

A CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT BILL PASSED.

After every possible variety of legislative maneuvering on all sides, a majority has at length been found in both branches to agree to a Congressional apportionment bill. We annex the districts as constructed by the bill reported in the Senate by Judge Wilcox, which is now in the hands of the Governor and which he will doubtless sign.

Districts.	Population.
I. Southwark, Moyamensing Passyunk, (county of Phila.) and Cedar and New Market Wards in city.	63,239
II. City of Philadelphia, except Cedar and New Market Wards.	74,141
III. Northern Liberties and Spring Garden, county of Philadelphia.	62,323
IV. Kensington, North and South Penn, Roxborough, Germantown, Bristol unincorporated, Northern Liberties, Oxford Lower Dublin, Byberry, Moreland, Blackley, West Philadelphia and Kinsessing, county of Philadelphia.	55,958
V. Delaware and Montgomery.	67,032
VI. Bucks and Lehigh.	73,894
VII. Chester.	57,515
VIII. Lancaster.	64,203
IX. Berks.	64,569
X. Northampton, Monroe, Pike and Wayne.	66,555
XI. Columbia, Luzerne and Wyoming.	68,273
XII. Bradford, Susquehanna and Tioga.	69,462
XIII. Lycoming, Northumberland, Union and Clinton.	73,086
XIV. Dauphin, Lebanon & Schuylkill.	81,043
XV. Adams and York.	70,054
XVI. Cumberland, Perry and Franklin.	85,842
XVII. Huntingdon, Centre, Juniata and Mifflin.	80,148
XVIII. Greene, Somerset & Fayette.	72,371
XIX. Westmoreland, Bedford and Cambria.	83,290
XX. Beaver and Washington.	70,647
XXI. Allegheny.	81,236
XXII. Venango, Crawford and Mercer.	82,407
XXIII. Erie, Warren, M'Kean, Clarion, Potter and Jefferson.	69,221
XXIV. Armstrong, Butler, Indiana Clearfield.	74,409

From the National Intelligence.

Abstract of Appropriations, made at the last session of Congress for the half calendar year ending June 30, 1843, and the fiscal year ending June 30, 1844—that is, for eighteen months.	
Civil and diplomatic, 6 months ending June 30, 1844.	\$1,996,068 00
Civil and diplomatic, year ending June 30, 1844.	3,691,951 00
Military establishment, Fortifications.	4,733,130 00
Naval establishment.	808,500 00
Indian Department.	9,139,784 00
Pensions, invalid revolutionary, and widows.	2,104,205 00
Pensions, naval.	1,117,490 00
To give effect to the treaty with Great Britain.	46,000 00
Improvement of the navigation of the Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, and Arkansas rivers.	532,726 00
Construction of harbors on Lake Michigan.	150,000 00
Payments to Georgia Militia.	80,000 00
To establish telegraphs.	19,400 00
For survey of harbor of Memphis, Tenn.	30,000 00
Private claims, amount not ascertained, but which may be estimated at above.	2,000 00
Various public objects, such as extra pay to officers of the Exploring Expedition, pay of Michigan militia called out to maintain neutrality on the Canadian frontier and others which are directed to be settled, the amount not known, but when ascertained, to be paid at the Treasury estimated at,	50,000 00
	\$24,499,255 00

[In arriving at these sums, fractions of dollars were not taken into the additions. The appropriations for the Post Office Department, which are paid exclusively out of the revenues of that Department, and therefore are no charge on the Treasury, amount to \$4,455,000.]

THE INSANE.

The ninety-first annual report of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane contains many facts highly interesting, relative to the treatment of the mentally diseased. The Hospital contains 118 patients, and has from its opening 90 years ago, admitted 40,000 patients, of whom 4336 were insane 1439 restored to good health, and 913 discharged improved. The balance incurable.

From the Pennsylvania.

Comet or no Comet.—As there appears to be some difference of opinion as to whether or the luminous appearance now visible in the western sky, be a comet in fact or only what is known as the 'Zodiacal Light,' we subjoin a description in a late Buffalo Advertiser, by R. W. Haskins, author of a recent work on astronomy:

From the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser.

Zodiacal Light.—The annual exhibition, in our western evening sky, of this unexplained astronomical phenomenon, has again returned. The light in appearance, somewhat resembles the tale of a comet; its form is that of a cone, its base resting upon the horizon above the sun, from which body it is never found separated, and projecting upwards, somewhat obliquely, among the zodiacal stars. Its apex is at present, in the constellation Aries. It is visible every clear evening, and will so continue for some months to come, when not obscured by the presence of the moon. It is best viewed at the close of twilight, or at present, about half past six, from which period it decreases in height, owing to the rotary motion of the earth, so as soon to fall wholly below the western horizon in common with that portion of the heavens which it occupies.

This light, as already observed, is of a conical form, it is much the strongest in the centre, and fades away so gradually, towards the borders, that its exact outline cannot be perfectly traced. It varies in intensity, in different years, but without the observance of any known law; and although it has engaged much of the attention of Astronomers, yet it has not frequently attracted the attention of others. It has sometimes been mistaken, when seen, for the light of some distant conflagration; and at others it has passed for the Aurora borealis. Astronomical classes in schools, private students, and all persons in short, by continued and careful observations, for some time to come, may now so far familiarize themselves with the position and appearance of this phenomenon as to avoid all subsequent mistakes in regard to it.

The cause of the Zodiacal Light is unknown,—that it permanently pertains to the celestial mechanism is proved by its constancy, both in time and in position. Dominique Cassini, a French astronomer, first noticed this light in 1683, but more particularly in 1682; & in his researches respecting it, he found it mentioned, as something remarkable, in a Natural History of England by Childrey, written about the year 1659. From 1683 to the present time Astronomers have sought in vain a solution of the phenomenon in question. They have supposed it to be the light of the atmosphere of the sun, appearing in certain months before that luminary, in the east, and in others after it in the west; and that it always has the same form, though it differs somewhat, as before observed, in its intensity.

R. W. HASKINS.

Buffalo Jan. 5, 1843.

It is admitted that the 'Zodiacal Light' has been visible in the western horizon every clear evening, for some time past. It is therefore left to the astronomers also to decide whether there is a comet likewise.—The eastern papers say that there is, and that it has been apparent in broad daylight.

JUDGE KENT'S OPINION.

A complaint having been preferred against Capt. Mackenzie for murder before the Grand Jury of the United States District Court of New York, Judge Kent has given an opinion, in which he says:

'I consider the sounder opinion to be, that the jurisdiction of the Naval Courts Martial is in the case stated exclusive, and that the Courts of the United States of civil jurisdiction, have no lawful cognizance of the case. Nor ought they to have upon principles of public policy, nor would they have without fatally impairing the authority character and discipline of the American Navy. Courts Martial act under a distinct and peculiar code, and which Lord Mansfield termed 'a sea military code, which the wisdom of the wisdom of ages had formed.' The act of Congress of 23d April, 1800 had digested and adopted that code. It specified particular punishments for particular crimes, and declared further, that all crimes committed by persons belonging to the Navy, and not there in specified, should be punished 'according to the laws and customs in such cases at sea.' This is what Lord Mansfield had also declared, when he observed that 'when a man is charged with an offence against the articles, or when the articles are silent against the usages of the Navy, he could only be tried by a Court Martial.' In the naval public service, commanders, 'must act upon delicate suspicions, upon the evidence of their own eyes. They must give desperate commands—they must require instantaneous obedience.' A naval tribunal only is capable of appreciating all these circumstances, and without that stern discipline and perfect command that the naval code requires, an American man of war would soon become, to use again an expression of Lord Mansfield, 'a rabble, dangerous only to their friends, and harmless to the enemy.'

The Albany papers allude to a slave a resident of that State who has taught himself English Grammar and Geography, and also Greek and Latin.

Another Decision.—Writing and marking newspapers, and the arbitrary decisions of the Post Master General, sustained in relation to so doing.

From the Baltimore American.

U. S. District Court—March Term, 1843.

United States vs Elder.—This was a suit to recover the Penalty imposed by the Post Office Law of 1825, for violation of the 30th section of that law, by writing or putting a memorandum on the margin of a newspaper or pamphlet sent by mail.

In this case it was in proof that the defendant, Mr. Elder, of the firm of Elder, Gelston, and Co. wrote on the back of a printed paper or pamphlet containing a Tariff of duties or Price Current, these words: 'From Elder, Gelston and Co. Baltimore,' and sent the pamphlet to a correspondent at Louisville, who refused to pay letter postage thereon.

In compliance with the requirements of law it was returned here, and placed in the hands of the U. S. Attorney for the recovery of the penalty.—For the U. S. it was contended that such writing came within the prohibition of the 30th section of the Act of 1825, and subject to its penalty. The opposite ground was taken by the defence, and, after argument upon the construction of the law, the Court decided that it was a violation of the law to place on a paper or pamphlet sent by mail, these or any other words other than the name of the party to whom the paper was sent. The jury accordingly rendered a verdict for the United States.

Dr. Alcott.—This gentleman, whose vagaries we noticed two or three weeks ago, is out with another astonishing theory—tested however by practice (before publication). If any of our readers wish to try something new, we give the result of the Doctor's attempt to reach perfection as set forth in the Boston Medical Journal, as a guide for it.

'We have a communication from Dr. William A. Alcott, in which he states that he drank nothing during the whole of the year 1842, and in fact that he had not yet returned to the use of drink. With one exception he suffered less than formerly from thirst. The exception was in July: when, in order to make a fair experiment, he worked hard at haying. The first day or two it being very hot weather, he felt a return of thirst, which he allayed by gurgling his throat with cold water, and eating bread crumbled in water. After two days he felt no more thirst, though he worked hard. The object of the experiment was to prove, for the benefit of the friends of temperance, if that our food is simple and plain, we need but very little drink. His diet was bread, fruits, and succulent vegetables.'

WONDERS OF SCIENCE.

An extract of a letter from F. B. Ogden, Esq. U. S. Consul at Bristol, England, was read before the National Institute, at Washington, on Monday evening, which gave an account of some recent improvements in the Daguerreotype process. It appears that at the observatory at Rome, they have succeeded so well in combining the powers of the Telescope and the Daguerreotype, as to produce a perfect map of the heavens. The nebulous clouds are transferred to a sheet of paper, and every star composing them and every shadow as distinct as seen through the best instruments, the precise position of Jupiter and his moon given at any moment of time, and all the phases of the other planets, with the greatest accuracy. The pictures are on a scale that would require a globe of the size of the cupola of St. Paul's to place them in proper proportion.

FREE—M. C.

On dit, that a member of Congress, sent home to the West a Durham cow, under frank, but the postmaster refused to deliver the package, as the member forgot to saw off the horns. He however falls in the shade before the glory of a Western M. C. who having entered a pre-emption claim, undertook to frank the tract to some friends at the East, to ascertain if they would like to come out and settle on it.

Sad Calamity.—The Monroe Democrat states that on the night of the 7th inst. the dwelling of a German Peter Brell at Stroudsburg, Pa., was consumed. It was of wood and filled in with straw, hay, &c, so that almost at the moment it took fire the whole was enveloped in flames. A son of Mr. Brell, aged about 10 years, a Mrs. Bouck and her infant child, and a young man aged about 23, whose name was not known, were burned to death. The other inmates of the house escaped with great difficulty, with no other clothing but their night dresses, and at a distance of several miles from any house.

The Columbia South Carolinian of the 18th ult. states that a fall of snow three inches deep, took place there on the Tuesday previous.

DEMOCRAT.

"TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR"

BLOOMSBURG:

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1843.

FOR PRESIDENT,

JAMES BUCHANAN.

(Subject to the decision of a National Convention.)

BLOOMSBURG LYCEUM.

The members of the Bloomsburg Lyceum are requested to meet at Mr. J. Chamberlin's on this evening, (Saturday 25th) on business of importance relating to the Library. Every member should attend.

'We ask not Mercy but Justice!'—Will the editor of the Columbia Democrat, do the senior editor of the Berwick Sentinel, the lean justice, to inform his readers, that we never asked for or desired 'a certain Post Office.' It has ever been our determination to have nothing to do with that concern. We are not aware that it could be had, nor would we accept it, if it were available."

In publishing the above, we take the opportunity of informing the 'senior editor' of the 'Berwick Sentinel,' that our information was obtained from a particular friend of the 'junior editor,' who said he had received it from him, that the communications recommending 'Tyler as the next Presidential candidate which appeared in the 'Berwick Sentinel' were written by the 'senior editor' for the express purpose of obtaining the post office at Berwick. Therefore if not true, he must thank his friends for its circulation. The 'senior editor' says:—'it has ever been our determination to have nothing to do with that concern.' Was there an offer made? This looks like it, or else why determine not to touch the 'unclean thing.'

THE WEATHER.

Still continues extremely cold, and we are now, to all appearance, in the midst of winter. At no time during the season, has the sleighing been better than now, the late snow storm was very extensive, doing considerable damage to the shipping on our coast, especially to the eastward, several distressing shipwrecks having been reported. In Washington City, the snow fell about a foot deep, and from accounts received, it has been the deepest snow that has been experienced on the sea-board for years, rendering the roads and rail roads from Massachusetts to Virginia for a time impassable.

Several democratic meetings have been held in Luzerne approving of the bill which passed the house, authorizing the election of the Canal Commissioners by the people. Let Columbia county speak upon this subject. They always go for democratic measures.

The Columbia Spy, edited by a collector, says the Lewistown Republican, edited by another collector, speaks the sentiments of the north and west, when he opposes the Canal Commissioners bill. What nonsense. The democracy of the north and west are not governed by those whose principles go no farther than their pockets. It will not do no how you can fix it.

Late from Matamoras.—An arrival at New Orleans on the 1st from Matamoras reports a rumor that the prisoners captured with Col. Fisher had risen upon their guard at Saltillo, overpowered them after a short struggle, and started in hot haste for Texas. In confirmation, it is reported that Col. Kinney, who was about taking passage for the United States, had been arrested after the Empress left Matamoras, on suspicion of having some hand in assisting the Texan prisoners to escape.

A bill has passed the House of Delegates of Maryland, providing for the sale of the interest held by that State, in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company. The consideration is to be seven millions of dollars, payable in the bonds of the State, issued for the use of the Canal Company, and in the evidences of the debt of that Company.

The population of St. Louis, according to a Census just taken by the City, is 28,452 viz: Whites 25,406—Slaves 2,231—Free Blacks 685.

Mr. Kidder from the Committee on banks reported in the senate a few days since, an act relating to the banks, of which we make the following synopsis. It contains many wholesome provisions, which if carried into effect, would tend much to restore confidence in these institutions.

Section 1. Their returns to set forth the actual value of their assets and the amount of losses sustained.

2. No dividends to be made until all losses are made up.

3. No Bank to purchase stock of any other incorporation, nor take stock in pledge for loans or debts due the banks. The directors made liable for a breach of this section.

4. When the capital does not exceed one hundred thousand dollars, no director or officer to receive discount above two per cent, of such capital. Over one hundred thousand dollars not to exceed one per cent.

5. No stockholder to vote by proxy.

6. No Bank to go into operation until the whole of its capital stock is paid in specie or specie funds.

7. No Banks to issue notes except payable on demand.

8. Any embezzling, or appropriating the property of the bank to his own use, by an officer, punishable by from one to five years in the penitentiary.

9. Makes it the duty of the Auditor General, upon application of any five stockholders to institute and enquiry into the situation of any bank, and publish the result.

10. Provides for the winding up of the concerns of a bank, should it be found not to have been managed according law; or in failing circumstances.

11. Authorizes the Auditor General to provide counsel to carry into effect the provisions of the 10th section.

12. Makes the stockholders liable in their individual capacity, to the amount of their capital stock, held by them at the time an assignment may be made by the bank for the purpose of winding up its concerns.

13, 14, 15, Makes provisions for the winding up of any insolvent institution.

THE LEGISLATURE.

On Friday, the 17th, the senate receded from their amendments to the house apportionment bill by a vote of 17 to 16, and it is now in the hands of the Governor.—The bill will be found in another column.

On Monday, the state apportionment bill for members of the senate and house of representatives came up in the house, and after a lengthy debate and some amendments, it was passed by a vote of 52 to 30, and was sent to the senate for concurrence. This gave Columbia county one representative, and unites us with Luzerne for senators.

On the same day, the bill to provide for the election of the Canal Commissioners by the people; and to reduce their expenses passed the senate by a vote of 20 to 10; as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Brower; Champney; Cochran; Crab; Craig; Darsie; Dimock; Gorgas; Hiestor; Hill; Huddleson; Kline; Mathers; M'Laughan; Mullin; Penniman; Spackman; Stewart; Sullivan; Crispin; Speaker—20.

Nays—Messrs. Bailey; Bigler; Farrelly; Fegely; Gibbons; Headley; Horton; Kidder; Smith; Wilcox—10.

It is expected that the governor will veto it, if he does it will pass both houses by constitutional majority.

On Tuesday, the senate passed the bill erecting a new county out of parts of Luzerne and Columbia by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Bailey; Black; Brower; Cochran; Crab; Craig; Farrelly; Headley; Hill; Horton; Huddleson; Mathers; McCully; Spackman; Crispin; Speaker—15.

Nays—Messrs. Champney; Dimock; Fegely; Gorgas; Hiestor; Kidder; Kline; M'Laughan; Mullin; Penniman; Smith; Stewart; Sullivan—13.

The house has been principally engaged for several days past upon the reform bill without coming to any specific vote.

The election of New Hampshire for governor, members of Congress and of the State Legislature, have resulted in the re-election of Gov. Hubbard, the democratic governor, by several hundred votes over the three opposing candidates of the whig, Tyler, and Abolition parties. The Democratic candidates for Congress were elected as well as a large majority of both branches of the State Legislature.