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BY ERASTUS BROOKS & Co.

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FOR LATEST Commercial Intelligence, Domestic Markets, River News, Imports, Money Markets, &c., see third page.

Editorial Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

A Peep at the Documents—Pensioners.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10, 1848.

The whole number of Pensioners paid under the several acts of Congress, during the first two quarters of the year 1847, was 15,092. The number in Pennsylvania who received Pensions during the same time, was 1,126. The number in Ohio, 456; in New York, 3,282. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1847, the sum of $1,300,000 were paid for Pensions, exclusively of Naval Pensions. The whole number of persons in the United States to whom Pensions were allowed last year, was 23,018, of which number 3,013 are in Pennsylvania, 1,153 in Ohio, 3,859 in New York. The number of pensioners who died last year, and whose deaths were reported, was 1,041, 59 of whom were from Pennsylvania. Under the act of Congress, February 11, 1847, there were received at the Pension office 19,360 claims, 1,950 for Treasury Scrip, and 16,410 for land, (a good sign, as it indicates that those who have received the land bounty mean to become settlers.)

There are eight Pension Laws, under which Appropriations are made. Upon the Invalid Pension list there are 2946 names. The following brief abstract will be of value to such readers of the Gazette as are interested in the receipt or payment of Pensions:

"The act of March, 1818, gave a pension to officers and soldiers of the continental army, and to officers, seamen, and marines of the navy of the revolution, who were in indigent circumstances. Of the 20,477, who were pensioned, 2,226 are still on the roll; but not more than half that number are now alive, as only 1,070 have demanded their stipends during the first two quarters of 1847.

The law of 15th May, 1828, provides for officers and soldiers of the continental army, and to the end of the war. Under that law, 1,149 received pension; 230 of whom are still on the pension rolls, but within the first two quarters of the year only 139 have been paid.

Under the act of 7th June, 1832, which provides for all officers and men of the navy, army and militia, who served six months at any period during the revolutionary war, the number of claims amounts to 37,500. The number of pensions granted is 32,596, and the number still on the rolls 9,832; but during the first six months of the year only 4,614 drew pensions.

Under the act of the 4th of July, 1836, claims amounting to 7,006 have been presented, but only 4,491 have been allowed. The number still on the roll is 4,453. Only 1,454 were paid during the two first quarters of 1847.

The act of the 7th of July, 1838, gives a pension of five years to the widows of officers and men who served during the revolutionary war. The pension begins on the 4th March, 1838, and terminates on the 4th of March, 1841. Under that law 13,500 claimed pensions, but only 10,360 pensions have been granted. None of the pensioners names are continued on the roll. Those who are still living are on the roll of pensioners inscribed under the act of June 17, 1844.

On the 4th March, 1843, an act passed giving one year's pension more to the pensioners under the act of July 7, 1838. Under the act of 1843, there have been paid 8,272 pensioners.

On the 17th June, 1844, an act passed, giving four year's additional pension to the widows who were entitled to the benefits of the acts of 1838 and 1843. The pension commenced on the 4th March, 1844, and will terminate on the 4th of March next. The number on the roll now is 8,231; but only 5,681 have made application for their pension during the first six months of the present year.

Under the 2d section of the act of the 20th January, 1847, entitled "An act to continue the office of the Commissioner of Pensions," the execution of the laws in relation to the claims for military bounty lands devolve on the head of the pension office; and the 9th section of the act of the 11th February, 1847, entitled "An act to raise for a limited time an additional military force," gives bounty land or treasury scrip, at the option of the claimant, to each non-commissioned officer, musician, and private, who has served, or may serve in the present war with Mexico.

CANNON.

Among the interesting subjects discussed by the Ordnance Bureau, is the examination of Iron Ordnance by Lieut. Walbach. The several foundries employed in the manufacture of Cannon are at Pittsburgh, West Point, Georgetown, Bellona, near Richmond. The report says:

A marked difference is perceptible in the quality and appearance of the metal from the different foundries, and it seems as if there belonged to each a peculiar type or character of fracture to distinguish it from the rest. For instance, the guns of the Bellona foundry are generally of a high mottle, with the lighter portions of the mottle of a silvery white color. The character of those from the Columbian foundry are also of a mottle, rather high, but less so than the guns of the Bellona foundry, and also with less of the silvery aspect; the metal of both foundries is accompanied by a high degree of density.

The guns from the West Point foundry are of a darker mottle, with the fracture inclining to a grey or a mottled grey; the value of their specific gravity is not so high as the former, but the metal still possesses a fair average density.

The samples of the cannon from the Pittsburgh foundry presents a still darker grey, with little or none of the mottled aspect, and appears highly carbonaceous, the specific gravity of the metal being correspondingly low.

In general terms the appearance of the metal from the different foundries may be summed up in two divisions, thus; Columbia and Bellona foundry guns—mottled iron; West Point and Pittsburgh guns—grey iron. The locality from which the metal was drawn has no doubt influenced the result, modified also by the different modes of treatment at the several foundries.

In seeking for the character of fracture most desirable for gun metal, we would look for it between the lower mottle of the Columbia and the higher grey of the West Point foundry, passing over the extreme values of the Bellona and Pittsburgh iron. This fracture may therefore best be defined as follows: a soft uniform mottle, passing into a light or bright grey, the spots of the mottle being so intimately blended and so nearly of the same hue as to give the fracture a light or bright grey aspect.

The report of Lieut. Walbach, giving a summary of the results of experiments for testing the quality of iron and Cannon, will be found of great interest to founders, and for that reason I have made the above extract.

GUN COTTON.

A good deal is said in the report of the value of Gun Cotton, and much time and money have been expended by the Department in testing its value. The result of experiments are summed up by the examiners as follows:

1st. The explosive cotton, well prepared according to Schonbein's formula, burns at a heat of 350 deg. Fahrenheit, and it will, therefore, not set fire to gunpowder. By other modes of preparation, it may be made to explode at a much lower temperature; great precaution should therefore be used in drying it.

2d. The *projectile force* of explosive cotton, in moderate charges, in the musket or in the cannon, is nearly equal to that of twice its weight of the best gunpowder.

3d. When compressed by hard ramming (as in filling a shell) it burns slowly, and after a short time it produces little or no flame.

4th. By the absorption of moisture its force appears to be rapidly diminished, but is probably quite restored by drying. A sample of cotton of which 60 grains gave to a musket ball a mean initial velocity of 1,698 feet, was exposed for two weeks in a cool, damp vault, where it absorbed about two per cent. of moisture; 60 grains of the cotton in that state gave a mean velocity of 1,612 feet.

5th. Its *explosive force*, or bursting effect, is a little greater, greater than that of gunpowder. In this respect the value of gun cotton assimilates much more to that of fulminates than to gunpowder; it is, therefore, well adapted to mining purposes.

6th. Gun-cotton when well prepared, leaves no perceptible stain when a small quantity is burnt on white paper. The principal residue of its combustion are water and nitrous acid; the acid is made sensible by its odor and its effect on the barrel of a musket; it will soon be corroded by it, if not wiped after firing.

7th. In consequence of the quickness and intensity of action of the gun-cotton when ignited, it cannot be used with safety in our present fire-arms. It appears by experiments, that an accident of serious nature, as that of inserting two charges into a musket before firing, (which is of frequent occurrence,) would cause the barrel to burst.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10—Monday night.

Mr. CLAY's coming to-day was greeted with an enthusiastic welcome; that must have convinced him how very dear he is to the city which has been the scene of most of his official labors. No man in the union is more endeared to the District of Columbia, has been a truer friend to the District of Columbia, and the name of no public man would probably revive so many pleasing associations with the past. Mr. Clay sought to avoid every thing like a public reception, but his friends would not let him. He was met by a large concourse of citizens at the cars, and escorted to the United States Hotel, where he was compelled to appear upon the balcony and make public acknowledgement for the honors received. There is not other Civilian in the land who could command such receptions as this land which could command such receptions as these. So many indeed has such warm friends as Henry Clay, and yet, I am sorry to believe, has such implacable foes, for all these are constantly made, and do not know the man they hate.

It will be some days before Mr. Clay appears before the Supreme Court, and in the meantime he is likely to be run down by troops of friends,—all the more true to him, because the multitude believe it improbable that he will be permitted to occupy a position which would give him the patronage of the Government.

An extraordinary speech was made in the Senate to-day by Reverdy Johnson, of Md. The first half of it was essentially an Administration speech, —the second branch entirely Whigish,—the third and concluding part will come to-morrow. I have never seen so many paradoxes crowded into so small a space, and the whole argument thus far, indeed, is but a bundle of contradictions. The war in one breath was defended as "just and honorable," and in the next as unnecessary and unconstitutional. It is said in part first, that it was brought on "by the act of Mexico,"—and in part second, by the act of the President. In one argument, the whole Territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande is put down as indisputable Texan and United States Territory, and in the next it is called disputed territory. It was annexation which brought on the war, as is said in one, and the Resolutions of 1845, in another,—but most of all it was the act of the President, ordering General Taylor to march from the Nueces to the Rio Grande,—and for this order, as for the execution of the act of annexation, (the Resolutions of 1845) the President is made responsible for the war, and the strongest language is used by the Senator in pointing to the extent of this responsibility. In his retirement it is said he can claim none of the honor of the splendid battles fought and victories won, but he will rather see the crimsoned fields of blood, made so through his instrumentality, and hear the cries of the widow and the orphan who have been made to mourn by his unjust and illegal acts. It was your order to the American troops which brought on this war, and it was your violations of the expressed will of Congress. The Senate of the United States had rejected a treaty annexing Texas to the Union, because in the manner proposed they knew and declared that this would have been war. The President knew this, too, and knowing it he went on to do that which the Senate had condemned, and that which he knew Congress would not sanction. I shall not attempt to reconcile Mr. Johnson's speech. It is, indeed, thus far wholly irreconcilable, but the motive of it, I presume, has been to shield the country from wrong at the expense of truth.—Like many other men, he dreads what the world may say of us, that, indeed, which we say of each other, and hence his jealousy of the good name of our country in the estimation of the world.

The speech has made much remark. The Administration Senators were delighted with parts but made wry faces with the home truths against the Executive in part second. Nobody, I presume, was pleased with the whole speech, except, perhaps, the author himself, and it would have been much better for Mr. Johnson's reputation if his speech had never been made. Never was there a better illustration of the solemn truth that "no man can serve two masters," two sets of principles, and these at the antipodes of each other, than is to be found in this speech. K. R.

FROM NEW YORK.

New York, Jan. 10, 1848.

There is little of interest stirring in the city, so far as business is concerned, as the winter dullness is upon us. The stores are filled with idle clerks, waiting for warm weather to enable their customers to reach them, by water, our only means of communication with the most profitable part of New York trade.

The steamship Washington is now out eighteen days, not more. She probably was detained until the 23d ult., or four days beyond her usual time.—She had thirty seven passengers engaged at the last accounts.

Another slice of patronage is to be given, it is said, to Edwin Crosswell, editor of the Albany Argus, in the shape of the Russian Embassy. Cocks has, in times gone by, been a hospital for politicians, and a good excuse to pay them $9,000 outfit, $9,000 salary, and another bonus to return. It has been remarked of Mr. Crosswell, that he much more deserves it, if political service and qualification be the test, than many of the men who have had it.

Treasury notes sold this morning at 99¼, and but little was done in other stocks. These Notes continue to absorb a large portion of the Revenue, and the Sub-Treasury is now reduced from its millions in specie, to about $750,000,—with heavy drafts constantly drawn upon it, and necessarily reducing this small amount yet farther. The receipts at the Custom House the past week, were only 232,000—of which 154,000 were in Treasury Notes, and 78,000 in coin. Thus you will see that Mr. Walker is getting his notes of hand *in pay* for government dues, and grows weaker day by day. Upon this subject, the Tribune says:

"It was stated that drafts for $500,000 were presented to-day, while the vault contained only only $100,000 to pay them with.

The following table will show the shipments of specie from this port since Friday of last week, as indicated by the clearances at the Custom House:

Stm'r. Hiber's, Liv. Mex. dolls.	$190,000,	
" " " sovereigns..	313,405..	413,195
Ship Sir Robt. Peel, Liv'pl. sovrns	.....	60,000
" Siddons " "	.....	68,666
Brig Erato, Laguayra, five francs	.....	9,500
Ship Utica, Havre, " "	$8,295	
" " " Mex. dollars..	43,470...	52,365
" Columbia, Liverpool, sov'rns	.....	32,510
" Gladiator, London; " "	.....	10,000
" Columbus, (by Brown & Bros)	.....	62,200
Total	.....	$744,466

Another physician has fallen in the discharge of his duty in the hospital of this city, Dr. Gorham Beals. He was a young man of much talent and is widely lamented. The whole number of deaths for the week have been 245.

Holders of Treasury scrips here think that they are soon to get their pay. The Legislature seems disposed to take some action on the subject of the debt of the Republic. It is officially estimated, including interest, at $11,050,000 of which $560,000 or about 30 per cent, is admitted to be fairly due to the creditors.

Owing to the cold weather the market for flour is rather slack, although there has been some demand. The sales for Orwego and Western range from $6,26@6,12½; Choice Genesee $6,25. But little doing in Southern—Baltimore and Alexandria are selling at 6,37½—Meal is in demand at 3,31@3,37. Rye Flour 4,12½@4,50

Wheat is in demand for shipment and for home consumption. Sales of Genesee at 110c; Ohio, white 135c; red 125c. There is something doing in New Corn at 64@66c, but nothing in old. Sales of Rye at 87@89c. Oats, 47@50c for Northern.

Old Pork is depressed, Prime is selling at $7,87½@8 and Mess $10@10,25; New Mess $11@12—Beef is in fair request but no change in price.—There is a little more doing in pickle meats. Sales of Shoulders at 4½ and Hams 7½ cts. Lard 6½ cts. Cheese 6@7 cts.

There is nothing doing in Kentucky Tobacco.—Some small sales of Havana and Florida.

Explosion of the Steamer Blue Ridge.

The main features of this terrible explosion have been published heretofore in the telegraphic correspondence of the Gazette. More particular details have, however arrived by Steamboat, from which we gather the following list of the killed, scalded, wounded, &c., so far as they have reached us:

Wm. F. Whittaker, dead.
Mr. Stewart, wife and 3 children, do.
Mr. Overshiner, missing.
Joseph Boulon, Cincinnati, do.
F. J. Sanna, Gallipolis, do.
George Baird, dead.
James Miller, Va., missing.
Capt. Summers, injured.
Albert Summers, badly do.
P. Wright, Ka.; do. do.
Riley Finney, Pilot, do. do.
John Bayse, slightly do.
John Carr, badly do.
P. Carpenter, missing.
D. Smith, badly scalded.
F. Scott, missing.
D. Page, colored, badly scalded.
15 deck passengers missing.

The second pilot, sleeping in his room, was thrown on shore, a distance of about one hundred yards, and escaped with but some slight bruises. The 2d clerk, James Sugimers, was thrown into the river and swam ashore, escaping without the least scratch.

Along the shore, in the vicinity of the explosion, still suffered severely from frozen feet, hands, &c. He swam ashore, having put his life preserver in requisition to buoy him up.

There were three horses on board, one of which was found on shore after the explosion. The other two were missing.

The explosion was undoubtedly caused by defective boilers.

READING RAILROAD COMPANY.—At the annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Philadelphia, Reading and Pottsville Railroad Company, a dividend of 12 per cent. was declared, payable in Stock. The report of the operations of the company for the year 1847, contained the following interesting statement:

The Receipts from Coal transported	$1,698,663 99
" " " Passengers	156,201 45
" " " Freight on M'ds.	136,219 92
" " " Trans. of Mail, etc.,	11,960 26
Total,	2,002,945 62
All expenses amount to	1,100,406 50
Balance of profits, to pay interest and dividends	$902,539 12

THE Taylor Central Committee have invited Gen. Taylor to visit Harrisburgh, at such time as may suit his convenience.

MR. HAMPTON'S EXPLANATION.

The following note from Mr. Hampton to Mr. Brooks, has been forwarded for publication in the Gazette. As the vote of Mr. Hampton to which he alludes, has been much debated among his constituents, the motives by which he was actuated are of the greatest interest to know. If his motives have been misconstrued by his Whig constituents, or misrepresented by the Loco Focos, he has taken the most proper course to gain the continued confidence of the former, as well as to confound the latter. The history of the Ashmun amendment has been given from the National Intelligencer, and is now followed by his explanation, which presents the whole subject in the light in which he hoped his constituents would view it at the onset.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, Jan. 10, 1848.

E. BROOKS, Esq., *Sir*—It appears from an article in your paper of Saturday last, that some of my friends at home are laboring under a misapprehension in regard to the object I have in view, in casting my vote against Mr. Ashmun's amendment to the amendment of Mr. Henley to the resolution of thanks to Gen. Taylor. Mr. Ashmun's amendment declared the war to have been unnecessarily and unconstitutionally commenced by the President of the United States.

When the resolution of thanks was offered, and Mr. Henley offered his amendment, evidently to embarrass and defeat the Resolution, as has been done at the last Session, I at once formed and expressed my determination to vote against all amendments whatsoever, and to pass the Resolution as it was offered. Mr. Ashmun's amendment was immediately offered, and the yeas and nays instantly called, and my name being early on the list, I voted as I had resolved to vote, against this and all amendments, calculated to embarrass or defeat the resolution. Had the proposition of Mr. Ashmun been uncoupled with the Resolution of thanks to Gen. Taylor, my course would have been different. I certainly should not have voted against it. Very truly yours, &c.,

M. HAMPTON

IRON BRIDGES.—In Pennsylvania, after it is settled that a Railroad is necessary, the next question is, how much will the bridges cost? As bridges are most expensive structures, any plan to make them cheaper and better cannot but receive a careful attention. In a country where iron is so abundant, and withal so cheap, this material must come into common use, not only on the ground of economy, but of safety. There has been a large number of plans proposed, but the majority have failed, either from their great cost or their inability to allow of the passage across them of great weights at a high rate of speed. This disderatum has been attained (so nearly that we can have proper iron bridges while bridge builders are attaining perfection,) in an "Improved Truss Bridge," invented by Nathaniel Rider, that combines the merits of the arch with the modern plan of suspension. In this plan we have the strength of iron longitudinally, and so arranged that all the strength is obtained without encumbering the bridge by weight. An engineer's report says:

"The principal parts of each side of the bridge are two chords, an upper and a lower one—the former heavier and somewhat longer than the latter—these chords are, in the first place, kept apart by means of upright iron posts placed at equal distances from each other, along the whole length of the two chords, and to which diagonal ties are attached, running upwards and downwards through, about its entire length, secured to both the lower and upper chords of its respective sides, at regular intervals of angles, of a width and strength proportionate to the span of the Bridge, and the weight of the load which it is designed to support. Upon these diagonal ties are thus attached, and the chords also kept apart by the iron posts above mentioned, the Truss is formed upon which the platform or roadway is to rest.

The strength and compactness of the Truss is greatly increased by these diagonal ties; but these alone, in conjunction with the posts, would not make that equal and effectual resistance to the action of a load passing over the Bridge, which is desirable, or prevent what has always been found so very objectionable in Iron Suspension Bridges; namely, the oscillation or vibration of these structures upon the passage of a motive power over them.

In order, therefore, to obviate this latter defect, and at the same time to give additional strength to the Bridge, a wedge or key is inserted on each side of the top of the iron posts under the top chord, by the action of which, the upper and lower chords are kept at the greatest possible distance from each other, the *full strength of the longitudinal tension of the wrought iron ties effectually obtained*, and the *cambering or arching* of the Bridge, thus permanently secured."

Across the bottom of the bridge pass ties diagonally, to prevent the side way motion of the bridge, which is thus made as staunch as the road itself.—When passing over one of these bridges on a road, the traveller thinks he has come to a part of the road laid upon stone, so firm does it feel. When it is remembered that large sums are annually expended for watchmen and insurance upon wooden bridges, the objection against the increased cost of iron disappears. The advantage need not and does not stop here, for iron needs no speedy renewal, whereas a wooden bridge, at the end of twelve years, or thereabouts, has an amount charged for repairs that would with the original cost, give an iron bridge. This is a question that interests the great Eastern and Western Central Routes, as well as the Connellsville and Baltimore and Ohio Company. All these roads have each some distinct and positive merit over their rival routes, and engineers will find in this bridge not only all the merits of ordinary bridges, but other valuable principles of great importance.

Pennsylvania Legislature—1848.

Harrisburgh, Jan. 10, 1848.

SENATE.—PETITIONS.—The Speaker presented one relative to Pottsville Rail Road Company;

Mr. Forsyth introduced a bill in relation to the Usury laws.

Mr. Darsie—relative to notes issued under act of 1841.

Petitions Presented.—Mr. Swartzwelder, for the incorporation of a Company to make a Railroad from Pittsburgh to some point on the western line of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Myers, four from Holy Township, Berks Co. asking that the collection of the State and County taxes may be given to the lowest bidder.

Mr. Fox, from Dauphin, to incorporate a company to make a railroad from Erie to the Western line of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Ladley, from Chester and Lancaster, asking that the Constitution may be so amended, as to extend the right of suffrage to people of color.

Mr. Roberts, of Philadelphia, one of large import.

On motion of Mr. Fernon, the bill to regulate the hours of labor, was refered to a select committee of five.

Mr. Myers offered a resolution, to enquire into the necessity of amending laws for the better management and regulation of Railways, and of making the accidents which occur to such an alarming extent, the subject of legal investigation, and in cases of neglect, bad management, incompetency, or recklessness on the part of the officers, or having the control of motive power of railway, on which accidents occur, resulting in death, may be held in strict accountability and penal punishment.

Mr. Ladley offered a resolution, which was adopted, to enquire into the expediency of abolishing military training.

THE IRON TRADE—REDUCTION OF WAGES.—*Birmingham, Friday.*—In consequence of the depression in this branch of trade, chiefly caused by the suspension of railway orders, the iron masters around Dudley have given notice to the ironstone miners and furnace men that they must submit to a reduction of their wages to the extent of 20 per cent, and we understand that it is the intention of the coal masters to give notice to-morrow evening of a reduction in the wages of the colliers to the extent of a shilling per day. This will lower the wages of the collier to 4s. and the ironstone miners to 2s. 9d. per day. Short time is being generally adopted throughout the whole of Staffordshire, and many of the iron masters are determined—suspend operations altogether for the present.—*London Sun.*

And how is all this to act on the iron interest of Pennsylvania, except unfavorably? Every child knows that it was the railroad-making mania of England which run up the prices of British iron so high at home, as to prevent it entering into competition with our own iron in America. But the trade abroad is now "depressed" "by the suspension of railway orders," and British iron masters and coal masters warn their laborers and purveyors that wages must come down 20 per cent. Iron of course, must come down too; and then we shall find it seeking this country. Pennsylvania will yet find she defanted in her own wrong, when she gave up her attachment and pledged faith for the tariff of 1842.—*North American.*

DEPARTURE OF HENRY CLAY.—In accordance with the announcement we made yesterday morning, the Hon. Henry Clay took his departure for Washington in the nine o'clock train of cars. He arrived at the depot at about half past 8 o'clock, accompanied by his friend, the Hon. Christopher Hughes, and a number of our most respected citizens. Here he was met by an immense concourse of friends and admirers, and greeted with the most enthusiastic cheering. On taking his seat a line was formed, and many hundred passed through the cars, grasping him by the hand and exchanging a hasty word of salutation. We observed an old gentleman, whose very soul seemed to beam from his eyes as he seized the hand of his distinguished political friend, and retaining his grasp he remarked—"*God bless you, Mr. Clay; I have voted for you three times, and am ready to do it again—better times, will come soon—God bless you.*" A tear glistened in the eye of each, and Mr. Clay responded—"*Thank you, my dear sir, thank you.*" in a manner that clearly indicated that his words came direct from his heart.

At nine o'clock the immense depot was crowded in and out, and as the cars containing Mr. Clay passed into the street, the welkin was made to ring with such tremendous cheering as we had not heard since the political campaign of 1840.—*Reb. Sun.*

Local Intelligence.

A MEETING of the Scientific association of Western Pennsylvania, was held at the Hall of the Western University, on Thursday, agreeably to adjournment.

T. J. Bigham, Esq., was called to preside, and W. W. Wilson, appointed Secretary. On taking his seat, Mr. Bigham stated the object of the meeting to be the adoption of a constitution, election of officers, and perfecting the organization of the association.

The Constitution prepared by the committee appointed at a former meeting was then read, and on motion, adopted with amendments.

Considerable debate ensued on amendments, in which Mr. Bakewell, Dr. Dyer, Prof. Stephens, and others participated.

On motion, the meeting proceeded to the election of officers. Whereupon—

Prof. L. Stephens, was elected President; Dr. Jackson, of Blairsville, Vice President; Dr. King, Corresponding Secretary; W. W. Wilson, recording secretary; Mr. Harper, Treasurer; Thomas Hind, Librarian and G. W. Fahnestock, Curator.

After the appointment of a standing committee, the meeting adjourned to assemble again at seven o'clock in the evening.

At the appointed time, a number of the learned and scientific of our city met in the chapel of the Western University.

On motion, Professor L. Stephens ascended the platform and read a lecture on the objects of the association, the difficulties and triumphs of science and the probable benefits likely to result from the combined efforts of members of an association such as the one now formed. His lecture was learned and highly interesting.

Dr. King was then called upon, and entertained the audience for a considerable time, in a lecture replete with learning and science. His reading was good.

On the whole, the audience received an intellectual feast seldom provided in the most learned institutions of the East, and we trust the interest manifested, will insure the permanent establishment of an institution which will light a lamp of science in Pittsburgh, the rays of which shall penetrate every enlightened region of the globe, and add much to the intelligence, learning, wealth and utility of the age.

ALLEGHENY CITY ELECTION.—The following is a list of Councilmen elected, on Tuesday in Allegheny:—

FIRST WARD.
Select Council—Wm. Robinson, Jr. -
Common Council—H. Morrison, Mr.-Borlane, E. B. Slentz and W. C. Stockton.

SECOND WARD.
S. C.—John Morrison.
C. C.—Alex. Moore, J. B. Smith; Wm. Johnson, and T. H. Nevin.

THIRD WARD.
S. C.—Thos. R. Stewart.
C. C.—H. S. Flemming, Wm. Boyd, A. Eakins, and W. Walker.

FOURTH WARD.
S. C.—J. Moorehead.
C. C.—James A. Gray, L. Waters, G. E. Warner and R. Robinson.

*Locofocos. All the rest Whigs.

BIRMINGHAM ELECTION.—The following is a list of the borough officers, elected in Birmingham, on Tuesday last:

Burgess.—Edward Ensell, Esq.
Council—Thomas Blackinoor, W. O. Brown, S. M'Kee, Mr. M'Elroy, and Mr. Boyd.
Council—Robert Holmes.

CITY GOVERNMENT.—The members elect of the Common Council, and the members of the Select Council, will meet at 10 o'clock this morning, at their respective Chambers, for the purpose of organizing the city government for the ensuing year. The votes for Common Councilmen are to be opened, and the members elected inducted into office. Mayor Adams will also take the oath of office for another year. The meeting, according to custom, will afterwards adjourn to meet at the new Court House, on Tuesday next, when the minor officers of the city will be selected and confirmed.

MR. WEAVER, of the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association, publishes a card, notifying the members of the Association that the election for officers held on the evening of the 11th is illegal; and that this fact will be demonstrated at the meeting on Tuesday evening.

It will be observed from a notice in another column of our paper that the Antimasonic and Whig County Committee will meet at the Spread Eagle Hotel, in Pittsburgh, on the 22d inst., at 2 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of making arrangements for a Convention to elect delegates to a State Convention, to nominate a Whig candidate for Canal Commissioner, and a delegate to the Whig National Convention.

FREE LECTURE.—We are requested to call the attention of our citizens, to the Lecture on Geology,—to be delivered by Dr. Jackson, of Blairsville, Indiana county, (Assistant state Geologist,) at the Hall of the University, this evening, at 7 o'clock. It is hoped that this effort to introduce the study of the natural sciences among us, in a popular form, will be evinced by a general attendance on the part of our citizens.

EAGLE SALOON.—An extra concert is to come off at the Eagle Saloon on Saturday evening.—The prize offered for the best piece of poetry to be set to music, will doubtless elicit many good pieces. The Talent for poetry will meet reward. Such is not always the case.

HAYTI—The Kingston Journal of the 10th ult., says, by the arrival of H. M. schooner Viper, (arrived the preceding day,) from Port-au-Prince, we learn that affairs at that place were in a sad state, and fears were entertained that soon after her departure a revolution would take place.

The Viper brought to Port-Royal the editor of a newspaper, who was taken from prison at night by the Consuls of France and England, and brought on board, and sailed the next morning at daylight. The military were out in readiness to put an end to his life, when he was rescued.

The Esperance, a French vessel, laden with a cargo valued at 100,000 francs, was entirely destroyed by fire at Cette. One of the crew had tapped a cask of brandy, with a lighted candle in his hand. The brandy flew out and came in contact with the candle, the result was destruction of both vessels and cargo.

TRADE WITH MEXICO.—A late number of the New York Dry Goods Reporter contains the following paragraph.

A profitable business is now being done with Mexico. Our heavy Cottons are in request, and New Orleans is reaping a rich harvest from its operations with those ports. We are of the opinion that a shipment of Staple Goods to Vera Cruz at this time, would pay better than to any other port. We are aware of some shipments having been made, and are informed that a much larger quantity is wanted. Government securities and specie are abundant, goods are scarce and in demand.

Of four vessels which have cleared from this port within two months for Vera Cruz, three at least have been loaded solely with hay. The cargo of the ship New Jersey, which cleared yesterday for Vera Cruz, was 1,074 bundles of hay.

MILK MACHINES STOPPED.—A New York letter in the Philadelphia Inquirer, says:

The mortality among the swill fed cows at Brooklyn and Williamsburgh is very great. The Williamsburg Gazette says they are hauling them out of the stables—floating them away to the Siberia of Bushwick Creek, and when there, some hottest fellows take off their hides, and leaves carry the deceased flesh to market. As those animals are said to be milked up to the day of their final departure from this world, so, can nobody be sure whether the milk they purchase is sound or diseased.

The whole present number of ordained missionaries in the world is estimated at about 1200; and of male and female assistant missionaries, at about 2100, making a total of 3000. The Bible has been printed in 138 languages and dialects, and all but thirty of these translations are new, and were made chiefly by missionaries since the institution of the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1804. The number of copies of the Bible and Testament which have been issued by the Bible Societies, is about thirty millions.

GEN. TAYLOR.—A telegraphic dispatch from Washington to a Sunday paper says a Whig Congressional caucus has been held, at which it was decided that Mr. Ashmun's amendment to the vote of thanks to Gen. Taylor should be withdrawn and the vote of thanks so modified as to include Gen. Scott. A resolution in favor of Gen. Taylor as the Whig candidate for the Presidency was either withdrawn or voted down.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

GEN. TAYLOR IN MARYLAND.—The Washington News learns from a distinguished citizen of Maryland, who arrived in that city from Annapolis, where the Legislature is now in session, that every Whig member of the Senate and House of Delegates has indicated a preference for Gen. Taylor for the highest office in the gift of the people.

☞ Paris possesses five public Libraries, to which admission is absolutely free, independently of those of the Institute, the University, and the two Chambers, to all of which persons satisfactorily recommended may obtain admission. These five libraries contain an aggregate of one million three hundred thousand volumes.

BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

Correspondence of Pittsburgh Gazette.

CONGRESS.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

Jan. 13, 10 P. M.

The Senate came to order at the usual hour.

The Vice President laid before the Senate a report from the Secretary of War relative to the resolution of Mr. Benton, calling for printed copies of Donniphan's Expeditions to New Mexico and California.

The Resolution calling on the Secretary of War for copies of the correspondence between Mr. Trist and the Mexican Government, during the armistice relative to negotiations for peace was taken up and passed.

On motion, the Senate laid aside the morning business for the purpose of taking up the Ten Regiment Bill.

Mr. Pearce made a speech in which he endeavored to controvert Reverdy Johnson's position, and quoted numerous authorities in support of his assertion that the boundary of Texas did not extend to the Rio Grande.

Mr. Butler obtained the floor on this bill, when the Senate adjourned over until Monday.

In the House, after the morning business, the resolution of inquiry relative to the rank of surgeons in the army, was reconsidered and adopted.

A communication was received from the President, in reply to Mr. Goggins' resolution relative to the admission of Santa Anna into Mexico, was read. The President refuses to make any reply to the calumny implicated, because in times of hostilities the public interest requires and the law presumes the Executive to be incorruptible. As authority for this course, he cites the opinion of President Washington.

Mr. Adams spoke energetically in reference to this message, and moved its reference to a select committee, who would show the President, that he was bound to furnish the information asked.

Mr. Schenck of Ohio said it was time that the representatives of the people should assert their rights, and refuse to acknowledge Mr. Polk as their master.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll of Pa., next took the floor and justified the President in his reply to the resolution.

Several other members spoke on the subject, and much excitement was manifested.

Mr. Tompkins obtained the floor when the House adjourned.

Exclusive Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA MARKET.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 13, 3, P. M.

Flour—The market is quiet, with moderate sales of Genesee, at $6,25@6,37½ bbl. The market is dull, and holders are stiff.

Corn Meal—Sales at $3,12½@ bbl.

Grain—The supplies are limited sales of Prime Red wheat at 142 ₩ bu Prime Yellow Corn is selling at 63@64c. Of Oats at 49c ₩ bu.

Whiskey—Moderate sales occur at 23½c gal.

Provisions—I hear of no sales to-day of any article worth reporting.

Groceries—Sugars sales are free to the trade. Coffee and Molasses are without change. Market steady.

Exclusive Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

BALTIMORE MARKET.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 13, 3 P. M.

Flour—Howard street brands are selling to a limited extent at $6 ₩ bbl, at which figure there are more sellers than buyers.

Grain—The market is without change, supplies limited.

Groceries—I hear of no change in the market.

Whiskey—Is selling at 24c ₩ gal.

Corn Meal—Sales at $3,25@3,37½ bbl.

Exclusive Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette

BOSTON MARKET.

BOSTON, Jan. 13, 1 P. M.

Flour—Sales of Genesee brands at $6,25@6,37 ₩ bbl. Baltimore H. S. brands are selling at $6,62 ₩ bbl. The market is steady, but not active.

Grain—There is a steady demand for corn, with sales of Prime Yellow at 79@80c per bu.

Provisions—There is nothing doing excepting in Lard of which we notice sales at 7½@8c ₩ lb.

Exclusive Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette

NEW YORK MARKET.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13, 3 ½ M.

Flour—Sales of Genesee at $6,25@6,37 ₩ bbl. Western brands are selling at $6 ₩ bbl. The market is steady, but not active. Prices are on the decline.

Grain—The demand for Wheat and Corn is good but sales are not large. Other grains are steady. Oats are selling at 50@52c; Mixed Wheat at 136c bu; and Prime White Corn at 72@73c ₩ bu, prices nominal.

Provisions—There is no activity in any article, quotations are steady.

Whiskey—Market prices are steady but rather inactive, Coffee and sugar are without change.

Exclusive Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

CINCINNATI MARKET.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 13, 6 P. M.

Wheat—Prime Red is selling to-day, at 100c ₩ bu.

Whiskey—Sales have been effected, of raw, at 18c ₩ gal.

Groceries—Sales of New Orleans molasses have been effected at 22@22½c ₩ gal. Coffee, sales at 7½@7½c ₩ lb, and a fair business transacted.

Killed Hogs—Sales have taken place at $2,50@2,75 per cwt.

Beef Cattle—Sales have occurred at $2,50@3,50 ₩ 100 lbs net.

Lard is selling at 5½c ₩ lb in bbls and 5½c ₩ lb in kegs.

We see it stated that there were rumors in Washington on Saturday, of a "Defalcation in the Treasury Department of $25,000; also in the Post Office Department, somewhere North, of $50,000." There is the Sub-Treasury, with its bags and bolts, and dungeon terrors, that was to prove a panacea against all villians of this kinds.

The late storm on the French coast, says the Havre Revue, swept the shores, and turned up the sand as far as L'Heure. Many articles deposited by ship wrecks long ago have been uncovered. Among them have been found both money and jewelry—7 coin of Ferdinand and Isabella, the sovereigns of Castile and Leon, was of the former.

THE Washington Union says—"It is believed that Gen. Scott was, at the last advices, about to despatch two columns to the mining districts, to occupy two of the richest mines within reach of the city—to be supported by a common column."

Mr. Hornbeck, a member of Congress from this State, has returned home very ill. He represents the District composed of the counties of Bucks and Lehigh. Death is a frequent visitor to the Halls of Congress.

The Erie Gazette noticing the reports prejudicial to the Erie Bank, says the institution is one of the safest and soundest in the country. No fears need be entertained of its solvency.

A lawyer in