Speech of John M. Clayton.

HISTORY OF THE TAYLOR ADMINISTRATION.

The Philadelphia North American, of Monday, contains the speech of the Hon. John M. Clayton, made at a meeting held under gran to him at Wilmington, Del., on Saturday last.

After alluding incidentally to the recent election in Delaware, and the defeat of the Whigs for the first time in 23 years, which he attributes entirely to the nomination of the temperance ticket, he proceeds with a history of the administration of General Taylor, some portions of which are very interesting, but the crowded state of our columns forbids more than a few extracts from his remarks.

With regard to the Taylor Cabinet, and the influence they had on President Taylor, he says:—

There has never existed an administration in this government in which there was greater harmony and concert of action. In the gentlemen who composed it, the President entertained unbounded confidence, and they reciprocated that confidence to the last moment of his life. (Applause.) Falsehood and calumny, directed against them, as it was, from as many quarters, failed to make any impression on his mind; and he adhered to them with a tenacity which was increased by the perfect knowledge of the injustice with which they were assailed.

Coinciding in sentiment with him on all important subjects, his wish was their law; and while he heard so often the political superiority that his Cabinet ruled from knowing, as he did, how faithfully they carried out his views, it was industrious, often made to bear the whole responsibility of his decisions and actions, he scorned the attempts to make them the instruments of those to whom he had selected as his advisers. It would be difficult for any man to know, standing outside of that Cabinet, the extent of injustice done to its respective members, by the device, which was so cunningly conceived, of a Cabinet influence by propagated, that the appointments and even the actions of the Executive Government were dictated by the Cabinet, and not by the President himself. (Laughter.) I have repeatedly known a Cabinet minister absent for months by turn, while opposition press of the country, on account of an appointment which he had never suggested or recommended, which had been ordered by the President alone. The unsuccessful applicant for office often found a balm for his wounded feelings in the belief, which he chose fondly to cherish, that he was the victim of some Secretary, though he was a favorite of the President. (Laughter.)

The unpopular appointment here alluded to was probably that of James Watson Webb, as minister to Vienna.

With regard to the Compromise measures, he expresses the opinion that the "Omnibus Bill" caused a delay of six months in the settlement of the slavery and the long and violent debates on it has stirred up the present excitement in the country. To Senator Pearce, of Maryland, he gave all the credit of having brought the difficulties to a close; and his introduction of his Texas boundary bill. Gen. Scott he highly extolled in the speech, and Mr. Clay frequently disparaged by indirect reference.

After alluding the to various undecided private claims which had been passed over by the preceding administration, and the blame heaped on the Chief Justice against the Mexican Porte Tobacco claim, he then speaks of the famous Galphin Claim:—

"Of these old claims, which had been referred to a previous Secretary of the Treasury, came before my friend Mr. Meredith. He referred it to the proper law officer of the Government, the Attorney General, who, after a full review of the whole case, decided against the claim in favor of the claimant. The justice of his decision would never have been impeached but for the disclosure made at a time and out after the money had been paid, that the Secretary of War, Mr. Crawford, of Georgia, was engaged in a private speculation which was entirely unknown, to any other member of the Cabinet at the time of the decision. I did not, I believe that there was such a claim in existence until many weeks after the money had been paid.

I suppose the motive which induced the Secretary of War to conceal his interest in the claim was one of delicacy. He may have a perfect conviction, without entertaining a doubt of the justice of the demand, that, had the fact of his personal interest been known or mentioned at any cabinet meeting before the payment of the money, no settlement of that claim would have been made while Mr. Crawford remained a member of the Administration. (Applause.) His conduct in offering, as he did, to Congress, to abide the judgment of the Supreme Court of the United States upon the legality of the claim—to waive every advantage or defence except that arising out of the law itself, and to return the money in the event of a decision against him by the Court, should have exempted him from that abuse which has been so profusely and unjustly lavished upon him.

In another portion of his speech he states that he tendered his resignation of the Department of State, in June last, to President Taylor, through the hands of the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, on account of the duties being so burdensome and laborious, but he refused to accept it, knowing that his retirement would "embarrass and distress him." Under these circumstances he withdrew his resignation, and adds:

His adherence with me was such that I should never have ventured again to press the subject upon him; and when he had declared his sentiments so fully and so emphatically, I felt how short a time after his inaugurated he nearly frame and noble form had sunk beneath the combined effects of toil and care, I rejoice that I yielded to his wishes or, my sacrifice of ease, or health, or comfort. (Applause.)

The following are the concluding sentences of this interesting speech:

In this reliance, it will remain to me a most cheering proof consolation that I enjoyed the perfect confidence and intimate friendship of this great and good man during the whole period of his administration; and that I labored with all the devotion of which I was capable to serve him faithfully as a member of his Cabinet. Knowing his capabilities, at I did—and I think no man had a better opportunity of knowing them than I had—I believe I was prepared to say, in truth, "All the ends he aimed at were his country's."

(Applause.)

His moral, like his physical strength, was indomitable. No one ever approached the consideration of a great public question with more deliberation and caution and when about to decide it, he took each man's counsel, but reserved his judgment. When he had decided, no one was more firm, or could be more resolute in adhering to his purpose. He was one of the few men we meet with in this world, who can neger descend to a base, mean, or dishonorable action. (Applause.)

Though unpossessed of the advantages of civil administration before he entered the executive mansion, his strong and vigorous intellect, aided by a profound knowledge of human nature, for the acquisition of which no man ever enjoyed better opportunities, and applied too with an energy and perseverance which, I believe, no man ever surpassed, enabled him to meet the duties of his station with more ease than I believed it could, and the kindness and benevolence of his nature never failed to aid him in the hours of all who were the circle of his intimate acquaintance. Surrounded by enemies who daily sought his reputation he had earned by a long life of public service, his conscious rectitude enabled him to vanish at them the dagger and defy its point." (Applause.) This was his shelter amidst all the storms of political persecution, and the confidence of sincerity from all dangers, resulting from this consolation, never deserted him even in his dying moments. When he performed by his physician that his last hour was approaching, his simple remark indicated the feeling that had pervaded his mind and sustained him through life: "I am not afraid to die," said the expiring patriot. (Great applause.) Mr. Clayton was there so overcome by his emotions that he was compelled to pause.)

This was the feeling which bore him unappalled through the perils of battle—which sustained him during the long and dreary night of blood and fire, when he won the first brevet in the war of 1812, by his successful defence of Fort Harrison against more than fifty times his numbers. In Florida, the scalping-knife and tomahawk of the savage had no terror for the soldier who felt that he had always endeavored to do his duty. Amidst the thunders of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, when he broke the Mexican power, and gave the tenderest to his countrymen which insured their victory in the subsequent conflict, in the blood-stained streets of Monterey, and in that stupendous effort which was pressed upon him and his little army on the proudest field of fame at Buena Vista—at the bloody morning when he was assailed on two by the bullets of the enemy—the mens divinior ceteris still rose serene, self-possessed, and triumphant amidst the fury of the conflict. (Great Applause.) He was snatched from his country before an opportunity had been afforded to develope his whole system of civil policy, and on the very eve of the execution of purposes formed by him for the benefit of the country, knowledge of which must now forever sleep with him in his grave. But he had the satisfaction of knowing that his fame and the fame of his country continues to shed in an American heart, that of one of the few who were not born to die. (Loud and long continued cheering.)

STRIKING EXAMPLE OF FIDELITY

The New Orleans Picayune of Oct. 24 records the following trait of beautiful fidelity and honesty in a negro slave of that State towards his master:

We have just received from Vera Cruz, which arrived at New Orleans on Saturday last, came the negro man Marshall—a slave belonging to Mr. Rundell, of Nevada, who left his home from California. He went out with his master, Mr. Rundell, of Nevada, and a party of Mexicans, who were taken sick last winter at the mines, near the foot of the Nevada mountains, and after a long and tedious journey, the sick shall took the utmost care of his master, was his faithful companion, nurse, and friend, and watched by him unceasingly until he breathed his last. There was nothing left to pay the funeral expenses of his master's life. Marshall set to work and laboured hard until he managed to scrape together enough to settle the debts, (legal, honorable debts—mind ye, which nothing but an admirable respect and veneration for his master's memory, an enlightened feeling of pride and honesty, compelled him to pay. How few white men, near and dear to him, would do as much for them!) He gathered together his master's clothes and other personal effects, and, with about fifteen dollars, which he started home to his master's family, not withstanding his knowledge that he was free in California, and that the inducements held out to him to remain there.—He took the cheapest and most dangerous route, and, after a long and tedious journey, he arrived at Vera Cruz, and from thence to Mexico on horseback (from the former city to Vera Cruz—a very dangerous route. The American Consul at both places took so much interest in him as to give him letters of recommendation, and requested all his fellow-citizens to treat him with kindness and attention. He brought to this city several letters to persons living here or in the country, and which contained gold dust. The letters were somewhat soiled and frayed, but were perfectly intact. His expenses home were heavy, owing to the avoidable delay on the route. The faithful negro stirred from last evening on a Red river boat. He had letters from various persons in California, to gentlemen of this city, recommending him, in the warmest terms, to their notice and protection, which were instantly accorded. Mr. Farquhar, an intimate friend of his master, has written from California to Mr. Rundell's family, stating that the unfortunate gentleman's last request was that his faithful servant should be emancipated and provided for by them as soon as he reached home in Louisiana. In ancient days the story of this honest and pure-hearted slave would, have been written in letters of gold and hallowed by the incense of a rare trait on the bright side of human nature. We can only tell the simple and affecting story as it was told us; it deserves and will receive universal attention and commendation.

It is said that in Greenville, Mississippi, there is not a person over 18 years of age that does not belong to a temperance society, and there is every good consolation that I can

Letter from President Fillmore, Relative to the Fugitive Slave Law.

The Georgia Citizen, published at Macon, Georgia, in an extra, dated Nov. 14, publishes the following interesting and important letter from President Fillmore, through the acting Secretary of State:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, Nov. 9, 1850.

Robert Christy, Macon, Ga.—Sir: I am instructed by the President to inform you that your letter, of the 2d inst., addressed to him, enclosing extracts from the newspapers, in reference to the proceedings of a portion of the community of Boston, on the subject of the fugitive slave, was received by him yesterday, and that he has given to the letter and its enclosures his earliest attention.

You state, in substance, that you are informed that a Colonel Suttle, claiming slaves for which warrants of arrest were issued in Boston, and call the President's attention to the subject, has been taken away from Northern papers, by which he will perceive the manner in which your information has been obtained, and thereby asking that the slaves be returned according to the laws of the U. S. That they have been arrested on civil process, various warrants, as kidnappers, and on other frivolous pretences, and unreasonable bail demanded; and that your friends have become their sureties for more than $20,000.

You also say that the manner in which the officers have performed their duty will appear by the slips; and that the warrants now be dead in the Marshall's office, and by them again be placed in the hands of such proceedings, and of their tendency to disturb the harmony of the Union, and of great importance, that the law be faithfully executed; and, finally, inquire whether it not in the power, and a sacred duty, of the Executive of the U. S. States to cause that law to be faithfully and properly executed?"

To this the President directs me to reply, that you cannot be more deeply impressed than he is, with the importance of having the law faithfully executed. Every status in this country, passed in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, must be presumed to embody the will of a majority of the people of the United States, and must be held in the spirit and obedience of every true American citizen; and the constitution which the President has sworn to support, has made it his especial duty "to take care that the laws be faithfully executed." He feels the strong hand of duty, resting on him in this or any other case; but will, to the utmost of his ability, firmly and faithfully perform it.

But how is he to cause the laws to be executed? First, by appointing proper officers to fill the various offices, and discharge their various functions with diligence and fidelity; and, secondly, by removing incompetent or unfaithful, by removing them, where he has the power of removal, and substituting competent and faithful officers in their places. And secondly, in extreme cases, "whenever the laws of the Union are obstructed in their execution thereof obstructed, in any State, by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings," or by the powers vested in the civil officers with the posse which the law authorizes them to call in, to call to their aid, it would be his duty to call forth the militia, and use the army and navy for the express purpose of enforcing such forcible combinations against the laws. This is the extreme power and resource which the President is to use, in the last extremity, to execute the laws of the United States, and to be faithfully and properly executed."

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Tender of a Public Dinner.

LETTER FROM THE HON. JAMES COOPER.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 16, 1850.

DEAR SIR:—The undersigned Whig citizens of Philadelphia, are unanimous in their sincere regard for your valuable services in the Senate of the United States, and their high and sincere appreciation of the talent and sterling manner in which you have discharged your duties in the Senate of the United States, respectfully tender to you a public dinner, to take place at such time as it may suit your convenience to designate.

With sentiments of cordial esteem and regard, we remain, &c.,

Joseph Randall, Jos. H. Ingersoll,
Charles Gibbons, and others.

PITTSVILLE, Nov. 14, 1850.

GENTLEMEN:—I acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 1st inst., tendering to me the compliment of a public dinner in lieu of your approval of my conduct in the Senate of the United States during its recent exciting session. Although I am unable to appreciate the feeling to me this gratifying testimonial of their esteem and confidence, I recognize the manner of your generous friends—Whigs distinguished for their worth, their influence and patriotism, and who are so eminent for their intellectual powers as for their private and social virtues. Foremost in all the conflicts of the party, unswerving in their fidelity to it, standing by it in its darkest hours without shadow of change, they have always enjoyed its confidence as fully as they have deserved its gratitude. National in their views, capable in their judgment of the effect of public measures, faithful to the Constitution and the true interests of human freedom, of which the Constitution is the guaranty and charter, and prudent in the assertion of their rights, they have always in my early years, a value far higher than it would do, were those who express it more accomplished, generally, and sagacious politicians. It is because they are American as well as Whigs, that I prize highly this testimonial of their esteem and approbation.

The time has come when sectional animosities will endure no further aggravation, if North and South are to continue to live together in fellowship. The Union is strong it is true; but it is no particular form of words, no device of language, no mere parchment that holds it together and gives it strength. It is the affection which the people bear it as a legacy of their fathers, and one of the fruits of the revolution, which makes it strong, and which continuing will make it permanent. But that affection must be withdrawn if from it, and the law which declares that the several States shall constitute a Union, will be as flat as a cracked well-glass." It is the duty, therefore, of every patriot to cultivate attachment to it, to do every thing in his power to allay discord, to prevent estrangement and promote harmony between the conflicting sections. The Union is too rich a patrimony, too fruitful in benefits and blessings, not to be cherished with the most devout and anxious care. Its dissolution would be the signal of bloody, interminable wars, the harbinger of uniformity in freedom throughout the world, and of woes unutterable to our posterity. May Heaven avert a calamity so fearful!

The measures adopted at the session of Congress were designed to quiet the disturbed state of the public mind, both in the north and south; and with the exception of the Fugitive Slave Bill, I supported them with zeal, animated by the knowledge that something was necessary to remove the causes which were undermining the foundations of the Union, and threatening it with ultimate destruction. If these measures should prove, as I believe, successful, in restoring harmony to the country and safety to the Union, as I firmly hope and believe they will, it will be the duty of every good citizen to set his face against every attempt to repeal them or to renew agitation. If any one of them require amendment or modification, let it be tested or modified in the light of experience, wisdom and patriotism may dictate; but let the renewal of the existing agitation be discountenanced by all good and disconsiderate men. As patriots we owe it to the country; as Whigs, we owe it to the administration of which the settlement which has been made. It is national and equitable; and having been recommended and approved by the President, is entitled to the cordial support of every national minded Whig. The Whig party is a constitutional party, and its objects are national. There is nothing local or sectional in its creed. Its principles are broad and liberal, and should not merely to give them a temporary adaptation to local prejudices, especially when such prejudices are at variance with the obligations imposed by the Constitution. As soon as either of the great parties, into which the people of the country are divided, shall adopt a low geographical creed, pursue such a course of political action repugnant to any of the obligations of a federal character, and shall limit the exercise of its sympathies, such party must sink into an important feeble minority, or the Union be dissolved. The constitution will cease to be a bond of union the moment its violation becomes habitual, in pursuance of any organization, embracing anything like a majority of the people, no matter upon what pretence of obedience to a higher and a better law, such organization may be founded. Let the Whig party, therefore, be imposed on by no pretence, nor seduced by any fallacious hope of temporary success, to yield to a circumscription of its old and cherished principles, by the adoption of a local creed for objects merely sectional. Fidelity to the constitution, obedience to the laws, and a desire to promote the welfare of the whole country, should continue us to be its distinguishing characteristics. But those who would have the party to crim in twile or so to catch the sectional breeze, tell us that slavery is an evil of great magnitude, and that the adoption of the line of policy just pointed out, invokes the necessity of non-interference with it; and they ask, is it right that we should sit quietly down without any effort to mitigate or remove it? In this way our sympathies are attempted to be enlisted to make war upon our duties.

I am opposed to Slavery—earnestly, heartily, now and forever; and sentiments to the contrary, I have never entertained, knowing no local division, and tolerating no sectional injustice. Our Union, so dear to the heart of every true American, can only be preserved by a strict observance of the constitution, and an impartial administration of the laws.

I am, sir, respectfully your ob't'ser't,
W. S. DARRICK, Acting Sec'y.

Awful Murder for Money.

A Father killed and two of his sons dreadfully and probably fatally stabbed.

An awful murder was committed at New Orleans, on the night of Oct. 24, under the following circumstances. A German acquaintance of one of his countrymen, who had kept a boarding house, and who was given lodgings Thursday night, and at 2 o'clock Friday morning got up and stabbed the sleeping man with a knife, killing the father instantly, and wounding one of the sons so badly that his life is despaired of. The boarding house keeper, and his wife, and two other persons, were also wounded, but not dangerously, more slightness. Honest and kind counsels will have more weight with those who have been long in the habit of unlawful interference with their rights. By the practice of justice and moderation, mutually, by the cultivation of kindness, good feeling and harmony may be restored and preserved, and the interests of human freedom promoted.

That our Southern brethren, at some day not very remote, will take steps for the abolition of Slavery, I most confidently hope. Everything is tending towards such a consummation. Slavery is in the road of enlightened progress and must be swept away in its onward course. The condition of the slave while he remains a slave, is susceptible of vast improvement or amelioration. Masters may be kind, indulgent generous. But the slave is a slave, without any of the incentives to exertion which call forth and develop the energies of the mind, dignity and elevation to the human character. Progress however, that progress which is ever onward in the world, by its quickening and embellishing it, will not brook that the condition of human beings is the only thing that shall remain unchanged and unchangeable. It will reach the slave and lift him up from his degradation. But this will be done, I believe, in the most difficult to say. Increase of knowledge may enlighten the master to his true duty, and the slave, by improvements in machinery, may render the labor of the slave unprofitable. Cotton now cultivated by personally, and exclusively, Like inventions and improvements may furnish substitutes for manual labor in the production of the staple cotton. In short, it there any thing chimerical in the hope, that slavery will disappear, naturally and peacefully, before the spirit of the age, the progress and civilization? It is idle perhaps to speculate on the subject; but it is evident that there is a tendency in these causes already active, to affect slavery in the direction I have spoken. The operation of these causes we may leave it, with the confident expectation that they will do more for its extinguishment and ultimate removal from every part of the country, than has been, or ever will be accomplished by the agitating philanthropy. Nothing so unfortunate in its efforts in that direction.

But, gentlemen, it was not to discuss the question of slavery that I sat down to address you; but to say, while I thank you from my heart for the kindness and the delicate manner in which you have dictated your invitation, that my private business and the briefness of the period to elapse between this and the meeting of Congress in December, will prevent me from enjoying the pleasure of meeting you in the manner desired. I shall however always treasure with sentiments of the most sincere gratitude the memory of such a mark of your considered friendship; and to all and each of you I beg leave to tender my thanks for the honor of associating myself your obliged friend and fellow citizen.

JAMES COOPER.

To Messrs Josiah Randall, Charles Gibbons, Robert Coleman, and others.

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THE STAR & BANNER.

GETTYSBURG.

Friday Evening, Nov. 22, 1850.

COURT DOINGS.—Court is still in session as we go to press, Judge WAYNE, of Gettysburg, presiding with much ability. A record of the cases tried will be given next week. JAMES WADE, indicted and convicted of Stealing a horse and cutting Dr. DUNBAR's throat, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary.

☞ Hon. JAMES COOPER, U. S. Senator, has been spending several days in Gettysburg, during the present week, engaged in professional duties. Mr. C. is health, we are pleased to learn, has considerably improved during the recess of Congress.

☞ We are indebted to John C. Ellis, Esq., one of the Senators from Guilford County, for the following statement of the census of his district:

Reading township,	204	Houses,	1,252 Souls.
Greene "	118	"	716 "
Berwick, "	143	"	811 "
Oxford "	156	"	922 "

MEETING OF CONGRESS—The second session of the present Congress will commence at Washington on Monday week. The message of President Fillmore will be looked for with much interest, as it will probably give a clear, calm, comprehensive, yet decided State paper.

Hon. JOS. B. DARRAH, Representative in Congress from this District, is a successor to Dr. NES, Surgeon having for Washington on Wednesday next.

Important Decision.

We learn from Wingate's Maryland Law Reporter, a decision of Judge Nelson, of the U. S. Court, before the Maryland High Court of Chancery, at the July term, Chancellor Johnson presiding, that a contract to pay a sum of money for a gross sum, in which by the introduction of the words "more or less" the representation of the quantity is qualified, the number of acres is to be ascertained by actual measurement, and not by estimate, and in the absence of fraud, deficiency or surplus in the quantity of land will not avail to vitiate the contract. The decision was made in a suit for the purchase of Thomas D. Hart's farm, called "Mother's Care," for the sum of $2,270—$600 cash and the balance in yearly payments. The farm was described as containing 173 acres, more or less, but by a subsequent survey it was found to contain but 145 acres, and the defendant asked a proportionate reduction to be made from the purchase money for the difference in the quantity of land. The Chancellor decided unless a fraudulent representation of the quantity was proved the contract must hold good.

THE NASHVILLE CONVENTION.

This body of Southern malcontents reassembled on Monday week. Chief Justice Sharkey, of Miss., who presided at the former session, believing that Congress would do nothing to quiet the agitation, did not attend, and Ex-Governor McDonald, Iocofoco, of Georgia, was elected President of the Convention in his stead. On taking the chair he made a long speech, in which he denounced the Union. Some sixty delegates in all—only one from Virginia, and many of the Southern States having none—were present, some of whom seemed disposed to put off the evil day of rebellion, while others were for resisting the General Government and leaving the Union at once. Delegates from South Carolina, offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That secession by the joint action of the Southern States, is the only efficient remedy for the aggravated wrongs which they now endure, and the enormous evils which threaten them in the future, from the usurped and now unrestrained power of the Federal Government.

In support of this treasonable proposition, Mr. Chevves delivered a written speech three hours long, after which the Convention very naturally adjourned. The convention was a complete failure, and exploding now" when last heard from. It will most probably drown itself in an ocean of talk.

Since the above has been written, we learn that the Convention has "frizzled out" by adopting resolutions in favor of the Union, referring grievances to Congress, disapproving of a Southern Congress, and then, after much "excitement," adjourning sine die. Much talk and impertinent conclusion"—and so we are not to be blown up after all, and have no need of our life-preservers.—*York Rep.*

NEW YORK.—The tide rolls on in the Government's returns stands, Hunt, 311,178, Seymour, 309,231. Hunt's majority 281. For Lieut. Gov. Cornell, Whig, received 307,925, and Church, Dem. 314,430, being a Dem. majority of 7,050. The closeness of the general vote is shown by the fact, that while the Whig Governor received 311,178, the Democratic candidate for Canal Commissioner, received 311,176 votes.

SENATOR BERRIEN.—The Savannah papers contain a letter from Senator BERRIEN, addressing the citizens of Cass County, on the Southern Rights party for the Georgia Convention. He declares that he agrees with them in opinion, but that he considers it to be his duty to be in his seat at Washington, when Congress meets, returned to Boston last week, and attempted to make a speech in Faneuil Hall. The Hall, however, was deeply crowded by the rowdies of the city at an early hour, who refused to permit any one to be heard, and the meeting finally broke up amid much confusion. We do not exactly know what business Mr. Gilab agitators have in being feeling with American politics, but the mob of Faneuil Hall, in striking at Mr. Thompson, have only given a fresh evidence of speedy, shameless wrong and worthy of severe condemnation.

MISTAKE.—A member in the service of Mr. Joe Wm. Wolf, of Westminster, Md., unpopularly laid a specific gold watch and a variety of jewel. Mr. Wolf, regarding it, drs was made and the whole destroyed.

HEAVY VERDICT.—Thomas Keyes, of Boston, has secured a verdict of $10,000 damages against the Providence and Stonington Railroad Company, for injuries sustained by being ejected from their cars with undue violence.

PROGRESSIVE POPULATION.—It appears from the official enumeration, that the population of the United States has increased every ten years, from 4,750 about one third; and if, as we may suppose, the same increase has been maintained since 1840, the census of this year will make the number of inhabitants (exclusive of aborigines) amount to 23,000,000. The population of the United States in 1790, and since, has been:

Year.	Population.	Year.	Population.
1790,	3,929,827	1840,	17,069,453
1800,	5,305,925	1850,	23,000,000
1810,	7,239,814		
1820,	9,638,131		
1830,	12,866,020		

☞ The Whigs have lost ground very materially, so far as Congress is concerned, in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, and Indiana. We say by our exchange papers, that various causes are assigned for these reverses. The principal should be attributed to apathy, culpable and unpardonable apathy. The Whig party can only be roused on extraordinary occasions—such for example as a Presidential election. Now, we know that Whigs are and have been for years, a majority of the nation. But the difficulty in the first place is to unite them upon a single candidate in each of the Congressional districts, or in the Presidential Election and in the second to induce them to attend the polls and discharge their whole duty. Experience, however, should teach them that they are defeated by proclaiming by recent events, our political brethren everywhere throughout the Union will hear and fearlessly follow the lead of Clay, Webster, Mangum and contemplated effort, make them feel, properly felt at the polls. It should be remembered that the next a most important election will take place in Pennsylvania, in 1851. We shall be called upon to choose a Governor, Judges, and many other responsible officers. The voice of Pennsylvania, should, and we believe, will exercise a powerful influence on the next Presidential struggle.—*Lancaster Union.*

☞ Col. Benton has made a long speech in St. Louis, defining his position, upon himself mainly, and upon the Compromise Bills and upon the Union extensively. He is quite severe upon "the Simples," at home and abroad, and unsparing of the Abolitionists. He spoke with extensive view of the measures of Congress, and a defence of the part played by him in their adjustment and non-adjustment. There is nothing new in the speech, and it is but a repetition of the speeches in which the Missouri Senator has so often given his opponents in and out of the Senate Chamber. The Union continues safe, and the Southern friends to secure his nomination for the next Presidency.

GEN. SCOTT FOR THE PRESIDENCY.—After Hon. John M. Clayton's speech at Wilmington, Del., on Saturday last, a very pleasing feature of the entertainment was the nomination by Mr. McMichael of Gen. Winfield Scott for the Presidency of the United States. Mr. Clayton was called upon to respond to the suggestion, and said, "without any political purpose," that he had lived to honor the distinguished soldier and patriot, and he hoped "to live to do justice to another."

☞ A *local* Convention, was held in Baltimore last week which excited considerable attention. It is said that so many as fifteen thousand Southern gentlemen were in attendance. The object was to organize a Southern party. The Boston Journal alludes to it, says:

"The variety of brooks on exhibition in very large, indeed we can recall none which is not represented in the Convention by one or more delegates—and some of them came by families, and even by whole tribes. There is every variety of political age, shape, and size on the ground; and the most fastidious fowl-fancier can hardly find among the collection birds which will suit his taste. Besides the more common varieties of fowl, there are of late a few American eagles, a number of peacocks, some beautiful swans, Turkish partridges, a beautiful feathered bird, pigeons of very various kinds, &c.

BALTIMORE MARKET.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 21, 1850.

FLOUR—The first sale of Howard street Flour was made to-day at $4.62½, and the market closes quiet, with sales of City Mills at $4.62½, and Howard street at $4.62½ per bbl.

GRAIN—No change to speak of. Red wheat $1.02 a $1.05. White wheat 1.08 a $1.10. White corn 50c; old yellow 60 a 62; new yellow 58 a 60; old white 60 a 62; new white 58 a 60 cents. Rye 76 a 78 cents.

PROVISIONS—Prices remain from $5.00 to $5.75 on the hook, equal to $4.00 a $4.50 net, and very dull at the latter.

HOGS—Sales of live hogs at $4.75 a $5.00 per 100 lbs.

THE UNITED STATES
LIFE INSURANCE
ANNUITY & TRUST COMPANY.
Charter Perpetual
CAPITAL $220,000—CASH SYSTEM

THE contest, unsolicited applications for Life Insurance in this Company, have assumed and gratifying proof, that the public mind is deeply impressed with the vast importance of this subject. The great object, however, of insurance, should be secure; otherwise the whole motive to insure may be disappointed. Too much care cannot be exercised in the formation of a Company, which is to effect the contract. The choice should be regulated, not by prices, but by the responsibility of the Company. Prices is certainly incompatible with future SECURITY. The prosperous and unprecedented success of the present and prospective benefits, therefore, are given, the result, undoubtedly, must terminate in fatigue, disappointment and ruin. The object of this Company is to combine security with prudence. The rates of premium have been carefully prepared with reference to the mortality of this country, and the experience has also been adopted. Unpaid premium notes constitute no part of the Capital of this Company, every contingency being fortified with an ample capital, and the profits of the whole assured. This feature, paramount to all other considerations, commends itself to every prudent mind.

Explanatory pamphlets, blanks, application papers, information, and every other necessary, can be obtained of D. M. McCONAUGHY Esq., who has been duly appointed agent of this Company.

DIRECTORS.

Stephen R. Crawford, Jas. H. Goddard,
Ambrose W. Thompson, Lawrence Johnson,
Jos. Kennedy, Jr., Jos. Kennedy,
Jacob I. Florance, James Devereux,
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ALEXANDER MCCOY, Secretary.
Actuary—Manuel Eyre.
Medical Examiner—Dr. D. Horner.
Sept. 20, 1850. (1y.)

KEYSTONE MUTUAL
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF HARRISBURG, PA.
CHARTER PERPETUAL.
Guarantee Capital, 875,000.

Rates as low as any other good Company in the United States.

THIS company respectfully calls the attention of the public to the following advantages which they are enabled to offer to persons desirous of insuring their lives:

All the profits of the Company are divided annually among the life members in proportion to the premium paid, payable in cash at the end of each year.

Premiums on life policies may be paid annually, semi-annually or quarterly; or when they amount to $50 and upwards, they may be paid one-half in cash and the balance in one and two years.

Wives may insure the lives of their husbands, or husbands may insure the lives of their wives and children, thus securing to their families a sum which will be available immediately on the decease and insolvency of the husband.

D. BILLY, Pres't.
☞ Pamphlets and information furnished by the undersigned, who is the regular agent at Gettysburg.

KELLER KURTZ.
☞ Dr. CHARLES HORNER is the Company's regular and authorized Medical Examiner.
June 28, 1850. (1y.)

NOTICE.

LETTERS Testamentary on the Estate of Jacob Lightner, late of Berwick Borough of Gettysburg, Pa., deceased, having been granted to the subscribers, notice is hereby given to all who are indebted to said Estate, to make payment without delay, and to those having claims to present the same properly authenticated, to the subscribers, residing in said borough, for settlement.

JAMES F. FAHNESTOCK,
DAVID E. HOUCK,
Nov. 1.—6t *Executors.*

New and Fresh Groceries.

JUST received a large supply of new and fresh GROCERIES, consisting of Sugar-house and Syrup Molasses, Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Rice, Cheese, Cod Fish, Cod, Shoulders, Ham, Cloves, Cinnamon, Ginger, Allspice, Pepper, Salt, Starch, Soap, Candles, Coffee, Chocolate, Rice, &c., &c. QUEENSWARE, of every description, Tobacco, Segars, Snuff, Cordials, Wines, &c. Then remember, to secure bargains, be sure you call at KURTZ'S cheap Corner, No. 3, Corner Centre Square.

GREAT IMPROVEMENT IN *Daguerreotyping.*

VAN LOAN & CO.,
No. 118, Market Street, Philadelphia,

HAVE, by recent discoveries in their art, enabled themselves to take pictures at all times, and in all weathers—as well in stormy as clear weather—which are justly pronounced by artists and amateurs, unrivalled, for depth of tone and softness of light and shade. By working themselves they not only produce pictures which are *good and cheap*, but by far the best and cheapest which can be produced at any other establishment—the price being governed in handsomeness by proved cases, ranges from

ONE DOLLAR

to three dollars, depending on the size of the picture, being scarcely *one-half* the price charged at other establishments, for pictures of equal size, and equally as pretty. The Gallery of Portraits, consisting of some hundreds, embraces a collection of distinguished and celebrated worthy the attention of visitors to their rooms, which are

Open at all times.

The collection which they had deposited in the exhibition of the Franklin Institute, was universally admired by large crowds of admirers, who were loud in their praises of the artists' skill.

☞ Call and judge for yourselves.

SAMUEL FAHNESTOCK,
Gettysburg, March 1, 1850.—tf

MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE.

THE undersigned has opened an Office in the Centre Square Door in the "STAR" office, where he will be found at all times, prepared to stand legal business that may be placed in his hands.

D. A. BUEHLER.
Gettysburg, May 10, 1850.

Jacquard Wove Braid.

A NEW and beautiful article for Trimming Ladies' dresses, just for sale at cheap Store of J. L. SCHICK.
Oct. 4.

Shawls | Shawls!

J. L. SCHICK has just received a splendid lot of *Bay State Shawls*, to which he would ask the attention of the Ladies. Also, a fine article of *Gum Shawls*.

LADIES