

tended by the most advantageous results. The law for promoting discipline among the men is found convenient and salutary. The system of granting an honorable discharge to faithful seamen on the expiration of the period of their enlistment, and permitting them to re-enlist after a leave of absence of a few months, without cessation of pay, is highly beneficial in its influence.

The apprentice system recently adopted is evidently designed to incorporate into the service a large number of our countrymen hitherto so difficult to procure. Several hundred American boys are now on a three-year cruise in our national vessels, and will return well-trained seamen. In the ordinance department there is a decided and a gratifying indication of progress creditable to it and to the country. The suggestions of the Secretary of the Navy, in regard to further improvement in that branch of the service, I commend to your favorable action.

The new frigates ordered by Congress are now afloat, and two of them in active service. They are superior models of naval architecture, and with their formidable battery add largely to public strength and security.

I concur in the views expressed by the Secretary of the Department in favor of a still further increase of our naval force.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior presents facts and views in relation to internal affairs over which the supervision of his department extends, of much interest and importance.

The aggregate sales of the public lands, during the last fiscal year, amount to nine million two hundred and twenty-seven thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight acres; for which has been received the sum of eight million eight hundred and twenty thousand four hundred and fourteen dollars. During the same period there have been located, with military scrip and land warrants and for other purposes, thirty million one hundred thousand two hundred and thirty acres, thus making a total aggregate of thirty-nine million three hundred and twenty-eight thousand one hundred and eighty acres. On the 30th of September last surveys had been made of sixteen million eight hundred and seventy-three thousand six hundred and ninety-nine acres, a large proportion of which is ready for market.

The suggestions in this report in regard to the complication and progressive expansion of the business of the different bureaus of the department; to the pension system; to the colonization of Indian tribes, and the recommendations in relation to various improvements in the District of Columbia, are especially commended to your consideration.

The report of the Postmaster General presents, fully, the condition of that department of the government. Its expenditures for the last fiscal year, were ten million four hundred and seven thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight dollars; and its gross receipts seven million six hundred and twenty thousand eight hundred and one dollar—making an excess of expenditure over receipts of two million seven hundred and eighty-seven thousand and forty-six dollars.

The deficiency of this department is thus seven hundred and forty-four thousand dollars greater than for the year ending June 30, 1853. Of this deficiency, three hundred and thirty thousand dollars is to be attributed to the additional compensation allowed postmasters by the act of Congress of June 22, 1854. The mail facilities, in every part of the country have been very much increased in that period, and the large addition of railroad service, amounting to seven thousand six hundred and eight miles, has added largely to the cost of transportation.

The considerable augmentation of the income of the Post-Office Department under the reduced rates of postage and its increasing expenditures, must, for the present, make it dependent to some extent upon the treasury for support. The recommendations of the Postmaster General, in relation to the establishment of mail steamship lines, deserve the consideration of Congress. I also call the special attention of Congress to the statement of the Postmaster General respecting the sums now paid for the transportation of mails to the Panama Railroad Company, and commend to their early and favorable consideration on the suggestions of that officer in relation to new contracts for mail transportation on that route, and also upon the Tehuantepec and Nicaragua routes.

The United States continue in the enjoyment of amicable relations with all foreign powers.

When my last annual message was transmitted to Congress, two subjects of controversy, one relating to the enlistment of soldiers in this country for foreign service, and the other to Central America, threatened to disturb good understanding between the United States and Great Britain. Of the progress and termination of the former question you were informed at the time; and the other is now in the way of satisfactory adjustment.

The object of the convention between the United States and Great Britain of the 19th of April, 1850, was to secure, for the benefit of all nations, the neutrality and the common use of any transit way, or inter-oceanic communication, across the Isthmus of Panama, which might be opened within the limits of Central America. The pretension subsequently asserted by Great Britain, to dominion or control over territories, in or near two of the routes, those of Nicaragua and Honduras, were deemed by the United States not merely incompatible with the main object of the treaty, but opposed even to its explicit stipulations.

Occasion of controversy on this point has been removed by an additional treaty, which our minister at London has concluded, and which will be immediately submitted to the Senate for its consideration. Should the proposed supplementary arrangement be concurred in by all the parties to be affected by it, the objects contemplated by the original convention will have been fully attained.

The treaty between the United States and Great Britain, of the 5th of June, 1854, which went into effective operation in 1855, put an end to causes of irritation between

the two countries, by securing to the United States the right of fishery on the coast of the British North American provinces, with advantages equal to those enjoyed by British subjects. Besides the signal benefits of this treaty to a large class of our citizens engaged in a pursuit connected to no inconsiderable degree with our national prosperity and strength, it has had a favorable effect upon reciprocal freedom of trade between the United States and the British provinces in America.

The exports of domestic articles to those provinces during the last year, amounted to more than twenty-two millions of dollars, exceeding those of the preceding year by nearly seven millions of dollars; and the imports therefrom, during the same period, amounted to more than twenty-one millions—an increase of six millions upon those of the previous year.

The improved condition of this branch of our commerce, is mainly attributable to the above mentioned treaty.

Provision was made, in the first article of that treaty, for a commission to designate the mouths of rivers to which the common right of fishery, on the coast of the United States and the British Province, was not to extend. This commission has been employed a part of two seasons, but without much progress in accomplishing the object for which it was instituted, in consequence of a serious difference of opinion between the commissioners, as to the precise point where the rivers terminate, but in many instances as to what constitutes a river. These difficulties, however, may be overcome by resort to the umpirage provided for by the treaty.

The efforts perseveringly prosecuted since the commencement of my administration, to relieve our trade to the Baltic from the exaction of Sound dues by Denmark, have not yet been attended by success. Other governments have also sought to obtain a like relief to their commerce, and Denmark was thus induced to propose an arrangement to all the European Powers interested in the subject; and the manner in which her proposition was received, warranting her to believe that a satisfactory arrangement with them could soon be concluded, she made a strong appeal to this government for temporary suspension of definite action on its part, in consideration of the embarrassment which might result to her European negotiations by an immediate adjustment of the question with the United States.

This request has been acceded to, upon the condition that the sums collected after the 16th of June last, and until the 16th of June next, from vessels and cargoes belonging to our merchants, are to be considered as paid under protest and subject to future adjustment. There is reason to believe that an arrangement, between Denmark and the maritime powers of Europe on the subject, will soon be concluded, and that the pending negotiation with the United States may then be resumed and terminated in a satisfactory manner.

With Spain no new difficulties have arisen, nor has much progress been made in the adjustment of pending ones.

Negotiations entered into for the purpose of relieving our commercial intercourse with the island of Cuba of some of its burdens, and providing for the more speedy settlement of local disputes growing out of that intercourse, have not yet been attended with any results.

Soon after the commencement of the late war in Europe this Government submitted to the consideration of all maritime nations two principles for the security of all neutral commerce: one, that the neutral flag should cover enemies' goods, except articles contraband of war; and the other, that neutral property on board merchant vessels of belligerents should be exempt from condemnation, with the exception of contraband articles.

These were not presented as new rules of international law, having been generally claimed by neutrals, though not always admitted by belligerents. One of the parties to the war—Russia—as well as several neutral powers, promptly acceded to these propositions; and the two other principal belligerents, Great Britain and France, having consented to observe them for the present occasion, a favorable opportunity seemed to be presented for obtaining a general recognition of them both in Europe and in America.

But Great Britain and France, in common with most of the States of Europe, while forbearing to reject, did not affirmatively act upon the overtures of the United States.

While the question was in this position, the representatives of Russia, France, Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, Sardinia and Turkey, assembled at Paris, took into consideration the subject of maritime rights, and put forth a declaration containing the two principles which this government had submitted, nearly two years before, to the consideration of maritime powers, and adding thereto the following propositions: "Privateering is, and remains abolished," and blockades, in order to be binding, must be effective, that is to say, maintained by a force sufficient really to prevent access to the coast of the enemy; "and to the declaration thus composed of four points, two of which had already been proposed by the United States, this government has been invited to accede by all the powers represented at Paris except Great Britain and Turkey.

To the last of the two additional propositions—that in relation to blockades—there can certainly be no objection. It is merely the definition of what shall constitute the effective investment of a blockaded place, a definition for which this government has always contended, claiming indemnity for losses where a practical violation of the rule thus defined has been injurious to our commerce. As to the remaining article of the declaration of the Conference of Paris, that privateering is and remains abolished, it certainly cannot ascribe to the powers represented in the Conference of Paris any but liberal and philanthropic views in the attempt to change the unquestionable rule of maritime law in regard to privateering.

Their proposition was doubtless intended to imply approval of the principle that pri-

vate property upon the ocean, although it might belong to the citizens of a belligerent State, should be exempt from capture; and that that proposition been so framed as to give full effect to the principle, it would have received my ready assent on behalf of the United States. But the measure proposed is inadequate to that purpose.

It is true that if adopted, private property upon the ocean would be withdrawn from one mode of plunder, but left exposed, meanwhile, to another mode, which could be used with increased effectiveness. The aggressive capacity of great naval powers would be thereby augmented, while the defensive ability of others would be reduced.

Though the surrender of the means of prosecuting hostilities by employing privateers, as proposed by the conference of Paris, is, in mutual terms, yet, in practical effect, it would be the relinquishment of a right of little value to one class of States, of essential importance to another and a far larger class. It ought not to have been anticipated that a measure, so inadequate to the accomplishment of the proposed object, and so unequal in its operation, would receive the assent of all maritime powers. Private property would be still left to the depredations of the public armed cruisers.

I have expressed a readiness on the part of this government to accede to all the principles contained in the declaration of the conference of Paris, provided that relating to the abolition of privateering can be so amended as to effect the object for which, as is presumed, it was intended, the immunity of private property on the ocean from hostile capture.

To effect this object, it is proposed to add to the declaration, that "privateering is and remains abolished," the following amendment:—"And that the private property of subjects and citizens of a belligerent on the high seas, shall be exempt from seizure by the public armed vessels of the other belligerent, except it be contraband." This amendment has been presented not only to the powers which have asked our assent to the declaration to abolish privateering, but to all other maritime States. Thus far it has not been rejected by any, and is favorably entertained by all which have made any communication in reply.

Several of the governments, regarding with favor the proposition of the United States, have delayed definitive action upon it, only for the purpose of consulting with others, parties to the conference of Paris. I have the satisfaction of stating, however, that the Emperor of Russia has entirely and explicitly approved of that modification, and will co-operate in endeavoring to obtain the assent of other powers; and that assurances of a similar purport have been received in relation to the disposition of the Emperor of the French.

The present aspect of this important subject allows us to cherish the hope that a principle so humane in its character, so just and equal in its operation, so essential to the prosperity of commercial nations, and so consonant to the sentiments of this enlightened period of the world, will command the approbation of all maritime powers, and thus be incorporated into the code of international law.

My views on the subject are more fully set forth in the reply of the Secretary of State, a copy of which is herewith transmitted, to the communications on the subject made to this government, especially to the communication of France.

The government of the United States has at all times regarded with friendly interest the other States of America, formerly, like this country, European colonies, and now independent members of the great family of nations. But the unsettled condition of some of them, distracted by frequent revolutions, and thus incapable of regular and firm internal administration, has tended to embarrass, occasionally, our public intercourse, by reason of wrongs which our citizens suffer at their hands, and which they are slow to redress.

Unfortunately it is against the Republic of Mexico, with which it is our special desire to maintain a good understanding, that such complaints are most numerous; and although carefully urged upon their attention, they have not as yet received the consideration which this government had a right to expect. While reparation for past injuries has been withheld, others have been added.

The political condition of that country, however, has been such as to demand forbearance on the part of the United States. I shall continue my efforts to procure for the wrongs of our citizens that redress which is indispensable to the continued friendly associations of the two republics.

The peculiar condition of affairs in Nicaragua, in the early part of the present year, rendered it important that this government should have diplomatic relations with that State. Through its territory had been opened one of the principal thoroughfares across the isthmus connecting North and South America, on which a vast amount of property was transported; and to which our citizens resorted in great numbers, in passing between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States. The protection of both required the existing power in that state should be regarded as a responsible government; and its minister was accordingly received.

Soon thereafter the political affairs of Nicaragua underwent unfavorable change, and became involved in much uncertainty and confusion. Diplomatic representatives from two contending parties have been recently sent to this government; but, with the imperfect information possessed, it was not possible to decide which was the government de facto, and awaiting further developments, I have refused to receive either.

Questions of the most serious nature are pending between the United States and the Republic of New Granada. The Government of that Republic undertook, a year since, to impose tonnage duties on foreign vessels in her ports, but the purpose was resisted by this government, as being contrary to existing treaty stipulation with the United States, and to rights conferred by charter upon the Panama Railroad Company,

and was accordingly relinquished at that time, it being admitted that our vessels were entitled to be exempt from tonnage duty in the free ports of Panama and Aspinwall. But the purpose has been recently revived, on the part of New Granada, by the enactment of a law to subject vessels visiting her ports to the tonnage duty of forty cents per ton, and, although the law has been put in force, yet the right to enforce it is still asserted, and may, at any time, be acted on by the government of that Republic.

The Congress of New Granada has also enacted a law, during the last year, which levies a tax of more than three dollars on every pound of mail matter transported across the isthmus. The sum thus required to be paid on the mails of the United States would be nearly two millions of dollars annually, in addition to the large sum payable by contract to the Railroad Company. If the only objection to the exaction were the exorbitancy of this amount, it could not be submitted to by the United States.

The imposition of it, however, would obviously contravene our treaty with New Granada, and infringe the contract of that Republic with the Panama Railroad Company. The law providing for this tax was, by its terms, to take effect on the first of September last, but the local authorities on the isthmus have been induced to suspend its execution, and to await further instructions on the subject from the government of the Republic. I am not yet advised of the determination of that government. If a measure so extraordinary in its character, and so clearly contrary to treaty stipulations, and the contract rights of the Panama Railroad Company, should be persisted in, it will be the duty of the United States to resist its execution.

I regret exceedingly that occasion exists to invite your attention to a subject of still greater import in our relations with the Republic of New Granada. On the fifteenth day of April last, a riotous assemblage of the inhabitants of Panama, committed a violent and outrageous attack on the premises of the railroad company, and the passengers and other persons in or near the same, involving the death of several citizens of the United States, the pillage of many others, and the destruction of a large amount of property belonging to the railroad company. I caused full investigation of that event to be made, and the result shows satisfactorily that complete responsibility for what occurred attaches to the Government of New Granada. I have, therefore, demanded of that government that the perpetrators of the wrongs in question should be punished; that provision should be made for the families of citizens of the United States who were killed, with full indemnity for the property pillaged or destroyed.

The present condition of the Isthmus of Panama, in so far as regards the security of persons and property passing over it, requires serious consideration. Recent incidents tend to show that the local authorities cannot be relied on to maintain the public peace of Panama, and there is just ground for apprehension that a portion of the inhabitants are meditating further outrages, without adequate measures for the security and protection of persons or property having been taken, either by the State of Panama, or by the general government of New Granada.

Under the guarantees of treaty, citizens of the United States have, by the outlay of several millions of dollars, constructed a railroad across the isthmus, and it has become the main route between our Atlantic and Pacific possessions, over which multitudes of our citizens and a vast amount of property are constantly passing; to the security and protection of all which, and the continuance of the public advantages involved, it is impossible for the government of the United States to be indifferent.

I have deemed the danger of the recurrence of scenes of lawless violence in this quarter so imminent, as to make it my duty to station a part of our naval force in the harbor of Panama and Aspinwall, in order to protect the persons and property of the citizens of the United States in those ports, and to insure to them safe passage across the isthmus. And it would, in my judgment, be unwise to withdraw the naval force now in those ports, until, by the spontaneous action of the people of New Granada, or otherwise, some adequate arrangement shall have been made for the protection and security of a line of inter-oceanic communication so important at this time not only to the United States only, but to all other maritime States both of Europe and America.

Meanwhile, negotiations have been instituted by means of a special commission, to obtain from New Granada, full indemnity for injuries sustained by our citizens on the isthmus, and satisfactory security for the general interests of the United States.

In addressing to you my last annual message, the occasion seems to me an appropriate one to express my congratulations in view of the peace, greatness, and felicity which the United States now possess and enjoy. To point you to the state of the various departments of the government, and of all the great branches of the public service, civil and military, in order to speak of the intelligence and the integrity which pervades the whole, would be to indicate but imperfectly the administrative condition of the country, and the beneficial effects of that on the general welfare.

Nor would it suffice to say that the nation is actually at peace at home and abroad; that its industrial interests are prosperous; that the canvas of its mariners' woe is every sea; and the plough of its husbandmen is marching steadily onward to the bloodless conquest of the continent; that cities and populous States are springing up, as if by enchantment, from the bowels of our western wilds, and that the courageous energy of our people is making of these United States the great republic of the world. These results have not been attained without passing through trials and perils, by experience of which, and thus only, nations can be hardened into manhood.

Our forefathers were trained to the wisdom which conceived, and the courage which achieved independence, by the circum-

stances which surrounded them, and they were thus made capable of the creation of the republic. It devolved on the next generation to consolidate the work of the revolution, to deliver the country entirely from the influence of conflicting transatlantic partialities or antipathies, which attached to our colonial and revolutionary history, and to organize the practical operation of the constitutional and legal institutions of our Union. To us, of this generation, remains the not less noble task of maintaining and extending the power of the United States. We have, at length, reached that stage of the national career, in which the dangers to be encountered, and the exertions to be made, are the incidents, not of weakness, but of strength.

In our foreign relations we have to attempt our power to the less happy condition of other republics in America, and to place ourselves in the calmness and conscious dignity of right by the side of the greatest and wealthiest of the empires of Europe. In our domestic relations, we have to guard against the shock of the discontents, the ambitions, the interests, and the exuberant, and, therefore, sometimes irregular impulses of opinion, or of action, which are the natural product of the present political elevation, the self-reliance and the restless spirit of enterprize of the people of the United States.

I shall prepare to surrender the Executive trust to my successor, and retire to private life with sentiments of profound gratitude to the good Providence which, during the period of my administration, has vouchsafed to carry the country through many difficulties, domestic and foreign, and to enable me to contemplate the spectacle of amicable and respectful relations between ours and all other governments, and the establishment of constitutional order and tranquility throughout the Union.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 2, 1856.

STAR OF THE NORTH.

R. W. WEAVER, EDITOR.
Bloomburg, Wednesday, Dec. 10, 1856.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

In the case of the Com. vs. Wm. Strubbers for selling liquor without license the defendant was sentenced to pay a fine of \$10 and the costs. It did not appear that he himself sold liquor, but his wife did so in his presence; and the court decided that this rendered him guilty, the law presuming his complicity and participation in an act of his wife done in his house and presence.

In the case of Jacob Johnson vs. Henry Johnson and the heirs of David Johnson the jury rendered a verdict for the plaintiff.

The Grand Jury presented the following report on Wednesday morning and were then discharged:

To the Honorable, the Judges of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace in and for the County of Columbia.

The Grand Inquest of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, inquiring for the body of the county of Columbia, respectfully report, that they have examined the public buildings and find them in good order, the recommendations of former inquests being attended to.

We further report the roads in Conyngham and Catawissa townships, generally in bad condition. The bridge over Pine Creek, at Solomon Bass' in Fishersburg township, wanting repair. Index boards in Fishersburg and Conyngham townships down. We would recommend the Supervisors of Catawissa township, to fill up the road near the creek, at what is called the Narrows, so that it will be above high water and ice, on the road leading from Catawissa to Mainville.

All of which is respectfully submitted this 3d day of December, A. D. 1856.

JOHN CHAMBERLIN, Foreman.

On Thursday morning the case of the Com. vs. James M. Price for the murder of Isaac Doroan was taken up. Every juror was asked whether he had formed and expressed an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the prisoner, and fourteen of them answered in the affirmative. These were set aside, and the prisoner's counsel made twelve peremptory challenges. The Com. made none, and finally the following jurors were sworn to try the case:

Jacob Warner, William Shuman, Mayberry Hughes, Wellington Cleaver, John J. Siles, John S. Savage, Franklin Cole, Sylvester Pursell, Henry Hess, Wesley Bowman, John McHenry, Jr., and Isaiah Kline.

Mr. Clark opened the case for the Commonwealth and two days were then spent in examining the witnesses. Only two objections were made to the admission of testimony offered—one on each side. One of these was to the admission of Jesse G. Clark's testimony from notes proved as taken on a former trial of this case before Mr. Clark's death. The Court decided the evidence to be inadmissible.

On Saturday the case was argued fully by Mr. Clark for the Commonwealth, Messrs. Freese & Montgomery for the prisoner, and Mr. Comly in conclusion for the Commonwealth. Judge Woodward then delivered an able charge, and the Jury on Saturday evening near midnight came in with a verdict of "not guilty." The testimony in the case is very voluminous, and it is almost impossible to abridge it.

Lycoming Insurance Company.

This company has since the 10th of June last, adjusted and paid claims for losses by fire, amounting to \$55,157 79, and there are still other unadjusted claims before the officers amounting to \$22,443 20. The Company has made a new assessment of four per cent on the premium notes. Among its payments since the 10th of June in this county are the following:

John Ramsey & Co., \$540 00; John J. Siles, \$13 00; Thomas Tenney, \$3,000 00.

E. B. Parker, of Jersey Shore, is appointed Common School Superintendent for Lycoming county, in place of J. W. Barrett, resigned; and A. K. Brown, of Clarion, in place of H. L. Diefenbach, resigned.

New Apportionment.

A new apportionment of the State into Senatorial and Representative districts, will have to be made by the Legislature of 1857. With a Democratic majority in the House, an Opposition majority in the Senate, and a Governor who is claimed by the so-called "American" party, it is not possible that a bill can be framed in time, without considerable difficulty and delay. The session, therefore, for this cause alone, is likely to be a long one. Representatives are apportioned in the ratio of one member to every hundred and thirty inhabitants of taxable inhabitants 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 565,000, and this year the *Pittsburg Gazette* thinks it will be probably not far from 580,000, which would give 5,800 as the ratio.

At this rate Columbia county will be entitled by herself to one member of the Legislature, as indeed she was in 1850. The census of this county gives 5,479 taxable in the county, and this is as near the ratio as can be. Besides, the apportionment should in the general give the gain and advantage of small fractions in the ratio to small counties, and not to those with two or three other members of the Legislature. Each county being a separate municipality, to help small counties where it can be done justly, will be a fair tendency toward a representation of individual municipalities, with still the principle of numbers in each municipality as the predominant element of the apportionment.

It ought also to be a principal point to the apportionment bill to have single representative districts wherever that is practicable; and never to join counties where that can be avoided. Complicated districts only make quarrels, disputes and divisions. We make these suggestions, not from any dislike to our present connection in apportionment, but as the correct principle in the general.

The following is a list of the taxable residents in the several townships of this county as taken by the assessors at the Septennial census of last month:

Bears,	262
Benton,	209
Bloom,	559
Briar creek,	400
Catawissa,	262
Centre,	254
Conyngham,	132
Fishers creek,	263
Franklin,	108
Greenwood,	206
Hemlock,	258
Jackson,	112
Lopez,	400
Main,	256
Mainville,	120
Montour,	98
Mr. Pleasant,	165
Orange,	260
Pine,	120
Roaring creek,	104
Scott,	331
Scotriaof,	150
Total,	5,479

In the Senatorial districting of the State Luzerne county will most likely become entitled to a Senator by herself. Her rapid increase of population and business will certainly bring her very near the ratio which may be necessary for an independent district.

The Pennsylvania Electoral College.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 4.—At the afternoon session of the Electoral College, yesterday, electric certificates of the action of the Electoral College were signed by the Electors.

The Messengers required were then chosen as follows:—Three tickets labelled "Bearer for Washington," "Bearer for Philadelphia," and "Bearer for Harrisburg," with 21 blanks were placed in a box, and each Elector drew a ticket, those obtaining the labelled ones being chosen the Messengers. The result was as follows:

Bearer of returns to Washington, James S. Campbell; bearer to the District Court, Philadelphia, Thomas Osterhout; bearer to Harrisburg, Vincent Phelps.

A Committee on accounts and the expenses of the Electoral College was appointed.

An invitation from Mr. Buchanan for the Electors to visit Wheatland was read and accepted.

On motion, five hundred copies of the proceedings of the College were ordered to be printed; and, after a vote of thanks to the officers, the College adjourned.

Messrs. Diefenbach & Martin have united the *Look Haven Democrat* with the establishment of the *Jersey Shore News Letter*, and will now furnish to the Democracy of Clinton a reliable organ, and to the editorial fraternity of the State a respectable and valuable auxiliary. Mr. Diefenbach is one of the most Democratic and most worthy politicians of the State.

Poss Stock.—The *New York Herald*, well known as the leading and most effective organ of the Fremont party, writes as a fact, that twenty thousand dollars were furnished Ex-Governor Ford of Ohio, to bribe the press of Pennsylvania in the support of Col. Fremont. It is so we can only say that the Fremonters made a poor choice of an agent. A good part of their money went to buy bad whiskey.

The *New York Ledger*, the great family weekly paper, for which the most popular writers in the country contribute, has now attained the extraordinary circulation of One Hundred and Ninety Thousand copies, and subscriptions are continually pouring in. See the *Ledger's* advertisement in another column.

Several members of Mr. Sterling's Presbyterian congregation of Williamsport, marched out of the church on Thanksgiving day when the preacher began to make a political oration on "bleeding Kansas."

Western papers state that the price of bacon, ham and lard, will be low this season, as the old stock is not exhausted. Harry them along.

Divers.—The *Easton Gas Company* has declared a semi-annual dividend of five per cent.

A Kansas Museum.

They can't get over the Kansas fever 'down east.' It appears to have struck in and taken hold of the very marrow. We learn from the *New Haven Palladium*, that with a view to stimulate an excitement that has begun to cool, a Mr. Farren, who has been for several months in Kansas, now proposes to give a lecture upon the affairs of that Territory, and tell of what he saw there and what he heard. He was, and still is, the Superintendent of the Free State Hospital. He is said to have with him a number of interesting curiosities. Among them, we learn, are the following:—A cannon ball, made from the type of the *Herald of Freedom*; an iron cannon ball shot into the walls of the Free State Hotel; a chain and ball from the leg of a Free State prisoner; a part of the printing press of the *Herald of Freedom*, which was broken open by the "Border Ruffians," and a "large number of daguerotypes of distinguished partisans of both sides in the struggle." This "raw head and bloody bones" business is rapidly reaching a disgusting pitch. We thought the blood had ceased to flow from the veins of Kansas. This is but little prospect that this museum can avail against the wise, impartial, and vigorous administration of Gov. Geary. We suggest that Mr. Farren might improve his lecture by an account of "the gallant Lane's" incursion into Nebraska, about which the editor of the *Nebraska City News* could give him some interesting information. —*Phila. Evening Journal*.

Terrible Snow Storm in the North-West.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 6.—The storm of Tuesday last was very severe along Lake Michigan. Many buildings were swept away, piers damaged, &c. In many places snow fell to the depth of six feet. The railroads are blocked up, and no trains are arriving or departing. The *Big Storm King* and *Algonah*, and the schooner *Welland*, were all wrecked within sight of the city. All on board were saved. Several proprietors from Buffalo are overdue, and fears are entertained for their safety. Many shattered vessels are arriving here.

Alleged Negro Plot in Tennessee.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 5.—A plot for the rising of the negroes in this State, has been detected, and caused a great excitement in Montgomery county, where it was first discovered. It is alleged that Christmas eve had been fixed upon for the rising, and the most extensive arrangements had been made to carry it out successfully. One white man has been arrested, together with a great many negroes. Several of them have made full confessions. A large collection of arms and ammunition had been seized. The church at Louisa Furnace had been undermined, and powder placed beneath it ready to be blown up when filled with people.

Despatches from Kansas.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—A special messenger has arrived from Kansas, bringing despatches from Gov. Geary, in relation to the release of Hayes, and other matters at issue between himself and Judge Locomote, which are submitted to the consideration of the Administration. The despatches reiterate the declaration that the Territory continues in a peaceful condition.

Important Mexican News.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 7.—The Mexican Consul has received official advices from Matamoros, stating that Vidauri has succumbed, and entered into a treaty with Gen. Landa, acknowledging Comonfort as the President of the Republic and promising obedience.

They have some pretty strong Democratic counties in Indiana. Here are a few specimens:

Bochman,	Fremont	
Crawford,	735	24
Davis,	1115	26
Dubois,	1101	21
Martin,	769	76
Orange,	1807	49
Ponce,	1696	96

Skeleton of a Giant Found.

A short time since some workmen engaged in subsoiling the grounds of Sheriff Wickham at his vineyard in East Wheeling, came across a human skeleton. Although much decayed, there was little difficulty in identifying it, by placing the bones which could not have belonged to other than a human body, in their original position. The impression made by the skeleton in the earth, and the skeleton itself, were measured by the Sheriff and a brother in the craft book, both of whom are prepared to swear that it was ten feet and nine inches in length! Its jaws and teeth were almost as large as those of a horse. The bones are to be seen at the Sheriff's office. —*Wheeling Times*.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.

The sudden changes of temperature in this climate have a terrible effect upon the skin, the muscles, and the glands. Hence the prevalence of salt rheum, erysipelas, blotches, boils, rheumatism, quincy sore throat, and many other complaints so frequently generated and always aggravated by this cause. Fortunately, in Holloway's Ointment we have the means of promptly removing this class of diseases, and of so thoroughly invigorating all the exterior organs and integuments as to prevent their recurrence. The Pills operating in harmony with the Ointment, regulate the secretions, and discharge from the fluids of the body any acid matter calculated to produce external inflammation or internal disease.

WARRIED.

On the 13th ult., by John Hartman, Esq., Mr. JACOB E. GIBSON of Hemlock township, to Miss HARRIET GORE, daughter of Daniel Gager, of Montour township.

At Willow Grove, the 22d ult., by Jesse Hicks, Esq., Solomon Bowers to Miss BOWEN LOCKARD, both of Briar creek township, Columbia county.

On Saturday, the 30th ult., by the same, Mr. JACOB HANLON and Miss MARY, daughter of J. P. Follmer, of Hemlock.

DECEASED.

In Salem township, Luzerne Co., on the 19th ult., Mrs. MARY POLLOCK, in the 80th year of her age.