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DEMOCRATIC STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Democratic State Executive Committee will be held at the BURLINGHOPE HOUSE, Harrisburg, on Wednesday, January 23, 1861, at 7 o'clock P. M. Democratic papers in the State will please copy.

WILLIAM H. WELSH, Chairman.

It will be seen by the above notice, that the Hon. W. H. WELSH, Chairman of the Democratic State Executive Committee, has called a meeting of said Committee to take into consideration the existing state of things in the country. This determination on part of Mr. WELSH is in accordance with the wishes not only of many members of the Committee of which he is Chairman, but also with those of the Democracy masses all over the Commonwealth.

The Democracy of this State have waited, patiently waited, the action of the dominant party in the Legislature, now in session in this city, on the questions involved in the unhappy controversy between the North and the South—a controversy brought about by the action of that same party—in the hope that at a time like the present, when the very existence of the government is threatened, when the foundations of the Republic are giving way, and naught but ruin stares us in the face, that the so-called Republican party would take such wise, conciliatory and conservative action as would at least place proud old Pennsylvania in an attitude worthy her former history, and geographical and moral position. But this hope has failed.

The passage of the Senate resolutions by the House of Representatives on the 22d inst., has effectually dispensed the last vestige of hope which a patriot might cherish, that the Republican party in the Legislature has either the will or the patriotism to rise above the level of the blinded partisan and enunciate a thought or give utterance to a sentiment that could in any way contribute to healing the wound.

The time has come, therefore, when the Democracy, who have ever stood as the constitutional advocates and the defenders of the rights of all the States, and who on many a memorable occasion have withstood the shock of fanatic and frenzied folly and madness—who have on many a battle-field, rendered glorious by their valor and constancy, beat back the insidious or open invaders of the rights of the people—to come up to the rescue of their country in this most trying hour, and speak in tones of thunder, their will and purpose.—Let the word be passed from lip to lip, from house to house, throughout the entire Commonwealth, that Pennsylvania, through her Democracy, will be heard at this alarming and perilous moment. Let her take her stand alongside of her powerful and patriotic sister, Virginia, and assume the proud position of mediators between the wild fanaticism of the extremists, both North and South.

To faller now is criminal on the part of the Democracy. But of that we have no fear. In our judgment, the committee should promptly recommend the assembling of a State Convention at this place, at the earliest possible day. Let the Democracy send to that Convention their best and truest men, and our word for it, the result of the proceedings of such an assemblage will be both opportune and salutary.

Can we say more than this? Is it necessary to rally with burning words the men of a party who have always responded with promptitude and alacrity to the call of their country? We answer—no. Remember that he who places himself between his country and destruction, when her interests, her honor or her glory requires the sacrifice, renders himself immortal in the affections of his countrymen.

The Virginia Movement. We are glad to see, says the Journal of Commerce, the noble old State of Virginia moving in behalf of a peaceful adjustment of the disunion question. Nor are we surprised at her action, which, indeed, was predicted in our columns, at an early stage of the difficulty. The position of Virginia gives her great influence with both sections of the Union, and in taking measures, before proceeding to separate herself from her sister States, to procure a consideration of the grievances which form the cause of complaint, she is but carrying into practical effect, that moderation and forbearance, and patriotism, which the crisis demands.

The appointment of Commissioners to meet representatives from other States at Washington, and also to visit the South Carolina and United States authorities, and to ask for a cessation of hostilities until peaceful measures can be first tried, is a wise and discreet exercise of Legislative power, and we trust will exert a healthful influence in all quarters. Let the other middle or border States concur in this plan, and co-operate with Virginia in her noble efforts to save the Union. It is by conciliation and consultation—not by denunciation

and rashness, that the disunion spirit on the one hand and the demand for coercion on the other is to be stayed.

Should this plan, thus inaugurated by Virginia, have the effect to hold the disunion movement in check for a season, we shall appeal with renewed confidence to the people of the whole Union, to review their action, and to render justice and constitutional rights to every portion of the confederacy. It cannot, it must not be that the madness of sectionalism is to prevail, at the cost of free government. Let us first pause, and then let us, at whatever cost or sacrifice, fulfill every constitutional obligation.

Extending the Area of Freedom. Some of the Republican press suggest a new plan for extending the "area of freedom."

It is nothing less than to buy all the slaves in Maryland, Missouri, Delaware, Arkansas and Texas, and thus make them free States. This can be accomplished, it is estimated, at a cost of a hundred millions. We see several trifling objections to the consummation of this project. It takes two to make a bargain. The slave-owners in these States are not willing to sell, and the government has no power to compel them. In the next place, if they were willing to sell, where would we get the money to buy? The treasury is not burdened with a surplus, to be expended upon sentimental philanthropy. It racks all the ingenuity of our statesmen to provide sufficient means for the ordinary purposes of government; and it is almost useless to inquire whether the abolitionists would be willing to subscribe the neat little sum of a hundred millions, knowing that they are not in the habit of contributing even small sums to purchase the freedom of individual slaves.

If the intention is to make the government pay this money, then some extraordinary system of taxation must be resorted to, and the States aforementioned be compelled to furnish their quota of the fund necessary to purchase their own slaves—to which arrangement they would very naturally and properly object. But setting aside these obstacles, and supposing this project practicable, the most serious question would be what to do with the emancipated slaves. The States where they are now held in servitude do not endure them as freemen, and the free States are not anxious for an accession of this sort of population.—They would be thrown upon us as vagrants.—We have more than we want already of negroes who enjoy the inestimable blessings of freedom; and we are anxious to spare others the degradation which freedom brings to the great majority of this race.

We are inclined to think that the North will demand three conditions precedent to the consummation of this plan for extending the area of freedom. First, that the States holding the slaves consent to sell; second, that the money to buy be raised by voluntary subscription; third, that the purchasers provide homes and occupation for the emancipated slaves outside of the limits of the United States. When their philanthropy rises to this practical standard, it may be worth while to consider this proposition.

Mr. Letcher's Remarks. We call the attention of our readers to the cogent and eloquent speech of this gentleman, in our columns this morning. Mr. L.'s remarks do him infinite credit, and prove him to be not only an apt but an able representative. He has reflected credit upon his constituents and himself by his able defence of the amendment he advocated, and by the forcible manner in which he discussed the whole subject.

His scathing animadversions on the position of Mr. Williams, of Allegheny, on this question, are fine specimens of a style that is but seldom attained by our public speakers now-a-days, and evince an amount of ability in so young a man as Mr. L. that is both cheering and refreshing in these dull, prosaic times, when but few men possess either the brains, education or courage to grasp a subject and to do it justice. We congratulate Mr. L. on his maiden effort, and trust that he will not weary in well doing.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Patriot and Union.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22, 1861. DEAR PATRIOT:—The most solemn and affecting scene was witnessed in the Senate to-day that ever witnessed in that body. It was the final drawing of the Senators from the States of Alabama, Florida and Mississippi from the Senate.—Mr. Clay, of Alabama, recounted to the Senate a long list of grievances and aggravated wrongs perpetrated by the people of the North upon the people of the South, and of the patient endurance of them from their attachment to the Union, and the hope of a returning sense of justice in the North. Gov. Fitzpatrick expressed his full concurrence in the remarks of Mr. Clay. Mr. Yule, of Florida, also commended the undivided and riveted attention of the Senate and galleries in his parting speech. Col. Davis—the gallant Davis who fought so valiantly our battles in Mexico, and was made a cripple for life by the wounds received in them—made a few remarks which touched the hearts of all who heard him. He said he would carry no hostile feeling towards any Senator with him to his State, and if he had said or done anything to wound the feelings of any Senator, he offered him an apology, and if any one of them, in the acerbity of debate, had said anything to wound his feelings, he freely forgave them. I am incapable of giving anything like the scene as it was; but I saw the tears trickling down the faces of the Senators, of all parties, until my vision became dimmed with unbidden tears in my own eyes. I felt as if I was witnessing the funeral obsequies of this great Nation. As Col. Davis was about retiring from the Senate chamber—alas! I am grieved to say, however, the Senators rushed towards him to give him a parting shake of the hand. Even General Wilson, of Massachusetts, who had served on the committee with him, extended the hand of affection to him, and the same scene was enacted in regard to all of the retiring Senators. My God, where is our beloved country drifting to? I feel so depressed that I can scarcely write at all. I must, however, not omit to say a word in relation to the noble and gallant bearing of General Cameron, of Pennsylvania. At the close of the affecting scene he made a speech of a most conciliatory character that will redound to his honor through all time. He rose far above petty considerations which chain politicians to the juggernaut car of relentless partisanship, and boldly proclaimed his determination to sustain measures that would avert the further dissolution of the Union. He expressed his willingness to support any reasonable measures, or to vote for the propositions of his colleagues, (Gov. Bigler), to submit the question to a vote of the people, thus showing himself to be a true friend of the

people when their dearest interests are in jeopardy. His remarks elicited a very handsome eulogy from Mr. Sautsbury, of Delaware, in some eloquent remarks made by him on the occasion. Gov. Bigler made one of his ablest speeches to-day, abounding in patriotic sentiments and potent arguments, and which every true patriot who loves his country should read. Gov. Corwin, of Ohio, and Gen. Millson, of Virginia, made patriotic and conciliatory speeches in the House on the report of the committee of thirty-three. Yours truly, SOLO.

PENNA LEGISLATURE.

SENATE. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1861.

The Senate was called to order at 11 o'clock by the SPEAKER, Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Colder. Journal of yesterday read and approved.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE. Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Roads and Bridges, reported the supplement to the act incorporating the Delaware County turnpike company, as committed.

BILLS IN PLACE. Mr. PENNEY, a supplement to the act incorporating the Citizens' passenger railway company of Pittsburg. Mr. SEERILL, an act authorizing the directors of the poor and house of employment of Delaware county to sell certain real estate. Mr. HIESTAND, a supplement to the act incorporating the Lancaster and Ephrata turnpike or plank road company. Mr. IRISH, a supplement to an act in relation to the rights of property of husband and wife.

ORIGINAL RESOLUTION. Mr. FINNEY offered the following: Resolved, That the Secretary of the Commonwealth be directed to inform the Senate how many, if any, of Rogers' Geological Survey remain in his office for distribution, and if there remains a surplus number of copies over the number to be distributed to those now entitled to receive them—which was twice read and passed.

BILLS CONSIDERED. The bill to incorporate the Penn gas coal company came up on second reading, and its passage was advocated by Mr. SMITH. Mr. PENNEY opposed the bill, as it proposed making a corporation, the object of which was to build a railroad fifteen miles in length, under the general railroad law, instead of the special act.

Mr. FULLER offered an amendment subjecting the railroad to the restrictions of the act in relation to lateral railroads, except so far as the length of the road is concerned, which was adopted. Mr. FULLER moved to amend the 3d section so as to make the road not to exceed seven miles in length, which was agreed to. The section as amended was passed—yeas 19, nays 8.

Mr. FINNEY moved to amend the 7th section, so as to give the company corporate privileges for twenty years, instead of twenty-five, which was agreed to. Mr. FULLER offered an amendment to the 8th section, making the stockholders individually liable for all the debts contracted. Mr. SMITH offered an amendment to the amendment making the company liable only to a certain extent, which was lost—yeas 13, nays 16.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. FULLER, it was agreed, yeas 19, nays 15. Mr. WELSH offered as a substitute for the 8th section, the general liability clause known as the Lackawanna provision, making the company individually liable for all debts contracted, and defining the process of law by which such debts are to be collected.

Mr. M'CLURE offered an amendment modifying the amendment which makes the stockholders responsible for all debts, which was adopted. The amendment as amended was carried. The question recurring on the section as amended. Mr. FINNEY moved to still further amend, by making the stockholders liable in their individual capacity for all debts due to the amount of their capital stock.

Tending which, on motion of Mr. HALL, the bill was postponed to the present. Mr. HALL read in place a supplement to the act incorporating the Tyrone and Clearfield railroad company. Mr. M'CLURE offered a resolution that 1,000 copies each of the Surveyor General and Adjutant General's report, be printed for the use of the Senate, which was agreed to.

Mr. SMITH offered a resolution that the pasters and folders be appointed Assistant Door Keepers, pending which, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

EVENING SESSION. TUESDAY, JAN. 22, 1861.

The House met at 7 o'clock and resumed the consideration of the Senate resolutions relative to the maintenance of the Union. The question was taken on the amendment proposed by Mr. DUFFIELD, substituting the resolutions offered by Mr. WELSH in the Senate, and it was rejected by a strict party vote—yeas 26, nays 51.

Mr. SMITH (Philadelphia) then proceeded to speak against the Senate resolutions. He deplored the precipitate action of our Southern brethren, and said that our whole history as a nation had been one of concession and compromise to bring about a reconciliation. Our duty counsels moderation.

Mr. BLISS (Bradford) argued at some length in favor of the resolutions. The question was then taken on the resolutions as they came from the Senate. The first passed unanimously. The second was agreed to—yeas 68, nays 1 (Mr. BUTLER, of Carbon).

The third was agreed to—yeas 87, nays 1 (Mr. RANDALL, of Philadelphia). The fourth was agreed to—yeas 54, nays 20. The vote on the fifth resolution—yeas 67, nays 19, on the sixth—yeas 63, nays 23.

The question on the final passage of the resolutions was decided in the affirmative by a strict party vote. The House then, at 9 o'clock, adjourned.

MORNING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23. The House met at 10 o'clock, and was called to order by the SPEAKER.

SPECIAL ORDER. The special order of the day being the consideration of resolutions of Mr. ARMSTRONG on the state of the Union, they were, on his motion, postponed until to-morrow morning.—On motion of Mr. BARNESLEY, the resolutions were ordered to be printed.

Mr. LIGHTNER WALKER said that the Legislative Record contained an incorrect report of his speech. By an understanding with the printer, new and correct copies were to be furnished.

ORIGINAL RESOLUTIONS. Mr. PRESTON offered a resolution giving one copy of Ziegler's and Sutherland's Manual to the Door-keepers, Clerks, etc. Agreed to. Mr. SELTZER offered a resolution declaring petitions out of order except by unanimous consent of the House, except on two days of the week, viz: Monday and Thursday. The yeas and noes were required, and the resolution passed by a vote of 68 yeas to 22 noes.

Mr. SHEPARD offered a resolution calling upon all the Heads of Departments for estimates for the ensuing year. Agreed to.

BILLS IN PLACE.

Mr. SMITH, (Berks,) an act reducing the State tax. Mr. MULLIN, an act extending the limits of the borough of Johnstown, and for other purposes. Mr. BUTLER, (Carbon) an act relative to the

Susquehanna Philadelphia and Wilkesbarre telegraph company. Mr. DUNCAN, an act relative to the Tyrone and Clearfield railroad. Mr. ACKER, an act relative to dogs in the county of Chester. Mr. GORDON, an act incorporating a company to build a bridge over Clearfield creek. An act to authorize certain trustees to sell certain real estate in Lock Haven. Mr. LAWRENCE, an act appointing commissioners to lay out a State road in Elk county. Mr. GORDON, an act relative to the county of Cameron; an act relative to pleading in certain courts. Mr. PATTERSON, an act to incorporate the Bank of Juniata Valley. Mr. BYRNE, an act incorporating the Lackawanna-savings bank. Mr. PUGH, an act relative to the Lackawanna and Susquehanna railroad company; also, an act incorporating the Pittston hose company. Mr. LAWRENCE, an act re-establishing the road laws in the county of McKean.

Mr. JORDAN, an act relative to holding elections in Mercer county; also, an act authorizing the Auditor General to settle certain accounts with the Lewisistown water company. Mr. BRODHEAD, an act relating to sheriffs giving deputy sheriffs power to acknowledge deeds in court in case of the sickness of the sheriff.

BILLS PASSED. An Act relative to the Tyrone and Clearfield railroad company, allowing the issue of a 2d mortgage, and the borrowing of \$50,000. An Act incorporating the Eagle library company of Philadelphia. An Act relative to the Summerton M. E. Church, Philadelphia. An Act incorporating the Lathrop & Wilson sewing machine company. Adjourned.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

XXIVth CONGRESS—SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 23.

SENATE.—Mr. Bigler (Pa.) presented a memorial, asking for the passage of the Crittenden resolutions. Mr. Collamer (Vt.) introduced a bill to regulate the collection of imposts, recommended by Mrs. Green (Mo.) introduced a joint resolution appointing A. J. Greenwood, Beverly Johnson and Montgomery Blair, Commissioners to make a full and equitable settlement of all claims between the United States and Wm. H. Russell—Laid over.

Mr. Deollitt (Wis.) presented the credentials of Senator Trumbull, re-elected to the United States from Illinois. Mr. Chandler (Mich.) presented the memorial of citizens of Michigan, requesting against any change in the Constitution.

Mr. Trumbull presented memorials from the citizens of Illinois expressing the opinion that a division of the Territories by the line 36 degrees 30' will be a satisfactory settlement of the present national difficulties. Mr. King (N. Y.) presented a petition for the preservation of the Union; also, against any change in the pilot laws.

Mr. Sibley (Ia.) asked to take up the resolution in regard to the President's message respecting the appointment of Wm. Holt as acting Secretary of War. He moved that the resolution, together with the message, be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

House.—Mr. Colfax (Ind.) called up the Post Route bill, which passed the House at the last session and was returned from the Senate with amendments, which were now considered and nearly all agreed to, including the provisions for procuring and furnishing one cent stamped wrappers and envelopes, requiring letters which are advertised to be returned to the dead letter office within two months; letters for the seaboard to be retained for a longer period under the Post Office regulations, &c.

Mr. Colfax (Ind.) said that the Committee on Affairs and Post Roads, recommended a non-concurrence in the Senate amendment proposing to limit the compensation to railroad companies carrying the mail, to \$200 per mile per annum for first class service, and \$80 for the second class, and \$40 for the third class, the speed not to be greater than twenty, seventeen and twelve miles per hour, for each class. This would be a saving to the Treasury of \$365,000, but the committee think that such a reduction would have the effect of deranking the mail.

Mr. Sherman (Ohio) gave his reason why he hoped that the amendment would be adopted, having a view to economy. Mr. Branch (N. C.) opposed it. He said the compensation was now inadequate, and a reduction would induce the contractors to refuse the contract. There was no power here to control the speed of the cars.

After further debate the amendment was rejected. From Washington. WASHINGTON, JAN. 23. The Railroad Convention of the five east and west trunk lines, has adjourned to meet at New York on the 20th of February. A schedule of rates for freights, between all east and west points, was adopted. This restores the figures of the St. Nicholas and Saratoga meetings, with a slight variation regarding passenger-fares. The first and second sections of the arrangement is reaffirmed, making the favors uniform, and dispensing with runners.

The deliberations that the freight from the south and south west, with the exception of cotton, has greatly decreased, while the movements of produce from the north west and central west, north of the Ohio river, is unusually large. All the roads report increased receipts over January, 1860. The income on some of them was very heavy, and, as an instance, it was mentioned that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the most Southern of the five great lines, and the increase of which is less than that of others, shows an enlargement in revenue on eastern freight of \$25,000 for the first twenty days of the present month over a similar period of last year. A general falling off is reported in the passenger receipts, and westward bound freights. Much of the produce movement is for Europe. All the five lines are deriving increased business from the diversion of the cotton of the South-western States from the Southern Atlantic and Gulf ports.

The Convention including the leading railroad minds from Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. An excellent feeling prevailed, and the prospects of the eastward business is regarded as encouraging.

All the parties seemed earnestly anxious for a settlement of the national difficulties, and Senator Crittenden's plan, or its equivalent, met with general approval. The members of the Convention have exerted their best efforts with their respective members of Congress and others to secure conciliation and peace.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, JAN. 23.

The steamship Arago, from Havre and Southampton, with dates to the 9th inst., has arrived. Capt. Ingram, of the U. S. Navy, and James Leslie, bearer of dispatches, are among the passengers.

The ship, Brandywine, from Mobile, had gone ashore at Carnore Point, Ireland, and was full of water. Crew saved. The Arago passed the City of Washington on the 19th inst. The latter sailed from Liverpool on the 9th, with nearly half a million in specie.

FRANCE.—The general affairs of the Bank of France are discouraging, and a deficit of two millions is expected at the next report. The American panic has affected France equally with England. American stocks are dull.

SOCIETY.—GARRA, Jan 5.—The shells thrown by the Sardinians have penetrated to the room over that occupied by the King. His ministers insist that he shall change his quarters. The shells also reach the central hospital. TURKEY.—CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 2.—Hungarian and Polish Garibaldian volunteers are arriving at Pera on the way to the Danubian principalities. AUSTRIA.—VIENNA, Jan. 9.—The Emperor has proclaimed a very comprehensive amnesty for Hungary, Transylvania, Croatia and Slavonia. ROME.—ROME, January 5.—Placards have been posted exhorting the Romans to await the arrival of the Sardinians. The Neapolitan troops have been ordered home. A depot of arms has been discovered in the Foro Appio. The commercial advices are no longer than received yesterday by the steamer Marathon.

Position of Louisiana. BAYON, Jan. 22. The Governor's message to the Legislature has been sent in. He says that our enemies will find throughout Louisiana that there is but one people in one heart and one mind, not to be ejected into an abandonment of just rights, and not to be subdued. All hopes are at an end that the disunion between the north and the south can be healed, as all the propositions made by the moderate men have been contemptuously rejected. The cry of the north is for coercion, and there is no longer any doubt of the wisdom of that policy which demands that the conflict shall come and be settled now. The whole tone of the message is uncompromising.

From Mexico. NEW YORK, Jan. 23. The schooner Fannie, with Vera Cruz dates to the 10th, has arrived at Galveston. It was reported that Miramon, with his principal officers, including the Minister of Foreign Relations, had been captured by the Libians. Miramon subsequently escaped, after killing three of the Indians. President Juarez left Vera Cruz on the 5th for the Capitol, to establish the Liberal Government.

The Secession of Florida.

PENSACOLA, Jan. 23. A salute of thirteen guns has been fired from Fort Barrancas, in honor of the lone star flag of Florida. Two Columbiads have been mounted at this fort. Fort Pickens and Fort McRae are being invested, and the guns directed against them are manned by the allied forces of Florida, Alabama and Mississippi.

Seizure of Arms, Ball and Powder on a Southern Steamer at New York. NEW YORK, Jan. 23. Thirty-eight cases of muskets, containing two dozen each, together with a quantity of ball and gunpowder, were seized to-day by the police on the steamer Monticello, which was about to sail for Savannah. Fifty troops arrived at Fort Hamilton from West Point to-day.

Conciliation in Rhode Island.

PROVIDENCE, Jan. 22. The Senate to-day rejected the "Personal Liberty Bill" of this State, by a vote of 21 yeas to 9 nays. The subject was warmly discussed in the House, when the further consideration of the bill was postponed till Thursday.

Arrest of Defaulting Pennsylvania Railroad Ticket Agents.

BOSTON, Jan. 23. Charles E. and E. P. Evans have been arrested here on the charge of defrauding the Pennsylvania railroad, by not accounting for tickets sold by them.

GENERAL NEWS.

A RUSSIAN NOBLEMAN REWARDED FOR HIS EMANCIPATION LABOR.—A Russian functionary of high rank, of St. Petersburg, who has taken a very active part in bringing about the emancipation of serfs, and is well known for the liberality of his opinion, received, a few weeks since, a large packet, carefully sealed, containing shares in the Russian stocks (to the value of fifty thousand rubles, and an anonymous letter praying him to accept the gift from one who respected and admired him for the service he had rendered to the country, and especially to the cause of emancipation. "I am rich," said the nobleman, "whereas your private interests have suffered from your devotion to the public weal. Do not scruple to accept, for the sake of your children, the gift I offer you. You will probably learn it soon, for I am already old." The Emperor decided that there was no reason why a gift so delicately offered should be refused.

A remarkable meteor was seen on the morning of the 11th inst., at a quarter before 3 o'clock, at various places in Illinois. It was very large and brilliant, and exploded with a report like a cannon. It remained in sight from three to five seconds, and disappeared in the northwest, its course having been eastward with great velocity. It left a little inclined downward. At Chicago, three or four large meteors were seen, but accounts from other places mention that there was one body like a ball of molten iron, and some smaller ones, apparently merely detached portions of it. In some places the explosion is spoken of as having been tremendous, like the bursting of a loud, deep, rumbling sound, that gradually died away. At Barrington and Lake Zurich the houses shook, and windows rattled, and the people awoke from sleep very much alarmed.

THROWN OVERBOARD.—The rumor that the Marquis of Devonshire had thrown his daughter's lover overboard from his yacht, in Naples, and drowned him, is explained by the London Times as a misapprehension of the common idiom phrase, "thrown overboard." It is said that a letter was written by one of the party on board the Sylphide to a friend at Turin, in which he described a very trivial disappointment sustained by another of the party by the words we have quoted. The phrase, however vague, is in such common use, and so perfectly understood in its restricted sense as "foiled," or "disappointed," that no Englishman would probably have misapprehended its meaning.

THE AMERICANS AT SWASTON.—Col. Gowen, the American contractor for raising the vessels sunk in Shelburne harbor during the Crimean war, employs daily about 200 men, who, with clerks, &c., occupy the naval arsenal, which was converted into a rendezvous specially for them. The operations connected with the raising of the sunken ships, &c., are on a large scale, and it is supposed will occupy two years more before the harbor is totally cleared, although it is now navigable. Col. Gowen, who is held high in the estimation of both the Russian and American Governments, along with Capt. Nichols and Mr. France, are the parties who have the charge of the graveyards.

ADVANCE WAGES TO BE PAID TO THE SAILOR IN PENSON.—It being found impossible to over- come the combined influence of the sailor boarding-house keepers, in abolishing the pernicious custom of paying advance wages to seamen, Judge Hoar, of the Supreme Court, has decided that the wages must be paid directly to the seaman, and not at his order, thus establishing in him at least a nominal control over his own money.

The New York Correspondent of the Charleston Courier says: "John Brougham, the well-known actor, who is now in London, has determined not to return to this country. He has sent over for his family to join him in England. His success abroad was greater than he himself anticipated."

The Boston Courier says that on Thursday Governor Andrew received from some unknown person in Baltimore, a package containing one hundred Minié rifle bullets.

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER BLOCKADED.—The dispatch announcing that guns had been planted at Vicksburg by order of the Governor of Mississippi, to intercept all passing steamboats, seems to be confirmed. The Memphis Avalanche, of the 7th inst., says: "Just above Vicksburg, by direction of Gov. Pettus, a battery has been erected, and every boat hailing from north of Mason's Dixon's line is compelled to round to, and give an account of themselves. The Imperial, from this port, passed there during the night, and was forced to land at the behest of a twelve-pound shot fired across her bows. Of course she was all right and went on."

The Memphis Appeal has also been informed by one of the clerks of the steamer Simonds that four guns are placed at the foot of the bluff, a quarter of a mile above the wharf-boat; that while the Simonds lay there she had trip up the river, blank cartridges were fired to bring to and cause to land the Gladiator, the Imperial and the A. O. Taylor, and that it was understood that if the summons was not attended to, the next gun would be shot. The object of the surveillance has not been made known.

LIFE INSURANCE SUIT RESTORED TO THE COURT OF INTEREST.—Last week the Circuit Court at Rochester, New York, was engaged in the trial of a case entitled Henry Rawles vs. American Life Insurance Company. The plaintiff had a policy of insurance on the life of John L. Fish, taken in 1853 to secure debt. The company declined to pay the amount of the policy, on the ground that Fish was intemperate when it was issued. The case was tried and decided for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed. An appeal was taken and the General Term set aside the verdict on account of an error in ruling. The case was again tried and resulted in a verdict for \$11,617, the full amount claimed and interest. In the progress of the suit, the question arose as to how much a man might drink and not be drunk. Witnesses varied their answers according to their peculiar notions. Some thought two or three glasses a day were sufficient, while others contended for more.

THE EXILES OF SIBERIA.—The average number of persons exiled to Siberia yearly is about 9,500, exclusive of the women and children that accompany them. To get to the station of Tobolsk they have to travel from 927 to 4,500 versts, according to the district they start from. From Tobolsk to Tumen is a journey of 85 days, to Krasnoyarsk 116 days, and to Irkutsk 177 days. Most of the exiles go through Irkutsk to Merchinsk. This long journey, made by the criminals promiscuously with the women and children has a lamentable effect upon their morals.

MARRIED.

On the 22d inst., by Rev. James Colder, Mr. WILLIAM WELSH, of Chester county, and Miss ELIZABETH C. GRADY, of Perry county, Pa.

New Advertisements.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE.—Will be sold at Public Sale or Outcry, at the corner of Fourth and Chestnut streets, in the city of Harrisburg, on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1st, 1861, at 10 o'clock A. M., the following articles:—FOUR HORSES, one 7 1/2 year old, one 5 year old, one 4 year old, one 3 year old, one 2 year old, one 1 year old, one 6 months old, one 3 months old, one 1 month old, one 1 week old, one 1 day old, one 1 hour old, one 1 minute old, one 1 second old, one 1 third old, one 1 fourth old, one 1 fifth old, one 1 sixth old, one 1 seventh old, one 1 eighth old, one 1 ninth old, one 1 tenth old, one 1 eleventh old, one 1 twelfth old, one 1 thirteenth old, one 1 fourteenth old, one 1 fifteenth old, one 1 sixteenth old, one 1 seventeenth old, one 1 eighteenth old, one 1 nineteenth old, one 1 twentieth old, one 1 twenty-first old, one 1 twenty-second old, one 1 twenty-third old, one 1 twenty-fourth old, one 1 twenty-fifth old, one 1 twenty-sixth old, one 1 twenty-seventh old, one 1 twenty-eighth old, one 1 twenty-ninth old, one 1 thirtieth old, one 1 thirty-first old, one 1 thirty-second old, one 1 thirty-third old, one 1 thirty-fourth old, one 1 thirty-fifth old, one 1 thirty-sixth old, one 1 thirty-seventh old, one 1 thirty-eighth old, one 1 thirty-ninth old, one 1 fortieth old, one 1 forty-first old, one 1 forty-second old, one 1 forty-third old, one 1 forty-fourth old, one 1 forty-fifth old, one 1 forty-sixth old, one 1 forty-seventh old, one 1 forty-eighth old, one 1 forty-ninth old, one 1 fiftieth old, one 1 fifty-first old, one 1 fifty-second old, one 1 fifty-third old, one 1 fifty-fourth old, one 1 fifty-fifth old, one 1 fifty-sixth old, one 1 fifty-seventh old, one 1 fifty-eighth old, one 1 fifty-ninth old, one 1 sixtieth old, one 1 sixty-first old, one 1 sixty-second old, one 1 sixty-third old, one 1 sixty-fourth old, one 1 sixty-fifth old, one 1 sixty-sixth old, one 1 sixty-seventh old, one 1 sixty-eighth old, one 1 sixty-ninth old, one 1 seventieth old, one 1 seventy-first old, one 1 seventy-second old, one 1 seventy-third old, one 1 seventy-fourth old, one 1 seventy-fifth old, one 1 seventy-sixth old, one 1 seventy-seventh old, one 1 seventy-eighth old, one 1 seventy-ninth old, one 1 eightieth old, one 1 eighty-first old, one 1 eighty-second old, one 1 eighty-third old, one 1 eighty-fourth old, one 1 eighty-fifth old, one 1 eighty-sixth old, one 1 eighty-seventh old, one 1 eighty-eighth old, one 1 eighty-ninth old, one 1 ninetieth old, one 1 ninety-first old, one 1 ninety-second old, one 1 ninety-third old, one 1 ninety-fourth old, one 1 ninety-fifth old,