The Press.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1860.

FIRST PAGE.—Art Poetry; Infidelity in Philadelphia; The Great Kansas Famine; The Wife of Andrew Jackson; Senator Douglas on the Union; Religious Intelligence; Affairs in Syria; From Persia; Weekly Review of the Philadelphia Markets. FOURTH PAGE.—Personal and Political; General News; Marine Intelligence.

PENNSYLVANIA, ss.

In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

WILLIAM F. PACKER,

GOVERNOR OF THE SAID COMMONWEALTH:

A PROCLAMATION.

FELLOW-CITIZENS: The revolutions of the year have again brought us to our annual festival of Thanksgiving to Almighty God. In no preceding year have we had more abundant cause for gratitude and praise. The revolving seasons have brought with them health and plenty. The summer fruits and the autumn harvests have been gathered and garnered with unwonted exuberance. A healthful activity has pervaded all the departments of life; and provident industry has met with a generous reward. The increase of material wealth has been liberally employed in sustaining our educational and religious institutions, and both are making the most gratifying progress in enlightening and purifying the public mind. While, in Europe, central and absolute governments, by their pressure on personal rights and liberty, are producing excitements which threaten to upheave the very foundations of society, and have led, in some instances, to bloody and cruel wars, we, in the enjoyment of constitutional liberty, and under the protection of just and equal laws, are peacefully pursuing the avocations of life, and engaging in whatever promises to advance our social and individual improvement and happiness. "The lines are," indeed, "fallen to us in pleasant places, and we have a goodly heritage." In all this we see the orderings of a kind and merciful Providence, which call not only for our recognition, but for our public Thanksgiving and Praise.

Under this conviction, I, WILLIAM F. PACKER, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby appoint *Thursday, the twenty-ninth day of November next*, to be observed as a day of public Thanksgiving and Prayer, and recommend to all our people, that setting aside, on that day, all worldly pursuits, they assemble in their respective places of worship and unite in offering thanks to God for His manifold goodness, and imploring His forgiveness, and the continuance of His mercies.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at Harrisburg, this twenty-fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty, and of the Commonwealth the eighty-fifth.

WM. F. PACKER.

By the Governor:

WM. M. BINDER,

Secretary of the Commonwealth.

The News.

We have one day's later news from Europe by the Canadian, which arrived at Father Point yesterday. Her advices are to the 12th instant. There is no political news of importance. There is a statement in the Paris correspondence of the London *Times* to the effect that agents of Napoleon were in the island of Sardinia secretly intriguing in favor of an annexation to France. The intrigue, says the correspondent, is to be managed in the same manner as before the annexation of Savoy to Nice. Naples was quiet. General Cialdini was ordered to enter Naples with the Sardinian forces, and it was thought that Italian affairs were coming to a crisis. Garibaldi was about to inaugurate universal suffrage in the Two Sicilies. The question of annexation was debated in the Sardinian Chambers. Austria, evidently anticipating trouble in Venetia, was about making arrangements for the defence of the ports of the empire. In Rome the French army is to be increased to sixty thousand men, while the forces at Lyons were about to be placed on a war footing. In Syria the Moslem troubles had again broken out; Fuad Pacha had returned to Constantinople, and a number of Christians were being massacred. The Moslems were especially furious against the Christians, and had threatened the life of the Russian consul at Damascus.

Another railroad accident! From Boston we learn that the Hartford and Fishkill Railroad train, running to New York, was thrown off the track yesterday morning. A number of passengers were injured, but none fatally. The cause of the accident was a broken track.

Governor Packer, of this State, has appointed Thursday, the twenty-ninth of November next, as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer. The proclamation of the Governor is printed elsewhere, and is a model of official composition.

In the Court of Quarter Sessions, William Byerly was arraigned on the charge of fraud, in substituting a false return for a correct one, in the recent election. The case will be remembered by our readers, as the recent occurrence which gave the certificate in the First Congressional district to John M. Butler, Republican, instead of Wm. E. Lehman, Democrat. The fraud is charged on Byerly, and on this charge he is now before the court. A demurrer to the bill of indictment was filed by the counsel of the accused, alleging an insufficiency in the allegations against him, and, alleging that the bill was informal and defective. The point was argued by the counsel for the prisoner and the District Attorney; after which, the court dismissed the demurrer, and ordered the case to trial. The case is not concluded.

In a correspondence of the *New York Times*, published in another column, the existence of a plan for disunion, in the event of Lincoln's election, is specifically charged, and the method indicated by which the treason is to be accomplished. The name of a prominent office-holder is given as the correspondent's informant. It seems that it is the intention of the Disunionists to convene the Legislative Assemblies of the Southern States as soon as Lincoln's election is made known, the Union will then be declared to be dissolved, John O. Breckinridge will be proclaimed President, and Joseph Lane Vice President, of a Southern Confederacy. The name of Howell Cobb, the Secretary of the Treasury, is given as the master-spirit of the scheme. We give the correspondence for what it is worth, bearing, as it does, every mark of being a truthful narrative.

The Prince of Wales has again been heard from on his homeward journey. The Portland pilots let the British squadron, bearing the Prince, about two miles outside of Alden's Rock, at 6.30 P. M., having in their custody a letter addressed to the ships with orders from the commodore to steer the course then held, viz: S. E. by E ½ E. Admiral Milne's two ships are bound to Bermuda, but would accompany the royal squadron east as far as Halifax.

By the bark Thomas Dallett, Captain Dill, arrived at this port from Laguayra, we are in receipt of Venezuelan dates to September 27th. On the 18th the Commandant, Camero, took possession of Cumana. The Spanish steamer-of-war Blasco de Garay left Laguayra for some of the Eastern ports, with the intention, it is supposed, of taking some Spanish residents on board for protection. Some are of opinion that the difficulty with Spain will be adjusted amicably.

Colonel Corlbeer, of the French army, and a Jew, has written a letter to the *Journal des Debats*, of Paris, contradicting the report that the Jews of Damascus had aided in massacring the Christians. He states further that, lest there should be any lurking suspicion, a gentleman has already been despatched from Paris to Damascus to make every inquiry and report faithfully to the Hebrew *Société de Bienfaisance* of Paris.

[A Railroad Time-table Convention] is being held in Cincinnati. Twenty-seven railroad corporations are represented—H. J. Jewett, Esq., being in the chair. There are over $350,000,000 of capital represented in the convention. The preparation of a time-table was entrusted to a committee of sixteen, with instructions to report.

The Court of Quarter Sessions.

We have inserted, in another column, a communication in relation to the above Court, deeming it not only worthy of publication, but of the attention of the public, the Judges, and the Attorney General.

The inconvenience and delay caused to parties prosecuting, and to witnesses, both for the Commonwealth and the defence, is vexatious and serious, and, frequently from the absence of the last, the ends of justice are defeated, and the guilty escape deserved punishment, whilst others are convicted who ought not to be—although their witnesses had previously been in attendance, but could not remain series of days from their families or business, without serious injury and loss. In one case, from the neighborhood of Roxborough, the witnesses have been attending Court for weeks. In another, a bill found on the 21st of August was untried on Tuesday last, and so, doubtlessly, of many others. When the Attorney General enters Court, he is immediately besieged by attorneys to try their case, so that, to the casual observer, it partakes much of the character of a scramble.

Every now and then individuals whisper to the Judge, on the Bench and within the Bar, instead of speaking *before* it. A Judge has no *private* ear when on the Bench—for then he is in his *judicial* office, and should only be addressed *openly and publicly*. When off the Bench he is no longer the Judge, but the *individual*. In these remarks we cite no one personally, but the practice is so general, that say one, or almost any day, may see this repeatedly done.

It is not only requisite that the Courts of Justice should be pure, but they should also be dignified, and so appear. The most trivial case demands, not only the form, but the gravity and attention, exclusive and entire, of the Judge and Jury—for that is their business and their duty. In its absence dignity is forfeited, the awe and majesty of the law is diminished, almost to annihilation, and the influence on the general mind weakened. This is the more to be regretted as the last is more effective, in moral influence, than the punishment meted to individual convicts. In the English Courts the Judge or Judges, when sitting judicially, are unapproachable, and consequently unapproached, except *before* the Bar, loudly, openly, and regularly. Our system of Law is based on the English; why not engraft thereon the system that the Judge or Judges can only be approached when on the Bench, as is beseeming and decorous, openly and before the Bar? Why should members of the Bar be admitted between the Bar and the Judge? Why should any member or members *appear* to have the ear of the Court or of the Attorney General? There is a place for the Judges, for the Attorney General, for the Jury, and for the Lawyers. If the others keep their respective places, why shall not the last, one and all? If priority is to be shown, let it be before the Bar and within its limits, and not by apparent or seeming favoritism, by admitting some within, and excluding others. Either admit or exclude all—instead of the daily exhibition, so *unseemly*, where sometimes within the Bar may be seen the gray-haired legal veteran, and at others, the fledgling tyro, with beardless chin, and brow unwrinkled by care or thought. This, to say the least, is not seemly. To speak of it justly were to use a harsher designation, and it consoriously, in terms of strong reprobation.

But to return to our correspondent: If, in the prison cases, bills were sent before the Grand Jury prior to those on bail, and then the latter, the Attorney General could try the prison-cases first, (where the offences were not capital,) then those on bail, and both in the order of their finding. This being *the rule*, would relieve him from the badgering of lawyers to try or not to try their cases, put all upon an equality, and prosecutors and defendants, and their witnesses, would know when to be prepared, whilst the time of counsel would not be uselessly squandered, by attendance, day after day, waiting to try a single case, on behalf of some client to whom he is bound to attend. The more regularity, the more system, the greater the convenience to all interested in the trial or defence of criminal cases. A rule of court could establish this order and regularity—a rule, permanent and fixed, from which there should be no deviation, except for cause sufficiently adequate and paramount—capital cases (where two of the Judges are required to be on the Bench during their trial) could be arranged to suit the convenience of the Court, either at the commencements or ends of terms.

We commend this to the attention of the Judges, for the convenience of the suitors, witnesses, and the profession, for the seemly and dignified administration of public justice, for the extirpation of innovations which have crept into existence, through a long series of years, and are alike ungainly and unbecoming, repulsive to the discriminating, and abhorrent to the admirers of propriety, and of the fitness and seemliness of action in church or court. One course will elevate and the other deteriorate from a proper estimation of the majesty and dignity of the law, which is the consolidated will, power, and dignity of the entire people, made for their government, and protection in life, limb, person, property, and the free and perfect enjoyment of the rights guaranteed under its mandate and rule, until abolished by the same power that originally generated and formed it.

DISUNION IN THE CABINET.

HOW DISUNION IS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED.

A correspondent of the New York *Times* writes thus from Washington:

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Mr. Lackey distinctly states that a high official in the Treasury Department is implicated in the plan of the Disunionists, of which he cordially approved. The plan, as stated, is for the Governors of the Southern States to convene their Legislatures by proclamation *on the first day of November*, or as soon thereafter as the election of Mr. Lincoln can be ascertained; that *the Legislatures will proceed to declare the Union dissolved, and to pronounce in favor of Mr. Breckinridge as the President of the Southern Union.*

Mr. Lackey denounced this treasonable scheme, and pointed out the folly and wickedness in which it originated, and the terrible consequences to which an attempt to put it in execution would lead. Some one else, who had been a patriotic and honorable course of his was the real ground of his dismission, although his preference for Mr. Douglas, and his refusal to pay his assessment for the promotion of Breckinridge's election, would be ample excuse for it, in the estimation of Mr. Cobb.

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The Georgia papers freely state that Mr. Cobb, while on his recent visit to his home, avowed himself in favor of disunion in the event of Mr. Lincoln's election. This allegation, and the charges made by Mr. Lackey, cannot have escaped his notice, or the notice of the official organ. Yet no contradiction has been put forth, and his inference is irresistible that the charges are true. If Mr. Cobb were impeached by the obscurest newspaper or politician in the Union, with favoring slavery, the official paper would take the earliest opportunity to brand the allegation as false; but no imputation upon his loyalty to the Union, and to his official oath, is heeded of too little consequence to require contradiction.

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Mr. Lackey distinctly states that a high official in the Treasury Department is implicated in the plan of the Disunionists, of which he cordially approved. The plan, as stated, is for the Governors of the Southern States to convene their Legislatures by proclamation *on the first day of November*, or as soon thereafter as the election of Mr. Lincoln can be ascertained; that *the Legislatures will proceed to declare the Union dissolved, and to pronounce in favor of Mr. Breckinridge as the President of the Southern Union.*

Mr. Lackey denounced this treasonable scheme, and pointed out the folly and wickedness in which it originated, and the terrible consequences to which an attempt to put it in execution would lead. Some one else, who had been a patriotic and honorable course of his was the real ground of his dismission, although his preference for Mr. Douglas, and his refusal to pay his assessment for the promotion of Breckinridge's election, would be ample excuse for it, in the estimation of Mr. Cobb.

I am *sorry to say* that there is every reason to believe that Secretary Cobb is aware of, and listens to, this conspiracy against the Constitution and laws of his country, which he has taken an oath to support, if he is not *himself* an abettor in it. He is the bosom friend of the gentleman who revealed it to Mr. Lackey, and that friend, who is a man of excellent private character, is known to be profoundly impressed with an idea of the wisdom of the Secession movement. Mr. Cobb, I am informed, has no sympathy with this nefarious scheme he will not permit those who avow their complicity in it to hold office under him. It is monstrous that conspirators against the Government should be permitted to go at large in the face of day, but are the peculiar favorites of the party in power, and the confidants of its counsels.

The Georgia papers freely state that Mr. Cobb, while on his recent visit to his home, avowed himself in favor of disunion in the event of Mr. Lincoln's election. This allegation, and the charges made by Mr. Lackey, cannot have escaped his notice, or the notice of the official organ. Yet no contradiction has been put forth, and his inference is irresistible that the charges are true. If Mr. Cobb were impeached by the obscurest newspaper or politician in the Union, with favoring slavery, the official paper would take the earliest opportunity to brand the allegation as false; but no imputation upon his loyalty to the Union, and to his official oath is heeded of too little consequence to require contradiction.

But the Treasury plan of a Southern Confederacy is by no means a secret confined to the superior officers of that department. The subordinates are blurting it about the streets in a tone of defiance, which shows that they have the utmost confidence in its success.

I give the *President credit* for being opposed to disunion. But is it not his imperative duty to inquire into these charges in which his own officials are involved? If Mr. Cobb sympathizes with the traitorous plot, he should be at once expelled from office, and, at any rate, he should not be allowed to make the department under his superintendence a nursery for treason.

Park Benjamin's Second Lecture.

Pursuant to announcement, Park Benjamin, Esq., delivered a *prose* lecture at Musical Fund Hall last evening, on "Fiction and Fact." Anon the evening previous, his audience was large and of the most respectable character, and the lecture was, in all respects, worthy the name and fame of its distinguished author. Though written in prose, it was, in many points, poetic in sentiment, though upon the whole it was one of the most pungent, and we may say, philosophical essays that have yet emanated from his pen. The marked success of those two lectures, so early in the season, in three unwonted times of political excitement, and delivered, as they were, on two consecutive evenings, is no less complimentary to Mr. Benjamin's popularity in this city as a lecturer, than it is creditable to the sagacity of the society under whose auspices the lecture was delivered, in securing his services.

A LIGHT ON THE WIZARD'S DOINGS.—It is a speciality of most wizards that they prefer the distracting glare of candle-light to illumine the stage of their operations. For the most part, too, they work by night; but to-day, at two o'clock, Mr. Anderson invites the world to see him in broad daylight. As it is to be his last day performance but one, the attendance will, no doubt, be large. The pupils of Girard College, prevented from attending last Saturday, will be there to-day. It is an excellent chance for schools and families.

PROGRESS OF FOREIGN.—The November number of *Peterson's Detector* records that sixty-four new counterfeits have been put into circulation in the month of October, among these are three Pennsylvanian forgeries—viz: Fives of the Allegheny Bank, Pittsburg; ditto on the Bank of Commerce; ditto on the Bank of Middleton. There are numerous forgeries upon New Jersey banks.

[For The Press.]

SIR: In the columns of this morning's *Press* I find the following:

"Owing to the absence of witnesses and attorneys, the court was greatly delayed, and towards the close of the session Judge Thompson said that he would take up the list of cases the morning in the order in which they were found by the Grand Jury, and some good and legal reason should have to be made to warrant a postponement."

This is no novelty, as every one at all conversant with the Court of Quarter Sessions well knows. Judge Thompson has made a move in the right direction, if he will only follow it up, and make some other reforms essentially necessary for the proper and dignified administration of the laws.

Allow me to invoke the power of your pen on a subject so important, and in which the entire community issue highly interested. I am, sir,

Very respectfully yours, CIVIS.

October 26, 1860.

REAL ESTATE AND STOCKS, TUESDAY NEXT.—A large sale, including elegant and plain private residences, valuable business stands, country seats, building lots, bank and other stocks, &c., by order of executors and others.

See Thomas & Sons' advertisements and pamphlet catalogues, issued to-day.

Anniversary of the Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society at Kennett Square.

THE UNION DENOUNCED—WASHINGTON AND THE PATRIOTS CONTEMNED.

Collision Between the Abolitionists and the Republicans.

Speeches of Lucretia and James Mott, Edward Davis, Thomas Garrett, Annie E. Dickinson, J. McKim, Mary Grew, Oliver Johnson, Hiram Crozier, and others.

An Abolition Orator Hissed by the Republicans.

The excitement in regard to approaching disunion has been pretty well ventilated in *The Press*, as inaugurated at the South by the Secessionists of the Yancey and Breckinridge school. It is a matter of curiosity to note the attitude of the extremists of the North concerning the mooted separation. These doctrines are expounded, of course, by the disciples of Garrison and Mott, and a Convention of the Philadelphia Abolitionists being advertised at a village not far remote from the city, we have chronicled it below as a matter of local news:

KENNETT SQUARE.

The twenty-third anniversary of the Pennsylvania anti-Slavery Society commenced its session at Kennett Square on Thursday, the 25th inst., and continued throughout yesterday. Kennett Square is a small village on the Baltimore Central Railroad, *thirty-two miles from Philadelphia*. White Clay and Ridley creeks touch it on the west, and the old Baltimore turnpike constitutes its main street. Bayard Taylor, the celebrated traveller, resides about a half mile from the town, and Longwood Meeting House, celebrated as the location of the annual meeting of the Progressive Friends, an Infidel Abolition Association, stands a mile or more to the east. The country in the vicinity is rolling and picturesque; the dwellings are of that substantial character for which Chester county is famed; and an atmosphere of intelligence and refinement permeates the yeomanry of the adjoining districts. The anti-slavery sentiment, through this region is very strong; but the masses of the people are yet averse to the radical doctrines put forth by the disciples of Garrison and Phillips, as was exhibited in sundry interruptions which this order and regularity—a rule, permanent and fixed, from which there should be no deviation, except for cause sufficiently adequate and paramount—capital cases (where two of the Judges are required to be on the Bench during their trial) could be arranged to suit the convenience of the Court, either at the commencements or ends of terms.

We commend this to the attention of the Judges, for the convenience of the suitors, witnesses, and the profession, for the seemly and dignified administration of public justice, for the extirpation of innovations which have crept into existence, through a long series of years, and are alike ungainly and unbecoming, repulsive to the discriminating, and abhorrent to the admirers of propriety, and of the fitness and seemliness of action in church or court. One course will elevate and the other deteriorate from a proper estimation of the majesty and dignity of the law, which is the consolidated will, power, and dignity of the entire people, made for their government, and protection in life, limb, person, property, and the free and perfect enjoyment of the rights guaranteed under its mandate and rule, until abolished by the same power that originally generated and formed it.

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