The Press.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1859.

FIRST PAGE.—Magazine Literature; Letter from Wisconsin; Personal; Letter from New York; Letter from Harrisburg. FOURTH PAGE.—Foreign News; Marine Intelligence.

The News.

The steamer Arabia is understood to have arrived at Halifax with a week's later news from Europe, but, owing to the old difficulty between the telegraph people, the public must wait for the news until to-morrow.

Nothing was heard of the steamer Nova Scotian at Father Point up to a late hour last night.

By the overland mail at St. Louis, we have news from California to the 26th ult. A report prevailed that a company of United States troops, some one hundred and forty men, had been massacred by the Snake Indians. Great suffering existed among the returning Pike's Peak emigrants. The bark Lancaster, of Philadelphia, foundered at sea while on a voyage from San Francisco to Australia with a cargo of rice. The American whaler Sunlight has been wrecked and totally lost. The crew escaped. The American troops still retain possession of the Island of San Juan, and some difficulty was expected in consequence, as the House of Assembly of British Columbia had adopted an address to Governor Douglass urging him to enforce a great number of impossible things.

Hiram P. Leslie, the swindler of the young girls whom he engaged to go South, as teachers, was tried yesterday, in the Court of Quarter Sessions, and found guilty. He proved himself, by his effrontery in court, to be a hardened sinner, unworthy of the least sympathy. Judge Ludlow sentenced him to three years at hard labor in the Eastern Penitentiary. This is the full extent the law allows for the offence for which the fellow was tried.

General Scott has started on his mission to San Juan. He left New York yesterday in the Star of the West. His departure was honored by a military parade, and he was saluted from Governor's Island, Fort Hamilton and Fort Columbus, as the Star of the West passed down the bay. The Scott Life Guard, Captain J. H. Hobart Ward, composed exclusively of the several companies in arms which served during the Mexican war, paraded as artillerists, and fired a salute as the steamer left her wharf. The mission of the General to the Western coast relates to a controversy now arising between our Government and that of Great Britain relative to the proprietorship of San Juan Island, which lies about twenty-five miles from the shore of Washington Territory, in the strait separating that territory from Vancouver's Island. It is situated outside the main channel, and is farther removed from British than from American land, and, accordingly, by immemorial usage, belongs to the United States.

They have a summary mode of settling political disputations in New Orleans. The night before last Dr. Robert M. Graham and Ernest Toledano failed to convince each other by words, so Mr. Toledano thought he would try what virtue there was in a pistol, and he silenced his opponent by shooting him dead.

The Philanthropic Reform Convention, just ended at Buffalo, New York, must have been composed of a precious set of "reformers." The speeches made on the occasion were of the most blasphemous character. Mr. Andrew Jackson Davis was one of the principal actors.

The Massachusetts Republican State Convention, which met at Fitchburg yesterday, nominated Hon. N. P. Banks for re-election as Governor of the State.

Governor Packer has issued his proclamation announcing that the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund have reported to him that they have, from Nov. 30th 1857, to Sept. 5th, 1859, redeemed the debt of the Commonwealth to the amount of $1,137,115 36, made up as follows:

Certificates of stock loan of April 11th, 1848, 5 per cent	$44,550 00
Certificates of stock loans of various dates, 5 per cent	1,047,238 26
Relief issue cancelled	41,071 00
Interest certificates of various dates	4,296 10
Total	$1,137,155 36

In the important railroad bond case of Oelrichs & Co., European bankers, *vs.* The City of Pittsburg, Judge McCandless, of the United States Circuit Court, yesterday delivered an opinion against the city, and directing the United States marshal to proceed with the sale of the stocks held by the city in the Pittsburg Gas-Works.

Yesterday afternoon a person named McCabe went into the editorial office of the N. Y. *Daily News*, and asked some questions as to the authorship of certain articles which had appeared in that paper. On Mr. Thompson, one of the editors, acknowledging himself the author, McCabe struck him a powerful blow on the temple, and followed him up, as he fell, and repeated the blows. Thompson's nose was broken, and his face terribly battered. After committing the outrage, McCabe escaped; but a warrant has been procured for his arrest.

Our reporter mentions the escape of three prisoners from the cell of the Fifteenth-ward station-house. The cells of this establishment are so insecure that it is only by the use of the most extreme vigilance that escapes are not more frequent. An occurrence such as that of yesterday should not be lightly passed by. It should occur but once in the city of Philadelphia.

In Boston the examination of Dr. J. C. Ayer, upon the charge of stabbing R. S. Fay, treasurer of the Middlesex Mills Corporation, has been postponed for one week. The impression is that Dr. Ayer simply defended himself, as well as he was able, from an attack commenced by Mr. Fay. The wounded man is thought to be out of danger.

The Canvas in Ohio.

A few days ago we showed where the Democratic candidate for Governor in New Jersey stood on the Territorial question. His position in his Newark speech was not only boldly stated, but in such terms as to be read of all men. We now subjoin an extract from the speech of Judge RANNEY—the Democratic candidate for Governor in Ohio—in answer to his adversary, the Republican candidate, Mr. DENNISON. Judge RANNEY, at a public meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, on Wednesday evening last, stated his position as follows:

"But my idea of this whole matter is this: that we agreed, in 1850, to take this subject of slavery out of the hands of Congress, for the reason that its agitation there had been productive of mischief; and that, too, on the reasoning of such eminent men as Clay and Webster. When I agreed to that, I then expressed, and I now expect, to refer the question to the people of the Territories, to let them deal with it as they think proper with a view to their own interest, and to correct principles. I mean to affirm that when they are a regularly organized Territory, the Territorial Legislature may abolish slavery if it exists, upon the same terms that a State could do it, not affecting existing rights, but making a prospective abolition. I understand that a Territorial Legislature is armed with power to settle this principle as fully by law as in the act of forming a Constitution. * *

"And now we are upbraided and constantly appealed to that our brethren of the South do not agree with us on this subject. Then let them disagree. We have said in our platform as adopted at Cincinnati, that we renounce fellowship with all men who do not go with us in this principle of non-intervention. The Democracy of the Northwest will never move from that principle. On this foundation they stand as firm as the everlasting hills. [Cheers.]

"Whether the North shall claim intervention by Congress, or the extreme South, is immaterial to our position. And there we will stand or fall—living or dying. The Democracy of the Northwest can never be moved from that position. [Cheers.]

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"My friend would appeal to Congress; I choose to go to the honest masses of the people, who will settle in the Territories. [Cheers.] I pray to know what there is in the history of the past that should make you distrust them. Slavery has never been extended one solitary foot by any action of theirs. How was the Northwest Territory kept free? By the people—not by the act of Congress merely. Let the people have hold of this matter and there is not the least danger."

This is the ground upon which every Democratic candidate for Governor, and every Democratic candidate for a State office, is running in every free State in this Union, *except Pennsylvania*. Here Mr. BUCHANAN has made his heresies the test of political fidelity. He has placed the regular Democratic candidates upon his theory, and has refused to allow the Democratic organization the slightest chance of success, in order that he may gratify his own personal feelings on the one hand, and sustain himself in his betrayal of principle on the other.

The Circumlocution Office.

From an English journal we have cut out the following paragraph:

"It is stated that the design of the rifled cannon used by the French was offered to the British Government in 1855. A similar invention by Count Cavelli, of the Piedmontese service, was also offered to our Government; but *his plans were referred* backwards and forwards until they were lost sight of."

This is circumlocution without any doubt. This is a specimen of the red-tape way of *not* doing things. A man makes a great invention and offers it to the British Government, and his plans being referred backward and forwards, until they were lost sight of, he loses heart, withdraws in disgust, takes himself and his plans elsewhere, and, at the end of four years, the Government is startled at learning of Palestro and Montebello, Magenta and Solferino won by the very weapons, the plans of which had been tossed to and fro, by Lord Dedmus, Mr. Tite Barnacle, and others, the head and tail of the famous Circumlocution Office—which has branches, in full operation, in every capital city in the world where there is that mysterious institution called a Government.

The Oregon Boundary Question.

It is very unfortunate that a loophole to hang a doubt upon was left in the Oregon boundary treaty ratified during the Administration of Mr. POLK. We had experience enough to teach us that on all territorial questions British diplomatists would "cavil on the ninth part of a hair." We had had protracted discussions and much angry feeling in regard to the Northeastern boundary, which remained unsettled from the time of the treaty of 1783 until 1842, the dispute in that case being of a character somewhat similar to that which has lately arisen—as it related to the manner in which, under the description of the boundary given in the treaty of 1783, the actual line should be surveyed and run. Border collisions had also arisen and detachments of troops had been thrown into the vicinity of the disputed district, in Maine and the British provinces, by the antagonistic claimants. The question was kept open for fifty-nine years, and it had been discussed with more or less acrimony for twenty years.

Among the Northwestern Boundary had also long been a debateable question, and efforts to finally adjust it had been unsuccessfully made in 1818, 1824, 1826, 1827, 1843, and 1844.

We, therefore, had every reason to expect that if, in the supposed final settlement made in 1846, the rights of either nation should not be defined with the greatest possible accuracy and nicety, additional disputes would arise. Such fears have been realized. Although the line has not yet been all surveyed and run, the Commissioners engaged in that task have put conflicting interpretations on an important portion of the article of the treaty which describes the boundary, and widely different interpretations of its meaning are made by the two Governments. The treaty was formed at Washington on the 15th day of June, 1846, and is signed by JAMES BUCHANAN, then Secretary of State, and RICHARD PAKENHAM, the British Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States. Its first article is as follows:

"Art. 1. From the point on the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, where the boundary laid down in existing treaties and conventions between Great Britain and the United States terminates, the line of boundary between the territories of her Britannic Majesty, and those of the United States, shall be continued westward, along the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, *to the middle of the channel which separates the continent from Vancouver's Island, and thence southerly, through the middle of the said channel, and of Fuca's Straits, to the Pacific Ocean*; provided, however, that the navigation of the said channel and straits, south of the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, remains free and open to both parties."

It is now well known that between Vancouver's Island and the continent there are at least *two*, and according to some accounts *three* channels, instead of *one*, and it is unfortunate that when the article quoted above was written, that fact was not known, or if known, that *the* particular channel which was to form the boundary of two great land-loving nations was not specifically stated; for upon that question hinges the title—now warmly contested—to the island of San Juan, and several smaller islands.

Mr. BUCHANAN, no doubt, entertains a distinct recollection of the interpretation which was placed upon the treaty at the time it was framed by Mr. PAKENHAM and himself—and we doubt very much whether it ever entered into the brain of any Senator who ratified it; that any land south of Vancouver's Island was to be surrendered to Great Britain; but the truth is, that while the treaty states the boundary line is to be "the middle of the channel" which "separates the continent from Vancouver's Island," that language is rendered obscure, and to some extent indefinite, by the fact that several channels exist. The error is singular one, and is a remarkable instance of the conflicting interpretations which may be given to what appear to be clearly stated treaties. The strong points of the American case are—first, that the channel which lies nearest to Vancouver's Island is the deepest and best one, and should therefore be considered the *main channel*; and, second, the probable intention of the framers of the treaty to deviate from the 49th parallel solely for the purpose of allowing Great Britain to retain undivided possession of Vancouver's Island.

The occupancy of San Juan by American troops, and the threatened resistance by British forces, have added to the difficulties of settling this question by arousing considerable prejudice in England and the United States, and neither Government will be disposed to abate one jot of its pretensions. The dangers of a collision have been diminished by despatching the war-worn veteran, General Scott, to Oregon; but the attention which the employment of the Commander-in-Chief of our army on this mission will attract throughout the world, will probably add, on the other hand, to the tenacity with which England will cling to her claim to territory to which we have clearly shown that we attach much importance.

The Two Commanders-in-Chief.

One of the New York papers says that the Duke of CAMBRIDGE, Queen VICTORIA's cousin, and Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, was about being sent to the Island of San Juan, whither General Scott is bound, with a view of personally settling the American and British dispute there in an amicable manner, if possible. We know not on what authority this was stated, but *The London Times*, of August 29th, officially announces that the Duke had left England "for a few weeks' tour in Germany." This does not look as if he was to be sent across the Atlantic.

Loss of the U. S. Steamer Fulton.

The U. S. steamer Fulton, which has just been lost on the Florida coast, in the gale of the 16th inst., was one of our oldest men-of-war. She was frequently designated as "Fulton the Third."

The first steam man-of-war that was built by our Government bore the name of the noble Fulton, and her construction was under the superintendence of Robert Fulton. While thus superintending this enterprise, in 1814, he caught cold, from the effects of which he died, before the completion of the vessel. She was rather a floating battery than a sea steamer, and well was found unfit for sea. This vessel wound up her career in 1829, by the explosion of her powder magazine, while lying at New York, where she was built.

Her successor, "Fulton the Second," was built in 1837, and she, too, was found almost as unfit for sea service as her namesake.

In 1851 this vessel was altered considerably, and a new and superior engine and boilers placed in her, and since then she has made a very efficient man-of-war. She had a fine, large, direct-acting, inclined engine, which has been worked up to eight hundred horse power, and gave her a speed of over twenty knots per hour.

There is no vessel in the navy that has done more active cruising during the last eight years than the Fulton, although, in the opinion of probably one half of the officers who have sailed in her, she was considered unseaworthy. The objections were to her model, and to the want of strength, caused by the decay of her timbers. On this account many, doubtless, will rejoice at her loss, when they are assured that no lives have been sacrificed. Her present boilers were but two years old, and were of the most approved construction.

Last May the Fulton returned from the Paraguay expedition, having been the flag-ship on the river La Plata. She has just been overhauled and refitted at considerable expense at the Gosport navy-yard, from whence she sailed, with new officers and crew, on the 25th of last month, for a cruise in the Gulf of Mexico. She is registered as a third-class side-wheel steamer, and was of 698 tons burden. Her present armament was eight thirty-two pounders. On her expedition to Paraguay she was fitted to carry four nine-inch guns and one eleven-inch gun, and was manned by 107 officers and men. In case of action at that time, she would have been probably by far the most efficient vessel of the squadron. Efficient steamers of this size are of great service in times of peace, and would be indispensable in war. It is to be hoped that Congress will replace her by building many more.

List of officers: Commander, G. G. Williamson; lieutenant, Egbert Thompson; master, Wm. E. Evans; purser, C. C. Jackson; acting chief engineer, G. W. Alexander; third assistant engineers, James W. De Kraft, G. H. Riley, R. H. Harris, and H. X. Wright; captain's clerk, A. P. Hulse; purser's clerk, J. Bonnett.

PETERSON'S LADIES' NATIONAL MAGAZINE.—The October number has arrived, and a very good number it is, opening with a capital engraving, from an original design, in which a little boy and girl are feeding young chickens, while *Pater-familias*, exulting in his healthy and kind-hearted children, looks on approvingly and delighted. A steel plate of Parisian Fashions, a fine wood-engraving of "The Young Heir's Return," crowds of other wood-cuts, with music, &c., make up a large array of illustrations. The reading matter in this magazine is always good—thanks to the tact and taste of Charles J. Peterson, its well-read editor, who is himself a very popular novelist.

THE particular attention of the trade is invited to the sale this morning by B. Scott, Jr., auctioneer, 431 Chestnut street, commencing at 10 o'clock. It will consist in part of a large and elegant assortment of trimmings, bonnet ribbons, flowers, embroideries, hoop skirts, &c.; also, at commencement of sale, one sewing machine. Catalogues now ready.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20, 1859.

One of the most indomitable and active candidates for the Presidency is John M. Botts, of Virginia. Everybody has heard of Mr. Botts, especially his night with Captain Tyler of immortal memory. And why should he not be a candidate? He has ability, experience in public matters, and is, withal, a man of strong good sense and warm impulsive nature. In these days, when everybody is named for the Presidency, such a man as Botts is not to be despised; and I am, therefore, not astonished that his friends are earnest in his support. Other aspirants, in the Opposition party, will do well to cultivate Mr. Botts, because, if he is not a candidate himself he will be sure to wield considerable influence in choosing the man.

The overthrow of Fernando Wood in New York, at the late Syracuse Convention, has astonished nobody here. The ex-Mayor has great personal courage and many resources, but his mistake has been that of a number of other politicians—in fighting simply for office, and not for principle. There is no sympathy for a politician who bases his action upon the fact that his friends have got obtained office; and Mr. Fernando Wood has been crushed by a catastrophe which is certain, sooner or later, to overtake every one who does not espouse certain great truths and stand forth as the consistent defender of these truths, disinterestedly and always.

The election of General Cushing as a delegate to the National Convention at Charleston, by the Democracy of Massachusetts, is significant. I believe the ex-Attorney General prefers Jefferson Davis for the Presidency. His success in the Convention was a high compliment, not only to his vast ability, but to the Administration of General Pierce, of which he was a distinguished member. The Douglas feeling in the Massachusetts Convention was very strong, notwithstanding it was decided inexpedient to pass a resolution making this fact apparent. All the means and appliances of the General Administration were of little avail to prevent either the election of General Cushing or the adoption of a decided popular sovereignty platform.

It is suggested that Mr. Buchanan will insist upon recognising the Houston men in Texas as the proper persons to be represented in the Democratic National Convention; and that, on the other hand, his officials will be instructed to demand the exclusion of the Douglas Democracy of Illinois. Bear in mind that the interest which is denouncing you in Pennsylvania as disorganizers for refusing to support a State ticket standing upon a platform which discards the holiest principles of the Democratic party, at the same time repudiates and denounces the regular organization in Illinois, which stands upon the true Democratic faith, and accepts as its regular faction in Texas as orthodox, simply because faction has been enabled to defeat the regular Democracy under the lead of a man who profess to be friendly to the National Administration!

I have been much amused in watching the movements of certain of the officials in this city, who hail from your State, and who employ themselves in abusing the State-Rights Democracy, because they refuse to support the Administration ticket. In the same breath they denounce *you* as a bolter, Douglas as a traitor, and applaud Mr. Houston as a saint! I repeat, I have no objection to the new Governor of Texas—none in the world. There are many worse men than the hero of San Jacinto, and I allude to him now only for the purpose of illustrating, the changing policy of the Administration in regard to party organization.

I will not be at all astonished if that distinguished Southern leader, Hon. Wm. L. Yancey, of Alabama, should, at an early day, take occasion to say that it may become the duty of the South to accept Stephen A. Douglas for the Presidency as the only way to rescue the country from a sectre geographical triumph in 1860. I do not profess to have any authority for this declaration, but the patriotism of Mr. Yancey leads me to expect that he will not be an indifferent spectator of the great events now brewing in the bosom of the present.

One of the most enthusiastic friends of Douglas is the Hon. John Forsyth, of Alabama, late minister to Mexico. I have never met a man who so keenly appreciates and feels the importance of the nomination of Judge Douglas at Charleston, nor one who is more sincerely and heartily devoted to the cause of the "Little Giant."

Although Gov. Wise continues steadily, through the columns of the Richmond *Enquirer*, to assert the extremest opinions for the church of slavery against the popular will in the Territories, it is significant how little impression his theories make upon the public mind, either in Virginia or elsewhere. No man in this country had higher hopes of succession than Henry A. Wise until he allowed himself to be placed upon this extreme and impracticable ideas. Even the publication of *his* Donnelly letter would have been passed over with generous indulgence by the people, had he followed out the noble course he took against the Lecompton Constitution. But that calamitous letter has only been made more fatal by the eccentric and extraordinary diversion he has made in favor of the Territorial policy of the Administration of the General Government.

What will the New York delegates to Charleston do? This is the question that troubles a good many of the *quid nunncs* in and about the departments. The list has a strange, *bizarre* look, an ugly neutrality and Delphic mystery, that puzzles the shrewdest and sharpest *connoisseur* in the chicanery of New York politics. The cabinet of candidates for the Presidency read it over as a politician reads the election returns, with varying interest. No one is able to tell whom these delegates will support or whom they will oppose. What makes the thing more annoying is the suspicion that the whole of it is a Douglas trick—a suspicion, by the way, which Bennett, of the New York *Herald*, has taken great care to inflame, by asserting that at least twenty-one of the Syracuse delegates are for that distinguished personage. Those who have this New York delegation in their section in hand—especially such as are in office—must take care that it does not burn their fingers before the National Democratic Convention is opened in the capital of South Carolina. It is dangerous to carry concealed loaded weapons—they may explode; and this delegation, concealed as its objects are from public view, is unquestionably loaded with more than one fatal projectile. Let those, then, who carry it in their pockets, and who are expecting to hold it as the very jewel of their eye, as the very Koh-i-noor of delegations, beware, lest in their efforts to preserve it from spoliation and to hide it from the sun, it does not explode, scattering destruction and death all around.

The following extracts from one of the greatest essays of the celebrated Sidney Smith, applies with singular force to the present condition of American politics. When a few brave men took up arms against the frauds and follies of those in power, their example was scouted, and predictions were hazarded in all quarters, that they would speedily be crushed by the overwhelming and irresistible influence of the General Administration. They were pointed to instances in which the most distinguished intellects had failed to make headway against Federal power; the fate that befell the Van Burens, the Hugh L. Whites, the Talmadges and others, was paraded as an apparition to frighten them from their propriety. Whatever may have been the rule heretofore, the triumph of these men is now an assured fact. They may proudly contemplate the reform they have wrought, while leaving others to gather the fruits of their courageous, consistent, and constant labors. It required the utmost perseverance and faith to convince the people not merely that their cause was just (this fact was so much have been apparent to every candid mind) but that they themselves were sincere, and intended to maintain the good fight to the end. The power of the Administration of the General Government in this country must always be great. The patronage of the President is far more extensive than that of the Queen of Great Britain, and those men who sustain him are made up of placemen, expectants, and a mass of timid waiters upon Providence, who accept the heresies of leaders, because they are themselves thus saved the trouble of thinking for themselves. That against all these influences and obstacles the revolt of the States-Rights Democracy in this country should have so completely and thoroughly succeeded, is one of the healthiest indications of the times. The language of Sydney Smith should be carefully read and weighed:

"To estimate the merit and the difficulty of this opposition, we must remember the enormous influence which the Crown, through the medium of its patronage, exercises in the remotest corners of the kingdom—the number of subjects whom it pays, the much greater number whom it keeps in a state of expectation—and the ferocious turpitude of those mercenaries whose present profits and future hopes are threatened by honest, and exposed by eloquent men. It is the easiest of all things, too, in this country, to make Englishmen believe that those who oppose the Government wish to ruin the country. The English are a very busy people; and, with all the faults of their governors, they are still a very happy people. They have, as they ought to have a perfect confidence in the administrators of justice. The rights which the different classes of mankind exercise in the other are arranged upon equitable principles. Life, liberty, and property are protected from the violence and caprice of power. The visible and immediate stake therefore for which English politicians play is not large enough to attract the notice of the people and to call them off from their daily occupations, to investigate thoroughly the characters and motives of men engaged in the business of legislation. The people can only understand, and attend to the last results of a long series of measures. They are impatient of the details which lead to these results, and it is the easiest of all things to make them believe that those who insist upon such details are actuated only by factious motives. We are all now groaning under the weight of taxes; but how often was Mr. Fox followed by the curses of his country, for protesting against the two wars which have loaded us with these taxes? the one of which was has made America independent, and the other rendered France omnipotent. The case is the same with all the branches of public liberty. If the broad and palpable question were, whether every book which issues from the press should be subjected to the license of a general censor, it would be impossible to blacken the character of any man who, so called upon, defended the liberty of publishing opinions. But, when the Attorney General, for the time being, ingratiates himself with the court, by nibbling at this valuable privilege of the people, it is very easy to treat hostility to his measures as a factious and frivolous opposition to the Government, and to persuade the mass of mankind that it is so. In fact, when a nation has become free, it is extremely difficult to persuade them that that freedom is only to be preserved by perpetual and magnificent vigilance. They do not observe that there is a constant, perhaps an unconscious, effort, on the part of their Governors, to diminish, and so ultimately to destroy, that freedom. They stupidly imagine that what is well always be; and, contented with the good they have already gained, are easily persuaded to suspect and villify those friends, the object of whose life it is to preserve the good, and to increase it.

"It was the lot of Mr. Fox to fight this battle for the greater part of his life; in the course of which time he never was seduced by the love of power, wealth, popularity, to sacrifice the happiness of the many to the interest of the few. He rightly thought, that king and all public officers, were instituted only for the sake of those over whom they preside; and he acted as this conviction was always present to his mind; disdaining and withstanding that idolatrous tendency of mankind by which they so often not only suffer, but invite ruin from that power which they themselves have created for their own happiness. He loved, too, the happiness of his countrymen more than the favor, and while others were adulating the resources of flattering the ignorant prejudices and foolish passions of the country, Mr. Fox was content to be odious to the people so long as he could be useful also. It will be long before we witness again such pertinacious opposition to the alarming power of the Crown, and to the follies of our public measures, the necessary consequence of that power. That such opposition should ever be united again with such extraordinary talents, it is, perhaps, in vain to hope."

There is a good deal of remark pointed in intimate circles here in consequence of the treatment General Harney is receiving at the hands of Administration. The General, it is well understood, has been one of Mr. Buchanan's idiosyncracies—his *beau ideal* of the military character; and when this officer was lost in Washington, the honeymoons he was in the habit of passing in the vestibules of the hotels upon the "pluck" of the President, was understood to be a sort of perfect bliss or echo of the bellicose conversations of the Hero of the Nation with this distinguished military chieftain. General Harney is now, no doubt, reposing first in the bottet that, in pursuing a decided course in San Juan affair, he was doing a good service to country, which will meet with the approval of the President. How he will relish the excuse for being superseded, telegraphed all over the country by the Administration of his "rashness and want of judgment," is yet to be seen. If I am not taken, the relations between General Harney and General Scott, are not of the most amicable character, arising out of matters that occurred in Mexico. One thing General Harney has certainly to learn; that is, that a defiant tone seems indulged in by high statesmen, is not the best index of firmness of purpose. Where was General Harney when 54 : 40 was being discussed? Such the trepidation manifested at the White House apprehension of a difficulty with the British, that the invasion of England by Napoleon III is looked to with anxiety, as the only means of salvation to the country. OCCASIONAL.

Arch-Street Theatre.

Last night, Mrs. John Drew fairly divided honors and applause with Mr. Edwin Booth—as *Portia* to his *Shylock*. She was splendidly attired, as suited the wealth of the great heiress whose hand even Princes contended, and in who train of suitors Nobles were proud to follow. It only splendidly, but most becomingly. We never saw her look better. And, recalling the lips whom we have seen perform in "The Merchant of Venice"—and we have seen many—we do not think that any one has been a better *Portia* in Mrs. Drew. She certainly is a very admirable performer—the best we now have in this city.

There are two phases in the character of *Portia*. When first seen in the play, as now acted, she is the trying situation of witnessing the bestow of her hand to *Bassanio*, by a sort of lottery. In him her wishes are. She desires *his* success; she dare not betray the secret which would secure him. She has but to stand by, the prey of varied notions, while he examines the caskets and decorates upon his choice. In these hands that Mrs. Jew made her bye-play *tell*—bye-play which, with scarcely a spoken word, was full of eloquence. You saw her thoughts in her face, varying sher suitor passed from casket to casket, and riping into joy, which she still would not let *him* scthe whole of, when he turned to her, lord of her lind, fortune, heart. This was performed with quisite delicacy, and "drew down the house" ing the trial-scene, where every one seems incombination to cheat him, by a mere quirk, of his revenge and gold. In the ballads on this subject, of Shakspeare's times, it is the *Christian* whomakes the hard bond, and a *Jew*, from whom the pound of flesh is sought. Shakspeare had to change the story, to make the Jew the man of usury, revenge, and blood.

Mr. Booth makes *Shylock* rather younger than usual, and we think he is right. There is no reason why he should appear more than forty-five to fifty years of age. There is no reason, either, why Mr. Booth should follow the old conventionality of making a man who is only middle-aged totter about as if, to speak familiarly, he was "weak on his pins." But let this pass.

Mr. Booth's finest acting was his last scene, where he appears before a Doge who, contrary to Venetian custom, wears a crown when he should wear the *cornu*, and half-a-dozen of the shabbiest looking Magnificoes, as they are called in the stage directions of the play. There is only a little point, generally omitted, which Mr. Booth should restore. Most of the *Shylocks* make a great ostentation of sharpening the knife upon the floor. Mr. Booth, on the contrary, is truer to Shakspore's drawing of the character, and, in the interval, while the messenger from *Dr. Bellario* is presenting the letter to the Doge, kneels down, and quietly sharpens the knife on the sole of his shoe. Quietly—for he is filled with lethal, concentrated passion of revenge, and the deeper any overwhelming passion tae less will it vent itself in *words*. No, it then will not *speak* but *do*. In the play *Bassanio* asks

"Why dost thou whet thy knife thus earnest?"

And *Shylock* answers,

"To cut the forfeiture from that bankrupt there."

The venom of this declaration is enough to assure *Bassanio*, if he wanted assurance, that *Shylock's* will was deadly and unchangeable. *He says* no more. But *Gratiano*, who has more talk than brains, chimes in with a pun. He says, alluding to the way in which *Shylock* was whetting his knife:

"Not on thy sole, but on thy soul, harsh Jew,
Thou mak'st thy knife keen; but no metal can,
No, not the hangman's axe, bear half the keenness
Of thy sharp envy."

Surely Mr. Booth should restore this,—especially as it actually is the sequence to his own action, then passing.

This evening, Mr. Booth will play *Macbeth*. We have to add that the house was crow ded.

The city authorities of New York are about to present to the fire department of that city a splendid banner, to be used on the occasion of its triennial parade next month, which it is likely will be an imposing affair.

Election returns from three hundred and twenty-four towns in Maine foot up as follows:

Morrill, Rep.	35,930
Smith, Dem.	35,815
Morrill's Majority	10,115

Morrill's majority in these towns last year was 8,000—the vote standing for Smith, 42,637; for Morrill, 50,613. The decrease this year upon the vote of last year, thus far is, Smith, 6,822; Morrill, 4,712. The remaining towns will throw from 10,000 to 18,000 votes

Two persons were arrested in New York yesterday, charged with being fugitives from justice from Philadelphia—AARON P. Fisher, a negro, charged with robbing Mr. Devine, of Bank street, and Charles Williams, charged with picking pockets. They were both sent hitherward.

A RAILROAD SELL.—The Pennsylvania Railroad Company ran an excursion train from Lancaster, last Sunday morning, to Middletown, Pa., where a church dedication took place. They agreed to make the trip in expectation of carrying up one hundred and fifty passengers, but started and returned with only *five* from Lancaster—not enough to pay the expense of the "smoke wagon," and it was unquestionably a losing affair, unless they picked up a good many passengers at intermediate points.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM CALIFORNIA.

[BY OVERLAND MAIL.]

Reported Massacre of a Company of United States Troops by the Snake Indians.

REDEMPTION OF CALIFORNIA STATE BONDS.

The American Troops Still in Possession of the Island of San Juan.

BUSINESS MORE ACTIVE.

NEARLY TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF A TOWN BY FIRE—LOSS, $100,000.

Suffering among Broken-Down Pike's-Peakers.

THE BARK "LANCASTER," OF PHILADELPHIA, AND WHALER "TWILIGHT," WRECKED.

THE SAN JUAN DIFFICULTY.

Stringent Measures Urged by the House of Assembly.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 20.—The overland mail from San Francisco on the 26th ult., reached Jefferson City this morning.

Business at San Francisco showed more activity, but the transactions were mainly of a speculative character, and confined chiefly to candles, provisions, &c.

A report had been received from Oregon, that Captain Walten's command of one hundred and forty men had been massacred at Warm Springs, East of the Cascade mountains. The report was credited at Fort Dallas.

The state of affairs was unchanged. The American troops were still in possession of the island, and their number had been increased by nearly four hundred men.

St. Louis, Sept. 20.—The California mails have been received here, and the papers furnish the following intelligence:

Twenty-five thousand of the California seven per cent. bonds have been redeemed by the State at 83¾.

The overland immigration continued to pour in.

Much suffering was reported to exist on the plains among the broken-down Pikes' Peakers.

A large number of the immigrants were stopping at Alder's river and other gold diggings east of Sierra Nevada.

The town of Murphys was nearly destroyed by fire on the 21st ult. The loss amounted to $100,000.

THE SAN JUAN DIFFICULTY.

The Victoria papers of the 23d of August state that five companies of infantry, four of artillery, with a battery of eight thirty-two pounders from the United States steamer Massachusetts, had landed on San Juan Island.

The House of Assembly of British Columbia on the 12th adopted an address to Governor Douglas praying and requesting him to enforce upon the English Government the necessity of demanding from the Government of the United States not only the immediate withdrawal of all troops, but strenuously, and at all risk, of maintaining his right to the island as well as all the other islands in the same archipelago, now clandestinely, dishonorably, and dishonestly invaded.

A motion was also adopted urging the Governor to form volunteer military companies.

The shipments of gold from Victoria, for the previous fortnight, amounted to $140,000.

SANDWICH ISLANDS, &c.

Dates from Honolulu to July 16th been received.

The American bark Lancaster, of Philadelphia, on a voyage from San Francisco to Australia, with a cargo of rice valued at $32,000, foundered off Molokai on July 10th. The vessel and cargo were a total loss. The loss is partly covered by insurance. All the crew were saved.

The American whaler Twilight, of New Bedford, was wrecked on one of the Marquesas Islands, on June 16th. The loss amounted to $45,000. The crew escaped.

THE SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS, August 25th.—There is a speculative movement in Canadian wheat. Sales amounted to 19,000 bushes of Adamantine Candles have been sold during the past week at from 23½ to 24½ cents, and 23 for clear. Bacon is quoted at 12½ @ 13½, and at 12½ @ 13½ for Hams. Sugar—New Orleans sells at 10c; Crushed at 11½c. Rice and Teas are buoyant.

There is only a moderate amount of Goods going into the interior.

Massachusetts Politics.

GOVERNOR BANKS RENOMINATED.

FITCHBURG, Mass., Sept. 20.—The Republican State Convention met to-day, and renominated Hon. N. P. Banks for Governor, without any opposition.

Mr. Banks received 627 out of the 712 votes on the first ballot, and the vote was made unanimous.

All the other incumbents were also renominated, viz:

For Lieutenant Governor—Robert C. Pratt.
For Secretary of State—Oliver Warren.
For Treasurer—Moses Henry.
For Attorney General—Stephen H. Phillips.
For Auditor—Charles Wells.

The resolutions passed by the Convention declared the Republican party was originated in opposition to the slave power, and is freedom's watch sentinel on the State rights, and denounce the National Administration for extravagance, for truckling to the slave power, for allowing the reopening of the African trade, and for refusing protection to naturalized citizens.

A Week's Later News from Europe at Hand.

THE STEAMER ARABIA AT HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, N. B., Sept. 20.—The Royal mail steamship Arabia, Capt. Stone, from Liverpool on Saturday, the 10th inst., is understood to have been signalled off Halifax at four o'clock this afternoon.

The Nova Scotia Telegraph line is running closed without forwarding the regular press report, we are compelled to await the arrival of the horse-express with the news, which will be due at this place at an early hour to-morrow morning.

United States Circuit Court.

THE PITTSBURG RAILROAD BOND CASE—DECISION AGAINST THE CITY.

PITTSBURG, Sept. 20.—Judge McCandless, of the United States Circuit Court, delivered an opinion to-day, in the important railroad bond case of Oelrichs & Co., European bankers, *vs.* the city of Pittsburg, enjoining against the city, and directing the United States marshal to proceed with the sale of the stocks held by the city in the Pittsburg gas-works.

Religious Services at Pottsville.

GREAT UNION COMMUNION.

POTTSVILLE, September 20.—An Union Communion service was held last evening at the tent, which has been erected here for religious services. The congregation, on this occasion, over five thousand persons being present. It is estimated that one thousand persons of various denominations sat down to the sacred feast.

The exercises were conducted by Rev. Messrs. S. P. Sadtler, J. H. Gilroy, J. Chess, Wolf, Lyon, J. B. Shubert, all pastors of churches here, assisted by Rev. E. M. Long, superintendent of the tent, and other ministers.

European News via Halifax.

BOSTON, Sept. 20.—In the injunction case of the Halifax Telegraph European news monopolists against the American Telegraph Company, praying in substance that the latter may be compelled to convey the newspapers' reports of the European news in advance of the associated Press, the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia refused grant the motion, but permitted the speculators to proceed, if they pleased, as in ordinary causes of bills in equity.

The Supreme Judicial Bench of New Hampshire.

CONCORD, N. H., Sept. 20.—The Governor and State Council have nominated Samuel D. Bell, of Manchester, as chief justice, and H. A. Bellows, of Concord, and Charles Doe, of Dover, as assistants, in the Supreme Judicial Court.

Burning of the Steamboat John Faren.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—The steamboat John Faren was destroyed by fire, near Green Point, early this morning. The loss is estimated at $20,000, on which there is a full insurance. The origin of the fire is not known, as the boat has been unemployed.

Shooting Affray at New Orleans.

DR. ROBERT M. GRAHAM KILLED.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 20.—A shooting affray took place last night between Doctor Robert M. Graham and Ernest Toledano, in the Second ward, in the death of the former. The occurrence was the result of a political difficulty.

From New Mexico.

ST. LOUIS, September 20.—The Santa Fe mail, of the 5th inst., reached Independence this afternoon.

A great amount of rain had fallen on the plains.

The Congressional election was held on the day on which the mail left Santa Fe. A correspondent says there was no doubt as to Mr. Otero's election.

New York Politics—The American State Convention.

UTICA, N. Y., September 20.—The American State Convention, which will meet here to-morrow, will most probably nominate a ticket almost from the candidates put in nomination by the other parties.

Non-Arrival