

# THE STAR OF THE NORTH.

R. W. Weaver, Proprietor.

Truth and Right—God and our Country.

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**THE STAR OF THE NORTH**  
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**HEROIC CONDUCT OF A WOMAN.**  
Account of Mrs. Martha Ann Patten, a Young  
Lady Twenty Years of Age, who Commanded a  
Yacht Fifty-six Days, During Her Husband's  
Illness.

The readers of the *Herald* will remember  
an account taken from one of the California  
papers, relative to the heroic conduct of Mrs.  
Martha Ann Patten, wife of Capt. Patten, of  
the ship *Neptune's Car*, who, during her  
husband's illness, took charge of the vessel  
and navigated it safely into San Francisco.

The lady, together with her husband, who  
is now sick that he is not expected to  
live, arrived in this city in the *George Law*,  
and are now stopping at the Battery Hotel.  
Her story is an interesting and painful one,  
and shows how much a weak, delicate woman  
can do when a great emergency calls  
for her powers.

Mrs. Patten was born in East Boston of  
wealthy parents, and received an excellent  
education, and was in every respect tenderly  
nurtured and cared for. She is now but  
twenty years of age, of delicate figure, has small  
hands and features, delicate blonde complexion,  
soft blue eyes, and altogether gives one  
an idea of feminine softness and womanliness  
that it is impossible to associate with the  
daring nerve and decisive qualities she  
exhibited in a remarkable degree.

At eighteen years she married Capt. Patten,  
then but twenty-five years of age, he having  
been master of a vessel—the bark *St. Andrew*,  
which sailed for San Francisco, thence to  
China, from China to London, and finally  
arrived in New York, after an absence of  
seventeen months. During this time Mrs. Patten  
amused herself by helping her husband in  
his nautical observations, worked up the  
time from the chronometers, and occasionally  
kept the reckoning of the ship. Last  
August the *Neptune's Car* again put to sea,  
and it was on this voyage that Mrs. Patten's  
misfortunes commenced. As the vessel  
nearly the straits of Magellan, her husband  
was taken with a disease in the head  
which finally developed into a brain fever.

He attended to his ship as long as he was  
able, and when it was impossible to give  
any personal orders, he found to his dismay  
that his first mate was wholly incompetent  
to take charge of the ship, and that there  
was no officer on board qualified to take the  
vessel into port. He found that the first mate  
was anxious to run the vessel into Valparaiso,  
but this he earnestly forbade, as the crew  
might all leave and the cargo be destroyed  
before the consignees could send for the  
vessel. In this emergency Mrs. Patten's  
rare qualities developed themselves. She  
assumed command of the vessel herself, and  
the nautical observations she once made in  
sport for a pastime she now undertook as a  
duty. Her time was spent between her  
delirious husband and the writing desk, working  
up the intricate calculations incident to  
nautical observations making entries in the  
log-book in her own delicate penmanship,  
and tracing out with accuracy the position  
of the ship from the charts in the cabin—  
The rough sailors all obeyed the "little  
woman," as they called her, with will, and  
eyed her curiously and affectionately through  
the cabin windows while deep in her calculations  
in which her life and theirs depended.  
There was one person on board, however,  
who viewed her course with jealousy and  
mistrust. He wrote her a letter warning her  
of the responsibility she was assuming and  
proffering advice, but she spiritedly replied  
that "her husband would not trust him while  
he was well, and she could not do so now  
that he was sick." For fifty days Mrs. Patten  
did not undress herself and took very  
little sleep, working day and night, and  
never leaving her sick husband's room. Her  
labors are the more surprising in view of the  
fact, that she was all this time in a delicate  
condition, and soon expects to give birth to  
her first child.

The *Neptune's Car* arrived safely at San  
Francisco on the 15th of November last, it  
having been for fifty-six days under the  
command of a delicate female not twenty  
years of age. What a splendid text for the  
woman's right's people.

Mrs. Patten is now at the Battery Hotel  
with her husband, who, it is supposed is in  
a dying condition. The fever has never left  
him, and for some time past he has been  
blind and deaf. They did expect to leave  
in the boat for Boston yesterday for her own  
home, but he was too sick to be moved.

Mrs. Patten's case is one of the most re-  
markable on record, and adds one to the  
many instances that history records of female  
courage and heroism.—*New York Herald.*

## DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION AT HARRISBURG.

HARRISBURG, March 2.—The Democratic  
State Convention, to nominate candidates for  
Governor, Canal Commissioner, and Judge  
of the Supreme Court, met in the Hall of the  
House of Representatives at 10 o'clock this  
morning, and was called to order by Col.  
John W. Forney, Chairman of the State Central  
Committee.

Col. Forney, in performing his duty, made  
a brief address. He referred to the great  
triumph of the Democratic party of the  
country, last fall, in the election of James  
Buchanan, and the proud position the party in  
Pennsylvania had occupied in that great  
struggle. He made a delicate allusion to the  
recent defeat of the Democracy in the election  
of a United States Senator from Pennsylvania,  
and remarked that the usage of the  
party had been abused, and the fruits of  
the great victory had been permitted to rot  
away under their feet. He rendered back to  
the representatives of the party the trust con-  
fided to him a year ago, and concluded by  
requesting some delegate to nominate a  
temporary Chairman.

Gen. Murray Whallon, of Erie, was there-  
upon nominated and chosen as Chairman,  
pro tem, and Gideon G. Westcott, of Philadelphia,  
and Alex. McKinney, of Westmoreland,  
appointed Secretaries.

The list of delegates was then called. The  
Convention is nearly full. Several delegates  
are yet absent who will be here this afternoon.  
On motion, a Committee of one delegate  
from each Senatorial District, was appointed  
by the delegations from the several districts,  
to report officers for a permanent organization.

The contested seats from the Tenth and  
Seventeenth Senatorial Districts were con-  
sidered and settled in favor of Charles M.  
Smyser from the Tenth District, and L. K.  
Blood, from the Seventeenth District.  
The Committee to select officers in the  
organization of the Convention, returned and  
reported as follows:

**PRESIDENT.**  
PHILIP JOHNSTON, of Northampton.

**VICE PRESIDENTS.**  
Geo. W. Nebinger, H. L. Dieffenbach,  
Charles Worrell, J. M. Grinnell,  
W. A. Edwards, Wallace Geybert,  
Peter Rambo, John Blanding,  
John G. Brenner, F. W. Knox,  
A. H. Tappin, W. P. Garvin,  
Samuel Ringwalt, Jonathan Ayres,  
Edward Thomas, Wm. H. McKee,  
Wm. M. Besslin, S. H. Blackburn,  
Fruel Patterson, Charles  
John A. Slater, Daniel Weyand,  
John C. Burnett, John Cummings,  
J. B. Danner, J. B. Soaright,  
John Aizell, Isaac Ward,  
John Hazzell, Edward Flannery.

**SECRETARIES.**  
Jos. Lindsey, J. M. Campbell,  
E. L. Acker, H. A. Boggs,  
A. McKinney, Dr. Brown.

The report of the Committee was adopted,  
and the President, on taking his seat, made  
a brief address, returning thanks for the honor  
conferred, and enjoined harmony of action,  
predicting another great triumph, next fall.

Mr. Shannon, of Allegheny, moved the ap-  
pointment of a Committee on resolutions, con-  
sisting of one from each Senatorial District.  
On motion of Mr. Cessna, the resolution  
was amended reducing the number of the  
Committee to seven.

Adjourned till half-past two o'clock.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**  
The Convention re-assembled at half-past  
two o'clock, when the Committee on resolu-  
tions was announced, consisting of Messrs.  
Shannon, Buckalew, Workman, Wescott,  
Shriner, Carrigan and Bonsall.

The Convention then proceeded to make  
nominations for candidates for Governor. A  
number of names were placed in nomination,  
and among them Hon. John L. Dawson and  
Gen. Seth Clover, which were subsequently  
withdrawn.

The first ballot for a candidate was then  
taken and resulted as follows:—

Messrs. Alicks, Ahl, Blanding, Brua,  
Buckalew, Bowman, Dieffenbach, Evans,  
Finch, Flannery, Gilliland, Hunter, Kutz,  
Knox, Lauman, Carl, M'Cormick, McCurdy,  
Orr, Piolet, Smyser, Smith, Shaw, Scarborough,  
Schneabel, Steele, Seybert, Sherwood,  
Thomas, Wunder and Ward (Susquehanna),  
31—voted for Wm. F. Packer.

Messrs. Acker, Allen, Bucher, Bonsall,  
Brenner, Campbell, Carrigan, Deal, Danen-  
hower, Edwards, Esher, Killian, Lippencott,  
Morrison, Miller, McGhee, Morris, McMullin,  
Murray, McClancy, Nebinger, Worrell,  
Rambo, Sager, Surgeon, School, Tappin,  
Wescott and Yeager, 29—voted for Wm. H.  
Witte.

Messrs. Ayres, Blood, Blackburn, Boggs,  
Cessna, Crawford, Clarke, Dunn, Gibson,  
Hoey, Herdman, Irwin, Jamison, Johnson,  
Marlan, McKenney, McCormick, (Northum-  
berland), Magee, Shannon, Shriner, Sansom,  
Slater, Taylor, (Beaver), and Weyand, 25—  
voted for Samuel W. Black.

Messrs. Boyer, Brush, Frost, Hull, Kutz,  
Lindsey, McKinty, Patton, Patterson, Ring-  
walt, Rutledge, Seagriff, Stouffer, Swan and  
Workman, 15—voted for Wm. Hopkins.

Messrs. Brooks, Danner, Forney, Grier,  
Garvin, James, Pries, Plumer, Reily, Sharp,  
Sloan, Taylor, (Erie), and Whallon, 13—  
voted for J. Porter Brawley.

Messrs. Brown, Bower, Cummings, Dillinger,  
Gemmill, Hartzel, McDowell and Wood-  
ruff, 8—voted for Ephraim Banks.

Messrs. Burnett, Craig, Clover, Moore,  
Wolf and Wood, 6—voted for G. R. Barrett.

Messrs. Besslin, Hipple, Horn and Ward,  
(Schuylkill), 4—voted for F. W. Hughes.

Mr. Baum voted for Isaac Slenker.  
Mr. Young voted for Thomas S. Bell.  
Whole number of votes cast 131—neces-  
sary to a choice 66.

There being no choice the names of  
Messrs. Hughes, Brawley and Henker were  
withdrawn.

**SECOND VOTE.**

Packer,	88
Black,	36
White,	33
Hopkins,	18
Banks,	6

Whole number of votes cast, 133—neces-  
sary to a choice, 67.

The 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th votes were nearly  
the same, Hopkins falling off to 6, and the  
other candidates severally gaining slightly.

**SEVENTH VOTE.**

Packer,	49	White,	38
Black,	45	Hopkins,	1

**8th vote.**

Packer,	50	49	49
Black,	44	44	44
White,	38	39	39
Hopkins,	1	1	1

A motion to adjourn till seven o'clock was  
disagreed to, after which four other ballots  
were had resulting as follows:

**11th.**

Packer,	47	47	42	44
Black,	40	36	36	39
White,	37	39	39	40
Hopkins,	9	11	16	10

After the 12th ballot, a motion was made  
to adjourn till 7½ o'clock, but disagreed to.  
Yeas 34, nays 72.

After the 13th ballot, a motion was made  
to adjourn till 8 o'clock, and lost.—Yeas 63,  
nays 67.

The Convention finally, after the 14th bal-  
lot, adjourned till half past eight o'clock.

**EVENING SESSION.**  
The Convention met again at 8½ o'clock,  
when the fifteenth ballot was taken, and re-  
sulted as follows:—

**FIFTEENTH VOTE.**

Packer,	47	White,	40
Black,	32	Hopkins,	14

Mr. Cessna moved that on each successive  
ballot after the next, the lowest candidate  
shall be dropped.

Mr. Carrigan moved to lay the motion on  
the table.

The Chair decided the motion out of or-  
der. The motion must be postponed.

Mr. Cessna advocated his motion. If  
adopted one or the other of the candidates  
must be nominated in a few ballots. If the  
balloting continued as now, much longer,  
delegates would become embittered, and  
would say harsh things to the injury of the  
prospects of the party.

Mr. Whallon opposed the motion.

Mr. McDowell hoped the proposition would  
prevail after another vote.

The whole subject was then postponed for  
the present, and the Convention resumed the  
balloting with the following result:

**16th.**

Packer,	48	49	57	59	60	61
Black,	24	22	22	22	22	23
White,	43	46	47	50	50	51
Hopkins,	18	16	4	2	—	—

**20th.**

Packer,	61	White,	51
Black,	21	—	—

**21st.**

Packer,	68	White,	51
Black,	14	—	—

Ger. William F. Packer having, on the  
twenty-fourth ballot, received a majority of  
all the votes cast, was declared duly nomi-  
nated as the candidate for Governor.

The announcement was received with  
much applause, and a resolution was then  
offered and adopted to make the nomination  
unanimous.

**NOMINATION OF SUPREME JUDGE AND CANAL  
COMMISSIONERS.**  
*Harrisburg, March 3d.*—The Convention  
remained in session till half past 12 o'clock  
this morning.

The following is the vote for Governor on  
the 24th ballot:

For Wm. F. Packer—Messrs. Alicks, Ahl,  
Baum, Brown, Blanding, Blood, Boyer, Buck-  
alew, Bowman, Bower, Carl, Cessna, Cum-  
mings, Clover, Danner, Dieffenbach, Evans,  
Finch, Flannery, Frost, Forney, Gemmill,  
Gilliland, Grier, Garvin, Hartzel, Hull, Hun-  
ter, Horn, Irwin, James, Jamison, Kutz,  
Knox, Kutz, Lauman, M'Cormick, (Mon-  
tour) M'Kinstry, McCormick, (Northumber-  
land) Moore, McCurdy, Orr, Price, Patton,  
Piolet, Plumer, Patterson, Ringwalt, Sager,  
Smyser, Shriner, Smith, (Berks) Shaw, Scar-  
borough, Sharp, Schneabel, Sloan, Stauffer,  
Steele, Seybert, Sherwood, Taylor, (Erie),  
Thomas, Wunder, Woodruff, Ward, (Schuyl-  
kill) Ward, (Susquehanna), and Young—  
68.

For Wm. H. Witte—Messrs. Ayres, Acker,  
Allen, Boggs, Brooke, Bucker, Brush,  
Burnett, Bonsall, Brenner, Campbell, Craig,  
Crawford, Carrigan, Deal, Danahower, Dil-  
linger, Edwards, Esher, Hipple, Johnson,  
Killian, Lippencott, Lindsay, Morrison, Miller,  
Marlan, M'Kee, M'Dowell, M'Kinney, Mor-  
ris, M'Mullin, Murray, Magee, M'Glancy,  
Nebinger, Reily, Rutledge, Rambo, Slater,  
Surgeon, School, Swan, Tappin, Westcott,  
Whallon, Workman, Wolf, Worrel, Wood,  
and Yeager—51.

For Samuel Black—Messrs. Blackburn,  
Bruba, Breslin, Clarke, Dunn, Gibson, Hoey,  
Herdman, McGee, Shannon, Seagriff, San-  
son, Taylor, (Beaver), and Weyand—14.

After affecting the nomination of Governor,  
the Convention proceeded to the nomination  
of a candidate for Supreme Judge. The bal-  
lots were taken which stood as follows:

**1st Ballot.**

Ellis Lewis,	48	76
Wm. Strong,	36	47
Samuel Hepburn,	20	10
Seattering,	33	—

The nomination was made unanimous.  
The Convention proceeded to ballot for  
Canal Commissioner with the following re-  
sult, two ballots having been taken:

**1st Ballot.**

Nimrod Strickland,	62	89
David Lawry,	29	33
Joseph Clark,	12	5
Seattering,	20	—

All the opposing candidates withdrew their  
names before the vote was announced, and  
the nomination was made unanimous.

On motion of Mr. Cessna the communica-  
tion relative to Judge Lewis was ordered to  
be read and printed in the proceeding of the  
Convention as follows:

PHILADELPHIA, February 29, 1857.  
To Gideon J. Westcott, and others, Delegates  
from Philadelphia to State Convention.

GENTLEMEN:—The undersigned, members  
of the bar of Philadelphia, address you as  
delegates to the Convention which meets at  
Harrisburg on the second of March, to nomi-  
nate a candidate for the Supreme Bench, on  
the expiration of Judge Lewis' term. We  
wish to be understood as writing this letter  
with no reference, direct or indirect, to party  
politics, but from a sense of duty to the public  
and the cause of the administration of the  
law in which, as professional men, we are  
deeply interested. We are desirous that  
Judge Lewis should be renominated by his  
political friends. Since he has been known  
to us as a Judge, he has commanded respect  
by his learning and ability, and conciliated  
the regard of us all by his uniform courtesy  
and kindness of deportment. This is, we be-  
lieve, the unanimous sentiment of his bar.

His nomination and election will give general  
satisfaction from these personal considera-  
tions alone.

But there are others of still greater import  
which we take the liberty of suggesting to  
you. The instability of an elective judiciary  
can only be corrected by the proof that a re-  
election can always be commended by good  
conduct; and that the people will not change  
their Judges merely for the sake of change.  
In the case of the first vacancy which oc-  
curred by rotation on the bench, the incumbent  
was without dissent renominated, and with-  
out difficulty re-elected. This was the case  
of Judge Black, whose original term was the  
shortest, being but for three years. Judge  
Lewis' term of six years is now expiring,  
and we shall be much gratified, if by his po-  
litical friends at least the same rule can apply  
to him.

In thus addressing you, we earnestly dis-  
claim any intention to intrude our counsel on  
you, or the Convention of which you are a  
member. With the party you represent,  
some of us have no connection. But as citi-  
zens and lawyers, we feel we are doing an  
act of simple justice to a most meritorious  
public officer, by bringing this matter to your  
view.

We are with sincere respect,  
G. M. Wharton,  
B. Gerhard, G. M. Wharton,  
Benj. H. Brewster, A. J. Fisher,  
Theo. Cuyler, C. Ingersoll,  
Constant Guilkin, James C. Vandyle,  
Samuel H. Perkins, St. Geo. T. Campbell,  
P. P. Kane, J. E. Johnson,  
S. C. Perkins, H. M. Phillips,  
H. J. Williams, Henry Johnson,  
A. V. Parsons, Francis Wharton,  
Ed. Wain, J. A. Phillips,  
F. C. Brightly, Geo. Junkin Jr.,  
P. McCall, H. C. Townsend,  
E. Carroll Brewster, Wm. W. Juvenal,  
John Fallon, S. Bayard,  
W. L. Hirst, Thomas J. Diehl,  
John Hamilton, Jr., Geo. Barton,  
P. P. Morris, Chas. E. Lex,  
Fred. C. Kreider, W. J. M'Elroy,  
Geo. T. Montgomery, Wm. Sergeant,  
Geo. L. Ashmead, Henry M. Decker,  
E. Ingersoll, Andrew Miller,  
James R. Ladlow, Jas. Hayward,  
J. Randall, Wm. Heyward Dayton,  
Wm. E. Lehman, Geo. W. Biddle,  
Eli K. Price, Ed. E. Law,  
H. R. Kneass, Geo. E. Law,  
Wm. S. Price, Wm. Henry Rawls,  
Joseph A. Clay, J. A. Spencer,  
Geo. Newthrop, Horatio G. Jones,  
N. B. Brown, M. Russell Thayer.

A motion was made and carried, that when  
the Convention adjourn it adjourn to meet  
to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Buckalew, the President  
was authorized to appoint a State Commit-  
tee of at least one from each Senatorial Dis-  
trict.

A committee was appointed to inform the  
delegates of their nomination. Adjourned.

**SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.**  
The Convention re-assembled at 9 o'clock  
this morning, when Mr. Shannon from the  
Committee appointed to draft resolutions,  
submitted the following:

Resolved, That, as representatives of the  
great party founded by Mr. Jefferson, we salute  
our political brethren of the other States  
with congratulations upon the auspicious and  
just result of the recent Presidential election,  
achieved by our united efforts and sacrifices,  
(with the aid of patriotic men heretofore at-  
tached to other political bodies), and neces-  
sary, as we believe, to the honor and pros-  
perity of our common country, and the con-  
tinuance amongst us of the blessings of good  
government.

Resolved, That the course of recent political  
action in the American Union has clearly  
shown the usefulness and necessity of our  
party, as a great conservative organization,  
able to resist and put down extreme and im-  
practicable theories of government and social  
order; to preserve the constitutional com-  
pact between the States from loose and dan-  
gerous constructions, as well as open viola-  
tion; to hold in check the passions of the  
country when directed by local excitement  
or other cause, against fundamental points  
of our political system; and to preserve to our-  
selves, and to those that come after us, the  
rich and invaluable legacy of free and well-  
ordered institutions established by our  
fathers.

Resolved, That to the existence and effi-  
cacy of our party, adherence to its rules  
and usages is essential, and that right reason  
and experience prove that without such ad-  
herence, division, disaster and defeat are in-  
evitable; all departures, therefore, from our  
party laws, in State or local action, are to be  
depreciated and resisted as evidently fraught  
with elements of danger, injury and eventual  
destruction.

Resolved, That on behalf of the Pennsylvan-  
ia Democracy, in addition to the re-affirma-  
tion of our past principles and policy, we  
announce as rules for our future action, the  
limitation of public expenditures to moderate  
and necessary outlays; the sparing and care-  
ful grants of corporate power; the enact-  
ment of laws in obedience to public opinion,  
rather than in advance or in contempt of it;  
occasional and prudent amendments of the  
Constitution as experience may demonstrate  
them to be necessary to the welfare and  
protection of the people; the encouragement  
of virtue and intelligence as the main sup-  
ports of our political system; the right ac-  
countability of public servants; and the culti-  
vation of just and amicable relations with  
our sister States, without subservience to  
the passions and policy of any of them, but  
with a frank concession of the constitutional  
and equal rights of each. These are grounds  
upon which, as heretofore, we propose to  
maintain the character of our Common-  
wealth, as a free, powerful and illustrious  
member of the American Union.

Resolved, That we recommend to the sup-  
port of the people the candidates nominated  
by this Convention as men of character and  
experience, well qualified for the posts to  
which they have been respectively named,  
in the full assurance that if elected, they will  
discharge their official duties with intelli-  
gence, fidelity and success.

Resolved, That we congratulate the Demo-  
cratic party and the country upon the tri-  
umphant election of James Buchanan and John  
C. Breckinridge, to the Presidency and Vice  
Presidency of the United States; and that in  
view of the whole political history of Mr.  
Buchanan, rendered memorable by his steady  
and patriotic adherence to the Constitution  
and to the maxims of his fathers, we, the rep-  
resentatives of the Democratic party of the  
State, in full Convention assembled, do most  
confidently pledge to our brethren of the  
Union, a wise, conservative and constitu-  
tional administration of the government, un-  
der the guidance of the first Pennsylvania  
President.

Resolved, That in the late proceedings  
which resulted in the election of Simon Cam-  
eron to the United States Senate, the opposi-  
tion to our party openly and shamelessly ex-  
hibited their lack of high principles of honor,  
their contempt for the known sentiments of  
the people, and their utter disregard of the  
character of the State; and, together with the  
three apostates from our own party, by whose  
aid the result was accomplished, should be  
everywhere denounced by all men of virtue  
and honor.

Mr. Cessna then moved to add the follow-  
ing which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Demo-  
cratic party of Pennsylvania are due and are  
hereby tendered to Col. John W. Forney, for  
the ability, energy and consummate tact ex-  
hibited by him in the discharge of the duties  
which devolved upon him in the late Presi-  
dential campaign as Chairman of our State  
Central Committee, and although defeated by  
the basest treachery, he still occupies an em-  
inent position in the great heart of the Key-  
stone Democracy.

The resolutions were adopted by acclama-  
tion.

General Packer was introduced to the Con-  
vention, and expressed his gratefulness for  
the honor extended to him by the nomina-  
tion, but he believed that the party in making  
it had looked not so much to the standard  
bearer as to the good old Democratic flag it-  
self. He referred to the leading principle of  
the party, and pledged himself to maintain  
them in fact, and to exert the best of his  
abilities in the conduct of the campaign to  
effect success in such a manner as would re-  
flect no dishonor on himself or the Demo-  
cratic party. His speech elicited the warmest  
applause.

On motion the Convention adjourned sine  
die.

**DEATH PAINLESS.**—It is nearly certain—  
indeed as certain as any thing chiefly specu-  
lative can be—that in all deaths the physi-  
cal suffering is small. Even where invalids  
experience the most excruciating agony  
during the progress of the disease, nature  
comes to their relief at the last hour, and  
life goes out gently, like a candle in its  
socket. Those who have witnessed death-bed  
sufferers most frequently—especially if they  
have been intelligent persons, and there-  
fore capable of judging—agree generally  
in considering the physical pain of death  
as inconsiderable. They say that the con-  
vulsive motions, which frequently attend  
the parting breath, are not evidences of suf-  
fering, for that the invalid is insensible.—  
They say also, that when the senses are  
retained, there is usually no such spasms.  
A leading medical authority states that  
scarcely one person in fifty is sensible at  
the point of death; and some physicians  
assert that they have never seen a death-  
bed sufferer who was conscious of his suffer-  
ings. Constant pressure cannot be ex-  
erted against any portion of the human  
body without impairing its structure, or  
causing its dissolution and final destruction.  
These are principles of universal experience.

**DISEASE AND CRIME.**—Light is daily com-  
ing in upon the world of mind, and by the  
help of clearly established facts, arguments  
may be adduced, which will have a stronger  
tendency to compel men to take care of  
their health, than any which have arisen  
from conscience, money or duty; that is,  
the argument of *Shame*. Let men fully un-  
derstand that certain bodily affections tend  
to crime, and that crime thus committed  
confines to the Penitentiary, then may the  
community wake up more fully to the senti-  
ment, *Health is a Duty*, and therefore, the  
neglect of its preservation, a sin, which in  
the natural progress of things, leads to loss  
of health, and life, and honor.

In a recent trial of a forger, who handled  
millions of dollars in a year's business, the  
defence was that he was insane. Among  
the evidence offered was that he could  
sleep only three or four hours out of the  
twenty-four. In a previous number we stated,  
that a growing inability to sleep was a  
clear indication of approaching insanity;  
and on the return of sleeplessness, the intel-  
lect became clear. There were other symp-  
toms. There was the sound of trip-hammers  
in his ears; blacksmith's sparks floated  
before his eyes, and there was pain in the  
head a large portion of the time. These  
symptoms, lasting so long, had at length so  
affected the brain, as to destroy all percep-  
tion, or comprehension of the effects of  
crime; and when the organ of a man's  
perception is destroyed, he will plunge  
headlong, and with utter recklessness, into  
any kind of wrongdoing which circum-  
stances throw in his way—*murder, robbery,*  
*murder, anything; and, if not detected or*  
*prevented, the crime, whatever it may be,*  
*will grow into a habit, and habit is second*  
*nature; consequently, he will repeat it, as*  
*he would his meat and drink, and he would*  
*rather do it than not. Hence the prisoner*  
*declared without hesitation, that if he were*  
*released he would do it again; that he rather*  
*liked it, and nothing could prevent him*  
*but putting off his hand, if it came in the*  
*way, to forge paper.*

It was shown on the trial, that there was  
insanity on the father's and mother's side,  
but no indication of it on the part of either  
father or mother. It is well known how-  
ever, that insanity, as well as personal fea-  
tures, overleaps a generation or two. Often  
a child bears a striking resemblance to a  
grand-parent, without a lineament of paren-  
tal features.

The acts of the prisoner were admitted  
by his counsel, and the question of guilt or  
innocence, rested on this—was he insane  
or not?

The use which we wish to make of these  
developments is practical, and is of high  
importance. A wise and stern medical  
treatment would have deterred, if not pre-  
vented, the combination of events. And  
how?

The prisoner was under the habitual in-  
fluence of constipation, and an opiate,  
which intensified this constipation every  
hour, while the principle of the medical  
practice in this case, was to let the bowels  
take care of themselves—which they did  
not do. This individual was never seen  
by his business associates without a cigar  
in his mouth; he smoked fifteen or twenty  
a day. The immediate effect of smoking  
tobacco falls on the brain, excites it during  
that excitement he could not sleep, and the  
reaction went so low that he could not sleep  
only a troubled repose was possible during  
the brief transition from one to the other—  
During the excitement, the brain ran riot  
in the direction of the opportunity, and ex-  
pended its energies in that direction, but  
during the reaction, power was not left to  
carry on the bodily functions.

The effect of constipation is to thicken  
the blood, to make it more impure; hence  
more unfit for beautiful purposes. The  
more impure the blood is, the thicker does  
it become, the slower is its progress, and if  
nothing is done to alter this state of things,  
stagnation and death take place. Stagnation  
means accumulation, for the moment the  
blood stops in any part of the body, the  
coming current flowing in, causes an accumu-  
lation, precisely as in the closing of a  
canal gate, or the damming up of a stream.  
This accumulation in the blood vessel de-  
tends them, causes them to occupy more  
room than nature designed, consequently they  
most encroach on their neighbors.—  
The neighbors of the blood vessels are the  
nerves; hence the nerves are pressed against,  
that pressure gives what we call pain.—  
As there are nerves everywhere a point of  
a needle cannot be placed against the sur-  
face of the body without some pain, which  
shows the universality of nerve presence.  
hence, we may have pain anywhere, and  
will have pain if there is pressure. This  
accounts for the steady pain in the head.—  
The excitement of the day sent the blood  
to the brain too fast, the repose of the night  
was so short to allow of its removal, be-  
sides the energies of the system had been  
overtaxed, and there was not power enough  
left to remove a natural accumulation, let  
alone the extraneous.

But there is a law of our body, whereby  
pressure from any cause not only gives pain,  
but may destroy the part pressed against,  
and consume it by dissolving it into a gas-  
eous and fluid substance, which in this con-  
dition is conveyed out of the body. A nail  
put around an arm of a tree in circumference  
will, if tightened every day, in a time  
not long, reduce the circumference to six  
inches. Constant pressure cannot be ex-  
erted against any portion of the human  
body without impairing its structure, or  
causing its dissolution and final destruction.  
These are principles of universal experience.

Resolved, That the medical profession is becoming  
more and more a matter of course, and that  
national interference indicates this sentiment  
to be on the increase. Hundreds or more  
young gentlemen are annually graduated  
doctors of medicine—a third of whom, at  
least cannot find employment. With the  
best educational preparations, there may be  
a deficiency of practical acquirements, and  
of a department of industry, such which  
will warrant for the poor success of some  
persons as medical practitioners.

Examples are abundant of the thriving  
business of individuals who have a peculiar  
power of adapting themselves to society,  
and whose natural talents are of the highest  
order. A consciousness of their own limited  
knowledge prompts them to redoubled energy,  
and they generally succeed admirably; while the very accom-  
plished medical scholar,