The Press

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1858.

FIRST PAGE.—More about the Bar; The City Report on the Condition of the Bank of Pennsylvania—Guardians of the Poor—Eleventh Annual Report of the Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; General News—FOURTH PAGE.—Late and Important from Mexico—The Revolutionary Movements—Bombardment of the Capital, &c.

IMPORTANT DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

An extraordinary debate began in the Senate yesterday. We point to it as a new phase in the Kansas complication. The monstrous doctrine enunciated by Senators MASON and BROWN—that Minnesota shall not be admitted, standing as she does at the door of Congress, with her Constitution fully endorsed by her people in her hands, and her two distinguished Senators at her side, till Kansas is forced to accept the Lecompton fabrication—is calculated to excite amazement in every honest mind. We do not wonder that JOHN J. CRITTENDEN rebuked it in the best style of his manly and vigorous eloquence.

JOHN CALHOUN ON HIS WAY.

JOHN CALHOUN, of Kansas, the inventor and the champion of the Lecompton fraud, is on his way to Washington. He is the prince of pipe-layers. He is clearly entitled to all the honors for his skill in disregarding the ballot-box, and for his success in perverting the public voice. This one man, with frauds and patronage, has been able to speak against fifteen thousand freemen. He procured his election as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention on the distinct pledge that the work of his colleagues and himself should go to the people; but he forgot this pledge as coolly as if it had never been made, and not only refused to give the people this right, but made himself the judge of the returns of the only two elections called by his Convention; and now he goes a conqueror to Washington, with the evidences in one hand that he has broken his solemn faith to the people, and with the proof in the other, that he has deliberately cheated them out of their rights; and not this alone, but that while claiming that at the election of the 21st of December, a *minority* carried his Constitution, at the election of the 4th of January, a *majority* did not carry the State ticket. When the illustrious CALHOUN reaches the Federal City, he should be received with all the honors. The men who have prevented the citizens of Baltimore from voting should welcome him at the cars. The ballot-box stuffers of California, if any are present, should carpet the Avenue for his delicate foot-steps; and the rioters of the capital should make the welkin ring with cheers.

A few days ago, the gallant General JO. LANE, of Oregon, war-worn and scarred in many a hard fight, received the Constitution of that new State, soon to be admitted into our family of Commonwealths, and it was covered with testimonials of popular approval.

A few days before, another soldier, General JAMES SHIELDS, accompanied another Constitution, that of Minnesota—a new State, also, soon to be admitted to the fireside of the Republic, under which he had been chosen a Senator, and which (like himself, marked with the wounds received in the battle-field of his country) was covered with the testimonials of true popular approval.

Not so with Kansas! The Constitution which is intended for her is a fraud; and the man who bears it, or will speak for it at Washington, is her greatest foe, and leaves the Territory followed by the curses of a betrayed people.

The Constitutions borne by SHIELDS and LANE are the bulwarks of two new Democratic States, which is proved by the fact that both have been approved by the people.

The Constitution fabricated by CALHOUN is the subterfuge of a minority, who seek to make a free people accept a slave State against their will, and who desire to destroy the Democratic party.

THE BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The proceedings as to the Bank of Pennsylvania are such as will occasion indignation, but not surprise. The progress of the stupendous wrong which has brought that staunch old bank to its present prostrate condition has left our people nothing to be surprised at. We thank Col. PATTERSON and the new directors for the able manner in which they have done their work thus far, but we know that we speak for this whole community when we say that there is much that remains to be unearthed. It may be a poor compensation to many of the betrayed and ruined stockholders to have the whole dark story told; but the full facts will operate as a terror to other evil-doers, and will show who has been revelling upon the confidence and the property of a large body of our fellow-citizens.

THE SEMI-ANNUAL STATE INTEREST.

The interest on the certificate loans of the State was paid yesterday at the Girard Bank, on the checks of J. L. FENNIMORE, of the Bank of Pennsylvania. The interest on the coupon loans was paid as usual by the State Treasurer at the Girard Bank. The payments were made in specie to foreign holders, when desired, by checks on New York. The conversion of the funds in the treasury into specie was effected without difficulty, the banks, with but few exceptions, having acted promptly in the matter. The advance in the State bonds is a favorable indication, and the fact that the interest on them has been paid without resort to loans bespeaks at once a favorable financial condition of the Commonwealth, and the prudent manner in which the Treasury Department has been conducted under the able management of the Hon. HENRY S. MAGRAW.

THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

No Pennsylvanian can read the report of the President of our great Pennsylvania Railroad without feeling gratified at the generally healthy exhibit of the condition of that important thoroughfare. On another occasion we shall speak of this report at more length. We have only space this morning to express the hope that every effort will be made to foster and assist the Central Railroad Company in every honest endeavor to conduct it economically and vigorously, so as to secure that commerce and trade which our great State so well deserves.

JUDGE LUDLOW'S CHARGE.

We call the attention of our readers to the charge delivered to the Grand Jury, yesterday morning, by Judge LUDLOW. It is an able production, reflecting the highest credit upon its distinguished author. The suggestions it contains entitle Judge LUDLOW to the hearty thanks of every high-minded citizen.

THEY DID NOT SANCTION IT.

[From the Detroit Free Press.]

The Washington *Union* and some other journals, animated by more zeal than discretion in behalf of the Lecompton Constitution, have undertaken to assert that the opponents of the Constitution in Kansas, when they voted for State officers under it, sanctioned it, and this notwithstanding that at the same time they gave ten thousand majority against it on a direct vote on the question of its adoption or rejection.

The simple patent truth is, that the opponents of the Lecompton Constitution, in voting for State officers, voted under the most earnest and unequivocal protest that they did not thereby in any manner sanction the Constitution. An example of the manner in which they protested is contained in the "Address of the Anti-Usurpation Central Committee to the People of Kansas." This committee was appointed by the Convention which made the anti-Lecompton State nominations, and the address was adopted by the Convention, and sent out with its proceedings. We quote from it:

"What can we *lose* by voting? Nothing. It is said if we go into the election we will be defeated by invasion or official fraud. Possibly we may. But, if we do not go into it, shall we not be defeated, without invasion and without fraud? It is said that by voting for officers under it, we will give implied sanction to the Constitution, and that Congress may act on that sanction. We do not think so. An implied *indifference* might, with more plausibility, perhaps, be argued from our abstaining from the polls. But, in fact, no such implication of consent or indifference to that Constitution can honestly be drawn from action or inaction at the election. For Congress has the most abundant evidence that an overwhelming majority, representing every shade of political sentiment, would regard an act admitting us under that unsubmitted Constitution as an act of oppression and tyranny.

"Now, we hope to hear nothing more from the Washington *Union*, or any other print, of the majority of the people of Kansas having sanctioned the Lecompton Constitution, when, under protest, they voted for State officers under it."

We have received from Messrs. Callender & Co., news agents, corner of Third and Walnut streets, the "Travellers" number of the *Illustrated London News*, crowded with engravings of the great launch.

GALLAGHER'S CASE.

The jury in this case retired last Monday night, a week from yesterday, to deliberate on their verdict. They came into court once or twice during the week to ask to be discharged, and on Saturday last they informed the court that they would not be able to agree if they were kept together for a month. In cases of homicide the court have no power to discharge a jury for mere disagreement, unless one of them should become so ill that his life would be in danger from a longer confinement. On being thus instructed, the jury again retired. Yesterday afternoon they came into court and rendered a verdict of NOT GUILTY.

In general, we doubt the propriety of discussing the merits of a verdict after it is rendered, and we have always regretted to see a judge who has tried a cause expressing his approbation of a verdict when pronounced by a jury. Such things tend to destroy the independence of a tribunal supposed to be beyond the fear or favor of any man. But GALLAGHER'S case, just terminated, had some peculiar features about it, and we cannot but think that the verdict rendered yesterday was called for by the nature of the charge, and the evidence adduced in the case.

The deceased, PETER MCVEY, and the accused came into an unexpected collision. There had been no previous acquaintance between them. While the two parties were standing face to face in the attitude of fight, the accused struck the deceased a blow in the mouth with his fist. It was immaterial to the merits of the case, in its legal aspect, whether this was the first blow given or not. After this blow was struck, the two parties clenched and tussled to throw each other. Suddenly MCVEY fell; some of the witnesses saying that he was thrown by the accused, and others swearing that he seemed to fall down helpless, and as if his hold had given way. The indictment charged that the accused killed the deceased by the blow in the mouth.

On the cross-examination of Dr. BROWN, who made the post-mortem examination, the fact was elicited that MCVEY died of *apoplexy*. There was no mark of external violence on his person, except the blow on the mouth, and the case was narrowed down to the question whether that identical blow produced death. Judge ALLISON charged the jury, that they must be satisfied of that fact beyond a reasonable doubt, for if they doubted the prisoner should be acquitted.

DAVID WEBSTER and WILLIAM E. LEHMAN, Esqrs., who conducted the defence, argued from the evidence of Dr. BROWN, and from numerous medical authorities, that it was impossible for any human being to decide that question as a matter of fact.

Dr. BROWN had testified that while he thought that the blow in the mouth caused the attack of apoplexy, yet it was nothing more than conjecture, or at most a probability. He admitted that the excited passions of the deceased, and his exertions in the fight, were sufficient to produce cerebral hemorrhage or apoplexy.

Nothing was known as to the previous habits of MCVEY; he was a large man, and of sanguine temperament. The blow in the mouth was not in its nature a mortal wound, and there being no certain connection between it and the cause of death, we cannot but think that the verdict was proper, as well from the evidence as from the humane policy of the law, which gives to the accused the benefit of any reasonable doubt arising in the case.

KANSAS DOCUMENTS.

Among the Kansas documents transmitted to the Senate by the President is the following letter of acting-Governor STANTON:

"LECOMPTON, Dec. 9, 1857.

"SIR: I enclose to you copies of the proclamation, issued on the 1st inst., convening an extra session of the Legislature, and also of the communication made to that body at a late hour yesterday afternoon.

"It is proper for me to say, that this important step of calling the Legislature together was taken only after I had become satisfied that the election ordered by the Convention on the 21st inst. could not be conducted without collision and bloodshed. The free-State party had organized vigilance committees throughout the whole Territory, and were assembling in large mass meetings, calculated still further to inflame the public mind. I ascertained that designs of a most desperate character were freely discussed in their private meetings, and that violent measures had probably been agreed upon to be executed at a favorable time. It was, to me, certain that the mass of the people were determined not to submit to the Constitution, nor to participate in the election, but probably to prevent its taking place. A large military force would have been necessary everywhere to enforce order.

"Under these circumstances, it was suggested that the Legislature might provide for a vote on the adoption or rejection of the Constitution, and that this would give satisfaction to the people. Being well convinced that no power could enforce the Constitution, and that the demand of the people to vote upon it is only just and proper, and having received the individual pledge of a majority of the members that they would do nothing but provide for something of that kind, I thought the peace of the Territory would be cheaply maintained at the expense of a short session of the Legislative Assembly.

"I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"FREDERICK P. STANTON.

"Hon. LEWIS CASS,
"Secretary of State, Washington, D. C."

CHANGE OF TACTICS.

[From the Ohio Statesman.]

Since the election of the fourth of January, in Kansas, there has been a further change in tactics. Before, the Lecompton Constitution was to be put through because the people would not vote; now, it is because they have voted. The advocates of this scheme at Washington ought to be well paid for supporting it. They are obliged to write themselves down asses every day. They dare not take the only ground upon which the shadow of an argument can be sustained—that of the plenary and absolute power of the Convention, and the unconstitutionality of Congress doing anything more than inquire, is, the Constitution brought here republican in form? They cannot do this, because the President does not take such ground. To disagree with the President, even in thought, or with a Cabinet Minister, is not in the *Union*, and would break the heart of the *Star*. Our Democracy is made of sterner stuff, and after every effort to circumvent the Kansas question, we are prepared to dissent whenever the Administration makes an effort to force the Lecompton Constitution through Congress. Upon the very day that the people are said to have recognized the Constitution by voting for officers under it, the people repudiated that Constitution by ten thousand majority. Yet, the miserable and disgraceful subterfuge is now advanced, that all who voted for free-State officers are in favor of that Constitution. If we had nothing better to say than this, we would not say anything. It is better to be assailed by a rogue than to be defended by a fool; and we can conceive nothing more calculated to damage those Democrats who support the Lecompton plan than the defence of the Washington papers. That the work of the business is, that the Democracy are requested to surrender sense as well as honesty. We are asked not only to put up with cheats and forgers, but to admit that childish nonsense is statesmanlike, and that incoherent babble is sound reasoning. The doings of John Calhoun, for months, were disgraceful to the Government that didn't remove him from the office he held in the Territory, and everybody knows it.

Yet the, honorable gentleman, Walker, was removed, while this man was retained. They cried out that Barabbas should be released unto them. "Now, Barabbas was a robber." And at this very time other officials of the Government are in custody for the penitentiary offence of forging election returns, and some of them have confessed their crimes and implicated their accomplices. We know what this will end in, and are determined that the saddle shall be put on the right horse so far as we are able.

If the underlings of the Administration had deliberately plotted to undo it, they could not have taken a more effectual course than they have pursued in Kansas. It is idle, and worse, it is criminal, to pretent that those low men have the countenance of Mr. Buchanan; yet the Black Republicans are laboring to create the impression. It was said that Calhoun forfeited his pledges at the instigation of the President; and we are compelled to demonstrate the utter falsity and stupidity of the assertion. The mistake made by Mr. Buchanan was in supposing that such men had discretion and integrity, and told him the truth. If, instead of reviling the Democrats of the whole Northwest because they ask that the Cincinnati platform may be adhered to, and the party preserved to achieve another triumph in 1860, the Washington papers would publish the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, concerning this Kansas matter, it would be a great deal better. How can you hope to succeed when the case is so flagrant that every step demands the sacrifice of another principle and compels a resort to further subterfuge? The people of Ohio want to be Democratic, and the contemplated legislation at Washington is the only thing that can prevent it. We want to keep Jim Lane, Robinson, Salmon P. Chase, and such like pernicious agitators out of the United States Senate; the course of those who advocate Calhoun's plan is directly calculated to bring them into it.

"THE UNFORTUNATE WASHINGTON UNION."

[For The Press.]

Was there ever before a case of stronger *self-stultification* than that exhibited in this morning's Washington *Union*, in the leading article of that paper?

An elaborate argument is fabricated to show that under the Lecompton swindle the people of Kansas *have a right* to alter that instrument before 1864.

If their right to do *that* be recognised by the *Union*, *why not recognise their right to repudiate it*, as they did repudiate it, at the election of 4th of January, ult.? S. M. L.

PHILADELPHIA, February 1, 1858.

Stocks, Ground Rent, and Real Estate this evening. The whole of the real estate, peremptory sales, by order of Orphans' Court, assignees, &c., &c. See THOMAS & SONS' advertisements and pamphlet catalogues.

James Tooley, a young man employed in the Portsmouth (Va.) navy-yard, was killed last Thursday by falling through a trap-door.

PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Despite the outside war of the elements last evening, the opera-house within presented a crowd of musical votaries, far exceeding in display, numbers, and enthusiasm, any previous assemblage gathered within those classic walls. The first announcement of the impresario of the present *troupe*, that he intended to gratify the taste of the city with MOZART'S masterpiece, created an unmistakeable *furore*, which has gone on culminating for a week past, until yesterday evening not an unengaged seat was to be had "for cash or for prayers."

With expectation on the *qui vive* from the extravagant promises held out by the management, we were not surprised to find among the audience the most distinguished critics and musical *cognoscenti* which Philadelphia musters upon such grand ovations. To do justice to MOZART was particularly a fitting duty within that grand temple of art, the arch of whose proscenium is crowned with the great composer's bust. The lovers of *music* (undefiled—the stirring crowd of sympathetic hearts whose palpable encouragement first reared the splendid dome of the Academy—appeared all to have selected the occasion specially for honoring the edifice with their cheering presence.

With the inspiration of an audience so keenly attuned to the spirit of the occasion, it would have been surprising if the company of artists, whose high office it was to render "the divine Mozart," had not been enthusiastic in their duty to the public.

It is rarely, indeed, that "Don Giovanni" can receive that full and studious attention which its many exacting requisitions demand. Seldom has it been put upon the stage with such perfect completeness as on this occasion. The resources of the Academy, as regards scenery, are unsurpassed, and everything last night was in harmony and correctness. In other words, the *mise en scene* was very perfect and beautiful. The finale to Act I, representing a ball-room, with two orchestras on the stage, was sumptuous in the extreme, brilliant with light, and crowded with gaily attired persons There must have been over two hundred on the stage in this scene.

The performance was one of the most brilliant which has been witnessed in this country. It could not have been trusted to better hands. Madame D'Angri, by her admirable impersonation of *Zerlina*, added to the laurels she has so abundantly won as a dramatic artist. From the opening scene to the close she never failed to win upon the audience, who were fairly enraptured with her adamitable notes and still more admirable acting. Light, airy, and ever in harmony with the scene, she imbued the opera with a life-like intensity, which only genius can bestow.

Madame De Lagrange, as *Donna Anna*, seemed to fall slightly below her usual excellent standard, her voice sympathizing a little, perhaps, with the weather. Madame Caradori had an arduous task to execute in the *rôle* of *Donna Elvira*, but, barring an occasional roughness in her tones, she acquitted herself with much credit. As *Don Giovani*, the terrible heart-slayer, the irresistible fascinator, Signor Gassier fairly divided the honors of the night with his inimitable and insoparable companion, *Leporello* (Carl Formes.) We cannot measure our commendation in characterizing Signor Formes.

A truer artist we have never had in this country. His by-play, his comical face, his comfortable assurance, so consistent with the character, added to a musical strength, sweetness, and fullness rarely attained by human voice, made his performance the finest treat that we have yet had in this country. The recitation of the catalogue of his master's conquests convulsed the whole house. Labocetta, as *Don Ottavio*, sang with much delicacy and pathos, adding much brilliancy to all the concerted passages. In the duet *che giuramento*, with *Donna Anna*, he was rewarded with an *encore*.

Signor Rocco, as *Masetto*, appeared to have far too subdued and quiet a part, evidently regretting that he had not the chance to render the character of *Leperello*. Signor Taffanelli, as the *Commandant*, did his share to complete the success of the piece. As a whole, we may set down the performance as the best ever presented in the musical annals of Philadelphia. It could scarcely be improved, and to say this much is according perhaps as much praise as can ever be awarded under the present condition of sublunary things.

"Don Giovanni" will be repeated on to-morrow evening, and will doubtless be a great card. This afternoon there will be a second Matinée, and "L'Italiana in Algeria" will be performed. Tickets are on sale at the two offices—at the Academy and at Lee & Walker's, in Chestnut street.

Several written complaints have reached us respecting what is considered "sharp practice" on the part of Mr. Ullman. He is blamed for charging an extra fifty cents for securing seats; but considering the expensive company he has, and the accessions he has made to it even since it came here, the public will generally admit, we suspect, that this increase was almost inevitable. He is blamed for advertising that, at the *matinée*, every seat would be thrown open to the public; whereas the holders of season tickets had their seats expressly reserved for them, and persons, coming early, who had taken eligible seats, were compelled to surrender them to these prior but unannounced claimants—which was the reverse of pleasant. Lastly, some of our correspondents censure him for having, for last night's performance, raised the admission to the Family circle from fifty cents to a dollar. These are the main points, which, perhaps, Mr. Ullman will consider. We shall be happy to publish any statement from him in reply.

MISS HOSMER.

[Apropos of the statue of the sleeping *Cenci*, now on exhibition at Earle's, in this city, we copy the following notice of the young sculptor, by her friend, Grace Greenwood.]—ED. PRESS.

I was with Miss Hosmer some eight months in France and Italy, and grew to love the woman, as well as admire the genius. At the time she went abroad she had been scarcely heard of as a sculptor out of America—out of Boston, indeed. Already she has made for herself an enviable and extended fame in her beautiful art.

Immediately on our arrival in Rome, she was introduced to Mr. Gibson, the distinguished English sculptor, who, on being shown a daguerreotype of one of her ideal busts, "*Hesper*," was so much impressed by the genius of the fair American, that he at once received her into his studio as a pupil. She has remained with him ever since, and executed several admirable things under his approving eye. Yet, in the ordinary sense, Miss Hosmer can hardly be called a pupil even of this modern master in British sculpture, whom she venerates and loves as an artist and friend. Strong, self-reliant, and proudly original, she resolutely "gangs her ain gait" in her artistic as in her social life, and while she does not reject advice, or defy criticism in the details of her work, in the ideal, the spirit, and general mode of treatment, she bravely abandons herself to the inspirations of her own genius.

Miss Hosmer's fame is no longer provincial, or national; she is no longer looked upon as a fair amateur, as a pretty woman playing with art; but she is already recognised in Italy and England as an *artist* of unquestionable genius, of whom much may be expected. All she has yet done, however admirable, can but be looked upon as promises and prophecies for the future. She is yet under thirty, not more than twenty-seven or twenty-eight years of age, and is, and always will be, an enthusiastic, yet patient and conscientious student of her art. If life and health be spared to her, what may she not accomplish, with the indomitable energy, perseverance and profound devotion with which she gives herself up to her life-work! I love to think of the little world of beautiful and majestic forms which for her lie enchanted in marble, awaiting the magic wand of her genius, the tap of her chisel, to awake them from the slumber and free them from the imprisonment of ages. The tender-faced Madonnas, the cherubic Psyches, the dreaming Loves, the drooping Magdalenes, the bounding Bacchantes, the Fawns, the Graces, the frolicksome Sprites, the Poets, the Gods, and yet the grander figures of Saints and Martyrs! All this, and still world of beauty and poetry is, we hope, yet to be revealed by her hand, as it exists, or as its types exist in her affluent artist-soul.

Miss Hosmer seems younger than her years. She is small and rather slight, yet looks vigorous and muscular. She is a bundle of healthy nerves, energy, and will. She has a fine, strong head, carried with infinite spirit, and crowned with beautiful hair, short and curling. Her face is delicate, fresh and piquant, but full of force and character. Her style of dress is slightly on the masculine order, but neat and peculiarly in keeping with her profession. In manner and conversation she is the furthest possible removed from a conventional, fine lady, yet neither is she coarse, nor unwomanly.

Miss Hosmer's early education was peculiar, and had much to do not only with the moulding of her character and the formation of her tastes, but with fitting her for her present unique and arduous life. Her father, Dr. Hosmer, a man of great talent and force of character, having lost his wife and eldest daughters by consumption, resolved to devote himself to the perfect physical education of his last child, his little daughter Harriet, who seemed to have inherited her mother's delicacy of constitution. He took her out into the fields, by the river side, and sea side; he let her run wild among the hills, inured her to sun and storm; taught her to ride, drive, hunt, fish, row, skate and swim. In all out-door sports and exercises she became a proficient, and, as a matter of course, grew up strong and vigorous. She is remarkable for her power of endurance, for steadiness of nerve and courage. She is not only the bravest woman I have ever met, but I know no man more utterly fearless than she.

A LETTER FROM ST. THOMAS—THE UNITED STATES STEAMER SHUBRICK IN A GALE.—The following is an extract from a private letter received from one of the engineers of the United States steamer Shubrick, of the home squadron:

"Dear Friend—Here we are lying at St. Thomas, one of the Virgin Islands. We are undergoing repairs; and I assure you we have had a very hard time of it since we left the glorious old Quaker City. On Christmas day we were in the gulf, and we encountered a terrific gale and came very near going down, with all on board. Between ten and eleven o'clock P. M., during the watches of the night, all hands were called on deck. The commanding officer ordered everything to be thrown overboard. This included twenty-five tons of coal, all the extra spars and spare utensils on deck. The guns were also ordered to be thrown overboard in case of necessity. I never, in all my experience, saw a ship toss and pitch in such a manner. She was fairly in the trough of the sea, and completely at the mercy of the angry waves. Our bulwarks were stove; the after part of the wheel-houses were carried away, and we were compelled from necessity to put into the nearest port for repairs."

"T. J. W."

Board of Trade.—A meeting of the executive council of the Board of Trade will be held at noon to-day. The proposition to establish a line of steamers between this port, the West Indies and Brazil will come up for consideration.

FROM HARRISBURG.

The Philadelphia District Attorney Case—Passenger Railroads Again—City Fines.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

HARRISBURG, February 1.

Both houses met to-day at 3 P. M., the hour fixed for the commencement of Monday a session hereafter. In the Senate, the act authorizing the reporter of the Supreme Court to publish the opinions of dissentient judges in constitutional cases passed finally. It will come before the House this week, and most likely become a law, as there seems to be no particular opposition manifested.

In the same body, Mr. Ingram's bill to abolish the additional district attorneyship in Philadelphia coming up, Mr. Schell offered an amendment providing that the law should not take effect until the expiration of the term of the present incumbents, which was adopted. On its final passage, it was then lost by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Bucknalow, Coffey, Craig, Cresswell, Ely, Fetter, Francis, Marsells, Myer, Randall, Scofield, Steele, Wright—13.

NAYS—Messrs. Baldwin, Gazzam, Harris, Ingram, Knox, Miller, Rutherford, Shaeffer, Schell, Souther, Straub, Turney, Wilkins, Welsh, (Speaker)—14.

A reconsideration, however, will be moved to-morrow, and it is supposed the bill will carry.

In the House, Mr. Askin read in place a further supplement to the West Philadelphia Passenger Railway Company, approved the 14th of May, 1857. It authorizes them to borrow any sum not exceeding $100,000, for which they can issue bonds in sums of not less than one hundred dollars, bearing not more than 7 per cent. interest. Also, gives them power to extend their road to any part of the 24th ward, provided the permission of Councils is obtained, and if at the end of two months their application is not *refused*, it is to be understood as given.

Mr. Owen, "a further supplement to the act incorporating the North Philadelphia Plank Road Company," which gives permission to turn the former track into a railroad, and also lay rails down Tioga street to Broad, down Broad to Ridge road, down Ridge road to Ninth, down Ninth to Arch, and down Arch to Second. City passenger railways are getting to be as popular as tulips were once among the Dutch, or morus multicaulis in our own country. They *are* a great institution, nevertheless, if kept within reasonable bounds.

The same gentleman read a supplement to the act consolidating the city of Philadelphia:

"That for all breaches of the ordinances of the city of Philadelphia, where the penalty demanded is $50 and upwards, actions of debt shall be brought in the corporate name of the city, and all laws of the nature of the act of May, 17, 1857, so far as inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed."

This was about the sum total of the business in which your citizens feel an interest. *

FROM LUZERNE COUNTY.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

JEANESVILLE, Luzerne Co., Pa., Jan. 30, 1858.

About twelve o'clock last night a fire occurred at this place, which destroyed eight houses, and thus caused as many families to be turned out of house and home destitute.

The night was very cold, and the fire spread so rapidly that, in ten minutes from the time it was discovered, the whole number of houses were enveloped in flames. Some of the inmates (Germans) lost what little money they had laid up, and, this morning, are busy digging among the ruins, in hope of finding some of it.

THE LATEST FROM KANSAS.

[From the Detroit Free Press.]

Two days ago we gave returns of the election in Kansas on the 4th instant, which seemed to leave no doubt that the free-State ticket had been elected, and that both branches of the Legislature were free State by large majorities. But it was added that John Calhoun "had not closed the count." These, to us, were ominous words. They were ominous that when John Calhoun should have "closed the count" the free-State ticket and the free-State legislative majorities would be "counted out." Such turns out to be the fact. *They are "counted out."* The latest intelligence is, that John Calhoun has counted *in* the pro-slavery State ticket and a pro-slavery majority in both branches of the Legislature!

The way of it appears to have been this: Returns from certain precincts were, through the misapprehension or ignorance of the judges, sent to Governor Denver instead of John Calhoun. These returns John Calhoun throws out! They are not, he says, legal, according to the Lecompton Constitution!

This last trick is not more shameless and outrageous than the whole series of tricks by which the Lecompton Constitution has been produced. It is perfectly consistent with Mr. John Calhoun's proceedings throughout. It is of a piece with his Oxford and McGee frauds, which Governor Walker rejected, and with his late frauds of Johnson county, Kickapoo and Delaware Crossings, by which some four thousand fictious votes were fabricated for the Lecompton Constitution with slavery, for the pro-slavery State ticket, and for the pro-slavery candidates for the Legislature. We say *his* frauds, because it has been asserted by the leading men of the Democratic party, and never denied by him, that the original Oxford frauds were manufactured in John Calhoun's United States Surveyor General's office, at Lecompton. That leading Democratic paper is the *National Democrat*, at Lecompton.

We shall soon know what will be the tendency of events at Washington with respect to this Lecompton Constitution.

LATEST NEWS FROM SANTE FE.

THE PUEBLO INDIANS.

[From the Santa Fe Gazette, Jan. 21.]

During the past week we have been issuing the annuity goods to the Pueblo Indians, which consist nearly of agricultural implements. So far, those who have received their quotas seem very much pleased, and leave the agency gratified and thankful. One of the Pueblos refused to accept their proportion, stating that some Mexicans had informed them it was only a trick of the Government to get their lands, by bringing hereafter an account against them for the goods received. Their agent endeavored to remove this erroneous impression, but not with positive success. They expressed their gratification at the offer, and their willingness to be commanded by their agent in all other business matters. We have no doubt that, in a short time, they will learn better, and come back for their goods, as they were informed that at any time they might change their determination they could call and get them.

There are twenty pueblos or towns, containing an aggregate population of 8,000 souls, immediately within this agency. They are sober, industrious, and some of them can read and write. They are generally quiet, industrious, and sober, and till the soil for a living.

CHRISTMAS DAY.—Christmas passed off pleasantly in this city. The houses of the Americans generally, and some of the Mexicans, were open for the reception of friends. On Christmas eve we had various gymnasium performances, none, however, of a belligerent character.—*Gazette of Dec. 25th.*

DEATH OF WILLIAM E. BARR.—We have hitherto neglected to notice the death of this gentleman, which occurred at Anton Chico several weeks since. Mr. Barr was a relative of the late Hon. Robert Barr of Texas, and was himself an old Texian; he participated in the battle of San Jacinto, and was, we believe, in several of the other historic battles of the Texas revolution, and afterwards did the part of a good soldier in the Mexican war. Until recently he was sergeant-major in the United States dragoons. He was a good and a bright odd fellow, and leaves a wife and children to mourn the loss of one among the best of husbands and fathers.

THE INDIANS OF NEW MEXICO.—Floating rumors reach us, now and then, of petty depredations being committed by wandering bands of Indians of this Territory upon the stock of our citizens. There has been no official information communicated to the Indian department at this place corroborative of these rumors, save a statement from agent Leeds, in a letter to the Commissioner, come down into the Mexican settlements, stolen and killed stock, and that the Apaches had been accused of the depredations.

We are inclined to the belief, however, that the rumors are groundless, and that the various wild tribes of Indians in this Territory are not too good to scalp a human, steal a mule, or kill a sheep, where there is any chance of escape from punishment. And so long as they are permitted to roam at will over the Territory, outrages and robberies will most certainly be committed.

CITY POLICE.—FEBRUARY 1.

[Reported for The Press.]

A CASE OF WITCHCRAFT.—Mrs. Gretchen Luckstein, a German lady, complained that her oldest son, Gotleib, had been bewitched by a neighbor of hers, an old woman named Catharine Freiderman, who practises the art of fortune-telling by the cards, and is believed throughout the whole neighborhood to be a powerful enchantress. She kept a "stygian pug," or familiar imp, in the shape of an ugly little black dog which about two weeks ago bit Gotleib's heel as he was passing Mrs. Freiderman's door, and Gotleib proved the mortality of the cur on the spot by killing him with a kick of his heavy boot.

"Soon after dat," said Mrs. Luckstein in court, "Gotleib gave up his place in der schop vere he vorked, and now he do noting but set still and roasht his shins py der sthove. He say it make him feel mush pad, shust to think apout doing any vork at all."

"And was he fond of work before?" asked the magistrate.

"Vell—nichs," answered Mrs. L. "He vash never care much apout it; but slice old Kotreen Freiderman pewitched him and the new lager beer saloon was opened at our corner, he shust smokes his pipe and trinks lager all der time. I believe mein Gotleib is as full of beer alwayah as der big tubs in old Krauterwein's prewery."

"And what makes you think he is bewitched?"

"Vy, he is got so stupid. He sets from von morning till der night before, and will nicks talk nor ket up, no more ash der white sthone ashes vat ish stuck up in der church. All der vay you can stir him up is to set some pork and sour krout vere he can smell him. If he vashn't cat so much, I'd py afraid mein Gotleib vash going for to go tead; all py dat tefil's frow pewitching him. So I vants you, mynheer mayor, for to send some of your fellers tats not 'fraid of witches to bring her here, and may pe it will do Gotleib some goot to see her strung up py der neck."

The magistrate replied that, in his opinion, it might do the young man more good to be set to hard work; for, by his mother's own statement, it appeared that he was bewitched chiefly by lager and laziness. A very good charm to break this sort of spell, (he added,) was to apply a good stout hickory stick to the patient's shoulders. But Mrs. Luckstein heard these suggestions with much disgust, and persisted in her demand that a warrant should be issued for the arrest of the supposed sorceress. This being refused, she left the office, muttering her conviction that nobody can be safe from diabolical enchantment while it is connived at by the public authorities. W.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH FOR THE PRESS.]

FROM WASHINGTON.

Cabinet Council—Kansas Affairs.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The Cabinet had a protracted meeting, this morning, on Kansas affairs. The regular council days are Mondays and Fridays. The committee appointed to wait upon the President and inform him of the general feeling of opposition of Northern Democrats to the Lecompton Constitution, and the unparalleled tyrannical action of CALHOUN, were, by reason of this Cabinet council, unable to discharge their duty. They will have an interview during the evening, if possible. A caucus of Democratic members opposed to Lecompton will assemble to-night.

General DENVER is reported to be here. Judge ELMORE and Mr. CALHOUN are hourly expected.

The President's message will not be communicated until to-morrow.

The Democrats of the Pennsylvania delegation will have a consultation some time to-morrow.

It is now claimed that Messrs. BELL and JOHNSON of Tennessee, HOUSTON of Texas, KENNEDY of Maryland, and CRITTENDEN of Kentucky, will vote against the Lecompton Constitution. X. Y.

THIRTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

First Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.

Mr. DOOLITTLE, of Wisconsin, presented a petition signed by ninety-seven citizens of the United States, praying that measures be taken to purchase the Island of Cuba, and its annexation to this country.

Mr. BIGLER, of Pennsylvania, introduced a resolution for the completion and preservation of the digests of the statistics of mines and manufactures, which were collected at the taking of the last census.

Mr. COLLAMER, of Vermont, introduced a bill to alter the time for holding the Circuit District Court in Vermont.

The consideration of the army bill was resumed.

Mr. HOUSTON, of Texas, opposed the measure. He could see no necessity of large standing armies in times of peace. It was contrary to the theory of our Government. He ridiculed the idea of making dragoons of men who had never mounted a horse in their lives, and did not know even how to bridle one, who would have to be tied on until they learned to ride, and then would be in danger of going heels over head when they were brought into action. [Laughter.]

At 1 o'clock, the Pacific Railroad bill was called up, it being the special order of that hour.

Mr. DAVIS, of Mississippi, expressed a hope that the army bill would not be postponed, as it was of the utmost importance that speedy action should be taken upon it.

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, had an amendment to offer, and wished to have an opportunity to have it printed.

Mr. STUART, of Michigan, argued the question of order, maintaining that the army bill being unfinished, that business had priority over all special orders.

Mr. SEWARD, of New York, trusted that, by the unanimous consent of the Senate, the gentleman from Texas be allowed to proceed, as it was very unpleasant to be cut off in the midst of one's remarks.

This was agreed to.

Mr. HOUSTON resumed. He advocated the raising of volunteers to meet all necessary emergencies, saying they were not more expensive than regular troops, and were decidedly preferable. Four additional regiments were raised some years ago, the expense of which was probably something like the twenty millions of dollars now drafted in the Treasury. What have they done? Killed few Indian warriors, but many women and children. Such conduct reflects little credit upon civilization. It would be better to treat Indians like men, and elevate them, than deceive and rob and hunt them down like savage beasts. Do justice to them, and you will need no standing army on the frontiers.

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, gave notice of an amendment to the army bill, in the form of a substitute, to the effect that the President—for the purpose of enforcing the laws of the United States, maintaining peace with the Indian tribes, and protecting citizens on the routes of emigration to Utah, to be employed only in said Territory—be authorized to call for, and accept, the services of volunteers, not exceeding five thousand in all, the officers and men to serve twelve months unless previously discharged, and appropriating ——— dollars for the purpose of carrying its provisions into effect.

The further consideration of the bill was postponed till to-morrow.

Mr. DOUGLAS, of Illinois, moved that the Senate take up the bill providing for the admission of Minnesota into the Union, saying that he was in favor of the Pacific Railroad bill, but thought that the question of allowing the Senators from a new State to take their seats ought to take precedence of all other business. The Pacific Railroad was a measure in which both these gentlemen and the State they represent were deeply interested.

Mr. GWIN, of California, was anxious to consider the Pacific Railroad bill. The Senators from Minnesota, he was inclined to think, would not get their seats before the passage of that measure.

Mr. GREEN, of Missouri, said there were several considerations which must necessarily be brought to bear when the Minnesota bill shall be taken up. The question of representation would depend upon questions of fact not yet decided. The returns of the census have not yet been received. The bill would, therefore, be prejudiced by prematurely considering it.

Mr. CRITTENDEN, of Kentucky, thought that respect for Minnesota, and the two gentlemen selected to represent her on this floor, made it the primary duty of the Senate to consider the subject. They had a right to take seats, and be heard on