The Press.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1858.

THE WEEKLY PRESS.

THE WEEKLY PRESS, Vol. 3, No. 20, for SATURDAY, Nov. 13th, is now ready. Among the vast amount of interesting matter, original and selected, contained in the number for the present week, will be found the following:

EDITORIALS.

THE TRIUMPH OF DOUGLAS—"THE RETURNS"—THE SOCOCH-PIPE POLICY—THE CHOICE, VICTORY OR DEFEAT—THE "TIMES" VERSUS MR. REED—IND. B. HASKIN—MR. JOURNE; HARRISON, JR.—"ATTEMPT TO TEMPT AN ELECTION AS IF IT HAD NOT BEEN HELD"—A NEWSPAPER FROM THE PACIFIC—GREAT BEN'S DESCENDANTS—OUR TREATY WITH CHINA—DIPLOMACY IN PETTICOATS—GEN. JAS. KERNAN—GRAVE DOUBTS ABOUT DE SAUTY—THE DEATH OF LIEUT. VAN CAMP—IMPORTANT FACTS AND FIGURES—THE TRIUMPH OF THE RIGHT—GEN. JACKSON AND NATIONAL CONVENTIONS—WASHINGTON GOSSIP—"EXASPERATION."

TALK.

THE POISONED MAIL.

POETRY.

LABORENOUS—FRANKLIN'S GRAVE.

POLITICAL.

THE GRAND RESULT: DOUGLAS TRIUMPHANT—TYPES OF THE ILLINOIS ELECTION—LETTER FROM A DISTINGUISHED DEMOCRAT.

COMMUNICATIONS.

A BOTANICAL GARDEN—EPHEMERA, NO. 3.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH—LETTER FROM BUCKS COUNTY—FROM MONTGOMERY COUNTY—FROM NEW JERSEY—LETTER FROM NEW YORK—LETTERS FROM "OCCASIONAL"—THE ENERGIES OF THE WEST: INDIANAPOLIS, ST. LOUIS, KNOXVILLE, CHICAGO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH—SHIPWRECK OF A BRITISH BARQUE: EIGHT LIVES LOST—A BOGUS BANK: THE BILLS FLOODING THE WEST: $50,000 OF MONEY CIRCULATED IN WALL STREET—AWFUL CATASTROPHE—HORSES—CHESS: MR. STAUNTON SHOWS THE WHITE FEATHER—MR. REED AND COURT PLASTERING.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

CHURCH AND STATE—ORIGIN OF THE NOON-DAY BUSINESS-MEN'S PRAYER MEETING—THE UNION TABERNACLE—CARDINAL WISEMAN'S VISIT TO IRELAND—BAPTIST INSTITUTE AND READING-ROOM—CONVERSION OF AN ASIATIC POTENTATE TO CATHOLICISM—FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWS.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH FROM EUROPE, CALIFORNIA, VENEZUELA, AND ALL PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES, &c.

THE CITY.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PHILADELPHIA MARKETS—MARRIAGES AND DEATHS—THE MONEY MARKET—PHILADELPHIA CATTLE MARKET—STOCK QUOTATIONS, &c., &c.

THE WEEKLY PRESS is furnished to subscribers at $2 per year, in advance, for the single copy, and to clubs of twenty, when sent to one address, $20, in advance. Single copies for sale at the counter of THE PRESS office, in wrappers, ready for mailing.

FIRST PAGE.—Autographs, No. 2; Free Trade, Balance of Trade, and the Course the Gold of Australia and California takes under them; Col. Bonneville, United States Army; The Weight of Coal; Latest Foreign News; The "Times" *versus* America; General News. FOURTH PAGE.—Launch thy Bark; Divorce Made Easy; Hear Minnesota; A Costly Road; Honor to Whom, &c.

The News.

By the overland mail four days later news has been received from Oregon and California at St. Louis. The arrival of the first mail from St. Louis had been celebrated with great enthusiasm at San Francisco on the 11th ult. Salutes were fired, speeches made, and resolutions adopted thanking the Post Office Department, etc. Volunteers have been called for to protect travellers on the road between Weaverville and Union, against the Indians. A large quantity of gold had been obtained from the Fraser-river mines, but the weather was too cold to work, and many of the miners were returning to California. In Oregon the grain fields and provisions of the hostile Indians have been destroyed; and as they are reduced to a state of starvation they are suing for peace, which Colonel Wright refuses to grant unless an unconditional surrender is made. The iron hand of civilization is pressing sternly upon the aborigines in the Western Territories of the Union. With the present rapid extension of settlements from Kansas, Nebraska, Arkansas, and New-Mexico westward, and from Oregon and California eastward, they are being pennied in on all sides; and unless they adopt a civilized mode of life they are destined to speedy extinction. The overland mail route to California will soon form a continuous highway of civilization from the Pacific to the Atlantic States. Lieutenant Beale's wagon road will serve a similar purpose, and before many years roll by a great Pacific railroad will still further open up this vast region. Probably almost the last series of battles that will be fought between the troops of the United States and the Indians are now being fought on our frontiers. The day cannot be far distant when all the Indians will be either too weak, or too well informed, to defy the power of our Government.

A Baltimore correspondent of the N. Y. *Herald* gives the following description of the murderer Gambrill, and Corrie and Cropps, who are accused of the murder of Rigdon: "Henry Gambrill, convicted last Friday of blowing out the brains of Policeman Benton, just nine weeks since, is a stripling, scarce twenty-one years of age. Tall, slim, pale; his countenance denoting dissipation, and his air that of a loose, disorderly youth. He looks reflective and troubled. This boy, Gambrill, kept a drinking saloon, and has cohabited with a loose woman for the last two years. He is the son of a respectable tradesman; has brothers and sisters, one of great beauty, just married. One of his brothers is on bail for arson. This juvenile assassin was called the pet of the 'Plug Uglies,' and his influence amongst them arose chiefly from his drinking saloon being a place of rendezvous. Peter Corrie, who assisted Cropps in murdering Policeman Rigdon last Friday, at seven o'clock in the evening, is a short, thick-set man, twenty-five years of age; his shirt sleeves rolled up to his elbows, displays a brawny arm covered with black hair; has hazel eyes, bright with a malign expression; his high cheek bones and closely compressed lips impart something sinister to his face; a butcher by trade, but for years past given up to drunken dissipation, and without occupation or means. That fellow, sitting there on a low stool, in a blue check shirt, without vest or coat—light brown hair, gray eye, pale face, with an expression of brutal malignity revolting to contemplate—that wretch is Marion Cropps, twenty-three years old, a 'Rip Rap' by profession, and a drunken rowdy by calling; no trade or means of livelihood but those of robbery and murder.

The Wilmington *Journal* says the official returns of the late election in Delaware elect Wm. Burton (Dem.) for Governor, over James S. Buckmaster, the People's candidate, by 204 majority. Mr. Buchanan's majority in the State was 1,823. William G. Whiteley (Dem.) is re-elected to Congress over William R. Morris, the People's candidate, by 410 majority. Mr. Whiteley's majority two years ago was 1,751. The Legislature, says the *Journal*, stands:

	Democrats.	Opposition.
Senate	7	2
House	14	7
Total	21	9

In 1856, the Opposition to Buchananism did not elect a single member to either branch of the Legislature. Now they have nine members.

Among the issues by the United States Patent Office for the week ending November 9, are the following grants to Pennsylvanians:

Thomas G. Chase, of Philadelphia, Pa., for improvement in rendering paper and other fabrics incombustible.

John S. Cutts, of Philadelphia, Pa., for pen fountain.

Otis Avery and Zebotee W. Avery, of Bethany, Pa., for improvement in sewing machines.

Daniel W. Barr, of Lancaster, Pa., for improvement in hoisting machines.

Peter L. Weimer, of Lebanon, Pa., for improved machine for coiling metal rope.

Samuel Comfort, Jr., of Morrisville, Pa., assignor to himself and Francis H. Jackson, of Philadelphia, Pa., for improvement in sewing machines.

Linus Yale, Jr., of Philadelphia, Pa., for improvement in locks.

George Wood and John King, of Philadelphia, Pa., assignors to themselves and Wm. Lawrence, of said Philadelphia, for improvement in dredging machines.

Philip Lynch, a native of Lebanon county, and a printer, has been elected to the California Legislature. He formerly resided in this city.

Governor J. W. Denver, having resigned the Executive office of Kansas, has resumed his position as Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Mr. Mix yielding that office, and reverting to his original post of chief clerk of the Bureau.

The Washington *States*, of last evening, announces that it has been united with the Richmond *South*, and that the new consolidated paper is to be under the editorial control of Roger A. Pryor.

The Washington *Union* says, in reference to the Chinese treaty made by Mr. Reed, that it will not be published till the Senate has acted upon it; that Mr. Reed's conduct is approved of by the Administration; that inasmuch as his mission was a peaceful one, having only commercial and no political objects, it necessarily was of a character different from the French, English, and Russian missions.

Our despatch from Washington gives some new information in regard to filibuster and Nicaraguan affairs, route diplomacy. Walker left for Mobile yesterday, after having made up his differences with General Henningsen, and no doubt the country will hear the truer and deeper, when the important facts are generally known. The State Department has addressed a note to Jerez expressing dissatisfaction with his recent warning against purchasing tickets for Nicaragua by the steamer Washington. Mr. White, after seeing Walker and getting his assurance that in the event of his (Walker's) success in Nicaragua he would respect the rights of the Atlantic and Pacific Canal Company, has sent a note to the State Department denying that any of Walker's filibusters went out in the Washington.

All doubts about the election of Hon. John B. Haskin, in the Ninth Congressional district, have been removed, by the final action of the Return Judges, or the "Board of Supervisors," in his favor.

Hon. T. L. Harris, the heroic Illinois member who led the anti-Lecompton forces in the fight last winter, has been re-elected by over 5,000 majority. The Danites did their best to defeat him, and the people duly appreciated their efforts.

The Washington *States* of last evening says that "the machinery for the new sloop-of-war of thirteen feet draught, building at Philadelphia, will consist of a pair of horizontal direct acting engines, having cylinders fifty inches diameter, thirty inches stroke; the pistons of these cylinders are connected by rods directly to the cranks, which are forged in the crank shaft at right angles to each other. This crank shaft alone will weigh about five tons. It will be connected by a line of shafting with the propeller shafts. The propeller will be twelve feet in diameter, and nineteen feet pitch, of composition metal. It will have four blades or fans, and will be a 'true screw,' which has been found superior to all other forms of propellers known. Steam will be furnished to the engines by three Martin's patent boilers, having vertical brass tubes, which contain the water, while the flame passes between them. These boilers will be placed facing each other, and will have the firing-room between them. They will occupy a space of twenty-five feet in length of the ship, by her entire width. They will have nearly eight thousand feet of fire surface. The entire weight of all the machinery and appurtenances, and of coal for five days' full steaming, is guaranteed not to exceed four hundred and six tons. The above amount of coal may also be stowed in the place allotted to the machinery, which is fifty feet in length of the ship. The engines are to be provided with a tubular surface condenser, in which all the steam, after being used in the cylinders, will be condensed into fresh water, and returned into the boilers. The contractors guarantee that this machinery will be capable of developing one thousand horse-power, when driven to its full capacity, and that the engines will make eighty revolutions per minute."

A telegraphic despatch received last night from Augusta, Georgia, announces that a pilot boat had spoken a captured slaver, the Ketch Brothers, from the coast of Africa, in charge of Lieut. Stone, of the United States navy. We published the same intelligence yesterday morning, having received it in due course of mail. The telegraphic news agents down South are evidently "wide awake."

A third meeting of the creditors of Lawrence, Stone, & Co. took place at Boston yesterday. The liabilities of this firm at the time of its failure have been ascertained to be nearly $4,000,000.

A man named John Howard, who resided in Broad street, above Arch, committed suicide on Tuesday night, by putting an ounce and a half of laudanum in whiskey, and swallowing it.

The trial of Plumer, Cartha, Stanley, and Herbert, the four alleged mutineers and murderers, of the whaling ship Junior, of New Bedford, is proceeding in the United States Circuit Court, at Boston.

A rowdy, arrested by a New York policeman yesterday, after dealing the officer a severe blow upon the cheek and attempting to escape, was shot dead by the officer.

Important Decision of the Supreme Court.

After much difficulty, we have obtained from Pittsburgh an authenticated copy of the important decision of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, (now in session at that city,) read by Chief Justice LOWRIE, in the matter of the suit between the Sunbury and Erie Railroad *versus* LEWIS COOPER, involving the constitutionality of the late act of the Legislature disposing of the State canals. It will be seen that the Supreme Court has unanimously decided in favor of the constitutionality of the sale. The opinion of the court is one of much power, and will be approved by the people.

This great case was argued by CHARLES GIBBONS and ST. GEORGE T. CAMPBELL, Esqs., and Attorney General KNOX, for the plaintiffs, and by Judge BLACK, Attorney General of the United States, and W. L. HIRST, Esq., for the defendant.

The Newspaper Press and Illinois.

The election in Illinois has greatly disarranged the calculations of the party wiseacres of the day. Reading through a legion of exchange papers, we have been amused and interested at the various speculations which this election has called forth. To the Washington *Union* it has been "an extinguisher." Had forty wet blankets fallen upon that official luminary, fed with the oil of patronage, and shining in the shadow of the White House, it could not have been more utterly quenched. Nothing can its light relume but the genius of the Attorney General, Judge BLACK, whose newspaper genius is beyond all present and all former fame, and whose prudence is nearly equal to his good manners. The New York *Herald* treats the result in Illinois in a strain of mingled malice and chagrin. We trust the *Herald* does not contemplate a desertion of the Administration; for if it does, Heaven help the party it may join! Upon certain other of the Administration papers the Illinois figures have made a deep impression. It is astonishing how those figures have increased the popularity of Judge DOUGLAS in their eyes. Even an occasional postmaster dares now to say that the Judge is not "a Black Republican;" while those who hold no office, but only expect to get one, begin to measure the chances of success under the current dynasty, and wonder who may be king hereafter. Some of the New England Dalgettys are excellent specimens of this class. In the Southern States, the fire of the most fiery fire-eaters has subsided; the bitter curse of yesterday is modified; the half-written reproach of to-day is erased; and conviction itself begins to take another hue under the magic of success. Nowhere is there to be found any of the acrimony that was so fashionable two weeks ago. We congratulate Judge DOUGLAS. He is the great alchymist of the day.

Some of the Republican papers scold their brethren in Illinois for opposing Judge DOUGLAS. The Boston *Traveller*, a highly respectable Republican journal, says:

Unfortunately, some of the Illinois Republicans could not be induced to share the sentiment that prevailed among their brethren in other States. They not only resolved that Mr. Douglas should be sacrificed, but they denounced the language and the action of other Republicans, characterizing them as improper interference in the local affairs of Illinois! as if the election of a national Senator could be a purely local affair, and as if the nation could have no interest in a course of policy that was sure largely to affect the decision of the next Presidential campaign! The opposition in other States, having done its duty to the best of its ability, then gave way, and the Illinois Republicans were allowed to settle the matter after their own fashion, without being troubled with the suggestions of people in New York and New England. And a very fine settlement they have made of it! They have been beaten on their own field, fighting the battle after their own fashion, and so have contributed to the Democratic cause the only victory it has won in the North in 1858. Such is the consequence of *their* plan having been adopted. We do not think any worse could have happened if those "impertinent" outsiders had been listened to, and their advice heeded. What renders the result all the more shameful is the fact that Republicans acted with the handful of Democrats who adhered to the Administration, and were, we are informed, instrumental in having Douglas men removed from national offices, thus becoming the tools of that very "slave power" which they are so fond of denouncing. Merely to gratify personal and political hatred, it was determined to break Mr. Douglas down, though in so doing the "slave power" was to be built up anew. What the full effect of this most unwise action is to be, who shall say? But this can be said, that the Illinois Republicans compelled their party in the nation to throw aside the certainty of success in 1860, and to return to the wilderness, where they may wander for forty years to come, if not forever. Parties, like individuals, have their golden moments; but if they neglect to improve them, those moments rarely return. All that now can be said is, that the future, which it was in the power of the Republicans to order, must be controlled by the Democracy. The latter may behave as foolishly as some of their enemies have behaved; but this it would not be safe to count upon, for their course is invariably shrewd when Presidential elections are to be decided. They are then wise as serpents, and destructive as eagles.

The fact is, Mr. DOUGLAS, in defeating his opponents in Illinois, has struck a blow at dangerous doctrines everywhere, and it is matter of rejoicing that his victory is applauded, for many reasons, by many men of every party. We are not now speaking of him in connection with the next Presidency. We supported him in his heroic struggle, not with this object in view, but to see rebuked, in his triumph, a brood of the most scandalous doctrines, from Executive usurpation and despotism on the one hand, to fanatic sectionalism on the other. And we hail this result in Illinois because this rebuke has been administered. Nor can we refrain the gratifying recognition of the wise and liberal sentiment which it has awakened in quarters heretofore hostile. Men can now read as in a mirror the fate of all such mischiefs as those set on foot at Washington, and of all such heresies as those lately advocated by Mr. SEWARD.

The Navajo Indians.

The war with this fierce tribe of savages in the Territory of New Mexico, of which we hear daily accounts, threatens to be a bloody and a protracted war. A letter from Fort Defiance, N. M., in the Washington *Union*, dated September 15th, says:

"This war is going to be no child's play. These Indians, as I stated in my last letter, are numerous, brave, and wealthy. They are all well-mounted and armed. The country is mountainous, and difficult to travel. Every hiding-place and ambush is known to the Indians, while the country is comparatively *terra incognita* to us. They have all the advantages in being the attacked. We move in columns, they in numbers, and in a manner to suit themselves. The war will be protracted and costly, and from the peculiar circumstances originating it, matter of discussion and inquiry in the States. Hence, I deem it proper here to refer to its inception, and, if possible, assist in giving the proper direction to public sentiment."

A very excellent account of these Indians appears in the last number of the Doylestown (Pa.) *Democrat*, from the pen of Major DAVIS, the accomplished editor, for some years acting Governor of the Territory of New Mexico. The following extract is very interesting:

In many respects the Nabajos are the most interesting tribe of Indians in our country, and their history, manners, and customs are not unworthy an investigation. They appear superior in intelligence to all the other Red American tribes, and differ from them in their habits and traditions. They live in the very heart of the continent, and from time immemorial have roamed over both the Pacific and Atlantic slopes. They have ever been known as a pastoral and peaceful race of men, and live by raising flocks and herds, instead of hunting and fishing. They own some two hundred thousand sheep, and more than ten thousand head of horses, and at times one single chief is worth as much as fifteen thousand dollars in stock, owning thousands of sheep and hundreds of horses. They raise corn, wheat, beans, pumpkins, melons, peaches, wild potatoes, etc. They sometimes grow as many as sixty thousand bushels of corn in a single season, and the present year (1855) they are supposed to have five thousand acres under cultivation. They number about twelve thousand souls, and can muster twenty-five hundred mounted warriors. They are industrious and laborious, and the men, women, and children are generally kept employed. They manufacture all their own wearing apparel, and make their arms, such as bows, arrows, and lances; they also weave a beautiful article of blankets, and knit woollen stockings. They dress with greater comfort than any other tribe, and wear woollen and well-tanned buckskin. The skin breeches come down to the knees, where they are met by blue stockings that cover the lower half of the leg; the breeches fit tight to the limb, and the outer seams are adorned with silver or brass buttons. The coat reaches below the hips, with a hole at the top to thrust the head through, and open at the sides; it is made of wool, woven in bright colors, and is fastened around the waist by a leather belt, highly ornamented with silver when the wearer can afford it. They wear numerous strings of fine coral, and many valuable belts of silver, and generally appear with a handsome blanket thrown over the shoulder in the style of a mantle.

The Nabajo Indian is seldom seen on foot, a horse being as indispensable to him as to an Arab of the desert. They manufacture their own saddles and bridles, bits, stirrups, etc., as also the looms on which they weave their handsome blankets, which are quite an ingenious affair. It is a noted fact that they never trade their horses more respectfully than any other tribe, and make companions of them instead of slaves. A Nabajo never sends his wife to saddle his horse, but does it himself if he has no peon. The modern doctrine of "Woman's Rights" may be said to prevail among them to a very liberal extent. The women are the real owners of all the sheep, and the men dare not dispose of them without their permission; nor do the husbands ever make an important bargain without first consulting their wives. They admit women into their councils, who sometimes control their deliberations; and they also eat with them. They are mild in disposition, and very seldom commit murder; but they consider theft one of the greatest human virtues, and no one is thought to be at all accomplished unless he can steal with adroitness.

Public Entertainments.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Again a full house, and, it may be added, decidedly the most fashionable of the season. Parodi is a very great favorite in this city, and has invariably drawn crowds to witness each of her "farewell" concerts. She is as great at perpetual leave-takings as the Ravels themselves are, and that is saying much. *N'importe!* Parodi is always so very welcome and always so warmly welcomed, that we are wholly at a loss to comprehend why she was announced for last night only. Mr. Strakosch must change an intention which deprives the public of an acceptable singer.

Then there was Madame Strakosch, another favorite, whose appearance was also greeted with warmth of approbation. A more careful singer there is not upon the stage. She is a capital timist also, which Parodi is not, though this deficiency was less observable in a large theatre and such an opera as "Il Trovatore," than it often is in a concert-room.

Next there was an opera which is very much liked. Nolay, as all Verdi's operas are, but the scene admitted it, sometimes. We know people who would visit the Academy only to hear the second act, with that fine anvil-chorus, and that exquisite cabaone "Stride la vampa," (admirably delivered by Madame Strakosch, and applauded to the echo which doth applaud again,") and the fourth act, filled as it is with pathos, passion, and melody.

Lastly, there was that great temptation, which greatly helps to fill opera-houses or theatres—the feminine desire to show off one's own beautiful apparel and ornaments, and the curiosity to see what one's friends wear. Operas do more than pay the artists and the crowd necessary to help out the scene—they encourage dress, as is well known, we presume, to Mr. Levy and Mr. Evans.

Signora Parodi had a very splendid reception, which she acknowledged gracefully. She is not beautiful, though her features are regular, and her eyes and hair are fine. But her countenance beams with intelligence and expression. Then, her smile is charming. Her first solo, at the close of the third scene, was so well delivered that there was a call for an encore. She answered the call by appearing to receive the homage of the audience, but did not repeat the song. The tirzetto with which act I closes (by Parodi, Brignoli, and Amodio) was very well sung and very much applauded, and the three performers were called before the curtain at its close. The trio between the same singers, which closes act II, was also very beautiful, though it did not win so much admiration.

Here we may say that Amodio sang not only very carefully, but also very smoothly. Brignoli made no great effort until the third act, when he sang—as Brignoli can sing when he pleases.

Madame Strakosch is an actress as well as a vocalist. That scene in which she describes how, in the wildness and blindness of revenge, she sacrificed her own son instead of her enemy's, was as fine a piece of real acting as we have lately seen, and her vocalization and intonation were in beautiful accordance with her passionate representation. At the end of that scene, in the duet with Brignoli, she again distinguished herself. So, in the third act, in the recitative with Amodio. In the finish of this act, Brignoli, singing with Parodi, threw unwonted energy and passion into his action, and surprised every one.

The fourth act, abounding as it does in beautiful varieties of expression—hate, fear, sorrow, revenge, and love—went off magnificently. The first, commonly called the Miserere scene, was finely acted and sang. It was encored—a great triumph for Parodi and Brignoli. In the following scene, where *Leonora* sacrifices herself to save *Maurico*, her duet with the Count was beautifully rendered, and here, indeed, Amodio distinguished himself. Then followed the dungeon-scene, ending with that exquisite duet, "Di Nostro Monti," which Madame Strakosch and Brignoli did amplest justice to. They were called at the conclusion—but it was getting too late for a repeat. Then came that grand finale—one of the very finest on the lyric stage—and here the performers really did their best, and achieved a success the greatest yet won during this season. At the fall of the curtain, the four performers were loudly called for, and received what was undoubtedly an ovation.

The chorus sang well enough, last night, to merit the novelty of special eulogy. The conductor appears able and intelligent, but his orchestra would be the better for a little more drilling. Verdi's music is loud and brassy enough, without the instrumental performers making it yet more noisy.

One word, also, for the costumes. They were very good. We do not mean the attire of the leading performers, which was very rich and becoming, but the costume of the others. It is now, good, and generally suited to the scene and time of the opera. As for the scenery, it is finer here than, we believe, in any other lyric theatre in the world. That scene with which act II opens is positively such a pictorial gem that we wonder the audience did not clap their hands with delight as it broke upon view, when the drop-not arose and disclosed it.

To-morrow evening, "La Sonnambula" will be repeated. It really had not much of a chance on the tempestuous evening of its first performance. The cast, as before, will principally consist of Madame de Wilhorst as *Amina*, Brignoli as *Elvino*, and Amodio as the *Count*. If the other vocalists sing as carefully and fairly as Madame de Wilhorst did the other evening, the public will have many reasons for satisfaction. One half of "La Figlia del Reggimento," that is, the whole of act II, will also be given to-morrow evening, with Madame Colson displaying her fine voice and almost inimitable acting as *Marie*, and Signor Barili as the *Sergeant*. We see that Signor Labocetta will again exhibit his incapacity as *Tonio*. Well, in this world we must take the bitter with the sweet, and so, we swallow the pill (Labocetta) gilded, as it were, by Colson and Barili!

In connection with the opera in particular, and the Academy of Music in general, we have to notify that Mr. George Hood has just got up, in a compact form, convenient for fitting into a waistcoat pocket, a neatly-lithographed plan of the seats in this very beautiful, well-planned, and most-convenient house. A more complete thing of the sort has never been brought out. Every seat in every part of the house is clearly marked in this plan. The result is, that scouro what seats you may, you have only to look on the plan, and, without depending on any aid from ushers, you can at once find the inlet of access. Mr. P. E. Abel, dramatic bookseller, (at 306 Chestnut street,) is the publisher, and is likely to make a good thing of it. Of course, every opera-goer will immediately rush and buy a plan.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY'S CONCERT.—This evening, under the direction of Maurice Strakosch, the Philharmonics will give their first concert of the season, at Musical Fund Hall. The performers, as announced, are Madame Colson, Madame Strakosch, Signor Barili, Signor Labocetta, and Signor C. Patti, violinist. This combination, "we guess," will draw an immense crowd.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10, 1858.

We shall presently have a sufficient of overland and oceanic, and "isthmean" communications—mail and otherwise, between the Atlantic and the Pacific—between this and California, Oregon, &c. There are now at least *four*, and if the Nicaraguan crossing is opened, there will be five. This ought to be enough. The last news is to the effect that the Tehuantepec Company are running stages from Acapulco to the Gulf. Two trips between New Orleans and San Francisco have been made, via Tehuantepec. No mail was brought from San Francisco by the return steamer, no instructions having been given at San Francisco for sending it. Hereafter the mail will be regularly conveyed each way once a fortnight. The next mail from New Orleans leaves on the 12th.

The cost of the Indian wars, which my information leads me to believe bid fair to continue with much animosity, and the expeditions, necessary and unnecessary, of the Government, not the least of which will be the expedition to Paraguay, will swell the expenditures of the Government enormously during the coming and other years. Those who look for economy will be grievously disappointed. Put the figure down at one hundred millions of dollars per annum. Where are you going to raise this revenue? Any statesman will answer by a tariff, and none by direct taxation; and *if* a tariff, it must be one to help our domestic industry. It is true, Mr. Cobb talks about a tax on tea and coffee, which would be a piece of insanity, and which even he would scarcely undertake. The whole revenue system must of necessity be thoroughly overhauled.

The *States* here has secured a new editor in Mr. Pryor, who has distinguished himself, within the last few months, by great bitterness against Judge Douglas. He will take a new task, it is now said.

The story of the difference between J. Glancy Jones and the President is not correct; though it is true that his absence from the country is desired on all hands. J. G. J. is himself most desirous to leave, but, unfortunately, he can draw no salary till he reaches Vienna. Under the new diplomatic and consular bill outfits are abolished, and salaries only paid for on time service. So, Jones will depart under a risk. There are some ugly stories afloat that may affect him seriously in secret session; of which, however, more hereafter should necessity require.

John Van Buren will not go as minister to England. He worked hard to secure it; but his efforts to beat the Administration by trying to help it have made him weaker than ever.

The President is very sore at the articles in the Albany *Argus*, Hartford *Times*, and other Administration papers sympathizing with Douglas. He speaks of them openly.

The next great question will be the Mexican question. General Cushing has sounded the cry in his Richmond speech and South Carolina letter. The General thinks the time has gone by for the purchase of Cuba. He asks, why should Spain sell Cuba? It is her most valuable possession. Would we sell Georgia or Pennsylvania? Certainly not. The next demonstration will be upon the land of Cortez. The pear is ripe, and ready to fall; nay, is falling. Shall we not catch and eat it?

OCCASIONAL.

Evans & Watson's Safes.

It is not with the view of extolling the merits of the "Salamander Safes" manufactured by this well-known Philadelphia firm that we write; as their superior qualities are too well understood and too widely attested by the scores of merchants who have them in use in this city, and all over the country, to need any confirmation from us. What we desire is, simply to refer to two specimens of their manufacture now at the Franklin Institute Exhibition, placed there within the last few days. Having been retained at the Exhibition of the American Institute, Baltimore—where their enterprising manufacturers were awarded a silver medal within the last week—they were not placed on exhibition here until it was too late to contend for a premium, otherwise they would certainly have received it, as in point of artistic finish they surpass anything in the line of fire-proof Safes we have ever examined.

So far as their *Salamander* qualities, and convenience of internal arrangement—in which they are the same as all the other Safes they manufacture—are concerned, they are, as is well known, unsurpassed; but the pains and expense lavished upon the artistic adornments of the two Safes in question render them worthy of more than a passing notice. We were sorry, in examining them, however, that the proprietors had not some one on the spot to gratify the host of inquirers as to the process employed in producing the magnificent exterior which those ponderous articles of utility present. We can probably give the reader no better idea of their effect than by saying that their entire outer surface is durably enamelled, so as to present the appearance of immense papier-maché chests, richly inlaid with pearl of various hues to represent flowers and wreaths. To add to the effect, the massive mountings are of silver, the polish and grace of the interior being executed in a style to correspond. Upon the whole, they certainly constitute a worthy card of the high character of artisanship that has been attained by Messrs. Evans & Watson in the production of fire-proof Safes.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

The Ohio River.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO "THE PRESS."]

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 10.—The river is now in fine order its whole length, and steamboats are leaving here daily for all ports in the West.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—The State Department has sent an official note to General Jerez, pointing out the impropriety of his course, and expressing the dissatisfaction with which the Department regards his publication a warning to the public against purchasing tickets for Nicaragua by the steamer Washington.

It is true that Mr. White has had repeated interviews with General Walker, his only object being, he says, to ascertain whether Walker designed, should he be restored to power in Nicaragua, to interfere with the rights of the Atlantic and Pacific Ship Canal Company. Walker has given him the assurance that in such an event, he would respect those rights, or any other American interests.

Mr. White to-day sent a note to the Assistant Secretary of State, with a request that it should be shown to Secretary Cass, denying that any of Walker's filibusters went to Nicaragua in the steamer Washington, and saying the company will not knowingly permit such persons to go thither in their vessels.

The collector of the port of Mobile has been applied to for a clearance to Walker's "Emigrant" vessel, but he has referred the question to the Secretary of the Treasury.

General Walker left for Mobile to-day. He and General Henningsen last night reconciled their former differences.

General Paez will return to Venezuela in the chartered steamer America.

Mr. Reed and the Chinese Treaty.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—The *Union*, of to-day, has a defence of Mr. W. B. Reed, United States Commissioner to China, from the attacks of the London *Times*. It is, in substance, that his mission was a peaceful one, and that he sought commercial and not political advantages, differing thus, in both respects, from the French, English and Russian missions. It declares that our Government is satisfied with Mr. Reed's treaty, and with his conduct, and that the published draft of the treaty are inaccurate as to the portions given, and totally omit or ten important articles. The full treaty cannot be published till it receives the action of the Senate.

The Ninth Congressional District of New York.

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Nov. 10.—The board of canvassers have completed fifteen of twenty-four towns in Westchester county. There is a slight gain on the estimated vote for Hon. John B. Haskin, who is probably elected by ten or twelve majority. His election is conceded by all parties.

Despatches for Europe.

TELEGRAPH OFFICE, ST. JOHNS, N. F., Nov. 10.—The Galway steamship Pacific, from New York on Monday, will arrive here so as to coal, and leave for Galway, with the mails, at or about noon to-morrow (Thursday). She is expected to make the passage in six days. Telegraph despatches left at our office (No. 105 South Third street), in Philadelphia, will be forwarded to this destination, by telegraph or mail, to the latest moment before the departure of the steamer.

The City Marshal of Worcester (Mass.) Accidentally Shot.

WORCESTER, Mass., No. 10.—Frederic Warren, the city marshal, was conversing at noon, to-day, with H. W. Hendricks, an officer from Charleston, South Carolina, when the former handed the latter a pistol to examine. The pistol was on half cock at the time, and while Hendricks held it, the trigger descended and the ball entered Warren's chest, above the heart. It is feared he cannot survive. He endures great pain, and a bleeding of the lungs set in this afternoon.

Meeting of the Creditors o Lawrence, Stone, & Co.

BOSTON, Nov. 10.—The third meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Lawrence, Stone, & Co., was held to-day, when additional claims were presented, which, together with those previously reported, amount to the sum of $600,000, will swell the sum owed by the firm at the time of its failure to nearly four millions of dollars.

Capture of a Slaver by a United States Vessel.

AUGUSTA, GA., Nov. 10.—The Wilmington (N. C.) *Journal* reports a pilot-boat having spoken a slaver (Ketch Brothers of Charleston) from the coast of Africa, in charge of Lieutenant Stone of the United States sloop-of-war Marion. She is expected to arrive daily at Charleston.

Frost in the South—Damage to the Cotton Crop.

AUGUSTA, Nov. 10.—A killing frost is reported to have occurred in this vicinity, and it is certain that there has been a heavy white frost. The young cotton crop is supposed to be damaged, if not killed.

AUGUSTA, GA., Nov. 10.—The farmers say positively that there was a killing frost this morning.

Transportation at the West.

WHEELING, Va., Nov. 10.—There are now six feet of water in the river. The weather is cloudy. Boats are plenty and rates low to all points.

The Weather and Fever at Charleston.

CHARLESTON, Nov. 10.—We have a cold change. The thermometer, at 6 o'clock this morning, was down to 57 and 58 degrees. Physicians say it is safe for absentees to return.

Southern Ocean Steamer Movements.

SAVANNAH, Nov. 10.—The screw steamship Montgomery, of Cromwell's line, arrived at her wharf yesterday, the 9th instant.

A Vessel Sunk by a Collision.

BATH, Me., Nov. 10.—The steamship Eastern Queen, from Boston for this port, came in collision with the schooner Caroline Stone, from New York for Bangor, on the 9th instant, off Boone Island, sinking the schooner. The captain and two of the seamen were saved. Arthur Turner, seaman, was lost.

OPINION OF CHIEF JUSTICE LOWRIE

IN THE CASE OF THE

Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company vs. Lewis Cooper.

[Reported for The Press.]

The plaintiff is possessed of a large amount of bonds issued by the Delaware Division Canal Company, and has contracted to sell $100,000 of them to the defendant; but he refuses to perform his contract, and the plaintiff has brought this bill in equity to compel him to perform it.

We know of no law giving the Supreme Court in banc original jurisdiction over such a cause of action as this, and we must not assume it. This is not a proper case for this equitable form of remedy, for we can see no reason why the damages that are recoverable in the common law form are not an adequate redress for the breach of contract. And if it were otherwise, this cause, being instituted at Philadelphia, is required by law to pass through the Nisi Prius before it can properly come up in banc.

Though we do not regard the case as a proper one for the application of this equitable form of remedy, yet the Nisi Prius has jurisdiction of the *cause of action*, and it may give redress in the equity form, if the defendant does not demur to the form, even though the common law form is the more appropriate one. Brightly's Equity, S. 24. The court in banc has original jurisdiction of some classes of cases, if brought in the equity form, and not if brought in the common law form, and there the form is an essential element of the jurisdiction; but it is not so in the inferior courts which have original jurisdiction of the cause of action irrespective of the form.

We are, therefore, of opinion that this cause may be tried and decided at Nisi Prius; and as we heard it fully argued in banc before adverting to the foregoing considerations, and as it is a case of great and pressing importance, it will be decided there by the judge of the district who shall next hold that one, in the opinion drawn up with the concurrence of the three judges who heard the argument, and will be subject to appeal to a full bench. If the parties desire to be heard again, the case may be argued on appeal with more direct reference to the views now expressed, and with the aid of the experience derived from the argument already had.

The case comes upon on bill and answer, and, therefore, there is no dispute about the evidence.

The plaintiff became the purchaser, under the act of 21st April, 1858, of certain canals belonging to the State, and sold a part of them to the Delaware Division Canal Company, and, in consideration thereof, received the bonds, which it afterwards contracted to sell to the defendant, and which he refuses to take and pay for. Has he a sufficient excuse for this refusal?

The defendant founds his refusal on the allegation that the plaintiff had no valid title to the canal sold to the Delaware Division Canal Company, and that, therefore, the bonds in question, given by them on their purchase, are liable to a defence for failure of consideration; and this allegation is attempted to be sustained by various arguments, which we now proceed to consider.