



A. W. WEAVER, EDITOR.

Harrisburg, Wednesday, May 20, 1857.

Democratic Nominations.

FOR GOVERNOR, WILLIAM F. FUNKER, of Lycoming County. FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER, J. B. BRIDGEMAN, of Luzerne County. ... J. N. HITCHCOCK, R. J. HALDERMAN, Secretaries.

Wilmot's Letter of Acceptance.

Judge Wilmot has accepted the Republican nomination for Governor in a letter which reads as if he thought he was a candidate for the Governorship of Kansas, but an entire stranger to Pennsylvania. It is for the negro from beginning to end, and has not a word for the white citizen, except an incidental, illiberal fling at the foreigner.

But why is there nothing in this letter upon questions of State policy? Has he no bowels of compassion for the 2,000,000 slaves who live in Pennsylvania? He talks piteously for the emigrant. But if he would take care first to relieve our debt-ridden and tax-ridden Commonwealth of her heavy burthens her industrious children would not so often be driven to the rough frontier life of Kansas.

Wilmot is like the sentimental lady whom John Randolph found sewing for the Greeks while her own children rolled in dirt and rags in the street, until the eccentric Virginian was constrained to cry out: "Why madam, the Greeks are at your door!"

The Anti-Slavery Party.

The Abolition or Anti-Slavery Society, which is only the most ultra branch of the Republican party, has for some time been in session at New York. Passmore Williamson and his sympathizers belong to this Society. We give the following extracts from its proceedings to show its character. "Rev. Mr. Frothingham thought civil war or a dissolution of the Union was the only hope of emancipating the slave."

Death of John N. B. Petrikus, Esq.

John M. B. Petrikus, Esq., the member of the Legislature from Lycoming county, died at Harrisburg last Friday of the National Hotel disease. He was a young man of energy, industry and talent; which gave fair promise of a life of usefulness and honor.

The Poisoning.

A Washington despatch says: "The Merchants and business men in this city are taking up a subscription of ten thousand dollars, which will be paid to any person or persons ascertaining the cause of the poisonings cases at the National Hotel. The developments that have recently come to light have caused much excitement here."

The Officers of Twelve Lottery Ticket Dealers.

The officers of twelve lottery ticket dealers were overhauled by the police in Boston last Tuesday. In six of them, tickets of the Delaware State Lottery were found, and the proprietors arrested. At Myrick's office, over thirteen hundred tickets were found and seized.

Meers, Steele and Ent from this District.

Meers, Steele and Ent from this District have manifestly voted against the Main Line bill in every form and at every stage. Mr. Steele made some pertinent remarks against the bill in the Senate.

THE MAIN LINE BILL.

The men who have voted to sell the Main Line will have a heavy judgment to meet with the people. Except those who live under the shadow of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, not one will be likely to be returned next winter. Sensible men of the Opposition are beginning to see this, and many are turning from the error of their first partisan impulse.

Along the North Branch the public sentiment on this subject was always healthy, and neither speculators, demagogues nor fanatics gained much encouragement in their attempts to debauch public virtue. We have within the past two weeks heard scores of men give vent to their honest indignation against the iniquity of thus robbing the State, and imposing still heavier burthens of taxation.

As a specimen of the provisions of the bill take the following:—The minimum price of the line is \$9,000,000 if the Pennsylvania Railroad becomes the purchaser, but \$7,500,000 if sold to any other Company or individual. The third section provides that if individuals become the purchaser they may transfer the works to any Corporation. It is evident that the bidders put this "snake" into the bill, so as to give them a chance to make \$1,500,000 for themselves, which they may do by purchasing at \$7,500,000 for the Railroad Company; since it is understood to be willing to pay \$9,000,000. So the State is not only robbed of her "backbone," but will be actually made to pay the bidders for their nefarious work.

Case of D. B. Vondersmith.

Deputy Marshal Jenkins arrived in Philadelphia on Tuesday evening, from Lancaster, having in custody D. B. Vondersmith, charged with having committed pension frauds upon the general Government, some three years since. He was brought before Judge Kane, of the United States District Court, and in the absence of the District Attorney, the case was postponed until Friday next.

Vondersmith was one of the Associate Judges of the Quarter Sessions of Lancaster, and is charged, with Geo. Ford, one of the most prominent members of the Lancaster bar, with obtaining fraudulent pensions to the amount of \$50,000. He gave bail and fled the country. Tired, however, it would seem, of being longer an exile, he last fall returned to his home in Lancaster, where he kept himself closely and unexposed until recently, when he allowed himself to be seen more publicly, probably thinking that the eyes of the officer were not in search of him. But in this he was mistaken, for a rumor of his being here had been conveyed to the Marshal in Philadelphia, who with the assistance of Mr. Connor, proceeded, early on Wednesday morning, to Mr. Vondersmith's residence, and finding that he was engaged at work in his garden, they arrested him.

Since Mr. Vondersmith's return to his home, he has been engaged in restoring his garden to its former beauty; and, being in less affluent circumstances than formerly, he had engaged, it is said, by his wife, to have a lady to assist in his means by pursuing the culture of flowers. His own relatives made Marshal Voss acquainted with his whereabouts, and led to his arrest. The facts are said to be strong against him. In the United States Court he will be likely to meet with his deserts.

Ocean Steam Navigation.

New York, with all its pretensions to commercial enterprise, is losing considerable of its carrying trade through the competition of British steamers. Steamships now engross more than two-fifths of the Atlantic commerce, and the number of such vessels is constantly increasing. There are thirty steamships ranging between New York and various European ports. Only ten of them are American steamers. The whole number of steamships crossing the Atlantic between ports of the United States and those of Europe, is fifty-one; thirty-four are screw propelled, with iron hulls, and all European—making quick passages and generally preferred for carrying goods. A majority of the foreign steamers were built in Glasgow, and are owned by merchants in that city. The Scientific American calls the attention of New York merchants to these facts, as likely to take the shipping business from them unless they endeavor to gain their lost ground by building propellers.

Newspaper Enterprise.

We have heard it stated that upon the completion of the Atlantic Telegraph the leading New York daily papers propose to take a thousand words of news each day. This will cost them from \$6,000 to \$7,000 per week, and the price of the papers will be increased in proportion. Indeed, it is already rumored that the Herald will be five cents a copy after the arrangement begins. Of course the Tribune, and Times, and others will follow suit.

The Bank of England.

The business of the Bank of England is conducted by about eight hundred clerks, whose salaries amount to about \$190,000. The bank in 1856 had about twenty millions of bank notes in circulation. In the same year there were about five millions deposited in the savings' bank of the metropolis.

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Lebo, Wagoner and Manser voted for the sale of the Main Line.

Nothing else could be expected from them.

The Sunbury and Erie Railroad Bill.

The bill giving this company THREE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS of the proceeds of the sale of the public works, in the event that the Pennsylvania Railroad company should buy them, has finally passed the House of Representatives by a majority of six votes. This result was totally unexpected to persons at a distance, but not so to those who have watched the outside maneuvers of the men who have the bill in charge, and who are deeply interested in the passage of this infamous scheme.

The bill has been brought through the House by such men as John A. Gamble, ex-Canal Commissioner; Israel Painter, ex-Canal Commissioner; James Burns, ex-Canal Commissioner; James Jackson, and a few others of a like stamp. These men have over one hundred miles of the road under contract. This contract, which amounts to FOUR MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, was obtained by no very honorable means, at rates so high that it is confidently asserted, by men who are acquainted with the making of railroads, that they will make ONE MILLION OF DOLLARS CLEAR MONEY by the operation, and that it can be made by sub-letting, without even turning a hand.

We shall not attempt to censure the members who have taken an active part in the passage of the bill, particularly those whose constituents are immediately benefited by it; but we do think that those who have remote from the road have taken a bold step, and brought upon themselves a responsibility which we would not like to incur.

A reasonable amendment was offered to the bill, providing that all the present contracts should be rescinded, and that the work should be re-let to the lowest and best bidder; but this was not acceded to by the friends of the road, because it would defeat the object of the present bidders now at the capital.

We are friends of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad, and want it made; but when such men as we have above named are engaged in the project of turning the making of the road to their own individual advantage, then let us pause and reflect.

We annex the vote so that our readers may know who voted to squander the people's money:

Yates—Messrs. Babcock, Backus, Ball, Bishop, Brown, Benson, Cary, Cleaver, Dickey, Dock, Eyster, Gibbons, Hamilton, Hancock, Hiestand, Hine, Hoffman (of Lebanon), Housekeeper, Imbrie, Jenkins, Johnson, Kerr, Lebo, Maner, Maugle, McCombs, McIlvaine, Mumma, Nichols, Nicholson, Penrose, Peters, Pownall, Ramsey, (of Philadelphia), Reed, Shaw, Sloan, Struthers, Thorn, Tolan, Vail, Vanvorhis, Vickers, Wagoner, Walter, Warner, Wintrose, Wright, and Yearley—49.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson, Arthur, Backhouse, Beck, Bowser, Calloun, Campbell, Crawford, Ent, Foster, Gildes, Hamel, Harper, Heins, Hill, Hillegas, Hoffman (of York), Innes, Jacobs, John, Kuffman, Knight, Leising, Longaker, Lovett, Moorhead, Nunnemacher, Pearson, Purrell, Ramsey (of York), Reamer, Roberts, Rupp, Smith (of Cambria), Smith, (of Centre), Stevenson, Voegelie, Washbrook, Wharton, Wrijston, Whitrow, Zimmerman, and Clark—51.

We have been living at the seat of Government for twenty years past, and have been about the legislature yearly, but never before have we observed such a set of corrupt bidders. We would rather see the sale of the Public Works postponed another year, until the amendments of the Constitution are adopted, which will prohibit the State from subscribing to any project of this kind, than to see this bill pass.

It becomes the duty of the tax-payers at once to arouse in their might, and stay the progress of the bill in the Senate. We have an abiding faith in that body, and look to them to rebuke corruption and fraud. But if it should pass, we have still another hope, and that is the Governor, who will never, never affix his signature to any bill, if he can be convinced that it is wrong in principle, and particularly if he is satisfied that corrupt means have been used to effect its passage.

Sale of the Main Line.

The Act providing for the sale of the Main Line of the Public Works, makes it the duty of the Governor to advertise the sale within ten days after the approval of the Act. It declares that the sale may be made for a sum not less than \$7,500,000. No bid to be accepted unless the sum of \$100,000 is deposited with the Governor, in cash or State bonds, to be forfeited if the terms of the sale are not complied with. If the Pennsylvania Railroad Company purchase it, the price is \$9,000,000, the whole amount of sale to be paid in the five per cent. bonds of the Company. Of these bonds, \$100,000 will fall due July 31st, 1858, and \$100,000 annually thereafter until July 31st, 1860, when \$1,000,000 will fall due, and \$1,000,000 annually thereafter till the whole is paid. The Company and its connections are released from the payment of all other taxes or duties on its capital stock, bonds, dividends or property, except for city, borough, county, township and school purposes. It may purchase or lease the Harrisburg and Lancaster road, and it may straighten and improve the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad, and extend it to the Delaware. The purchaser of the works is to have a perpetual corporate succession, but the Legislature may revoke the privileges granted for abuse of them, a judicial decree of abuse being previously had, and full compensation being made to the stockholders, if the State decide to resume the franchises. The purchasers are prohibited from making any discrimination in tolls, or charges, or any priority of passage through locks passing to or from the Susquehanna division. They shall at all times keep open the present connection at Columbia and Middletown with the Susquehanna, Tide Water and Union Canals, and shall at no time discriminate against the trade or tonnage passing to or from the said canal; neither shall at any time charge more for boats or other craft passing the outlet locks at Columbia and Middletown, than is now charged for the passage of boats or similar craft through other locks owned by this Commonwealth. The Act is now in the hands of the Governor for his approval.

MURDER BY POISON.

A horrible case of poisoning has been in course of investigation before Esquire Kitchen and the Coroner's Jury during the week, and resulted in the commitment of William J. Clark, a pugler, working at the Monitor Rolling Mill, and Mrs. Mary Twigg.

The circumstances of the case as developed by the testimony, are simply these: On Tuesday, the 20th of April last, Mrs. Catherine Ann Clark, wife of the prisoner, returned from a visit to Philadelphia, and became sick a day or two after. She took some medicine, and a neighboring female acquaintance gave her some oil with whiskey. She continued to grow worse, when Dr. Smirington was sent for, who treated the case as inflammation of the stomach and bowels, all the symptoms indicating that disease. On Saturday evening, the 9th of May, she died. During her illness she was principally nursed by her husband and the other prisoner, Mrs. Twigg, who resided in the same house. Some mysterious conduct of these two nurses, their intimacy, &c. together with the unusual violence of Mrs. Clark's death—her vomiting, nervous twitchings, &c., aroused a suspicion of foul play among the neighbors, in consequence of which Clark and Mrs. Twigg were arrested on last Monday, and a Coroner's Jury summoned by Wm. Kitchen, Esq., to hold an inquest over the dead body. They caused a post mortem examination to be made by Doctors Magill, Strawbridge, and Frick, who took out the stomach and a portion of the intestines. The body was much swollen about the face and very much discolored, features distorted, with open mouth, filled with a most offensive dark fluid; the abdomen was also much swollen and distended with gas, liver very much enlarged and very dark, &c. The result of a partial analysis of the contents of the stomach, (which of course, must be somewhat imperfect, for want of pure reagents and apparatus) the physicians all agree, justifies a strong suspicion of poisoning by arsenic and Dr. Strawbridge gave it as his opinion, that her death was caused by poison.

It was further ascertained, on examination, that Clark had bought at Chalfant & Hughes' drug store one ounce of arsenic about the end of March, one ounce of arsenic about the beginning of April, one half ounce of arsenic about Thursday of that week, and four grains of strychnine about the 1st of April, and four grains of strychnine about 4 or 5 days after that—all for killing rats, as he alleged. Mrs. Twigg also bought a quantity of arsenic at the same store from another clerk.

An infant child of Mrs. Clark, having been nursed by her up to within a few days of her death, is not expected to live, and shows all the symptoms of the same disease of which its mother died.

Mr. Twigg, the husband of Mrs. Twigg, the supposed paramour of Clark, died about a month ago, under very suspicious circumstances, complaining of great pain in the stomach and bowels, and nervous twitchings, vomiting, &c. He lived in the same house with Clark, and his body was disinterred yesterday afternoon by the direction of the District Attorney, Paul Leidy, Esq., and an inquest held over the body.

The stomach was taken up by Drs. Smirington and Schnitzler, for the purpose of having its contents analysed.

Both Juries of inquest have been adjourned until Thursday, May 28th, when they will meet to hear the result of a more thorough analysis now in progress by several of our most eminent physicians. The excitement in town is intense, and the verdicts of the Juries are looked for with the greatest anxiety.

The parties implicated we believe are all Irish Protestants, and Clark is a prominent member of the "Protestant Association" of this place.—Danville Democrat.

The Stab Sinking Fund.

From a short statement made by the Commissioners of the sinking Fund, and published in the Harrisburg papers, we learn that the Fund is virtually a nullity—not a dollar having been paid into it for the last two years. The means set apart by statute to create a Sinking Fund for the gradual liquidation of the State Debt, consisting mainly of the Tonnage Tax collected off the Pennsylvania Railroad, which for the past eleven months amounted to \$221,248. This sum together with other resources, has been consumed to meet the increased expenses of government—extra pay to legislators, salaries of judges, &c.

The bill for the sale of the Main Line, which is likely to pass both branches of the Legislature and become a law, does not realize to the Treasury one cent above the present income, while it withdraws the Tonnage Tax, which is annually increasing in magnitude, from the payment of the State debt.

Our legislators raised their salaries two years ago some twenty-five hundred dollars, and depleted the Treasury to that amount. At the present session they have raised the salary again of each member two hundred dollars more—making an additional drain on the Treasury of \$26,000! At this rate of financing, can any one tell when the public debt will be paid or the taxes reduced?—Lancaster Intelligencer.

MONTEUR RAILROAD IRON.

The quantity of Railroad iron shipped from the Montour Iron Works by the Catawissa, Williamsport and Erie Railroad during the present year is as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Month, Rails, Tons. January: 7,594, 1,700; February: 9,257, 2,039; March: 9,097, 1,817; April: 13,214, 2,829; Total: 39,162, 8,185.

In presenting these facts the Danville Democrat says at this rate, fully 25,000 tons of Railroad iron will be sent to market by these works alone during the present year. Add to this the rails made at the Rough and Ready Works, which have already been, and will be shipped this year, we will have, at least 30,000 tons of Railroad iron to be forwarded from Danville in 1857.

THE KANSAS AID FUND.

Yermont having utterly refused to pay over her \$20,000 to the sufferers of bleeding Kansas, the New York Legislature followed suit, turning the cold shoulder upon the recommendation of Governor King, to appropriate \$100,000 for the same object, and now the old Bay State pauses. Massachusetts, during the first day of the session of her august Legislature went zealously to work on another \$100,000 appropriation, but her Solons have halted and higgled, adopted and reconsidered, played possum during the whole winter and spring, and have at last fallen back on a \$50,000 fund to be raised for the sufferers. But doubts and incoherence are interposed in reference to this sum, and the whole thing is likely to fizzle out.

Philadelphia Back Again.

It is highly pleasing to the Democratic party, and any thing but gratifying to the opposition, to see one after another of their strong holds give way and wheel into the Democratic ranks. New England the very hot bed of fanaticism, shows a great disposition to reform, and ere long we will hear such glorious news from that section that will make the heart of any true patriot rejoice.

Old Connecticut has taken the lead, and where but a year ago there were heavy majorities against us, the Democratic party have come out of the contest covered with victory, and now Philadelphia comes on with a clear majority of five thousand over the candidates of both the other parties, and a plurality of nine or ten thousand. We remark this to show that all the elements opposed to the Union party are becoming settled, the fever of young Sam has received a quietus, and the whining, canting hypocrites, who chant Dred Scott and Bleeding Kansas are being left behind to mingle their voices among the sighs of nervous women and the cries of small children. Kansas, that garden of the western world, will soon be admitted as a free State, the thing is inevitable, blood has already ceased to flow, even in the imaginations of Beecher and Greeley, and where will republicanism find a foothold. "O where for the red eyes of Kansas is shut in despair!"—Scranton Herald.

Further from California—Arrival of the George Law.

New York, May 12.—The steamer George Law, which left Aspinwall on the evening of the 4th inst, arrived at her dock this evening shortly after 7 o'clock.

The George Law brings advices from California to the 20th ult, and \$1,700,000 in treasure.

A bill has passed the California Assembly appointing a Board of Examiners to fane the indebtedness of San Francisco accruing previous to July, 1856.

The Assembly Judiciary Committee, by direction of the Assembly, reported a bill preventing the immigration of colored persons. The bill will probably pass.

A bill has passed the Senate, submitting the question of paying the State debt to the people.

The Legislature has passed a resolution to adjourn on the 27th of April.

The news from the mines was very favorable.

Business at San Francisco was very dull.

It was generally thought that the people of Oregon will adopt the State form of Government, and a constitution prohibiting slavery.

The winter in Oregon has been more stormy and the snow deeper than ever before known.

UTAH.

Brigham Young was compelled to flee from Salt Lake to save himself from the fury of his flock.

Washington Affairs.

Washington, May 16.—The Secretary of War, to-day, examined the bids for the material and construction of the Washington Aqueduct. The awards will probably be announced on Tuesday.

Walter N. Halderman, of Louisville, has been appointed Surveyor of Louisville, vice Mr. English, removed.

E. S. Hough has been re-appointed Collector of Alexandria, Virginia.

Senator Wilson is here on his way to Kansas.

Past Assistant Surgeon Horner, of the U. S. Navy, has resigned his office.

Dr. Ezra Parmentier has been appointed Special Inspector of Drugs and Medicines at Boston, vice Joseph H. Smith, removed.

The salaries of the Superintendents of the wagon road routes, have been fixed at \$3,000; of the Disbursing Agents and Engineers, at \$2,000, and the Physicians at \$1,500 per annum.

Exports and Imports.—The following statement exhibits the value of foreign imports and exports from and to this port:—The exports from the 1st to the 13th of May amounted to \$221,061, the principal articles being 7330 barrels flour, 1400 bushels corn, 6257 barrels corn meal, 800 do of rye, 17,748 pounds hams, 48,063 do of lard, 12,172 do of butter, 65,600 do of soap, 19,060 do of candles, 23,114 codfish, 44 tons guano, 780 barrels ship-bread and 2600 pounds tobacco. The imports for the week ending the 14th instant amounted to \$398,679, divided as follows:—Dry goods for consumption, \$4159; miscellaneous, \$139,647; warehoused dry goods, \$15,013; miscellaneous, \$245,860—making a total since the first of January, of \$6,902,131.—Ledger.

The State of Michigan has established a College of Agriculture, on a farm of seven hundred fertile acres, near the city of Lansing, where the State Capitol is located. Joseph R. Williams, late editor of the Toledo Blade, is President. It has an endowment of \$56,000, the proceeds of the Salt Spring lands originally donated to Michigan Territory by the Federal Government. The Legislature has appropriated \$20,000 per annum for two years to the support of the College.

There are already accommodations for eighty students. No charge is now made for tuition each student is required to work three hours per day, for which he is paid. This we believe will be the first State Agricultural College actually in operation in America.

The Kansas Aid Fund.—Yermont having utterly refused to pay over her \$20,000 to the sufferers of bleeding Kansas, the New York Legislature followed suit, turning the cold shoulder upon the recommendation of Governor King, to appropriate \$100,000 for the same object, and now the old Bay State pauses. Massachusetts, during the first day of the session of her august Legislature went zealously to work on another \$100,000 appropriation, but her Solons have halted and higgled, adopted and reconsidered, played possum during the whole winter and spring, and have at last fallen back on a \$50,000 fund to be raised for the sufferers. But doubts and incoherence are interposed in reference to this sum, and the whole thing is likely to fizzle out.

The Main Line Advertised to be Sold.

The Governor has signed the bill for the sale of the Main Line, and it is advertised to be sold at public auction, in the Merchants' Exchange, on Thursday evening, the 25th day of June. The lowest price for which it may be purchased is \$7,500,000.—Those who have that much loose change about them have a chance for a profitable speculation. The State debt will be reduced to that amount by the purchase money, if the Legislature, in a fit of liberality of a most questionable character, does not hand over the proceeds to the Sunbury and Erie Railroad.—Ledger.

LEFT IN DISGUISE.

The New York Evening Post announces that its editor, Mr. Bryant, has sailed for Europe in the ship William Tell, accompanied by his wife and youngest daughter. The period of his absence is not determined upon.

Mr. Bryant, it is said, leaves the country broken-spirited and in disgust. Over-persuaded by those with whom he was associated, he foresook the party with which he had been so long identified, to link himself to Black Republicanism; and when it was too late, discovered himself hand in hand with those political profligates whose dishonesty he had spent half a life-time in exposing and denouncing. His proud and independent spirit rebelled against concealing, and his honesty forbade his approving the reckless schemes of plunder and usurpation into which the Black Republican leaders plunged upon their first access; and despite the bloodsuctions or threats of his new associates, he held some of those measures up to public scorn. So says the Albany Statesman.

DEATH FROM STARVATION IN MICHIGAN.—Detroit, May 16.—Reliable information was received here yesterday of great destitution existing in Grafton county, and other secluded localities in the northern part of the State, several persons having already died from starvation. Many cattle are also dying for want of food.

A meeting was held last evening at the City Hall, to consider the proper means for the relief of the destitute people in the northern part of the State. A citizen of Grafton county was present, whose wife and three children died of starvation. He gave a gloomy account of the suffering in that region of the people dying for the want of the most common food.

It was resolved to raise \$5,000 in the city for the purchase of provisions, \$1,000 of which amount was subscribed at the Hall.

LOSS BY THE STORM IN MISSISSIPPI.—The Sea Coast Democrat, published in Mississippi City, thus sums the losses in that vicinity by the recent storm:—

Whole loss not less than \$100,000. The largest losers, whose names we have heard, are: Hon. R. C. Seaford, \$10,000; Messrs. McBean & Henry, \$8,000; Messrs. Taylor & Myers, \$2,000; Col. Humphreys, \$1,500—Some mills lost as much as 200,000 feet of lumber each. Every man engaged in the log and lumber business in this district has lost all he had invested in lumber. As to the other industrial pursuits of the people, trade is completely paralyzed for the present.

None of the mills can be started to work very soon, because of the damage sustained by their machinery, and of the vast amount of drift accumulated about the buildings; and even when the machinery can be righted again, they will have to wait some time before a supply of logs can be had.

SMALL POX AT THE SOUTH.—Many districts of the Southern States have been more or less afflicted by small pox, the present Spring—Virginia has especially been rife with rumors of its presence in some of her rural regions, and we observe the Columbus (Ga.) Sun says, that the best information it can obtain, the small pox is slowly but gradually extending at the points where it has broken out in that State. In Warren county the disease has extended to ten cases, all from one person having come from a distance with the disease in his system.

General Cass, it is said, exhibits surprising vigor and industry and endurance in his official labors. He rises and commences work at five, and is continually engaged, with small respite, till eight or nine at night. His diet is, however, very sparing, and he sticks still to cold water. Now and then he indulges in a cup of coffee, the only exhilarating beverage which he can use.

OHIO ELECTIONS.—The town and municipal elections in Ohio, have resulted more favorably for the Democracy than they have for many years. The Kansas excitement has about burnt itself out, and there is every indication that, if the Democracy nominate a good State ticket, they will elect it triumphantly, despite the opposition of the factions.

FOREIGN EXPORTS.—Among the exports from Philadelphia to foreign ports, during the past week, were 7,330 barrels flour, 2,230 of corn meal, 821 of rye flour, 732 of bread, 19,448 bushels of corn, 249 bbls. of pork, 490 tons of coal, 17,748 lbs. bacon, and \$200,000 in specie.

The New Orleans Times states that a young gentleman in that city lost some \$47,000 at a fashionable game a few days since. He paid every dollar of it the next day, and immediately left the city a ruined man.

Mr. Benj. G. Dey, of Corrituck county, N. C., while ploughing in his field a few days ago, dug up a pile of old Spanish gold and silver coin to the amount of six thousand dollars. It is supposed to have been buried during the revolution.

Palmer, sentenced to the penitentiary some months since, for a term of two years, for the manslaughter of Grant, in Indiana county, near Blairsville, during the Presidential campaign, has been pardoned by Gov. Pollock.

The Havana correspondent of the True Delta says that a private letter has been received stating that General Walker had evacuated Havana, and had taken refuge on board a British man-of-war at San Juan del Sur.

MEDICAL SCIENCE.

One of the most eminent British physicians has lately published a work, in which he falls back on what was substantially the theory of Hippocrates, more than two thousand years ago. The theory is that modern practitioners have been in the habit of giving too much medicine; that nature needs only to be assisted, at critical points and cannot be forced; and that, in many cases, where the disorder is fatal from the first, medicine is wholly useless.

The old Greek divided diseases into curable and incurable, which is much the same theory as that of the modern Englishman. If these views are correct, they prove that what is called medical science is hardly a science after all; for that cannot be a science, which, at best, is merely experimental and empirical, and which cannot tell, till too late, whether an attack is to be fatal or not. We should hesitate, therefore, to admit the premises of this British author, if we were a physician, for we would be too honest to deny the conclusion, and we should shrink from admitting that to cure or kill was "hit or miss."

It cannot be denied, however, that medicine is less of a science than men wish that it should be. Many diseases wholly baffle the schools. Nor is this all. Often, when a disorder has raged for a generation or two, and, by long study of it, doctors have come to think they understood it, lo! it disappears almost entirely, to be succeeded by some new disease, as subtle, as fatal and as widely extended as it was its fiercest fury. The plague, the small-pox, and the Asiatic cholera have devastated the world in this way, by turns. It would seem as if there were some secret law of nature, which demanded a certain percentage of annual mortality and which brought new epidemics and unknown disorders on the scene, in order to gather the necessary victims, as fast as human skill learned to master the older types of disease. Ventilation, cleanliness, exercise, wholesome food, and freedom from harassing cares, would seem to be more potent than all the physic in the world. The experience of the wisest men and nations leans to the conclusion that we may do something to prevent, but little to arrest disease.

Nor is it strange that medical science has learned so little. When we consider the delicacy of the human frame, its complex character, and its many disturbing influences to health, the wonder is, as Sir Thomas Brown quaintly remarks in his "Religio Medici," not that we live so few years, but that we do not die every day. The body, the diseases to which it is subject, the effects of medicines, and the control exercised by atmosphere, changes over it, together make a problem only less intricate than that even mightier one, the conditions of immortality and the position of the soul after death. Perhaps it is as well that this should be so. It is doubtless a part of God's providence towards man, that even the profoundest human intellect should feel, in relation to some subjects, that beyond a certain point his knowledge should not go, that the ignorance of life and death were beyond its ken, that, in a word, man was finite and only the Creator infinite. We are, at best, but creatures of the dust, insects of an hour. There is a mightier power in Nature than ourselves. It is a reflection before which infidelity grows dumb, and at which the humble christian becomes humbler.—Ledger.

The Farmer's Daughter.</