GENERAL NEWS.

A HOUSTON MOVEMENT.—A meeting was held at New York on Tuesday evening of the friends of the election of General Sam Houston, of Texas, as President of the United States. The following address, expressive of their views, was read:

FELLOW-CITIZENS: There never was a period in the history of our Northern Republic, since its constitutional existence, when the need of a resolute man at the helm of state was more manifest than it is now. The elements of mere party refuse to furnish such a man. The entire system of Presidential excusing is known to be corrupt. The machinery of political combination, through Conventions, is unreliable for any good selection of candidates. Treasons of party platforms are degrading to the high minded statesman. Bargain-making for prospective appointments—conflict concerning anticipated patronage—settlement of patronage of sectional jealousies prepare all other business of Party Conventions for the nomination of a Presidential ticket. The people know this, and are weary of it. Why should not Sam Houston be, at this day, the chosen nominee of every Independent National Union Association—every State Convention of the people—every Assembly of the conservative, State-sovereignty, Constitution-guarding, and Union-loving men in all the States of our Republic? If there any valid reason why this man—in whom there is felt such universal confidence—should not be nominated by the people, over all party hooks and sinkings, demagogues? There is but one reason, and we know it. The people have so long abandoned their Government to the manufacturing process of a National Convention that they forget to exercise their own omnipotent political sovereignty. Sam Houston, of Texas, is, at this day, the choice of a majority of all the voters in all the States of this Republic, could that choice be made manifest at the polls without party fictions. There is no need of a National Convention to demonstrate this fact. There is need only of a movement of the masses in towns, in cities, and in Hamlets. Such a movement could and would be successful in every State a Houston electoral ticket—strong, national, Union, conservative men! In every town a Houston club! In every county a Houston fund, subscribed by the People, for such expenses only as are necessary to insure the proper circulation of a Houston electoral ticket! The ballots will do the rest. Every against ultra-parties and sectional nominations by party National Conventions, Sam Houston can be elected! Should he fail to carry a majority of the States, he can carry enough to cast the ultimate choice of President upon the House of Representatives. The House, he must know, is inevitable compromise candidate. The present House is so nearly balanced politically that no ultra-Northern or Southern candidate, representing party Conventions, can hope for success. Sam Houston, representing the Union, upon platforms of the Union, must be the choice of the House. The Union-loving citizens, delay not a single day! Organize at once a Houston Club in your town! Organize at once a reliable Houston committee for your county, to collect funds for the printing of the electoral ticket, and for necessary expenses at the polls! Select from your Houston Club two or more delegates, to meet with delegates from other clubs at a State mass meeting of the people, to be hereafter called by the Houston Executive Committee, to assemble on the 18th day of July next. At that State mass meeting an electoral ticket, composed of honest patriotic Houston men, will be nominated, and a candidate named to be supported as Vice President. Be sure and recommend a reliable, popular citizen, to be the Houston elector from your Congressional district. In this manner the masses can select their own People's Houston electoral ticket without supporting Sectional Conventions. Organize your town club first; elect your delegates next; vote the electoral ticket at the polls.

By order of the Executive Committee.

STRANGE OR CHARMING.—This is getting to be an alarming fact to the political economists, and in an article on the subject, Prof. Geary, of Lancaster, says:

"The probabilities of marriage of a maiden at twenty are slightly superior to those of a bachelor, and incomparably greater than those of a widow at the same age; but, with the lapse of years, these relative chances of the probabilities of marriage at thirty-five being, for a bachelor, one to twenty-seven; for a spinster, one to thirty-five; and, for a widow, one to five—the attractions of the widow standing to those of the spinster in the surprising relation of five to one; or, perhaps, that number mystically representing her comparative readiness to entertain the idea of matrimony. The chance of finding happiness and a home diminishes with years. The growing disposition to celibacy among the young men of this clime, though in some manner attributable to a selfish and luxurious cynicism, is chiefly due to the irrational expenditure consequent on marriage, and the impossibility of procuring active association with women, in reality, from their artificial habits, to yield domestic happiness. If this celibacy frequently defeats the economical consideration deciding to it (as it should) and ends in much immorality and unhappiness among men, how much more unfortunate it must be for women, the purer sex, and what a violation of natural law must that social organization be which so harshly represses the affections, and bereaves so large a class of the support and sympathy they are entitled to from man!" Is the Rajpoot pride that sighs a female infant into the grave, or a Brahmin daughter its parent, by a plebeian marriage, more cruel than the selfish social system that devotes it to a solitary and weary life of misery and regrets?

DOUGLAS FEELING IN BUCKS COUNTY.—We are more and more convinced that the Democracy of Bucks county, could they express their preference for the Presidency, would decide, by a large majority, in favor of the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas. Nearly every day we receive evidence of this. One day last week we received a letter from a Democrat, a miller, who lives a few miles from Doylestown, upon the subject. After stating that he and some of his neighbors had stopped a paper they had been taking, because it opposed the nomination of Mr. Douglas, he proceeds to say:

"We have but one man in this village (about twenty voters) who is opposed to Douglas. I made it my business to find out who were Douglas men of these coming to mill, and among a good many I found but three against him, and only one that was much opposed to Douglas. I have been canvassing a few times of late, and I made it my business to inquire a little, and I can't find anything but Douglas men among the Germans. I wish you would send me your paper, the Doylestown *Democrat*, if you please. I hope the name of S. A. Douglas will remain where it is on your paper, until we give him 30,000 Majority in Pennsylvania, on the 6th of November, in place of giving Lincoln 30,000, as they had on their flag at their Convention.—*Doylestown Democrat.*"

AT a meeting of the Select Council of Pittsburg, on the 28th instant, the ordinance levying a tax of four and a quarter mills to pay interest on railroad bonds issued by the city to the Chartiers Valley Railroad Company, was taken up. The ordinance was passed in Common Council March 6th, passed in Select Council March 19th, and in Common Council, March 22d, amended by reducing the assessment to three and a half mills.

Mr. Blair offered the following, which was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That we do not believe that a levy of three and one-half mills sufficient to meet the requirements of the mandate of the Supreme Court to provide for the payment of the interest now due upon the bonds issued by the city of Pittsburg to the Chartiers Valley Railroad Company and the costs of suits, and therefore, we now insist in the action of the Common Council and adhere to our former action.

SENATOR EDWARD CLOSE ON PUBLIC CAUSES.—JULY 4, 1861.—The Auburn *Advertiser*, says a committee of leading citizens called on Mr. Seward on Saturday morning last and requested him to consent to deliver an address on the Fourth of July. Mr. Seward received the request very kindly, but said that he must decline the invitation for the present year. He added, however, that if living on the Fourth of July, 1861, he would then cheerfully consent to deliver an address to his fellow-townsmen, as forty years previous to that date he had commenced his public life, and that occasion would be his confession.

DISTRESSING SUICIDE.—An unusually distressing case of suicide, from the circumstances attending it, occurred at Lynville, Lynn township, this county, on Monday evening, 14th inst. It appears that Dr. Joseph V. Zangerle, the subject of this notice, has for many years lived in a state of domestic infelicity with his wife, which increased in intensity with the progress of time, and during the last year in particular, had assumed an extremity of malignancy and hatred that was almost unbearable. On the day above mentioned, toward evening, a violent altercation sprung up between them, which assumed a belligerent character, she being armed with a club, and he with a brace of pistols. It is not known which of the party made the first assault, but during the conflict he fired one of his pistols, the ball ostensibly striking his arm with the club, which had the effect to change the course of the shot, to which action on her part she may, perhaps, attribute the preservation of her life. She then rushed out of the house, he close pursuit, catching up with her in the yard, where the conflict was renewed, she defending herself with the club, and he striking at her with the revolver and several times pulling the trigger, each time, however, failing in a discharge. The neighbors hearing by this time became alarmed, came running to put a cessation to the fight, upon which they succeeded in his retreating into the house, and she and one of her youngest daughters, who was an eye-witness to the entire affair, repairing to the house of a neighbor. After gaining access to the house he locked himself into a room, took a dose of poison, and informed one of his daughters, yet remaining in the house, of the fact, and enjoined upon her that if he should die she should take care of some money, etc., besides giving instructions regarding some other matters. He then closed the door, and laid down to pass out of time into eternity, aware of the troubles of earthly life. His wife had in the meantime gone and lodged complaint before a justice of the peace, and on the morning following the constable and his assistants came to arrest him, when being shown to his room, the subject of their mission was found a corpse! with bottles containing the ingredients of his death before him on a table. Francis Weiss, Esq., was summoned to hold an inquest over his remains. It was established by the jury that he came to his death by self-destruction by partaking of strychnine, morphia, and corrosive sublimate, in sufficient quantities. The deceased was born in Tyrol, Europe, and was between 55 and 56 years of age. He was a practising physician, well liked in the community in which he resided, and had become well blessed with riches, which he has disposed of by a will. He was buried at St. Peter's Church, near Lynville, on Thursday, in the presence of thousands of attendants. This is truly a heart-rending case, and what a lesson it conveys! Zangerle was a man of many excellencies of life, let us hope that in the "undiscovered country" to which he has gone his spirit will meet with more peace than was its share here.—*Allentown Democrat.*

A BALLOON ASCENSION.—A lady went up in a balloon at La Grange week before last. Her dress was the occasion of much excitement among the men folks. The *Democrat* says:

"Small crowds were seen in the field near by, who were startled by the unexpected appearance of the aerial vision; that they formed while, could not, for the life of us, and haven't been heard of yet. One old gentleman (Anglo-Saxon) thought it was the devil, and was for having his rifle, like Elijah, to shoot the fiery chariot down; the clerk, preparatory to leaving, asked those who were in the field near by if they were frightened by the unexpected appearance of the aerial vision; that they formed while, could not, for the life of them