

Foreign News.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN.

Peace Congress of European Sovereigns Proposed—Progress of Negotiations—Russia Supports the Austrian Proposal—New Alliances to the Western Powers—Great Preparations of Russia to Continue the War.

The papers and letters by the Atlantic furnish the following European news: There was a report in Berlin to the effect that Russia and the United States have concluded a treaty, offensive and defensive, in case war should break out between Great Britain and America, but another version of the affair is, that the convention merely relates to the purchase of ships of war.

It is now rumored that some doubts exist as to whether Count Esterhazy has taken either proposition or an Austrian ultimatum to St. Petersburg, but it is believed he goes rather to prepare the way for future proposals.

Baron Seebach, the Saxon Envoy at the French Court, arrived at Dresden on Sunday, the 23d ult., from Paris, and after receiving instructions, proceeded en route to St. Petersburg—his mission being, it is believed, connected with the negotiations for peace.

It is stated that the Danish Government will give its acquiescence in a few days, if it has not already done so, to the treaty concluded between Sweden and the Allied Powers, and that immediately after the opening of the Baltic navigation next spring, French and English commanders will make their appearance at Copenhagen, and Stockholm, to select places suitable for the establishment of storehouses and hospitals, for the service of the allied fleets and armies.

The preparations making by Russia for the next campaign do not favor hopes of peace. The reinforcements for the 11th Russian Division now in the Crimea are concentrating in the South, ready to join their regiments at the first notice. The effective of the reserves in the Southern provinces amounts to about 80,000 men. On the other hand, it is stated here that the corps of 100,000 Sardinians to co-operate with the Allies, are being newly raised, and not taken from the contingent in the Crimea.

It is denied here that the Austrian propositions demand the destruction of the Russian fortresses on the Black Sea, but simply that she is to have no ships of war.

The Russians are constructing a series of fortifications on a gigantic scale, on the north side of Sebastopol.

Every day bodies of from two to three thousand men leave the citadel and proceed to their work. For some days past, they have been occupied in raising some of the sunken vessels, but whether this is done for the purpose of getting timber, or with other intentions, it is impossible to say. They have still some fishing snags and smaller boats, and it is frequently the use of the latter in the night to come and reconnoitre our works. Last night they availed themselves of the darkness and came within half a mile's length of Fort Alexander, or rather of our batteries on that side. At the cry of "qui vive" from our sentries, they fled in haste. It is really difficult to imagine what can be the object of the Russians in erecting such masses of batteries. Is it to occupy their soldiers and give them confidence, or to make some other movement? Time alone can unravel the mystery. On our side, as you may suppose, we do not remain inactive; strong batteries are being established, to play on the Russian works.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICA. HALIFAX, Jan. 16.—The royal mail steamship America, from Liverpool, with dates to Saturday, the 6th instant, reached her wharf this morning.

The Prospect of Peace. Count Nesselrode has addressed a circular to the representatives of the Russian government at foreign courts, stating that Russia accepts the third point relating to the neutralization of the Black Sea, in the following sense:—That the right of Turkey to close the Straits shall be maintained; that no ships of war shall be admitted into the Black Sea, excepting Russian and Turkish; that the number of ships shall be mutually arranged by Russia and Turkey, by special treaty, and by those powers alone.

The Allies reject this interpretation.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA. ARRIVAL OF THE NORTHERN LIGHT. News from Washington and Oregon Territories—Great Fight with the Indians near Walla Walla.

The Northern Light, at New York from San Juan, Nicaragua, had landed at Cape Cod on the 20th of December, specific amount to \$62,202, and 313 passengers.

CALIFORNIA NEWS.—The homicide calendar for the first 11 months of the year, shows a list of 505 homicides, 7 executions by sheriff, in accordance with act, and 49 executions by the people, in accordance with the Lynch law.

On the 13th inst., the gas works to light Sacramento City were put in operation.

From the mine, the only news we have is the activity, occasioned by the rains. Miners are leaving the river leads and directing their efforts to getting out the gold from the dirt collected during the dry season. The excitement produced by the discovery of gold in immense quantities in Table Mountain is unabated.

The Sacramento Valley Railroad has been completed 18 miles of the 22 which are intended to be laid at present.

Authentic reports from the Colorado river contradict the previous rumors of a threatened rising of the Indians in that quarter. Col. Washington's fighting party had suffered severely from want of water on the plains and had lost several mules, but had received no hostile demonstrations from the Indians.

From the Great Salt Lake our dates are to 31st October. The news, with the exception of some Indian murders, and a battle with the Indians at Elk Hole, in which 120 were killed, is of little importance.

[From the San Francisco Herald.] NEWS FROM LOWER CALIFORNIA. More Filibustering—Arrival of Five Hundred Expeditionists at Cape St. Lucas.

From Capt. Burton, U. S. A., who arrived in this city on Monday night, by the steamer Senator, from San Diego, we have received the following important intelligence.

On the morning of the sailing of the Senator, an express arrived, bringing dispatches from Gen. Blunt, Governor of Lower California, to Gen. Wool, and also a communication from Col. Onate, Commandant of the Mexican frontier, to Capt. Burton, in which it was stated that, on the 25th of October, 500 expeditionists, under the command of one F. or H. Zerman, had landed at Cape St. Lucas, with the intention of taking possession of the country. There were no soldiers on the frontier, and they do not exceed in number 400—a third of whom are officers and non-commissioned officers. With a force of 500 Americans, there can be no doubt that Capt. Zerman will succeed in the subjugation of the country. But what great advantages the expeditionists will obtain after they have obtained full and complete possession remains to be seen.

As General Wool is at present at Sta. Cecilia, in Washington Territory, we could of course obtain no information as to the contents of the dispatches sent him by Gov. Blunt.

FROM OREGON.

INDIAN TROUBLES.—GREAT FIGHT.—A battle has been fought by the gallant volunteers of Oregon, under the command of Lieut. Col. Kelley, near Whitman's Station. The Indians were badly beaten. Capt. Bennett, second Lieut. J. M. Barton, privates Hagerman, Kelso and Crow, were killed, and 14 seriously wounded. The Indian loss was at least 50 men. Pen-Pen Mox-mox, the great head chief, was among the killed. The fighting commenced December 7, and was renewed the next morning, and continued until far in the day. A renewed attack by the Indians was expected on the morrow.

From Washington Territory we learn that Lt. Slaughter and three of his men had been fired upon by the Indians and killed.

Amongst the killed are: Corporals Berry and Clarendon, (Captain Wallace's company,) and wounded privates Beck, Nolan, McMahon and Grace. One man of Captain Keys' company of artillery, mortally—since dead.

The following is the official account of the fight near Walla Walla: HEAD QUARTERS, LEFT COLUMN, 1st Regt., O. M. V., Camp of Walla Walla River, Dec. 8, 1855.

To W. H. FARBER, Adjutant—Sir: Yesterday morning, as my command was on the line of march from the mouth of the DuShate river to Whitman's valley, we were attacked by about 400 Indians, with whom we kept up a running fight all day, and for a distance of about ten miles along the Walla Walla river.

At dark on yesterday the battle commenced by the Indians firing at us. We drove them from every position which they took, both in the bushwood, along the river bank, and on the adjacent hills. This morning the battle was renewed and raged all day.

At dusk this evening the Indians again withdrew. The loss of the Indians who fought us has been considerably greater than yesterday, and is supposed to exceed 600. To-morrow morning we expect a renewal of the battle, which, in all probability, will last for some time to come.

I regret to say that yesterday and today we have lost many brave and gallant men, who fell nobly fighting for their country. Slaughtered to this despatch you will find a list of the killed and wounded. The loss of the Indians must be very great, as their killed during the two days, cannot be less than fifty more.

Among their killed on yesterday was the noted chief of the Walla Walla valley, the celebrated Pen-Pen Mox-mox. He was taken prisoner by my command on the 6th inst., near his camp on the Touchet, and during the battle yesterday made an effort to escape. On doing so he was killed, together with 30 others who were made prisoners at the same time, and who attempted to get away. To-morrow, as I said, we expect a renewal of the battle, and I regret to say that we are not in a situation to repel the efforts of the Indians with the vigor that I desired. This arises from our scarcity of ammunition and the broken down condition of our horses. The animals have become so poor and jaded that it is impossible to make a successful charge against the Indians, who are mounted on fleet horses, and can easily escape. We are, therefore, in a measure compelled to act on the defence of our present position, which we are fortifying by making a stockade fort.

Our ammunition will be exhausted, I fear, with another day's hard fighting, and unless we can procure supplies from Fort Colville, our position will be critically indeed.

Jas. K. KELLY, Lieut. Col. Reg. O. M. V.

LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED. Killed.—Capt. Bennett, Co. F.; 2d Lt. J. M. Barton, Co. H.; Private, Simon L. Van Hagerman.

Mortally Wounded, since dead.—Privates Kelso, Crow, A., Henry Crow, Co. H.

Mortally Wounded, still alive.—Casper Snook, Co. H.; Joseph Stordavut, Co. B.; Jesse Fleming, Co. A.

Dangerously Wounded.—Co. H.: Captain Layton, Privates T. J. Payne, Nathan Fry and Frank Crispin, Co. B. Co. K.

Severely Wounded.—Captain Wilson, Co. A.; Capt. Munson, Co. I.; Sergeant Major Isaac Miller, Co. H.; Private G. W. Smith, Co. B.

Slightly Wounded.—Private F. Duval, Co. A.; A. M. Adington, Co. H.

ROST. THOMPSON. Gen. Wool, U. S. A., is now, as we learn, engaged in arranging preliminaries for a campaign against the Indians, at an early day. We are informed that General Wool will take the field as soon as he can concentrate a sufficient force, obtain the necessary supplies for his troops, and the weather will permit of a successful campaign.

Extract from a letter from the Rev. Mr. Churchill, of Boston, who is now traveling for his health in the East.

"It gives one an ever present idea of the expansive enterprise of his countrymen, to find their commodities of commerce continually in the hands of whoever he goes. I have not visited any considerable city of Turkey, where I did not find the Medicines of my country represented by Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. In Smyrna, Aleppo, Jaffa, Jerusalem and Constantinople, we see in each, on the door of some bazaar, the peculiarly American looking iron can of Dr. Ayer's, saying in a language which not one in a thousand of the passers by can read, 'Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for Coughs, Colds and Consumption, Sold Here.'"

On a shelf behind the cross-legged merchant, are seen the bottles with their labels in Spanish, French, German, faces turned towards the crowd, and on enquiring we are told that foreigners are not the only purchasers but the true believers themselves waive their trust in fate to try this product of American skill, when they find there is no other cure for their ailment.

I was told yesterday that the Cherry Pectoral had been presented to the Sultan, and is now in constant use in his harem, and in the Hospitals of the Empire!

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST.—Priest Morris, of Tamnaga, seems to possess the faculty of keeping continually in hot water. He has no sooner extricates himself from one collection of boiling liquid, than some he gets into another. This time he appears to be almost over his head in hot water. It has not long since he was convicted of an aggravated assault, and battery on one of his congregation. His present difficulty grows out of a charge of a more serious nature. The particulars of the case, we do not feel warranted in giving at present, as there has been no preliminary examination, the Priest being held to bail at his own request, to answer the charge at Court. The affair took place on Friday last, with a member of his church, in Tamnaga; and the member hotly pursued the Priest, who succeeded in escaping to Pottsville, where he was arrested on Saturday—Wednesday Dollar Journal.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The dinner given last evening, by the President to the Diplomatic Corps, took place at 9 o'clock, and the gentlemen present expressed their delight at the amiable hospitality of the President and his lady. The persons present were:—Mr. Cranston and his Secretary, Mr. Lumley, of England; Mr. Bailean and lady, of France; M. Stockal and lady, Russia; General Almonte, his Secretary and lady, Mexico; M. Marcellita and lady, Nicaragua; M. Sibben and lady, Sweden; Sr. Escalante and his Secretary, Spain; Dr. Andrade and lady, Brazil; Von Gerlach and Secretary, Prussia; M. Bouscheure, Belgium; M. Scheldens, Bremen; De Orma, Peru; Sr. Molina, Costa Rica; M. Winscombe, Naples; Mr. Hulseman, Austria; the President's lady, Gen. Thomas, Under Secretary of State, and Sidney Webster.



THE AMERICAN.

SUNBURY. SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1856.

H. B. MASSER, Editor and Proprietor

To ADVERTISERS.—The circulation of the Sunbury American among the different towns on the Susquehanna is not exceeded if equalled by any paper published in North Pennsylvania.

EDITOR'S TABLE. BUSINESS NOTICES.

THE HOLY TREE INN.—A Christmas and New Year story, by Charles Dickens. This is the latest of those entertaining stories by one of the most entertaining writers of the age.—For sale by T. B. Peterson, Philadelphia.

We call the attention of our readers to an advertisement of the sale of real estate by the Executors of Henry Masser, deceased.

Also, to the advertisement of a Jan. in Union County.

Also, to the advertisement of J. M. Dale, to builders.

Also, to the advertisement of J. D. Dale, Plating Machinery.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.—We shall endeavor to make arrangements that our subscribers will have no further cause of complaint in not receiving their papers. In a few instances the fault may have been in us, when a press of business, or illness among our hands had caused some delay, but with a few exceptions, our papers have been regularly mailed. We trust our subscribers will have no cause of complaint hereafter.

The proceedings of Court will be found in another column. A considerable amount of business has been transacted. Judge Jordan permits no time to be wasted.

SNOW.—Since our last issue we have had another edition of snow, so there is an abundance of material for good sleighing on the ground. The merry sleigh bells are heard jingling in every direction. But these are not the only bells brought into requisition on such occasions. Other bells, who might be properly termed slouching bells, packed in the sleigh, often do much execution, especially among those who are not too old to be susceptible of the tender passion.

The new County Treasurer, George Bright, was installed in office on the 1st inst., in place of Francis Bacher, whose term has expired. The office, under Mr. Bacher's administration, was kept, for the first time, in the county buildings, as the law requires, and it is not, perhaps, out of place, to remark that the duties of the office have never been more ably or efficiently performed. Much of this, no doubt, due to the services of Mr. J. W. Bucher, his assistant.

EX-GOVERNOR BULLER was elected U. S. Senator on Monday last, in place of Hon. James Cooper, whose term of service expired on the 4th of March last. Gov. Bigler is a sound man, of unblemished character, and stands high in the confidence of his party.—He also holds the office of President of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad. It is not, we believe, his intention to resign the latter office, but to devote all the time he can spare from his duties at Washington, to its promotion. As it has been extremely difficult to get an individual to harmonize the various conflicting interests in this improvement, we should regret the resignation of Gov. Bigler, unless some good man could be agreed on with more unanimity than heretofore.

SUNBURY ACADEMY.—We call the attention of our readers to the following in relation to the opening of an Academy in this place. It is an object of importance and deserves encouragement.

The Sunbury Academy will open on Monday morning 21st inst., in the school house near the Lutheran Church, under Mr. John Leach A. B., graduate of Dickinson College. Persons feeling an interest in the establishment of a permanent school are requested to give attention to this matter. The school will not be under the Superintendence of any particular church.

S. R. Peal, } Trustees, B. Hendricks, } Ira T. Clement, }

SUNBURY AND ERIE RAILROAD. The passenger trains are now running regularly between Sunbury and Williamsport.

The passenger train from Williamsport arrives at this place at 9.15, A. M., and leaves for Williamsport at 10.45, A. M. The station for this place will be, for the present, at the viaduct over the turnpike, near the town hill. About the first of February two passenger trains will run over the road, and the time will be arranged to form a connection with the Philadelphia and Sunbury road, when the trains on the latter road will leave this place at 9 o'clock, A. M., instead of 8 A. M., as at present. The coal train leaves Sunbury, for Williamsport, Elmira, and intermediate places, at 7.00, A. M., and arrives here from Elmira, Williamsport, &c., at 6.20 P. M.

BOUNTY LAND LAW. The law of March 3d, 1855, granting bounty land for services in the late war, requires amendment in a particular that does great injustice to quite a numerous portion of our citizens, who are justly entitled to bounty land. The act of 1855 allowed, in the absence of record evidence, that parol proof might be made to establish the claim of the applicant. The act of 1855 requires record evidence in all such cases. This is all wrong. Cases have come under our own observation, where one third of the company, or all who were living, were willing to testify to the services of individuals, who are deprived from obtaining their bounty land, because their names do not happen to be on the rolls at Washington. We trust that our able and efficient senator, Hon. Richard Brodhead, who was mainly instrumental in the passage of the late act, will endeavor to procure a supplemental act, authorizing and requiring the Commissioner of Pensions to receive parol evidence in such cases.

PROCEEDINGS OF COURT.

Commonwealth vs. Peter Mc Bride. Indictment, Burglary and Larceny. Deft. pleads guilty and submits to the Court. Sentence deferred.

Some vs. Samuel Armstrong, Surety of the Peace. On hearing, the deft. sentenced to pay the costs of prosecution, and to give security in the sum of \$50 for good behavior to all good citizens, and particularly to John Reno, the prosecutor.

Some vs. Patrick Burke. Indictment for assault and battery. Contined.

Some vs. John Wynn. Indictment, abstracting public road. Nolle prosequi by leave of court.

Some vs. H. J. Wolbert. Assault and battery. Ignoramus, and Walter Bell, prosecutor for costs.

Some vs. J. Shamberger and Henry Warhine. Charge of Larceny. Ignoramus, and prisoner discharged.

Some vs. Nathan Burgett. Indictment, Larceny of wearing apparel. Prisoner plead guilty, and sentenced to pay \$1 fine, costs, and six months imprisonment in Penitentiary.

Some vs. Same. Indictment for Larceny of bank notes. Plead guilty. Sentenced to \$1 fine, costs, and nine months imprisonment in the Penitentiary.

Some vs. Michael Barce. Charge assault and battery. Ignoramus, and prosecutor, Geo. Garman, for costs.

Some vs. John Brooks. Indictment for malicious mischief. Prisoner pleads guilty.—Sentence, fine of \$1.00, costs, and imprisonment in County Jail for one month.

Some vs. John Johnson. Indictment for passing counterfeit money. Verdict not guilty, and prisoner discharged.

COMMON PLEAS. Jacob Fry, Jr., vs. John Fry, et al. Feigned issue. Verdict for defendants.

Joe, Hammer vs. John Hoffman. Piff suffers not out.

Joe Foster vs. J. D. Fisher. Action for malicious prosecution. Verdict in Plaintiff's favor for \$50.00.

David Teas vs. John Sweeney and wife. Action of assumpsit. Verdict for defendant.

Isaac Campbell vs. Henry Huff. Assumpsit. Verdict for defendant.

E. Y. Bright et al. vs. Phila. and Sunbury R. R. Co. Assumpsit. Verdict for Piff.

M. O. Lyon vs. C. Riebach. Action of Trespass. Piff suffers not out.

David Ireland Adm'r of Steeler vs. Joe, Orr. Action sci. fa. sur. Judgt. Verdict for Plaintiff.

Bray, Webster vs. R. Phipps et al. Trespass for filling up Piff's dam with coal dirt. Verdict for Piff \$25.00.

EX-SHYDER COUNTY.—A new Post Office is established, called Troxville; Wm. B. Baum, post master.

An aged man, Ludwig Yeller, of West Beaver, was almost instantly killed on the 24th ult., working in a limestone quarry.

The Snyder County Building Committee have contracted with George Smith of Middleburg, for building the Court House, for the sum of \$5,500; and with Isaac Walters of Franklin township, for building the Jail, for \$4,500.

S. Newhall proposes to publish an independent English paper at the county seat to be called the Middlebury Journal.

The Seinsgrove Democrat of Saturday 5th says:—Two unfortunate accidents happened in our Borough during last week. Old Mr. Becker and old Mr. Dietrich each broke a leg. The fracture occurred in each in the upper part of the thigh bone. Mr. Becker broke his by a fall in his room, and Mr. Dietrich his by a fall at his door. Both of these gentlemen are over eighty years of age.

THE WEST BRANCH BANK. The Board of Directors of this institution on the 9th inst., elected Oliver Watson, Esq. President, in place of A. Updegraff, Esq., resigned. We have known Mr. Watson many years. His mind and business habits, are admirably adapted for the position he holds, and we doubt whether a better person for the station could have been selected.—This Bank has been, since its reorganization, exceedingly fortunate in securing the services of good officers. We therefore cheerfully endorse the following from the Williamsport Gazette:

"While the public will part, with regret with Mr. Updegraff, the late President, who (in connection with Col. T. W. Lloyd, late Cashier), conducted the affairs of the bank for many years past with signal success; still, it is a matter of congratulation to all that the Directors have been able so worthily to fill his place. The success which has invariably attended Mr. Watson in all his business undertakings—the promptitude and fidelity with which he has discharged all the various and important duties devolving upon him as a public officer, a member of the bar, and as a private citizen—surpassingly forebode the future of the West Branch Bank, while he shall preside over and govern its destinies."

SENATOR BULLER.—We are informed that a number of the principal stockholders and other interested in the Sunbury and Erie Railroad, in view of the election of the U. S. Senate of President Bigler, waited upon him and expressed their desire that the Company should not thereby lose his services. As President, so far this season, is 257,375. On Saturday last, hogs were held in that city at \$5 15 a \$2 25, without sales.

THE WESTERN PORK TRADE.—The price of pork at the West, continues dull, and the supply large. The quantity from Kentucky this year will far exceed the last. In Ohio, the receipt of hogs at Cincinnati, by railroads, during the past week, was 29,000, against about 19,000 the previous week. The total number slaughtered for packing, at Cincinnati, so far this season, is 237,375. On Saturday last, hogs were held in that city at \$5 15 a \$2 25, without sales.

PATENT FOR PIPE MAKING.—An Englishman has obtained a patent for the following method of making pipes: he takes thin strips of wood, and bends them spirally and diagonally, and fills up the interstices with asphalt or cement.

A TRIVIA CITY.—The St. Paul (Minnesota) Times has an article giving the business statistics of the place. It shows an average increase of business over last year of some 30 to 50 per cent. The nine ware-houses on the levee are set down as having done business of over \$1,000,000, on an aggregate capital of \$60,000. Navigation open seven months. Whole number of steamboats arrived, 560. Estimated number of passengers over 80,000.

Which of England's colonial possessions appears best qualified to render assistance to the mother country? Canada (Can-aid-ber).

Correspondence.

Correspondence of the American.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 15, 1856. H. B. MASSER, Esq.—Dear Sir,—Now since the election of a U. S. Senator is over, the next important question that will attract the attention of the legislature, is the election of State Treasurer, which is to come off on Monday next. Like the senatorship, the question will be decided in caucus, and the election by the convention of both houses will be but a mere confirmation of the work already done by King Caucus. Some men are evidently horn to good luck, and Governor Bigler is certainly one of them. Not that he is not meritorious or deserving, but unlike many equally deserving, his merits have not been overlooked. The Governor is emphatically a self-made man, the architect of his own fortune, which, together with a streak of good luck, running through his whole life, has placed him in his present proud position. His example is worthy of imitation, and affords another of those numerous illustrations of the beauty and excellence of our republican institutions.

In caucus, the vote on the first ballot stood for Wm. Bigler, 18; John Robbins, of Philadelphia, 15; Henry D. Foster, 13; C. A. Buckalew, 6; David R. Porter, 9; J. Glancy Jones, 8; Wilson M'Canless, 6; Scattering 6. Gov. Bigler was not nominated until the 10th ballot, when the vote stood for Bigler, 43; Foster, 18; Buckalew, 11; Jones, 7; Robbins, 3.

An attempt was made a few days since to repeal the liquor law of last session unconditionally, and thus restore the old license system, previous to its enactment. The year and may being called, the vote stood 63 years, says 35. As two thirds were necessary to suspend the rules, the bill was not taken up. The vote, however, shows a decided majority against the present act. The opponents of the present law are divided into two classes as the debate of this morning proved. One section are in favor of the unconditional repeal of the law, and the substitution of the old license system; while the others are in favor of the repeal of the law, but wish to substitute for it a stricter license system.

In the House the Committee on Vice and Immorality reported a bill to repeal the act of last session. It contains simply the repealing clause, proposing no substitute for the system now in existence. The object is to revive the license system as it existed before the passage of the law sought to be repealed.

The Governor, failing to effect a sale of the public works in June last, advertised for the reception of sealed proposals for their sale or lease. Two offers were received by the Governor, and read in the House.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company propose to purchase the Main Line of State Improvements; also, the Columbia Railroad only. For the Main Line from Philadelphia to the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers, including the real estate, shops, tools, engine houses, depots, locomotives, cars, toll houses, lock houses, water power, and other property connected therewith, the sum of seven millions five hundred thousand dollars, (\$7,500,000) Payments to be made as follows: Five hundred thousand dollars on the delivery of the works to the Company, in cash or certificates of State loan; ten per cent. of the remainder on the 20th day of July, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and ten per cent. annually thereafter until the whole amount is paid.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company will further agree to keep up the canal portion of the line east of the Allegheny mountain; also, that part of the line between Blairsville and Pittsburgh, until the North-Western Rail Road shall be opened for running from Blairsville to the Allegheny river. The Company will also agree to purchase the Philadelphia and Columbia railroad at its cost of construction, to be determined by three eminent engineers, to be appointed by the State with the concurrence of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

The Harrisburg, Portsmouth, Mount Joy and Lancaster Railroad Company submit the following proposition for the purchase of the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad, and all the real estate, rolling stock and other property connected therewith—to be subject to all the rights and privileges contained in the charter and supplements thereto of the Harrisburg, Portsmouth, Mount Joy and Lancaster Railroad Company. The purchase money to be four millions of dollars—eight to be paid ninety days after the acceptance of this proposal, in cash or certificates of State loan; one-eighth on the first day of January, 1856, and one-eighth annually thereafter, until the whole shall have been paid.

Your Representative, Mr. Zimmerman, introduced some days since, a bill to authorize the Sunbury Canal and Water Power Company to borrow any sum not exceeding \$100,000, to complete their canal and improvements.

Also, a bill extending the time for the completion of the Philadelphia and Sunbury Railroad for three years, authorizing the company to declare semi-annually, such dividends from the net earnings as they may deem expedient, and empowering them to contract for locomotives and cars for their road, and execute a mortgage or mortgages upon them for the debt contracted.

Mr. Fry read in place a bill, the object of which is to repeal the present Justices fee bill, and revive the fee bill of 1814, which is much higher than the present.

MORE ANOS. WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Mr. Faulkner, of Va., intends submitting a proposition that, if no Speaker shall be elected by Monday next, the members resign, and the House adjourn to meet on the first Monday in May next.

The despatches received by the Government by the Atlantic contain nothing particularly important concerning affairs between Great Britain and the United States.

UNCERTAINTY OF LIFE.—The biographical sketch of the poet Rogers, in the London Times, was written some five years since, in anticipation of his death, then expected—his biographer has been three years in the grave!

The work on the Washington Monument has been suspended for want of funds.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 14, 1856.

SENATE.—A number of petitions were presented from citizens of York, Bradford, Crawford, Chester, Northampton and Bucks counties, for the repeal of the usury laws.

Mr. Wilkins read in place a bill to amend the practice in Courts in civil cases; also a bill to amend the practice in county chancery proceedings.

A resolution was offered and adopted, that after Monday next, the standing hour of meeting shall be 3 o'clock.

The Speaker and members of the Senate then repaired to the Hall of the House to participate in the election of U. S. Senator, and upon their return adjourned.

HOUSE.—A number of petitions were presented for the repeal of the restraining liquor law; and one from Joseph Paxton, Columbia county, for a law to secure citizens of slaveholding States the right of transit through Pennsylvania with their property, which bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The bill for the more speedy specification of the relief issues was reported back, with a negative recommendation.

The following, among a number of other bills, were read in place:—To regulate the number of voting, &c., in Montgomery county; a supplement to the act incorporating the Lackawanna Railroad Company; a supplement to the act incorporating the Susquehanna Railroad.

ELECTION OF UNITED STATES SENATOR. The Speaker and members of the Senate were introduced at 12 o'clock, and the two Houses went into Convention, the Speaker of the Senate presiding, for the purpose of electing a United States Senator, to serve for six months from the 4th of March, 1856.

On the first ballot William Bigler received 82 votes, Edward Joy Morris 3 votes, and J. C. Flemming, Mr. Morris not voting. Messrs. Price, Jordan, and Mellinger of the Senate, and Messrs. Buchanan, Hamilton, and Swanson, of the House, absent.

Wm. Bigler was thereupon declared elected, and the usual certificate of election drawn signed and read, after which the Convention adjourned.

The Senators having retired, a report of the proceedings of the Convention was made to the House, which then, at twenty minutes past 12, adjourned.

THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS. First Session. WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 1856.

HOUSE.—