THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

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PITTSBURGH:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 17, 1849.

PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN.—Advertisements and Subscriptions to the North American and United States Gazette, Philadelphia, received and forwarded from this office.

NEW YORK EXPRESS.—We will receive and forward free of expense, advertisements and subscriptions for this paper.

COMMERCIAL LIST AND PHILADELPHIA PRICE CURRENT.—Subscriptions to this valuable paper will be received and forwarded from this office.

☞ THE PITTSBURGH DAILY GAZETTE is published daily, Tri-Weekly, and Weekly.—The Daily is Seven Dollars per annum; the Tri-Weekly is Five Dollars per annum; the Weekly is Two Dollars per annum, *strictly in advance.*

☞ ADVERTISERS are earnestly requested to hand in their favors before 5 P. M., and as early in the day as practicable. Advertisements not inserted for a specified time will invariably be charged until ordered out

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

See next page for Telegraphic News.
For Local Matters see next page.

HO! FOR CALIFORNIA.

The present rage for going to California exceeds any thing ever heard of in the history of emigration to new countries. Thousands upon thousands of intelligent, enterprising and hardy emigrants are now on their way, or preparing to start.

Pittsburgh has contributed her share to the long list of adventurers, an excellent company having left for Philadelphia, designing to take shipping around Cape Horn. The company numbers about fifteen fine young men. Among them are Wm B. Curry, late a Clerk in the office of Wm. Larimer, Esq., and his brother, Geo. Richart, well known to our citizens as a Clerk in several Dry Good Stores, and last in Mr. King's Broker's office; Dr. Wm. S. Patterson; J. T. Speer, son of Dr. Speer; John Jack, well known in political circles; Richard Ewalt; two young Coltarts, R. T. Wilson, and others. This company will do well, as it possesses all the characteristics for success.

From the eastern seaports, there are almost daily departures of Emigrant ships.

The little schooner Anthem, Eldridge, left New York on Thursday afternoon, for San Francisco, via the Straits of Magellan. Captain E. intends sailing up the Sacramento river as far as Sutter's fort. The schooner takes out the Winfield Mining Company, composed of Johnson J. Durant, President; Robert M. Folger, Secretary; William E. Greene, Treasurer; Henry A. Greene, Engineer; T. C. Oakley, George W. Nichols, J. B. Drayton, S. B. Freeland, F. W. Turner; B. Bradford, (colored,) steward. This company go out under favorable circumstances, taking letters of introduction from our official dignitaries to those in command in California. They are provided with one year's provisions, a life-boat, wagons, and the most approved machinery for mining; and last, though not least. Major General Winfield Scott has presented them with the tent which he used through the Mexican campaign.

The brig Orbit, Best, (150 tons) was expected to sail from New York on Friday. She has been purchased by a company of thirty-five young men belonging to Hudson, Columbia Co., New York, who have put into the fund $500 each—making a total of $15,000; of which $7200 was paid for the vessel, and the residue laid out in stores for a two year's voyage.

The Brooklyn, Richardson, sailed from New York on Friday morning. The B. is a large class vessel—has a full freight and a large number of passengers.

The Tarolinta, which was to sail from New York on Saturday, takes out eighty five cabin and about forty steerage passengers. The violence of the California fever may be judged of by the fact that, five of the state rooms changed occupants at a premium of $50 each, and others at $25. Parties who had engaged cabin passage, consented to sleep in slung hammocks, have paid the above premium in order to have a little more comfort on the voyage.

The Steamship Falcon, Thompson, which is advertised to leave New York for Chagres on the 1st of February, has one hundred and eleven berths engaged. By this vessel, or the Crescent City, we may look in a few days for later accounts from California.

Several other vessels are nearly loaded at New York, and will start in a few days.

The ship Edward Everett, Smith, with the "California Mining and Trading Company," left Boston on Thursday having on board one hundred and fifty men; the crew consists of eighteen men besides two cooks and three stewards all of whom give their service for the passage out.

The number of passengers who have already sailed, or are on the point of sailing from Boston to California, is *three hundred and seventy*, including the passengers by the Edward Everett.

The brig Attila, Capt. M. W. Baker cleared at Boston on Thursday forenoon, for San Francisco with 42 passengers. The Attila is owned by, and has on board the "Plymouth California Trading Company," and is the eighth vessel that has cleared from that port for San Francisco. Her cargo is chiefly ships' stores, and does not embrace any spiritous liquor.

The barque Oxford sailed from Boston on Thursday, for San Francisco. She takes out about twenty passengers, among whom is a son of the Hon. John Davis. Among the items taken out was a house, painted, and in complete order for immediate erection.

The Boston Journal says:

There are now between twenty and thirty vessels at Boston up for California, most of which will carry out a greater or less number of passengers.

The Northampton Courier says:

"A company with a capital of $6,000 has been formed in this town, and vicinity, for a trading expedition to California, under the agency of Rev. P. P. Tracy. The stock is in shares of $100, and is nearly or quite taken up—one fourth paid in cash, and the remainder in notes to cover losses if they should be incurred."

The brig John Petty, Flavel, sailed from Norfolk for California on Thursday with fourteen passengers.

A Company of ten have started from Sandusky city, (O.) for California, all without families, and with one exception, young men. The party is headed, says the Mirror, by Mr. John Johnson, a man about 45 years of age, and who has spent a large portion of his life in the employ of the Hudson Bay Fur Company.

At Utica, one of the most extensive organizations has been formed, under the title of The Utica Mining Company. The Board of Directors are Spencer Kellogg, Herman Ferry, Jesse Thompson, James Rockwell, and Geo. Westcott; the capital stock $30,000, in shares of $100 each. A Constitution and By-Laws have been drafted for the government of the Association, many of the provisions of which are excellent—Prominent among the by-laws are those declaring that no ardent spirits, no gambling, and no labor on the Sabbath shall be allowed, on penalty of forfeiture of all the earnings of the individual convicted, and of a liability to expulsion from the Association by a majority vote of the members.

A *Buffalo*, "California Overland Association" sets out on the 20th inst—to embark at New-York for Vera Cruz, and proceed thence by way of the City of Mexico to San Blas or Mazatlan. The total cost for the three hundred composing the party, is estimated at $27,675—or an *individual* cost of $92 25.

In Otsego New York, a company has been formed. The members of which receive three-fourths of the profits, if any, accruing from the enterprise.

The schooner Iowa sailed about a week ago from Sag Harbor, L. I. taking a small Stock Company to the Mining District.

At Gloucester Mass., the schooner Loo Choo of 90 tons, has been purchased for $4,600, to load immediately for California.... A number of enterprising young men of the same place, masters of vessels employed in the Georges Bank Fisheries, having purchased the schooner Paragon, are now fitting her out. The Paragon will be commanded by Capt. HALEY, a man well acquainted on that coast, having recently returned from a three years' cruise in the Pacific.

At Salem, the Naumkeag Mutual Trading Company has been organized, and numbers about 20, mostly young men of spirit and enterprise.

A joint-stock company is also organizing in Nantucket, to proceed to California—shares fixed at $400.... The ship Aurora has already cleared from this port, with 17 passengers, and a cargo consisting principally of buildings framed ready to be put up, lumber, naval stores, provisions and sperm candles. She takes out no intoxicating liquors. The crew receive one dollar a month apiece for the voyage out, with liberty to leave the ship on her arrival at San Francisco. Eleven of her passengers belong to Nantucket, five to Fall River, and one to New-York.

The Nantucket and California Company have held a meeting, at which it was decided to leave by the 1st of March. They also agreed to fix the shares at $400 each, and to continue to admit applicants] into the company, until their number shall be increased to 40, beyond which it was not deemed expedient to go——The brig Oceanus, of Plymouth, has been purchased for a voyage to California——The brig Rodolph, purchased for same destination, is of 123 tons. $3,500 was paid for her, and about $1,500 will be laid out to fit her for the voyage.

From the neighborhood of Springfield (Mass.) a company of 30 or 40 is forming. The route they intend to take is a new one—viz: to sail up the Rio Grand about 500 miles, to Paso del Norte, and strike across the country on foot, a distance of 8 or 900 miles.

In New London Conn. the schooners Mary Taylor and Valesco are fitting out for California by joint stock companies. The schooners Heroine and Mount Vernon are also advertised to sail from the same port. The ship Mentor from the same port has a large number of cabin passengers, and a full freight engaged.

The ship Preston and a schooner of 200 tons are up for California at Mystic, Conn.

The Hartford Times says the 'Union Company' have purchased the packet Henry Lee, to sail on the 20th. Farmers, blacksmiths, machinists, carpenters, wheelwrights, merchants, printers, physicians, a clergyman, with men of other professions, compose the Company.

At Newport, R. I. a whaling ship has been purchased by another Gold Company.

A California expedition is organizing in New Brunswick N. J. Capt. Brewer, an experienced sailor, is to command the ship. Fifty shares of $500 each are to be sold. Half of these have been subscribed, and there is a fair prospect that the rest soon will be. A committee, on which appears the name of J. D. Hagar, are getting subscribers

Another company known as the 'New Jersey Mining and Trading Company' are to go overland. They will leave the Western frontier about the middle of February, and travel by the Southern route, via. Arkansas &c. The company will send about $15,000 worth of goods, and the machinery of a saw mill around Cape Horn. The number is limited to 12.

The ship Gray Eagle was to sail on Thursday from Philadelphia for California, carrying out forty passengers and a heavy freight list.

The brig Oneota sails also from Philadelphia direct for San Francisco. The Oneota takes out the little steamer Islander, to run on some of the waters of the gold regions.

The 'New England Pioneers,' a company of twelve respectable young gentleman, left Boston by rail road on Monday afternoon for California, by the way of Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico. The company goes armed with proper defensive weapons, taking with them a tent, and each man has a trunk of clothing, the contents of which may be simplified and packed otherwise if necessary. Many of them have sent invoices of merchandize by sea. The company is commanded by Captain Paul, late of the Massachusetts Volunteers.

The Cabotsville Mass. company of gold seekers left home on Saturday last. Among the adventurers who are to set sail from Mystic, Ct. on the 15th instant is William Faulkner, of the Norwich News. He takes out with him a printing press types, and paper, a two story house, and provisions for himself and a party, for a year and a half. He is a practical printer and veteran editor, and intends, upon his arrival out, to commence the publication of a paper to be called the Pacific News.

So we go—we could fill up our paper with such details. Companies are forming in every State in the Union, but the Free States furnish ten to one of the emigrants. Talk about slavery in California! The idea is absolutely preposterous. Congress may just as well yield to the absolute necessities of the case, establish a free government, and quit talking about it, for if they do not, the sons of New England will do it for them in double quick time—and we shall soon see the church, the school house, and free institutions, spreading all along the shores of the Pacific.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.

The Committee of fifteen members appointed by the secret conclave of Southern factionists and conspirators against the Union, which was held on the 28th December last, in the Senate Chamber, had a meeting on Friday, in which they discussed the address, framed under the joint auspices of Calhoun and Bailey, "of Accommac," as he is called. It is too much to say that the address was unanimously approved of, because some of the members did not express their approval of the project of issuing any address at all, or of doing anything whatever, which would lay them open to the charge of fomenting treason against the Union, and exasperation of feeling between geographical divisions of it. But no open and decided dissent appears to have been expressed except by Mr. Clayton, on the part of the state of Delaware. Contrary to all decency and sense of propriety, the design is persisted in, of holding the adjourned meeting in the Senate Chamber, on Monday evening. One of those who sympathises with the movement, informs me that a member of the Senate proposed to submit in the Senate a resolution of inquiry upon the alleged desecration of the Chamber, by its being made a place for secret treasonable meetings, but that he was induced to forego his purpose on the suggestion from others, that it would rather gratify the persons engaged in it, by making their proceedings appear of more consequence than they really were, and by enabling them in some measure, to cover their designs with the palliating cloak of persecution. I think this reasoning was fallacious. In my judgment, these impudent plotters against the integrity of the republic the laws, and the public peace, should have been lashed and scourged from the precincts of the capital, which they had dared to profane by their machinations.

The most ultra among them begin to fear that when the hour for action comes, the Whigs who were present at the first meeting, will shrink from placing their names to a paper, which will be looked upon in after years, whatever be thought of it now, as a record of infamy. I devoutly hope they may, both for their country's sake, and of their reputation.

But it is said that the address is not violent nor threatening; that it is simply a temperate appeal to the free states. It recommends no decided course of action, but presents to the South the history of the slavery question for the last forty years; talks of what the South yielded in the Missouri compromise, rakes up the fact that a proposition in 1836 to strike out the slavery clause in the constitution adopted by the people of Arkansas, when applying to be admitted as a state received nineteen votes, whereas, a similar one in the case of Florida received sixty five. The Southern men say this is enough for the present.—They affirm that they will now lay a foundation for united and successful resistance to the enactment of the Wilmot Proviso, or to prevent the application and enforcement of it if it should pass.

The most dismal apprehensions are entertained here concerning the approach of the cholera. The general opinion among medical men appears to be that it is contagious. It is reported that a fatal case occurred yesterday afternoon, at a place on the rail road, nine miles this side of Baltimore, and that this morning the clerk of Col. Dix, who accompanied him upon the journey on which he died and was with him at the time of his death, was this morning taken with the disease at his lodgings in this city. Should it break out and rage virulently here, there is no doubt that it would compel an adjournment of Congress before the constitutional period of the session.

The Pacheco slave case was before the House again to day, and consumed the whole sitting.—There is every probability that it will be discussed through Friday and Saturday of next week, and that unless a vigorous effort be made to stop debate upon it, it occupies every hour of the session set apart by the rules for the consideration of private business.

Dr. Frieze, of Ohio, withdrew to day the motion he made yesterday on behalf of the select committee for the arrest and confinement of David Taylor, for refusing to testify. It is said that this David is an exceedingly rare and singular genius. He is currently believed to be a half breed Choctaw, and though Choctaw, his vernacular, is believed to be the only language he knows anything of, he has taught a Latin school in this city. Dominie Taylor's favorite system was to bring out the latent parts of his pupils rather than to impart his own knowledge. But he one day had a very hard case, who desired to be informed of the meaning of *penna*. Ah, said the teacher, you must spell it, when you don't know. Accordingly out came, with due deliberation, p-e-n-n-a. Ah, said David, have I not told you that the order of words is reversed in Latin sentences. Don't you see, that you have first *pen* and then an *a*, that of course means in English *a pen*.

He has a considerable claim on government which was once before the Board of Commissioners for Cherokee claims, one of whom was David Brewster of your state, who is unfortunately disfigured by having been burnt when a child. Taylor's claim was thrown out by the Commissioners, and he was wroth thereat. Soon after when venting his discontent against the Board, he indulged in many uncomplimentary personal allusions to the Commissioners in general, but as to Mr. Brewster, he said in particular, "Ah they pulled him out of the fire too soon."

It seems that Taylor had some hard testimony against Mr. Medill upon the charges brought by Mr. Clingman, and when the cross examination had commenced, he suddenly resolved not to testify. The committee have decided to abandon the attempt to force him to conclude his testimony, in consideration of the limited time before them, and of their desire to make a report at this session.—They say moreover, that they cannot expect to make much out of such an "old joker" as David.

JUNIUS.

Among the nominations recently confirmed by the Senate, we hear of that of CHARLES EAMES, Esq. for some time past Associate Editor of the "Union," to be Commissioner of the United States to the Sandwhich Islands.—*Nat. Intel.*

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 12.

SENATE.—The reading of the Journal having been dispensed with, Mr Matthias moved that the members of the Senate, on Monday, at 12 o'clock, proceed to the Hall of the House of Representatives for the purpose of electing the State Treasurer, which being agreed to, Mr Matthias was appointed Teller on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Mr Johnson, the Senate went into nominations for State Treasurer. Mr Johnson nominated Gideon J. Ball; Mr Small nominated Arnold Plummer; Mr Brooks nominated Wm. Williamson; Mr Matthias nominated Chas. B. Trego, Mr Stine nominated John Strohm, and Mr Cunningham nominated Ner Middleswarth.

Communications from the State Treasurer and Auditor General were received and referred.

Mr McCaslin submitted the following preamble and resolution, which after being somewhat modified, were referred to the Committee on Banks:

Whereas, Numerous applications are about to be made to the present Legislature for banking privileges; and whereas, it is the duty of the Legislature, before granting such privileges, to investigate with becoming scrutiny the merits, abilities and necessities of all applications made for such purposes.

Therefore, *Resolved*, if the House of Representatives concur, that before any charter or charter shall be granted to any Bank or Savings Institution in this commonwealth, it shall be the duty of the President or Cashier, or other responsible person representing the same to appear in person before a joint meeting of the bank committee of the two Houses, there and then to answer under oath or affirmation such questions as may be necessary to ascertain the permanent means, true condition, ability and necessity of such institutions, keeping in view the soundness of the circulating medium and the ultimate security of the community—and that said investigation shall be signed by the person or persons so interrogated, and entered on the journals as a part of the record of the Legislature.

[Here the Speaker and members of the Senate proceeded to the House of Representatives to witness the counting of the votes polled at the Governor's election.]

HOUSE.—The Speaker laid before the House reports from the State Treasurer and Auditor General, in relation to estimates of expenses during the ensuing year.

The Speaker and members of the Senate were here introduce, and the returns for the election of Governor were opened and read when Johnston's majority over Longstreth was found to be 297 with 72 scattering votes.

The caucus nominee for State Treasurer, are Plumer, by the Democrats, and Ball by the Whigs.

HARRISBURG, JAN. 13, 1849.

IN SENATE.—The speaker presented the following communications from the Governor:

TO THE HON. GEORGE DARSIE,

Speaker of the Senate:

SIR;—Permit me, through your kindness, to present to the Senate my resignation as a member of that body. I am, truly yours,

Jan. 13, 1849. WM. F. JOHNSTON.

To the Honorable, the Senate of Pennsylvania:

SENATORS:—I hereby tender my resignation as Speaker of the Senate of Pennsylvania.

In retiring from a position so highly responsible and honorable, to which the kindness of my fellow Senators elevated me, at the close of the last session, I cannot refrain from an expression of deep gratitude for that distinguished mark of your confidence. I separate from you with regret, as the associations of the last winter were the most cherished of my political life. Your courtesy and gentleness characterized the intercourse of the members and rendered the Senate Chamber the seat of courteous debate and calm deliberation.

I remain respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JAN. 13, 1849. WM. F. JOHNSTON.

With a view of allowing the Senate to elect a permanent speaker, the speaker *pro tem* resigned the Chair.

Mr. Small moved that the Senate proceed to the election of a Speaker, and that the Clerks act as Tellers. Agreed to.

An election was held with the following result:

Messrs. Best, Boas, Brawley, Brooke, Crabb, Cunninghum, Forsyth, Frick, Harris, Hogue, Irvin, Johnson, King, Konigmacher, Lawrence, Levis, Mason, Matthias, McCaslin, Pottsleger, Rich, Richards, Sadler, Sankey, Savery, Small, Smyser, Sterrett, Stine and Streeter—30—voted for George Darsie.

Mr Darsie voted for Mr. J. B. JOHNSON.

The Speaker being conducted to the Chair, by Messrs. Small and Johnson, the oath was administered by Mr. Streeter. On taking the Chair, the Speaker made the following remarks:

SENATORS:—You will please accept my cordial thanks for this renewed expression of your confidence.

The united vote with which you have just honored me, is, in a personal point of view, highly appreciated and deeply gratifying. But it is also pleasing to me as an evidence that the asperities of party do not find an abiding place in this Chamber, and as an earnest evidence that the same spirit of unity will prevail in all our efforts to promote the interests of our beloved Commonwealth.

On motion of Mr. Johnston, the orders of the day were postponed, and the Senate proceeded to the second reading and consideration of the bill regulating Turnpike and Plank Road Companies. Various amendments being offered, a debate sprung up between Messrs. Brooke, Stine, Streeter, Smyser, Small, Forsyth, the bill was read a second and times and agreed to.

Mr Johnson, (from Committee on Executive Nominations,) reported in favor of the confirmation of Robert P. M'Clay, as Associate Judge of Clarion county.

Mr Rich, (Vice and Immorality,) reported as committed, a bill repealing all laws authorizing the Treasurer of Washington county to grant licenses for the sale of intoxicating drinks by the quart.

SATURDAY, Jan. 13, 1849.

HOUSE—Mr G T Thorne, offered a resolution that the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of abolishing Capital punishment. Not agreed to.

Mr Meek moved that the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the assessment laws, that the annual assessments shall be made early in April of each year, which was not agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Swartzwelder, the House took up out of its order, by yeas 69 to nays 13, a supplementary act, repealing the law requiring a certain Notary Public to reside in the Northern Liberties of Pittsburgh, and authorizing him to reside in any part of Allegheny county. The bill was passed finally.

Interesting Correspondence.

The Message of Gov. Johnston of Penn., was accompanied by a variety of official documents, none of which, we venture to say, will be read with greater interest than the following correspondence between the late Executive of Pennsylvania and the widow of John Quincy Adams:

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER HARRISBURG,
April 17, 1848.

MADAME: I perform a melancholy but grateful office, in transmitting to you the enclosed resolution of the Legislature of Pennsylvania.

The tribute which they ascribe upon the annals of this Commonwealth, to the eminent merits of your husband, is only a just expression of the individual sentiments of our people.

We feel, as with one heart, that a great man has been stricken down from among us in the rich maturity of his fame—a man revered in council, strong in his energies of patriotism, and rightfully endeared to his country.

I pray you, madam, to accept for yourself and family, the condolence and sympathy of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in the affliction with which Providence has visited you and to permit me to add the assurance of my highest personal respect. F. R. SHUNK.

MRS. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

WASHINGTON, 22d April, 1848.

SIR: With sentiments of fervent gratitude, I would express my acknowledgements of the kind sympathy so tenderly offered to me under my severe bereavement; at the same time with the inclosure, by your Excellency, of the resolutions passed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, so honorable to the memory of my deceased husband, whose eminent services to his beloved country have been so gloriously rewarded by their due appreciation, and by the deep and affectionate respect and regard so universally manifested by his liberal and generous countrymen, throughout this vast nation.

Language is too weak to describe the feelings of a heart whose sense of the inestimable honors thus conferred on one so worthy, must command the sympathy and prayers of his family and grieved widow, for blessings on the nation, on whose welfare and prosperity his whole life has been passed, and his demise been thus feelingly mourned.

Permit me to assure you, that I am rejoiced to learn that your Excellency has recovered from recent severe indisposition, and that your very flattering letter will ever be treasured by your Excellency's Obedient servant.

LOUISA CATHARINE ADAMS.

To his Excellency Gov. SHUNK, Harrisburg, Pa.

WASHINGTON, 22d April, 1848.

To the Legislature of Pennsylvania:—To express the sense of gratitude which fills my throbbing heart on the reception of the resolutions passed by your august body, is impossible to one so little trained or skilled in writing.

Permit me to hope for your indulgence, and to believe that the rich tribute thus offered to the memory of my lamented husband, confers an honor imperishable on the Legislature in their praise of a man who was ever found true to his country, to his family, and to his religion.

Impressed with the honor of the obligation conferred on myself by the sympathy manifested for the bereavement so great to my family, allow me to offer our united grateful thanks, and to subscribe myself with great deference.

Your most obedient servant.

LOUISA CATHARINE ADAMS.

To his Excellency, Gov. SHUNK, Harrisburgh Penn.

CHEAP POSTAGE FOREVER.—The steamship Europa, Capt. Lott, which sailed for Halifax and Liverpool yesterday, took out about *thirty-six thousand* letters for various points in Europe. The largest number heretofore forwarded by any one ship has not, we understand, exceeded thirteen thousand. This astonishing increase is doubtless to be attributed mainly to the reduction in the rates of Postage brought about by the late Convention with Great Britian. Does not this fact, together with others of similar import which may be adduced from the practical operation of the Penny System of England, plead for Cheap Postage here, in tones sufficiently distinct to be heard even by an American Congress?—*N. Y. Tribune.*

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER TO CHINA, adjusted his dispute with Governor General Seu on the 6th of October, at Canton. The event was celebrated by a banquet at the residence of Howqua.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

To Messrs. Hill, Sumer, and McCollister, Auditing Committee of City Councils for the year 1848.

GENTLEMEN—In your report to the City Councils, dated the 5th instant, there are a few things to which I respectfully call your attention, fondly hoping that upon 'sober second thought,' you will be willing to correct one statement at least, which is surely calculated to make a very erroneous impression on the public mind, and wound the feelings of a highly respectable portion of the community in every county, district in the county—I allude to that paragraph of the notes appended to your report, in which you are pleased to say, 'your committee have had before them information showing clearly, that whilst city property has been assessed at comparatively its real or full value, property in the country, farms, &c., have been returned at two, three, four, and five hundred dollars, when their real value would exceed so many thousands.' Now, gentlemen, from what source you brought 'before your' such information I am at a loss to divine. But with all deference I must be permitted to say that my observation and experience leads me to a very different conclusion. I have more than once had the honor of being an assessor of the township in which I have resided for more than fifty years, and I know that since I have been capable of observation, we have never appointed men for that or any other public trust or duty so entirely regardless of their moral and legal obligations, as might be justly inferred from the statements which you, gentlemen, have so 'clearly' ascertained to be their general practice. There are a few other items in your report and accompanying remarks, which I may probably notice at a more convenient season. Mean time, I would only express my regret that there are such frequent exhibitions of statements calculated—although I believe not intended—to excite a hostile feeling between the country and city, and make an impression prejudicial to their mutual interest. S.

Ross Township, Jan. 16th, 1849.

For the Gazette.

At a called meeting of the Students of West Alexander Academy, the following Preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS—God, in his all wise Providence, has seen fit to remove very suddenly, by the King of Terrors, an esteemed and youthful fellow student—DAVID P. JONES, of Pittsburgh:

AND WHEREAS—His general deportment was such as to render him highly esteemed and universally beloved by all—therefore,

Resolved, That while we cordially acquiesce in the doings of Him who justly controls human destiny, we cannot but lament that Death has deprived us of a beloved companion, whose budding genius inspired the hope of future greatness.

Resolved, That we mingle our sympathies with those of the afflicted parents, as they mourn the loss of an affectionate son—the hope of future joys—the solace of their declining years.

Resolved, That we view this dispensation as an admonition to all—'Be ye also ready,' for in a moment we may be called to bear the scrutiny of Heaven's imperial tribunal.

Resolved, As a memento of respect for the memory of the deceased, we wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That these resolutions be published in the papers of Washington, Pittsburgh, and Uniontown, Pennsylvania, and Wheeling, Virginia, and that a copy of the same be forwarded to the bereft Parents.

ROBERT J. FULTON,
GEORGE T. MILLER,
PETER L. HICKMAN,
Committee.

West Alexander, Jan. 10th, 1849.

MR. CLAY.—The Natchez Courier of the 2d inst. thus notes the arrival there of the great Western Statesman:

HON. HENRY CLAY—This great statesman arrived at Natchez, on Friday last. Notwithstanding his late severe illness, he looks remarkably well hale and hearty. He was on his way to N. Orleans, but, we presume, the prevalence of the Cholera in that city will prevent his going farther south for some time.

He is now enjoying the heartfelt hospitalities of his friends in this county, where it is likely, he may be induced to expend a large portion of that time he had contemplated passing away in the great Crescent City. May his days be long in the land, and the closing scenes of his life as cheerful and happy, as were its opening ones useful, brilliant and glorious!

MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE.—We learn for a letter in the Detroit Advertiser, dated at Lansing, the seat of government for Michigan, Jan. 7, that Mr. H. C. Noble, a member of the Legislature, from Shiawassee county, died this morning of the Sycamour house, after a short illness. He was taken sick on Friday afternoon with a disease similar to the fatal malady which prevailed last winter in the northern and western counties. Mr. N. doubtless brought the seeds of the disease from Byron, his residence, where there have been many recent cases.

Mr. Noble was a Whig—quite a young man of excellent mind and, as testified by those who best knew him, of the rarest and best qualities of the heart.

A great deal alarm existed in reference to the malady, and it was rumored that the Legislature would adjourn in consequence.

DEATH OF DR. LEVINGE.—Many of our readers will be pained to learn, that the Rev. Dr. Levinge, Financial Secretary of the American Bible Society, died in Cincinnati, on the 10th inst of congestion of the lungs. Dr. Levinge was in the fifty-third year of his age, and the thirty first of his ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a shining ornament. His ministry was eminently successful, and he was called to fill the most important appointments in the Church; until, in June 1844, he was elected Secretary of the Bible Society, in place of Dr. Janes, who had been elected Bishop. He was engaged in this important work, when he was called to deliver up his earthly charge for a higher state of existence. He has left a wife and two children. His body is to be taken to New York for interment.

GEN. TAYLOR AND THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS.—The New Orleans Bulletin, of the 4th instant, says that there is a letter in that city from General Taylor, the tenor of which renders it doubtful whether he will again visit New Orleans previous to his departure for Washington. He will at any rate not go there during the continuance of the cholera; his friends, and particularly his family, being very naturally opposed to it, and he having no business that specially requires his presence in that city.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD.—The directors of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad company held a meeting on Wednesday, and adopted measures for the early commencement of the work of extending the road westward from Cumberland.—There were three lines proposed—one diverging by Patterson's creek, eight miles east of Cumberland, and passing over the Knobly Mountain; and two others called the Upper and Lower routes.—The great point, however, was whether the Knobly route should be taken, which would take the road out of Maryland from the whole distance west to the Ohio, and this was finally rejected, so that the line of the road is secured, to Maryland to her Northern line.

RAILROAD FROM CINCINNATI TO ST. LOUIS.—We learn from the Cincinnati Times that Professor Mitchell has finished his survey of the railroad route from that city to St Louis and returned home. While at the latter place he addressed the citizens, at a public meeting in behalf of the enterprise.—The appeal was successful, and resolutions approving a large subscription on the part of the city recommended. The line surveyed by Mr. Mitchell is three hundred and sixty miles, and the topography of the route highly favorable. The estimate cost is six millions. Public sentiment along the line is favorable, and a disposition is manifested to subscribe liberally.

Official Vote for Governor.

Yesterday the official returns for Governor were opened in presence of both Houses and added up, when the result appeared as follows:

For Wm. F. Johnston,	168 522
For Morris Longstreth,	168 225
Majority for Johnston,	297

The official returns sent on to the Secretary's office varies but eight votes from the table published by us in October and November last. In Beaver county Gov. Johnston gained 5 votes and lost 3 in Jefferson. He also lost 5 votes in Washington county, and there was an error of 3 votes in the aggregate—thus reducing the majority of 305 in the table to 297.—*Har. Tel.*

ILLINOIS FOR FREE TERRITORY.—A dispatch from the West says the Illinois Legislature have passed resolutions instructing their Senators and requesting their Representatives to use all honorable means to procure the enactment of such laws by Congress as to expressly prohibit the extension of Slavery in newly acquired Territories. The vote in the Senate stood, 14 Yeas to 11 Nays; in the House, 39 Yeas to 34 Nays.

☞ REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.—The friends of the Republic of Liberia, and of the Colonization enterprise, which has given existence to the Republic, will hold a meeting in the Second Presbyterian Church, Fifth street, Pittsburgh, on Thursday evening, the 18th inst., to commence at half past 6 o'clock.

Judge Shaler, Hon. Walter Forward, and Wilson M'Candless, Esq., will address the meeting. The public generally is invited to attend. No collection will be taken up. ja17-it

Local Intelligence.

REPORTED FOR THE PITTSBURGH DAILY GAZETTE.

Proceedings of Councils.

On Tuesday, according to resolution made in the councils at their meeting on Friday, the select and common councils met at the New Court House.

President McKnight called the Common Council to order at half past twelve o'clock.

The roll being called by the Clerk, there were seven absentees.

The President then read a list of the Standing Committees, which were as follows:

Finance—Messrs. Lorenz, Layng, and Jones, Select Council; and Messrs. Howard, Sawyer, Wilson, and Bradley, Common Council.

Water—Messrs. Kincaid, Shipton, and Hays, Select Council; and Messrs. Armstrong, Cordell, Speer, and King, Common Council.

Streets—Grading and Paving—Laughlin and Caskey, Select Council; and Cunningham, McCammon, and Wood, Common Council.

Police—Kincaid and Murray, Select Council,—and Howard, Sutton, and Lewis, Common Council.

Fire Engines and Hose—Jones and Coyle, Select Council; and Sawyer, Holmes, and McFarlane, Common Council.

Claims and Accounts—Robertson and Kent, Select Council; and Montooth, Hamilton, and Grier, Common Council

City Property—Murray and McGill, Select C.; and Wick, McCollister, and Mason, C. Council.

City Farm—Shipton and Morrow, Select Council; and Grier, McFarland, and Osgood, Common Council.

Aqueduct and Canal—Shipton and Laughlin, Select Council; and McFarland, Roberts, and Cunningham, Common Council.

Markets—Hays and Cole, Select Council; and Wilson, Hill, Yeager, Common Council.

City Printing—McGill and Murray, Select Council; and McCollister, King, and Woods, Common Council.

Wooden Buildings—Drum and Morrow, Select Council; and Smith, Mackin, and Osgood, Common Council.

Sanitary—Black and McGill, Select Council; and Cordell, Yeager, and Lewis, Common Council.

Appeals from City Assessments—Layng and Drum, Select Council; and Lambourn, McClure, and Smith, Common Council.

Gas Lighting—Caskey and Kent, Select Council; and Hamilton, Montooth, and Hill, Common Council.

Monongahela Wharf—Lorenz and Black, Select Council; and Holmes, Wick, and Mason, Common Council.

Allegheny Wharf—McGill and Shipton, Select Council; and Bradley, McCollister, and Armstrong, Common Council.

Ordinances—Layng and Caskey, Select Council; and Howard, Roberts, and Lambourn, Common Council.

Mr. Roberts offered a resolution making the Presidents of Councils *ex officio* members of the Finance and Water Committees.

A communication was received from the Mayor, announcing the appointments made by him, as follows:

High Constable—James S. Richardson.

City Constables—Thomas Reed, Rolland Hill, and Robert Glenn.

City Printers—R. M. Riddle and J. W. Biddle.

City Stationer—Johnston & Stockton.

City Printing—William H. Whitney.

The communication from the Mayor having been read, the President requested the Clerk (Mr. Franklin) to announce to the Select Council that the Common Council were ready to meet them in convention.

The announcement being made by the Clerk, the Select Council entered, and the two bodies met in joint ballot.

Mr. Shipton occupied the chair, and stated that in consequence of a bereavement in the family of Mr. Denny, he was prevented giving his attendance. The first business was the election of Treasurer.

CITY TREASURER.

Mr. Samuel R. Johnston was elected by acclamation.

CITY SOLICITOR.

The candidates were Mr. C. B. Scully and J. D. Biddle. The votes were—

Scully,	36
Biddle,	10

Mr. Scully was declared elected.

City Assessor—James McCune.

Clerk to the Committees—John Major.

Messenger to the Committees—E. F. Pratt.

The latter three officers were elected by acclamation.

Superintendant of Water Works—Messrs. John Sheriff and James H. McClelland. Mr. McClelland had 31 votes, and Mr. Sheriff 16. Mr. McClelland elected.

Street Commissioner for first District—Joseph Barker and John M'Ilwaine were nominated. Mr. M'Ilwaine elected by a majority of 15.

Street Commissioner second district—candidates: Messrs. Thomas Rowley, Fleming Morrow, and William Farley. Mr. Rowley was elected.

Wharf Master for the Monongahela Wharf—William Sutch and Thomas McFadden were nominated. Mr. Sutch was elected by a majority of 25 votes.

Allegheny Wharf Master—Nominees—David Simms and Henry Earle. A petition was presented in favor of Mr. Earle, numerously signed.

A member objected to reading petitions in favor of one candidate and not of another.

The chair said the objection should have been made in time.

Mr. Earle was elected by a majority of seven votes.

Collector at Aqueduct.—There were four candidates for this office—Henry Kinney, Daniel Taylor, Philip Cronniger, and Samuel Hill.

The chair declared there was no election—the votes being—Kinney 22, Taylor 22, Cronniger 3, Hill 1.

On the second ballot Mr. Taylor had a majority of 3 votes, and was accordingly elected.

Weigh Master at the Hay Scales.—Nominees—David Drennan, David Boyd, and Peter Fleger.—David Drennan elected.

Weigh Master at the Market—Candidates—Aaron Hartupee and David Boyd. Mr. Hartupee elected.

City Guager—Stephen Northam elected without opposition.

Recording Regulator—R. E. McGowan and Z. W. Remington. Mr. M'Gowan was elected by a large majority.

Assistant Regulators—C. McGowan, William Bane.

Clerk of the Market.—John Green and William Dishl, candidates. Green elected.

Inspector of Salt—Candidates—Jacob Fedder and David Hunter. Fedder elected.

Inspector of Pot and Pearl Ashes—J. P. Pears, elected unanimously.

Inspector of Tobacco—George Wilson, elected without opposition.

Collectors of Taxes—William M'Cutcheon, 1st Ward, elected; 2nd Ward, John M'Kee; 3rd Ward, Joseph M'Cullough; 4th Ward, Richard Hope; 5th Ward, John Lowry; 6th Ward, Arthur M'Clelland; 7th Ward, George Gumbert; 8th Ward, Charles C. Jessop; 9th Ward, Geo.