



We have received a communication from an adjoining county complaining of a combination amongst the Columbia county Lawyers; but as the Senior Editor is absent, we shall refrain from any remarks upon its contents. However, we feel at liberty to say, that if they have formed such a combination, we are confident it has not received his sanction; as he would neither condemn talents because inherited by those of an adjoining county, nor would he thus tacitly acknowledge the contemptibility of his own bar, and the superior qualifications of those who may attend from abroad to participate in the proceeding of the Columbia county courts.

The Case of Poke.

The Senior Editor has reported the proceedings in the trial of Thomas D. Poke for the murder of John Dornell, and the whole may be expected in the next and subsequent numbers of the Democrat. As this case will afford much interest to people in this vicinity, we shall print several extra numbers for the use of those who may desire a reading of the trial.

Columbia County Court.

But little business has been transacted at Court this week, excepting criminal cases. No cause on the Issue list was tried.

In the case of the Commonwealth vs. James Fox, on an indictment for larceny, the grand jury returned "no bill."

In the case of the Commonwealth vs. Philip Campbell for the murder of Patrick Felanagan, the Grand Jury returned "no bill;" and another indictment having been sent up for manslaughter in the same case, was also returned "no bill," and Philip was again permitted to enjoy his liberty. It will most probably prove a good lesson to him in his future life.

In the case of the Commonwealth vs. Thomas D. Poke, for the murder of John Dornell, the Grand Jury returned a "true bill." Messrs. Comly, Frick and Thornton, were concerned for the prosecution, and Messrs. Cooper and Montgomery for the prisoner. The testimony closed on Wednesday at noon.

On Thursday night the Jury delivered a verdict of Manslaughter, and Poke was to receive his sentence yesterday morning.

P. S. Yesterday morning (Friday) Judge Lewis sentenced Poke to 4 years solitary confinement in the Eastern penitentiary, and to give security in \$1000 for his good behaviour during the term of five years after the expiration of his imprisonment.

In the case of the Commonwealth vs. Jesse Robbins, for stealing a pocket book and a \$10 note from John Dornell, the prisoner was found guilty of stealing the pocket book, and sentenced to 3 months imprisonment in the county jail.

Death of Joseph B. M'Ilvaine, Esq.

We regret to announce to our readers the sudden death of Mr. M'Ilvaine, a member of the House of Representatives, from the city of Philadelphia. We learn from the Harrisburg Reporter, that Mr. M'Ilvaine complained of bad health on his return from the city after the adjournment, and had been confined to his room for a week past, tho' not considered seriously ill. On the morning of the 16th on the servant's going into his room he was found dead in his bed.

Late from Florida.

In another column will be found the latest and most important news from Florida, which is of a disastrous nature. A severe battle was fought between the Americans and Indians, in which the former sustained a loss of Twenty-eight killed, and 111 wounded!! The loss is stated to be a severe one; some of the most gallant officers in the army fell in the contest.

Eighth of January.

The anniversary of the triumph of American arms at New Orleans, was celebrated with much enthusiasm and eclat, in Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and other places.

Governor Ulmer's Message.

The dictatorial tone of the Governor's Message on the return of the Improvement Bill, which he suffered to become a law by lapse of time, without his official sanction, must call forth the condemnation of every republican and intelligent man. It is an unpopular hit for His Excellency, and notwithstanding his friends are using every exertion to make it palatable, the people en masse are denouncing it in the highest tones of disapprobation. We have neither time nor space to insert this document at present.

The Albany City Bank, and the N. York State Bank, have resumed the payment of their notes in specie. This is good news. But when will the period arrive when our own banks will have the honesty to follow this example, and redeem at least a part of the trash with which they have inundated the country?

CONGRESS.

There is nothing of an interesting nature from Congress. The Senate have not gone through with its consideration of Mr. CALHOUN'S resolutions on the slavery question. After a long and complex proceeding, Mr. CLAY'S substitute having been modified, it was finally adopted in the following form. The vote stood—Yeas 36—Nays 9.

Resolved, That the interference by the citizens of any of the States, with the view to the abolition of slavery in the District, is endangering the rights and security of the people of the District; and that any act or measure of Congress designed to abolish slavery in this District would be a violation of the faith implied in the cessions by the States of Virginia and Maryland, a just cause of alarm to the People of the slaveholding States, and have a direct and inevitable tendency to disturb and endanger the Union.

At a Court of Oyer and Terminer, held last week in Wilkesbarre, Luzerne county, two men by the name of Gilligham, were found guilty of murder in the first degree. Upon the verdict being rendered the Counsel for the prisoners moved for a new trial, and the court adjourned until the 27th of February.

The United States Magazine and Democratic Review.

We have received the second number of this periodical. It is embellished with a portrait of that distinguished Senator W. C. Rives, of Virginia, accompanied by a brief sketch of that individual. The present number cannot fail to please the taste and cultivate the mind; and the talent, tact, and energy with which it is conducted, will win for it the support and popularity of an intelligent community. In addition to several well written articles upon various subjects, political, scientific, and literary, there is appended to the Magazine a Monthly Historical Register, containing a general summary of political and domestic intelligence. Every man who feels at all interested in the affairs of the nation, and the success of the great principles of American democracy, should have this work, which will not only be of permanent historical value, but possesses a sound and vigorous literature.

Canada.

The news from the Northern Frontier is of rather a milder nature than that which we gave in our last. We have no doubt that the presence of General Scott and his forces, will restore peace, and suppress the fearful excitement which has heretofore prevailed in the minds of the people on the American side.

IMPORTANT DECISION ON NEGRO SUFFRAGE

The cases of the contested election of Abraham Fretz, Commissioner, and Richard Moore, Auditor, was argued on Tuesday last in the Court of Quarter Sessions, on the part of the complainants only, by H. Chapman, Esq. Neither Fretz nor Moore appeared, either by themselves, or counsel. Judge Fox delivered the opinion of the Court, at considerable length, upon the question argued, which was, whether a negro in Pennsylvania has the right to vote. The Court decided that a negro had no right to vote—that he was not a citizen within the meaning of the Constitution—and that the right of suffrage is restricted by that instrument to citizens.

We hope to be able in our next paper, to give the opinion of the Court at large upon this important subject. Judge Fox stated it to be his intention to reduce it to writing, and file it of record in the Court. We will only say at present, that so far as we could perceive, the reasons for excluding the negro from suffrage, appeared to be conclusive, even to many whose impressions had previously been different.

Doylestown Democrat.

From the Savannah Georgian of Jan. 6. FROM FLORIDA.

DISASTROUS INTELLIGENCE.—From Capt Mills, of the steamer Camden, from Gary's Ferry, arrived this morning, we learn that on the 27th ult. between Peas creek and the Big Cypress swamp, a small party of Indians was seen and pursued, and when the pursuing party reached the hammock, the Indians were discovered in great force, and a severe contest immediately ensued, in which 28 of our gallant troops were killed, and 111 wounded. Among the killed are Col. Thompson, Capt. Van Swearingen, Lieut. Brook and Lieut. Center, all of the Army, and Col. Gentry, Capt. Andrea, and Lieut. Walker, of the Mississippi volunteers, wounded. Col Gentry has since died.

The loss of the Indians not ascertained, but presumed to be large. A few days previous General Jessup captured 27 Indians near Fort Lane.

Since the above was written, we have been politely furnished with the following extra, which painfully confirms the above statement.

From the Jacksonville Courier.

We hasten to give to the public the following intelligence of a battle recently fought between our troops and the Indians. The place, as stated in the letter, is not known to us, or to the writer. Such accounts cannot but convince all, that the foe we are pursuing and fighting, is not to be contemned.

To the editor of the Jacksonville Courier: GAREY'S FERRY, Jan. 2, 1838.

DEAR SIR: I hasten to inform you that a battle was fought a few days since, (place not known,) between the Indians and part of the 6th Regiment of Infantry. We lost in killed and wounded 139; los of the enemy not known—the officers killed are Lieutenant Colonel Thompson, Captain Van Swearingen; Lieutenants Brook and Center, and Colonel Gentry of the Volunteers; Wounded 111—killed 28.

Your's in haste, RICHARD WEIGHTMAN.

Extract of a letter received from Black Creek dated,

JANUARY 2 1838.

An express reached here this morning, in 40 hours from Tampa Bay, bringing the intelligence of a battle having been fought between the Seminoles, under Sam Jones and Alligator, and the regular forces under Col. Z. Taylor, of the 1st infantry. It is not distinctly stated where the action took place, but presume it must have been in the immediate vicinity of Lake Kissimmee, as we know by previous accounts, via Fort Mellon, of his being there on the 23d of Dec: Both parties must have fought with the most determined bravery. We have met with a severe loss, Lieut. Col. Thompson, Capt. Van Swearingen, and Lieutenants Center and Brooks, killed. Capt. George Andrews, and Lieut. Walker, severely wounded; Col. Gentry, of the Mississippi volunteers, mortally wounded (since dead.) Killed and wounded, 139; say 111 wounded, and 28 killed. The loss of the Indians we have not ascertained, but they were completely cut up.

ROBBERY.

Some time about the 25th of December last, the stage office, under the Washington Hotel, was entered, and two trunks were rifled of their contents, consisting principally of clothing, and a few dollars in specie, which was not discovered until the morning of the 6th inst. Great praise is due Major Johnston, of the Washington Hotel, in ferretting out the villains, and we are gratified in being able to state that he has succeeded in securing two young men who had been employed on the stage route, and in no manner connected with Maj Johnston's house, as the persons who committed the theft. They are now in our jail and will probably receive their trial the present week of our court. We notice this circumstance, in order to disabuse the public mind, of any erroneous opinion that might be formed in relation thereto, as the theft was not committed strictly within the limits of his hotel, and we can further add, that the Washington Hotel is kept in a manner highly creditable to the landlord, and to the borough.—Penn. Reporter.

A HORRIBLE TRAGEDY.

The Louisville Journal of Saturday last says,— "Yesterday, at about half past 2 o'clock, P. M., Mr. H. S. Julian, the Treasurer of the Mechanics' Savings Institution, on returning from his dinner, found the door of the Banking house fastened. He soon succeeded in forcing it, and on entering, saw Capt. Clarendon E. Dix standing before him with the cancelling hammer of the Bank in his hand, Dix instantly rushed upon Julian, and struck him two or three times on the head with the hammer; but the latter wrenched the instrument from his hand, and rushed out of the door, and immediately afterwards, heard the report of a pistol.

The alarm was of course given, and several citizens entered the Bank, and found that Dix had shot himself through the head, after having, prior to the entrance of Julian, murdered the Clerk, Mr. Owen Parker, by striking him on the head with the hammer and crushed in a dreadful manner the whole of one side of his skull.—Parker was struggling in the last agonies of death when he

was discovered. We saw Dix at about 4 o'clock yesterday, when he was still breathing, but he died about half an hour afterwards. Several quarts of blood had streamed from the dead and the dying. Mr. Julian's wounds, it is feared, are dangerous, but strong hopes are entertained that they are not so.

The money drawer of the Bank was found open, and there is little doubt, that Capt Dix entered the Bank for the purpose of committing robbery. He has lived in this city for several years, and has generally been esteemed a respectable young gentleman, although we are informed that suspicion attached to him two or three years ago in the affair of the robbery on board the steamboat Philadelphia. He was recently married, and has a highly respectable mother living in Wheeling. Mr. Parker, his victim, was a gentleman of high standing in this city, and has left a wife and several small children. Dix and Parker had been regarded as intimate friends."

MURDER!

On the night of the 6th inst. an Irish laborer on the upper section of our Railroad, near Mr. Ripple's named James M'Glinchly, was murdered by a fellow-laborer, named John Murtaugh. The murdered person received thirteen stabs with a knife, and his head was beaten with a stone almost to flatness.—They had been on ill terms previously. A man named Tracy, came up and saw the conclusion of the horrid tragedy. He pursued Murtaugh, and with the assistance of aid from Mr. Ripple's, secured him. He was taken to Chambersburg prison, where he is at present.—Adams Sentinel.

A black man, named Daniel Johnson, was tried last week in York, for the murder of James Brown, also a colored man, and found guilty of murder in the first degree. A motion was made for a new trial.—lb

There has been a serious riot among the laborers on the Canal, near Cumberland, Md. The military were ordered out, and eleven of the ringleaders captured.—lb.

Flour.—A writer in the Baltimore Patriot estimates the stock of flour as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Location and Quantity. Dec. 27, New York 250,000 bbls. 24, Philadelphia 150,000 25, Baltimore 180,000 23, Alexandria 34,000 22, Richmond 12,000 22, Cincinnati 208,000 20, Pittsburg 16,000 22, Louisville 37,000 18, New Orleans 108,000 Total 1,050,000

How comes it in the midst of such plenty, that the poor are in want of bread. We answer that the flour as was the case last year is already in the hands of monopolists who by means of Bank facilities have been able to purchase it up, and who are wicked and heartless enough to withhold the "staff of life" from those who are not able to pay large profits.—Key Stone.

Female Labor.—The Boston Times boasts that the prices for female labor average one third, if not one half more in Boston than in this city or Philadelphia. We wish that without abating one cent of the Boston prices we could contradict him.—N. York Sun.

Breach of Promise.—A singular method of obtaining satisfaction for the non-fulfilment of a marriage contract is delineated in a Mississippi paper. The disappointed swain has advertised the faithless fair one, in order, as he says, "to keep any honest man from being duped by her perfidy."

HENRY FRANCISCO.

We learn from the Erie Observer, that the Governor has signed the death warrant of this individual, and that he will be hung, in the jail yard, in the borough of Erie, on Friday the 26th, inst.

POTATOES.

The Potatoes with me for ten years, the last excepted, has been a fair crop, but by adhering to the old method of tillage, has been more expensive than is necessary, as I find by the course I have adopted this season. I planted three acres the 29th and 30th of May, first ploughed, then manured with coarse barn yard manure; then ploughed again and harrowed. Struck out the rows three feet apart with a one horse plough, say five inches deep; dropping the seed eighteen inches apart—turned back the furrow, and the work was done. For hoeing first and second time, the cultivator, so gaged as to fill the whole space between the rows was passed through, followed by the hoe, giving a slight dressing, but making little or no hill, and the whole labor, after the ground was fitted, did not exceed three and a half days work to the acre. By use of the plough the seed was planted deep; the potatoes never takes a downward direction. The cultivator loosened and mellowed the earth so as to allow the roots to extend, and to occupy nearly the whole row. Get an expanding and contracting cultivator. Get one! get one! The product was over 430 bushels per acre, 1300 bushels from the three acres.

Remarkable escape from being buried alive.—A Paris Paper of Nov. 7th, received at N. Y. on Thursday, by the Rhone, has the following incident.

M. Decamps, a wealthy inhabitant of Lyons, fell into such a state of Lethargy on Friday, the 27th Nov. last that his friends believed him to be dead, and proceeded to the preliminaries for his interment. The coffin was brought, and his body placed in it. The funeral was to take place on the next Sunday, the cortege was assembled, and the undertaker was on the point of placing on the lid, and screwing it down, when the supposed defunct suddenly roused from a mere lethargy into which he had fallen, rose up and expressed a desire for something to eat. A sudden panic for a time paralyzed all present, but the sound of his voice dissipated their fears, and every attention was immediately paid him. He declared that he had been conscious of all that was going on, but was unable to make the least movement. He was soon so far recovered as to give assurance of many years of renewed life and activity. It had been at first intended that he should have been buried on the Saturday, in which case he would have perished by one of the most horrible of all death's.

The cost of advertising quack medicine in the twenty-four States, annually is supposed to amount to two hundred thousand dollars.—The Medical Journal says that a peck of pills a day is considered necessary for Boston, and half a bushel for New York.

The aggregate force in Florida under the command of Gen. Jessup amounts to 8993 men, consisting of 4637 regulars, 4078 volunteers, 100 seamen, and 178 Indians.

HYMENEAL.

MARRIED.—By the Rev. D. S. Tobias, on the 18th Inst Mr. ELIAS KRUMM, to Mrs. LIDIA FISHER, both of Hemlock.

OBITUARY.

DIED.—In this place, on Tuesday, SARAH youngest daughter of Mr. Nathan Bomboy in the third year of her age.

At Beaver Meadows on Sunday last, Mr. DANIEL STEINER, of Berwick, aged 57 years.

Tailoring Business.

B. RUPERT,

RETURNS his acknowledgments to customers for their very liberal support, and would now respectfully announce to them, and the public generally, that he has just received the latest

WINTER FASHIONS;

from Philadelphia, in which material changes are made. His shop is at the old stand, in the same building with the post-office.

None but good workmen are employed at his shop; and those who want their garments made in a neat, durable and fashionable style, are invited to give him a call, and they may rely on having their work well and expeditiously executed.

He would also announce that he continues regularly to receive the Fashions, and that any orders from abroad will be promptly executed.

Bloomburg, January 13, 1838.

A LIST OF LETTERS

REMAINING in the Post Office at Bloomburg, January 1, 1838.

- Mary Bowyer John Kline
John Baylor Emanuel Lazarus
Joseph Coleman Peter Mench
Lewis Compton Sabina Miller
Thomas Cox Andrew Melick
Andrew Emins Peter Miller, (Tanner)
Rev. Wm. J. Eyer G. & D. Newland
James C. Fox George Russel
Henry Geiger Daniel Reedy (2)
Daniel Geiger Charlotte Ritter
Thomas Hartman Mrs. Elizabeth Shumaker
Daniel Horner " Mary Sloyman
Catharine Hartman " Rebecca Vanderveke
Edward Hicks Henry Weaver
Mrs. Elizabeth Janoly Michael Walter
Rebecca I. Johnson Jacob Weiler
Mrs. Sally Ann Kendy George Zeigler 36

Persons calling for the above letters will please say they are advertised. B. RUPERT, P. M. January 13, 1838. 38-3t

The Estate of UZAL HOPKINS, Esq. deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Letters of Administration on the estate of UZAL HOPKINS, Esq. late of Bloom township, Columbia county, deceased, has been granted by the Register of Wills, &c. in and for said county, to the subscriber, resident in Bloomburg. All persons having claims on said estate are requested to present them for settlement; and those indebted are required to make immediate payment.

JOHN R. MOYER, Adm'r. Bloomburg, January 13, 1838. 38—6t

Salt! Salt!

25 BARRELS of Lake Salt, and a large quantity of Ground Alum Salt, just received, and for sale at the cheap store of J. T. Musselman, & Co.

SIX DOLLARS REWARD

WILL be paid, but no additional charges, for the apprehension and delivery of Isaac Hunter, an apprentice to the Tailoring business, who absconded from my employment on Sunday morning last. Said boy is about 16 years of age, fair complexion, dark hair, and had on a dark brown new coat and pantaloons. All persons are cautioned against harboring or trusting said boy at their peril. BERNARD RUPERT: Bloomburg, Dec. 8, 1837.