Area and Population of Europe and the United States.—The area of the United States is but one-seventh less than that of Europe, including the two islands. Its population, however, is less than one-eleventh as large. The population of Europe averages seventy-one to the square mile, while that of the United States is but seven. Russia has eight times as much European territory as any other nation, and twenty millions more of population. Her population, however, is but thirty to the square mile, while that of Belgium is 381. Of the United States, Massachusetts is the most densely peopled, having 127 inhabitants to the square mile. Texas, the largest in area of the States, has 20,000 square miles more territory than the empire of France, and nearly twice as much as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The population of the United States will surpass that of Great Britain within five years, and probably overtake that of France by the next national census.

What was it out with?—A party of friends had assembled one evening, and after discussing the various topics of the day, one of them remarked:—Well, boys, I suppose you have heard of Dave's Dunsonb's marriage?" Some of them had heard of it, and some had not. "Well, continued the speaker, "she is married, and I was at the wedding. A right merry time we had of it too, I assure you: but there was one thing that surprised me very much, and that was the manner in which they cut the wedding cake; I can't help thinking on it. Now what do you suppose they cut it with?" "The wedding ring," said one. "No," answered the first speaker, who was quite positive. "A string," said one. "No." "A sick whipped to an edge," suggested a third.—"No." "A knife of tin," ventured the fourth, thinking he had hit it. "No." "Well, what was it?" exclaimed they all in one breath, after guessing every imaginable article they could think of, except the right one, that could either possibly or impossibly be put through such a cake. "Why," said the quiz, "they cut it with a knife, to be sure."

Tree of Politics.—Horace Greeley publishes a letter from an old friend and associate, invoking his aid in the organization of a new political party, and appends thereto the following paragraph:

"Well, you go ahead with your politics and new parties! You have had a long rest, and can well afford to be active though the years multiply. But we have been hard at work, and have closed up with a most decided beating. Our present Legislature in passed Agricultural and Horticulture for the year 1853. Can you give us any hints as to the cheap and thorough reclamation of Big Meadow? How much lime per acre would you apply at the outset? What opinion have you of the Best Culture? Alsike, Red Stresons or Rhenish Peach trees flourish in the gravelly loam of West Chester? If you have anything to offer on these and kindred points, we shall be glad to hear from you forthwith; and, by-and-by we'll count on the Polaies of the future. For the present we have one fixed principle—The Maine Law. How do you like it?"

Excursion to Europe.—A wealthy steamboat owner of N. York proposes to rig up, for an European trip, a steamer yacht, now nearly completed, furnishing her in the richest manner at a cost of $30,000 over ordinary ships of the kind.—About the first of May he will take on board his sons and daughters and forty or fifty other guests, and sail for London, Copenhagen, Stockholm, St. Petersburg, Havre, Bordeaux, Lisbon, Gibraltar, Marseilles, Naples, Malta, and such other ports as may be desirable, staying a short time at each port, giving fetes and keeping the house. The expense, which is estimated at more than $200,000, will be borne by the projector.

A quasi rebellion has occurred among the students at Columbia College, South Carolina. Of the 125 students there, 110 have left, because the Trustees refused to abolish compulsory attendance at the Commons Hall. For several years past, they petitioned for permission to board where they chose. Their petitions were disregarded and treated with contempt. They then determined to present the petition once more, and if not granted, to leave the College the 1st of January, 1853. The Faculty were in favor of the petition of the students.

Mr. Joseph Rink, a dealer in toys, No. 320 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, was murdered about 4 o'clock last Wednesday afternoon, in his store. He was stabbed in the abdomen and bowl, and died in a few minutes after the commission of the deed. The murderer was seen coming from the store, and was pursued, but escaped under cover of the severe snow storm which was raging at the time. There were but few persons on the street, and but one person saw him with sufficient distinctness to identify him.

There is an army of at least five hundred shoemakers in Marlboro', Massachusetts, who manufacture six thousand pairs of children's shoes every working day.—One journeyman has worked out the lasts for thirty years, without losing a day in consequence of sickness, and during that time has saved ten thousand dollars. One firm during the last year has manufactured 217,000 pairs of shoes. Another of the firms doing an immense business, employed one hundred men in Massachusetts, and one hundred and fifty in their shoe village in New Hampshire. Last year they made 200,003 pairs of shoes in the State, and at least as many more in New Hampshire.

Criticism.—The New York National Democrat remarks of the last number of Harper's Magazine, that the magazine represented Mount Sinai, while Moses is giving the law to the Israelite, as sacrificed upon a pagan altar! and in the text of the Angel's feeding Elijah, the fakes are represented as belong on a modern gridiron! This, the Democrat thinks, is equal to the old Dutch painters representing the centurions watching the sepulchre of Christ as armed with muskets.

Pants not a legal Term.—A man was tried at Cambridge day or two since for cutting a pair of "pants." The theft was proved, but it was claimed on the ground that no such garment as "pants" was known in law. The objection was allowed, and the complaint dismissed.

In Hanover, no army officer is allowed to marry unless he can settle six hundred thalers a year upon his intended, over and above his pay. Second lieutenants are not allowed to marry at all. Much the same regulation exists in Berlin.

THE STAR AND BANNER.

GETTYSBURG.

Friday Evening, Jan. 21, 1853.

Thanks.

29.—We tender our thanks to those of our friends who have called to see us during last week, and left some practical tokens of the important fact that our labors during the past few years have been duly appreciated by them. There are still, however, quite a number to whom we should be pleased to hear from shortly. Don't be afraid, friends, of sending us *too much*. We need all you can give us, *and that boldly*. The Type-founder, Paper-maker, and other creditors, by their constant live on air diet, and we have come to the conclusion that *Printers* are not an exception to the rule.

The Washington House.

7.—The card of the proprietor of this old and favorite house, at Harrisburg, will be found in another column. It has longby reason of location and proper management, been a favorite with the travelling public; and more particularly since it passed into the hands of Col. Sanders, the present clerk and popular proprietor.—We bespeak for it the especial patronage of our Adams county friends, inasmuch as Col. Sanders hails from our midst and always takes care to make our people "at home," whenever they make his care.

We understand that a company of gentlemen in Harrisburg have determined, immediately upon the adjournment of the Legislature, to commence the erection of a large and elegant Hotel, in the finest approved style, on the site of the present Washington House, which, when finished, will throw the other public houses into the shade.

A MISTAKE.—We notice an article going the rounds of the papers, to the effect that "E. A. Muhlenberg, A. M., at present Professor of the Greek language and Literature in Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, has been elected Professor of Ancient Languages in Franklin Marshall College, by the Trustees of the latter institution, at a meeting held last week. Election of the act to incorporate Franklin and Marshall College, the German Reformed Church was required to pay over to the Trustees of Penn's College a little over $17,000 to endow a Professorship of Ancient Language," in the latter institution.—the right to nominate the first incumbent vesting in the Lutheran members of the old Board of Franklin College. This amount has been paid over, and Mr. Muhlenburg has been appointed to the new Professorship. He, of course, remains connected with Pennsylvania College.

Court Doings.

7.—We annex a record of the cases disposed of by Court during the present week. The charts were discharged yesterday afternoon.

IN COMMON PLEAS.

Joseph Brown vs. Jacob Gantz, of Adams.—Dismissed at Defendant's costs.

Sam'l Spangler vs. Daniel Single—Feigned Assumpsit; Verdict for defendant; Judgment; Motion for a new trial.

Benedict, Executor, vs. Jacob Gantz, of Adams.—Dismissed at Defendant's costs.

IN QUARTER SESSIONS.

Commonwealth vs. Jacob Gantz, of Adams.—Indictment for malicious mischief; Verdict for defendant; Motion for a new trial; Argument of Argument Court, the property of Commonwealth, of Union township, the property of Jacob Gantz, of Mt. Pleasant township. Found guilty on both indictments and sentenced to 2 years imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary.

[The defendant in these cases is a young man of rather prepossessing appearance, and the Court in passing sentence addressed to him some excellent admonitory remarks, in the course of which his Honor, Judge Fisher, said that this was the first case since his elevation to the bench, in which it was made his duty to sentence to the penitentiary a person not addicted to intemperate drinking.]

Commonwealth vs. Isaac Marks.—Assault and Battery: Indictment ignored by Grand Jury and prosecutor, all Costs ordered to pay the costs of prosecution.

Com. vs. Tobias Laughman.—Assault and Battery: Ignored by Grand Jury and prosecutor, Isaac Marks, ordered to pay the costs.

Com. vs. Frederick Vanderloot.—Assault and Battery: Ignored, and prosecutor, Abraham Trostle, to pay costs.

Com. vs. Frederick Shultz.—Assault and Battery: Ignored, and the prosecutor, Christian Schiffferer, to pay costs.

Com. vs. Christian Schifferer.—Cutting live timber: Ignored, and the prosecutor, Frederick Shultz, to pay costs.

TO BE HUNG!

7.—The motion for a new trial in the case of Greene, (colored man,) convicted at the November term of the murder of Marts, was overruled by the Court this morning, and his Honor, Judge Fisher, after a feeling address to the prisoner, pronounced the usual sentence of death. The prisoner bore the announcement of his doom with more apparent fortitude than might have been expected. In reply to a question from the Court as to whether he had any reason to assign why sentence of death should not be pronounced upon him, he said he was not guilty of wilful, deliberate murder.

7.—The people of Kanawha (Va.) Valley are talking of a line of steamers to ply between Charleston and Wheeling, to connect with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

GEORGIA LANDS.—One hundred thousand acres of land in the Southwestern part of Georgia are advertised in a New York paper at one dollar an acre.

Another Railroad Meeting.

A large meeting of the friends of a Rail Road connected in the Court-house on Wednesday last, to hear some statements from J. E. Sickles, Esq., in regard to the working of the Hanover Branch Railroad. In view of the limited notice of the meeting, it having assembled on the ringing of the bell, the large attendance certainly indicates a healthy public opinion as to the importance and necessity of a road. The meeting was organized, on motion A. H. Kurtz, Esq., by calling Mr. John Pfoutz to the chair. Leonard Bricker and Wm. S. Hamilton were appointed Vice Presidents; and E. B. Buehler and Keller Kurtz Secretaries.

The object of the meeting having been briefly stated by D. A. Buehler, Mr. Sickles took the floor and read the annexed letter from the President of the Hanover road, accompanying it with a series of interesting statements as to the importance of a road to a very community through which they pass, and some speculations as to the probable revenue that would be derived from a road from Gettysburg to Hanover.

Hanover, Jan. 17, 1853.

Jacob E. Sickles:

Dear Sir—I received your note and am glad to remember that you are still active in the business which our road has done since its completion.

It will be remembered that for the first two months after its opening, the road was in an unfinished state; there were no conveniences for the transportation of passengers or freight, yet our receipts for the month of May exceeded the working and maintaining the road, all incidental expenses, and yet could, on our Books, show a surplus of one per cent. The receipts of the following months, after finishing repairs and adverse above mentioned, would justly a dividend of 4 per cent. on the Stock. This is to the 1st of January, 1853:

Hanover Branch R. R. Co. Store (§) of Earnings.

September,	$617.46
October,	575.75
November,	798.75
December,	663.61
Total,	2,718.40
Expenses,	975.40
Net earnings 12 months,	$1,743.07

This has not, I must observe, been had resulted from the ordinary course of traffic but in consequence of the Rail Road Company having to carry the Iron, and I may add, it has taken no wonder, from the time we commenced the road, to the present time, to have the Iron, and the trade which we have carried, has been very trifling in comparison with what it would be when the road is finished.

J. COB PERNEY,
Pres't R. R. R. Co.

E. B. Buehler, Esq., then addressed an able argument in favor of prompt, energetic and decisive efforts to secure to the County the benefits of a railroad. He had his preferences as to the line of location, as others no doubt had, but, for the sake of a recognized compromise, the County needed a road, and the Mechanic, the Farmer, the Laborer, all departments of industry and every class in the community, needed a road—a road which would bring to their market the produce which the farmer, the laborer, all should enjoy in their own market, and which would bring them in a market which would enhance the value of their produce. The point now under consideration, he said, was not the mode of building the road, but how it should be carried into effect. The mode of building the road was a matter of little consequence, provided it was well and substantially built, but whether it should be a double, or a single track, was a matter of great importance