

Foreign News.

ARRIVAL OF THE PERSEA.

LATER FROM EUROPE. Trip in less than ten days—Great Railway Defalcation—The Storm of the English Coast—The Financial Crisis—The Queen in an Interesting Situation—Raising of the Bank Interest.

The steamship Persea arrived at New York yesterday from Liverpool, on the 15th instant, her trip being in less than ten days.

Mr. Ronald Redpath, the Register of the great Northern Railway of England, has abandoned, being a defaulter to the amount of £150,000.

The Emperor Napoleon remains at Paris, Gen. Kessel, the Russian Ambassador, has delivered his credentials and was favorably received.

The position of the Bank of France was not improving, and the continued diminution of specie has given rise to reports that the reluctance of the Emperor to consent to the suspension of specie payments has been overcome, in which case the Bank would probably resume the practice of discounting ninety day bills.

A despatch from Constantinople states that the Persian troops were introduced into Herat by their auxiliaries, but were soon driven out with heavy loss.

A detachment from the Persian army before Herat had seized the Afghan city of Farrah, and sent the Governor a prisoner to Teheran. Advice from Kabul, to the 1st October, reported Herat as still held, but not, according to a despatch from Vienna, "it was believed that Herat had fallen."

The Anglo-Indian expedition has probably sailed by this time and a counter demonstration by Russia, from the Caspian, is looked upon in some quarters as not unlikely.

In the provinces of Teheran, paperism is decreasing to such an extent that some of the workhouses are all but tenantless, in Dublin there are no such pleasing tidings to tell. There are, it appears, 2100 provincial papers in the North Dublin Union Workhouse.

It is said that Her Majesty is in a condition to render the direct succession to the throne a matter of even greater certainty than it is at present, and that in March next it is most probable another prince or princess will be presented to the nation.

Mr. Little, cashier of the Midland Great Western Railway, has destroyed himself, by cutting his throat. Discoveries of defalcations are the supposed cause.

THE COST OF WAR. We have been much interested in an article in Putnam's Monthly, for August, under the above caption. It furnishes some astonishing details of the cost of war to the leading nations of the world.

The figures which are given as the cost to Great Britain for war past and prospective, for ten years, are, as follows:—The cost of the war of 1815, £25,000,000, while all its other expenses amounted to but \$30,000,000.

In speaking of these immense sums, the words do not convey to the mind an adequate idea of their vastness, and it is only by measuring them with the standards that we begin to appreciate them. The war tax in Great Britain, in 1854, was nearly three fourths of a million of dollars daily, or \$24,000,000 for every hour, all to be drawn out of the laboring class.

That Christendom enters upon the last half of the 19th century with an unpaid war bill amounting to \$9,000,000,000, with other liabilities. What a legacy for future generations. But the most aggravating circumstance connected with this appalling indebtedness is the fact that, in some cases, it will go down to those with the solemn assurance of those who contracted it, that it was all a mistake, and might have been avoided.

Eminent statesmen representing all parties in the British Parliament have declared in a collective opinion to the world, that the long wars with the French Republic and the Empire, were all waged upon a wrong principle, and might have been avoided with honor.

The interest on the war debt of nations, at five per cent, will amount to \$450,000,000,000 yearly. Then there is a considerable sum to be raised for war prospective, in the mere preparation for war in time of peace. This sum cannot amount to less than \$400,000,000,000 yearly. This grand aggregate tax of \$900,000,000,000 yearly, imposed upon the people of the civilized world, the earnings and industry of the people by war past and prospective. This sum is equal to the whole value of all the experts of England, France and the United States put together. It is twice the amount of rental of all the real estate in Great Britain, exceeds the net profits of all the manufacturers in Christendom, and is equal to the yearly wages of four million free, bonded and semi-agricultural laborers, at \$200 a head.

It would support one million two hundred thousand ministers of the gospel, allowing each \$750 per annum, giving a religious teacher and pastor to every seven hundred and fifty persons of the whole population of the globe.

A NEW APPOINTMENT of the State for Senators and Representatives will be made by the Legislature elected last month. With a Democratic majority in the House, an opposition majority in the Senate, and an American Republican Governor, there is no reason to expect a quiet session. Representatives are appointed in the ratio of one member to every hundredth part of the whole number of taxable in the State. What this total is we cannot know until the Auditor General makes his annual report to the Legislature. Last year it was \$45,000,000, and this year the Patterson Gazette thinks it will be probably not far from \$50,000,000, which would give 500 as the ratio. Respecting the changes to be wrought by the appointment, and the proposed divisions of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, the Gazette says:

Some changes will necessarily be wrought in the appointment. The strictly agricultural counties will lose, while the mining and manufacturing counties will gain. Backs and Bucks will each lose a member, and Schuylkill and Allegheny will each gain one. Westmoreland and Fayette will lose one, and the counties west of the Allegheny will probably gain one among them under a different combination than now exists.

The amendments to the Constitution now pending, and which will come before the coming Legislature, propose to change the mode of representation, so that the ratio of Philadelphia will be 100,000 to one, and the city of Allegheny to one; and would break up, to some extent, the unity of the large delegations from Philadelphia; but the plan has yet to pass the ordeal of the Legislature and be submitted to the people, and cannot go into operation until 1864.



THE AMERICAN.

SUNBURY.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1856.

H. B. MASSEY, Editor and Proprietor

To ADVERTISERS: The circulation of the Sunbury American among the different towns on the Susquehanna has exceeded that of any paper published in North Pennsylvania.

NEW GOODS.—The Merchants of this place, though not as early as some of our neighboring towns, have now received a handsome supply of New Goods. In this their customers will not be the losers, as goods, at this season, can be purchased cheaper than they could have been a month or two since.

We refer our readers to the advertisements of Messrs. E. Y. Bright & Son, I. W. Toner & Co., P. W. Gray, and Frilley & Grant who have just opened a new stock of Merchandise of every variety.

The sale of a number of Shamokin town lots will take place on Saturday, the 29th.

THE CANAL COMMISSIONERS have appointed Thos. W. Lloyd, Supervisor for the West Branch, G. W. Search, for the North Branch, and Wm. Elliott, for the Susquehanna Division.

Grantham I. Taggart advertises for sale some valuable real estate in the Borough of Northumberland, late the estate of Jas. Taggart, deceased.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE CANAL COMMISSIONERS.—THE POLICY OF ABOLISHING THE BOARD. For a number of years past, suggestions have come from various sections of the commonwealth, urging the propriety of abolishing the Board of Canal Commissioners, as now organized. The fact that undue influence had impaired the efficiency of the Board, has long been apparent, and it was not, therefore, surprising that complaints should have become loud and general.

But the patronage of the Board is large, much greater than that of the Governor, and is freely used to silence those who have the power to apply the corrective, and who often use that power for the most unscrupulous purposes. That it should be a head or organization, to control our public works, as long as they belong to the State, is not doubted, but such a head should be independent, and responsible only to the people.

"Elected by influence or advanced by gain." No man in connection with the present mode of making appointments, will pretend that such is now the state of affairs. The tenure by which the members of the board hold their office, is the result of legislative enactments, and it is not uncommon or unexceptionable for members, not only to advise, but to dictate to the board, the appointments they desire. And thus they are frequently made to cover before an ignominious and despotic and tyrannical, as any that ever cursed the tribunals of ancient Greece or Rome.

It is high time that the matter is settled whether members of the legislature and their friends, or the commissioners, are to make the appointments. If the latter are afraid to assume the responsibility, the sooner that power is lodged in the hands of some efficient and responsible head, the better for the interests of the commonwealth and the morals of the community.

We cannot better illustrate the truth of the foregoing remarks, than by referring to the late action of the Board, particularly in the removal of James Diefenbach, the supervisor of the Susquehanna Division. It was in vain that Mr. Gay, the State engineer, went before the Board and urged the necessity of the continuance of Mr. Diefenbach. It was in vain that he stated that he was one of the most active, efficient and industrious officers on the public works, and had no superior in the State. It was in vain that that honest and unflinching old Democrat Thos. H. Forsythe, the President of the Board, urged, not only the necessity, but the justice of Mr. Diefenbach's appointment, who had not yet served the usual term, and against whom there was no complaint. The opponents of Mr. Diefenbach had personal resentments to gratify, and had made numerous promises of place and station, a title of which they never expected to fulfill. Legislative influence from this and other counties, coupled with threats, was brought to bear on the Commissioners. Stool-pigeon candidates for Supervisor were set up and knee caved, as a part of the game. The "Ornamental Major and Congressman" elect of this district, flushed with the excitement of a vainglorious victory, and other stimulating causes, heaved these forces, and with that most assured assurance, peculiar to himself, demanded numerous appointments, by virtue of "any position" the absurdity of which is, perhaps, made more palpable by the following colloquy, the truth of which can be testified by all present—

Major D.—Gentlemen I have a request to make of this board.

Mr. Forsyth.—Well sir, let us hear your request.

Major D.—I request the appointment of Mr. McCormick as Supervisor for the West Branch, Mr. Wolverson for the North Branch and Mr. Elliott for the Susquehanna Division.

Mr. Forsyth.—Is that all? Had you not better continue on down the line.

Major D.—No sir, that is all I request!

Mr. Forsyth.—A very modest request, truly!

Mr. D.—(stretching his points) My position I think entitles me to make this request.

Mr. Forsyth.—I have held a number of positions myself and have yet to learn why a man's position should give him privileges over others. A member of Congress is no better than the humblest individual, and frequently not as good. Besides I don't see what business a member of Congress has to interfere with the appointments of the Canal Board.

LANCASTER BANK. We find the following in regard to the Lancaster Bank in the money article of the Philadelphia Ledger. From what we can learn, we would advise the note holders not to make much of a sacrifice. Note holders come in before other creditors. Those holding notes of \$5, first, \$10 next, and so on to the highest denomination—

The stockholders of the London Lancaster Bank had a meeting in that city on Saturday last, at which, as we learn from the "Express" there was a full and free interchange of sentiment. Mr. A. H. Smith, the newly elected President, was the principal spokesman, according to the report. He was elected to his place on Monday afternoon, and the Bank failed that night. Efforts were made to continue on, and a committee of Directors had unsuccessfully visited the Philadelphia banks with the view of inducing them to continue their favor to the Lancaster Bank. There was no alternative but to stop. A careful investigation had been made, the result of which was submitted to the meeting in the following classified form:

ASSETS.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Godd, Due by banks and Bankers, Notes and Checks of other banks, Specie, Bonds & mortgages, Banking house, Bills discounted, Doubtful, Bills discounted, Bad, Factory stock, West Chester rail-road stock, Bills discounted, LIABILITIES, Notes in circulation, Due to individual depositors, Due to Banks, Due to Dividends unpaid.

Mr. Smith further remarked that if time was given, much of the assets set down as doubtful and bad might be made available. They would therefore recommend a mild, pacific course, and that some time have to be given to those who have already been injured. We must first save ourselves, and then it will be time to take such a legal course as may be deemed necessary. Mr. Smith then submitted and recommended the following:

The present stockholders of the Lancaster Bank to relinquish their stock to the Bank. The present Stockholders to retain the number of shares originally held by them respectively, and pay in on the same \$25 per share.

The present Depositors in the Bank to take the original shares not retained by the present stockholders, in consequence of inability or other sufficient cause.

The 4,000 additional shares, authorized by the charter, to be taken by citizens not interested in the Bank, and pay in on the same \$25 per share; also,

Present Depositors to accept certificates payable in one, two and three years. This will give the Bank a cash capital of \$200,000.

Mr. Smith said this plan had been pursued some years ago by the Grant and Penn Township Banks, and he thought it could be done in this case with equal advantage. Mr. Brown offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five stockholders, who have not been connected with the Bank as officers, be appointed to make a thorough investigation of its condition, and make report to an adjourned meeting of the stockholders, which report shall embrace as follows:

- 1. The condition of the bank, whether solvent or insolvent. 2. If found insolvent, to report the cause or causes of its insolvency, and the manner in which such insolvency was produced. 3. The true or false state of the losses incurred, which have rendered it insolvent. 4. The names of the officers and directors under whose administration the insolvency of the Bank occurred.

This report was adopted, and the Chair appointed W. W. Brown, Jacob B. Telsmith, Joseph Kung'macher, E. C. Bengart and D. G. Swartz, the Committee under it. Mr. Hester expressed his conviction that the Bank can be made solvent—its debts and liabilities discharged—but this would require the most cautious management. If they were to resort to a course of liquidation, the result would be the same, and the loss to the creditors would be increased. Meeting adjourned to December 6th.

SALE OF SHAMOKIN TOWNS LOTS.—NOTES OF THE LANCASTER BANK will be taken at Part for all payments made on Saturday next, November 29th, on lots purchased at the sale then to take place. So we are authorized to say by Messrs. Baumgardner & Cochran.

THE NEW METHODIST CHURCH at Northumberland was dedicated to the Service of God, on Sunday last. There was a large attendance, and upwards of one thousand dollars were collected, which, not only clears the Church of debt, but leaves a small surplus.

The building is elegant and neat in its style of architecture, and has cost about six thousand dollars. The interior is handsomely frescoed, and altogether the building is creditable to the town and those engaged in its erection. A new bell, weighing 600 lbs, was put up in its steeple on Monday last. A town clock is to be added shortly.

ARTESIAN WELLS.—A New Orleans paper notices the return of a U. S. officer of Engineers, from the plains of New Mexico and Texas, where he has been engaged with a company of men for two years past sinking Artesian Wells. About \$40,000 has been spent in the experiments and it has proved a failure. The borings were to 800 feet but the water, in no instance, it seems, could be brought to within 100 feet of the surface. A green—cretaceous marl, was found in abundance.

The battalion of 814 men Camels imported for our army it is said are flourishing in Texas and are rapidly increasing in number. Under the command of an intelligent graduate at West Point.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK.—The December number of Godey has already come to hand. The contents are worth double the cost of the book. Besides 100 pages of reading there are sixty-nine engravings.

THE HUMORS OF FALCONBRIDGE.—T. B. Peterson has published in a neat volume, fully illustrated, the "Humors of Falconbridge," being a collection of humorous and every-day scenes by Jonathan P. Kelly.

(From the Portland (Me.) Argus) Exciting skirmish with the Indians in Texas. The following description of the successful repulse of Indians by Captain S. D. Carpenter, of the army, was extracted from a letter of the acting surgeon of Camp Lancaster, giving an account of the affair, partly as a spectator of some distance, and partly as he was informed at the time by those immediately engaged. Captain Carpenter is the son of Joshua Carpenter, formerly Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, who was born in Paris, Oxford county, in 1818, educated at West Point, and graduated in 1840.

CAMP LANCASTER, TEXAS, Oct. 16, 1856. A few days since our camp was in a high state of excitement in consequence of a brush with the Indians, and the fears entertained of the entire loss of our party. Captain Carpenter, of the first infantry, who commanding the post, went out with a small team to procure some poles for the purposes of the encampment. The party consisted only of the Captain, armed with a fowling-piece, and a revolver, two mechanics with rifles, privates McCullough and Deion, with muskets, and the acting Provost-marshal, who accompanied some poles for the purposes of the encampment. The party consisted only of the Captain, armed with a fowling-piece, and a revolver, two mechanics with rifles, privates McCullough and Deion, with muskets, and the acting Provost-marshal, who accompanied some poles for the purposes of the encampment.

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THE INJURED HUSBAND GAME. A strong case of this modern infamous conspiracy to extort money, took place last week in Boston. A Baltimore merchant was entrapped by the arts of the wife of one of the Harris of Lowell, formerly known as an editor of an obscure sheet in New York, who gave out that he was coming "Down East" An elopement was planned, and the Baltimorean met Mary—that was the name—who was not unknown in Baltimore, at the Lowell Depot, and escorted her to the American House, where they took a room. Meantime the injured husband took counsel, and a writ with an ad damnum of \$100,000 put in as the sum requisite to smother his wounded honor.

Midnight was set apart for the scene and the husband, intending himself for the occasion, girded himself with pistols and dirks, and accompanied his distinguished course and a deputy-sheriff, repaired with the clerk of the American House to the room. Admission was obtained. The husband was in a temper—Baltimorean proposed to retreat. Mary hid her countenance and could not look her injured lord in the face, and begged forgiveness for her "indiscretion"—husband moderated his severity and dropped from \$100,000 down to 50, to 30, 25, 20, 10 and at last \$5,000, and agreed to take his wife back.

The \$5,000 was made over in a draft of \$2,000 on Baltimore at sight, and three notes of \$1,000 each and the Baltimorean left inconquently. The sympathizing counsel received \$100, and the deputy \$45, for their nocturnal services.

Subsequently officer Ham, of the police, hearing of the affair, and knowing Harris to be a practised swindler, proceeded to Lowell and arrested him and his "wife." Harris destroyed the three notes, and the draft, which was lodged with a State street broker, was stopped, and nothing but the lack of a more powerful protection prevented his receiving merited punishment. So this infamous game was hanked. The swindler got not a cent but was out of pocket \$145 to his legal assistants, who will also reap their share of contempt. The Boston Courier says of the heroine:

"Mary, the heroine of this vulgar affair, is quite an artist in her way. She is described being a small, tender, lady-like little body, with qualities equal to any emotion—from the deepest and most touching sorrow to the grandest fascination—every quick complete; every muscle tingle, every gesture studied, every eye not emitting sparks, to indicate sensibility to shame which she never felt; and then softened to grief's lowest and blindest measure. The oldest disciple of I chery could not withstand her tears; and she envisaged Holmes and the stern Har a little moved, although they kno be counterfof of

AMONG THE WOMEN OF THE DAY.—We have visited with considerable gratification the "repository" of foreign newspapers of all nations at Holloway's Pill and Ointment Establishment, 24 Strand, which present an immense amount of information on all subjects political, mercantile, statistical, and philosophical, from at least 2,000 foreign papers received in this establishment in the course of each week. This immense collection of journals affords in the great city advantages to the enterprising capitalist, and commercial world generally, a course of intelligence most valuable and never to be attained. The establishment is visited by the nobility, members of Parliament, contributors of the press, mercantile men, and also by an immense number of distinguished foreigners of all nations. It is managed by several clerks, who classify and file the papers in portfolios, which they give to the gratified and respectable visitor applying for information.—Morning Herald, London, January 28, 1856.

The Southern Convention, about to assemble at Savannah, is in its character purely industrial, seeking for the South an independence, not political, but that which will secure the country's energy for wants out of her own creative supplies and without a dependence upon others. Politics are excluded and schemes of disunion, the Savannah Republic, can say form a part of its purposes.

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SUNBURY PRICE CURRENT. WHEAT, 150. RYE, 62. OATS, 45. POTATOES, 50. BEANS, 25. HECKED FLAX, 10. BUTTER, 25. EGGS, 12. POULTRY, 8. FRESHEN, 150. TALLOW, 12.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. CENTRE OF ATTRACTION! LARGE ASSORTMENT OF FALL AND WINTER GOODS. CHEAP—HANDSOME—DURABLE.

These qualities combined, the public will find by calling at the Store of E. Y. BRIGHT & SON.—Their assortment is large, and will be disposed of at a small advance.

THE LADIES. Will find among our Dry Goods—Wool Plaid, Black and Fancy Silks, Plaid Lanna Flannels, Alpaca, solid colored and Fancy Delaines, Debege, Scotch Plaid, Figured Cashmere, Persian Twill, Coburg Cloth, Gingham, Calicoes, Delans and Debege Robes, Figure Silk, Wool Hoods, Opera Caps, and Woollen Cuffs.

LADIES AND CHILDREN WOOLTALMAS Gun Belts, Belt Ribbons, Mohair Hand Dresses, Gilets, Needle-worked and Bagle Collars, Quilted Jackets, Fencing, Bunting, Sewing, Mull, Quilted, National Quilt, Quilted, Mullin, Brilliantine, and a general assortment of white Goods.

Wool and Cotton Carpets, Oil Cloths, Oil Shades, Hocheale blankets, Turkish counterpanes, quilted table covers, tickings, scarfs, kid, silk, lace, thread, and wools.

OUR HARDWARE. Embraces all kinds of building material, a large stock of Carpenter's Tools of the best manufacture, files of every description, picks, grub axes, Mason's hammers, bar, iron, steel, nails, putty, galls and oils, window sash of all sizes, gimblettes, Circular and Mill Saws.

Our Groceries. We are fresh and pure, among which may be found, G. A. Salt, Mackarel, Shad, Codfish, boxed and pickled Herring, Goshen and Sage Cheese. The best of tea, sugar, coffee, &c. &c. We return our thanks to the public for our increasing patronage, and respectfully invite an examination of our stock, as we deem it a pleasure to show our Goods.

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