The Press

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1858.

FIRST PAGE—Sorrows of Kossuth, Sonnet, by Park Benjamin; Foreign Miscellanies; General News; The City. FOURTH PAGE—List of Letters remaining in the Philadelphia post office up to 12 o'clock P. M., October 23.

The News.

Some of the parties concerned in the election frauds by which Florence was enabled to obtain a certificate of election to Congress from the First district, have already been brought to justice. On Saturday last, Christopher Kelly, a minor, plead guilty to the charge of voting illegally in the Fourth division of the Fourth Ward. He voted in the name of Charles Francis. Thomas Richards, of Baltimore, who voted in the name of Peter Welsh, also entered a plea of guilty. John McKean, charged with fraud while acting as inspector in the Eighth division of the Fourth Ward, which promises to become almost as famous as Oxford precinct in Kansas, was held in $1,000 to answer. Peter McGee, charged with a similar offence, entered bail in the same amount. Alderman William McMullin, charged with riot and assault and battery, entered bail in $800 for his appearance to answer.

The North American Telegraph Association has been organized by the appointment of Peter Cooper, Esq., as president, Charles A. Mann, vice president, and A. A. Lovett, secretary.

It is composed of a number of the leading telegraph companies of the country, representing in the aggregate a capital of $5,000,000 or $6,000,000, and between 30,000 and 40,000 miles of wire. It concluded a session of three days on Saturday last, during which several important subjects were discussed. The early construction of a reliable line to California and Oregon was under consideration, as well as various reforms and improvements of general interest.

The overthrow of Lecomptonism on the Congressional vote, polled at the late election in this State has been very emphatic, the total anti-Lecompton majority being 73,572. This is infinitely the worst defeat that has ever overtaken either of the leading parties in Pennsylvania.

The politicians of New York are in a turmoil of excitement in regard to the coming election in that State, and the notes of preparation are being very loudly sounded.

A circular has been sent by the filibuster Walker to his friends, announcing that a vessel will leave Mobile on the 10th of November for San Juan del Norte, which will "take any passengers or freight that may offer for Nicaragua."

The Washington *States* publishes the following as an abstract of the business of the General Land Office for the month of September:

Letters received and registered	3,430
" written and transmitted	2,984
Patents engrossed	3,868
" recorded	9,102
" transmitted	3,621
" examined	7,665
Entries posted in tract-books	17,543
Acres of scrip issued	18,880

The General Land Office is pressing forward the posting of surveys in tract-books for the new land district created in New Mexico, by act passed at the last session of Congress.

The number of passengers on board the ill-fated steamer Austria is shown by the full and correct list, received by the Ariel, to have been 431, and of this number 370 perished.

The prevalence of yellow fever still continues in New Orleans, and the unacclimated are cautioned to keep away.

Ira Stout, convicted of the murder of his brother-in-law, was executed in Rochester on the 22d inst.

The steamer Ben Franklin was destroyed by fire at Vicksburg, Mississippi, on Thursday.

A descent was made by the police on an alleged gambling house in Arch street, above Sixth, late on Friday night last, at the instance of one of the victims in the war upon the tiger! Three of the proprietors were arrested, and two or three visitors were secured as witnesses.

The number of interments in this city for the week ending on Saturday last is 154, embracing 78 adults and 76 children. The number of deaths caused by consumption was 21; mania-a-potu, 3; old age, 4; fevers, 11; dropsy, 10. Two of the deceased were between 80 and 90 years of age.

The argument on a motion for a new trial in the Kirkpatrick poisoning case was commenced before Judges Thompson, Allison, and Ludlow, on Saturday last; but not being concluded, the case has gone over until Saturday next.

The Washington *Union*, of yesterday, says "We learn that dates have been received from the legation of the United States in China to July 31st. The treaty with this Government, and those with Great Britain, France, and Russia, have all been ratified by the Emperor. Nothing remains, we suppose, on our part, but the final approval by the President and Senate, of the treaty negotiated by Mr. Reed, when it may be despatched to China for the exchange of ratifications."

The same paper publishes the official report of G. Bailey, special agent, to the Postmaster General, of the result of his observations in regard to the overland mail route to California. After complaining of neglect upon a few of the divisions of the route, he says:

"In conclusion, I have to report, that, with the exception mentioned above, the company have faithfully complied with all the conditions of the contract. The road is stocked with substantially-built Concord spring wagons, capable of carrying conveniently four passengers, with their baggage, and from five to six hundred pounds of mail matter. Permanent stations have been, or are being, established at all the places mentioned in the memorandum before referred to; and where, in consequence of the scarcity of water, these are place far apart, relays of horses and spare drivers are sent forward with the stage to insure its prompt arrival.

"The various difficulties of the route—the scant supply of water—the long sand deserts—the inconvenience of keeping up stations hundreds of miles from the points from which their supplies are furnished—all these, and the many minor obstacles, naturally presented to the successful management of so long a line of stage communication, have been met and overcome by the energy, the enterprise, and the determination of the contractors.

"Thus far the experiment has proved successful. Whether this success is to be permanent; whether this great artery between the Atlantic and Pacific States is to pulsate regularly and uninterruptedly, does not, however, depend entirely upon the Overland Mail Company. They have conquered the natural difficulties of the route, but they have yet to encounter an enemy with whom they cannot successfully cope unaided. I refer, of course, to the tribes of hostile Indians through whose territory they necessarily pass. Their stations in Arizona are in the midst of the Apache, and the Camanche may, at his pleasure, bar their passage through Texas."

He concludes his report with the following recapitulation of the distances embraced in the different divisions, and the time made:

	Miles.	Hours.
San Francisco to Los Angeles	462	80
Los Angeles to Fort Yuma	282	72 20
Fort Yuma to Tucson	280	71 45
Tucson to Franklin	350	82
Franklin to Fort Chadbourne	458	123 30
Ft. Chadbourne to Colbert's Ferry	282½	65 25
Colbert's Ferry to Fort Smith	192	38
Fort Smith to Tipton	318½	48 55
Tipton to St. Louis	166	11 40
Total	2,795	696,35

"Deducting from this, two hours and nine minutes for the difference of time between San Francisco and St. Louis, and reducing it to days, there results twenty-four days, eighteen hours, and twenty-six minutes as the time actually occupied in making the trip."

The Vote for Congressmen in Pennsylvania.

There are people who seemed to be infatuated enough to suppose that the Democracy of Pennsylvania would fight, like Swiss mercenaries, in any cause and for any principles their leaders might espouse; that they would sustain BUCHANAN in 1858 against Popular Sovereignty as cheerfully as they sustained him in 1856 when he was committed for fair play in Kansas. The official returns of the Congressional vote at our late election will enlighten such individuals, and enable them to form a better estimate of the honesty and intelligence of the Democracy of this State. In 1856 JAMES BUCHANAN received 230,509 votes, and a clear majority of 705 over both his competitors. In 1858 the Congressional candidates who only represented in a modified form the odious features of his policy received but 134,038 votes, and were in a minority of 73,572. In 1856 the Democracy carried fifteen out of the twenty-five Congressional districts—at the late election the Lecomptonites were in a minority in every district, except the "Tenth Legion," where DIMMICK escaped defeat by a majority of less than 1400, by a constituency which has in former times sent Democratic Representatives to Congress by larger majorities than any other district in the United States. This Congressional vote speaks volumes of the popular abhorrence of Lecompton tests, the English bill finality, and the persecution of Douglas. There is no State more devotedly attached to the Democratic party, for the sake of the party, than Pennsylvania, as she has repeatedly shown; and it is this devotion alone which has given even a decent show of strength to the Lecompton Congressional candidates, for many thousands voted for them who totally disapproved of their course, and whose mental verdict when they heard of their defeat, was like that of the Western jury—"served them right."

IMPORTANT SALE OF REAL ESTATE.—Thomas & Sons' sale, to-morrow evening, will be worthy the attention of capitalists, business men, and others, comprising a large amount of first-class property, to be sold peremptorily. Each of their forthcoming sales, 2d and 9th of November, will also be very large.

☞ See pamphlet catalogue and advertisements.

Franklin Institute Exhibition.

It is said that a volunteer is worth three pressed men. Not so, as regards newspapers, which are all the better for *not* accepting, or in any depending upon, volunteer editorials. The immense class of newspaper readers include very few who possess the tact necessary for editorial writing. They may have admirable and suggestive ideas, but it is scarcely to be expected that they can seize, by intuition, upon the proper way of saying what they want.

We are constantly favored with communications, upon all subjects under the sun, which the writers kindly tender to us, "as editorials." Alas! that we are compelled to decline a marvellously large majority of them, and, in the rare instances when we do accept these offerings, modify and change them, so that their authors cannot always recognise them in print. We *should* like the world to know that editors do not desire such contributions. At the same time, we like to receive, and we largely publish, *communications*. We should do so yet more extensively, if our friends would remember the necessity, in a daily journal, crowded with advertisements, of being concise. Great force is there in brevity.

Here is a volunteered editorial about the Franklin Institute Exhibition. We shall not adopt it—not we. And there is the less need to call upon us to write on that subject, seeing that, up to the present time, THE PRESS has said a great deal more about this Exhibition than any other paper. We have done this largely and cheerfully, and we shall continue to do it. The Exhibition is a very superior one, a credit to our State, and more especially to Philadelphia, the greatest and most prosperous manufacturing city in the United States. Our manufacturers, our mechanics—all classes will be benefitted, because they will be instructed by visiting it. More especially, would we have young people of both sexes frequent visitors to this Exhibition.

Were we at the head of a large educational establishment, the children under our care should visit the Exhibition twice a week. Such visits would improve them more than six months' hard and dry study of Science, and the elements of Art and Mechanics. Parents ought to take their families to see the miracles of skill and utility which human ingenuity, by the aid of the intellect derived from the Creator, has here presented. We should be glad to find that the public appreciate, as fully as it deserves, this fine collection. It is unusually good, this year, and speaks throughout the land what the enterprise, ingenuity, and sagacity of our mechanics—the noble army of horny-fisted men, who realize here "the nobility of labor"—have done for the public advantage. Every medal awarded by the Franklin Institute gives a direct and great impetus to industry, enterprize, and talent. And these things build up a nation's greatness.

We shall indeed be gratified, at each successive visit of our own, to find the Exhibition more and more crowded. On Saturday it gave us pleasure to see so many of the fair sex, much interested in the splended array before them, and warmly discussing the comparative beauty and merit of many articles. They neglected nothing, from CORNELIUS & BAKER's beautiful chandeliers and articles of *vertu*, which met their view on entrance, to SHOEMAKER's piano-fortes, and the Old Dominion coffee-pots, which have become household institutions, so the Exhibition will close in less than a fortnight. There is very little time to be lost.

Bank of Pennsylvania Property.

As every body knows—for it was advertised in our columns, which every one reads, of course—that magnificent building, intended for occupation as the Bank of Pennsylvania, comes under the hammer of Mr. M. Thomas—who gives some terrible knock-down blows with that little implement—at the Exchange, to-morrow evening. We mention, for the benefit of millionaires who may be intending purchases, that the sale is fixed for seven o'clock, precisely, and that Mr. Thomas is punctuality itself. However, a great many other valuable lots will be disposed of, before this new Banking operation is commenced. Stocks, insurances, dwelling-houses, stores, farms, country-seats, brown stone mansions, stables, building lots, the "Camel Tavern," on Delaware Second street, etc., all must be sold. Some are Orphans' Court sales, some by private owners, some under pressure from the Sheriff, and some by peremptory order of Assignees.

Under this last category the Bank of Pennsylvania, No. 20 in the list, occupies a place. Indeed, it may be called "the observed of all observers" at this sale. Since Mr. THOMAS sold the Bank of the United States building, now the Custom House, for $388,000, in the year 1836, there has been no property before the public, for competition at auction, nearly so great as this. There is something magnificent, even exciting, in the mere conditions of sale, viz:

Terms—$150,000 of the purchase-money may remain on the banking house, secured by bond and mortgage, balance cash on the execution of the deed, say within sixty days from sale, or the whole may be paid in cash, at the option of the purchaser. $2,500 cash to be paid at the time of sale.

It takes away a man's breath! This is the very "Leviathan" of the sale-room. The mere deposit, when the lot is knocked down, is $2,500. In each of the previous ten Bank lots, the deposit is only fifty dollars in each case. How the Leviathan overtops them! For the sake of the creditors of the Bank, we hope that the building will sell well. It is admirably well adapted for the banking business, for which it was specially erected. Perhaps one or two of the Banks will buy it—perhaps the City may secure it for public offices, (what a Record office it would make!)—perhaps some private individual may become the owner of the finest private-business edifice in the State, perhaps we might say, in the Union.

Immediately after this is disposed of the property (land and buildings) back of this building and of the adjacent Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank will be sold. We are told that it is one of the most valuable building lots in the city as a business location, situate between Chestnut and Market and Fourth and Fifth streets, with a large front on Merchant street, and an entrance through Ranstead place to Fourth street. Allowing for the forty-feet street which is to be made between Fourth and Fifth streets, this lot will be one hundred and thirty-one by one hundred and twenty-one feet, with two valuable fronts—Merchant street and Ranstead place. It might be divided into six lots of twenty feet by one hundred and thirty-one feet, or twelve lots of twenty feet by sixty-five and a half feet, and is well worthy the attention of capitalists, builders, &c. Of the purchase money $45,000 may rest on mortgage.

We give considerable prominence to these sales because the result is of the most vital interest to the creditors of the unfortunate proprietors of the Bank of Pennsylvania, and the great value of the property makes it an object of considerable interest. There will be a large attendance at the Exchange to-morrow evening.

Proceedings of the Synod of the German Evangelical Reformed Church.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION.

[Reported for the Press.]

The Rev. Mr. Kuelling, a graduate of the Missionary Institute at Basle, Switzerland, having made application to be connected with this Synod, his application was referred to a committee. This committee recommended that he be received into full connection with this Synod, upon complying with the rules prescribed for the admission of clergymen from foreign lands. This recommendation was adopted.

The Committee on Correspondence with sister-churches reported a letter from the delegate appointed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, N. S., assigning reasons for his absence, and expressing the kind and fraternal feelings cherished by the body he represents towards this Synod.

The report presented by the Rev. Dr. Fisher, secretary of the Board of Publication, evidenced that the financial concerns of the printing establishment were, upon the whole, in a prosperous and healthy condition.

The Committee on Minutes of Synod reported. The following are the most important items acted upon:

Dr. Schaff, chairman of the committee appointed to return a letter of salutation to the German Church Diet, reported that they had attended to the duty assigned them, and also read a letter, signed by the officers of the Church Diet, breathing a cordial and Christian spirit, and proposing to give $2,000 toward the establishment of a Theological tutorship in the Seminary at Mercersburg, Pa.

A committee appointed to send a delegate, or fraternal letter, to the Pastoral Conference of the Swiss Reformed Church at Basle, and also to the Pastoral Conference of the Reformed Ministers of Germany, held in Bremen, reported that they had attended to their duty in sending communications to the Conferences referred to.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Very little business of importance was transacted. The principal portion of the afternoon was occupied with devotional exercises. The following were the only items of business attended to:

The Rev. Dr. Gerhart, chairman of a committee appointed to form a Child's Catechism, reported that they had accomplished the task assigned them.

The committee appointed to write an appeal to the wealthy members of the church, urging their attention to the claims of Christianity in their charities, reported, through their chairman, Rev. Dr. Fisher, that they had attended to their duty. This report was referred to a special committee.

The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to devotional exercises.

Public Entertainments.

ARCH-STREET THEATRE.—A variety of standard comedies, which employed the whole strength of the very efficient company, has drawn capital houses during the past week. A new afterpiece, called "The Widow's Husband," adapted from the French by that rising young actor, Mr. Shewell, has been produced with success, and is likely to take a permanent place in the *repertoire* of this theatre.

Mr. Wheatley takes the Benefit to-night, the principal piece being Cumberland's comedy of "The West Indian," the first time for fifteen years. To show how very finely this play is likely to be acted, we subjoin the cast:

Belcour	Mr. Wheatley.
Stockwell	Mr. John Gilbert.
Captain Dudley	Mr. Dolman.
Charles Dudley	Mr. Shewell.
Major O'Flaherty	Mr. Fredericks.
Varland	Mr. S. D. Johnson.
Charlotte Rusport	Mrs. John Drew.
Lady Rusport	Mrs. John Gilbert.
Lady Dudley	Miss E. Taylor.
Mrs. Fulmer	*Miss G. Kinloch.*

Of course, Mr. Wheatley will have a great house. He is a good manager, a fine actor, and a popular gentleman.

Mr. J. S. Clarke has his benefit on Saturday evening. The pieces announced are "The Two Gentlemen of Verona," (first time in twenty years,) with Clarke as *Launce*, and Leman Rede's "Rake's Progress, or Three Degrees of Crime" principal parts by Messrs. Wheatley, Shewell, and Clarke, and Miss Emma Taylor and pretty Kate Nagle. We shall be glad to find that Mr. Clarke has a full house. He is that best sort of actor—*a constantly improving one.*

WALNUT-STREET THEATRE.—Mrs. Bowers had a crowded house on Saturday evening and the audience had the fullest cause for being satisfied with the entertainment. We have "assisted" at many benefits, when what are called "crack pieces" are usually presented, and not been half so much pleased. A new play, by Mr. Tom Taylor, evidently of Parisian origin was the first piece. It is called "Retribution; or, The Fate of a Libertine," and runs through four acts. Of this drama, the hero is a certain Rodolph de Mornac, known all through the piece, as *Count Priuli*. This character was remarkably well played by Mr. Perry. For the first time, he showed us that, when he pleases, he can be an excellent actor. A certain harshness in his voice, which is unpleasant in some of his parts, was almost necessary in this. He had to play the *rôle* of an accomplished gentleman, and he filled it thoroughly. He acted naturally, gracefully, and, in the difficult passionate scenes, most effectively. Contrasted with him, was a free-and-easy man of society, named named *Oscar de Baupré*, a gentleman of facile manners and indifferent morals, who has seduced the wife of *Count Priuli*, some ten months before, in her husband's absence, and now, though married to a charming and affectionate wife, is secretly playing fast and loose, in a dreadful manner, with the wife of one *Monsieur Morisset*, a Parisian banker, whose ambition is to be a man of *ton*, but makes an amusing exhibition of himself, with his odd manners, his immense beard, and his remarkably "loud" apparel. Mr. Keach appeared as *De Baupre*, and we do not imagine that the part could have been better played, so easy and so natural was the acting. Our very especial favorite, Mrs. Bowers, was a most fascinating *Madame de Baupre*. She rose in her action, with the passion of the plot, into something of power which was thrilling at times, and sometimes almost painfully pathetic in its earnestness. *Priuli*, personally unknown to *De Baupre*, has made his acquaintance, and purposes "improving" it to gain revenge, by seducing *Madame de Baupre*. He obtains influence with her, by revealing the secret of her husband's intrigue with *Morisset's* wife. He nearly effects her ruin, (in a most powerful and finely acted scene,) but his better angel prevails, and he spares her. It must be stated that *Madame Morisset* never appears. Her husband repeatedly flits across the scene, and his eccentric extravagance is a relief in such a drama. Mr. Richings played his part to the life, was highly entertaining, and made the extravagance of the situation, the dialogue, and the attire all combine into something very *outre* and laughable, but yet, one's judgment must admit, very like what the author intended. But we need not delay to praise Mr. Richings, who is a very fine *artiste*, whatever part he takes. There is a *Madame de Pommenars*, at whose "reception" the first scene is laid. She has nothing to do. Miss Laross (a tall and rather well-looking young lady whom we have not previously noticed) looked very well, in handsome costume, in this part. We hate the unprofitable labor of giving scene by scene the plot of a drama. We only say, therefore, that *Priuli's* brother, from causes which we need not dwell upon, forces a duel upon *De Baupre*, and gets run through the body. He is brought to the house of *Priuli*, by *De Baupre*, who does not suspect the relationship. They arrive just as *Madame De Baupre* is herself in the house. The moment that *Priuli* knows it his brother, who has been wounded, he avows himself, is recognised by *De Baupre*, and startles him by declaring that *Madame De Baupre*, then in his apartment, is impure. A duel ensues, fought with great skill, and at some length, by Mr. Perry and Mr. Keach, and the latter falls. His wife rushes in to help him, and is repulsed by the dying man. *Priuli*, at the last moment, finding his brother dead, declares to *De Baupre* that his wife is innocent. She receives his parting breath, and the curtain falls. The duel is truly a sensation—scene of unusual interest and skill—though fought, not with swords, but fencing-foils, with the buttons on. The opening scene, as we have said, is in a fashionable drawing-room, at Paris, at an evening or *dress* reception. *Garnier*, who was one of the guests, playing cards with *De Baupre*, was in such undress as a shabby Alpaca summer-surtout and thick shoes, over visible gray-blue socks. He wore the same *appropriate* attire throughout the piece, with the addition, in the duel scene, where he was one of the seconds, of a pair of clumsy gloves, which, in an early state of society, may have been white. Surely, Mr. Richings, as stage manager, did not notice, else he certainly would have prevented such a solecism in costume.

After an encored Chinese *pas de trois*, by the Misses Gale and Jackson, in which they excited much laughter, by the ludicrous manner in which each successively squatted down with remarkable *aplomb*, and Dr. Cunnington's popular and well-arranged Irish quadrilles, there was played a three-act nautical drama, called "The Lost Ship, or the Man-o'-War's Man and the Privateer." This is a curious mixture of the terrible and the ludicrous. The former part chiefly lay between Mr. Conway, who played a sailor with great spirit and effect; Mr. Young, who was the prime villain of the drama, and Mr. Eborle, as a superstitious and drunken German Privateers'-Man. Mrs. Conway, the heroine of the piece, made much of a small part. The fun was chiefly contributed by Mr. Frank Drew and Mr. Hemple—the former as a gardener, who has an affinity for something considerably stronger than the lemonade which constitutes our own favorite beverage, and the latter, in the line of heavy amusement, as an auctioneer and pawnbroker. The amiable damel, whom both love, known to mortals by the mundane title of *Sally Popple*, was Miss A. Wilks—a lively actress, who will oblige the public by believing our assurance, that one *necessity* of good playing is the *not* laughing at what may be said, or done, or even *looked* on the stage. She was on the broad grin at sundry of Mr. Frank Drew's very laughable extravaganses, (he is the best drunken man on the stage,) but we hold that the pleasure and privilege of laughing at him belongs to the audience, and not to any one before them, in the play. There is a storm at the close of the second act, which, for loudness, could not be surpassed. Like the stuffed animals at petty shows, "larger than life and twice more natural," this tempest-beat the actual ocean-tempests entirely "into a cocked hat." The thunder was much more deep-voiced than any thing generally heard, in ordinary underground arrangements. The play, however, is well got up and acted, and, with its intensity and fun, is likely to have a run. This evening, a new drama, in a prologue and three acts, by Webster and Coade (of London), will be produced. It bears the title of "Louise Durand, the Queen of the Market," and we see by the bill that it is strongly cast.

THE RAVELS.—The time of the Ravels, at the Academy of Music, is nearing a close. This evening they will give the ballet of "Rose and Papilion," and the pantomime of "The Golden Egg," a very amusing affair, in which Gabriel and François Ravel appear. Yrca Mathias figures in the ballet.

SIGNOR BLITZ.—This wonder-working magician, who seems to have an exhaustless budget of novelties (we believe he invents them in his dreams,) continues at Assembly Hall, (Tenth and Chestnut,) and performs every evening this week, with afternoon receptions on Wednesday and Saturday.

SPALDING'S CONCERT.—The great prize, or rather the great "Presents Concert," comes off this evening, at Musical Fund Hall, and there will, undoubtedly, be a great attendance. Only 1,500 tickets are issued, and, as the Hall holds 1,800 persons, there cannot be a crowd or crash. The programme of performances is capital—but we suspect that the expected Presents will be the chief attraction.

LETTER FROM JOHN MORRISSEY.—We have received from one of Morrissey's friends, says the Troy *Budget*, Oct. 23; a copy of the letter sent to the *Clipper* three or four days previous to the fight. It is as follows:

BUFFALO, Oct. 17, 1858.

EDITOR OF THE CLIPPER: Sir: The intention which I announced to you privately, some weeks ago, of retiring forever from the prize ring, whether I win or lose the forthcoming battle with the Benicia Boy, I now desire to publicly announce through your columns. You well know the influences which were brought into operation to draw me into the match, which was not of my own seeking, and the misrepresentations of the press as to my motives for doing so. I therefore wish to publicly declare, through the medium of the *Clipper*, my fixed and unalterable resolution, whatever may be the issue of my fight with John C. Heenan, of retiring forever from the prize ring, and that all future challenges, whether defeated or victorious, will be utterly useless. I remain, yours most respectfully, JOHN MORRISSEY.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

Letter from Washington.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23, 1858.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

The belief gains ground here that Douglas will succeed in Illinois, and the recent elections will of course greatly brighten his prospects. I rarely see the *Union*, but I understand it has become silent as regards him. I heard two or three days since that the Cabinet had remonstrated with the President on the injudicious and highly impolitic course of the *Union* towards Douglas, and urged upon him to silence the indiscreet course the editors of that paper were pursuing. There is no doubt they were encouraged to it and urged on by the President, and whether he sees the error of the course and will take wit in his anger, I am unable to say. You, however, know the old Roman adage, that "whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad."

I have not conversed with any officer of the navy who does not anticipate the failure of the Paraguay expedition from the inadequacy and unfitness of the vessels employed, the inevitable result of which would be the necessity of fitting out in the spring a formidable expedition of suitable vessels, with a considerable land force, at an expense of millions of dollars, in order to make *success* certain and retrieve the disaster. All the naval officers are on the *qui vive* on this point, and many are presenting themselves as volunteers in case of such an event. Under the provisions of existing laws twelve sloop-of-war steam vessels are now constructing at the different naval dockyards, all of which, with any degree of efficiency on the part of the head of the Department, could be finished and equipped in the spring, and most, if not all, of these vessels would be admirably suited for the service; but, instead of which, small and inefficient little vessels like the Water Witch and Arctic, with all their machinery exposed, are selected, and to them are added some six or seven merchant steamers, equally or more unsuitable to the success of the enterprise. The honor of the flag, and the lives and reputation of brave and honorable men, are intrusted to such means. Such is the fatuity that governs that department, that it is an actual fact the Secretary had agreed to purchase five of the canal coal propellers, to be fitted out for this expedition, and was with great difficulty persuaded from consummating the bargain by the warm remonstrances of some of the senior officers, who declared their total unfitness, and that they could not live to reach their destination. The plan, it was thought, was entirely abandoned, but a friend has shown me a letter from Philadelphia, dated the 15th inst, from which I take the following extract: "Mr. Toucey has actually purchased one of those Delaware and Raritan canal propellers, that carry coal, and she is now at the navy yard here, preparing to go to Paraguay as a war steamer. How the officers are disgusted and abuse him! They are ashamed to say what the tub is for, and dare not look one in the face when they acknowledge it. It is, however, the universal opinion that she will infallibly be lost at sea, and drown six or seven valuable officers, and her crew, and thus save the navy the disgrace of exhibiting her on a foreign station as one of our men-of-war." You have the means of ascertaining the correctness of the above statement, and if (as I have no doubt it is) true, you, as a public journalist, should expose and denounce it. If, after what I know were the remonstrances and statements made to Mr. Toucey about these vessels, he does intend to fit even one of them out, for such a distant and hazardous cruise, he is incurring a fearful responsibility. But it is in perfect keeping with his general management of the Department.

You will notice by the published statements of the Treasury, that the large accumulation from the ten millions recently paid in for the loan is rapidly diminishing; and though Mr. Secretary Cobb, under a temporary increase in the custom house receipts, said he would not require the other ten millions he was authorized to borrow, I think he must now be convinced that he cannot get along without it; this would make forty millions which the present Administration has derived from treasury notes and loans, adding, in the shape of interest, about two millions to an already heavy annual expenditure. How long will the people submit to such a rapid increase to the public debt? not very long I ween, and Mr. Cobb must, in his annual report, be prepared with some plan to obviate such a state of things. I understand that a favorite idea with him is a heavy duty on tea and coffee; but he will never be able to get Congress to do so, and if he even did succeed, it would go but comparatively a small way towards remedying the evil. X.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, October 24, 1858.

I have at no time felt the force and accuracy of your expression, that the Administration was *Tyrlerized* on the Lecompton issue, as I do now. With the admissions by the Administration organs that everywhere in the North the Democratic party must suffer defeat when it endorses the English bill, we have language used in the South against Mr. Buchanan, because of his war upon Douglas in Illinois and anti-Lecompton Democrats elsewhere, anything but complimentary. Hear for a moment what the *Eagle of the South*, published at Jackson, (Miss.,) says:

"Such a policy is a violation of the spirit of our Government, and is making the power of the highest position of the earth the instrument to gratify the partisan feeling and personal hatred of a mere individual. Such vengeance as Mr. Buchanan is now satiating is petty and contemptible, and has nothing of loftiness about it. But the Federal patronage in Illinois cannot beat down such a man as Douglas. Douglas is there, a living, breathing, active, and powerful force. Mr. Buchanan, with all his mercenary troop, is not a mate for the man who is pre-eminent in intellect, unsurpassed in activity and vigilance, with an unquestioned popularity. We predict that Douglas will triumph over the stolid fatuity and malignant persecution of the Administration, and its jackal, the Washington *Union*."

In this position of antagonism to the Administration, because it makes every issue bend in conformity to its personal wishers, regardless of the principles and pledges of the party, the *Eagle of the South* is not solitary. Journals in almost every Southern State are with it, and on occasions utter, if possible, more fierce and biting invective.

But the letter of Vice President Breckinridge, sustaining Douglas against the assaults of the *Union* and the office-holders in Illinois, has created the greatest sensation, and since its publication the *Union* and *Star* have indulged in a few "brilliant flashes of silence." Breckinridge comes out tardily, to be sure, and one may now, if he can, forget the expression of his first speech of the campaign in Kentucky, that the insignia of office should be stripped from every official who declined to swallow Lecompton "pure and simple." In fine, all the signs of the times are—and this letter of the Vice President is one of the most notable—that on its Kansas test the Administration must go down before the universal storm of popular indignation it has raised. The party must live—and we have the Bible story of Jonah and the ship.

It is stated in a Mobile paper, that on a certain day a sailing packet will start with emigrants for Nicaragua. Whether these emigrants are to associate, and go out as Thayer's companies have gone to Western Virginia and Kansas, I can't say; but I do know that from those who visit us from the sunny South we have sly hints and dark insinuations that the war cry of the filibusters will soon again be borne upon the southern breeze. It is hardly possible, however, that any respectable body of men will be deluded into such scheme. There are so many protectors for Nicaragua—Monsieur Belly and France, Gore Ousely and England, Lamar and the United States, and San Salvador and Guatemala and Honduras and Costa Rica, with a distracting variety of long named generals, half white and half—something else—that the red shirted and to-the-teeth-armed invaders will have but sorry luck of it. I would be glad, as others would no doubt, to see a genuine emigration to Central America from our shores; for it is time, surely, that the destiny of those rich and important territories should be taken from the weak hands that now control it.

It is stated that Mr. Dallas will resign, or be recalled, from the Court of St. James, at the close of this year, or of the coming session of Congress. His successor is not mentioned. It is to be presumed that the *personnel* of our foreign service will then be finally arranged for this Administration.

The Cabinet have long discussions on foreign questions, and the condition of the finances. It is not at all unlikely that the present tariff will be adhered to, upon the ground that it has not had a fair and full trial. If so, another loan must be negotiated, and then——. The matter, indeed, is calculated to give trouble to Congress, and be the source of not a few heated contests. The *Intelligencer* grows jubilant, and starts anew in its editorials of eighteen-forty. So we go.

OCCASIONAL.

THE APPROACHING VISIT OF PHILADELPHIA FIREMEN.—Extensive preparations are being made to receive Hibernia Engine No. 1, of Philadelphia, on the occasion of that company's visit to the metropolis. "Big Six" will take care of the Philadelphians during their stay amongst us, and that is a sufficient guarantee of the manner in which the affair will pass off. The visiters are expected to arrive here on the 8th of next month. They will bring their new steam fire engine with them, and exhibit its utility to their brother firemen in New York. The reception of Hibernia Engine Company promises to be a splendid affair.—*N. Y. Herald.*

INTERESTING LECTURE TO COME OFF.—By the correspondence, in to-day's paper, it will be seen that the venerable Rembrandt Peale, Esq., will, in response to an invitation signed by a large number of our prominent citizens, deliver his lecture on "Washington and his Portraits," in Musical Fund Hall, on Tuesday evening, November 2d. The lecture, it is expected, will possess new interest, from the fact that some important facts have recently rewarded the researches of Mr. Peale, and its delivery will be looked forward to with especial anxiety by a large portion of our citizens.

MAN INJURED.—A man fell off his horse, yesterday, on Ridge avenue, breaking his arm and shoulder blade. We did not ascertain his name.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Important Telegraphic Arrangements—A Move in the Right Direction.

NEW YORK, Oct. 24.—The "North American Telegraph Association," composed of the leading companies now owning or working the main telegraph lines from Newfoundland to New Orleans, and from Quebec to the western border of Missouri, closed a three-days session in this city on Saturday. The Association was organized by the appointment of Peter Cooper, Esq., of this city, as president; Charles A. Mann, Esq., of Utica, vice president, and A. A. Lovett, Esq., of this city, secretary.

A large delegation from the several companies interested was present, and the practical business-like manner in which the matters for advisement were disposed of, gives promise that the business of telegraphing has at last fallen into hands competent to systematize and make it, as it should be, a means of reliable and rapid communication throughout the whole extent of this country. Amongst the important subjects of consideration, we understand, was the early construction of a reliable line to California and Oregon. A committee was appointed to take this matter in hand, and adopt prompt and efficient measures for the prosecution of the important work.

A long-desired reform was adopted in the uniform mode of counting the words constituting a message. Another subject was, a better union for the improvement and protection of telegraph interests, aiming at increased facilities, with an ultimate reduction of the to'ls.

Another feature of the objects of the Association was the better regulation of the connections of the various lines, with a view of enforcing a more prompt correction of errors, and more strict and satisfactory to public.

These and many other kindred subjects, tending to systematize this important business, occupied the deliberation of the Association, and if carried out in good faith as we have no doubt they will be, will greatly improve this branch of the public convenience in the communication of its vast wants, both of a social and mercantile character. The Association is composed of the New York, London and Newfoundland Telegraph Company, the American Telegraph Company, the New York and Buffalo Company, the Western Union Company, the Atlantic and Ohio Company, the Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and Wisconsin Company, the New Orleans and Ohio Company, and the Montreal Company, having an aggregate capital invested of between five and six millions of dollars, and operating between thirty and forty thousand miles of wire.

We also learn that arrangements are in progress, if not already consummated, by which the House Printing Telegraph line between New York and Washington is to be consolidated with the lines of the American Telegraph Company, thus placing the latter company in immediate communication with Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, and removing the last obstacle in the way of a speedy extension of the "Printing Telegraph lines" along the seaboard to New Orleans. The central offices in this city for all the above named telegraph companies are at No 21 Wall street and No. 8 Merchants' Exchange.

From California—Arrival of the Overland Mail.

ST. LOUIS, October 23.—The Overland California mail of the 27th ult., four days later, has just arrived.

This mail does not bring any papers from which the news can be obtained, but arrangements are being perfected by which regular exchanges will be established between St. Louis and San Francisco.

[The agent of the Associated Press was not aware until very recently that the mail would not bring papers from California. This unexpected arrangement of the post office will probably prevent the reception of proper reports of California news by that route for a few weeks, but the earliest possible arrangements will be made at San Francisco for a semi-weekly letter to be telegraphed from the nearest telegraph office in Missouri.]

From Demerara.

NEW YORK, October 23.—Demerara dates to September 29th have been received. The sugar crop was nearly all gathered, and it proves to be the most abundant for twenty years past. Business was dull at Berbice and Demerara. Several mercantile houses, which had encumbered their money pressure in the spring, were again commencing under favorable auspices.

Additional from Mexico.

WASHINGTON, Oct 23, 1858.—New Orleans papers received here contain the particulars of the defeat of Vidaurri by Miramon. The former had left Monterey when the engagement commenced, and his army appears to have been attacked when least apprehensive and prepared for it.

The rumor at Brownsville were that the defeated army lost five hundred men, killed, and that two thousand of them were taken prisoners, with their artillery and provisions. An express from Monterey to Matamoras, however, says their loss was not so great, and that only a portion of the artillery and munitions were captured by Miramon's forces, and that the liberal party made their retreat from the field in good order.

An official paper received at Monterey, says that Vidaurri has already sent orders to the commander of Tampico, for another park of artillery (where there is plenty to be had), which will soon be in the field, together with the many forces concentrating about Vidaurri, to renew the attack. Colonel Gaudalupe Garcia was to leave Tampico on the 3d instant for the interior, with three hundred infantry and three pieces of artillery.

From St. Louis—Arrival of Army Officers from Utah—The New Mexican Mail.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 23.—Colonel Waite, Captain Whiteall, and Lieutenant Rich, of the Fifth Infantry, and Captain Dickerson, assistant quartermaster, have arrived from Utah.

The mail to Albuquerque, New Mexico, by the thirty-fifth parallel of latitude, or Lieutenant Beale's route, left Neosho, Missouri, on the 15th instant.

Melancholy Suicide.

NEW YORK, October 23.—William R. Cole, recently of Kentucky, where he had been engaged in teaching school, committed suicide yesterday, in consequence of having been swindled in the purchase of a ticket for