifteen counties said to be annexed to other counties.

For representative districts they may have been so annexed; but then it is a fact not disputed, and indisputable, that no registry of votes was made, and that no person could vote whose name was not *shown upon the registry.*

At the October election, the four counties referred to cast *more votes than were represented by the entire Lecompton Convention.*

It cannot be denied that the Lecompton Constitution was vitiated from its birth, and the fraud with which in Oxford, Moûhee, and Shawnee, it has been nourished into a sickly existence, promises it but a short life—a life the days of which are now near spent.

The succession for the Pittsburgh post office is not yet fixed upon. The canvass for it is warmer than ever, if possible, and just now Barr, of the *Post*, a *glorious good fellow* and a hard-working Democrat, seems to be going ahead in the race. A. Y.

FROM HARRISBURG.

The Proposed Consolidation of the Supreme Court—A new Liquor Bill.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

HARRISBURG, January 30.

In a former letter I noticed that the subject of consolidating the different districts of the Supreme Court was engaging the attention of both branches of the Legislature. In the Senate a bill has been introduced, by *Judge Bell*, to consolidate at Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, abolishing the middle and northern districts; in the House, Judge Nill, a similar bill to consolidate the court at Harrisburg.

It will be thus seen the subject is in the hands of gentlemen *thoroughly conversant with it* in all its details. Judge Bell was himself, for a number of years, a member of the court, and has had full experience of the disadvantages and inconvenience of the present system. Judge Nill is a lawyer of large practice in his profession, and understands the matter fully in all its ramifications. It is very evident that the latter plan is the only one that will remedy existing evils, and give satisfaction to all sections of the Commonwealth. To locate the court in either the eastern or western end of the State would be unjust, or at least the cause of loud complaints from the legal gentlemen of "the interior," *causing them to travel in the one case or the other* to the extreme eastern or western verge.

To alternate between is to continue all, or the greater part, of the inconvenience of the present system. Every argument in favor of such a course, I take it, would apply with equal force and propriety to the sessions of the Legislature. When the present system was adopted, it was perhaps entirely proper and right. The means of travelling was in stage coaches and on horseback, through a new country and over wretched roads; and a journey from Pittsburgh or Erie to the capital of the State and back occupied weeks. The mails reached distant county seats once a week, and, if the weather was inclement or roads bad, once a month. Magnetic telegraphs were in the womb of the future. Then there were seventy or eighty writs of error a year; now there are from five to seven hundred. Now the capital can be reached from the remotest part of the State in less than a day, in a comfortable railroad car, and can communicate by telegraph every hour.

Then the court sat for arguments three or four months in the year, and afterwards the judges returned home to their fire-sides and libraries, and devoted the vacations to re-examining the cases, and writing out at their leisure, and with the light of the authorities before them, their opinions. Now they are compelled to write nearly all their opinions in term time—between two days' court—and most of the time in crowded and bustling hotels, or still more uncomfortable boarding houses, without the convenience of a book to consult or refer to, except such as they may have to walk a mile for, to borrow at some lawyer's office.

It is surprising, indeed, that we should have as much uniformity in our law as there is, under a system so unfavorable and a court so constantly changing. All admit that the highest talent and *best legal ability is required in that court*; but it must be apparent that under the present system, which ostracises a man from his family and sends him, like a vagrant, wandering up and down and over the State, that such men can be kept in the position only long enough to enable them to get some other in which they can have "a local habitation" as well as "a name."

To all the citizens of the Commonwealth, it is a matter of the utmost moment that this court of last resort should be composed of men of eminent ability, and purity of character; and that in fulfilling their *high functions should* be adequately compensated, and provided with the necessary means and facilities for discharging their important trust, and then hold them to a strict accountability in its performance. Owing to the causes above named, what the Amendments of 1851 to the Constitution contemplated should occur only once in nine years, (a change of a majority of the members of the court,) we have seen has actually taken place in less than two months!

In neither the Senate nor House was there anything transacted of special importance to Philadelphia.

Mr. Guepp, of Northampton, will shortly present a new license act for the consideration of the Legislature. It contains substantially the following few and simple provisions: Licenses are to be granted to all persons who may apply for them, and may be willing to pay for them, and in the case of tavern-keepers or persons licensed to sell by less measure than a quart, may file a bond conditioned for the *preservation of good order in their* houses. Three kinds of licenses are established: the first for tavern and restaurant keepers; the second for liquor dealers; and the third for brewers and distillers selling their own manufacture, but brewers and distillers may take out tavern-keepers' licenses if they choose. *Tavern-keepers* (or persons selling by less than one quart) are to pay as follows:

When the annual sales exceed $40,000, $300; when they are between $20,000 and $10,000, $150; between $10,000 and $20,000, $75; between $5,000 and $10,000, $50; and under $5,000, $25. These rates are the same as those fixed *in Mr. Ramsey's* bill for Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, except that the minimum there is $30 instead of $25. Liquor dealers (or persons selling by the quart and upwards) to pay as provided in the act of 4th May, 1841, *section 10*, which *continued* in force until repealed by the "Jug law" of 1855. Brewers and distillers to pay as provided by the act of 10th *April, 1840, section 32, which was the law regulating* their sales until the passage of the same "Jug law."

The machinery for assessing the sums to be paid and issuing the licenses is this: The appraiser of mercantile taxes is to assess all persons engaged in the business, or who may inform him of their intention to engage in it, and to classify them according to the rates of taxation, subject to an appeal to the judges of the Common Pleas, and in the case of merchants. *The list of tavern-keepers*, liquor dealers, and brewers and distillers thus made out, is to be furnished to the county treasurer by the first Monday in September, whereupon he shall issue the licenses, upon payment of the price assessed and the fees, and, in the case of tavern-keepers, upon the delivery to him of a bond in $500, with *surety* to be approved by him, conditioned for the maintenance of good order, &c., the bond to be filed in the office of the Court of Quarter Sessions.

This, with the addition of penalties for a violation of its provisions, is the whole act. It carries out the principle of throwing the trade open to competition, excluding all special licenses, and all restrictions upon the number of licenses granted, and it provides what is supposed to be a simple, familiar, and cheap mode of assessing and collecting the rates. As under it every man can obtain a license; it is believed that all inducement to illicit sales, and all popular sympathy with unlicensed sellers, (always the class most dangerous and injurious to public morals,) will cease, and that both the revenue of the State and the social condition of the people will be greatly improved by its operation.

Mr. Guepp is one of the most clear-headed, able, and practical lawyers in the House, and we have great hopes that this bill, which he has carefully drawn up, will answer the end for which it was designed.

The Committee of Seven upon the Kansas resolutions was announced by the Speaker of the House on Friday evening. They are—Messrs. Calhoun of Armstrong, Guepp of Northampton, Miller of Crawford, Jackson of Clinton, Lawrence of Dauphin, Rhodes of Northumberland, and Turner of Luzerne. A majority of these gentlemen are inflexible and out-spoken in their opposition to the *admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution.*

THE EVERETT ORATION.

[For The Press.]

MR. EDITOR: You will oblige by permitting a member of the *Historical Society* to make the following comments upon the article which appeared in your Saturday's issue. We understand the librarian of that Society appointed twenty-five gentlemen as a committee of arrangement, and so far as these gentlemen are concerned the public have no cause of complaint, for it was undoubtedly understood by each and all of them that their names were merely to be used to give eclat *to the proceeding*, and in return to receive from the complaisant librarian twenty tickets each, for the best seats in the house, to be distributed among their friends, and a complementary ticket for a *conspicuous seat upon the stage.*

Some tickets were printed "Address on Washington by Edward Everett—Committee ticket, seat on the stage;" these were disposed of to the committee and the friends of the librarian; other tickets were issued "Grand Ballet," with checks for reserved seats in the parquette, parquette circle and balcony, and these were also privately disposed of; other tickets again "German Opera," *entitling the holders to the same privileges*, were issued. These tickets were all disposed of, except what are now being sold by the librarian, prior to Friday morning, at which time it was announced to the public and to the members of the committee that *the sale of tickets would commence*—to the public at the bookstores at 9 o'clock, and to the members of the society at 12 o'clock at the Hall.

At that hour the public were informed at the *stores that all the tickets were disposed of, and the members of the society* were also sold, by the librarian at the hall, tickets No. 4, marked "Grand Ballet," without checks, entitling, as it *now appears*, the members and their *families to seats in* the galleries, if they could manage to find seats there. These tickets were dealt out in batches of two, ten, twenty, at the will of the gentleman who has assumed to himself the arrangement.

Very large numbers of these tickets were sold, and the purchasers were given to understand that no seats had been reserved in the house, but that each one would be entitled to preference *according* to the time he would enter the building. The public and the members were suffered to remain in this ignor