THE PRESS,
PUBLISHED DAILY (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED)
BY JOHN W. FORNEY.
Office, No. 417 Chestnut Street.

DAILY PRESS.

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Mailed to Subscribers out of the City at THREE DOLLARS PER ANNUM, in advance.

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THE WEEKLY PRESS will be sent to Subscribers by mail (per annum, in advance,) at..... $2 00
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Issued Semi-Monthly in time for the California Steamers.

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BAILEY & CO., CHESTNUT STREET, Manufacturers of BRITISH STERLING SILVER WARE, Under their inspection, on the premises exclusively. Citizens and Strangers are invited to visit our manufactory.

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Constantly on hand a splendid stock of Superior Watches, of all the celebrated makers.

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Necklaces, Bracelets, Brooches, Ear-Rings, Finger-Rings, and all other articles in the Diamond line. Drawings of NEW DESIGNS will be made free of charge for those wishing work made to order.

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Also, Bronze and Marble CLOCKS, of newest styles, and of superior quality. 2m1-dtw4w

J. E. CALDWELL & CO., 422 CHESTNUT Street.

Have received, per steamers, now styles Jewelry, Chatelaine, Vest Chains, Splendid Fans, Hair Pins, Fruit Stands, Sugar Baskets. Jet Goods and Flower Vases; Coral, Lava and Mosaic Sets.

Sole Agents in Philadelphia for the sale of Charles Frodsham's LONDON TIME-KEEPERS. de10

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A large assortment of SILVER WARE, of every description, constantly on hand, or made to order to match any pattern desired.

Importers of Sheffield and Birmingham improved ware. se30-4dtw1y

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Constantly on hand and for sale to the Trade, TEA SETS, COMMUNION SERVICE SETS, URNS, PITCHERS, GOBLETS, CUPS, WAITERS, BASKETS, CASTORS, KNIVES, SPOONS, FORKS, LADLES, &c., &c.

Gilding and plating on all kinds of metal. se2-1y

Business Cards.

N. T. ABRAMS. O. A. MAYER.

ABRAMS & MAYER, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, LOCK HAVEN, PA.

Will attend promptly to all professional business entrusted to them. Special attention given to the collection of claims.

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Gov. Wm. F. Packer, Harrisburg, Pa.; L. A. Mackey, President Lock Haven Bank; Gunnell, D. K. Jackman, Lock Haven; Hon. A. White, Lock Haven; Simon Scott, Lock Haven; Bullitt & Fairthorne, Philadelphia; McFarland, Evans, & Co., Philadelphia; Kunz & Watson, Philadelphia; Phillip M. Price, Philadelphia; Hon A. V. Parsons, Philadelphia; Williamson, Taylor, & Co., Philadelphia; Tense & Davis, Philadelphia; Hon. James Burnside, Lillstonte, Pa.; J. W. Quiggle, Esq., Philadelphia. jy 26-1f

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CHARLES E. BUCK, REAL ESTATE BROKER AND AGENT, No. 814½ WALNUT STREET.

Real Estate purchased and sold. Houses rented. Rents and Ground Rents collected. Money procured on mortgages, ground rents, &c.

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AUGUST BELMONT, BANKER, 76 BEAVER STREET, NEW YORK,

Issues Letters of Credit, available in Travellers, on all parts of the world. je30-6m

CRONISE & CO., SPECIE AND EXCHANGE BROKERS, No. 50 South THIRD Street, PHILADELPHIA.

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Collections made, and Drafts drawn on all parts of the United States and the Canadas, on the most favorable terms.

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Stocks and Loans bought and sold on Commission at the Board of Brokers in Philadelphia and New York. je3-6m

EDWARD B. PARRY, Notary Public for Minnesota. RICHARD B. PARRY, Commissioner for Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

PARRY & BROTHER, BROKERS & GENERAL LAND AGENTS AND CONVEYANCERS, FRONT STREET, above HICKORY, HANKATO, MINNESOTA,

Pay particular attention to Hunting and investing Money for non-residents and others, and collecting Drafts, Notes &c. Any letters of enquiry or business will receive prompt attention. Refer to

Wood Bacon & Co. Philadelphia.
Dale, Ross, & Wilmer. Philadelphia.
Sharp, Haines, & Co., Philadelphia.
Richard Randolph, Philadelphia.
Charles Ellis & Co., Philadelphia.
Parry & Randolph, Philadelphia. my21-6m*

Carpetings.

TAPESTRY CARPETS.—JUST OPENED, a large lot of superior Tapestry Carpets, to be sold at a low price.

BAILY & BROTHER, CASH CARPET STORE, 920 CHESTNUT St.

mh31-tf

SUPERB THREE-PLY CARPETS.—A fresh assortment of new patterns, at reduced prices, at

BAILY & BROTHER'S, CASH CARPET STORE, 920 CHESTNUT St.

mh31-tf

RED ROOM CARPETS.—10,000 YDS. of superior Ingrain and Three-ply Carpets, of the best makes and styles, at all prices, from 50 cents to $1.25 per yard.

BAILY & BROTHER, No. 920 CHESTNUT Street.

mh31-tf

BEST HEAVY BRUSSELS.—A LARGE lot of new patterns, in neat, chaste styles, at low prices.

BAILY & BROTHER, CARPET STORE, 920 CHESTNUT St

mh31-tf

Agricultural.

IMPORTED MEDITERRANEAN WHEAT.—The subscribers have now in store three hundred bushels extra quality Red Mediterranean Wheat, of their own importation, direct from one of the best grain-growing countries in Europe.

The attention of Farmers is requested to this Wheat, as it is believed to be the best article of the kind imported into this country for a number of years. It has been selected by a competent party in Europe, solely with the view of procuring super or article for seeding; and to farmers wishing to change their seed, this is an opportunity seldom met with.

For sale, in quantities to suit, at the Seed Warehouses of

P. B. MINGLE & CO., au5-2w 105 Market and N. Front st.

EARLE'S FREE GALLERY OF PAINTINGS, LOOKING-GLASSES, PORTRAIT, and PICTURE FRAMES, In every variety.

JAMES S. EARLE & SON, 816 CHESTNUT Street, Opposite the Girard House. jy16

Sewing Machines.

HARRIS'S BOUDOIR SEWING MACHINE is offered to the public as the most reliable low-priced Sewing Machine in use. It will sew from three stitches to an inch, on all kinds of goods, from coarsest bagging to the finest cambrics. It is, without exception, the simplest in its mechanical construction ever made, and can be run and kept in order by a child of twelve years of age. The "HARRIS VIEW" of the machine, and the QUALITY OF THE WORK, are warranted to be unsurpassed by any other. Its speed ranges from three hundred to fifteen hundred stitches per minute. The thread used is taken directly from the spools, WITHOUT THE TROUBLE OF REWINDING. In fact, it is a machine that is wanted by every family in the land, and the low price of FORTY DOLLARS, at which they are sold, brings them within the reach of almost every one.

S. D. BAKER, Agent, je1 2-46m why cowtm 22 South EIGHTH Street.

# The Press.

VOL. 2.—NO. 8. PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1858. TWO CENTS.

Summer Resorts.

HAY'S HOTEL, WILLIAMSPORT, LYCOMING COUNTY, PA.

The undersigned has purchased the large and elegant building, corner of THIRD and PINE Street, formerly occupied by the West Branch Bank, and has carefully and refitted it in a superior style.

Williamsport is one of the most delightful inland towns in Pennsylvania, and his house, he hopes, will be found pleasant, as well to the traveller as to those citizens of the metropolis who desire to pass an agreeable time during the heated term of the summer.

His omnibus runs from his Hotel to the Packet and Railroad Depots free of charge.

jy28-3m W. H. HAY, Proprietor.

CARD.—COLUMBIA HOUSE, CAPE ISLAND, N. J.—The subscriber, thankful to his friends and the public for the great and unmerited patronage bestowed upon the House this season, begs leave to say that he will have choice Rooms to let from and after this date, during the remainder of the season. The house will remain open until 20th September

L HARWOOD.

August 24, 1858. au2-tf

BEDLOE'S HOTEL, ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY,

At the terminus of the Railroad, on the left, beyond the Depot. This House is NOW OPEN for Boarders and Transient Visitors, and offers accommodations equal to any Hotel in Atlantic City.

TERMS MODERATE.

☞ Parties should keep their seats until the cars arrive in front of the Hotel. The signs are conspicuous. jy20-1m

SEA BATHING.—THE MANSION HOUSE, foot of Pennsylvania Avenue, ATLANTIC CITY, is NOW OPEN for guests. For convenience of arrangement, contiguity to the beach, and attractiveness of the adjacent grounds, this House is unrivalled. The proprietor has spared no pains in making this Hotel all that could be desired by visitors.

jy20-1m E. LEE.

WHITE MOUNTAINS, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

THE PROFILE HOUSE, and FLUME HOUSE, in the FRANCONIA NOTCH, are now open for visitors. These Houses are of the first class, and have become the resort of accomplished tourists. They are five miles apart, on a delightful road, and situated amidst the boldest and grandest of mountain scenery. The Profile is much the largest house at the Mountains, new, and replete with the conveniences of modern first-class hotels It commands the finest view of Mount Lafayette (which is but little lower than Mount Washington,) is near Echo Lake, and the Old Man of the Mountain.

THE "FLUME HOUSE," situated on a lofty elevation, commands the grandest view for 50 miles down the Pemigewassett Valley. The Flume, the Crystal Cascades, the Pool, and the Basin, are all within a few minutes' walk of the FLUME HOUSE.

Tourists leaving Philadelphia at 10 A. M., can reach the FLUME HOUSE, via the Worcester and Nashua, and the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad to Plymouth; the next afternoon, (24 miles by stage,) or they may go via the N. C. and M. Railroad to Littleton, thence by stage (only 11 miles) to the PROFILE HOUSE, in the same time. Mails arrive and depart daily.

Post-office address, PROFILE HOUSE or FLUME HOUSE, Grafton county, N. H.

HIRAM BELL, Manager of the Profile House.
R. H. DUNTON, Manager of the Flume House.
For the Flume and Franconia Hotel Co.

jy14-dlm

BRIGANTINE HOUSE, BRIGANTINE Beach, N. J., HENRY D. SMITH, Proprietor. This large and elegantly located house is now open for the reception of visitors.

Terms $8 per week or $1.25 per day.

Take cars of Camden and Atlantic Railroad; get out at the inlet, where a comfortable boat (Capt. Ben. Turner) will be in readiness to convey them to the Hotel. jy7

MANSION HOUSE, MAUCH CHUNK.—This elegant establishment, beautifully situated on the banks of the Lehigh, is now ready for the reception of summer visitors. There is no locality in Pennsylvania, nor, perhaps, in the United States, which combines so many attractions as the valley of the Lehigh, and the above Hotel will afford a most comfortable home to visitors desirous of viewing the magnificent scenery, inexhaustible mines, or stupendous works of art of this interesting region.

GEORGE HOPPES, Proprietor. jo4-3m*

BEDFORD SPRINGS.—THIS well-known and delightful Summer Resort will be opened for the reception of Visitors on the 15th of June, and kept open until the 1st of October.

The new and spacious Buildings erected last year are now fully completed, and the whole establishment has been refurnished in superior style, and the accommodations will be of a character not excelled in any part of the United States.

The Hotel will be under the management of Mr. A. G. ALLEN, whose experience, courteous manners, and attention to his guests, give the amplest assurance of comfort and kind treatment.

In addition to the other means of access, it is deemed proper to state that passengers can reach Bedford by a daylight ride from Chambersburg.

The Company have made extensive arrangements to supply dealers and individuals with the waters, put up by the barrel, carboy, and in bottles, at the following prices, at the Springs, viz:

| | |
|---|---|
| For a barrel (mulberry)..... | $4 00 |
| " Do. (oak)..... | 5 00 |
| ½ Do. (mulberry)..... | 3 00 |
| ½ Do. (oak)..... | 2 00 |
| Carboy, 10 gallons..... | 2 25 |
| Bottles, 1½ pint, per dozen..... | 1 50 |

The barrels are carefully prepared, so that purchasers may depend upon receiving the water fresh and sweet.

All communications should be addressed to THE BEDFORD MINERAL SPRINGS CO.,
my19-tf Bedford County, Pa.

Summer Excursions.

FOR CAPE MAY.—EXPRESS LINE—The swift and favorite Steamer "BALLOON," Capt. W. WELLDIN, leaves Arch-street Wharf for Cape May every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Morning, at 9½ o'clock. Returning, leaves the Cape on the intermediate days at 8 o'clock A. M. Fare $2, carriage hire included; Servants $1.50; Season Tickets $8, carriage hire extra. jy2-1m*

NORTH PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD FOR DELAWARE WATER-GAP, MAUCH CHUNK, HAZLETON, AND THE LEHIGH COAL REGION.—Visitors to the above popular places of SUMMER RESORT will find the Route offered by the North Pennsylvania Railroad Company, in connection with the Lehigh Valley and New Jersey Central Railroads, to be novel and agreeable, passing through some of the richest and most highly cultivated counties in the State, and possessed of comfortable accommodations, both on the road and at the various towns through which it passes.

FOR THE WATER GAP.—Take 6.15 A. M. Express Train from Front and Willow streets, pass through Bethlehem and Easton to New Hampton, where a close connection is made with the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad, and arrive at the Gap about noon.

FOR MAUCH CHUNK AND THE COAL REGION.—Take 2.30 P. M. Express Train from same Depot to Bethlehem, where a close connection is made with the Lehigh Valley Railroad, through from Philadelphia to Mauch Chunk in 5 hours.

A NEW AND PLEASANT ROUTE TO NEW YORK CITY.—Take 6.15 A. M. Express Train to Bethlehem, thence via L. V. R. R. and N. J. C. R. R. through Easton to Elizabethport, thence by Steamer, and arrive in New York at quarter past 3 P. M.

Parties travelling North that have a few hours to spare, will find this a new and agreeable route.

For further particulars, inquire of

ELLIS CLARK, Agent N. P. R. R., Front and Willow streets.

PHILADELPHIA, June 19, 1858. je19-2m

FOR CAPE MAY AND NEW YORK.

DAILY, at 9½ o'clock A. M. NEW YORK AND PHILADELPHIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The splendid ocean steamers DELAWARE, Captain Copes; BOSTON, Captain Sellew; and KENNEBEC, Captain Hand, form a daily line between this city, Cape May, and New York, leaving from first pier below Spruce street (Sundays excepted) at 9½ o'clock A. M. Returning, leave New York from pier 14 North River (Sundays excepted) at 5 P. M.

Returning, leave Cape May (Mondays excepted) at 4 P. M.

| | |
|---|---|
| Fare to Cape May (carriage hire included)..... | $2 00 |
| " " New York, cabin..... | 1 50 |
| " " " steerage..... | 1 00 |
| Season tickets (carriage hire extra)..... | 8 00 |
| " " " (for servants)..... | 2 00 |

Freight taken at low rates.

For passage, state rooms, &c., apply on board, or at the Office, 314 and 316 SOUTH DELAWARE AVENUE.

JAMES ALLDERDICE, Agent.

je15-3m

FOR THE SEA SHORE, CAMDEN AND ATLANTIC RAILROAD.—ONLY TWO AND HALF HOURS TO THE SEA SHORE.

On and after Monday, June 7th, and until further notice, (Sundays excepted,) three trains daily to Atlantic City and return.

| | |
|---|---|
| First Passenger Train leaves Vine st. wharf | 7.30 A. M. |
| Second " " " " | 4.00 P. M. |
| Freight Train with Passenger Car attached, | 4.35 A. M. |
| Accommodation Train to Waynouth, | 5.35 P. M. |

LEAVES ATLANTIC CITY.

| | |
|---|---|
| First Passenger Train leaves | 6.00 A. M. |
| Second " " " | 4.40 P. M. |
| Freight Train with Passenger car attached, | 11.30 P. M. |
| Accommodation Train leaves Waynouth, | 6.30 A. M. |

HADDONFIELD TRAIN

| | |
|---|---|
| Leaves Cooper's Point, | 11 A. M. and 2 P. M. |
| Haddonfield, | 1 P. M. and 3 P. M. |

Fare to Atlantic, when tickets are purchased before entering the cars, $1.50. Persons wishing to go down to the Sea Shore and return the same day can spend

SIX HOURS ON THE BEACH.

Tickets for the round trip, $2.50

Tickets to go down in the afternoon and return next morning, or down on Saturday afternoon and return on Monday morning, $2.50.

EXTRA NOTICE.

The Accommodation Train to Waynouth will run through to Atlantic on Saturday Afternoon and continue to run every Saturday until further notice.

| | |
|---|---|
| Leave Vine street..... | 5.35 P. M. |
| " Atlantic City..... | 4.00 A. M. |

Stopping at all Stations.

Monthly tickets will be sold at the following rates:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| For the month of June, | $10 | For the month of Sept. | $15 |
| " " July, | 20 | For three months, | 45 |
| " " August, | 20 | For four months, | 50 |

Churches, Schools, Lodges, Companies and Library Associations, wishing special trains, should make early application.

Freight must be delivered at Cooper's Point by P. M. The Company will not be responsible for any goods until received and receipted for by their Freight Agent at the Point.

JOHN E. WORRELL, Agent.
B. FRAZER, Secretary.

jel-tf

BRIDGETON.—The Steamer EXPRESS leaves ARCH Street Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at 8½ o'clock A. M. Returning, leaves BRIDGETON Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 8 o'clock A. M. Stopping at New Castle, Delaware City, Fort Delaware, and the usual Landings on the Cohansey. Through tickets for Millville, Port Elizabeth, Mauricetown, Dividing Creek, Newport, Cedarville, and Fairton. jy29-1m

TAW & BEERS' LUBRICATING GREASE, the best and cheapest compound for greasing the axles of OMNIBUSES, CARRIAGES, CARTS, DRAYS and WAGONS, and HEAVY MACHINERY.

For sale in tin cans, kegs, and barrels, by all the DRUGGISTS in the city and the MANUFACTURERS,

jy12-6m* No. 18 SOUTH WATER Street.

SALAD OIL.—25 Cases finest quality Tuscan Lynch Oil in store and for sale by

WILLIAM R. YEATON, jy26 216 South FRONT Street

MONONGAHELA.—13 bbls. Burnside's old Monongahela pure Rye Whiskey, just received and for sale by

WILLIAM H. YEATON, jy16 216 South FRONT St.

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Address:

W. S. JONES, AUGUSTA, GA.

aug-2w

JOURNEYMEN STONE CUTTERS, CARPENTERS, CORDWAINERS, SHIP CARPENTERS, HATTERS,

And those of ALL OTHER TRADES, will find something to interest them in the columns of the "NATIONAL MECHANIC," a Weekly paper that will be published next week. Call at the office, No. 418 South THIRD Street, (second floor,) and subscribe. CARRIERS and AGENTS WANTED. au7-tf

VALUABLE WORK ON COLONIAL LAW.—CHALMERS' OPINIONS.—Opinions of eminent Lawyers on various points of English Jurisprudence, chiefly concerning the Colonies, Fisheries, and Commerce of Great Britain: Collected and Digested from the Originals in the Board of Trade and other Depositories. By GEORGE CHALMERS, Esq., F.R.S., S.A. 1 vol. 8vo, 815 pages.

Just received and for sale by

KAY & BROTHER, Law Book sellers, Publishers, and Importers, jy29 19 South Sixth street.

NEW MAGAZINE.—BRYANT & STRATTON'S "AMERICAN MERCHANT" is now ready, and may be had at all NEWS DEPOTS. Their Agent, Capt. J. H. Bell, is canvassing this city for yearly subscribers. Price 25 per annum. Address BRYANT & STRATTON, Mercantile College, S. corner SEVENTH and CHESTNUT Streets, Philadelphia. my26-1y

## The Press.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1858.

### PENNY-A-LINERS.

Attached to the English Press, or rather to the daily newspapers published in London, are men who, as a class, bear the general name of *Penny-a-Liners*. They are useful but not very exalted men, providers of local news, reporters of great trials, seekers of exciting cases at the Police offices, and hunters-up, in generally of all sorts of domestic information which appears likely to interest newspaper readers.

These men are exclusively part and parcel of London journalism. In Edinburgh, Dublin, Glasgow, Manchester, Liverpool, and Birmingham, where there are daily newspapers, there is scarcely any Penny-a-linism. The system is almost wholly metropolitan. In Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, New York, and other great cities where there are daily papers, each journal has its own local reporters. In London, the daily journals have very little of what we here call *local news*. Police reports, great fires, the blowing-up of steamers on the Thames, exciting suicides, great robberies, tremendous swindling, bloody murders, adroit cheats, and such accidents of moment and crimes of weight are alone thought worthy of being reported in a London daily. Each journal of this description depends for such intelligence, upon persons who have no regular engagement upon any paper; but, having picked up items of news, write them out, and having manifolded it—that is, multiplied it by a simple process which produces the required number of copies, traced on tissue paper—take it round to each of the daily journals, on the chance of its insertion by some of them. In this country, each daily paper has its own reporters, who contribute intelligence exclusively to its columns.

There is one department in the London daily journals, in which, from various causes, American dailies are as yet inferior. This is the reporting of business before the Police Magistrates. Generally speaking, every daily paper in London has two to three columns in small type, of "Police Intelligence." No part of the newspaper is read, we believe, with more avidity than this. These reports are very full, at times, and contain the criminal history of London, day by day. With us, anything like such follows of detail is out of the question—as yet. No London Jury, were an action brought for publishing what takes place in a Police Office, would declare such unexaggerated intelligence to be a libel. Indeed, a recent decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, sitting at Westminster, *in banco*, has delivered judgment to the effect that a report of proceedings in a police office, in a Court of Law, or a public meeting, if evidently made with good faith and without palpable malice against any one, must not be held as libellous, even though part or the whole of it should wound the feelings, or be supposed to injure the character or prospects of an individual. In plainer words, what may be called Free Reporting is recognised, permitted, sanctioned, and even encouraged by the laws and judges of England, while, with us, no such latitude has yet been allowed. Therefore, the American papers do not make a special feature of Police proceedings, as the English journals do.

Indeed, our whole law of libel is a blot upon our statute-book, a nuisance to honest men, a whip in the hands of scoundrels, an instrument of annoyance, persecution, and blackmail. [illegible] since doubled of the last fluttering shred of character, to charge an honest journalist with having "libelled" him, and though there be only more suspicion as to the authorship, grounded, it may be, upon such a vague thing as supposed similarity of style, magistrates absurdly armed with "a little brief authority" have compelled the accused to find bail—at the same time, *not* binding over the vagabond accuser to carry the case before a Grand Jury. There ought to be no arrest, for libel, in such cases, until after a Grand Jury had found a bill of indictment. *Then*, and not earlier, the accused should be called upon to give bail for his personally appearing to stand trial in a court of justice. The laws of our State are about being inquired into. We earnestly recommend Mr. DAVID WEBSTER and his two colleagues seriously to consider our miserable Law of Libel, with the view to amending it.

Coming back to the "penny-a-lined" police and law reports, in the London papers, it may be said that they have been made, for several years, by men of education and standing. In the Courts of law, indeed, there is less penny-a-lining than in the police courts, for some journals have young barristers, to each court, to furnish reports of special cases. Judge TALFORD was thus connected with *The Times* for several years, and only the other day Sir ADAM BITTLESTONE (knighted on having been a Judge in India) retired from a similar position.

Police reporting is in the hands of a very few persons in London. To each of the Metropolitan Police Courts, (two in the city of London, and eleven in Westminster, Southwark, Lambeth, and the suburbs,) *one* regular reporter is attached. He is not an appointment by the Government or by the newspapers; but originally was self-undertaking, and is admitted by the newspapers, because any wilful mistake or misstatement in a report, if proved against him, would end in his ceasing to be recognised as reporter of the court—a recognition in which even the magistrate joins, sometimes addressing the public, through the reporter, on occasions when he has to make statements or repel charges, and always allowing the reporter free access to documents, &c., which throw light upon any case.

There are eight morning papers in London, (*Times, Chronicle, Herald, Post, Advertiser, Daily News, Telegraph,* and *Star*,) each of which *must* have the police reports. We say "must," because it would be only part of a newspaper without this necessary portion of intelligence—just as, in this city, a daily publication which does not contain the telegraphic intelligence supplied by the Associated Press, certainly is not entitled to be called a newspaper.

As the average salary paid to a good reporter in London is about £4 a week, each journal would have to pay about £60 weekly for its police reports alone, having to send a reporter to each police office, daily. Instead of this, they are supplied by the self-appointed reporters as aforesaid, at the expense of thirty shillings a column, whereby the cost is diminished fully two-thirds. Each column of the London *Times* contains nearly two hundred and forty lines, and thirty shillings for this makes the pay exactly *three* instead of *two* cents a line. Say that a daily paper has twelve columns of police news in a week, (which is about the average quantity,) it pays the penny-a-liners £18 for this, instead of close upon £60. Thus, in this alone, there is a saving of £2,000 per annum.

About thirty years ago, this police reporting was—nowhere. Mr. JOHN WIGHT, who then commenced penny-a-lining for the *Morning Herald*, devoted himself to the Bow-street police office, and, possessing much humor and some wit, dressed up the proceedings so ludicrously, that, within twelve months, his popular police reports nearly doubled the circulation of the *Morning Herald*. They formed an attractive volume, with admirable illustrations by CRUIKSHANK, published in 1825, and called "Mornings at Bow street." WIGHT'S success made other journals follow suit, but on his retirement, the *embellishing* system of reporting declined, and was succeeded by the present matter-of-fact and reliable statement of what actually occurs.

The principal police courts are the Mansion House and Guildhall in "the city," and Bow-street in Westminster. The accredited reporters here must realize large incomes. Each column which they write, at thirty shillings, brings £12 when manifolded for the eight morning papers. The four evening journals (*Sun, Globe, Standard*, and *Express*) also publish, but do not pay for, these reports. They invariably "convey" them from the morning papers, and give about half-a-column, every day, of the leading cases which may have occurred in the Police Courts between the hours of nine and twelve on each forenoon.

The Reporters in the three principal courts which we have named realize large incomes. Say that each supplies an average of two-thirds of a column daily, all the year round, this gives him £318 per annum from each of the eight morning papers, or a nett income of about £2,500 from all. Each recognised police-reporter has a monopoly, for the newspapers will not accept "copy" from any one but himself. An outsider has no chance—his "flimsy" (as it is called, from being manifolded upon tissue paper) would not even be read by the sub-editor, whose duty it is to give out "copy" for the compositors. The Police Reporters are at the top of the tree—in Penny-a-lining.

There follow, at a respectful distance, the "tag, rag, and bobtail" of this branch of reporting. The greater number of those employed in it are a seedy and out-at-elbows set of men. They sometimes have previously belonged to that class described by WASHINGTON IRVING as "poor devil authors." They are generally redolent of stale beer, bad rum, and miserable cigars. They never have dined, and are perpetually "on the" to invitations, whether for eating or drinking. They anxiously look out for bad cases, hinting to the defendant that they can keep the report out of print, pocketing a bribe on promising to do so, and never able to keep that promise. Rumor is meat and drink to them. They prowl about for news, and (being paid by the length of their lucubrations) spin out their details in remarkable tenuity. They are not very particular as to truth, but a piquant narrative, likely to be accepted by the sub-editor, is what they seek to produce. They hurry round with their nouveletto to each newspaper office, and run the chance of insertion. They are prepared for having their articles considerably abridged, and receive three cents a line for what is published.

An inevitable result is the temptation to invent intelligence, and the tendency to gross misstatement and exaggeration which such a system of news-manufacture creates; and so, the general local news in a London paper must be, and generally is, taken *cum grano salis*. Here there is a better system. Each journal has its own responsible reporters, and will not insert intelligence supplied by "outsiders" without full assurance of its being genuine. We prefer this system, on many accounts, to the London practice above described.

A great deal might be said concerning the haps and mishaps, fortunes and misfortunes, of the floating army of Penny-a-liners in London. It is very evident, however, from the extent of the present article, that we must defer any further notice to a more convenient opportunity.

### PACIFICATION OF MEXICO.

#### The Church Question—Illegality in Equity of the Law Lerdo—Comonfort and Congress Mistakes—Toleration of Religions.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, August 5, 1858.

I will now consider the chief points in relation to the law Lerdo, decreed by Comonfort, clearly show its illegality in equity, and also the gratifying expectation of good which may reasonably be inferred by giving to the wisdom of the Government which nullified the law Lerdo decree an emphatic endorsement.

The Congress which assembled in the city of Mexico in 1856, was called and elected under "the plan of Ayutla," for the purpose of instituting an organic law. General Comonfort was substitute President for Alvarez. In the early records of its action it will be found that "the Congress extended the time of Comonfort as President substitute twelve months." That fact proves that Congress was sovereign in the name of the people; and yet Comonfort had previously thereto decreed the law Lerdo against the property of the church of the Republic. The decree of the law was the act of Comonfort, although but President substitute. The Congress, at his request, sanctioned his decree. Comonfort led the Congress instead of allowing the Congress to lead himself. Now, as Mexico is confessedly a Republic, the decree of Comonfort against the property of the church was not only not legal, but regal—more than regal, it was imperial, for we read in Macaulay's history of England that even "a king of that country could not legislate without the consent of a Parliament." Comonfort legislated first and got the consent of Congress afterwards, whereas, as President substitute of a republic, he should have left the matter altogether with the Congress. Placing himself above all authority and power, the decree of the law Lerdo by Comonfort was a gratuitous affront to the nation and to the church, as well as an unnecessary insauguration of intestine difficulty. Congress and Comonfort were both wrong. Comonfort was wrong in doing an act which he ought not to have done; and the Congress was wrong in the sanction of an act, which, if it might have been done at all, Congress alone should have originated. Congress, by its sanction of the decree of Comonfort, made its primitive sovereignty subservient to the dictation of an officer which itself had given power to. The mistake of the Congress was the blunder of many persons; the mistake of Comonfort was the blunder only of himself! committed, however, with a full knowledge of the extreme agony of tribulation into which the act was inevitably to plunge the republic.

The law Lerdo might be said to have been issued under a strong desire to become personally famous, without discovering that the fame to be derived from it would be infamy rather than glory. It was an unenviable exhibition of governmental puerility to institute affliction for the Mexican people.

Even under the strongest of monarchies, churches have not been violently wounded successfully nor with impunity, and *never* except through centuries of disaster; and how could a mere President substitute, with a self-assumed regal or imperial authority, under a new inefficient, because imperfectly established form of government, hope or expect to accomplish (in peace) in Mexico, what, after a lapse of two centuries, the great Protestant throne of England has not even yet been able to accomplish in Ireland, nor even in England itself. The *necessity* of Mexico was peace, and not the inauguration of centuries of intestine difficulty. The Lerdo law was rightly rescinded by the Zuloaga Administration, and should never be revived.

If the law Lerdo (as at the time stated) was issued merely to supply the Comonfort Administration with funds, it was not only a governmental robbery merely, but a gratuitous or *unnecessary* robbery, because the church in State exigencies had never been found wanting in respect for the Government, by refusing to accede to the grant of such aid as might be afforded and seem to be essential to the welfare of the nation.

If, on the other hand, as was at the time stated, in some quarters, the church was not deprived of the property, but only under a forced sale compelled to hold a mortgage, instead of a rental, the Government seizing only part or all of the deposit made on account of purchase at the time of sale, the sale was still a robbery of magnitude, and would have been such even had the Government taken none of the proceeds of sales. Large quantities of real estate could not have been forced into a public market, with the view to gratify or give it to political partisans, without being disposed of for not more than a third of their then and prospective value. The loss by the forced sale, and the loss by what the Government seized as commissions and payments on account, &c., were equivalent to a sacrifice of, and gift to particular partisans, of the whole of the property; *and it may be fairly assumed that those persons who purchased the property, and did so at a nominal value, are those who are now in arms to sustain the Lerdo law, in order that they may not be compelled to give up the property.* This idea gives to the present intestine war a very mercenary aspect. But that feature of the contest need not cause it to be continued, because it has already been intimated that the "defacto Government will advocate full compensation to all those who may have purchased the property, and who have been, now are, or may hereafter be, called upon to relinquish it, through the annulment of the law."

In the foregoing paragraph, the public intelligence of these United States will perceive, and the intelligence of the personality of Mexico will also discover, how fearfully the partisan upholders of ex-President Comonfort are liable to be charged with having been desirous to possess themselves individually of the entire real estate, vested interests of the Church of Mexico. The process of action was to be as follows: General Comonfort had only to be understood to say, "You will uphold me in the course I shall choose to adopt, and your recompense will be found in the action which I shall take against the Church. We will seize the property; we will have a forced sale of it; individually we will purchase, at our own prices, so much of it as we may think proper. If we cannot pay for our purchases, we can give mortgages therefor. By military force we will establish the legality of this, our first proceeding. By a subsequent process, equally illegal, we will quash, seize, and sell at the lowest possible figure, or greatly reduce by legislative enactments the original pledges of the mortgages, so as in point of fact to make the proceeding which we will institute as a measure to aid the Government for the benefit of the country, a policy specially advantageous in a pecuniary point of view to our own partisan individuality." And this is the plot which Juarez—who, as Chief Judge of the Supreme Court of Mexico, should be the epitome of national equity and purity of personal motive and honor—is, it is conceived, at war with the conciliatory, just Administration of Zuloaga, to realize in full for Vidauri, himself, and others! Personal honor should ever nobly preserve itself above suspicion.

But, was the decree of Comonfort against the vested interests of the Church legal? Would the decree have been legal had it originated with the Congress? The decree was not legal as the act of Comonfort, and would not have been legal as the act of Congress. The Congress was elected under the plan of Ayutla for a special purpose, and Comonfort was President substitute under the same plan of 