The Press.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1858.

FIRST PAGE.—Touching "the Weed;" Schuylkill County Anti-Lecompton Democratic Meeting; Speech of E. G. Webb, Esq.; General News. FOURTH PAGE.—List of Letters remaining in the Philadelphia Post Office up to 12 o'clock P. M., Saturday, Sept. 25.

The News.

The Democratic conferees in the Twelfth Congressional district, after numerous ballots, have laid Paul Leidy, the present Lecomptonite member, on the shelf, and have nominated John Hampton Ringold. In the Sixteenth district a similar judgment has been meted out to John A. Ahl, present Lecompt onite member, and Mr. Fisher, of York county, has been nominated.

There seems to be little doubt now that the steamship recently burnt in the Austria, but she had a large number of boats on board, and as a vessel was near at the time she burnt, it is hoped that the passengers were all saved.

Gen. J. W. Mickle, one of the victims of the proscriptive phrensy of the Administration against Popular Sovereignty Democrats, has been nominated by the Democracy of Camden for the State Legislature.

The case of Townsend, the alleged captain of the captured slaver Echo, was under consideration before Commissioner Loring, of Boston, on Saturday, and a further hearing was postponed until to-morrow.

A new trial has been refused to Samuel Carson, and he has been sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment in the county prison by Judge Thompson.

The Lancaster Fencibles returned home on Saturday, after having attracted great admiration, and being very hospitably entertained by our citizens.

General Scott is expected at New York to-day. He has so far recovered from the effects of his late accident as to be able to attend to his ordinary duties.

San Luis dates of September 5 state that a battle was anticipated between the forces of Vidaurri and Miramon, in Mexico.

C. A. Wesson completed the feat of walking a thousand miles in a thousand hours at Lockport on Saturday morning.

The cipher has failed in the Atlantic Telegraph, and there is no immediate prospect of its being in working condition, after all.

The race meeting on Fashion course (L. I.) commences to-day. A great number of race horses are to be put upon the course.

John Rex, charged with the involuntary manslaughter of Nathan Stephens, has been acquitted.

There were 441 deaths in New York during the week ending September 25.

In Philadelphia, for the same period, the number of deaths was 171.

To the Public.

The following card appeared in THE PRESS on the 8th day of September:

"A CARD.—When I spoke to the electors at Tarrytown, New York, I did so upon the deliberate expectation that from the impenitent calumniator and convict of the New York *Herald*, down to the pensioners of the Washington *Union*, I would be shamefully misrepresented. The Administration which I assisted, not inconsiderably, to elevate to the power which it has basely abused, has not hesitated to make an honest difference of opinion the pretext for a proscription extending to my business and to my private intimate relations; and I am not surprised at the spirit which my remarks at Tarrytown have created in that quarter. This is to state that I shall calmly await the accumulation of all the accusations of the Administration and its agents, in the mean time, and in my own good time, I will prove all that I have written and spoken as to the gross betrayal of a great principle and a solemn pledge, and still further establish the justice and strength of the position of THE PRESS and of myself.

"J. W. FORNEY."

The time having arrived when the accusations of the Administration and its agents may be properly met, and the positions assumed in the Tarrytown speech made good, I propose publishing an address covering these and other grounds, at length, in THE PRESS of Thursday next, the 30th of September. It was my intention to speak this address to the people, but several public engagements, in this city and elsewhere, incident to the great struggle going on, and a promise to deliver discourses at several agricultural celebrations, compel me to spread it before the public in the manner proposed. It will not be my fault if I am not explicit and out-spoken in my own vindication, and in vindication of the good cause.

J. W. F.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1858.

☞ Extra copies of THE PRESS of Thursday should be sent in at once.

The Burned Steamer.

Sad uncertainty prevails, and increases as the burned steamer is specting the There are many reasons for believing that the *Austria*, a Hamburg steamer, which left Southampton on the 4th inst., must have been the destroyed vessel. Her figure-head is an Austrian eagle, and the steamer seen at sea, in a state of conflagration, also had a gilt-crown and eagle figure-head. Among the cabin-passengers by the *Austria* were Mrs. EMILIE VEZIN and three children, and Mr. HERMANN THORBECK, all of this city. The underwriters at New York have declined an insurance, at any rate, upon the *Austria*. The total number of persons on board, passengers and crew, was five hundred and fifty, and there is strong hope that many were saved, as the *Austria* had eight large-sized life-boats, and the Gulf current would carry them to the Azores.

On the other hand, it is alleged that the Hamburg steamers, from Southampton, invariably take a route on the Atlantic much more to the north than where the burning vessel was seen on the morning of the 15th; that the *Austria* had no walking-beam, as the burning vessel had; that it had a black bottom, with a white line, whereas the bottom of the other was painted red.

This uncertainty may long continue, and probably is more painful, more trying, than a knowledge of the worst would be. There is some relief, however sad, in knowing the very worst. It is the battle between hope and fear which pales the cheek, and dims the eye, and preys upon the heart. As day by day passes on, with suspense hourly increasing, the heart sickens beneath the distracting doubts. At last, the long agony which weighs so heavily on the mind may be alleviated by knowing that the dreaded worst has been realized. The knowledge of this worst does not crush the life out of the heart half so much as the doubt did. The paroxysm of grief settles down into subdued melancholy, and, at last, the soul's whisper to itself will be that lesson of resignation conveyed in the thought, "God's will be done. The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away: blessed be the name of the Lord."

Congressional Nominations in Pennsylvania.

DEMOCRATS.	OPPOSITION.
1. G. W. Scheiner, A.L.	John W. Ryan.
*Thos. B. Florence, L.	Marshall Sprogell, Am.
2. Geo. H. Martin.	*E. Joy Morris.
*James Landy.	John P. Verree.
	Geo. W. Reed, Am.
4. *Henry M. Phillips.	Wm. Millward,
	Jacob Broom, Am.
5. *Owen Jones.	John Wood.
6. *John Hickman, A.L.	John M. Broomall.
Chas. D. Manly, L.	
8. John Schwartz, A.L.	
*J. Glancy Jones, L.	
9. James M. Hopkins.	Thaddeus Stevens.
10. Jacob Weidel.	John W. Killinger.
11. Joseph W. Cake, A.L.	James H Campbell.
*Wm. L. Dewart, L.	
12. *John McReynolds.	G. W. Scranton.
13. D. K. Shoemaker, A.L.	
*Wm. H. Dimmick, L.	
14. H. C. M. Vail.	*Galusha A. Grow.
15. *Allison White.	James T. Hale.
16. *—— Fisher.	
17. *Wilson Reilly.	E. McPherson.
18. Cyrus L. Pershing.	S. S. Blair.
19. Henry D. Foster.	*John Covode.
22. *W. Montgomery.	Jonathan Knight.
23. Andrew Burke.	J. K. Moorhead.
23. John Birmingham.	T. Williams, Anti-Tax.
	Robert McKnight.
24. J. M. McGuffin.	Wm. Stewart.
24. *James L. Gillis	Chapin Hall.
	John H. Walker.

(*) Present members.
(†) Nominated in lieu of Paul Leidy, Lecompton, shelved.
(§) Nominated in lieu of John A. Ahl, Lecompton, shelved.

In the Eighteenth district an American candidate is also running.

In the Twenty-fifth (Erie and Crawford) district the Republican conferees, after repeated efforts, failed to make a nomination, and there are indications that two Republican candidates will be in the field—JOHN H. WALKER not having received the nomination of his party. In the Twentieth district JONATHAN KNIGHT did not receive the nomination of the whole Republican party of the district, and MONTGOMERY is supported by the generality of the Republicans as well as Democrats.

In the Seventh district, now represented by Hon. HENRY A. CHAPMAN, no nomination has yet been made by either party.

THE COMET.—This illustrious stranger, by far the most brilliant we recollect, and we have seen *two*, (including what was called "The Cholera Comet," of 1831,) is now a distinguished object of attraction in the heavens. Last night, it was at its brightest about seven o'clock, and so continued for nearly an hour, after which it gradually shone less gloriously, and finally, as the night advanced, "paled its ineffectual fires," until its light dimmed down to a lucid streak not much brighter than the Milky Way. It is visible to the naked eye, from all points.

The Principle Yielded by Common Consent.

Excepting Senator BIGLER, THOMAS B. FLORENCE, and J. GLANCY JONES, we cannot now recall a single Lecompton Senator in Congress, or a single Lecompton candidate for re-election to Congress, in the free States, who has not publicly, and in the strongest terms, repudiated the English bill, declaring his determination to vote for the admission of Kansas into the Union, regardless of the disqualifying clause, and without reference to population. Not one candidate for Congress in this State, with the exceptions named, has dared to take any other course. How those Democrats feel who were not in the last Congress, when this double fraud was perpetrated, and are yet called upon to meet an intelligent people as candidates against Republicans who opposed this fraud, the following extract from a letter written by Hon. HENRY D. FOSTER, Democratic candidate for Congress in the Westmoreland district, in this State, will suffice. We printed a letter to Gen. FOSTER, a few days ago, signed by certain other citizens of Westmoreland county, who will doubtless be fully satisfied with the ample and emphatic assurance herein contained:

GREENSBURG, Sept. 20, 1858.

Messrs. Leonard Blackburn, T. B. McGrew, Jessie Kingore, James Bigger, Samuel Freeman.

GENTLEMEN: I have received your favor of the 18th inst., desiring to know whether, in the event of my election, I would or would not vote for the immediate admission of Kansas, if that question should come before Congress.

If the people of Kansas frame a Constitution, republican in its form, and ask for admission into the Union, I would, if elected, without hesitation vote for her immediate admission, without regard to the number of her population.

The Constitution of the United States provides that "New States may be admitted by Congress into the Union," but that instrument has not defined what the number of the population shall be to entitle a Territory to admission as a State. The determination of this question is left to the sound judgment of Congress, in view of all the circumstances; certainly, at this late day, it is not necessary to resort to any argument to prove that her immediate admission, if a majority of her people desire it, would be an act of the highest political wisdom. If it was right for Congress at the last session to entertain her application for admission as a slave State, it must be right now to receive her if she shall ask admission as a free State. If she does apply for admission, the act of Congress, passed at the last session, has no power to embarrass the question. Like any other law, it is subject to be repealed, and the admission of Kansas as a State by any subsequent law of Congress would be a virtual refusal of that enactment so far as that Territory is concerned.

I cannot close this brief reply without adverting to the kind manner in which you have spoken of my nomination. My heart has always expressed itself more in actions than in words, but on the present occasion, I cannot refrain from saying that the cordial and unanimous nomination tendered to me by the three counties of this Congressional district has excited in my bosom sentiments of the deepest gratitude, which I will cherish while I live. Respectfully *yours, &c.*, H. D. FOSTER.

It is not much more than a month ago since we offered, as an Olive Branch of peace to parties and to the country, the formal repudiation of the despotic discrimination in the English bill. A similar spirit was manifested in other quarters. But this proposition, like that for toleration on the original, or Lecompton infamy, was answered by repeated proscriptions. The result has been that every day's additional discussion of the English bill has rendered it so disgusting to the people *that none but the veriest slaves of office and the meanest mendicants at the feet of power are now degraded enough to approve it.* From ENGLISH, the inventor, down to OWEN JONES, the wet-nurse of the bantling, it would be left to starve on the highway, but for the tender care of a few desperate pensioners, hospitalled in office, or paid for their wear and tear of conscience out of a liberal, though nearly vacant treasury.

To the Lecomptonites, who have thus formally abandoned their faith to the English bill, in order to secure their re-election to Congress, we have some brief words to say. We applaud your concession to the right. It is well. You should have all the advantage of the act consistent with your motive in making it, and your known relations to the Federal authorities. Had you made it earlier, it would have been better for your own peace of mind. You see now that the platform and olive branch offered by THE PRESS constitute the ruling substantials of a national party. So impressed are you of *this fact, that you* boldly take issue against the Administration in taking ground against the English bill. We mean nothing harshly when we say that your concession is a proof of your sincerity, and that it is your great misfortune that, however genuine your conversion, you have transgressed so grossly that few will believe that it is honest. If you are, and should be re-elected to Congress, you must go there either to betray your constituents in the new pledge of hostility to the English bill, or to find yourselves ostracised by an Administration which will never agree with you in this position. Such are the rewards of public men who prefer Expediency to Justice and to Truth.

For ourselves, we see that the victory is wholly with us; with THE PRESS and its compatriots; with the proscribed, and hunted, and excommunicated devotees of Popular Sovereignty. For all practical purposes the decree of the Federal power, the Lecompton organization; of a packed majority in Congress and an arrogant minority in Kansas; of office-hunting sycophants and office-holding despots—this decree has been reversed—stricken from the rolls—blackened with shame—and remembered only as an Example to be shunned. Hereafter no such crime as Lecompton will be attempted—no such insult as the English bill will be dreamed of. The people of the Territories are supreme in all their local affairs; and the people of the States will see that they are not again deprived of a right so dearly bought and so heroically defended.

But the Administration will not say yes to this! Nor will the extreme South say YES to it. Though the one asserts that the English bill is a Finality, and the other demands that the pound of flesh shall be forthcoming, the Finality of the Administration is a different thing from that we have contended for. The Administration Finality will keep Kansas out; ours will admit her. The one will extend the contest into 1860; ours will close it (if all parties are agreed) in six months. Choose between the two, intelligent reader, and answer at the polls.

Mr. De Santy's Report.

Mr. DE SANTY, in reply to the requisition from Mr. CYRUS FIELD and other Directors of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, reports that on last Thursday he commenced receiving a current [of electricity] from Valentia, and was in hopes that he should be at work again soon after. He informed Mr. MACKAY, the land-line operator at St. Johns, of this, which led to the too sanguine report that the full connexion was restored. The current then failed. On Saturday they were not working at Trinity Bay, but occasionally receiving, from Valentia, some weak reversals of current, which, when received, are unintelligible.

If the line were entirely broken, as has been feared, *not the slightest current could be received.* Therefore, there is still reason to hope that the present hitch is only temporary.

Mr. DeSanty did not send any report yesterday, but promises a daily report of future proceedings.

Fourteenth Representative District.

This district comprises the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth precincts of the Seventeenth ward, and all the precincts of the Twentieth ward, except the First. The Democratic majority for mayor last May was 827. In the fall of 1856 the Democratic majority was 1,313.

The present regularly nominated Democratic candidate is James Donnelly, of the Seventeenth ward, but many of the Democratic citizens of that ward, who object to Donnelly, as being a person incompetent to represent them, are determined to support O. Potts, running as an independent Democratic candidate. The relative merits of these two candidates can only be estimated by those who have a personal acquaintance with them. The People's candidate, by regular nomination, is Simon Gratz, of the Twentieth ward. The Straight-out American candidate is R. P. Garrison, of the same ward. The placards issued for this candidate call him the Independent People's candidate. Thus there are four tickets in the field in the Fourteenth district. From the former elections in this district, it is apparent that, upon a strict party vote, the Democratic nominee may be successful; but, from the strong opposition to Donnelly, on account of his well-known disqualification for the position he solicits, it is certain that he cannot poll the party vote. Both Mr. Potts and Mr. Gratz are excellent citizens, the latter being one of the most intelligent and promising young lawyers in the city, and one of the most exemplary, too.

PICTORIAL NEWSPAPERS.—From Callender & Company, news-venders, Third and Walnut streets, we have received the latest numbers of the *Illustrated London News* and the *Illustrated News of the World.*

Public Entertainments.

The utter impossibility of being in two places at one time, "like a bird," as Sir Boyle Roche put it, prevented our witnessing the performance of "The Inconstant," at the Walnut-street Theatre, on Saturday evening. By some very absurd mismanagement, it was presented after that most lugubrious tragedy, "Jane Shore," a drama which, we had hoped, was placed on the shelf, side by side with "George Barnwell." Not even the admirable cast, which included Mrs. Bowers, Mrs. Conway, Mr. Conway, Mr. McDonough, and Mr. Keach, could tempt us to sit through these five acts of melo-dramatic horror and affliction. "The Inconstant" is sufficiently attractive to be a leading feature, as it will be at the Arch-street Theatre this evening.

At the Walnut the cast was very good—stronger in the female parts than the male. Thus, we should suppose that Mrs. Bowers' *Bizarre* would be rather better than Mrs. John Drew's, and that Miss Richings, as *Oriana*, would excel pretty Mrs. Gladstane in the same part. On the other hand, Mr. Perry, as *Young Mirabel*, is not to be named on the same day with Mr. Wheatley. Surely, Mr. Conway or Mr. Keach should have been cast for such a part? Mr. Gilbert would be preferable to Mr. Thayer, as *Old Mirabel*, because he could throw more force into that rather demonstrative character.

A new five-act play, "Cagot, or Heart for Heart," will be produced at Walnut-street Theatre this evening. Mrs. Bowers, and Mr. and Mrs. Conway, have the leading parts. This drama has been a considerable time in preparation, is well cast, very full of interest, awakened from the first and skilfully maintained and heightened all through, and we expect to be gratified by witnessing its representation in a superior style of art.

On Saturday evening we saw the last performance of "The Wizard of the Wave," in which Mr. Dolman's defect of voice—that frequent interjecting of falsetto tones—marred the effect of his capital acting, as *Captain Faulkner* and the Pirate. This gentleman's *acting* is always judicious, and sometimes even excellent, but his variableness of voice ruins many of his best-calculated effects. Mr. Shewell, as a rough-and-ready sailor, exhibited much ability. There is scarcely any young man on the stage whose improvement has been so marked and so steady. Mr. McCullough's attempt in the part of the *Governor* might do for a small theatre out in the far West, but *its* exaggeration of action and of tone was entirely unsuited to Arch-street Theatre.

This paragraph about the "Wizard," however, is mere episodal, for we really went to see the fine comedy of "The Country Girl," one of the plays which, like the "Clandestine Marriage" and the "School for Scandal," never can grow old with years. The part of *Peggy*, which was the *chef d'œuvre* of the famous Mrs. Jordan, was very well played by Mrs. John Drew. The greater part of the action is between *Peggy* and *Moody*, and Mr. John Gilbert performed the latter part very well. But he does not quite look the character. The text of the play puts him at under the age of fifty, but he looked ten years older. The letter-writing scene was capital, indeed, bringing both performers into good situations, but *Peggy's* affected simplicity, on the detection of the second letter, which she adroitly affiliates upon *Alithea* drew down the house. The part has seven rather decided epigrammes, and Mrs. Drew gave each of them full force, much to the amusement of a large audience. The remaining parts were well filled by Miss Taylor, Miss Kinlock, Mr. Shewell, Mr. Dolman, and Mr. Wright. Of course, this play will be repeated. This evening "The Inconstant" will be produced, followed by "Paul Pry," with Mr. Clarke as the hero.

At Sanford's there will be a succession of varieties every evening this week. The re-engagement of J. T. Huntley, and the merits of Mr. Sanford and his *troupe*, have filled Sanford's Opera House every night for weeks past.

Signor Blitz, so long and so deservedly a favorite in this city, as the very King of Natural Magic, re-appears at the Assembly Rooms this evening. He will be accompanied by his wonderful canary birds. What a time the young folks will have with him on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons!

Owen Jones at Fort Kennedy.

On Saturday night Owen Jones was again before the people, in his energetic, yet futile, efforts to bolster up his desperate political fortunes. Fort Kennedy was the scene of his last farcical demonstration, at which point about the same reception was awarded him as the ones we have previously sketched, at Conshohocken and Fort Washington; and if the demonstrations which we have witnessed at each of the places where he has convened his friends for the purpose of addressing them are to be taken as indications of the popular sentiment in the Fifth district, we should suppose Mr. Jones blessed with a more than ordinarily hopeful spirit if he derived from them anything to cheer or comfort him.

Some seventy-five or one hundred persons were present, a good proportion of whom were from Norristown; and shortly after our arrival, on motion of Mr. John Kennedy as Chairman, and Mr. Jos. Morgan as Secretary, Owen, evidently grown weary of the contest, as the people have of him, has been calling into requisition the services of additional friends; and upon this occasion, besides his "right-bower," Enoch Banks, Esq., ex-Speaker Longaker was present to dance attendance upon him and assist in putting in the time.

Messrs. Longaker and Banks both made lengthy prosy speeches, the burden of which was the tariff and Know Nothingism, without a solitary allusion to any other issue which enters into the contest. At the conclusion of Mr. Banks's address, Owen Jones took the stand, and consumed some fifteen minutes' time in the recital of a new speech, which he had but imperfectly committed to memory. The burden of his new song was the "Scotch Pipe contract," into which he launched with a decidedly bold flourish. At its commencement he laid by his side a profusion of documents, which he announced were forever to put the quietus upon the charge which had so often been preferred against him, of complicity in the infamous award which was made to foreign contractors at the expense of our own industrial interests. These documents, however, he did not read, and no allusion was made to them, save the flourish with which they were announced. During his recitation upon this subject, there were persons in the crowd cruel enough to interrupt him with interrogatories, which seriously embarrassed him, and considerably marred the beauty of the oratorical performances. The tariff, which formed the prominent theme of his previous efforts, was scarce adverted to; while not even a bare allusion was made to the subject of Kansas, or an explanation volunteered of his own betrayal of the people's trust in aiding the consummation of the infamous Lecompton fraud.

We do not know, personally, the gentlemen who acted as officers of the meeting, but we were assured that the president of the evening would not vote for Owen Jones, and that the secretary, Mr. Morgan, resides in Chester county, and avows openly his determination to vote for John Hickman.

Such are the promises of success to Owen Jones; and our own acquaintance with facts, from frequently mingling with the people of his district, warrants us in confidently announcing his defeat.

☞ The Fair for the benefit of the Industrial School of the Sisters of the Holy Cross commences to-day at Jayne's Hall, Chestnut street, above Sixth. The object of the Fair is to assist in the liquidation of the debt incurred *in the erection of* the new building, located in West Philadelphia, now occupied by the Sisters and devoted to the purpose of the maintenance and education of the destitute female children of the diocese, some sixty or seventy of whom are now being happily provided for under the kind and watchful management of the good Sisters. The institution is well worthy of the charitable contributions of the humane of our city.

LARGE SALE TO-MORROW EVENING AT THE EXCHANGE—VALUABLE RESIDENCE, BUILDING LOTS, STOCKS, &c.—Thomas & Sons' Ninth Fall Sale Pamphlet catalogues now ready. See advertisements, auction head.

HANDSOME RESIDENCE AND FURNITURE ON THE PREMISES, Spruce street, to-morrow morning, by order of executor. See Thomas & Sons' advertisement.

THE YELLOW FEVER AT NEW ORLEANS.—The yellow fever still continues to rage in New Orleans, with but little decrease in the mortuary returns. Still, however, there is a decrease, not very marked it is true, but enough to show that the disease has at last attained its maximum, and sufficiently encouraging in view of the fact that this is the first decrease since the beginning of this fearful epidemic. The daily mortality of the week before last was as follows:

From Sunday, September 12, at 6 A. M., to Monday, September 13, at 12 M.			98
Tuesday,	"	14, "	63
Wednesday,	"	15, "	74
Thursday,	"	16, "	63
Friday,	"	17, "	57
Saturday,	"	18, "	74
Sunday,	"	19, at 6 A. M.	31
Total for seven days			460

And the following table shows the mortality by yellow fever since the appearance of the disease:

For the week ending June 27		2
" " "	July 4	8
" " "	July 11	9
" " "	July 18	20
" " "	July 25	26
" " "	Aug. 1	70
" " "	Aug. 8	140
" " "	Aug. 15	286
" " "	Aug. 22	318
" " "	Aug. 29	402
" " "	Sept. 5	449
" " "	Sept. 12	472
" " "	Sept. 19	460
Total		2661

The black tongue has seized upon the deer as well as upon the horned cattle in the eastern part of North Carolina. It is said that in the county of Beaufort there cannot be found a living deer in a circuit of twenty miles. They are found in numbers dead in the woods.

A fellow named Merrill, last week, married two girls, in Ohio, within the short space of twenty-four hours, and when found out, eloped to parts unknown.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26, 1858.

Some suggestions have been presented to the consideration of this Government, relative to a ship canal from Gluckstadt, on the Elbe, to Kiel, on the Baltic, across the Isthmus of Holstein. The undertaking is one in which the United States are commercially deeply concerned, and I should not be astonished if the Administration were to give it the aid of its hearty encouragement. Capitalists of the city of New York, mostly men who have largely been engaged in the steamship business, actuated by the spirit of the age now apparent in every quarter of the world, which seeks the shortest, most expeditious, and cheapest routes of communication between distant sections of the globe, have clubbed their means for the accomplishment of this grand design.

The Isthmus of Holstein is the narrow tract of land separating the North Sea from the Baltic, between the mouth of the Elbe on the one, and the Bay of Kiel on the other, pursuing the route of the river Rhyn. The distance between these points is only fifty miles, and the distance by this route from the United States to St. Petersburg is about one thousand miles less than by the present dangerous track of vessels, by the coast of Jutland, Skagerage, Cattegat, the Sound, and the islands of Denmark. The route passes through a level country, free from rock and hard pan, and a considerable portion of the canal could be formed by deepening the channel of the Rhyn. Few locks would be required. Labor, too, it must be borne in mind, is much cheaper there than in the United States.

It is proposed to make the canal 130 feet wide at the top water-mark, 110 feet at the bottom, and twenty feet deep. The estimated cost is $6,000,000.

Russia, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and Hanover will be benefited by the construction of the proposed canal, but neither of them to a greater degree than will the United States, provided we seize in time the advantages it will place within our reach.

Let us look for a moment at the trade of Russia and of the Baltic. Russia, with 70,000,000 of souls, is rapidly increasing in civilization, manufactures, and in imports and exports. Her custom duties are low. The imports and exports of St. Petersburg alone, in 1852, were:

Imports.	Pounds.	Exports.	Tons.
Cotton	68,038,595	Flax	43,823
Twist	4 184,054	Tallow	62 555
Coffee	8 123,730	Potash	49,694
Sugar	60,582,300	Wool	10,303
		Bristles	14 000

There were imported in 1852 by—

Denmark.		Sweden.	
Tobacco	6,924,034 pds.	Tobacco	4 346,237 pds.
Cotton	78 922 "	Cotton	7,989,428 "
Rice	5,886,043 "	Rice	2 868 tes.
Cot'n twist	668,657 "	Cot'n twist	067,728 pds.

The imports and exports of Hamburg, in 1855, were 2,602,117 tons of merchandise. The value of the exports and imports of Russia, in 1852, was $185,102,420, of which $80,000,000 belonged to the Baltic ports. In 1802 it was only $3,443,985, exhibiting, by a comparison of the two periods, the rapid increase of her commerce.

These statements show the greatness of the Russian and Baltic trade, and furnish data upon which to estimate the value and importance of the proposed ship canal. Let the canal be constructed by American enterprise, and Americans retain the control of it, in conjunction with Russia, Denmark, &c; let a direct channel be opened to the ports of the Baltic, avoiding the hazardous and tedious voyage through Cattegat and the Sound, and it is confidently expected that this rich commerce, two-thirds of which is now in the hands of British merchants, will be transferred to American merchants.

The endeavor now is to obtain the requisite charter from Denmark, and to forestall the way. Palmerston is suspected to have had it in contemplation while negotiating the Sound Dues treaty, to secure the right to, and control over, this canal in British subjects. The present Administration ought by all means to lend its influence and helping hand in such manner as to place the coveted charter in American citizens.

In what a deplorable position the Lecompton men present themselves before the country at this moment! The English bill was fondled and petted until within a brief space as their favorite child. Its praises were extolled to the clouds, and those who would not lay their heads in the dust at its feet were loaded with obloquy, and attempts were made to disgrace them. Now that the bantling is dead, the fathers of the deformity would deny the paternity, and are the first to spurn the corpse and refuse it decent burial. Who were so determined that Kansas should *be kept out of the Union as a free State until she had "adequate population,"* as English and Cox, and Landy and Phillips, and Owen Jones, and all of the Lecompton men; and who now say so energetically that she shall come in, what ever her population, but these *very* men? It is evident that while they exhibit an utter stultification of themselves in their legislative conduct, yet there is the great fact, too, that they are forced into an avowal and recognition of the justice of the principle for which Douglas and Broderick, and Hickman and Haskins have contended, and the course pursued by these noble men and those who associate with them.

You must not forget, in Pennsylvania, at the coming election, that while every *one* of the Lecompton Administration men in Ohio, Indiana, and the entire Northwest, boldly repudiates the Administration's new ally, Douglas and the regular organization in Illinois, in order to get back into Congress, your Florence, Phillips, Landy, Owen Jones, Clancy Jones, Reilly, Dewart, Gillis, Allison White, Ahl, Leidy, (shelved on Saturday by old John McReynolds—"to much for Buckingham."—Ed.,) Dimmick, &c., were among the worst traducers of Judge Douglas, all last session, and now, while trying for re-election in their difformt districts as regular candidates, are advocated by newspapers which constantly attack Douglas, and the regular organization in Illinois, in the severest language. Everywhere else, even the most ultra Administration men are called upon to repudiate the assault upon Douglas, in Illinois, made by the Washington *Union* and the office-holders, *and they do it.* How will the tens of thousands of Democrats scattered all over your State like the idea of endorsing this assault on the persons of the worthies I have named? Bigler, who was the bellwether of the crusade of the regular organization in Illinois, has given the cue to the newspapers in Pennsylvania to go on and hound Douglas and the organization in Illinois, so as to render a certain interest in the post-office printing more secure. Brave work for a Democratic Senator in Congress!

OCCASIONAL.

Letter from Hollidaysburg.

CONGRESSIONAL NOMINATION—THE TARRYTOWN SPEECH—FURNACES—NEW MILL—MILITARY ENCAMPMENT AT THIS PLACE, &c.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

SEPTEMBER 22, 1858.

DEAR PRESS: I suppose that you have heard of the nomination of C. L. Pershing, Esq., as a matter of course, for Congress, in this district, and are probably anxious to know the feelings of the Democracy here on the subject. Be it known, then, especially to citizen Bigler, that the anti-Lecompton Democracy of the district are not "weak in the knees," although the nomination of Pershing is claimed as an Administration triumph! *Eccs signum!* In the Blair county Convention the contest was between Banks and Crawford, both anti-Lecompton, while a large majority of the Democracy of Huntingdon are known to be anti-Administration. We should, therefore, have gone into the Congressional Conference with six members, but by some strange mistake (not worth explaining here) one of the conferees from Huntingdon was Administration. Judge Kimmel, of Somerset, a brother-in-law of Judge Black, was the *ultra* Administration candidate. He carried the conferees of his own county, by *two* of a majority, while in the Cambria-county Convention there was a strong anti-Lecompton feeling manifested by nearly one-half of the delegates. Does this look very much like a *decided* Administration feeling in the Eighteenth district? The nomination of Pershing was the result of a compromise, and, in case of his election, let not the Administration expect too much from him, lest it be woefully disappointed!

This week's *Blair County Whig* publishes Col. Forney's Tarrytown speech, which has been read by men of all parties, and high encomiums are praised upon it.

Both our furnaces are still in full blast, notwithstanding the depressed condition of the iron market. This is a blessing to several hundred poor men employed by them. Of course, these men get no ready money for their labor; but they get it, equivalent, and that is a position, no doubt, that thousands of poor city laborers would like to enjoy about this time.

Wood, Morrell, & Co., of the Cambria Iron Works, are about building a tramway from their extensive ore banks, a mile below this place, to connect with the terminus of the Pennsylvania Branch Railroad.

In the way of improvements we have not much going on. Colonel T. Bingham has converted his large warehouse into a flouring and feed mill. His milling apparatus is quite a novelty in its way, from the perfect manner in which it does its work. It has proved a great curiosity to country people, not only for this, but because it occupies but a small corner in his large building. It is Clark's patent, manufactured at 235 Pemberton court, Philadelphia, and I am told by Mr. Bingham that, by the aid of a six-horse power engine, he turns out two barrels of flour per hour. The price, too, he tells me, is only a few hundred dollars. Why, we have in this county, at Allegheny Furnace, a mill which cost $45,000, which has very little more capacity. I should like to own about six of these Clark mills on the prairie west of Davenport, Iowa. Colonel Bingham is certainly an enterprising man, having purchased, as I learn, the patent of this mill for several neighboring counties.

The most exciting topic on the carpet now is the military encampment, which commences at this place on Monday next. The military display will be large and, I venture to say, very creditable, and it is certain that it will attract thousands of strangers to our town. The ground selected is immediately back of town, known as the old race course—a beautiful level field, skirted by an oak grove. Should anything special transpire, you will hear from me.

JUNIATA.

LECTURES—A CORRECTION.—Somehow or an other an impression has gone abroad (through a paragraph in one of the papers) that Mr. Park Benjamin, who has heretofore lectured with such distinguished success to admiring audiences in various parts of the country, was no longer open to similar engagements, in consequence of certain other avocations in which he was engaged. We have the best authority for stating, however, that Mr. Benjamin has not withdrawn from the lecture-field, but that, on the contrary, he will accept all invitations for the approaching season, and on very reasonable terms. This will be good news to lecture-committees, of which, if they understand their own interests, they will not be slow to avail themselves. Mr. Benjamin's address is, as heretofore, at New York city.—*Knickerbocker for October.*

ARTIFICIAL CIGARS.—The steadily advancing price of tobacco has been met and measurably counteracted, by the production of artificial cigars, which answer all the purposes of the genuine article, so long as the smoker is kept in ignorance of the substitution. A large German importing house recently received an invoice of foreign cigars, which were appraised by the New York custom house at $3 per thousand. The importers were dissatisfied, and asked for a re-appraisement, which was granted; and under the most positive evidence, supported by the oath of the dealers, the cigars were admitted at a valuation of $1.50 per thousand. The evidence produced showed that not a particle of tobacco entered into the composition of the cigars—they were wholly composed of oak and other leaves, soaked in a strong tobacco ley. Thousands of this sophisticated article are annually imported into this country from Germany, and are smoked up without the consumers having the least suspicion of the cheat, so complete is the imitation.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

The Burned Steamship—Report of the Captain of the Arabian.

HALIFAX, Sept. 25.—The captain of the ship Arabian, arrived here, reports that at 7 o'clock on the morning of the 15th instant, he fell in with a large steamer on fire. She was apparently of 1,200 tons, with a gilt crown and eagle head; the stern was straight, and raked well forward; the bottom was painted red. The upper works, above and forward of the wheel, the mast gone, and the sides fallen in. Her funnel was lying on the starboard, but could not tell its color. He passed around the stern but there was no name distinguishable. He supposed she had been burning probably for forty-eight hours. He sighted a brig four miles to the leeward, but could not discover any boats or signs of sufferers in the distance.

The figure-head, as described corresponds with that on the steamer Austria, which lean Austrian eagle.

There is no doubt that the Austria is the ill-fated vessel.

The first cabin passengers of the Austria were as follows:

Herm Sondheim, wife and five children, New York; S Kitit, f. Minden; Miss Bridget Laughlin, Carl Nottman, New York; J Bozel and wife, New Orleans; Mrs Emilie Vezin and five children, Philadelphia; Miss Therese Von Mengershausen, Arnsberg; T Eirdield, Mrs. Julie Ebbinghaus and daughter, A Weissenhorn, New York; Mrs Anna Payper and three children, Miss Maria Herken, St. Louis; Gustave Schoenhof, Boston; A E Weidmann, New York; Jacob Friendly and wife, Wittelsdorf; E Wesker, New York; Wilh Raschel, Philadelphia; Mrs Rachel Bernstein, Hamburg; Mrs Sophie Jagel and child; A M Starmont New York; Miss Caroline Howitz, Copenhagen; F Gorissen and wife, Hamburg; Miss Helen Wolff, Copenhagen; W Rosenthal, New York, and five children; Miss Louis Meyer, Miss Minna Smith, Th. Glaubenskiee, New York; Fr Barjelh, San Francisco; O D Trott, J H Massury, Zanesburg; Herman Thorbecke, Philadelphia; Jos Hope Ed Adelsdorpher, Ed Bogel, New York; R V Durfeldt, Dresden; Ad Hermann, wife, and seven children, Egelot; Julius Buch, New York.

Deaths in the above three years as follows: Second cabin, full passengers, 103 children, 8; steerage, full passengers, 211, children, 30—total, 429.

The crew consisted of about one hundred persons, and twenty or thirty more steerage passengers may have been taken on board at Southampton. The first and second cabins were full, making a probable total of 550 souls on board.

ANOTHER DISPATCH.

NEW YORK, Sept. 26.—A private despatch to Kuhnast & Co., states the steamer had a double eagle figure-head, with a gilt crown—the Austrian eagle.

The Austria's bottom was painted salmon color, which would look "red" in the water.

The agent here in this city, gives up that it is the Austria; also the insurance was.

The propeller Alps must have been in the neighborhood at the time of the fire, and the hope is indulged in that she took off the passengers.

The probability is that all the lives were saved. The Austria had on board eight of Francis' metallic life boats, which would each hold fifty persons. She also had three or four ship launches.

The Atlantic Telegraph—Reply of Mr de Sauty to Mr. Field's Inquiries.

TRINITY BAY, Sept. 24.—To Cyrus W. Field, Esq.—In reply to your inquiries of to-day, I reply that I have received nothing intelligible from Valentia since the 1st of September, excepting feeling a few signals yes