The Press.

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 1860.

FIRST PAGE.—Modern Italian Fiction; Letter from a Student at Georgetown College; Letter from New York; Personal and Political; Latest News by Telegraph; The City. FOURTH PAGE—List of Letters remaining in the Philadelphia Post Office; Marine Intelligence.

The Latest from Washington.

Our last advices from the seat of the Federal Government lead us to hope for a speedy organization of the House. The political considerations heretofore paramount in originating and maintaining the shameful scenes that have disgraced the popular branch of Congress since the first Monday in December, are rapidly giving way before the alarming prospect of another financial collapse. The demands of the public creditors, and the situation of the Federal Treasury, added to the extreme tightness of money, begin seriously to affect all classes of business men; and the threats of Disunion, so frequently and flippantly made, seriously operate against American securities and American credit in foreign countries. The organization of the House would at once set the Government in motion, relieve the public creditors, and put a large amount of money into circulation. In order to accomplish an object so desirable, personal feeling, and even party pride, are wholly secondary. *Any* organization is better than the continuance of this chaotic confusion, which was lightly regarded by the people, until it began to affect their dearest interests, and the most sacred reputation of the nation. LET THE HOUSE BE ORGANIZED!

Northern Cowardice.

The Administration, having exhausted argument, and been foiled at every point by the sound logic of such Representatives as HICKMAN and HASKIN, at last falls back upon the *ultima ratio regum*, and evinces, it would appear, a determination to bring all questions to arbitrament on the plan of the ancient and almost forgotten Roman gladiatorial arena. In this view, late events and discussions upon the floor of the House of Representatives compel us to the reflection that one ingredient of character is lacking in those who speak for the North in that body. Heretofore, the people of the free States, in their selection of legislators, have considered it primarily necessary that their Representatives should be learned in the Constitution, and the laws—that they should be versed in the parliamentary rules that control deliberative bodies—that they should know well the interests of the whole Union, and every section of it, and be ready to do even and exact justice to them all; and that, above all, they should be pure in personal character, high in gentlemanlike courtesy, and filled with profound devotion to the Union of the States. It is with reluctance we admit that these characteristics of true statesmanship have become worthless and out of date, and that we must mend our ways, else our Representatives will become mere manikins and automata in the halls of the National Legislature. We must begin to take lessons from the brute creation, and learn that mere muscle and pure physical force, like those of the bull-dog, are far superior qualifications in the statesmen of this day to the mental acquirements we have already recited. We know that the student who has been brought up with a distaste and horror of personal combat, and who comes from a people where such things are looked upon as worthy of civil and criminal disabilities, is no match for him whose life has been spent amid bloody brawls and deadly personal rencontres. The *habitué* of the pistol gallery from early youth is certainly, in such contests, the superior of the man who has been educated in the belief that personal combat was only worthy of the Dark Ages.

And since the necessities of the time demand it, there seems to be but one alternative left for Northern consideration. We desire, therefore, to propose an addition to the usual qualifications for a Northern Representative. We suggest that the Northern States shall hereafter choose, from those of their people whose habits and profession have placed them high upon the roll of the "fancy," and so make them fit colleagues for those who are sent there for the purpose of civilized legislation. It shall be the duty of these new Representatives to hold themselves, on all occasions, in readiness for combat, whether upon the floor of the House or upon the more elevated stage of the duelling ground. New York, for want of a better, might send "the Benicia Boy," now absent on a congenial mission in England, and Pennsylvania, borrowing from the superfluity

New York, might send MORRISSEY, or MULLIGAN, or any others of that gladiatorial *corps*, at this time so efficient in sustaining Mr. BUCHANAN'S Administration. It shall be the duty of these *gentlemen* to fight on the slightest provocation, or, for want of any, to create it—to fight either with the "daddies," or the "long bunch of fives," wherein the danger would not extend beyond a bloody nose or a black eye, or, if a more sanguinary result is demanded, with the sword, pistol, or double-barrelled gun, of course including the novel refinement of the navy revolver. They shall be willing to "sink point" on the "first blood drawn," or to carry the matter *a l'outrance*. If it be objected that the gentlemen named have not the *sangre azule*, or are not of the pure human porcelain, then there are to be found in all our fashionable clubs a number of young patricians, who boast of their achievements in arms, and, discarding all knowledge of American politics, are fond of criticising the actions of our legislators. From this variegated list may be selected candidates for Congress in the respective districts upon the same platform. And, in addition to other appropriations from the treasury vaults which this patriotic Administration is asking, we suggest one for the construction of an arena, to adjoin the Congressional burying-ground, a coliseum, upon the Roman model, which will afford ample accommodation to the spectators who come to witness the doings of our national rulers and agents. Members of Congress should have front seats, and citizens, as in the galleries of the House of Representatives, other seats, but not so far removed as to obstruct the view, nor so near as to interfere with those more nearly interested than themselves. It should be a standing order of the House that, a fight once agreed upon, the members should instanter adjourn to witness the exhibition.

Our glorious Republic has been an example for all the civilized nations of the globe, and, in this suggested reform, we will, of course, be imitated by England and by France. In these countries, (if not in the secession South, at the instigation of the Administration, where the privilege has fallen into disuse,) freedom of speech is allowed. In the French Senate and the British Parliament, courtesy, and high breeding, and intellectual gifts, stand first, but if the innovation indicated be made here with us, no doubt Queen VICTORIA and Emperor NAPOLEON III will decree its establishment for more vigorous and healthy legislation under their rule. It is true that only lately France has terribly punished the unhappy lieutenant who was so unlucky as to run Monsieur DE PENE through the body, because he had offended in the discussion of a political question in his newspaper, and that England has ever held the practice in such deep detestation, as to have met it with such vigorous retribution, as to have driven it, disgraced, beyond the pale of decent society. But we must hope that our bright example will persuade these semi-barbarous nations to follow obediently in our wake.

Seriously, and *badinage* apart, has it come to this that the North is to be stigmatised by the South as wanting that element which so commends the soldier and the gentleman? Has there ever been a time in the history of this country when the North showed that it lacked that vulgar attribute of humanity, more physical courage? "Go back to the first gun that flashed at Lexington and Concord, and to the last sword that gleamed at Chepultepec." Upon land and sea the North has signalized her courage in defence of her rights and those of the country. From the day that WARREN fell at Bunker Hill to the hour which saw the lamented LAWRENCE go down into the hospital of his ship bleeding from a mortal wound—from the day that HULL and BAINBRIDGE and DECATUR hoisted the American flag triumphant over the trailing British ensign—from the hour that SCOTT rode victorious over hosts of discomfited Mexicans—from then, till now, the North has never yet failed to give proof by her sailors and her soldiers of as much desperate valor as was ever displayed by the fiercest Southern Hotspur of them all.

We have no desire to remind the South of the devotion of Pennsylvania to the Union; we have no wish to recall to her the fact that in this city the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed, and the Constitution itself constructed; nor yet to revive the recollections of the battles of the Revolution fought in the neighborhood of Philadelphia. As Mr. WEBSTER said of Lexington and of Bunker Hill, in his defence of Massachusetts, against Mr. HAYNE—"the past, so far as these are concerned, is at least secure." But we do desire to speak of the living present. In the Mexican war there were more regiments *offered to defend the South, and vindicate the honor of the country*, in a battle fought for Southern interests—growing out of the annexation of Texas to this Union—more regiments offered by Pennsylvania, and refused by the Federal Government, than were offered by all the Southern States put together. Not this alone; but the glorious "Old Dominion" herself, through some of her bravest sons, was not ashamed to come to Pennsylvania, and to eke out her feeble numbers with volunteers from the Keystone State. The names of PATTERSON, CADWALADER, WYNKOOP, BOWMAN of Luzerne, BLACK, HAMBRIGHT, ROBERTS, WUNDER, BACHMAN, ROBERT K. SCOTT, CHARLES J. BIDDLE, and thousands of others, now sleeping under the sods of the valley, are the assurances that Pennsylvania needs no vindication, either in the patriotism of her people or in her physical courage; and if we desire to cross the Delaware and to go into our sister State, New Jersey, we might recall to recollection of the South ROBERT F. STOCKTON, another Northern man, whose courage has been signalized on both continents, and who is, to-day, a strong sympathiser with the Northern sentiment against the secessionists of the South.

But we forbear. God grant that the day may never come when these memorable qualities (now slumbering and latent) preserved in history, and admitted by all candid men, must be employed for the purpose of putting down that foul spirit of disunion, which, for the first time in our annals, is being deliberately encouraged by a Federal Administration, and is running resistlessly riot in the councils of the Federal Government?

European Mail Steamers.

The last number of that excellent sporting paper, *Wilkes' Spirit of the Times*, contains the following, which we publish, because we have reason to believe that it is based upon truth, and not written in any captious spirit:

"A PUBLIC IMPOSITION.—The public are beginning to note the fact, that since the withdrawal of the Collins line of American mail steamers from the route between this city and Liverpool, the Cunard line, which has now almost a monopoly of the mail business, do not attempt to make their winter passages in less than fourteen, fifteen, and even sixteen and seventeen days. They run slow with the view of saving coal, and thus for the sum of a few hundred dollars a trip they prolong the dangers of the traveller, and abuse the business interests of the mercantile community. The mails which we usually receive through this very line by Thursday, sent the earliest Friday, during the summer (when Mr. Vanderbilt is in opposition), seldom reach us in the winter before Monday and even Tuesday of the following week. For instance, the mails by the Europa, which has just arrived, were eighteen days in finding their way from Liverpool to this city, a delay which has obliged us to postpone our publication for a day, rather than be without our special English news. This is an abuse which the press and the mercantile community should take in hand, or transfer their favor and patronage to other lines."

Unfortunately, COLLINS' line of American and European mail steamers having been withdrawn, we are very much at the mercy of the English line, out of which Sir SAMUEL CUNARD has made a fortune and won a baronetcy. Competition ended, the Cunarders take and make their own time, in the winter months, when they have comparatively few passengers, and the saving of such expensive articles as coal and coke is an object. In other seasons, when passengers are many, and the cost of their food is more than the cost of fuel, the Cunarders run as rapidly as they did when the Collins line ran against them.

Public Amusements.

ARCH-STREET THEATRE.—An hour in the Arch-street Theatre, on Saturday, convinced us of the success of the new dramatic enterprise of Messrs. Wheatley & Clarke, in giving Saturday afternoon performances. A more brilliant and interesting assemblage we have not seen during the latter days of our theatrical experience. The parquet and dress circle were densely filled with ladies and children, some score of gentlemen serving to vary the gaiety of the scene. In the upper circles, the attendance of men and boys was not so large as is customary during the evening entertainments. A more social, lively, and happy throng could scarcely be imagined. Everybody was in the most excellent temper, from the company on the stage, who were as merry as they could possibly be, to the boys in the celestial circles, who behaved with a decorum worthy of special mention. "Everybody's Friend," the running comedy, and the melodrama of the "Brigands," which we could not remain to see, were the attractions, and very attractive they were.

For this week, "Everybody's Friend" is announced, in connection with a new drama, constructed on high sensation principles, entitled "The Wizard Skiff, or the Massacre of Scio." The success of the comedy knows no abatement, and it is evidently on the bills for another fortnight, with the gratifying accompaniment of "large and increasing audiences."

WALNUT-STREET THEATRE.—Matilda Heron Stoepel concluded her engagement at this theatre on Saturday evening, by playing in her very successful character of "Lesbia," to an extremely large audience. She appeared before the curtain at the end of the play, and merely bowed farewell to the assemblage, wisely declining a very silly and extensive clamor for a speech. Mr. Wallack, whose good acting we have so often commended, and who never played better than in *Orcolo*, made a very neat address before the curtain in response to a general call. Miss Heron opens at the "Winter Garden" in New York this evening, assisted by Mr. Wallack. Her engagement here has been a wonderful and merited success, and she leaves behind her in Philadelphia a permanent popularity as a talented lady and excellent actress.

The Cooper Opera Troupe—which, the bills kindly tell us, is "universally pronounced by the musical artists of the South and West to be the finest combination of lyric artists in the Union"—is engaged at this theatre, and will commence this evening in an Anglicised edition of *Il Trovatore*. Miss Anna Milner, the *prima donna assoluta* plays *Leonora*, and Miss Annie Kemp the part of *Ines*. Mr. Cook plays the *Count Di Lyra*, Mr. Bowler the troubadour *Manrico*, and Mr. Rudolphsen *Ferrando*. Mr. H. C. Cooper will officiate as leader of the orchestra. We now give this company the benefit of an excellent reputation in the provincial cities, but shall suspend our own judgment until we have an opportunity of witnessing their capabilities.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—At the Academy this evening, the French Opera Comique, will appear. Their intention is to give us a very brief series of performances, and as they have a good reputation as actors and vocalists, the opportunity of seeing them should be embraced. The opera of "La Chatte Metamorphosé," with Mlle. Darcy in the principal character, will be given. This opera is said to have run for over 200 nights in Paris, which considering the extreme fastidiousness of Parisians in amusements, as in everything else, is an excellent recommendation of its merit. The *finale* of *Giuleta et Romeo*, with Mad'lle Anna Wissler as *Romeo*, and pretty Miss Wilkes, of the Walnut, as *Giuleta*, will also be performed. An operette, in one act, entitled "Jean Le Sot," with Mad'lle Darcy as *Marie*, will conclude the evening's entertainment. Seats may be obtained during the day at Bok & Lawton's, Chickering's, and the Academy of Music.

AT DAN RICE'S GREAT SHOW, to-night, the very successful grand spectacle of the "Magic Ring," which drew immense audiences during the whole of last week, will be played, in connection with tight-rope dancing by Herr Cline, and varied performances in the circle.

Later from Venezuela.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

PUERTO CABELLO, Jan. 10, 1860.

On the 30th ultimo, the gang of negroes headed by the black general, Guerara, stationed in Aragua, a village about five leagues from this port, and who has kept this population in continual alarm, was attacked by the Constitutional troops by land and sea. The black general, having had six months to fortify himself in, erected strong barricades, and the Government troops were beaten off. On the 31st they again attacked him, with the same unfortunate result. On the first of January, some fresh forces having arrived from Valencia, they again returned and took the village; but unluckily, Gen. Guerara and his gang all escaped without the loss of a man, making *towards Agua Negra*, further down the coast. A more favorable result would have been obtained if Commandant Vasquirra, who had orders from the Government to attack Guerara in the rear, on the 30th ult., had arrived on that day instead of the 29th, when the enemy, only having to attend to him, beat him back by throwing out ambuscades for two leagues, by which the advancing troops were shot down from before and behind, without having even the satisfaction of seeing one of their enemies. The Commandant Adolfo Olivo, Guerara's mortal enemy, (a younger brother having been murdered by that gang,) is pursuing him and his followers. This is a most determined man, and will do everything to lay hands on Guerara. He has taken from a rancho on the mountains, Guerara's correspondence, which compromised several parties here. It is impossible to say when this country will be at peace. No sooner is one faction put down than another arises, burning, plundering, and murdering like Sepoys.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, January 20, 1860.

The action of the Charleston Convention on the 23d of April, before the Republicans assemble at Chicago in June, concerns more than the Democratic party. Whatever it may do will shape and shadow the movements of other organizations. Within the next thirty days events will have been so organized and crystalized that we shall be able to form some opinion of the final result. One thing is already apparent—several of the Southern States will secede from that Convention, should Stephen A. Douglas be nominated, or should a proposition in favor of a slave code in the Territories be rejected. Hon. William L. Yancey, by far the most extreme of the secession orators, has lately achieved a double triumph in Alabama: first, by carrying his delegates to the Charleston Convention, pledged to a slave code, and to their withdrawal in the event of the Convention refusing to recommend one; and, second, in the postponement of the Senatorial election for two years, which is a virtual defeat of Mr. Fitzpatrick, who is thus punished for manifesting a disposition to support Douglas, if nominated for President. South Carolina, which has repeatedly refused to choose delegates to National Conventions, will now elect under similar instructions. Mississippi will do the same thing, and I am informed that Texas, Louisiana, Virginia, and Georgia are expected to follow suit.

The friends of Douglas to-day, on the strength of telegraphic despatches received from Nashville, assert that they defeated the Administration on Wednesday, and, while yielding to instructions in favor of Senator Andrew Johnson for President, have secured at least half of the Tennessee delegation to Charleston for Douglas after the second or third ballot. The South will insist upon a slave code, and will also insist that Charleston shall recommend it. Judge Douglas and his adherents will gallantly take the other side, and if they can secure enough Southern votes at Charleston, they may put him on the track with a fair chance of success. In this connection, it may be mentioned that the president of the Tennessee State Convention was the Hon. George W. Jones, for many years a member of Congress from that State, who, only within the last few months, wrote a powerful letter in favor of the Douglas doctrine of popular sovereignty. I am informed by a Tennessee Democrat now here that Senator Andrew Johnson, recommended by that Convention for President, is on record in favor of the position assumed by George W. Jones, and, although extremely Southern at the present moment, has not yet deemed it necessary to recall his opinions.

A rumor, which is supposed to be entitled to credit, is now in circulation, to the effect that Mr. Bishop, present Commissioner of Patents, has resigned, or will shortly resign, his position, and return with his family to Connecticut. It is also stated that the cause of his resignation is his supposed sympathy with Judge Douglas, and that he will take strong grounds in order to secure a representation from Connecticut to Charleston, in favor of the Senator from Illinois.

Social life in Washington was unusually gay yesterday, at the various receptions. Everybody seemed to be out *riding or walking*. The foreign ministers, with the different members of their legations, called on the leading families of the city and fashion displayed itself in all its elegant proportions.

And yet, while the streets were brilliant with beauty, the galleries of the Senate and House were packed with crowds of both sexes. Where do all these people come from? They cannot, certainly, be part of the local population of Washington, for the Congressional theatre is an old show to them, and if they come from a distance they do not seem to be at the hotels, which are far from being filled. They sit for hours and hours watching the contests, listening to the dull debate, commenting upon the different speakers, and applauding and hissing proclosely as other audiences do. I tried to obtain admission into the gallery of the House today, but found it impossible—the mass was so dense.

As a specimen of the dilemma in which the House of Representatives finds itself in its efforts to choose a presiding officer, it may be remarked that some of the most singular contradictions have been presented in the votes of certain of the members. Thus we have Democrats voting for Know-Nothings, and Know-Nothings voting for Democrats; some Republicans voting for the advocate of a slave code; and while the Southern men denounce Mr. Sherman for recommending the Helper book, they call upon the Republicans to put forward Mr. Corwin or Mr. Pennington, both of whom have steadily voted for Sherman, and therefore approved his course on the Helper book.

The fact which came out in the Senate, the other day, during the discussion prior to the election for public printer of that body, that some forty thousand dollars had been paid to certain pauperized Administration newspapers, is, I am told, only one item of the record. More money than this has been expended to keep up newspapers committed to the policy of the Administration. Nobody believed that these documents came from the pockets of the President and the Cabinet. How, then, were they obtained? Of course, out of the proceeds of the public printing. It is notorious that the moment Mr. Buchanan came into the Presidency, he turned his eye to the public printing as a sort of corruption fund—that he conferred with Mr. Wendell in regard to its distribution—and that himself and the Cabinet always regarded upon it as a means by which to promote the interests of the Administration. When the Lecompton betrayal took place, Mr. Buchanan seized upon Wendell, through his agents, and compelled them to assist as sustenance to keep up those newspapers that stood ready to sanction his desertion of Democratic principles.

Just previous to the adjournment of the House yesterday, a development was made, through the instrumentality of Mr. Colfax, of Indiana, that the secessionists of the House had entered into a written agreement, wherein they pledged themselves to stand by each other, and resist, by all means within their power, the expression of the voice of the House upon the plurality rule. So unprecedented, unpatriotic, and extraordinary a combination in one of the branches of the National Legislature must have the effect of bringing down upon these secessionists the just indignation, not only of the Northern people, but of the people of the South whom they claim to represent. These same men allege that they will resist the elevation of this or that man to the Presidency without waiting for any overt act on his part in violation of the Constitution. But in this which they have taken in the House of Representatives they take the first step towards the dissolution of the Union. In the House, all questions of appropriation, of the large revenues of the Government, in reference to the Judiciary, and the creation of Territorial Governments, and all other questions, are decided by a majority vote; and now, when it is contemplated, in default of any other practicable mode for the selection of Speaker, to elect under the plurality rule, we have it deliberately avowed that a small minority of members—a minority even of their own party—are determined to resist until the bitter end the expression of the will of the majority.

Now that the fact is patent that no plurality rule will be allowed to come to a vote, and be decided by a majority of the House, under the Constitution, it is evident that the members who have been standing out for it, voting by twos and threes, should either take sides with the two great divisions of the House or remain away, so that there may be an organization at once. The moderate, conservative feeling of the South, which has been so long quiescent, begins to show its head even in South Carolina. One knows, bold, resolute spirit is responsible for one of the articles in the latest issue of the New York *Herald*. I wish to protest at once, however, that I am no obligation to respond to anything that issues from the pen or the inspiration of James Gordon Bennett. I should disparage the dignity of my position, and affront the feelings of honorable members, if I were to admit the propriety or the necessity of recognising any utterance from that notorious individual—a man who is conspicuous by the persistent and flagrant violation of all the rights and virtuous instincts of humanity; who has supplied himself with money and the means of a pernicious influence by extorting contributions from the fears of innocence and levying subsidies upon the gratitude of sympathetic and confiding villainy; a wretch who leans upon his back the scars of many a merited chastisement, and upon his soul the taint of every conceivable abomination; a miscreant who, in consenting to the dishonor of his own family and the profanation of the most sacred relation of life, has committed a crime for which no language furnishes a commensurate term of scorn and detestation; a foul and filthy creature, whose name is the execration of both continents, and from whose contact truth and virtue shrink as from the touch of leprosy; a fiend who denied the privileges of human fellowship, and exiled from the confines and charities of the social circle, is condemned to wear out the small remnant of a guilty and miserable existence in a solitude for which the wages of a prostitute press can purchase no relief and no consolation. I repeat to the House, that I would not obtrude upon their presence the image of an individual whose unutterable and unapproachable infamy distinguishes and stigmatizes him as the shame and the opprobrium of humanity.

"But I say, Mr. Clerk, I will not deny that he has some pretext of apology for his attack on me, since, in the discharge of my duty as a journalist, I had frequent occasion to lash him until even his rhinoceros hide quivered with the pangs of excoriated sensibility. Let him cast me his assaults. No gentleman can desire a more significant and satisfactory compliment than the abuse of James Gordon Bennett. His applause is an argument of suspicion; his invective is a title of honor."

NORTHERN MECHANICS AT THE SOUTH.—The Charleston *Courier* of Jan. 12th says:

"A letter was received yesterday by one of our enterprising mechanics from a Northern correspondent. The writer has desired and intended to visit the South on a business tour, but, from recent developments, he does not feel safe in going *so* without some information. As several letters of similar import have reached this city, it may be stated again that any gentleman and honest tradesman, dealer or merchant, openly and fairly pursuing a legitimate business, will be at any time safe in this State, and we believe, throughout the South. What amount of success may attend the tour is of course a different question."

A PETTY PIECE OF VANDALISM.—Some time during Saturday night, the house of Mr. Ralston, No. 410 North Fifteenth street, was covered with coal tar. No motive for the act is apparent. The author of this outrage should be measured for a suit of tar and feathers, and have a tight fit.

Annie Trevor's Thoughts—No. 4.

[For The Press.]

"WANTED—A WIFE.—I want a wife. I am a Southerner, a good-looking fellow, twenty-eight years old, tired of living single, and compelled, for want of time, to advertise. Any pretty girl with plenty of money, not over twenty, can have a chance of getting a good husband, by addressing, &c., &c."—*Daily Paper.*

That's a cool piece of business, upon my word; just a little beyond anything of its kind that ever I saw. A very modest young gentleman—too modest to look around him, I guess—wants a wife, and he'll get one, of course. It is only necessary to put such an advertisement as that in the paper and there are hosts of pretty girls, with plenty of money, who are ready to lay their hands and fortunes at the young gentleman's feet immediately! O, to be sure there are. The young gentleman probably knows that pretty girls with plenty of money don't have any proposals; he knows *they* can't get husbands, particularly good ones, unless those fellows who will make good husbands advertise for wives; so, with the most generous spirit in the world, he gives you "a chance." What a good fellow he is, to be sure! Do you appreciate his kindness, girls? Ugly girls, with no money, are not interested, consequently there is no necessity for a reply from *them*. You, whom it may concern, have too much good sense, I am sure, to let this opportunity slip, and run the risk of never having another "chance."

He is "a good-looking fellow, twenty-eight years old, tired of living single." One might suppose so. A man who has arrived at such an age ought to be tired, and he has only to say so, this "good-looking fellow," and in a very short time he will be living double, having selected from the number of ambitious young ladies, who are anxious to share his "bed and board," the prettiest and the richest, leaving innumerable others dying of envy.

That's what *he* thinks; this generous Southerner—(I wonder if he's a medical student?)—just as if pretty girls, with plenty of money, can't get husbands any time they choose to say "yes;" just as if pretty girls, without money, don't have as many proposals as they can attend to; and just as if girls, with neither beauty nor money, can't get husbands—whenever they want to be troubled with them—good husbands, too; "good-looking fellows," who, having had plenty of time to look for wives, are not obliged to set forth their merits in the newspaper.

The lady who aspires to be the wife of this dainty gentleman must have plenty of money; that is absolutely necessary. I suppose he could dispense with the beauty, if there were enough money to supply the deficiency. Or, perhaps he could dispense with the money, if there were enough beauty to supply *that* deficiency. Will he let us know? He tells us he is a "good-looking fellow." I am scarcely surprised at that. Vanity is the distinguishing characteristic of the sex. There isn't a single man alive, who has any pretensions to good looks, who doesn't walk through the streets as though his face can "take down" any other male face on the pave. If a woman should do that; if a woman should say, "I am pretty," no matter how often her glass told her so, there isn't a man alive who wouldn't call her "a conceited minx," or some other name equally expressive.

I never saw a handsome man in my life who wasn't conceited; indeed, I never saw *any* man in my life who hadn't rather a higher opinion of his appearance and capabilities than the law allows, and under these circumstances, I cannot wonder that the advertiser is "a good-looking fellow."

I would suggest an improvement in the management of these affairs, however. Let the wife-hunter appoint a meeting with all the ladies at the same time and place. He will then have a fine opportunity to examine their "points," and be better able to choose by comparison.

What say you, good-looking fellows in search of wives?

Isn't my plan a good one? ANNIE TREVOR.

An Important Movement.

FREE NEGROES LEAVING NEW ORLEANS FOR HAYTI.

[From the New Orleans Picayune Jan. 15.]

The bark Laurel, Capt. Pierce, cleared yesterday, and will leave to-day for Port-au-Prince, Hayti, having on board, as passengers, eighty-one free persons of color, who are emigrating from this State to try their chances in Hayti. These people are all from the Opelousas parishes, and all cultivators—well versed in farming, and in all the mechanical arts connected with a farm. Among them are bricklayers, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, carpenters, &c. Some of them are proficient weavers, who have long been employed making the stuff called Attakapas cottonade, so favorably known in the market. They take along with them the necessary machinery for that trade, and all sorts of agricultural and mechanical implements.

These eighty-one persons—twenty-four adults and fifty-seven children and youths—compose fourteen families, or rather households, for they are not related, and the eighty-one may be called one family. They are all in easy circumstances, some even rich, one family being worth as much as $50,000. They were all land-owners in this State, and have sold out their property with the intention of investing their capital in Hayti.

Of the various expeditions that have left New Orleans for Hayti, this is certainly the most important, from the peculiar class of emigrants, and the fact of their taking away with them a considerable amount of capital. President Geffrard's efforts to introduce civilization and re-establish order in the "Queen of the Antilles" have proved thus far successful, as one can judge from the tone of the Haytien papers, and Cook is bound to go. The President had to yield Cook, or to part with Holt; and the latter remains at the head of the Post Office Department. How to provide for Cook, and provide him from turning State's evidence, is the next question. This is to be done, I understand, by giving him a share of the public printing fund under General Bowman. A good many of the same stripe will no doubt be compensated out of the same fund. In this connection, it is stated in the streets to-day, that Mr. Wendell, who has heretofore been the Paymaster General of the Administration, has become very indignant at the treatment he has lately received from the President and the organ, and may be induced, in self-defence, to make certain interesting disclosures.

Secretary Cobb, and Collector Austin, of Boston, have had a high quarrel, and it is confidently asserted that Austin will be removed tomorrow. His real offence consists in the fact that he was badly beaten by the Douglas men in the contest for delegates to Charleston from Massachusetts, and in order to operate upon these delegates, it is now proposed to take Dr. Loring, who is one of them, and make him Collector; and this failing, to appoint John Appleton, present Assistant Secretary of State, to the place. Appleton is up here hanging here, and is known to be hungry for a more lucrative place than the one he now occupies. By this means the Administration expect to control the Boston Custom House, and to influence enough of the Massachusetts and New England delegates to oppose the Little Giant. A despatch received here yesterday, however, from Portland, Maine, may put Mr. Appleton out of this category, inasmuch as it appears that in the contest for delegate from the Portland district, a Douglas man was elected, and John Appleton defeated. There are some stirring times ahead, and as my agents are active and numerous in all the departments, I hope to be able to make my letters even more readable and racy than they have ever been.

OCCASIONAL.

SALE OF FURS THIS MORNING.—B. Scott, Jr., auctioneer, 431 Chestnut street, will sell this morning, commencing at 10½ o'clock, an assortment of fashionable furs, in sets, fine mink sable caps and muffs, fur for gentlemen's wear, fancy sleigh robes, Iliad buffalo robes, &c.

☞ The official report in the *Globe*, of Mr. Pryor's remarks in the House of Representatives, on Friday, in regard to Bonnett and the New York *Herald*, is as follows:

"Mr. PRYOR. Mr. Clerk. I am reluctant to solicit the attention of the House, even for a moment, on a matter of personal privilege; but the propriety of my rising upon the question of privilege in the latest issue of the New York *Herald*. I wish to protest at once, however, that I am no obligation to respond to anything that issues from the pen or the inspiration of James Gordon Bennett. I should disparage the dignity of my position, and affront the feelings of honorable members, if I were to admit the propriety or the necessity of recognising any utterance from that notorious individual—a man who is conspicuous by the persistent and flagrant violation of all the rights and virtuous instincts of humanity; who has supplied himself with money and the means of a pernicious influence by extorting contributions from the fears of innocence and levying subsidies upon the gratitude of sympathetic and confiding villainy; a wretch who leans upon his back the scars of many a merited chastisement, and upon his soul the taint of every conceivable abomination; a miscreant who, in consenting to the dishonor of his own family and the profanation of the most sacred relation of life, has committed a crime for which no language furnishes a commensurate term of scorn and detestation; a foul and filthy creature, whose name is the execration of both continents, and from whose contact truth and virtue shrink as from the touch of leprosy; a fiend who denied the privileges of human fellowship, and exiled from the confines and charities of the social circle, is condemned to wear out the small remnant of a guilty and miserable existence in a solitude for which the wages of a prostitute press can purchase no relief and no consolation. I repeat to the House, that I would not obtrude upon their presence the image of an individual whose unutterable and unapproachable infamy distinguishes and stigmatizes him as the shame and the opprobrium of humanity.

"But I say, Mr. Clerk, I will not deny that he has some pretext of apology for his attack on me, since, in the discharge of my duty as a journalist, I had frequent occasion to lash him until even his rhinoceros hide quivered with the pangs of excoriated sensibility. Let him cast me his assaults. No gentleman can desire a more significant and satisfactory compliment than the abuse of James Gordon Bennett. His applause is an argument of suspicion; his invective is a title of honor."

NORTHERN MECHANICS AT THE SOUTH.—The Charleston *Courier* of Jan. 12th says:

"A letter was received yesterday by one of our enterprising mechanics from a Northern correspondent. The writer has desired and intended to visit the South on a business tour, but, from recent developments, he does not feel safe in going *so* without some information. As several letters of similar import have reached this city, it may be stated again that any gentleman and honest tradesman, dealer or merchant, openly and fairly pursuing a legitimate business, will be at any time safe in this State, and we believe, throughout the South. What amount of success may attend the tour is of course a different question."

A PETTY PIECE OF VANDALISM.—Some time during Saturday night, the house of Mr. Ralston, No. 410 North Fifteenth street, was covered with coal tar. No motive for the act is apparent. The author of this outrage should be measured for a suit of tar and feathers, and have a tight fit.

☞ In a late debate in the Senate the other day, Senator Green seemed surprised at the idea that a Territorial Legislature could restrict Congress could not. The former have, as he holds, only delegated power. He seemed puzzled to meet the contrary doctrine; it was so absurd. Senator Green is a man of talent, and a good Democrat generally; but does he really hold that a Territorial Legislature can do nothing except what Congress has power to do? Can Congress charter a town or city, or a railroad company, or a bank? Can Congress regulate marriage or divorce, the relations of parent and child, guardian and ward, master and apprentice? Has that body power to make any municipal laws, such as are indispensable for the domestic affairs of any community? A Territorial Legislature does all these things, and no one questions the validity of such acts. No grant of power in the Constitution warrants such exercises of power by Congress, nor is it necessary and proper to accomplish any object which falls within the granted powers of Congress. In old Federal times a bill was passed the Senate to charter a mining company in New Jersey. Jefferson made out the power thus: Congress is charged with the defence of the country; ships are necessary for defence; hence necessary for ships; mines are necessary for brass, and companies are necessary to work mines. This is quite as good logic as that by which Congress is enabled to do, what all Territorial Legislatures must do, if they are of any use, and what they all do by consent of all parties. We don't see how a Democrat can hold the theory that a Territorial Legislature derives its power to make laws from Congress. That such a Legislature can't make laws that are wanted without the consent of Congress may be true. A new State, made out of any territory of the United States, cannot act without the assent of Congress admitting her into the Union, but this new State doesn't get its power to make laws from Congress. This power to make municipal laws resides in the people; it is one of the rights reserved to the States and "the people" in the Federal Constitution, and there is no reason why, by the assent of Congress, the people of a Territory may not exercise the same power as well as the people of a State. All can see how a new State can make its own laws over its own domestic affairs, and that Congress can't make such laws for them. The power of the new State to do so does not come from Congress, although the assent of Congress may be necessary.

The true doctrine is, that this power is in the people; it is not derived from Congress. The Constitution may impose some restraints, and the organic law, which is a Territorial Constitution, when adopted or acquiesced in by the people; but the power to make laws comes from themselves, not from Congress; it is no delegated power, for Congress has not the power to delegate. Our politicians had just as well familiarize themselves with this idea, and not feel astonished at it. It is the doctrine of the people of this country. They will not understand any other; nor will they approve any other.—*Louisville Democrat.*

Interesting Letter from a Friend on board the United States Frigate Congress.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

RIO JANEIRO, December 8, 1859.

I had intended, dear Forney, to have written before this, (as was my wont, in days of "auld lang syne," to write) to you upon my arrival at a new station, but interpositions of wind, weather, and circumstances have prevented it until this day. It would be proxy to detail to you the incidents of our cruise from Cape Henlopen, the point of our departure, (when, by the pilot, I sent you my last letter,) to our arrival at Bahia, and our subsequent departure from there to our arrival here. But as the noble frigate on which I have to serve for the next two years sailed from your good city of Philadelphia, and as a very large proportion of her officers and crew are from your city, having fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, children, and, in sh ap, wives and sweethearts, it may be of interest to them, and I know it will be a pleasure to you, to digest a paragraph from my crude relations that may be gratifying to those interested. It may be, indeed, to those not immediately interested. Our people are a queer people, and don't mind hearing about matters in which they are not personally concerned. Briefly I give you, therefore, as though I were sitting in your sanctum, (an item among your pyramid of exchanges,) a statement of the cruise of the United States Frigate Congress up to this writing.

She went into commission on the 3d of July. On the 4th of August she weighed anchor and proceeded to Fort Mifflin to fill her magazines On the 11th of August, in tow of a steam tug, she anchored at New Castle. Was detained her until the next day, when again in tow of the tug she proceeded further down and again came to anchor. The next day, August 13, after heaving up anchor, again in tow, on reaching Cape Henlopen, we cast off the tug and took our departure. You perceive that it consumed nine days to leave the Navy Yard before we could proceed on our cruise. *Ergo*, in Philadelphia, with all its advantages and its attractions, a fit and proper station to send from thence such large vessels? To get to sea involved detention, expense, and danger to the safety of the ship. Ask my friend Florence to give me a satisfactory answer. If I were Secretary of the Navy, I would fit out no ship of more than 1,000 tons from your Navy Yard.

We had a rapid run across the Gulf stream, with favorable but strong winds, and the usual ugly sea of the stream. This was a test of the admirable sailing qualities of the old frigate, and besides, a proof positive of the wretched condition in which that ship was sent to sea from your yard. No attention had been paid to the fitting of the gun-deck port, to the guns, and in the heavy weather crossing the Gulf stream, the gun-deck was the receipt of all the water that vacuums between the diameters, if gun and port would admit. As the ship rolled torrents rushed through these apertures from port to starboard, and vice versa, filling ward room, steerage, gun-deck, with all manner of discomforts. This is but one of the omissions of your navy yard, and I shall say nothing more about others, save that since our departure from Philadelphia every mechanic on board ship has been employed in completing that which should have been completed before we were reported ready for sea. The Congress, at this writing, is in the finest condition, and I would be doing a wrong, were I not to give to the First Lieut. the executive officer, Mr. Doty, the fullest meed of praise, for the frigate as she now lays at anchor in the harbor looks a fit representative of the Confederacy.

After the first day out from our departure, during which we had run from Cape Henlopen, which is in 38 deg. 48 min. N., long. 75 deg. 4 min. W., to lat. 32 deg. 59 min. N., long. 62 deg. 4 min. W., we had a change of weather, and looked ugly for the first time. She was tacked with much ease, and worked to a charm. Lieut. Smith—son of the Commodore, whom you know, and I call Joe—was at the time officer of the deck. The ship obeying so handily, shoulder to with a forty-two-pounder, was the last of poor Downie. "If there sleeps his last sleep." "Away," I say, "with melancholy." His death—the death of this poor stranger—awak