The Press.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1860.

FIRST PAGE.—Authors and Books; New Publications; Letter from New York; Passenger Railroads at Harrisburg; By Telegraph: Congressional; Further from California; Personal and Political, &c. FOURTH PAGE.—The Courts; List of Letters.

The News.

William Kraft, convicted of setting fire to his own workshop, for the manufacture of picture frames, was on Saturday sentenced by Judge Allison to undergo an imprisonment of ten years in the Eastern Penitentiary.

Peter A. Browne, Esq., a distinguished member of the Philadelphia bar, died in this city on Saturday.

The steamship Arabia arrived at New York yesterday, with three days later news, which will be found in our paper to-day.

The funeral services of the late Bishop Neumann will take place in this city to-day, and will be of a solemn and impressive nature.

Two hundred and seventeen deaths occurred in this city last week, an increase of twenty-nine over the week previous.

In the national House of Representatives, on Saturday, the 28th ballot for Speaker was had, but with no better result than previously.

The Knoxville (Tennessee) *Whig*, of the 29th ult., gives a long account of the arrest of an Abolitionist from Rochester, New York, a peddler of fruit trees, who had previously been driven out of Asheville, North Carolina, and who was taken before a public meeting in Knoxville and interrogated. The *Whig* says:

"According to his own version he is an Abolitionist, but he said he had not tampered with any slaves—did not believe it right to run negroes out of the South to the North—and he was opposed to getting up insurrections. His business was to sell fruit trees and fruitbery for an extensive establishment at Rochester.

"The excitement was great and the crowd large. Rev. James Park and Dr. Brownlow spoke, recommending coolness and reason, and opposing any personal chastisement of the man. General Ramsey, however, made an inflammatory speech, and excited the crowd. Colonel O. P. Temple followed, and denounced Ramsey's sentiments as only worthy of scorn and contempt, and was loudly cheered.

"Speeches were also made by James R. Cooke, Esq., and William L. Scott, Esq., large also took proper views of the subject, and counselled moderation, deprecating the great evil of mob law prevailing to a dangerous extent in the South, and hoped that reason, moderation, and justice would be acted out on this occasion.

"The committee of three recommended that Oregar, the Abolitionist, have twenty-four hours to leave.

"This was, as we understood it, as amended as to allow him three days to wind up his business, and this, we are inclined to think, met with the approval of the meeting. But an unfortunate debate sprung up between Messrs. Park and Charlton, and the consequences threatened for a time to be fearful, as the friends of these gentlemen drew weapons. But by the interference of friends peace was restored, the crowd dispersed, and the New Yorker has left for his congenial North, where he ought to remain."

The *Whig* speaks very severely of General Ramsey's speech, denouncing it as more treasonable than any sentiment uttered by Oregar.

Accounts from Arizona state that the Juarez Government of Mexico has directed Gov. Pesquiera, the Governor of Sonora, to revoke his orders expelling Capt. Stone and his surveying party from the country. The Governor is also ordered to invite Capt. Stone to return and enter upon the survey, and to protect his party from molestation. It is regarded as highly probable that Pesquiera will give no heed to these orders.

Under the head of "A Good Report," the Shelby (Ky.) *News* publishes an extract from a letter by a young Kentucky medical student at Philadelphia. The writer says:

"About three hundred Southern students went South in a body, last Wednesday night. Our class is still large, though sensibly diminished. There are more going yet. A check for $1,000 was sent from Virginia to pay their (travelling) expenses to the South. They can go to New Orleans, Nashville, or Charleston, free of charge, and hear the lectures gratis. Of twenty Kentuckians, not one left. They are conservatives—sound eggs."

The Cincinnati *Gazette*, of Wednesday, says that a party of forty free colored people, mostly women and children, arrived in that city on Tuesday evening from Arkansas. They were welcomed by a committee appointed from the colored people of the city. They were assured by the chairman of the committee, that if they were industrious and exemplary in their conduct, they would be sure to gain a good livelihood, and many friends. The exiles, as before stated, are mostly women and children, the husbands and fathers being held in servitude. They report, concerning the emigration, that hundreds of the free colored men of Arkansas have left for Kansas, and hundreds more are about to follow. These exiles had sought the North in consequence of the act passed by the Arkansas Legislature, giving the free negroes of that State the alternative of migrating before January 1, 1860, or of becoming slaves. As the time of probation has now expired, while some few individuals have preferred servitude, the great body of the free colored people of Arkansas are on their way northward. The upward-bound boats are crowded with them.

A St. Helena letter of October 26, in the New York *Journal of Commerce*, states that, within the previous fortnight, two slave prices had been brought into that port. One was the American brig Lillie Mills, which was taken by surprise in Jumba bay, September 20, by the English steamer Archer, the crew taking to their boats and pulling ashore as soon as they discovered the steamer. She was fully equipped for the slave trade. The other prize was a beautiful Spanish craft, the Eloisa, caught by the same cruiser. The writer thinks it a pity to destroy such splendid vessels, as is required by the English laws. In regard to the New Bedford whaler Memphis, he says:

"The whaler Memphis, which left New Bedford, under some suspicions about seven months since, and of which notice was taken in the papers, has been recently here, and has sailed ostensibly for the Falkland Islands. I learn from the American consul that her papers were all right, and there was nothing about her to indicate such intentions, unless it be that she is unusually large for the whalers in this ocean, and though so long out has taken no oil whatever. But she has been boarded several times on the coast, and one of H. M. officers told me she had at one time in a fog a large number of launches alongside, which immediately pulled for the shore on the lifting of the fog and the discovery of one of H. M. steamers."

Gerrit Smith is at his home in Peterboro', very much improved in all respects, but not fully restored to health; and the doctor has prohibited him from receiving visitors, and from giving personal attention to his correspondence.

☞ The most important feature in the report of Mr. SIFFER, the State Treasurer, is the exhibit, actual and prospective, of the reduction of the State debt. It appears that the amount thus applied during the fiscal year is within a fraction of $850,000, leaving a balance in the treasury of about the same amount on the first of December last. The measures which initiated this result were first operative in 1855, and they have been constantly progressive. The present year the reduction, it is estimated, will exceed a million of dollars! It is honorable to the diligence and capacity of the chief of the department that the resources of the treasury are thus steadily applied to diminish its liabilities, in conformity with the laws, which enable him to do so.

If a Northern Representative in Congress would declare what Mr. GARNETT of Virginia, stated on Saturday, namely, that he and his friends were resolved that the plurality rule should not be adopted until March, 1861, we should have it circulated all over the Union, that the aforesaid Northern man was an enemy of the Confederacy. But Mr. GARNETT, is we presume, an excellent friend of the aforesaid Union, although we understand that he is by no means indisposed to go out of it upon any fair provocation. The threat of Mr. GARNETT proves that the majority of the House is muzzled, and that no vote can be taken upon any proposition not acceptable to the minority. By the way, are not Mr. GARNETT, and gentlemen of his class, somewhat afraid lest Mr. SHERMAN, should he be elected Speaker of the House, may mount the chair and deliver a strong Union speech, and appoint strong Union committees? And in such an event, may not the stock of red hot coals which certain gentlemen from the South have been substituting upon be exhausted?

DAN RICE'S GREAT SHOW.—The anniversary of the battle of New Orleans will be celebrated at this establishment in a characteristic manner. The great humorist is always loaded and primed with patriotism, ready to go off on the slightest provocation, and he never lets an occasion like this pass without some kind of a demonstration. The bill presented for this evening is full of attractive features, among which may be mentioned the tight-rope exercises of Herr Cline, and, for the first time, the extremely funny equestrian extravaganza of Billy Button's Journey to Brantford.

A NEW PHRENOLOGICAL CLASS.—By a card, in another column, it will be seen that a class for the systematic study of phrenology is about being formed by Mr. J. L. Capen, the skillful practitioner, No. 922 Chestnut street. This will afford a desirable opportunity for the investigation of a highly-interesting subject, and should be largely embraced.

SALE OF OFFICE FURNITURE, &c.—This morning, at 10 o'clock, at the warerooms of Messrs. Hoguet & Hutton, No. 259 South Third street, will be sold the stock of elegant oak and walnut, and office and store tables and desks; also secretary and bookcases, extension dining tables, wardrobes, and other furniture. Thomas Birch & Son, auctioneers.

AN ANSWER TO A SOUTHERN CORRESPONDENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PRESS: In your salutatory of the New Year you claimed independence in politics, devotion to the Union, impartial contributions to your columns, &c. I am a *very* recent subscriber to *The Press*, a Southerner, in politics a *reformer*, only another name for opposition to the present Administration of affairs—corruption and fraud being the ruling element, opposition implies reform. *I'm a right good Forney man; though* I'm about to assail Forney. Your entire article under the head of "Commercial Relations between the North and South," of the 3d of January, is a fallacy; and that on the 4th is but a continuation of it.

You say that the commercial intercourse between the North and South "is based upon the interests of both sections, and therefore it cannot be disrupted; that so long as this mutual interest is found in this mutual commerce, so long will the Union and trade and commerce last, in spite of agitators, political demagogues." &c. Now, this, instead of being a great truth, is indeed a very great error. The history of the world and mankind proves exactly the reverse, that the interests of nations have been constantly not only sacrificed to the passions and fanaticism of man, but even to the caprices of woman. The most stupendous events in the world's changes have been brought about by causes so trivial, except in their results, as to appear almost ludicrous. Why, I think it probable that if you had never been born James Buchanan had never been President. I do not mean to say that your advent was a trivial accident, but I do say, that the election of James Buchanan to the Presidency has been more fruitful of evil to this land than any other event that has transpired for fifty years. I acquit you of the *crime*, but charge you guilty of the *act*.

You contrast the Abolition "sentiment" at the North against the use of articles produced by slave labor with the Southern movement, to abjure Northern manufactures and importations. There is really no similitude. The one was a *mere sentiment*, which, in its indulgence, required a great sacrifice of *personal interest*. The other is a vital principle, the exercise of which would immensely subserve Southern interests, and the practice of which, in the minds of many, involves the very existence of Southern society and public safety, with a large majority of those who participate in it. This movement is a conservative one. They believe that a withdrawal of Southern patronage from the North would so *disturb* the prosperity of the North as to bring out the conservative feeling there, and cause an agitator to be hunted as is now an Abolitionist in the South. That when they see that higher-law preachers, and disunionists for conscience' sake, stop your factory wheels, blow out your furnace blasts, and paralyze the manufacturer's arm, you will treat him in the same way that we do one in our own midst, who threatens to diminish the production of cotton, rice, and sugar, fires our buildings, and jeopardizes our safety—you'll treat them either to tar and feathers, or a gallows, as they may deserve.

We honestly believe in the South that there is a deep-seated, wide-spread determination in a majority of the people North and East to overthrow and destroy the institution of slavery; and we also believe that this cannot be done without a servile war and all its inconceivable horrors; and you may be assured that the movements now transpiring in the South have their origin in causes altogether above and beyond any idea of commercial advantage or political supremacy. The South is now driven to the wall, and only desires to be let alone; she cannot now recede an inch, or even stand still. She has never claimed more than the Constitution conceded as to slave property, and this claim has only been theoretically recognised; and now she finds, perhaps too late, that her safety enjoins her to *demand* all that she is entitled to *practically*.

I, like yourself, believe in the existence of the Union. It may be that it is to be more firmly cemented through the turmoils, suffering, and degradation of a dissolution. But that, if so, its broken fragments will be again reunited into a more solid structure; that some great being, a whole head and shoulders above common humanity, will spring into place, and shape our destiny, I have no doubt. It cannot be that God will permit our final destruction—will permit disunion; for disunion and disintegration is but another name *for political death*.

There is a great deal in your two articles affording material for further comment; but I will abstain for the present, hoping, in conclusion, that you will no longer believe the South to be merely maneuvring. It is a great error, and to propagate such an error is a great crime.

UNION.

Our correspondent, "Union," writes frankly and boldly, but not conclusively. He makes our articles of the 3d and 4th insts., upon the commercial relations of the North and South, the subject of his strictures, but he does not undertake the refutation of our argument, otherwise than by a broad denial of its soundness, and by the assertion of an opposite doctrine without furnishing its necessary proofs. Nor does he exactly understand our main proposition. We said that "the trade between the North and the South is based upon the interests of both sections, and this fact affords a guarantee of its continuance, (the continuance of *this trade*,) which no popular animosities, sectional tumults, or demagogical appeals can affect so long as the original basis which established it remains, as an incentive to its perpetuation." We did not say, or intend to imply, that the maintenance of the political union of the two sections depends upon, or is insured by the persistency of their commercial relations. Trade maintains itself independently of national confederacies. The United States trades with all the outside world. Political connections or separations, sympathies or antipathies, have no power to determine its career, or to prescribe its range. This is the point which we made; it is a plain one, and we need not rehearse its proofs, but we may restate, and apply it. As the commercial relations of the present Union with Great Britain do not now, and never did, rest upon our political union, with that kingdom, so the commercial relations of the North and South are not based upon the union between them and cannot be destroyed by its dissolution. Prohibitory regulations could disturb, and an actual war between the States would suspend, their trade, temporarily, but by force of its own laws it would again return to its natural channels. The Confederacy is a matter of compact, and owes its existence to the will of the parties, but the trade between its members obeys laws which they can neither make nor unmake.

Nor is our respondent any happier or sounder in his reliance upon the frivolousness of the causes which have one time or another been credited with giving rise to wars and revolutions. We are aware that a spark may explode a magazine; that the caprice of a king, or of his concubine, may shake a nation to pieces; for, "behold," saith the text, "how great a matter a little fire kindleth"—that is, when the matter is combustible; but we do not, therefore, infer that a lucifer match will set a river a-fire. "The history of the world teaches" nothing of this kind. It is nothing new or wonderful for despotic and dissolute rulers to disregard the interests of a nation, but a free and intelligent people, who actually govern themselves, never go crazy all at once. Our friend cannot find an example, or demonstrate the probability, of such a case. On the contrary, he thinks that a dissolution of the Union would result in a better and more secure reconstruction of the Confederacy. He evidently believes with us, that the laws which have induced it will maintain or restore it. In effect he does not contradict the conclusion, as he really does not impugn the reasoning on which we rest its continuance. We differ only in this, that he gives more weight to the threat of an impossibility than we do. On this point we stand thus: he knows that the laws of trade rule their subjects absolutely by their own proper force, but because people have done very foolish things, they can do impossible ones; and, that they may do practicable follies, which they know will be undone again as soon as they are done. In these things he speaks like an oracle for the whole tribe of dissolutionists. He betrays them, and endorses us. There is, therefore, nothing between us on these two points—the laws that govern our commercial relations, and those which bind us together politically—to dispute about.

He makes a better point—a better-looking point, at first sight, of the effect of non-intercourse and threatened dissolution upon the conservatism of the North; but he overlooks the fact that that vein has been worked to its uttermost productiveness all the while that the controversy has been raging. We mobbed our Abolitionists ferociously twenty-five years ago, tarred and feathered them, dispersed their assemblies, and burnt their halls, as he suggests for present practice, and for the very reasons which he proposes to supply, but without any of the excellent results to be desired from them. Moreover, this way of securing Southern trade and preserving the Union is not, by any means, so necessary or urgent now as it was then. The anti-slavery sentiment of the North was stronger and more radical in 1820 than in 1830, and through every successive decade to the present hour, it has been steadily abating in the rigor of its doctrines, temper, and demands. Every free State in the Union resisted the admission of Missouri, by the unequivocal and almost unanimous resolutions of its Legislature, representatives and people, *en masse*, standing firmly upon the restriction doctrine of the ordinance of 1787, and applying it to all new States and Territories. CLAY's compromise conquered a concession, and 36 degrees 30 minutes divided the domain and the doctrines of the resistants for the next following thirty years. In the meantime Texas was annexed, and Northern Mexico was acquired, and the North contracted its doctrine to the dimensions of what was left of its requirements. It accepted the compromises of 1850, submitted to the repeal of the proviso in 1851, and finally, to all intents and purposes, abolished it by a unanimous vote of all its representatives in Congress, upon the Montgomery-Crittenden amendment to the Lecompton Constitution. The North has been busy these forty years in abolishing its Abolitionism, and it has at last almost entirely succeeded. Virginia accomplished the same work a little earlier, indeed, but it is not to be forgotten that in 1832 her Legislature came very near abolishing slavery; and the sentiment of her citizens, which opposed the system, persisted at least until her last-elected Governor endorsed Dr. RUFFNER's anti-slavery book. There is nothing now left standing in the precedents, statutes, or judicial decisions of the Federal Government against either the rights or wrongs, the chances or claims, of the slaveholding people of the Union, and there is nothing inimical to their constitutional, economical, or political rights threatened by the people or the official representatives of the free States. There is no sentiment, no organization, no projected movement among us worth the cost of a single coat of tar and feathers, expended for the security of the South.

All that ever was *substantial* in the complaints or in the apprehensions of the South has been thus completely removed; but our friend's notion that very trivial matters may convulse a nation, producing very distressing immediate effects, has some support in the consequences of JOHN BROWN's raid at Harper's Ferry. The South, we are assured, is alarmed; "the very existence of society" there is imperilled. What, or who endangers it? Does she fear a servile insurrection? She says, no; and her remedy—dissolution and non-intercourse—is in testimony that this is not the danger she fears. Is it an armed invasion by the people of the North that she apprehends? Nobody will say yes to this inquiry. The thing is simply preposterous. It will not bear talking about. The North, and more particularly the political party in the North which the South holds to be an anti-slavery party, is this day more frightened by that invasion of Virginia, than the South professes to be. If the South will but exercise the wisdom and prudence which the awakened conservatism of our masses invites and warrants, the next Congressional and Presidential elections will quiet this whole question forever. We will go further. If Mr. BUCHANAN had kept his pledges in the matter of Kansas, the Republican party would by this time have been utterly extinguished, JOHN BROWN would not have been heard of, and HELPER's book would have been as inoffensive as JEFFERSON's notes on Virginia. It is our heaviest charge against Mr. BUCHANAN, that in violating all the pledges which he made to us and we made for him, in the canvass which elected him, he has done all this evil, and all that is to follow until it shall be remedied by a better man, and wiser and better measures.

The "guilt" with which our friend charges us, or the blunder—which in politics is held to be worse than crime—which we committed in working so earnestly for the election of that perfidious man has been deeply repented for. Under heavy penance we have obtained our own forgiveness, and by works meet for repentance we are endeavoring to earn the pardon of all whom we have offended. That campaign was in itself a success, full of the most cheering assurances for us now—assurances which all the mischiefs following upon it cannot shake. It was the triumph of that very conservatism to which we look now for the redemption of the nation and the establishment of its future peace and prosperity. Let the South recover its mother-wit, gird up its courage, and unite with us upon practical men and measures; and in the next trial she shall see how "out of this nettle Danger, we will pluck the flower Safety." The honest and reliable conservatism of the North is sufficiently wakened up for good service now,—what more can be scared up is nothing but calculations upon our supposed commercial cowardice. The threats of dissolution and non-intercourse, pushed beyond reasonable or excusable measure, can awaken nothing but defiance from the manhood of our people. Carried further, they will enlist nothing but a miserable rabble of hucksters, who will be the first to subscribe liberally to supply insurgent slaves with gunpowder, pikes, and provisions, when the two sections of our country are forced by extreme measures into hostility, commercial, political, or warlike. Every such measure will merely demoralize the North, and weaken the party in it who would otherwise be abundantly able to take care of the just rights and interests of the South. The balance of power between the two sections lies in the central belt of States, of which Pennsylvania is the principal in power and steadiness of devotion to the Constitution, and the general welfare under it. We appeal to the past. If the South cannot point to the time when we have failed to do our duty, will she venture to name the time or circumstances in which we shall fail?

We speak advisedly in all that we report of our position and purposes, and we ask our overexcited friends to do us justice; to threaten nothing which they do not intend to do; and to undertake nothing against us which they cannot accomplish.

Our *personal* friend, "Union," thinks he sees a difference between the "mere sentiment" which induced some of our Abolitionists to abstain from the use of slave products and "the principle" that puts the patriotism of the South upon a similar abstinence from the products and trade of the North. We can see no such difference between a sentiment and a principle, which are alike opposed to an interest and a necessity. The free-labor consumer found his policy impracticable to any purpose. He found that he could not starve the slaveholder into submission; and discovered, moreover, that with the help of every man and woman in all the free States of the Union, he must fail, for there was all Europe open to the trade of the South; and that very England which had abolished slavery in all her islands, and opened Canada as a refuge for fugitive slaves, to his surprise was enjoying the most harmonious commercial relations with the South in all the products of slave labor. The inherent laws of business ruled as absolutely against his enterprise as a protest, and as a measure of propagandism, as against its practical success in its ultimate object. He sucked sap-sugar devoutly in despite of Louisiana, for a while, but Havana and New Orleans slipped into his tea-cup through the refineries of anti-slavery England, and Senator MASON will not get his second Virginia pepper-and-salt dress coat until a Pennsylvania twill will be detected in its texture.

There is another thing to be considered in relation to the troubles that are upon us, and their prospective settlement. The pressure of hostilities against the North, for the purpose of arousing its conservatism, must have exactly the same effect upon the South. Make the threat dangerous enough to disturb us, and the Unionists of every State beyond the line will be aroused. This has more than once happened already. Senator HAMMOND was frank enough to say that the South itself should have kicked the Lecompton Constitution out of Congress. Very soon we shall hear similar things said of HELPER's book and JOHN BROWN's raid. An incendiary duodecimo and an insane foray of a score of desperadoes, are rather too *trivial* to explode a nation, to establish manufactures in the tropics, or put Boston, New York, and Philadelphia under embargo. The Berlin and Milan decrees with which NAPOLEON blockaded Continental Europe did not put out the furnace fires of Great Britain. They smoked him out. From all of which, and from all other instances in the world's history, we learn that business is ruled by business principles, and is not subject to the passions or caprices of men. There is but one remedy, as there is but one cause, for all our present troubles. Our curse is in the men and measures of the present Executive Administration of the Union. Our duty as patriots, and our welfare as a people, require the exposure and the expulsion of the great criminal and his confederates from office, the condemnation and reversal of his policy, and thereby the restoration of the confidence and harmony which he has destroyed.

Supposed Reply of President Buchanan to Jas. Gordon Bennett.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1860.

My Dear Sir: I would have answered your letter received here on the second instant before this, but for the reason that I had a severe fall on the ice the other day, which rather shook my *nerves*, and I *was* compelled to go through the wearisome process of receiving the people on New Year's day, according to custom. The absence of yourself and your "delightful family," was the only thing to mar the happiness of the day. I was compensated, however, by the attentions of Mr. Grund, Mr. Shaw, and the titled Brown-e, of the *Constitution*. As the Chevalier Wikoff has arrived, I have no doubt that I will have the pleasure of taking him and you by the hand in the course of a few days, when we will together discuss the past and speculate upon the future over a glass of Madeira.

I write this on the Sabbath anniversary of the victory of New Orleans. Why did I not follow the example of General Jackson? Why did I not adhere to my solemn declarations in favor of the Union? Why did I ever yield to the fire-eaters—the men who resisted my nomination at Cincinnati, and who so coldly acquiesced in my election? Why did I ever take into my counsel and confidence such men as William B. Reed, of Pennsylvania, who have been, through life, not merely the enemies, but the traducers of "Old Hickory?" Why did I not throw myself upon the people for vindication against the politicians? Alas, my dear sir, these are questions they I have more than once asked myself. These are questions that will occur to me to-day as I sit under my Presbyterian clergyman. These are questions that will whisper to me like the voice of an unappeased conscience at my bedside—that will follow me like shadows in the day, and surround me like apparitions in the night. They are, indeed, ever-present admonitions and reproaches, and if my administration is (as it is) a failure, it is only because I have refused to obey the great example of that noble man, who, strong in himself, made himself unconquerable by his truth. In private life, his courage in public life, and his sincere devotion to the Union at all times.

Your letter is so frank that I feel tempted to follow your example, and to be equally frank in return. I am so far entered into the bargain with you that I cannot retreat, but candor compels me to say that the moment I yielded to Wikoff, and agreed to overlook your falsehoods against me, I committed the great blunder of my life. I did not know how odious you were. I supposed that you boasted circulation of the *Herald* all over the Union, and your large wealth (I have great respect for rich men) would enable you to do me a great deal of good. My whole course of life had been devotion to my own interests, fear of my enemies, and *distrust of my friends. These motives led me to* think that Wikoff was right when he came to me and stated that you were anxious to support my Administration for a consideration; but, as I said I have made a fearful mistake. I have lost by your support. In trying to serve "myself" by permitting you to enter my household, I have really injured "myself." My fear of you was proverbial to be unfounded, because I now know of no journalist who is read more widely and despised more heartily. To crown all, the fact that I had taken you, as you say, "to my arms," has driven off every true friend I have heretofore possessed, excepting those in office under me, or who entertain certain expectations; and I hear that all of these either hold me in bitter contempt, or secretly laugh at and denounce me.

You know, Bennett, how my first attempt to bring you into my confidence was resisted by the Democrats of Pennsylvania. There was not one who did not protest against it. You had cheated the Democracy and betrayed "Old Hickory" in your first newspaper enterprise in Philadelphia, and you had devoted yourself for so many years to personal abuse of me, that it was very hard to convince the men who have really put me where I am, that any reconciliation between you and me was not something like a reconciliation between the puritan and the blackleg. There was not a single Democrat at my own home in Lancaster who did not look upon you as one of the greatest scoundrels that ever lived, and who did not stare at me with amazement when I proposed to bring you over. There was scarcely a Democratic editor throughout the country who did not think that I had personally insulted him by taking such a knave as you by the hand. All the ladies of my acquaintance preferred to the first manifestation of an attempt to tolerate you about the White House as a monstrous hallucination. And, *in confidence*, those nearest and dearest to me protested against it as an insult to every honorable consideration and every delicate sensibility.

But if you had abused me, Bennett, I had also very bitterly abused you. It is true, as Forney says, that I "would have given a cool five hundred dollars to any man who had gone to New York and taken off your worthless ears from your worthless head," after your brutal attack upon a lamented lady, now deceased, and your no less brutal intimation that I had attempted my life in consequence of the melancholy death of that lady.

I had talked, publicly and privately, to everybody, about your attacks upon Forney, on account of his Forrest letter, and characterized them as the attacks of a fiend. I had defended him against you at my own, as well as at his table, and everywhere else. I had denounced your attempt to disgrace me, in reference to the exposure of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, during Mr. Polk's Administration, as the work of a reckless reprobate. But I had passed my word to Wikoff, and, having broken my pledges to my friends, I resolved I would not break them to my foes; and, therefore, I went to Washington from Wheatland, determined to stand by you. When I arrived there, imagine my consternation when I found all the Southern gentlemen *against you*—particularly the Virginians. Independent spirits like Pryor, John Forsyth, and the Charleston *Mercury*—not to speak of the newspapers published here—greeted the bare suspicion that I intended to cultivate friendly relations with such a creature as you as an insult to the South, and a disgrace to the country.

I now regret that I induced you to republish Forney's Forrest letter, because it is evident that he will be able to defend himself—particularly if he ascertains that I did show to good you word to print it. I repeat, that I have gone further to injure Forney for that letter, than any other man in the country. I did so at Lancaster, I did so at London, I did so at Washington; and if I had for a moment recalled this fact, I would not have committed the mistake of requesting your correspondent to induce you to copy it.

What renders my present relations with you more disagreeable, is the fact that you continue to abuse my Cabinet, while praising me. I have told you that I have little confidence in any of the men composing the Cabinet, inasmuch as all of them, excepting the venerable CASS, are candidates for the Presidency, and I would like to continue four years longer myself. But your panegyrics look, either as if you owned me, body and soul—as the devil owned Dr. Faustus—or as if I had made a bargain with you to induce you to attack my Cabinet. Matters are rendered worse, too, by your ridicule of the Washington *Constitution* and General Bowman, and my dilapidated Irish nobleman, Brown-e. I would advise that in your future comments (which I trust you will continue) against my Cabinet and the *Constitution*, you will not be quite so severe as you have been.

Since I have written the above, Jinks has come in with *The Press*, of yesterday, in which, to my horror, I find that your letter to me, of the first has been made public. I can well imagine the effect it will produce upon all those who resisted my recognition of you at the beginning of my Administration. I have no heart to write more at present. After I have seen Grund and conferred with a few of my friends, I will write you more fully.

Ought not this letter to be signed, dear Bennett, affectionately yours,

JAMES BUCHANAN.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Jan 8, 1860.

This is the forty-fifth anniversary of the victory of New Orleans—a day which has generally been *faithfully celebrated in the city of Washington*; but since Mr. Buchanan mounted into the Presidential chair, the example of Jackson has fallen into contempt. His motto was "The Union must and shall be preserved." Southern man as he was, he throttled the enemies of the Confederacy in South Carolina, and broke them down in every Southern State, telling them, in plain terms, that they should swing as high as Haman if they laid irreverent hands upon the *Union*. The consequence was that he nationalized Democracy, crushed out fanaticism in the free States, and made the Constitution irresistible, because he applied its provisions to every section alike. Mr. Buchanan, while full of abundant professions of admiration of Jackson's Administration, seems to have acted upon the reverse principle. He has put on and put off his opinions as readily as he has put on and put off his own coat. He has been all things to all men—for the North one day, and for the South the next; and, to crown the column of his inconsistency, has, at last, surrendered to the organized and public enemies of the Confederacy. If General Jackson had gone into the Presidency in March of 1857, his noble soul would have revolted against the attempt to force upon the people of Kansas a slave State against their will. He would have kept his word to Robert J. Walker and Frederick P. Stanton. He would have adhered to the gallant friends who had clung to his standard all their lives with unyielding constancy and loyalty, and would have regarded his own written word as his bond. Although no formal notice is taken here of the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans, the precepts and the practice of Andrew Jackson have sunk deeply into the American heart, and will never be forgotten. Millions of free men this day will talk over the prominent events of his life, and the great lesson he left to posterity, with gratitude and with praise.

It is now almost reduced to a certainty that no election of Speaker of the House of Representatives can be effected until the plurality rule shall be adopted. Mr. Hickman has repeatedly attempted to offer that proposition, but every obstacle has been thrown in his way by the Administration leaders, although it is notorious that a decided majority of the House is ready to vote for it. I have stated, on the best authority, that [illegible] of them, with an invitation to a private view, on Saturday evening, of Garstaldi's painting of "Parisina" and C. Lucy's Government Prize Painting of "The Pilgrim Fathers." The inclemency of weather prevented our seeing these works of art. Garstaldi, we understand, has realized the heroine of Byron's poem of "Parisina." Mr. Lucy's picture we have seen and can speak of decidedly. It won a high prize, if we recollect rightly, offered by the British Government, and fixed the artist's name high among the leading painters of the age. It was painted in 1847, and represents the moment when the venerable Pastor Robinson prays with the Pilgrims, at Delft-Haven, ere they sailed for Southampton when they departed for America. Patton's History of the United States says, "The night before their departure [from Delft-Haven] was passed in religious intercourse: as the morning dawned, they prepared to go on board the ship. On the shore they all knelt, and the venerable Robinson led them in prayer—they heard his voice for the last time." This is the action, this is the moment seized by the painter, and he tells the story with his pencil—the great test of composition. These paintings are on view at the Academy of Fine Arts, and we are confident that they will be extensively visited by the public of this city.

HERRING'S "VILLAGE BLACKSMITH."—This original oil painting, which will be one of the prizes of the ensuing drawing of the Cosmopolitan Art Union, has been on view, gratis, at the store of Messrs. E. H. Hunt & Co., northwest corner of Fifth and Chestnut streets, the office of the Union in this city. It will be taken back to New York this evening, and will not again be seen here unless some Philadelphian draws it as a prize. An engraving from this fine painting was given, with the *Art Journal*, and other advantages, to every subscriber last year. This time the engraving is Faed's "Shakspeare and His Friends." Messrs. Hunt & Co. are agents to the Art Association, whose drawing will take place at the end of the month, and can supply the engravings on receiving the subscription, which is only three dollars to the public we say, whether you subscribe or not, go and see "The Village Blacksmith."

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

THREE DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

THE STEAMSHIP ARABIA AT NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—The steamship Arabia has arrived, with Liverpool dates to Saturday, the 21th ult.

The mails by the Arabia will be despatched south in the morning.

The Arabia passed, in the river Mersey, the ship Wyoming, from Philadelphia, bound in, and also the steamship America. On Sunday evening, the 25th ult., she passed the steamship Europa, bound to Liverpool.

General Comonfort is among the passengers by the Arabia.

The steamship Circassian, from Portland, arrived at Liverpool on the 22d ult.

It is stated that the 19th of January has been fixed for the meeting of the European Congress.

The report that the Pope claims the presidency of the Congress for his plenipotentiary is denied.

The Sources was irregular on the 23d ult. but closed firm at 70f. 50c

A vague unconfirmed rumor prevailed of an outbreak in Hungary.

The Spaniards have again repulsed the Moors in Morocco, entailing heavy losses.

The overland mail, with Calcutta dates to Nov. 23d, and Shanghae to the 19th, has been telegraphed to London. There is no news of importance.

THE PEACE CONGRESS.

Count Avigdor, the representative of the Republic of San Marino, is at Paris, and has presented a memorandum to Count Walewski, addressed to the Congress, protesting against the encroachments of Piedmont.

The nomination of the Marquis of Auvergne as the second French plenipotentiary to the Congress, has given great satisfaction to the friends of Italy.

A Paris dispatch of the 23d says that the French Government had, by telegraph, informed the Powers concerned that the opening of the Congress would not take place before January 19th.

The Marquis Antonini, and the Chevalier Canofari, have been appointed first and second plenipotentiaries from Naples.

ENGLAND.

The London *Herald*, the organ of the Conservative party, has announced that a complete and comprehensive reform bill is to appear in the Conservative *Press and Magazine*, and that in the event of the postponement of the promised Ministerial reform bill, or its proving unacceptable to the Constitutional party, the bill to be published will be immediately brought before the House of Commons.

Lord Palmerston has been making speeches, highly eulogistic of the volunteer movement.

The steamer Great Britain was spoken December 14, all well, which confirms the correction that the report of her having foundered at sea is a base hoax.

The wife of J. H. Gurney, a member of Parliament, has eloped with one of her family domestics. She is a lady possessed of half a million sterling in her own right.

The Belgian Government has agreed to forward mails for Canada and the United States by the Canadian steamers as well as by the Cunard line. It is supposed that the German Postal League will adopt a similar arrangement.

THE LATEST.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 24.—A Madrid despatch dated yesterday says that the Moors attacked the Spanish troops on the road to Tetuanin order to obstruct the progress of the works, but they were victoriously repulsed. The Spanish had 4 killed and 40 wounded. All the works have now been completed.

Albert Smith is reported in a precarious state from an apoplectic attack.

Hong Kong advices to Nov. 15th, received by the overland mail, report the rate of exchange as having declined about 1½ per cent. The prices of tea were firmer; silks showed an opposite tendency.

THE EUROPEAN CONGRESS.

Prince Gortschakoff has expressed a desire that the opening of the Congress should take place after the commencement of the Russian new year, (January 13,) as he will be detained on that day at his court, by the duties of his office.

ENGLAND.

In reply to the recently presented memorial from English merchants trading with Mexico, for protection of their interests, Lord John Russell says that her Majesty's Government are endeavoring to come to some understanding with the other Powers respecting the advice to be offered, and assure the memorialists no opportunity will be lost of interfering, by counsel, with a view to bring about a termination of the present devastating and sanguinary war. He further alludes to the difficulty of ascertaining which is the *de facto* Government, as Great Britain and France withdrew the President who has his session of Mexico, and the United States another President at Vera Cruz.

A deputation from the Peace Society had had an interview with Lord John Russell. The memorial presented recommended measures at the mouth of the Peiho, the warlike preparations, the conduct of the officers generally, and concluded by deprecating further hostilities.

Mr. W. H. Ward, of Auburn, New York, has been viewing Woolwich dockyard, before the arrival of Commodore Hiram Paulding, with his improvements on his original "Ocean Marine Telegraph." The improvements were admitted by the Commodore to be exceedingly satisfactory.

FRANCE.

The pamphlet entitled, "The Pope and the Congress," signed by M. de Lagueronnière, had been published without the sanction of the Ministers in France and England, as it was believed to express the sentiments of the Emperor Napoleon. The pamphlet is written in a spirit of conciliation and compromise, and although it does not propose to take away the temporal power of the Pope, it advocates the retirement of them, and urges that the Romagna should not be returned to the Papal dominion.

The Paris *Constitutionnel*, in an article signed by its principal editor, approves, in general, the contents of the pamphlet, but declares, however, its intention to combat some of the propositions made by the author.

The London *Times* will contain a leader on the subject by saying: "On the whole, we have read this pamphlet with considerable satisfaction. It is very probable that the Emperor of the French has been for some time hesitating between Austria and England, between a liberal and a reactionary policy; but we read in these sentences a promise of a cordial understanding between the two countries in the coming deliberations. We have arrived, though by very different courses, at the same pr. ciple of conclusion.

"We leave objects to cavil on forms and ceremonies, enough for us if there is a reasonable probability that the Emperor of Russia will be found, at the Congress, able to join in defence of the rights of the Italian people, and that Protestant England will find a hearty and efficient ally in the Emperor of Catholic France."

The *Morning Post* questions if the Pope will accept the new position assigned him by the French Emperor, and asks, should he refuse, how far will his refusal be supported by the other Catholic States.

The *Daily News* says the opinion expressed in the pamphlet on the question of restoring the Romagna to the Pope, will be approved by the British Government and people. France will not use force to compel a people to submit to a Government which their will rejects, and she will not permit Austria to interfere.

The *Morning Herald* says the Emperor has taken a wise and manly course. On the eve of the Congress, he has lifted the veil which has hitherto shrouded his policy on the Italian question, and Europe will learn with satisfaction that France is true to the principles which she expressed at the outset of the late war.

The French war steamer Dorgesselin, while trying her screw-propeller, ran on a rock, and rapidly sank in deep water.

The Emperor had conferred the Grand