Compliment to the Hon. James Cooper.

☞ The annexed correspondence we find in the Harrisburg Telegraph, by which it will be seen that the complimentary public dinner was tendered to Senator Cooper by some of the prominent Whigs of Harrisburg, but declined for reasons set forth in Mr. Cooper's letter.

HARRISBURG, Sept. 26, 1850.

To the Hon. JAMES COOPER:

DEAR SIR:—The undersigned, Whigs of the Capitol of Pennsylvania, having been among your early friends, and highly appreciating your course as the Whig United States Senator from Pennsylvania, on all questions of public policy, respectfully invite you to partake of a public dinner at the Washington House, in Harrisburg, at such time upon your return from Washington as may suit your convenience.

With great respect, Your obt'servts.

SAMUEL D. KARSTAD, and others.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20, 1850.

GENTLEMEN:—Your favor of the 27th inst., expressing your approval of my conduct in relation to the great questions which have agitated the country during the session of Congress now about to close, and inviting me to partake of a public dinner at the State Capitol, reached me yesterday. That such a testimonial of approval and confidence, coming from my early friends, to whom I am indebted for so many acts of generous kindness, was received with emotions of gratefulness and sensibility, I need not assure you. In pursuing the course which has drawn forth this gratifying expression of your approbation, I was animated by the desire of promoting the best interests of the country, by contributing to the preservation of the Union, put in peril by a sectional controversy, which could result in good to nobody, while it tended to the injury of all. My object was to allay strife and quiet sectionalism, by exhibiting a spirit of forbearance and kind feelings between the conflicting sections of the country; and to know that my motives were appreciated and appreciated by my friends, more than compensates for any misconstruction of the few who pretend to see in my course, which I pursued, an abandonment of the principles which it was my duty to maintain.

In vindication of my conduct in supporting the measures adopted at the present session of Congress, it would perhaps be sufficient to state, that I but followed the examples of Clay and Webster. The latter Webster, well known to the whole country for their integrity, wisdom, and elevated patriotism, had, in no instance, however illustrious, would have changed my course. I seek shelter from responsibility behind none. My course was dictated by my heart, approved by my judgment, and pursued unhesitatingly and without hesitation. I looked only to the safety of the country and threatening aspect of the controversy waging between its different sections. By these my course was determined; and if they did not furnish a justification for it, I can plead no other.—Demagogues may speak lightly, or sneeringly, of fancy phrases, of the dangers which surround the Union. They were, however, none the less real; and it was the duty of patriots to provide against them, any the less sacred.

In the territory acquired from Mexico, by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, a new element of strife had been added to the already existing elements of discord, which threatened to the Union. The North insisted, that as this territory was free when it became *ours*, it ought to remain so; the South, that as it had been acquired by a common effort, and a joint expenditure of treasure and blood, it ought to be divided by a line, on one side of which the institution of slavery should be recognized. The North required a legislative *prohibition*; the South a legislative *recognition* of the institution. Here the opposing parties were at issue; neither willing to yield any portion of the claim. In the conflict men's minds became inflamed; prejudices grew daily more inveterate; and mutual criminations scorned as the offspring of cowardly apprehension; and for a while "dough face" was a term of greater reproach than "traitor!" At this stage of the controversy, when first, far-seeing men became alarmed at the dangers which threatened the Union—not with sudden overthrow or violent disruption—but with the gradual unloosing of the bonds which hold it together, and the wasting away of its strength, by the withdrawal from it of the affections and affections of the people, the "Compromise Bill," and its complement, the Fugitive Slave Bill, and the Abolition of the Slave Trade in the District of Columbia, were introduced by a committee constituted for the purpose.

These bills provided for the settlement of all the questions, directly or incidentally at issue between the North and the South. The "Compromise Bill," after months of discussion, was defeated by a strange combination of those who regard slavery as an institution of Heaven, and those who are scarcely willing to admit that the Constitution can operate at all in the States in which it exists. One of the most remarkable events in the most starling of the features of the controversy was this combination of men of extreme, opposite opinions, formed for the purpose of defeating the only practicable measure of adjustment which had been proposed. It resulted a disposition in the Senate to reconciliation, and hostile to the Union.—But happily, in the end, wiser and more patriotic counsels prevailed; and measures which were defeated when combined, passed when they were separated. That patriotism, forbearance and love of peace were quickened and increased by the increasing dangers, is proved by the fact, that Northern Senators who refused to support the "compromise," afterwards voted for its separate provisions, though modified adversely to the interests of the North. These measure, with the exception of the Fugitive Slave Bill, I supported with such feeble ability as I possessed, the history of which I need not repeat, believing that by so doing, I was promoting the welfare of the country and the true interests of human freedom. That these interests are bound up in the Union, and dependent upon its preservation, the wildest fanatician will hardly deny. Disruption would be the death knell of American liberty, and the harbinger of interminable wars.

But while the preservation of the Union, rich in glorious associations and fraught with glorious hopes, claimed the first and most anxious of my humble efforts, there was another object scarcely second in importance to my constituents to this great primary one, in which all others are involved. It was the necessity of securing protection to domestic, against the competition of foreign labor. But such protection, opposition upon legislation, would only be obtained by the co-operation of North and South; and such co-operation was not to be expected while they were arrayed against each other in a spirit of bitter, uncompromising hostility. To soften and remove prevailing prejudices, restore harmony, and bring about such legislative co-operation as would ensure to American labor protection against ruinous foreign competition, constituted a part of my motives in supporting the measures to which I have referred.

It would afford me great pleasure to accept your invitation, and avail myself of the opportunity which it would afford to discuss these interesting topics more at length, as well as to thank you personally for the kindness manifested towards me on this, and so many other occasions.—But the state of my health and the condition of my private affairs, requiring my attention, compel me to decline your invitation obligingly tendered. Before closing my letter, permit me to congratulate your friends, and the country generally, on the happy adjustment of the difficulties which so lately threatened the country with irreparable misfortune. One drop of American blood, shed by American hands in a sectional quarrel, would have been a misfortune never to be retrieved. But the moderation, firmness, and wisdom of President Fillmore and his able and patriotic advisers, saved the country from the peril which environed it. In awarding to the President and his cabinet this just meed of praise, I would not detract in the from the credit due to Messrs. Clay, Case, Houston, Badger, Foote, Pearce and others, for their patriotic labors in the great crisis which has just been passed.—The gratitude of the country is eminently due to them, and will be cheerfully, cordially paid.

Faithfully your friend and fellow citizen,

JAMES COOPER.

To Messrs. Samuel D. Karns, B. F. Haas, J. J. Cibbs, Stephen D. McCulla, F. Watson, John P. Hummel, David J. Unger, W. F. Rudy, Samuel Gleitsman, John Sanders, C. M. Bull, Jacob P. Sanders, Wm. E. Mahaffy, James Fox, John B. Kunkel, J. Bridges Boyd, John Cox, Jacob B. Rutherford, Stephen Miller, Wm. Gorgas, Geo. Koppenhaver, John Boyd, and others.

THE POSITIVE SLAVE LAW.—*Opposition of Mr. Crittenden.*—We have from the Washington Republic that, whilst this bill was before the President for his signature, the question arose in his cabinet, if he could take away the benefit of the habeas corpus from the slave, unconstitutional, and the President would have been compelled to resign the Republican, to return it to Congress with his objections. The President consequently referred the bill to the attorney general for his opinion upon this point; and as elaborate and able opinion was given by that officer, to the effect that "there is nothing in the bill in question which conflicts with the constitution, or suspends, or was intended to suspend, the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*."

Mr. Crittenden, however, is reported to have stated, in the Senate Chamber, that the Commissioners appointed under this law are to have plenary judicial powers, so far as fugitive slaves are concerned—that they are to take the place of courts, and hear and determine all questions arising out of the writ of *habeas corpus*, without appeal or interference from any tribunal. Will this may satisfy some, but we question much whether it will satisfy honest, independent freemen, who will be both to see such unlimited power conferred upon one man, an irresponsible Commissioner, whom not even the slaveholder would be willing to trust with the power in case where the right or title to a horse is involved. Are human beings, even though they wear black skin, to be held of less importance in the eye of the law than a brute or other chattel, as that the question of the freedom of the one is to be so carefully inquired into and guarded than a claim to ordinary personal property. Mr. Crittenden says he regrets this.

The whole effect of the law may be there briefly stated. Congress has constituted a tribunal with authority and power to determine summarily, and without appeal, who are fugitives from service or labor, under the provisions of the fourth article of the Constitution, and to do so without the benefit of a jury trial. The judgment of every tribunal of ordinary jurisdiction, where no appeal lies, is, of necessity, conclusive upon every other tribunal, and therefore the judgment of that tribunal created by this act is conclusive upon all tribunals. Whatever side judgment is made to appear it is conclusive of the right of the slave to retain in his custody the fugitive. Congress would ultimately, before adjourning, do something for the interests of American labor, has kept our factories and factories going. The hope being disappointed, we may look forward to a general suspension of business among our manufacturers. At Chicopee, Mass., nearly 400 operatives have been discharged from the different cotton mills in that town. The high price of the raw materials, and the enormous influx of foreign goods into the country, are said to be the immediate causes of this result.

WORTH KNOWING.—The correspondent of the Boston Traveller writes:—The following method of dressing potatoes I have found of great use at this season of the year, when the skins are tough and the potatoes are watery. Score the skins of the potatoes with a knife, lengthwise and cross, quite opened, and then boil the potatoes in plenty of water and salt, with the skin on. The skin readily cracks when it is scored, and let out much water, which otherwise the potato soaps and wet. The improvement to bad potatoes by this method of boiling I have very great; and all who have tried it find a great advantage in it, now that good potatoes are very difficult to be obtained.

EXTRAORDINARY CALVES.—Mr. G. H. Polhemus, of Pemberton, N. J., has one in his stalls six calves of his own raising, nine weeks old, which weigh, in the aggregate, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven pounds! The heaviest of the calves weighing three hundred and seventy-five lbs.

PRENTICE'S LAST.—The news from almost every part of Mississippi is good.—Gen. Quitman's remarkable proclamation finds no sympathetic response in the hearts of the masses. Mississippi, it is true, repudiated the bonds of the Union Bank, but she will not repudiate *the bonds of the Union itself.—Louisville Journal.*

HANDIWORK OF MISS FILLMORE.—None of the articles on exhibition at the Fair of the American Institute, in New York, now, attracte more notice than a large Gothic arch chair, backed and cushioned with beautifully wrought needle work, in worsted, the handiwork of the daughter of Millard Fillmore, President of the United States. Of her skill in the delicate enjoyment of the comforts which were provided by the liberality of Mr. Grinnel. They were all ardently desirous to secure the honor of the Exposition.—*North Am.*

Official despatches have also been received by our Government from Lisset, Delaware, commander of the expedition, of about the same date and purport of the above.

RAILROAD CELEBRATION.—The opening of the Central Railroad in Pennsylvania was celebrated on Thursday and Friday last, by an excursion from Philadelphia to Hollidaysburg, the present western terminus at the foot of the Allegheries.—Here the road connects with the Portage Railroad, on to Johnstown, a distance of 400 miles from Philadelphia.—The Philadelphia papers give an interesting account of the trip.

OPERATIVES DISCHARGED.—Our exchanges for several weeks past, have recorded a more than ordinary number of instances in which the manufacturing establishments in various sections of the country have ceased operations. There is little doubt that the necessity for this has arisen from a great many months, and nothing but a hope that Congress would ultimately, before adjourning, do something for the interests of American labor, has kept our factories and factories going. The hope being disappointed, we may look forward to a general suspension of business among our manufacturers. At Chicopee, Mass., nearly 400 operatives have been discharged from the different cotton mills in that town. The high price of the raw materials, and the enormous influx of foreign goods into the country, are said to be the immediate causes of this result.

WEBSTER VS. A COLORED WITNESS.—Hon. Daniel Webster, expecting some distinguished visitors at his house in Marshfield, sent to Mr. J. B. Smith, a colored gentleman of Boston, who makes a business of assisting entertainers of such occasions, and desired him to bring with him a professional servick. Mr. Smith having a very decided opinion of his own respecting the Fugitive Slave Law and some other acts that Mr. Webster has lately had a hand in, sent word to Mr. W. that he would not go to his house for a day or two, and that there was not a colored man in Boston man enough to enter the service for one day of the enemy of the human race. Mr. W. tried to get another colored man but failed."—So says the Boston *Free Soiler.*

FARM IN MAINE FOR NOTHING.—A law has passed the Legislature of Maine, the Hallowell *Gazette* says, giving any man from one to two hundred acres, as he may desire at the nominal price of 50 cents an acre, payable in two or three years, in work on the highways, a kind of remuneration of as great advantage to the purchaser as to the State. The farmer must, however, clear up a certain number of acres within a given time, and erect a house for his residence; or, in other words, he must go to work, improve his farm, and make it his home. Much of that offered is covered with above conditions lies in Aroostook county.

A Boy, twelve years of age, died at Cheltenham, England, lately, from excessive smoking. The symptoms were those usually caused by narcotic poisons.

A young man named Jones, was killed at Pittsburg, by a blow from a poker, in the hands of his father. Both were drunk at the time.

THE STAR & BANNER.

GETTYSBURG.

Friday Evening, October. 25, 1850.

Board of Commissioners.

On Wednesday last, Mr. Gutzler, the County Commissioner, elect, took the requisite oath of office, and the new Board organized by appointing JOHN ZIEGLER, Esq., President, and JACOB ADAMSTOWN, Clerk.

It is no more than what is eminently due to the retiring Commissioner, Mr. KUHN, to say that he has discharged the responsible duties incumbent upon him, as County Commissioner, with a judiciousness, ability and fidelity, that have commended him to the confidence of the community at well as the regard of his associates in the Board. We are quite sure that Mr. Gutzler will prove a worthy successor, as well as a faithful co-labourer with the other members of the Board, in an economical and judicious management of the finances of the County. The TAX-payers of the County can rest assured that under the administration of Messrs. HORNISHER, MESSHAMAN and GUTZLER, their interests will continue to be faithfully considered and protected.

Death of John Fahnestock, Esq.

☞ We regret the necessity which calls upon us to announce the death of JOHN FAHNESTOCK, Esq., County Treasurer, at his residence in this place, yesterday afternoon, after a lingering and painful illness. Mr. F. was one of our most respected and popular citizens. He had but recently been chosen Treasurer of the County, with great unanimity, and had still more recently entered into arrangements for carrying on the Hardware business on an extensive and profitable scale—in the midst of which he has been cut down, leaving "uninteresting family and numerous friends, to mourn his loss.

☞ The Funeral services will take place on tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon, at 2 o'clock, at the late residence of the deceased.

☞ The Locofocoso journals claim the result of the recent Congressional Election in this State as a Free-trade triumph over Protection.—Not so. The friends of a Tariff have been victorious in 14 districts, viz: the 6th, 7th, 12th, 13th, 16th, 22d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32d, and 33d districts. A thousand additional Whig votes distributed in some seven districts would have saved the whole, while the majorities in the 12th, 13th, 16th, 22d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32d, and 33d districts, alone nearly overbalance all the Locofoco majorities in the balance of the State. Could one thousand Whig votes have been transferred from either of these latter districts and distributed over the seven districts, the result of the election would have had seven additional members of Congress and two thirds of the Congressional delegation. Such is the remarkable, lazy, stay-at-home policy of those members of the Whig party that have lost for us seven members of Congress, and given to Locofocoism an apparent triumph!

CENSUS OF PENNSYLVANIA TOWNS.

We find in Reading Gazette the following statistical table of the population of a number of towns and villages in Pennsylvania, as exhibited by the recent census. It is gratifying to State pride, to note that nearly all have considerably increased in size and consequent importance, during the last ten years:

	Census 1850.	Census 1840.	Increase.
Bethlehem,	1,516	801	341
Butler,	1,155	1,000	155
Bloomsburg,	1,215	1,000	215
Carlisle,	4,210	3,239	61
Catasauqua,	3,000	2,710	1,821
Chambersburg,	4,247	865	
Doylestown,	1,065	900	165
Easton,	7,850	3,412	4,438
Frankford,	5,840		
Gettysburg,	2,310	1,909	272
Greensburg,	1,200		
Harrisburg,	8,000	5,980	2,020
Hollidaysburg,	2,417	1,898	519
Hummelstown,	800	700	100
Kittanning,	1,450		
Huntingdon,	1,479		
Lancaster,	5,178		
Marietta,	1,323	1,205	118
Milton,	1,546	1,441	205
Minersville,	2,864	1,595	
Muncy,	910	683	227
Norristown,	6,250	2,937	
Northumberland,	1,041	986	55
Pittsburg,	809	775	
Pottsville,	7,498	4,337	3,161
Port Carbon,	2,149	1,000	1,149
Pottstown,	1,647	780	867
Phœnixville,	3,667	2,333	666
Reading,	16,080	8,410	7,890
Schuylkill Haven,	2,061	988	1,073
Sunbury,	2,258	1,600	658
Stroudsburg,	1,351	651	
Towanda,	1,813		
Tamaqua,	3,079	1,107	106
Uniontown,	1,250	2,815	1,565
Washington,	2,200	2,155	1,089
Warren,	1,009		

☞ Our neighbor of the "Compiler" this week publishes some of the most ridiculous editorials and talks quite "seriously" of the "indecency of Whigs" who were kind enough to lend a helping hand to our opponents in achieving their recent victory, while the most of them voted for Democrat "Gelphin Swindling," and kindred visionary delegations of Whig principles, are carefully withheld by him from the leading editorial assigned a place in obscure corners. Why this sudden change from the spirit of high exultation displayed in the previous issues? Has the editor of the "Compiler" been allowed to read the proceedings of that system, that it is so wonder it relinces such a *penchant* for its service.

☞ The ladies of Cincinnati have been holding a Temperance Convention, and, among other resolutions, resolved to collect and publish the names of women and children made widows by drinking. It will be a fearfully long list.

☞ We observe, with regret, that our neighbor of the "Sentinel" approves of the Fugitive Slave Law.

☞ The official returns of the Erie Congressional district elect CURTIS (Locofoco) over WALKER (Whig) by 98 votes. The district is composed of seven counties, all of which are Locofoco except one—Erie, for which the delegation will stand—5 Whigs, 18 Locofocos.

☞ The official returns for the State Ticket are nearly all in. The Locofocos claim the Canal Commissioner, will be about 1,500 majority for the Amendment will be between 74,000 and 75,000.

☞ JACOB AUGHINBAUGH, Esq., has been re-appointed Appraiser of Mercantile Taxes for the County of Adams.

Louisiana appropriates only $550,000 to the support of education; being more, in proportion to her wealth and population, than is bestowed by any other State in the world.

FEARFUL SPORT.—A correspondent writes us, that a member of Mr. White's School, Amherst, Mass., died of 17, on Saturday the 12th, having a rifle in his hand loaded with a ball, in sport placed the muzzle to his chin, and said to another youth present, "see how easy a man could kill himself," at the same time pleasing his foot against the hammer, pushed it back until it was nearly cocked, when his foot slipping, the hammer fell upon the cap, and the rifle discharged. The chin was entirely blown away, and the ball passed out through the back of his head. The unfortunate youth never rallied a struggle. His name was Frederick Goodale.—*Boston Tran.*

THE MAYOR OF PITTSBURG.—This eccentric individual has been arrested in charge of assault and battery and inciting to riot. He was held to bail in the sum of two thousand dollars, conditioned for his appearance at Court, and of his keeping the peace.

It there is one thing above another, which we would endeavor to impress upon the memory of our readers, it is that they should never fill a camphine or fluid lamp at night. It is like playing with an open keg of gun powder with a candle in your hand.

MISSISSIPPI, too!—Mississippi, follows the fashion of South Carolina, in beginning to proclaim non-intercourse with the North, so far as business is concerned, and some other things, too, as will be seen by the following resolutions unanimously adopted, at a meeting in Hinds county, lately:

Resolved, That we will not transact any business (either by the shipment of cotton to, or the purchase of goods from,) with any merchant in the city of New Orleans who is known to be a free-soiler in his sentiments, or who has shown no confidence in the South and known opinions have identified him with the South.

Resolved, That we will employ no school teachers or patronize any school under the management of any person or persons who are not known to be sound Southern in all their feelings and opinions.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE CAPITOL.—Congress has appropriated a hundred thousand dollars with which to commence the enlargement of the building in which they hold their sessions. The necessity of this must have been apparent to any one who has been at Washington during the last few years. The Senate Chamber is hardly large enough to accommodate the Senators, much less the crowd of auditors attracted by the debates. The Representatives Hall, a magnificent room, but commodiously large, is not well constructed for hearing, and difficult of hearing, and there may be but for an severe member of Congress, and given to Locofocoism an apparent triumph!

CENSUS OF PENNSYLVANIA TOWNS.

We find in Reading Gazette the following statistical table of the population of a number of towns and villages in Pennsylvania, as exhibited by the recent census. It is gratifying to State pride, to note that nearly all have considerably increased in size and consequent importance, during the last ten years:

	Census 1850.	Census 1840.	Increase.
Bethlehem,	1,516	801	341
Butler,	1,155	1,000	155
Bloomsburg,	1,215	1,000	215
Carlisle,	4,210	3,239	61
Catasauqua,	3,000	2,710	1,821
Chambersburg,	4,247	865	
Doylestown,	1,065	900	165
Easton,	7,850	3,412	4,438
Frankford,	5,840		
Gettysburg,	2,310	1,909	272
Greensburg,	1,200		
Harrisburg,	8,000	5,980	2,020
Hollidaysburg,	2,417	1,898	519
Hummelstown,	800	700	100
Kittanning,	1,450		
Huntingdon,	1,479		
Lancaster,	5,178		
Marietta,	1,323	1,205	118
Milton,	1,546	1,441	205
Minersville,	2,864	1,595	
Muncy,	910	683	227
Norristown,	6,250	2,937	
Northumberland,	1,041	986	55
Pittsburg,	809	775	
Pottsville,	7,498	4,337	3,161
Port Carbon,	2,149	1,000	1,149
Pottstown,	1,647	780	867
Phœnixville,	3,667	2,333	666
Reading,	16,080	8,410	7,890
Schuylkill Haven,	2,061	988	1,073
Sunbury,	2,258	1,600	658
Stroudsburg,	1,351	651	
Towanda,	1,813		
Tamaqua,	3,079	1,107	106
Uniontown,	1,250	2,815	1,565
Washington,	2,200	2,155	1,089
Warren,	1,009		

☞ Our neighbor of the "Compiler" this week publishes some of the most ridiculous editorials and talks quite "seriously" of the "indecency of Whigs" who were kind enough to lend a helping hand to our opponents in achieving their recent victory, while the most of them voted for Democrat "Gelphin Swindling," and kindred visionary delegations of Whig principles, are carefully withheld by him from the leading editorial assigned a place in obscure corners. Why this sudden change from the spirit of high exultation displayed in the previous issues? Has the editor of the "Compiler" been allowed to read the proceedings of that system, that it is so wonder it relinces such a *penchant* for its service.

☞ The ladies of Cincinnati have been holding a Temperance Convention, and, among other resolutions, resolved to collect and publish the names of women and children made widows by drinking. It will be a fearfully long list.

☞ We observe, with regret, that our neighbor of the "Sentinel" approves of the Fugitive Slave Law.

☞ The official returns of the Erie Congressional district elect CURTIS (Locofoco) over WALKER (Whig) by 98 votes. The district is composed of seven counties, all of which are Locofoco except one—Erie, for which the delegation will stand—5 Whigs, 18 Locofocos.

☞ The official returns for the State Ticket are nearly all in. The Locofocos claim the Canal Commissioner, will be about 1,500 majority for the Amendment will be between 74,000 and 75,000.

☞ JACOB AUGHINBAUGH, Esq., has been re-appointed Appraiser of Mercantile Taxes for the County of Adams.

Louisiana appropriates only $550,000 to the support of education; being more, in proportion to her wealth and population, than is bestowed by any other State in the world.

The Fugitive Slave Law.

The law in relation to Fugitive from service or labor, enacted at the recent session of Congress, will be found in full on the first page of to-day's paper, accompanied by an analysis of the vote of the Representatives from the Free States on its final passage. In view of the importance of the subject, the magnitude of the issues involved in it, the strong degree of feeling which the action has developed throughout the Northern States, as well as the bearing it must evidently have upon the relations of the North and South, it is deemed proper that the law should be submitted, in full detail to our readers.

Perhaps no law, enacted by the General Government for the last fifty years, has drawn forth a more general and decided expression of indignant condemnation on the part of all classes and parties, than the Fugitive and Watchman of the Union than this one. Passed as a part and period of the "compromise" measures which were to quiet agitation and restore peace and harmony to the country, it has most signally failed of its purpose. Instead of pouring oil upon the troubled waters, it has increased the violence of the disturbance, and threatens to lash into greater fury than ever the waves of popular feeling, still boiling and surging from the stormy influence of the agitation of the last few months.

From Free and Pulpit—political and religious assemblages,—town, township, and county meetings—State Conventions and Ecclesiastical Synods, and Presbyteries, and Conferences—from all manner of associations and assemblages, throughout the Northern States, there is going up a more and more strongly united condemnation of the famous provisions of the law, by which rights long held to be sacred and inalienable to every human being and citizen, are made subject to the invidious basis of all civil, political and religious freedom, have been rudely trampled upon and disregarded. We are rejoiced to see the demonstration of feeling, and hailed it as an omen of good, it contrasts most delightfully with the cravenhearted spirit of the few scattered—to the honor of their cause, be it said, very few—present in every throughout the North, whose conductors, either having as yet failed to learn the first lesson in the school of the slave territory, or merely the professional hectoring and humiliation display of favor on the part of nullifying slave drivers of the Carolina school, have always been ready, in any and every emergency, to bow down to the knee before "the dark spirit of Slavery."

We had designed accompanying the publication of the law with a few remarks, in which we would specifically our objections to those features of it which we deem so subversive of every principle of right and justice—as for instance the summary mode in which the freedom of the person claimed as fleeing property is to be decided by an irresponsible and it may be corrupt and ignorant Commissioner, there is no provision in the law for a trial by jury, and the appointment of these Commissioners may be authorized into, and approved or rejected as worthy of authority, by a Commissioner, who is clothed with plenary judicial powers and invested with authority to employ the entire civil and military force of his district to carry his mandate, however arbitrary and unjust, into execution—and that, too, without the right of appeal by the injured party to any higher court—for the law expressly provides that the proceedings before the Commissioner shall be final, and that parties are not to be molested "*by any process issued by any Judge, Magistrate, or other person whomsoever.*" The Commissioner, too, is to be paid upon a fee of the more glaring features of the law, we may mention in point, that we adopt them as our own.

Before the enactment of the present law in regard to the fugitive slaves, it was held, that a person claimed as a fugitive might be arrested, and transferred, with or without legal process, to the State from which he fled, if he was alleged to own service or labor. The writ of *habeas corpus* however, could be resorted to, for the purpose of releasing him from duress, and bringing him before a court of inquiry into the validity of the claim might be tried. The person arresting him, too, was liable to an action for false imprisonment, or to the penalties attached to kidnapping, should his claim be proven to be false or fraudulent.

The law passed by the late Congress is framed in such a way as to bring the whole power of the United States into requisition for the arrest and detention of persons from service or labor, and to exclude any interposition or interference on the part of the State courts or authorities.

Under the act of 1793, any Federal judge is authorized, and, when called upon, required, to issue a warrant for the arrest of an alleged fugitive, to pronounce upon the claim to his services, and to remand the person to the claimant, should the claim be proved to be valid. The act of 1850 authorizes the power of issuing process in such cases, not to a judge, but to the commissioners appointed by the Circuit Courts of the United States, authorized in virtues of such appointment to exercise the functions that justice of the peace may perform in the trial of criminals under the laws of States; and to as many additional commissioners as the Circuit Courts may from time to time appoint, who are to be paid a reasonable facilitate for the arrest and delivery of fugitive slaves. There is no limitation as to the number, except that the Circuit Courts—so that the States may be crowded with these slave-catching tribunals.

When the trial is held before a Commissioner, his fee, where a certificate is issued against the claimant, is ten dollars; where the proof is found against, and no certificate rendered, five dollars; to be paid, either immediately, by the claimant, if he shall, if he have site a week, he will already delayed by finding the proof sufficient, and only thirty days allowed for the trial.

Such are the principal features of the law, which the freedom of the person claimed as fugitive property is to be decided by an irresponsible and it may be corrupt and ignorant Commissioner, there is no provision in the law for a trial by jury, and the appointment of these Commissioners may be authorized into, and approved or rejected as worthy of authority, by a Commissioner, who is clothed with plenary judicial powers and invested with authority to employ the entire civil and military force of his district to carry his mandate, however arbitrary and unjust, into execution—and that, too, without the right of appeal by the injured party to any higher court—for the law expressly provides that the proceedings before the Commissioner shall be final, and that parties are not to be molested "*by any process issued by any Judge, Magistrate, or other person whomsoever.*" The Commissioner, too, is to be paid upon a fee of the more glaring features of the law, we may mention in point, that we adopt them as our own.

Before the enactment of the present law in regard to the fugitive slaves, it was held, that a person claimed as a fugitive might be arrested, and transferred, with or without legal process, to the State from which he fled, if he was alleged to own service or labor. The writ of *habeas corpus* however, could be resorted to, for the purpose of releasing him from duress, and bringing him before a court of inquiry into the validity of the claim might be tried. The person arresting him, too, was liable to an action for false imprisonment, or to the penalties attached to kidnapping, should his claim be proven to be false or fraudulent.

The law passed by the late Congress is framed in such a way as to bring the whole power of the United States into requisition for the arrest and detention of persons from service or labor, and to exclude any interposition or interference on the part of the State courts or authorities.

Under the act of 1793, any Federal judge is authorized, and, when called upon, required, to issue a warrant for the arrest of an alleged fugitive, to pronounce upon the claim to his services, and to remand the person to the claimant, should the claim be proved to be valid. The act of 1850 authorizes the power of issuing process in such cases, not to a judge, but to the commissioners appointed by the Circuit Courts of the United States, authorized in virtues of such appointment to exercise the functions that justice of the peace may perform in the trial of criminals under the laws of States; and to as many additional commissioners as the Circuit Courts may from time to time appoint, who are to be paid a reasonable facilitate for the arrest and delivery of fugitive slaves. There is no limitation as to the number, except that the Circuit Courts—so that the States may be crowded with these slave-catching tribunals.

When the trial is held before a Commissioner, his fee, where a certificate is issued against the claimant, is ten dollars; where the proof is found against, and no certificate rendered, five dollars; to be paid, either immediately, by the claimant, if he shall, if he have site a week, he will already delayed by finding the proof sufficient, and only thirty days allowed for the trial.

Such are the principal features of the law, which the freedom of the person claimed as fugitive property is to be decided by an irresponsible and it may be corrupt and ignorant Commissioner, there is no provision in the law for a trial by jury, and the appointment of these Commissioners may be authorized into, and approved or rejected as worthy of authority, by a Commissioner, who is clothed with plenary judicial powers and invested with authority to employ the entire civil and military force of his district to carry his mandate, however arbitrary and unjust, into execution—and that, too, without the right of appeal by the injured party to any higher court—for the law expressly provides that the proceedings before the Commissioner shall be final, and that parties are not to be molested "*by any process issued by any Judge, Magistrate, or other person whomsoever.*" The Commissioner, too, is to be paid upon a fee of the more glaring features of the law, we may mention in point, that we adopt them as our own.

Commissioner, Mr. KUHN, to say that he has discharged the responsible duties incumbent upon him, as County Commissioner, with a judiciousness, ability and fidelity, that have commended to him the confidence of the community as well as the regard of his associates in the Board. We are quite sure that Mr. Gutzler will prove a worthy successor, as well as a faithful co-labourer with the other members of the Board, in an economical and judicious management of the finances of the County. The TAX-payers of the County can rest assured that under the administration of Messrs. HORNISHER, MESSHAMAN and GUTZLER, their interests will continue to be faithfully considered and protected.

Death of John Fahnestock, Esq.

☞ We regret the necessity which calls upon us to announce the death of JOHN FAHNESTOCK, Esq., County Treasurer, at his residence in this place, yesterday afternoon, after a lingering and painful illness. Mr. F. was one of our most respected and popular citizens. He had but recently been chosen Treasurer of the County, with great unanimity, and had still more recently entered into arrangements for carrying on the Hardware business on an extensive and profitable scale—in the midst of which he has been cut down, leaving "uninteresting family and numerous friends, to mourn his loss.

☞ The Funeral services will take place on tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon, at 2 o'clock, at the late residence of the deceased.

☞ The Locofocoso journals claim the result of the recent Congressional Election in this State as a Free-trade triumph over Protection.—Not so. The friends of a Tariff have been victorious in 14 districts, viz: the 6th, 7th, 12th, 13th, 16th, 22d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32d, and 33d districts. A thousand additional Whig votes distributed in some seven districts would have saved the whole, while the majorities in the 12th, 13th, 16th, 22d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32d, and 33d districts, alone nearly overbalance all the Locofoco majorities in the balance of the State. Could one thousand Whig votes have been transferred from either of these latter districts and distributed over the seven districts, the result of the election would have had seven additional members of Congress and two thirds of the Congressional delegation. Such is the remarkable, lazy, stay-at-home policy of those members of the Whig party that have lost for us seven members of Congress, and given to Locofocoism an apparent triumph!

CENSUS OF PENNSYLVANIA TOWNS.

We find in Reading Gazette the following statistical table of the population of a number of towns and villages in Pennsylvania, as exhibited by the recent census. It is gratifying to State pride, to note that nearly all have considerably increased in size and consequent importance, during the last ten years:

	Census 1850.	Census 1840.	Increase.
Bethlehem,	1,516	801	341
Butler,	1,155	1,000	155
Bloomsburg,	1,215	1,000	215
Carlisle,	4,210	3,239	61
Catasauqua,	3,000	2,710	1,821
Chambersburg,	4,247	865	
Doylestown,	1,065	900	165
Easton,	7,850	3,412	4,438
Frankford,	5,840		
Gettysburg,	2,310	1,909	272
Greensburg,	1,200		
Harrisburg,	8,000	5,980	2,020
Hollidaysburg,	2,417	1,898	519
Hummelstown,	800	700	100
Kittanning,	1,450		
Huntingdon,	1,479		
Lancaster,	5,178		
Marietta,	1,323	1,205	118
Milton,	1,546	1,441	205
Minersville,	2,864	1,595	
Muncy,	910	683	227
Norristown,	6,250	2,937	
Northumberland,	1,041	986	55
Pittsburg,	809	775	
Pottsville,	7,498	4,337	3,161
Port Carbon,	2,149	1,000	1,149
Pottstown,	1,647	780	867
Phœnixville,	3,667	2,333	666
Reading,	16,080	8,410	7,890
Schuylkill Haven,	2,061	988	1,073
Sunbury,	2,258	1,600	658
Stroudsburg,	1,351	651	
Towanda,	1,813		
Tamaqua,	3,079	1,107	106
Uniontown,	1,250	2,815	1,565
Washington,	2,200	2,155	1,089
Warren,	1,009		

☞ Our neighbor of the "Compiler" this week publishes some of the most ridiculous editorials and talks quite "seriously" of the "indecency of Whigs" who were kind enough to lend a helping hand to our opponents in achieving their recent victory, while the most of them voted for Democrat "Gelphin Swindling," and kindred visionary delegations of Whig principles, are carefully withheld by him from the leading editorial assigned a place in obscure corners. Why this sudden change from the spirit of high exultation displayed in the previous issues? Has the editor of the "Compiler" been allowed to read the proceedings of that system, that it is so wonder it relinces such a *penchant* for its service.

☞ The ladies of Cincinnati have been holding a Temperance Convention, and, among other resolutions, resolved to collect and publish the names of women and children made widows by drinking. It will be a fearfully long list.

☞ We observe, with regret, that our neighbor of the "Sentinel" approves of the Fugitive Slave Law.

☞ The official returns of the Erie Congressional district elect CURTIS (Locofoco) over WALKER (Whig) by 98 votes. The district is composed of seven counties, all of which are Locofoco except one—Erie, for which the delegation will stand—5 Whigs, 18 Locofocos.

☞ The official