The Press.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1860

Editorial Convention.

The annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Editorial Union will be held at HARRISBURG, on WEDNESDAY, THE 15TH OF FEBRUARY, inst., at 2 o'clock P. M. The members of the Union, and Editors generally throughout the State, are cordially invited to attend. MORTON MCMICHAEL, *Pres't*, J. H. PULESTON, L. H. DAVIS, } *Secretaries.*

☞ Newspapers throughout the State will please copy, or notice editorially. feb 21

FIRST PAGE.—Religious Intelligence; Personal and Political; Weekly Review of the Philadelphia Markets. FOURTH PAGE.—Marine Intelligence.

Decadence of Crinoline.

There is great cause for public gratulation. We have to announce the evident diminution of crinoline. We believe that Philadelphia is ahead of the other cities of the Union, in this respect. This was to be anticipated, for it is admitted that there is purer taste in female attire, in this city, than in any other part of the Union. Crinoline has undoubtedly abated. Its exaggerations may continue—among the Biddies and the colored "ladies," but there remains little of it among well-dressed gentlewomen; just enough to give a graceful fulness to the skirt, and remain conducive to a healthful condition of the body. Every one who walks up Chestnut street and uses his eyes; every one who enters a parlor wherein feminines do congregate, must observe the truth of what we say. The balloon-shaped dresses have collapsed. In consequence, there will be room for one thousand additional gentlemen at the Academy Ball, on next Tuesday evening. Sufficient crinoline is retained to make the dress graceful, easy, and healthful. The proper medium has been attained.

This sensible result is said to be owing to the Empress EUGENIE's regret at the extravagance to which the fashion, revived by her, a few months previous to the birth of the Prince Imperial, had been pushed. A Paris paper tells us that "at the last ball at the Tuileries it was remarked that several ladies, and among them the Princess de METTERNICH, the Princess MURAT, and Mme. AGUADO, appeared without crinoline, and with dresses rather short in the waist, somewhat in the style of those of the first empire." We cannot say a word in favor of the short waists, which are equally unnatural and abominable. And, with the greatest respect for the memory of JOSEPHINE, who was Queen of Fashion, as well as Empress of the French, we must declare that the style of the first Empire, when the waist was worn almost up to the arm-pits, was out of all character, so far as grace was concerned. Avoiding Scylla, people often strike upon Charybdis, and so, abandoning crinoline, care must be taken not to fall back upon the unbecoming fashions which prevailed between fifty and sixty years ago.

In the height of our joy over the reduction of crinoline to moderation, we generously communicate to our female readers the latest bit of fashionable news from Paris—viz: that black, violet, and green are the favorite colors; that satin is correct for the demi-toilette; that the Empress patronizes black velvet, most elaborately embroidered in silk; that black velvet cloaks are worn with the smallest possible quantity of lace and bugles; and that, particularly on velvet-dresses, gold-braid is used, also very much upon bonnets, which are worn on the *head* and no longer resting on the *shoulders*, which made every woman in full dress appear short-necked.

The Public Schools.

A memorial was presented to Councils at their last meeting, from the citizens of the Fifteenth ward, revealing a condition of the public-school buildings in that ward anything but creditable to the city authorities, and we are told that an equally bad state of things exists in some other parts of the city. By the act of Consolidation the power of erecting school-houses was taken from the Boards of Controllers and Directors of the Public Schools and conferred on Councils. Since this was done, we learn, no school-house of any consequence has been erected, and the Controllers and Directors have, therefore, been compelled to *rent* such rooms and buildings as they could, to meet the increasing wants of the community. Many of these rooms are in bad situations, poorly lighted and ventilated, and over-crowded with pupils. If the state of things existing in the Fifteenth ward is any criterion to judge from, it should awaken the Councils and people of the city to the necessity of a change in the system.

If a system of public education is to be sustained, it should be such as to supply the wants of all the citizens—a partial or inefficient one is worse than none. If there was no system of public instruction the wants of the people would induce them to provide adequate schools for their children. As it is, they are prevented from doing this, by the public system, and thus the whole community is injured. It will not do to plead the great cost of a proper system. No matter what the cost: if the public assume the duty they should perform it fully.

By the last reports of the Board of Controllers *over three thousand children were waiting admission to the public schools.* This should not be. The loss to these children of a few months' schooling can never be made up to them. Many may have but a few months of their lives to spare to go to school; they cannot wait months or years till means are provided for their instruction. Let our Councils, therefore, take up this subject in all its length and breadth, and provide ample means of suitable instruction, in proper buildings, for all the children of the city—cost what it may.

Death of Col. Samuel D. Patterson.

We were deeply pained, yesterday, to hear of the recent death of Col. Samuel D. Patterson, at his residence, near Perkiomen bridge, Montgomery county. For many years of his life, Mr. Patterson took an active part in the political affairs of our State. For a considerable period, the Norristown *Register*, the organ of the Democracy of Montgomery county, was under his control; and his talents, as a writer, rendered the productions of his pen widely popular and influential. During the Administration of Mr. Polk, he held the office of navy agent of this port. In nearly all the political contests of the last twenty years, he was a valued contributor to the columns of the Democratic press of this State. Mr. Patterson, however, did not allow his love of politics to entirely absorb his attention—for his strong attachment to literature found vent in numerous poetical contributions of a high order of merit, tales, essays, &c., to literary newspapers and magazines. At one time he was the publisher of *Graham's Magazine*, as well as of several leading literary newspapers. Although he was so unfortunate as to encounter serious vicissitudes of fortune, he bore up under his trials with a brave and manly spirit, retaining, to the last, the cheerful and buoyant disposition which characterized him through life. He had deeply implanted in his bosom a spirit of fervent piety, and was a devoted Christian.

For some months past the columns of *The Weekly Press* have contained a large number of interesting poetical and other literary effusions from his pen. The announcement of his death will be received with much grief by his numerous friends and acquaintances.

The Christian Chronicle—Editorial Change.

We perceive, by the last number of this paper, that Mr. W. B. Jacobs, who for the last eleven years has filled the chair of editor, retires, and introduces to his readers Mr. James S. Dickerson, well known for some years past as one of the officers of the Baptist Publication Society located in this city.

Mr. Dickerson is a native of Philadelphia, though he has spent a number of years of his life in New York city, as proprietor and associate editor of the New York *Recorder*, now the *Examiner*—one of the prominent religious newspapers in that city. He, therefore, is but re-entering the field of familiar labor, and though young in years, is old in that experience so essential to such a post. We especially like his manly introduction of himself to the subscribers of the *Chronicle*, declaring, that while his paper "shall be free from all unkind personalities," he has "no fear of an ample discussion of men and their principles, carried forward in the spirit of Christian courtesy." He frankly takes this position, saying that, "God giving us grace and wisdom, we will make a straightforward, high-minded, Baptist newspaper."

With our personal knowledge of the gentleman's head and heart, we believe he will keep his promise, and at once wishing and predicting his prosperity, we give to him the hand of editorial fellowship.

☞ REAL ESTATE, GROUND RENTS, STOCKS, &c.—THOMAS & Sons' thirty-sixth fall sale, Tuesday next, will include eleven properties, by order of Orphans' Court, executors, and others. See pamphlet catalogues issued to-day, and advertisements.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from "Occasional."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, February 10, 1860.

Monday, the 13th instant, is fixed for the announcement of the death of the Hon. David C. Broderick, late Senator in Congress, from California. I understand that obituary speeches may be expected in the Senate from Mr. Toombs, of Georgia, Mr. Seward, of New York, and others; while in the House Messrs. Hickman, Haskin, and Morris of Illinois, will commemorate the virtues of the lamented deceased. Broderick, if he had lived to see the triumph of the movement, of which he was one of the main pillars, in the organization of the House of Representatives, he would have been, I believe, content to die. Late news from California, however, shows that his enemies are being overtaken by a rapid and fearful retribution. The defeat of Governor Weller for Senator, by Milton S. Latham, is announced to be but the precursor of the overthrow of William M. Gwin, whose election comes off in the course of the next year. I learn that some contest will grow out of the distribution of the estate of Mr. Broderick, on the part of persons claiming to be his heirs, who, it is said, threaten to contest the will alleged to have been made by Mr. Broderick in 1857.

In the formation of committees, Speaker Pennington has proved himself to be bold and liberal. I am glad to inform your readers that Pennsylvania will be well cared for by the Committee of Ways and Means; Mr. Sherman being warmly in favor of such protection to her interests as will be permanent, and the majority of the committee entertain opinions in sympathy with him. Mr. Gilmer, of North Carolina, goes to the head of the Committee on Elections, one of the most important in the whole list; Mr. Etheridge, of Tennessee, on Indian Affairs, another leading committee. Hickman, as chairman of the Judiciary; Corwin, as chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations; Millward, of Pennsylvania, on Patents; Colfax, of Indiana, on Post Offices and Post Roads; Grow, of Pennsylvania, on Territories; Stanton, of Ohio, on Military Affairs; are all capital selections, and give assurance of a vigorous and practical session.

The revelations of the committee appointed by the Senate to investigate the truth of certain charges preferred against those having the printing contract for the United States contain some extraordinary facts. The country has been informed by the witnesses examined by that committee that $100,000 of the vast sum contributed by the people to defray the cost of the public printing has been expended in a few of the Middle States, for the purpose of aiding to elect candidates and assisting to support newspapers friendly to the National Administration; and, that the estates need entertain no doubt as to the worthiness of the recipients. Of this tempting amount, they are furthermore apprised that it was given to those selected by OFFICIAL AUTHORITY. There being no question as to the fact that the money was thus levished, the only inquiry that suggests itself to the taxpayer is, what is meant by official authority? In this age, when custom-house clerks are dismissed from their posts for daring to vote at a precinct election contrary to the commands of their superiors, it would be absurd to suppose that the subordinate ever originates any measure, or commits any act, which is not approved of by those who appointed him. Therefore, official authority does not mean that this expenditure emanated from the employees of the departments; and it would seem to imply the heads of the departments; but the fact that even Cabinet ministers are inferior to another being, leaves us to conclude that by "official authority" is intended the one on whom all these dignitaries are dependant—the being who sets this power into motion, the "venerable public functionary" whose President-tial career has happily proven—

"How true it is that many a poor thing prayed for
May be our curse—our bane!"

The person, then, who caused this misappropriation of the people's money, is (with shame I write it)—the Chief Magistrate of this Republic.

I do not again propose entering into any discussion as to the merits of Mr. Buchanan's views on the Lecompton question—those views are well known to the country, and the people, by an overwhelming majority, have declared their unsoundness—but I desire to know if it is justifiable for any party, however just their principles, to *resort to bribery?* The plea so often presented by politicians in reply to the charge of corruption—that their opponents do the same thing—is no defence. No criminal would dare offer, as his excuse for committing crime, that others are equally guilty. Such an attempted palliation would procure for him no mitigation of the severity he so richly deserves, and would only render him an object of ridicule. The assertion which is made in this case, that the Republicans and the Americans distribute money for the purpose of carrying elections, is no defence to the charge preferred against Mr. Buchanan. He, of all others, should be an example of impartiality, of honesty, and of honor, to the youth of America.

What can be the opinion of the civilized world which so severely reprehends corruption, when it beholds the President of the United States appropriating the money appropriated by the American people to certain objects of public benefit being scattered over the land for the purpose of electing the adherents of a certain policy? this was being done at the instigation of a Democrat who "believes in the ability of the American people to SELECT THEIR OWN LAWGIVERS"—by one who is the successor of the pure Washington, the austere Jefferson—the President of the United States?

The National Convention of the Democratic party which met at Cincinnati in 1856, declared "that they recognized it as a distinct element of their political creed, the great moral element in form of government springing from and upheld by the popular will, and they contrasted it with the creed and practice of Federalism, under whatever name or form, which seeks to palsy the will of the constituent, and which conceives no imposture too monstrous for the popular credulity."

Distributing money to prevent the people from indicating their will, would be characteristic of the Federalist, whilst a Democrat would instinctively shun and abhor such practices.

The National Democracy have been placed in a false position by their elected chief. Instead of assailing their adversaries, they are compelled to defend the acts of one, who does not only violated his obligations as a Democrat, but his duties as a citizen; one who, if he were nominally, as he is in reality, an anti-Democratic President, would have his impeachment clamored for by his supporters, for the part which he has played in the disposition of the public treasury.

It is unnecessary for me to reflect on the consequences which must inevitably ensue if this corruption continue. No one has better described its result than Mr. Buchanan in his Duquesne letter. That letter was written shortly *after* the time this money had been thus lavished by official authority. So that he has, by his own language, depicted the consequences which will happen if his example is imitated. He has sought to "poison the fountain of free government at its source," and thus endeavored to pave the way for a "military despotism." He has striven to corrupt and make the people venal, and has labored to cause "the tree of liberty to wither and to die."

OCCASIONAL.

Letter from "Ezek Richards."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10, 1860.

Well, the Senate has agreed to abolish the franking privilege. The post office appropriation bill, with several amendments, and an additional section presented by Senator Toombs, was passed last evening, after a protracted discussion. The section of Toombs abolishes the franking privilege, and repeals all laws, or parts of laws, authorizing the sending or receiving of any matter through the mails free of postage. By this means the clamorous contractors waste their breath a little while longer. I do not think the House will agree with the bill as passed by the upper branch, nor should it. Some restriction was undoubtedly necessary to the license now exercised in the use of the franking privilege, but that it ought, or will be abolished in toto, I do not think. I doubt it very much. The members of the House of Representatives will not yield the privilege without considerable discussion. They have more need of it than their older political brethren of the Senate. Senators work their points through cliques, and have not the same necessity for direct communication with the people in remote holes and corners of the States that Representatives have. Another reason why the House will not acquiesce with the bill, as returned to it, is that it is a Democratic measure, although two Republicans, Grimes and Harlan, of Iowa, and two Americans, Crittenden of Kentucky, and Kennedy of Maryland, voted for it. It was carried by 31 to 17, consequently there were thirteen absentees. Three Democrats voted against it—Hunt of California, Hemphill of Texas, and A. O. P. Nicholson of Tennessee. Of the absentees, seven were Democrats and six Republicans.

This is a very dull day—so far as business is concerned—after a most stormy night. The moon rose in great splendor, the night was clear, and about half-past twelve there sprung up a storm—I can't say from what quarter, but it certainly gave the city none until almost breakfast-time this morning. At about three it was a perfect hurricane, and has, I understand, done considerable damage in the more elevated portions of the city, especially in the west end.

The Senate is not in session, and the House has been occupied the greater portion of the day in raising points of order, in taking appeals from the Speaker and in voting thereon. In every instance the Chair was sustained. The chief point of the Republicans was to pass a similar resolution to that adopted last Congress, giving clerks to the various committees. After considerable manœuvering it was overruled by the House going into Committee of the Whole, upon which Mr. Sherman moved to refer the various portions of the President's Message to the suitable committees, and a gentleman from Connecticut, whose name not one single reporter in the gallery could obtain, took the floor, and is making a speech as the mail closes. From the opening it is evidently intended to be a review of the Democratic party, with some reference to the speeches made preceding the organization. With a few honorable exceptions, the other side has given way to passion, and the gentleman announced his determination not to follow such excitable examples. The Democratic benches are almost deserted. Among those who keep their seats and give attention to the gentleman are Garnett and Pryor, of Virginia; Lamar, Tom Florence, and Barnett. Cox, of Ohio, who is moved from his propriety by some jocose remarks from his colleague, Vallandigham, moves away a few inches, and Clement L., having no ready ear, "takes his said cloak about him," and takes himself off. On the other side, Frank Blair, who has the privilege of the floor, makes an energetic speech in undertone to a few friends.

I just learn that the gentleman speaking is Mr. Orris Ferry. I also just learn, with much gratification for one of my age, that Charles Heidsieck, whom I met yesterday, has just sent a basket of his best to the gentlemen of taste in the press gallery. I come under that head, or I shall, in a moment or two, if there will not be a slip between the cup and the lip of

EZEK RICHARDS.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

THE CANADA AT HALIFAX.

Cruelty on American Vessels—Negotiations for its Prevention.

PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT.

AUSTRALIAN PANIC.

FUNERAL OF CAPT. HARRISON.

COTTON ADVANCED.

CONSOLS 91¾@94⅝.

"The First Gun for 1860."

[Correspondence of The Press.]

LANCASTER, February 10, 1860.

The above is the caption of a *glorification* article in the Philadelphia Administration organ of this date. Considering the little influence of that paper, and the less influence that it exerts, the article does not even merit the dignity of a refutation. But as it might possibly impress the limited number of its readers with the belief that the late re-election of Captain Sanderson, as Mayor of the city of Lancaster, was a triumph of Mr. Buchanan, I ask a little corner in *The Press* to disabuse their minds of the false impression.

Imprimis, then, as philosophers, it is a notorious fact that all the anti-Lecompton Democrats of the city entered heartily into the late contest for Mayor. Personally, Captain Sanderson is endeared to them by many ties. As an honest, upright, and conscientious man, he stands pre-eminent in the community. Politically, he is not obnoxious, because it is a notorious fact, and well known to the Democracy of Lancaster, that after a life-long service in the cause of Mr. Buchanan, that gentleman has repaid him with the grossest ingratitude and contumely. This fact alone brought to his ardent support all the Democracy, as well those who profess Buchanan Democracy, as those who will regret to their dying day the ballot cast for James Buchanan.

Under these circumstances, and with these undeniable facts before him, no man, other than the vilest political knave, or the most unmitigated fool, would dare ascribe the late Democratic vote in this city to an endorsement of either Buchanan's Administration or his Democracy.

Another matter, by way of parenthesis: Had Mayor Sanderson been defeated, Mr. Buchanan and his peculiar friends would have attributed his *defeat* to his lukewarmness in supporting the Kansas-Nebraska policy of the National Administration. That this is so, is evident from the fact that two years since, when Burrowes, the Opposition candidate for Mayor, defeated that old weather-beaten Democrat, John Zimmerman, Mr. Buchanan attributed the success of Burrowes solely to the fact that Burrowes had been a particularly warm personal friend of his. Such, in brief, has been the course of President Buchanan's conduct, relative to our candidates for mayor, since his accession to the Presidency.

That part of the editorial referred to which relates, and is intended to reflect upon the editor of *The Press*, is simply balderdash. The Democrats of Lancaster city and county have known him too long and too well to be influenced by the abuse of political adventurers and pot-house politicians. He has endeared himself to them by years of political toil, and when the lightning flashed over the telegraphic wires the news, that, "Jacob Frey has the inside track," the politicians supposed they could also either Witte, Dawson, or Plimmer, those worthies would load Mr. Fry in the Convention. If the last-named gentleman gets the compliment, it will be because they think he is the strongest man, and not out of any superior love they bear him.

PENN.

Public Amusements.

The benefits, last night, went off splendidly. In addition to a great house at the Arch, Mrs. John Drew received a handsome present of plate from the stockholders of that theatre. This was unostentatiously presented to her at her private residence. At Walnut-street Theatre, Mr. Murphy, the Business agent of that establishment, had a well-filled house.

At Arch-street Theatre, this evening, Mr. William Wood takes his benefit. The performances will consist of "Everybody's Friend," "102, or the Veteran and his Progeny," and the pantomimic drama of "Jocko, or the Brazilian Ape."

Messrs. Wolcohn and Hohnstock's third Concert, in the saloon of the Academy of Music, on Thursday evening, was very successful.

This evening, the second and last Danforth Concert will be given at the Musical Fund Hall. The same vocal performers as before will appear, and Mr. Cross will play two solos on the pianoforte. The vocal music will be wholly operatic, by the most eminent composers.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Drayton will have an afternoon performance to-day, at Concert Hall. Their Parlor Operas and sacred Proverbs have caught the fancy of the city.

There will also be an afternoon as well as evening exhibition at Thledon's Theatre of Arts, in Sanderson's Exhibition Rooms, opposite Jones' Hotel, Chestnut street. These will close this exhibition, we believe. It is eminently worthy of a visit.

"THE GREAT SHOW."—At Dan Rice's this afternoon, as the juveniles will be delighted to learn, the brilliant spectacle of the "Magic Ring" will be played for their especial accommodation. At night the twenty-seventh and last performance of this extremely *successful* piece is announced in connection with a variety of attractive acts in the circle.

Signor Blitz, as usual, will have afternoon as well as evening performances, this day, in his Temple of wonders, Chestnut street and Tenth.

The Cooper English Opera Company, which lately were so well received at Walnut-street Theatre, have been engaged by Mr. George Hood, and, in the course of next week, will commence performing at the Academy of Music, the price of admission not to exceed fifty cents.

Death of Mr. Burton, the Comedian.

William E. Burton, the actor, died in New York yesterday, in the fifty-seventh year of his age. Mr. Burton was, for nearly twenty years, a member of the old Chestnut-street Theatre Company, of this city, and afterwards manager of the National Theatre, corner of Ninth and Chestnut streets. Of late years he has resided in New York.

PHOTOGRAPH OF REV. MR. GUINNESS, BY MR GUTEKUNST.—We yesterday mentioned the fact that a fine photographic likeness of Mr. Guinness was on exhibition at the gallery of Mr. F. Gutekunst, in Arch street, above Seventh, stating that the latter was prepared to furnish duplicates to all who desired them. We have since learned that the application for copies was so great during the day that the photographist found it difficult to supply the demand. The likeness is an admirable one, and will doubtless find its way into the private portrait portfolios of hundreds of Mr. G.'s admirers in this city.

F SONS OF MALTA.—At a special meeting of Minnehaha Lodge and Supreme Grand Council of Eastern Pennsylvania, held on Wednesday evening, Dandy Sharwood, Esq., and Francis A. Godwin, Esq., were elected delegates to represent this council in the Grand Convocation of the Order, to be held in Washington city, on the 15th of the present month. It is anticipated that the majority of the Grand Councils of the United States will send delegates to this Convention. The first meeting of the Order in general assembly was held in this city in July, 1858. Its rapid growth, and the objects of this ancient institution, as exhibited through its charitable donations, claim for it the continued consideration that it justly demands.

TWO FACTS WORTHY OF NOTICE.—Messrs Douglas & Sherwood in order to fill their Southern and Western orders, are compelled to work their operatives at night. In passing by their place of business last night, we noticed their five-story building, Nos. 51, 53, and 55 White street, lighted from top to bottom, and, upon inquiry, learned the above facts, which show two things very conclusively—one, that hooped skirts are as popular as ever, and another, that large Southern and Southwestern orders are being filled in this city. *New York Express.*

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 10.

SENATE.

The SPEAKER laid before the Senate the annual statement of the affairs of the Senango's Fund Association, and the Western Pennsylvania Hospital.

A large number of petitions on various subjects were presented.

Mr. SMITH, two from the Pennsylvania Medical College for a State appropriation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.—The following bills were reported from the Committees, with a favorable recommendation: A bill relative to taking testimony by Commissioners of other States; a bill relative to the appointment of Auditors; a supplement to the act incorporating the Williamsport and Elmira Railroad Company; a supplement to the act relative to joint tenants and the owners of mineral lands.

BILLS IN PLACE.—Mr. PARKER read in place a bill relative to the approval of bonds, and tavern keepers' bonds in Philadelphia.

Mr. SMITH, a supplement to the act to incorporate the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne, and Chicago Railroad Company.

Also, a supplement to the act incorporating the Plymouth and Wilkesbarre Railroad Company.

Mr. SCHEMEL, a bill to incorporate the Rockdale Railroad Company of Lehigh county.

Also, a bill to incorporate the Gulphville Association for the improvement of stock in Lehigh county.

Mr. SMITH, a supplement to the act to regulate the fees of district attorneys.

Mr. BELL moved to discharge the Finance Committee from the further consideration of his resolutions instructing the Legislature of Virginia to visit the Legislature of Pennsylvania the present session, and that the resolutions be referred to a select committee of three.

The motion was disagreed to—yeas 10, nays 19.

Mr. BELL then moved to authorize the appointment of a board of visitors to the poor-houses of the Commonwealth passed first and second reading.

BILLS PASSED.—The following bills were severally considered and passed finally: A bill relative to taxes, and sales and purchases in the city of Allegheny; to prescribe the mode of authenticating judgments by justices of the peace and aldermen of other States; a supplement to the act incorporating the Delaware-avenue Market Company; a bill to change the name and reduce the capital stock of the Pennsylvania and Lehigh Zinc Company; a bill to incorporate the Sullivan County Coal Company; a supplement to the act incorporate the Pittsburg, Allegheny, and Manchester Passenger Railway Company; a bill to authorize the German Evangelical Protestant Church of Pittsburg to improve and lease a burial lot; a bill to incorporate the Carbondale Coal Company; a bill relative to the appointment of collectors of taxes in Montgomery county; a bill to authorize the levying of a tax upon the property in Allegheny county; a supplement to the act relative to county and township rates and levies.

The bill concerning turnpike, plank road, and bridge companies passed first and second readings. Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The Speaker (Mr. Lawrence) being absent, Mr. Thompson was called to the chair.

A large number of petitions, &c., were presented and referred.

Mr. SHEPHARD called up the bill supplementary to the act incorporating the Hestonville, Mantua, and Fairmount Passenger Railway Company, authorizing the company to lay a double track on Callowhill street, &c.

The first section of the bill was read, Mr. WITNEY moved a proviso, that said railway company shall not be permitted to use and occupy any portion of the said route or routes, street or streets hereinbefore mentioned for the purpose of their railway, until the consent of the Select and Common Councils of the city of Philadelphia first thereto had, by ordinance duly passed and approved by the Mayor.

The amendment led to a spirited discussion between Messrs O'Neill, Abbott, Wilday, Seltzer, and Dunlap, and was finally rejected—yeas 37, nays 41.

The bill then passed finally—yeas 66, nays 9.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.—The following Committees (local) reported, with amendments, a bill to increase the pay of witnesses in criminal cases.

Also, a supplement to the act for the better security of wives in laborers in Luzerne county.

Also, a bill to prohibit the adulteration and sale of fish in Philadelphia at improper seasons.

Also, a bill to protect operatives and laborers in Monitour county.

The Committee on Corporations reported as committed the bill to incorporate the Fogelsville Academy in Lehigh county.

PETITION FOR DAMAGES.—Mr. WILDEY presented a petition from General William F. Small, asking for damages for illegal imprisonment during the time he was confined for contempt of court in regard to the contested sepership.

Some other business was transacted of an unimportant character, when the House adjourned until Monday afternoon.

Failure of the Rhode Island Exchange Bank.

THE CASHIER REPORTS IT TO BE A DEFAULTER.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 10.—It was announced to-day that the Rhode Island Exchange Bank, at East Greenwich, had failed. The cashier, it is alleged, was a defaulter to the amount of $72,000 while the capital is only $50,000, and the surplus fund $14,000.

The cashier is also said to be a defaulter to a savings bank in the same village, of which he was treasurer, to the amount of $35,000. He lost the money in speculations.

The assets of the bank are ample for its circulation, and the holders of its bills ought not to sacrifice them.

Destructive Fire at Woodstock, Vt.

WOODSTOCK, Vt., Feb. 10.—A fire broke out this morning in Gibson block, destroying the stores of the following persons: Sellick & Hutchinson, druggists; Gill & Clark, jewellers; J. H. Murdoch & W. Haskell, books and stationery; J. A. Allen, hardware; Dana & Chapman, drugs; George Paul, grocery; R. Bailey, silversmith. The office of the town clerk was also burned.

Treasury Receipts.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The receipts into the Treasury for the quarter ending with December, were from customs, $8,000,000; from Treasury notes under the act of December, 1857, $4,000,000; the aggregate being, with receipts from other sources, $15,000,000. The expenditures for the same period were over $16,000,000.

Fire at Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 10.—A fire last night destroyed Messrs Ryan's and Lanning's stores, on Pike street, and the frames communicating to the chair factory of Wm. Nahers, also destroyed that building. Loss $20,000; insurance $10,000.

Storm at the South.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—A telegraph with much violence here all last night, and the wind in northwest wind is still blowing.

No intelligence has yet been received from the South, indicating the effects or extent of the storm.

Virginia Legislature.

APPROPRIATIONS TO RAILROADS.

RICHMOND, Feb. 10.—The House bill, appropriating $2,000,000 to the Covington and Ohio Railroad, passed the Senate by a majority of 3. The amounts now stand appropriated to the Virginia Central and Manassas Railroad.

Commerce of Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 10.—Exports of the week, $96,583; exports from last year, $1,000,000; exports of the week, $224,000. Increase over last year, $14,000.

Marine Intelligence.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 10.—Arrived, ship Dixon, from Calcutta; Isabella, from Boston; Harvey Birch, from Liverpool; Independence, from New York, and Edward Everett, from Lexhorn.

The Gale at Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 10.—A gale of tremendous violence prevailed here all night, but has subsided, and the weather now is very cold.

Markets by Telegraph.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 10.—Flour dull, but unchanged. Wheat dull at $1.30@1.40 for red and $1.45@1.50 for amber. Corn lower; white 70@71c; yellow 69@70c. Provisions quiet. Whiskey firmer at 24c; sales at 24c.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 9.—Cotton—Sales of 9,000 bales to day at easier prices, closing quotations unchanged. Sugar inquiry and 3c higher. Flour advancing. Corn 2c higher. Coffee firm; sales of 17,500 bags of Rio at 11¼@12c for fair. Molasses in good request. Pork nominal at 25. Oats sell at 60c. Pork buoyant at $18.25@18.75. Freights and exchange continue unchanged.

SAVANNAH, Feb. 9.—Cotton unchanged; sales of 1,400 bales to day.

Sales of the week	8,500 bales.
Receipts of the week	18,000 "
Receipts since commencing last year	1,000 "
Receipts ahead of last year	49,000 "
Receipts shipped at all Southern ports	492,000 "

Sterling exchange irregular. Exchange on New York unsettled.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 9.—The Cotton market closed quiet; sales of 1,300 bales to day. Sales of the week 9,000 bales.

MOBILE, Feb. 9.—The Cotton market is quiet at easier prices; sales of 3,000 bales to-day at 10¾ @ 11¾c for good middlings.

Another Hawesville Tragedy.

EXPLOSION OF AN INFERNAL MACHINE—FIVE OR SIX PERSONS HORRIBLY WOUNDED—HOUSE SHATTERED TO PIECES.

(From the Louisville Courier, February 8.)

Ere the memory of the late Hawesville tragedy, resulting in the cold-blooded murder of Lowe, in prison, bound hand and foot, has passed away, it is again fearfully brought to mind by the details of another revolting tragedy that has just been enacted in that place. One of the prominent parties in that scene is the chief actor in this, which occurred Monday morning last, as we learn from passengers on the Argonaut, which arrived from Hawesville yesterday.

It appears that Mr. Davidson, by what saturated we know not, prepared a tin canister, which he filled with gunpowder and buck-shot, and had a slow match attached with the end ignited. With this infernal engine, in a close wooden box or basket, he walked into the house or store of Mr. John Duncan, in Hawesville, with the deliberate intention of murdering Mr. Wm. Sterrett, who was in the room at the time. There were present, or four other persons, together with Mr. Sterrett, engaged in conversation, and all were wholly unconscious of the diabolical design of Davidson.

While the canister, with its hidden missiles of destruction, was yet on his arm, it exploded with terrific force, scattering death and destruction around. Davidson had an arm broken, the shoulder dislocated, and his side terribly burnt. Mr. John Duncan received four buckshot in his head and neck, and Mr. Sterrett and two others were very severely wounded, and it was feared one of them would die. The building was wrecked almost to pieces, the floor being torn up, lifted from the rafters, with many of the latter tumbling down, and one entire side of the house blown down, or out, by the force of the explosion. That all in the house were not killed outright was a miracle, but it appears that all escaped with their lives, including Davidson.

The citizens of Hawesville were very much excited and exasperated against the assassin, and they made no disguise of their threats against him, as he has been regarded as an evil spirit in the community ever since the murder of Lowe. He was one of the men charged with that bloody deed, and it is stated in this last affair that he designed destroying his own life, which had become a burden, at the same time that he blew up the house and its inmates. Another report is that he wanted to destroy the others and escape himself before the match had burnt to the powder. It exploded, however, before he could take it from his arm.

The above is the version of the affair as we heard it, and of course we cannot vouch for its entire accuracy in detail.

Seven Gale in New York

(From the Express of last evening.)

About sunset yesterday afternoon, it became very cloudy, and it has continued to be the southwest with very obscure weather, shifted to the west, and to the northwest, accompanied by a slight rain and some snow. About five in the evening, it blew heavily from the northwest, and towards daylight the wind veered round from the cold, the mercury falling ten degrees in a little over two hours. At daylight the wind increased to a perfect hurricane, blowing with great violence, without abatement up to noon.

A great deal of damage has been done all over this city and Brooklyn, and among the shipping on the rivers. Trees, sign-boards, chimnies, and in some cases roofs of houses, have been blown away, and terrible havoc has been made of house shutters and awnings. Experienced boatmen say they have not for years known so fierce a gale on the rivers and harbors, and scarcely any being abroad during the morning, the wind blew so strong that it blew the tops of the waves and kept the air filled with driving spray, that danced and sparkled in the sunlight with all the brilliant colors of the rainbow. The Staten Island and North River ferry boats found great difficulty in making their trips. Between New York and Brooklyn a few scows were running but those of the Fulton Ferry, during the morning. The Hamilton avenue and South ferry boats found it impossible to leave their slips on the Brooklyn side. The brokers on the South and Wall street ferries were broken down, and the Fulton boats were densely crowded, in consequence.

No particular damage seems to have resulted from the force of the gale during the night; but its fury appears to have culminated into one furious blast at about ten o'clock this (Friday) morning.

The force of the wind was felt with much severity in Brooklyn. During the height of the gale, shortly after eight o'clock this (Friday) morning, the wind blew off the west gable end of the large four-story brick school, No. 11, corner of Degraw and Hicks streets. The gable turned completely over upon the roof, and went through the floors, upsetting the heaters in the basement, and ruining the house on fire.

The gale made considerable havoc among tall steeples, roofs, awnings, signs, shutters, &c. Almost every thing that the wind could get a fair sweep at was tossed about by its force like a snowflake.

On the outskirts of the city, many houses standing alone were shaken to their foundations by the force of the wind, and the roofs were rolled up into quite small compasses. No doubt some new buildings, of which there are at present many in course of erection, have been entirely demolished.

About half past ten o'clock this morning, the Catholic Half Orphan Asylum, a large edifice, corner of Sixteenth street and Fifth avenue was, in an instant, unroofed by the violence of the wind. There were about four hundred children in it at the time, and we are gratified to record that they all escaped uninjured.

The alarm among the children, as might be expected, was intense. They ran in all directions, bewildered, and frightened nearly to death. Some jumped in the road cars, and others ran to the nearest houses for shelter from the cold.

The damage to the building is several thousand dollars.

MAYOR HENRY has written a letter to some of his political friends, declining a nomination.

FROM CALIFORNIA.

Arrival of the Steamship Atlantic.

FOUR DAYS LATER NEWS.

The North American Steamship Company's steamer Atlantic, R. H. Pearson, commander, arrived at New York yesterday. She left New York January 21, at 12 A. M., filled, passed the mail steamship North Star, and arrived off Aspinwall at 7 P. M., January 27, making the run in seven days and five hours. The passengers and newspaper express crossed early the next morning, and left for San Francisco in the steamer Golden Age the next day. The North Star arrived at three A. M., January 25.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company's steamer John L. Stevens left San Francisco 20th January, and arrived at Panama at 1 15 on the 27 February, with 304 passengers and $1,476,625 98 in treasure. The passengers and express crossed the Isthmus, and left Aspinwall on the steamship Atlantic at 3 A. M., 30 February. On the night of the 8th February, in the Gulf stream, off Cape Hatteras, encountered a severe gale from north-northwest, with very heavy sea. A seaman named Christopher Code was missing, supposed to have been washed overboard by a sea. Arrived off the Hook on the 10th February at 3 A. M., making the passage in seven days one hour; detained outside a half hours waiting for a pilot, having a very heavy gale from northeast. Pilot-boat at anchor under the Hook.

Left in Aspinwall, United States steamer Roanoke, United States steamer St. Louis, and United States store-ship Relief. The Roanoke left for Pensacola on the 6th February.

The Atlantic, R. H. Stevens reports the loss of the steamship Northerner, she struck on a sunken rock off Cape Santo Antonio, about 9 P. M., January 4, and was a total loss, having gone to pieces in seven hours. Passengers lost, 17; crew lost, 21; in all, thirty-eight souls.

THE SHORTEST TIME YET TO SAN FRANCISCO.

The Panama steamer left New York on the 28th December, 1859, in the Atlantic, connecting at Panama with the Golden Age, which left San Francisco on the 28th days six hours, being the shortest time ever made from New York to San Francisco.

TREASURE SHIPPED BY THE ATLANTIC.

Order	$8,500	A. Belmont & Co.	$160,000
Jno. J. Hand & Co.	2,800	Jacob Cohen & Co.	2,800
Renard & Co.	9,100	Heidsieck & Co.	9,100
R. B. Weir	8,351	Butler & Sanders	32,000
Jno. Hecker & Co.	13,000	Ross, Falconer & Co	6,700
H. Unger & Co.	5,100	A. A. Low & Bros.	6,249
Wm. Lawrence & Co.	9,800	J. Rosenbaum &