The Press.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 1859.

FIRST PAGE.—Prince Demidoff. Interesting from the Mormon Country: The Case of the Wanderer: Letter from New York: Letter from Minden: The Courts: List of Letters remaining in the Philadelphia Post Office up to 12 o'clock P. M., Saturday, Jan. 15.

THE NEWS.

In the national House of Representatives, on Saturday, a resolution was adopted having in view the reduction of the expenses of the navy. The House went into Committee of the Whole on the bill to codify the revenue laws, but the debate turned to a slavery discussion between Messrs. Giddings and Cox, of Ohio, and Mr. Smith, of Virginia, in which there was considerable sharpshooting on the eternal negro question, and but very little said pertinent to the object of the bill. The Senate was not in session.

The State Senate was not in session on Saturday. In the House, the Governor's veto of the insurance bill was sustained. Several bills were read in place, two of which were to incorporate two more railway companies in this city. A statement of the street rencontre between Messrs. Church and Donovan was read by the clerk, (published under the regular proceedings.) A motion was made to exclude Mr. Donovan—the attacking party—from the floor of the House, which, after some debate, was adopted; and the House adjourned.

A very important case was decided in the Nisi Prius court on Saturday. It will be remembered that the Directors of the Girard College, some time ago, decided that, for the future, no child should enjoy the benefits of education in that institution who had lost but one parent. An injunction was applied for by the friends of a boy refused admittance under this rule, to restrain the directors from carrying out what it was contended was in opposition to Mr. Girard's wishes and will. The decision of Justice Read was that the directors had gone beyond their authority; and that they cannot refuse to admit an applicant because both parents are not dead. By this decision, a number of children who were admitted some time since as *whole* orphans, will have to be taken from the Girard College until the complainant, and others under the same circumstances, are admitted; or, in other words, a child that has lost its father is as much an orphan as one that has lost both its parents.

Some important marine intelligence from Key West will be found among our shipping news.

In the Supreme Court, on Saturday, an injunction was applied for to prevent the Fairmount and Arch-street Passenger Railway Company from finishing their road, on the ground that they are acting contrary to law. The opinion of the court in the case was reserved.

The mails by the steamer Niagara have arrived in this city, but, with the exception of the particulars of the dreadful accident at the Victoria Theatre, which we publish, the papers contain nothing of importance that was not given in the telegraphic summary on Friday.

The particulars of the murder which took place down town, on Saturday night, will be found in our city column. The miserable victim, as well as all the parties concerned in it, belonged to the lowest dregs of society. Rum, as usual, was the principal cause of the act.

The arrest of a notorious gang of burglars is given in our columns to-day. The gang is said to be a daring one, and the police deserve credit for their efforts to bring the villains composing it to justice.

The number of deaths in this city, for the week ending on Saturday last, was one hundred and eighty-two, of which twenty-seven were by consumption. This exhibit shows a decrease, in the total number of deaths, of eleven, as compared with the week previous. The total number of deaths in New York, for the same period, was three hundred and sixty-six.

Orders have been issued by the War Department for the Governor of Kansas to call on the United States troops stationed in that vicinity to quell the disturbances now existing there.

John W. Chase, the noted forger, who was convicted on Tuesday, in New York, of forgery in the second degree, was sentenced to imprisonment for nine years and nine months—being the extreme penalty of the law. "I am much obliged to your Honor," was the naïve remark of the knave, as he left the bar.

We have a report from Toronto, Canada, that it has been decided to make Ottawa the seat of Government.

The Florida Legislature has repealed the law providing for the incarceration of free negro sailors while their vessels are in port.

Commander Perry has been ordered to the command of the storeship Relief, soon to leave for Aspinwall.

The *Journal of Commerce* contradicts, by authority, the report that the Collins steamships had been bought by a French company, and were to be put on a line from New York to Havre.

THE MORMONS.

A letter from Utah appears in THE PRESS this morning, which we insert, although nearly all our information directly contradicts the assertions of the writer. The Mormon question is a curious problem. It would have puzzled the wisest Administration, and we do not wonder that it has embarrassed the present, which is not of the wisest. It seems to us that Gov. CUMMING, who represents the United States at the head of the executive department in Utah, has adopted a line of action which is about the best that could be adopted; and it is no less clear that but for THOMAS L. KANE, of our State, who volunteered a private and disinterested interposition between the Administration and the Mormon authorities, Gov. CUMMING would have been powerless to enforce our laws. Nothing could be more abhorrent to Christian principles and social prejudices than Mormonism. We participate in every just antagonism to it; but for all this, we think it right that the truth should be stated, even in reference to those who belong to this infatuated persuasion.

☞ Our correspondent, "Pioneer," reminds us that the great question which agitates the pré-paid politicians, and all those who look to the favors of the General Administration, is whether Senator DOUGLAS and his friends will submit to the decision of the Charleston Convention. Belonging, as we do, to those who are ready to meet every such question more than half way, we think it well that the relative positions of the Administration party and the Democratic party—the two being, in our opinion, wholly separate and antagonistic interests—should be clearly and promptly ascertained. Senators DAVIS and IVERSON, together with many other Representatives and organs of Southern opinion, intimate that they would prefer the election of a Republican to the Presidency to the election of STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, and all these potential interests claim, in advance, the endorsement by the Democratic National Convention of their peculiar doctrines against the accepted Democratic theory of popular sovereignty. They have, therefore, taken their stand, leaving little to inference. We like this. It is characteristic of their action. But before the friends of Democratic principles, as interpreted by Senator DOUGLAS, give in their adhesion to a Convention which, we are daily advised, is to be controlled by the Federal Government, and not by the people, we should like the President and his parasites and adherents to answer *whether they will support* STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS *for the Presidency, should he be nominated at the Charleston Convention? or whether they would support any candidate standing upon the doctrines enunciated and advocated by* DOUGLAS *in his late campaign in Illinois?* It seems to us that it is a poor preparation for Democratic fidelity to a National Convention to have that Convention controlled by men who announce "conditions precedent" to their *own support* of its final action.

LECTURE BY HON. JUDGE JONES.—We invite the attention of our readers to the fact that the next lecture of the interesting course now in progress, at the rooms of Crittenden's Commercial College, Chestnut street, below Seventh, on the subject of "Mercantile Law," will be delivered this evening by Hon. Judge Jones. These lectures have thus far been characterized with the deepest interest to business men, and the popularity of the lecturer now announced is a sufficient guarantee that the effort this evening will fully sustain their reputation in this respect. As these lectures are free to business men, the mercantile community is under obligations to Mr. Crittenden for his laudable efforts in affording to the merchants, who attend them, much valuable information.

REAL ESTATE, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SALE.—See Thomas & Sons' pamphlet catalogue and advertisements for to-morrow evening, at the Exchange. The catalogue also includes a very large amount of valuable property, at private sale.

☞ Attention is invited to an advertisement in to-day's paper offering for sale or to let the Fountain Green Rolling-mill, situate on the Schuylkill, above Fairmount.

A MAN named Maloney fell dead in Norwich, Ct., on Tuesday, while attempting to catch his horse, which had started to run. His death was caused by congestion of the lungs, brought on by inhaling the cold air while running.

The Messages of American Governors.

We have thought that a most interesting picture of American prosperity and progress, as well as of American independence and statesmanship, could be drawn with the materials presented to the student in the various messages of the Executives of the sovereign members of the American Confederacy. Some of these papers are of commanding ability. Governor WISE, of Virginia, has been a rare providence to the Old Dominion, in putting life into her fossil fogyisms. Governor HARRIS, of Tennessee, and Governor BROWN, of Georgia, and Governor WINSTON, of Alabama, and Governor WICKLIFFE, of Louisiana, have said and done things which, because mainly interesting to their respective localities, have passed observation, but which, for every reason, deserve the most careful attention of the people of the whole country. Our Northern Governors, too, especially Governor CHASE, of Ohio, and Governor BANKS, of Massachusetts, and Governor WILLARD, of Indiana, have given glorious accounts of the happiness and growth of their respective States. Taking up these several communications and comparing them with the fatal follies and mad mistakes of the head of the General Government, what a sad commentary is suggested to the disadvantage of the latter, who, violently negligent of his trust, and daringly resolved to entrench upon rights alike sacred and revered, has set an example to the nations calculated to bring our whole Union into contempt. Our Governor PACKER's message has been received with extraordinary favor in all parts of the country; even those who do not like his politics, admire the bold and thorough spirit which pervades it. The Berks County *Democrat* has the following notice of it, which is a fine specimen of the feeling it has aroused:

"There are some persons who affect—we do not believe any one of them is sincere—to believe that it would have been better if the Governor had said nothing about one or two matters of national politics. These, of course, are the great questions which have so violently agitated, and are still agitating, and will long agitate the public mind, with regard to the extension of slavery and the protection of American industry. For ourselves, we thank God that Pennsylvania has a Governor who is not a 'dumb dog,' but one, knowing the will and wish of nine-tenths of her people on these subjects, has the heart and the soul to give effective utterance to that will and wish from the high place to which that people raised him.

"Let all men bear in mind that, from the very beginning, the Democratic *statesmen* of the early Republic foresaw that the liberties of the country could be preserved only by the States. It was clear to their almost prophetic eyes that the danger to liberty would come from the Federal Government. Hence the anxious care to found the Democratic party upon this one, among other grand principles, of State rights, by which they meant that the States, watching the Federal Government with sleepless vigilance, should keep it within its prescribed orbit. They foresaw that the day would come when the grandeur, and power, and patronage of the Federal Government would overshadow the States; when its constantly growing distance from the people would tempt it to become, in bad hands, a Government *over*, not *of*, the people. And from this their wisdom saw no refuge but in the sovereignty of the States.

"Governor Packer plants himself upon that rock, and from its, the proud chief of the sovereign State of Pennsylvania, in fitly chosen, manly, yet modest words, he rebukes in her high name those flagrant and flagitious attempts to establish domestic institutions over the heads and against the wishes of the people of the Territories, of which we have all been sorrowing witnesses. And who does not cry Amen to all he says? Who would alter one of those words? Who would dare to do it, and take the responsibility of the act before the people?

"If he be not right in condemning, in advance, the new heresy which would invoke Congressional intervention in making laws to carry slavery into the Territories, and to keep it there, if he be not right in *that*, then the *Democratic party has always been wrong*. Who will dare to say that on that point? After sixty years of happy and contented acquiescence in it, are we now to learn from the babes and sucklings at Washington that all the wisdom of the Democratic party has been foolishness? Are we to be seriously asked to undo all that has been done by such men as Madison, and Monroe, and Jackson, and all the great *statesmen* of ALL PARTIES; and, instead of referring slavery to the people to be affected just as they may direct by legislation in Congress? Will that calm the public agitation? If the Union has been almost rent asunder by mere abstractions about slavery, will it be strengthened by making slavery, what it never has been, the direct and real subject of legislation? The proposition comes from some crazed traitor, whose burning brain revelers in dreams of the chaos that would follow disunion. It finds slender favor even in a perverted sectional sentiment. Brave and true men in the South hiss their scorn of the madness. Many Southern States will utterly condemn it. And yet, our true-hearted Governor is to be hawked at, loudly condemned or faintly praised, because he smites this foul heresy which the South itself loathes and will crush.

"Whilst he puts his heel upon this latest Southern treason, he does not allow an equally monstrous hatching of the North to pass. A Senator who towers in mind above all those with whom he acts, and whose proposition has the weight attached to it of being endorsed by the first State in the Union at its latest election, and from that circumstance alone is practically dangerous, has declared that all the States must become bond or free, slave States or free States.

"Is not Pennsylvania interested in such questions? Are they not questions that go to the very marrow of her bones? And shall she be still, whilst treasons, such as these, are forming public sentiment out of their external purpose? A thousand times, No! From every hill and valley, the people of Pennsylvania will hail and bless the Governor, who, standing a faithful sentinel on the outermost walls of the Constitution, challenges the disgraceful forms of treason, marshalling and getting ready for the assault.

"The subject is one that glows with life. We could say much about the duty of a Governor in his annual message; but why say more? The Governor's fault, or it may be crime, in the eyes of these fastidious people, is, that he stands precisely upon the same platform which *the Douglas* stands on. The victory in Dill note, and the sublime response to it of THE PEOPLE in the South, and in the North, and in the West, and in the East—even under Domitian's palace window, and at the very foot of the Capitol—these are the things that make this message wrong.

"But read it, ye men of Pennsylvania! read it for yourselves, and in your honest hearts, and clear, cool heads, judge it and its writer."

Public Entertainments.

THE OPERA.—If there remained any lingering doubt, on Friday night, whether Piccolomini possessed the qualities essential to brave triumphantly the severe ordeal of a Philadelphia audience, that doubt must have been dissipated in great measure by the performance of Saturday evening. Cold and impassive as Philadelphia judgment invariably is upon the first recognition of a musical artiste, it is sure to grow warm, and tend to the other extreme, the moment it discovers the latent sparks of genius. This is proverbial of the musical taste of the city; and Piccolomini has reason to congratulate herself that she has so soon conquered the difficulties of a first appearance.

The opera of "Le Nozze di Figaro," which was produced on Saturday evening, is remarkable as one of the greatest, if not *the* greatest, of its composer's works. It is fairly overrunning with musical outgushings of melody. Throughout every act there is an opulence of idea, a fertility of musical resources, a startling novelty of harmony, modulation, and instrumentation, which cannot be surpassed in any opera extant. If we did not know, from indisputable history, that its composer, Wolfgang Mozart, had written *four* successful operas before he had passed his eighteenth year, it would be hard to comprehend that he could have completed the present *chef d'œuvre* at the age of thirty. His father, Leopold, had a terrible life-struggle with misfortune, and nothing but the conviction of the immortal genius of his son could have borne up his spirit amid the indifference and robuffs which he met with at the various courts to which he appealed for sympathy.

It is impossible to analyze, with justice, the beauties of such a masterpiece as the "Nozze di Figaro" in a brief and hurried newspaper article. The opera is a continuous stream of melody from the opening note to the close. It is in marked contrast to the Italian school, to which we have, of late, been surfeited almost *ad nauseam*. Instead of containing a few specially striking arias, or fine passages, apparently thrown in to relieve a tedious recitative, deficient of all musical expression, the "Marriage of Figaro" is, every note of it, delicious music. It abounds in concerted passages, which follow each other, scene after scene, with ever original freshness and variety. The dramatic part of the opera is equally full of interest, and as full of the elements of fun as any comedy which holds a place on the stage.

Taken as a whole, the performance of the opera was decidedly the most satisfactory operatic representation ever given in the Academy. The orchestra was under the most admirable control, and shared the plaudits of the audience with the vocal artistes. The chorus, which had but very little to do, did that little with consummate skill. With these aids, efficiently co-operating, it need not excite surprise that the opera was a wonderful success.

Piccolomini, as *Susanna*, had an easy task to execute, the musical difficulties which she had to encounter being neither many nor overpowering. This was of course so much the more in her favor, and she went through the rôle with a dash of vivacity in admirable keeping with the character. Her eyes winked and flashed with twinkling glee, or with kindling ire; her brow grew serene, or spoke significant frowns; her playful arms mentioned welcomes, or threatened defiance; her little feet made merry music, or stamped emphatic indignation; her every movement on the stage was instinct with meaning. The impression made on the audience was more favorable than that left by Friday's performance. Our opinion first formed is still further confirmed. We regard Piccolomini as a pleasing, charming, captivating actress—not a grand nor astonishing musical artist. She fascinates by her winning grace and coquetry, under the spell of which fascination the charmed auditor forgets to criticise the voice or the music. She has the elements of popular success, and she knows exactly how to use them.

The other artistes were deserving of great praise for their careful and judicious rendering of Mozart's inspirations. Madame Ghioni and Madame Von Berkel were admirable in their respective rôles. The voice of the former artiste is not very sympathetic, though powerful. Von Berkel's voice is an exquisite contralto, and managed with excellent taste. Herr Formes was in glorious humor, and was most deservedly encored in "Non più andrai," which could not have been given with more unctuous expression. Signor Florenza is a capital artiste, having a good presence and fine conception of the duties of his part. As a baritone, he must take a first rank. Mr. Perring had a slight tenor part to execute, and made it very effective. His voice is singularly sweet.

We cannot close this notice of the opera without expressing a wish for its repetition. The public could not possibly enjoy a more exquisite musical treat. To-night, Verdi's familiar opera of "La Traviata" will be performed, in which Piccolomini will appear as *Violetta*, the part in which she achieved her greatest popularity in London.

WALNUT-STREET THEATRE.—Notwithstanding the operatic and other attractions, a full and fashionable audience attended the second representation of Miss Vandenhoff's new play of "Woman's Heart," and appeared thoroughly to appreciate the manifold beauties of thought and feeling, which like gems are liberally scattered through it—whilst the graceful and poetic elegance of diction seemed to strike the attention and enlist the sympathies of all present. The recalls were again frequent, and on the fall of the curtain quite an ovation was tendered the fair authoress and actress. The fine manly speeches on art and liberty admirably interpreted by Mr. Swinbourn, more than once brought down the house. It will be repeated this evening

ARCH STREET THEATRE.—To-night is the *sixtieth* and positively last representation of Tom Taylor's comedy of "Our American Cousin."

NATIONAL CIRCUS.—The programme offered for this evening is a varied and novel one. The management has effected an arrangement with the world-renowned Van Amburgh, who will exhibit his trained animals, amongst which the wonderful elephant, *Tippoo Saib*, figures as a grand attraction.

SANFORD'S OPERA HOUSE.—This place of resort knows no diminution of popularity, and has become an established institution among the public amusements of the city. An excellent bill for to-night.

SIG. BLITZ still repeats his over-attractive feats of legerdemain. The canary birds and the startling tricks of ventriloquism excite as much curiosity now as when the talented Signor first introduced them to a Philadelphia audience.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

Letter from Washington.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16, 1859.

Some of the Republicans are urging their brethren in the House to push the tariff question over into the next Congress, or so as to compel the President to call an extra session. They are not, however, backed by their party, I think. It is now generally asserted that the Secretary of the Treasury will ask for a *new loan!* I notice several of your practical Pennsylvania men here, and hear, with pleasure, that they intend seeing the President to-morrow, to ascertain whether he intends standing fast to his promise in his last message.

You should certainly get a copy of Gen. Norris's protest, showing up the scandalous conduct of the Secretary of the navy as to the machinery for the new sloop of war at your navy yard. It is a racy document.

Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, is one of the most public in expressing his joy at the re-election of Senator Douglas.

It is now asserted that the Administration is secretly against the Pacific Railroad bill, after all its professions. Time will show.

The Washington *Union* is silent over the terribly scathing letter of Governors Walker and Stanton on the last exposure of the Kansas frauds. Some most discreditable disclosures are on the eve of being made, showing the complicity of the Administration with these forgeries.

The amusing part of our political theatricals here is the amazement of some of the echoes of the Administration at what they regard the "bitterness" many Democratic papers against the Administration! They forget that everything that has, thus far, been said against this Administration by these papers is nectar to that which that Administration has heaped upon them and their course of action. You hear no word of complaint against such Southern men who say they will not support Judge Douglas if he is nominated at Charleston, and that they will support nobody nominated there if their own special views are not asserted and endorsed. But let a Democrat say that he is willing to wait to see for a few months to ascertain if the Administration intend cutting the throat of Douglas at Charleston, and he is forthwith expelled the party. They cry out that he is a traitor, and forget that the example has been set by the foes of Douglas on the other side. As a *test* question, I wish somebody would ask President Buchanan if he will support Judge Douglas should he be nominated at Charleston on the old Democratic platform? My prophecy is that he would say No emphatically, and when he did so his toadies would cry amen from all their official throats. They go for Charleston only as it suits them.

Governor Walker, who left here on Saturday last for New Jersey, is in favor of the restoration of the tariff of 1846, and a bill to this effect will be introduced to-morrow or Tuesday by Colonel Savage, of Tennessee. Governor Walker does not favor specifics, but is very anxious to assist our manufacturers. He thinks specifics would produce no sufficiency of revenue, and backs up his argument with characteristic ability. He favors a free list of such a character as would benefit the manufacturer, and, I think, takes ground against that part of the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Cobb, which proposes to tax certain articles now included in the free list. You will recollect that Mr. Davis, of Mississippi, some twelve years ago, offered a clause to allow 40 per cent. ad valorem on iron, &c., but Pennsylvania refused that and other offers, and voted against the bill of 1846. I think you will find this fact in the *Globe*, though I write from recollection only.

The letter of Mr. James B. Sheridan in reply to Mr. Senator Sidell appears in last evening's *States*. It is clear and to the point. The *gist* of this whole contest is this, "somebody" gave Mr. Slidell as the author of the statement that the slaves of the children of Senator Douglas, in Louisiana, were treated cruelly. It appears that his somebody is understood to be a Dr. Brainard, of Chicago. Mr. Slidell denies that he ever said so to Brainard, but attempts to raise a new issue with Senator Douglas, on the point that he (D) was cognizant of a certain letter reflecting upon Mr. Slidell for the statement referred to, taking Brainard's authority as genuine. Mr. Sheridan's letter is explicit as to the latter allegation, and Judge Douglas stands doubly acquitted upon both allegations. PIONEER.

Our Harrisburg Correspondence.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

HARRISBURG, Jan. 15.

The necessary, but oftentimes petty and perplexing, prelude to all modern legislation—the strife of the ambitious and the spoilsmen, in which the rancor and rascality of low partisanship are so often strongly and shamefully developed—has been acted out. The fortunate have obtained *fame* and *finances*; the "Representatives" rest from the torments and tugs of anxious applicants, and the defeated are left to contemplate the chances as seen by an outsider. Amid the groups that grace our streets, hotels, and halls, may be found men merry, mute, or mad, according to their "inner workings" or external surroundings. Although this process of political *anger*-ing has been reduced to semi-scientific principles, the results in the elections of this session have destroyed all claims to the ancient *augury* which "the initiated" have ever treasured as reliable. Last night's struggle, resulting in the selection of Eli Slifer, of Union county, as the Opposition candidate, and H. S. Magraw, of Lancaster, (by acclamation,) as the Democratic nominee for State Treasurer, has given a quietus to the hopes of many would-be "money changers," and banished the charming ring of metal which had lulled them into a delightful revery of scheming and speculation. Prior to the caucus, powerful combinations to defeat Mr. S. were talked of, but the current in his favor seemed to swell steadily, and defy all manœuvres. The election of Lawrence, as Speaker, was at first declared to be disastrous to Slifer, inasmuch as "the unseen hand" would regulate both, but the programme was either misrepresented, or changed subsequently. Who can say?

The previous career of Mr. S. in the capacity of State Treasurer, and his acknowledged faithfulness and ability as a financier, afford sufficient guarantee of a correct administration in his official character, which, we precuppose, he will be called upon to assume by the action of the joint convention to be held on Monday next. Mr. Magraw will retire with the esteem and confidence attaching to an efficient and worthy officer.

Having thus ended the ceremonies of choosing officials, the vast and varied constituencies of our Commonwealth have a right to expect and demand of their representatives prompt and proper legislation. It is to be hoped that, with a Democratic Senate, a Republican House, and a statesman of prudence and power as Governor, acting concurrently and cautiously, we may have not a "comedy of errors," such as has so frequently brought mischief, discredit, and confusion upon our State and its institutions, but a dignified drama in which each shall play a noble part towards his constituents and the Commonwealth. The Governor's message, replete with sound sentiment and suggestions, unfolding the true principles of State policy as directed to material and political improvement and progress, should claim serious attention. Few messages have so much of sober sense or practical wisdom.

Although the regular committees have been organized, no bills of general importance have yet been reported. In the House, the formation and operation of the committees on the contested seats of Messrs. McLain and Evans, of Philadelphia, and Mr. Porter, of Cambria county, have occupied considerable time; so that the machinery of legislation is scarcely in moving order. Numerous passenger railway projects are represented as coming from your city, with a wondrous link of influences and interests. Mr. Walborn read in place, to-day, "An act to incorporate the Twelfth and Thirteenth-street Passenger Railway Company;" Mr. Abbott, "An act to incorporate the Ridge Avenue and Manayunk Passenger Railway Company."

The expression of the people, through their Representatives, on the tariff question, superfluous as it may appear, will be as emphatic and decided as the voice of Pennsylvania at the last election, which will not cease its calls for "protection" until the National Government removes the burden of injustice which presses so heavily upon her interests and prostrates her industry.

The resolution introduced by Mr. Hummersley, instructing the Committee on Banks to inquire into the expediency of a uniform engraving for the bank-notes of this State, so that by making the real plate more familiar, to detect the *spurious*, is intended as an aim at the skilful roguery of counterfeiters. Whether it would have a tendency to render more difficult or check imitations is exceedingly questionable. The resolution offered by Mr. Miller, in the Senate, (as published in Saturday's *Press*,) calling upon the Governor for information in reference to the excess of the sum offered for the Delaware division by responsible parties, over what was actually received, &c., is regarded as significant of an intention to renew the lamentation over the transfer of the public works.

The Senate adjourned until Monday.

The House has been in session to-day, but nothing of particular interest transpired. The street encounter between Messrs. Church and Donovan, of which our dailies give detailed accounts, has created a "sensation" by no means favorable to Mr. D., as one would infer from the general expression of indignation in different circles, and the adoption of a resolution in the House excluding him from its floor—the right to do which, Messrs. Smith, of Berks, Thorn, and Harding very forcibly disputed, although agreeing with the majority that Mr. D.'s conduct was not justifiable. As is usual, the accounts are conflicting, and I shall not venture upon a history of this legislative digression, hoping that the *law*, in strict justice, may be *administered* to the erring ex-*law-maker*. ALBION.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

THIRTY-FIFTH CONGRESS,

Second Session.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.

The Senate is not in session to-day, having adjourned over until Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. FOSTER, of Maine, asked, but failed to obtain, the consent of the House to the introduction of a bill authorizing the Postmaster General to contract for carrying the mails between Bangor and Halifax, Nova Scotia, by railroad.

The bill extending for seven years the patent to Jas. G. Holmes for improvement in a chair for invalids, was passed—yeas 102, nays 37.

At the instance of Mr. STEPHENS, of Georgia, the consideration of the motion to commit the French spoliation bill, reported last session to the Committee of the Union, was postponed for the present, the bill being postponed till next Tuesday two weeks. This does not affect the similar bill recently passed by the Senate.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of private bills.

On motion of Mr. WINSLOW, of North Carolina, a resolution was adopted calling on the Secretary of the Navy for information generally concerning the navy yard, the object being to facilitate the business before the Naval Committee.

On motion of Mr. HOWARD, of Michigan, it was resolved that the Naval Committee report what legislation is necessary to reduce the expenses of the navy, and whether any of the yards and docks can be abandoned.

The House then went into committee on the bill to codify the revenue laws.

Mr. COMING, of Massachusetts, while not approving of all the details of the bill, would give it his support, on broad national grounds; it being important not only to the navigation, but all the transportation interests of the country.

Mr. GIDDINGS, of Ohio, gave notice of an amendment he intended to offer more effectually to prevent the traffic in slaves, to the abolishment of which this country, in the treaty with Great Britain of 1814, is committed. Will gentlemen countenance this traffic in human flesh, and involve the nation in the guilt of perjury?

Mr. LETCHER, of Virginia. What do you think of the Cochin trade and the Chinese coolies, Mr. Giddings?

Mr. GIDDINGS. I think it as bad as the coastwise slave trade. If any person was to sell the gentleman and his wife and children, I should object. [Laughter.]

Mr. SMITH suggested whether it would not be well to comment on the interesting fact that, of thirty-five slave vessels captured, thirty were from the free States, and only five from the slave States, and hence the gentleman undertakes to reform the morals of his neighbors?

Mr. GIDDINGS. I would as soon lay my hand on a Northern as a Southern pirate. I am not sectional in my views. [Laughter.] In the course of his remarks he said if he had not nominated the Governor of Ohio, he wanted to make a straight-out issue with the Democratic party. He wished to know from his colleague (Mr. COX,) whether the latter's party was for or against the slave trade.

Mr. COX, of Ohio, said he rose to pay his respects to his colleague for a few moments. [A crowd of members here gathered around him.] He said that Mr. Giddings knew that the Democratic members of the House, at a former session, had voted that it was inexpedient and unjust to restore the slave trade, and that the Democratic party, North and South, were opposed to it.

Mr. GIDDINGS remarked that he had alluded to the coastwise slave trade

Mr. COX resumed. Mr. Giddings, he said, had undertaken to place the Democrats in a false position, and inculcate the idea that the Democratic party was pro-slavery, when he knew that the Democratic party was not so, but rested on the doctrine of leaving the people to regulate the matter as they deem proper. He hoped that his colleague may be nominated for the Governorship of Ohio, and if he should be, he (Cox) thought he would be left to ponder over the result and exclaim with Aristides, "I yield to popular opinion in everything, even when the people drive me into exile." [Laughter.] He had noticed that his colleague had advocated "negro equality" in his speech made the other day, but in the printed speech he had modified his language.

Mr. GIDDINGS. The gentleman remarked that his colleague must have misunderstood him.

Mr. COX. Are you in favor of the negroes in Ohio voting?

Mr. GIDDINGS. I expressed no such opinion.

Mr. COX. Would you permit them to vote?

Mr. GIDDINGS. I would whenever negroes excel the Democratic party in intellect and moral virtue. [Excessive laughter.]

Mr. COX. My colleague does not come up to his doctrine. I again ask—Is he or is he not in favor of African equality and negro suffrage in Ohio?

Mr. GIDDINGS. I would put them and the Democrats on the same footing. [Laughter.] But I will not interfere in the quarrel between them.

Mr. COX. The difference between my age and that of my friend—if I may so call him—will not allow me to pay him the compliment he pays me, by calling me a tortled Governor of Ohio. In rising, all I wished to do was to put the Democratic party right, and it is right. The gentleman can come on with his forces and we will meet him.

Mr. STANTON, of Ohio, wanted to ask Mr Cox a question.

Mr. HOUSTON, of Alabama, objected. The House had had enough of this cross-examination. [Laughter.] There was much confusion during these proceedings, everybody evidently being interested in the dialogue.]

Mr. JOHN COCHRANE of New York, in closing the general debate, said he did not anticipate that they would embark on the sea of abolition and slavery discussion simply on a question of commerce and the codification of commercial law. He then proceeded to answer the objections to the bill, and advocated its passage.

The Committee then rose, and the House adjourned.

Washington Affairs.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Orders have been issued from the War Department similar to those which were sent to Kansas during the former troubles—namely, to use the four or five companies of troops now there as a *posse comitatus*, to enforce the laws during the present disturbances in the Territory.

It is reported that when the Senate French spoliation bill, which is now on the Speaker's table of the House, is taken up for reference, an effort will be made to pass it by a suspension of the rules, and under the operation of the previous question.

The Cuba Question.

CAUCUS OF DEMOCRATIC SENATORS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—A caucus of Democratic Senators was held yesterday in relation to the President's recommendation with regard to Cuba. A debate of three or four hours ensued, involving the question whether any steps should be taken with regard to it, and if so of what character. According to the best attainable information, the tone of the opening speech, and was followed by Messrs. Hunter and Slidell. Though favoring the acquisition of Cuba, they thought action at this time to be impolitic, and calculated to impair rather than improve our prospects to that end.

Mr. Douglas regarded appearances as gloomy, but said he would support Mr. Slidell's bill placing thirty millions in the hands of the President to be used in negotiation. Should it be found that the President would not endorse this measure without sufficient data to justify him in so doing. Mr. Douglas said he had long desired the acquisition of Cuba; but in his judgment there was but one mode and that was, on the happening of another case similar to that of the Black Warrior, to seize the island by way of reclamation, and negotiate afterwards.

Mr. DAVIS and others did not like the suggestion of Mr Douglas. The discussion at this stage became intensely interesting, the best ability of the participants being put forth. Mr. Slidell of course, advocated his new Bill. Messrs. Davis, Iverson, Fitch, Bigler and Clay, favored the idea of increasing to a sufficient extent the foreign-intercourse fund, leaving the matter to the discretion of the President. Mr. Iverson thought that Spain could be warned out with the question of Cuba, by the repeal of such parts of our laws as restrain the action of our citizens toward foreign Powers, or something to this effect. The determination of the caucus was, that, with a few exceptions, to favor the recommendation of the President, although the precise mode in which it should be consummated was not so clearly indicated, but the probability now is that the Senate will pass Mr. Slidell's bill.

Revolution in Hayti.

BOSTON, Jan. 16.—The schooner North Wind, from Gonaives, with dates to the 1st inst., is below. She got ashore, but will float to-morrow.

A revolution broke out in Hayti on the 24d ult., when a party of Republicans, headed by Gen. Geffard, took the city of Gonaives and proclaimed their leader President. He entered the city four days after, and the inhabitants are joining him wherever he goes. Aux Cayes, Jacmel, and all the towns in the south, had declared in his favor. St. Marks, a small fortified place, was in flames on the 1st inst., probably on account of some division in opinion on the part of the inhabitants. Gen. Geffard was to have entered it on that day. He probably did so, but met with some resistance.

The schooner North Wind was unable to get a full cargo, owing to the political troubles.

U. S. Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The Treasurer's statement shows:

The amount subject to draft	$3,115,000
Receipts of the week	726,000
Increase over last week nearly	82,000
Drafts issued	568,000
Drafts paid	644,000
Net balance	1,017,000

Missouri Legislature.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 14.—The constitutional amendment limiting the State debt, passed the State Senate yesterday, by a vote of 20 yeas to 5 nays

No action has yet been had on the bill providing for the protection of the border counties against the inroads of the Kansas banditti

United States Steamer Harriet Lane.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—The United States steamer Harriet Lane, of the Paraguay expedition, was spoken, December 3d, in latitude 20 N, longitude 34. She was to touch at Rio Janeiro to repair her engine.

Departure of the New Minister to China.

SAVANNAH, Jan. 16.—Mr. Ward, the newly appointed minister to China, left here yesterday on the steamer Augusta, for New York, *en route* for China. The wharves were crowded on the occasion, and a salute of artillery was fired.

The Capital of Canada.

TORONTO, Canada, Jan 15.—It is said that despatches have been received from England by the Canadian Government, containing the command that her Maj sty's award of Ottawa for the seat of Government shall be carried out.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

[Reported by Carr & Johnson, Telegraphic News Reporters for the Press throughout the United States.]

HARRISBURG, Jan. 15

SENATE.

The Senate is not in session to day, having adjourned over until Monday.

HOUSE.

The House met at eleven o'clock.

The Governor's veto of the insurance bill was sustained by a vote of ayes 34, nays 4—the latter being Messrs. Church, Foster, Nesl and Rohrer.

The bill authorizing J. M. Pennock to appropriate certain trust funds for the payment of debts was sustained—ayes 88, nays 1, Mr. Bayard.

The veto of the act to quiet titles under wills of other States was sustained, those who voted against it being Messrs Acker, Balliet, Graham, Mann, McClure, Pinkerton, Price, Rouse, Whitman, Williston

Mr HAMMERSLEY, of Philadelphia, from the Committee on Corporations, reported bills to incorporate the Penn Warehouse Company.

Mr. ELLMAKER, of Lancaster, from the same committee, reported a bill to incorporate the Delaware and Schuylkill Dredging Company

Mr WALDRON, of Philadelphia, read a bill to incorporate the Twelfth and Thirteenth Streets Passenger Railway Company.

Mr ABBOTT, of Philadelphia, one to incorporate the Ridge Avenue and Manayunk Passenger Railway Company.

Mr. NEIL, a supplement to the several acts to relieve lien of mechanics, and materials and laborers.

Mr. THORN. I ask leave to make a statement The late clerk of the House of Representatives, for whom I had, in common with all those who have been associated with him, entertained a very high respect, has connected me to offer the following preamble and resolution Having obtained leave, Mr. Thorn submitted the following:

Whereas, It is alleged by one of the papers of Harrisburg that the franking privilege has been abused by the clerks of the Senate and House of Representatives during the recess of the Legislature: therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on Accounts be, and are hereby, required to investigate said charge, and report the facts to this House.

Mr. THORN continued: I only desire to say, sir, in justice to myself, that I know nothing about these facts. I never saw the statement in a newspaper; I offer this resolution at the request of the late clerk of the House.

Mr WILLISTON The House decided, on a similar question, that they would not investigate unless there was a proper reason before the House I think the principle or practice of appointing committees would be a very bad one. Out of respect to the late clerk, I make no objection to this

Mr. KETCHUM. I think and hope this resolution will be passed, through justice to the parties concerned. Such reports are well calculated to injure, and it should be passed.

Mr. WILLISTON. I do not wish to be misunderstood. I make no opposition to this resolution, because of my very high admiration for the late clerk of this House.

The resolution was then passed.

Mr. CRABB submitted the following:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Commonwealth, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Auditor General, Surveyor General, and Superintendent of Common Schools, be requested to furnish the House, as soon as possible, a detailed estimate of the contingent expenses of their respective departments for the ensuing year, embracing the amounts paid clerks and messengers, &c., designating particularly the nature of each item of contingent expenditure.

Mr. CRABB moved that the rules, requiring the resolution to lay over for one day, be suspended. The motion was agreed to; and the resolution was read a second time and passed.

Mr. CHURCH. I ask, sir, for the reading of a passage in one of this morning's papers.

Mr. CHURCH here sent to the clerk's desk a copy of the *Daily Patriot and Union* of last Saturday, Jan. 15, and the clerk read therefrom as follows:

TROUBLE IN HIGH LIFE.—A LEGISLATOR COWHIDED.—Yesterday afternoon, soon after the adjournment of the House, the neighborhood of State and Second streets was the scene of quite an animated encounter between two g