THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED BY WHITE & CO

PITTSBURGH:

SATURDAY MORNING. JAN. 20, 1849.

PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN.
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See next page for Telegraphic News. For Local Matters see next page.

The Calhoun Folly.

The great Southern demonstration, originated by Mr Calhoun, and some other Southern hotspurs, of a fellow feeling, is likely to have a most disgraceful *finale.* The letter of our Washington correspondent, written by a gentleman whose every pulse beats for freedom, sufficiently shows this, but it is rendered even more evident by the piteous plaints of Father Ritchie, and by the reports o sympathizers in the movement. The 'Union' complains bitterly because the Southern Whigs won't make fools of themselves, and put their necks into a noose to assist Mr. Calhoun in his Quixotic idea of a Southern Confederacy, of which he expects to be the first president. Speaking of the Southern meeting, the editor says:

'now, then, comes the issue. If any of the southern Whig members decline all co-operation with the South in the passage of the address, what a fearful responsibility are they bringing upon their own heads, to sacrifice the rights of the South to party feeling, to attachment to Gen. Taylor, or to an overweening and unfounded confidence in his course? He will surely disappoint them; and how then can they excuse themselves to their indignant constituents? It is our most anxious desire that this whole question should now be divested of all party connexions. If we know ourselves, if we know our party, such is their wish, as it is our own. We utterly repudiate every possible motive to promote our party, or to injure General Taylor, by this movement. But we have no doubt it will kill the whigs in the South, if they should assume the fearful responsibility of shrinking from the great duty which now calls upon them to act in behalf of the South, or rather in behalf of the Union.'

How very patriotic and disinterested is the old veteran become. He is willing to forego even his dear Democracy, and the Virginia abstractions, in order to secure unanimity on a subject intended to throw a fire-brand into the country, and embarrass the incoming administration. He most solemnly declares he don't intend to injure Gen. Taylor! Oh, no—of course not. He would have us believe the "Ethiopian can change his skin and the Leopard his spots."

But the desponding feeling of the friends of this ill-advised and unfortunate movement, (unfortunate for those engaged in it, but fortunate for the country, as showing that the foundations of the Union are too deeply seated to be shaken,) will be better seen by the following report of the proceedings in the Baltimore Sun, written by a person who evidently sympathizes with the movement:—

It will be most unfortunate for the south that this meeting was ever held, if unanimity should not be finally effected. That of last night was not as harmonious as expected. In truth there were some from northern slave States, whose feelings might with propriety have kept them from the meeting. They feel not the same identity of interest as those from more southern States.

On the introduction of the report, a motion was made by Mr. Clayton to lay it on the table and take no further action. It was made to test the feeling of the meeting—the vote stood for it about 55, against it about 20. Those in favor of laying on the table were nearly all whigs.

The most powerful objection to the report was made by Mr. Toombs, of Georgia. He thought congressional legislation was necessary to authorize slavery in the new territories. The doctrine of the report was that Congress could neither extend nor restrict slavery.

Mr. Toombs proposed no amendment, and it was evident that he was opposed to any action by the meeting. He made no reply to a question propounded by Mr. Thompson, in reference to the action he would take if Congress refused to pass the necessary laws, or should enact the proviso.

In reply to Mr. Toomb's objection, Mr. Calhoun went into a short argument, to show that the South could take their slaves into California and New Mexico, and that Congress was bound, by the usus of acts of legislation, to protect this property and to put it on the same footing with other property. It required no law of Congress to authorize slavery there.

Mr. Calhoun was calm and dispassionate, and in his earnest appeals to the South for unanimity, he is represented as used language replete with eloquence and pathos.

The course taken by the Texan Delegation was unexpected. Mr. Runk read some resolutions, as a substitute for the report, but they contained no thing decisive. General Houston seems lukewarm in the cause, and Mr. Stephens is unquestionably opposed to any action.

Members from the South, supposed to be ambitious of Northern popularity and future promotion, may be regarded as averse to taking any action.—There is one exception. Mr. Calhoun, always ambitious, has ever been true to his own people.

Mr. Berrien, of Georgia, made some eloquent remarks, and exhorted the South to be united. He suggested that the address should be made to the whole Union.

He has been placed on the committee in place of Mr. Stephens, who begged to be excused from serving.

Mr. Stephens was one of the eight Southern members who was opposed to Mr. Clayton's compromise of last session, as yielding too much.—Having defeated the chances of a favorable decision by the Supreme Court, some seem to think it incumbent on him to insist on a better remedy.

The report was recommitted to the same committee, with all the amendments and resolutions suggested in the meeting, and the meeting finally adjourned to Monday next. A motion, made by Mr. Stephens, to adjourn *sine die*, having been voted down by a very decided majority.

THE DEATH OF COL. CROGHAN.—The New Orleans papers of the 9th inst. confirms the telegraph ic report of the death of this brave and gallant officer, which took place in the city on the 8th of January. The Picayune says:—

This distinguished officer died last evening from the effect of a disease resembling cholera, which he suffered to remain upon him for nearly two days, before calling in medical assistance. He was attacked on Saturday, but paid no heed to his complaint till towards noon on Monday.

He lingered till night fall, in the perfect possession of his faculties. When he felt the hand of death upon him, he gave directions as to the disposition of his body, with the greatest calmness, entrusted various messages with surrounding friends, and closed his eyes forever.

Col. Croghan was the son of Major William Croghan of the revolutionary war. His mother was the sister of the celebrated Gen. George Rogers Clark, who overran the North Western Territory during the struggle for American independence, and achieved for the United States the title by conquest by which that immense tract of country, now subdivided into States and teeming with a thriving and hardy population, became a part of this confederacy. Both upon the father and the mother's side he inherited the blood of the revolution.

Upon the breaking out of the last war, Col Croghan entered the army. At the early age of nineteen he made the gallant defence of Fort Sandusky. By this brilliant feat he inscribed his name upon the scroll of fame. He married and resigned his commission shortly after the peace. But during the administration of Gen. Jackson he returned to the service with the commission of Inspector General, which was tendered to him by that illustrious commander. He was in his fifty ninth year and leaves behind him a wife and family.

Towards evening he weakened as the moments wasted. He struggled through till night closed upon the earth. The military had fired their last salute in honor of the expiring day. When its echoes had cease to reverberate, the hero of Sandusky was dust.

Col. George Croghan, was a brother of Colonel Croghan, of Croghansville, of this vicinity, who we understand, also mourns the death of another brother, who died on the same day at Louisville.—What a mysterious Providence,—two brothers falling in one day hundred of miles apart. In addition to the above notice from the Picayune, we select the following items from the Philadelphia Sun:

He was at Monterey, and exhibited the most daring courage. He rallied there a routed regiment and with it stormed one of the enemies strongest works. The administration, however, which had so much admiration for Gen. Pillow, had no honors for Croghan, and he was not brevetted.

According to Fayette Robinson's history of the army he was born in 1792. Always considered one of the best soldiers in the army, his place will be filled with difficulty.

Col. Croghan was born at Louisville, educated at William and Mary College, Va., and passed more than half of his life in the service. He left a large family and nothing else than a brilliant reputation.

AT LAST.—We see it stated in the newspapers that the Legislature of Missouri has at last agreed to accept the share of the surplus funds to which that State became entitled under the distribution law of Congress passed some years since.

TALL PROJECT.—The Cincinnati Gazette is discussing the feasibility and propriety of constructing a Railroad from that city to San Francisco.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16, 1849.

THE SOUTHERN CONVENTION.

The result of the Southern secret caucus, has not yet been fully developed, but enough is known to warrant me in repeating the opinion to which I have all along inclined, to wit: that it would prove a miserable farce and failure.

I met again last evening, according to adjournment, and the following is about the amount of the proceedings. The same officers acted as were chosen at the preceding meeting, namely: Senator Metcalf, Chairman; Senator Atchison and Mr. Gayle, of Alabama, Vice-Presidents; and Mr Venable of N. C. Secretary.

Before the committee of fifteen made its report, Gen. Houston of Texas moved that the doors of the galleries be thrown open to visitors, in order as he said, that the affair might have less the appearance of the Hartford Convention about it. His motion was defeated: ayes 30, noes 50; the Whigs generally voting aye. The purpose of this movement of Gen. H. was evident. He and they who supported him wanted to be well rid of the whole affair, and they knew that to give publicity to the proceedings would completely defeat the designs of the movers in it.

The address was read. It was not long, and bore unmistakeable marks of Mr. Calhoun's style of composition. It consisted of an enumeration of the griefs of the South, in reference to the subject of Slavery. It argued the question upon this fundamental principle, that the general government had no jurisdiction whatever over slavery any where; that Congress had no right of legislation concerning it, either pro or con, in the territories or within the States.

No sooner had the reading of the address been concluded, than Mr. Clayton of Delaware, moved to lay it on the table. His motion received but twenty-three votes. Before the question was taken upon it, he gave a full expression of his views upon the subject. They were those of a patriot and statesman. He said in substance that a new administration was coming in under circumstances which rendered it probable that this vexed question would be settled amicably and satisfactorily. He had not intended to take part in the proceedings with any other view than of conciliation and opposition to all other measures. At a subsequent stage of the proceedings, Mr C. announced that he should not further participate in the doings of the meeting.

Mr Bailey of Virginia, took up a great deal of time and spent a great deal of breath, in support of the address.

Mr Berrien said it was objectionable, inasmuch as it was addressed only to the people of the South, and as it proposed no definite and decided measures of redress for the evils complained of. He moved that it be recommitted to the committee of fifteen, with instructions to report it back with alterations to obviate these objections, to make it an appeal to the whole nation, and to embody recommendations of specific measures.

This motion was debated at great length. Col. Jeff. Davis, Mr Westcott, Mr Bailey, and others, were vehemently in favor of the address as it was.

Mr Morehead of Ky., Mr Berrien, Mr Stephens, and Gen. Houston of Texas, were opposed to the address in its present form, and in favor of committal with instructions. The end of the debate was, that the motion to refer with instructions, was lost, but the motion to re-commit for amendment was carried, *ayes* 44, *noes* 42.

Mr Stephens, after having intimated that the effect of agreeing to the motion would be to quash all past and preclude any future proceedings, moved to adjourn *sine die.* His motion was lost: ayes 27, noes, not counted. The Whigs said they had 35, on this motion, but only 27 were counted for them.

Gov. Gayle, of Ala. is stated to have been the only Whig who expressed himself perfectly satisfied with the address, and desired no alteration. After the defeat of the motion to instruct, many Whigs at once declared that they would have nothing further to do with the business. And the red-hot, ultra Democratic factionists admit that they can expect no further aid or comfort from them. It was finally agreed to meet again on Monday evening next, when it will be signed by Mr Calhoun's tail, and will be published to receive the jeers of the country.

A more contemptible result never followed such a high sounding manifesto.

Mr Douglass has presented a substitute for his bill, for the admission of California. He has so framed it, as to obviate the objections urged against the original bill by the judicial committee.

It is believed that Hon. John B. Weller has been nominated Commissioner to experimental the running of the boundary line between us and Mexico. He will probably be confirmed. JUNIUS.

Arrival of the Falcon from Chagres.—Successful Passage over the Isthmus.

The New Orleans papers, of the 9 inst., chronicle the arrival there that morning of this fine steamship from Chagres, as heretofore announced by telegraph. She left Chagres on the evening of the 1st inst, and reached the Balize at 4 A. M., on the 8th. She brings the following passengers.

Mr. Foster, of Boston; Capt. Baker, of the barque Undine; and Major Harris, agent of the steamship company.

She left New Orleans the evening of the 13th December, and arrived at Chagres on the morning of the 27th. The passage was a pleasant one, though the vessel encountered head winds most of the way. The passengers immediately proceeded up the Chagres river in small boats, and long before this, no doubt all of them are safely at Panama.

The agent of the steamers, immediately upon the arrival at Chagres, proceeded up the river in advance, and engaged all the mule transportation that he could, securing some three hundred animals.

When Major Harris left, most of the passengers had arrived at Gorgona and Cruces. He met Gen. Smith, family and suite, with about half the passengers, at Gorgona. All were in fine spirits, thinking of anything but the cholera, as two grand fandangos were then in progress.

The Pacific steamer California had not reached her destination. It will be recollected that she was to leave Rio for Valparaiso on the 21st of November. The Falcon's passengers would therefore have to wait a few days at Panama, even should the California make a successful trip round the Cape, as we confidently hope.

The British steamer Tay arrived at Chagres on the 28th ult. and left on the 20th with $1,000,000 in specie.

There was at Panama on the 31st ult. the bark Philadelphia, from New York, loaded with coal for the Pacific Steam Company; also, a schooner which would probably be chartered for San Francisco by some of the Falcon's passengers, as there were more than the California could take.

A gentleman who left Valparaiso December 2d, on the British steamer for Panama, informs us that the California gold fever raged along the southern coast, probably more fiercely than in the United States. Four hundred passports had been taken out at Valparaiso for California.

Mr. Harris has furnished the N. O. Mercury, with information respecting the transportation across the Isthmus, etc. As over one thousand trunks were to be transported, two trips would be necessary. The steamer California was not expected at Panama before the 5th ultimo.

From Panama to California, freight is $50 per ton. Mr. Harris represents the Chagres river as one of the most beautiful he has ever seen, with a quick current, and not less than eight feet of water between the mouth and Cruces. A week would be sufficient to cut away the branches that overlap the river stream.

There was but one case of sickness on the Falcon, and that was of a sailor who had an attack of cholera morbus before leaving the city.

This fine vessel has suffered so little during her trip, that she will leave for New York on the 13th at 5 o'clock, P. M. There was no sickness at Chagres except on board of one vessel. The barque John Benson arrived there two days before the Falcon, with fifty passengers.

Mr. H. represents the country as very beautiful, and says that $100,000 would make an excellent carriage road across.

The whole number of deaths from cholera in New Orleans, since its first appearance to the 5th inst., was 1,115—reported Asiatic, 870: cholera, otherwise designated, 245. The first cases which occured were supposed to be brought to the city by the ship Swanton, from Havre, on the 11th of December. The largest number of deaths by cholera in one day was 92, on the 28th ult: 4 of which were only reported to be of the Asiatic type. The largest number of deaths of Asiatic cholera in one day was 69, on the 25th ult., when 8 deaths by cholera, otherwise designated, were reported.

THE CHOLERA AMONG THE TROOPS IN TEXAS SUBSIDING.—Galveston papers of the 2d inst., say that the ravages of the cholera among the troops at Port Lavacca were subsiding. There had been no new cases, nor any deaths, for several days and the general opinion was that the disease was at an end. None of the citizens of Lavacca had been attacked with the disease, and both that place and Indian Point were, excepting the troops, quite healthy.

The most tender-hearted man we ever saw was a shoemaker, who always shut his eyes and whistled when he ran his awl into a shoe!

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

City and County Assessments.

MR. EDITOR.—An article in the Gazette of the 17th instant, signed S., undertakes to create an impression on the public mind—*after a fashion*—without denying a single fact, or adducing a solitary proof, that the auditing committee of city councils in their report, attempted—although, as he says, 'unintentionally'—to create an erroneous impression against, and wounding the feelings of the assessors in the country districts of the county. Now, after 'sober second thought' on behalf of the committee, whilst disclaiming any imputation from the committee against assessors, who, as S. informs us, have never—in the township of Ross—been appointed, 'regardless of their moral and legal obligations,' I charge the fact to be, and undertake to prove from examination of the list of assessments, that property in the city of Pittsburgh is burdened with an onerous portion of the County Tax, and that the enormous disproportion paid by her citizens into the County Treasury, goes not to her benefit, but that of the country districts. This, if it is not, *should be* generally known.

I disclaim any intention on the part of the committee to 'excite a hostile feeling between the country and the city,' but, on the contrary, assert that their object was merely to afford information to councils, in order that some steps might be taken to relieve the city from a system of taxation which was, in their estimation, 'prejudicial to her interests.'

With all due deference to the 'fifty years experience' of 'S,' I would merely say to him, take up the list of assessments for the township of Ross, with which he must have some acquaintance, and he will find, that notwithstanding those appointed to public trusts, are not 'regardless of the legal and moral obligation' imposed upon them, the Kingsland or Lightner farm, containing upwards of 210 acres of land, with magnificent improvements, estimated by its present owners at probably not less than $20,000, and that its average assessments for the last three years, has not exceeded $3,400, about one sixth of its value. The writer declines particularising further, but will refer 'S' to the list of assessments of Ross township, and he will find farms large and small, in very many instances returned at six, seven, eight and nine dollars per acre, which are worth four times the sum, to say nothing of the valuable improvements He will find also, choice farms of land, with one of which, I doubt not 'S' is familiar, having most excellent improvements (few better in the county) returned at twelve dollars per acre, and I would ask 'S,' if from his experience, they are set down at anything like their real value. If 'S' instead of putting himself in print, had called upon the committee, he would have been furnished with such information, as proved 'clearly' to them, that the evils stated in their report existed, and were made with the intention of wounding the feelings of any person; and cannot understand why the feelings of any person should be wounded, unless that their feelings were located in their *breeches pockets.* The distinguished honor conferred on the committee by his notice and the future 'convenient' assurance of 'S' will be reciprocated on behalf of the citizens generally.

BY ONE OF THE COMMITTEE.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

STEUBENVILLE RAILROAD.

At an adjourned meeting of the friends of the Pittsburgh and Steubenville Railroad, held at the house of Mr James Vincent, in Noblestown, on Thursday, the 18th inst, EBENEZER BOYLES was called to the chair, and Isaac Walker, Jr., appointed Secretary.

Mr. Samuel Livingston, of Florence, having stated the object of the meeting, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That a Committee of seven be appointed to procure subscribers to petition the Legislature of Pennsylvania to grant a charter for said road.

On motion, Wm Sturgeon, G S Meade, Ebenezer Boyles, Isaac Walker, Jr, John R M'Ewin, Francis Jamison, Alexander M'Kee, (M'Kee's Rocks) Wm Ewing, Jas M'Donald, were appointed said Committee.

On motion,

Resolved, That when this meeting adjourn it adjourns to meet at the house of James M'Donald, on the Steubenville road, on Thursday, 25th inst.

On motion, Isaac Walker, Jr, Wm Sturgeon, W Ewing, J R McEwin, Ebenezer Boyles, were appointed to attend said meeting.

Edward M'Donald, Esq. and Wm Sturgeon were appointed a Committee of Correspondence.

On motion, Pittsburgh papers favorable to said road will please publish the proceedings of this meeting.

On motion, adjourned

EBENEZER BOYLES, Pres't.

ISAAC WALKER, Sec'y.

THE CHOLERA AT THE SOUTH.—New Orleans papers, from the 9th to the 9th inclusive, have been received. The following comprises the interments of the four days received, in New orleans, of cholera and other diseases

	Cholera.	Other Diseases.	Total.
January 5	23	21	44
" 6	27	25	52
" 7	24	23	47
" 8	26	23	49

The New Orleans Delta, of the 9th inst., says

'As all panic has now ceased in relation to the cholera in our city, and the opinion of the board of health, as to the disease ceasing to be epidemic, is have deemed it no longer necessary to furnish a daily list of interments taken from the cemeteries."

In looking over the lists of deaths, we find that most of them are foreigners, just arrived on board of ships at that port.

At Mobile, on the 4th inst. there were two new cases of cholera reported—one of which was in private practice. The Mobile Herald, of the 10th inst. says:

'It is said that the cholera is raging in some parts of the country. We heard a terrible story last night about Alabama. It is too dreadful to be repeated in any thing like questionable authority. Some people here are talking of establishing a quarantine on all the boats from the upper region of country.

'All the cholera that now exists in Mobile comes down the rivers, and we think, therefore, that this idea of a quarantine is not bad.'

LATER FROM BERMUDA.—The British steamship Dee, Capt. Allan, arrived on Monday at New York from Bermuda, whence she sailed on the 7th, with a small W. I. mail.

The cold has been most intense at Bermuda, but has not occasioned any suffering.

Mr. Mitchell was passing his time in hopeless captivity, and had been unwell for the week previous to the Dee's departure.

From St. Thomas there is no news. No American vessels in the port.

Letters have been received in Venezuela, confirming the capture of Maracaibo, by the Constitutional forces, and also giving the further news of the taking of the important port of Coro. It is expected that the General would shortly effect a landing on the coast of Venezuela, and his success is predicted as sure

The steamer Buena Vista, now in the service of Constitutional forces, had safely entered the lake of Maracaibo, and joined the fleet of General Paez.

The partisans of Monagas had spread a rumor in Puerto Cabello, that his fleet had required the fort of San Carlos to surrender within twenty-four hours, and that the commander of the fort had asked for 48 hours to deliberate. No credit whatever is given to this rumor.

FLOGGING IN THE NAVY.—GOV. SEWARD.—A meeting of the citizens of Auburn, New York, was held on the 9th inst., at which resolutions were adopted setting forth that the practice of flogging American seamen in the naval service and supplying them with liquors is inhuman and brutal, degrading the seamen, and dishonorable and disgraceful in our government, fraught with numerous evils to the service, the country and to morality. A note from Gov. Seward was read by the president, in which he says

'I am in favor of excluding intoxicating drinks from the navy, and the lash from every place. I feel quite assured that if the first could be excluded from the navy, the latter would cease to be required there."

The ball should be kept in motion until these evils are corrected, and the service raised to a much higher standard than it now is.

THE STORY started in the New York papers, that Gov. Marcy's son, an officer of the army in California, was turning every thing in the shape of supplies into gold, and had collected fifteen barrels of gold dust, which he had concealed in the earth until a vessel of war should take it off, is pronounced by the Union to be the idlest ever invented. It adds.

By the last letters which have been received from him, it appears that he was kept at Monterey, working night and day in discharge of his official duties; and in consequence of the gold mania, he was without a clerk or servant of any description; and that he had personally to keep his books, to do all the writing and all the menial services, such as making his own bed and sweeping his own room, depending for his cooking upon the naval store keeper at Monterey.

ANOTHER PROJECTED RAILROAD TO THE PACIFIC.—A new project for a railroad to the Pacific has been brought before Congress in the shape of a memorial from William Bayard & Co., of N. York, who proposes to construct a railroad from St. Louis to California, via the Rio Grande and the Gila rivers. The memorialists ask for a survey of the route by U. S. engineers, and the grant of a stripe of land of twenty five miles on each side of the road; they covenanting on their part to deposite in the treasury 5,000,000 in Government security, as a guaranty for the work, which they are to complete within eight years. They propose to sell the lands, in small proportions, to actual settlers, at government prices; to build the road of heavy iron; to carry army and naval stores free, and troops and sailors at one fourth the regular fare, which, they propose, shall not exceed one half the rate now charged on the Panama mail steamers.

SUICIDE OF A LEGISLATOR.—A member of the Alabama House of Representatives, Alfred Von Kleeck, Esq., committed suicide at Mobile on the 9th inst., by blowing his brains out. He was in easy circumstances, but had very poor health.

PLANK ROADS.

A project is on foot for the construction of a Plank Road from Pittsburgh, via Butler, Mercer, and Meadville, to Erie. The practicability of the plan is argued at length in an able article in the *Pittsburgh Gazette*, which we had filed for insertion, but have unfortunately mislaid. The practicability of the plan has been satisfactorily exhibited, while its *utility* is so obvious that any remarks upon that subject would be superfluous.

The time has now arrived when the people of this region must *act* in reference to the construction of a good and substantial thoroughfare or forever hold their peace, and be content with *corduroy* roads and *mud* Turnpikes. There is not, in our opinion, even a remote probability that a National Macadamized Road will be constructed to Erie.—This has been the favorite measure with our citizens, and they have spent no little time, trouble, and money, in a vain attempt to impress its importance upon the National Legislature. We now suggest that the idea of a National Road be at once abandoned, and that our attention and our energies be directed forthwith to the adoption of co-operative measures designed to secure the construction of the proposed Plank Road. The citizens of Erie are already moving in the matter, and we hope the citizens of our own county will immediately follow the example.

We regret that we mislaid the article from the Gazette, as we are obliged to write without data; our recollection is, however that the estimated cost, per mile, of the proposed road is $1,900—a less sum, we believe, than was required for the construction of our ordinary Turnpike roads.—Our object at present is merely to direct public attention to the matter, having before us no data for their information; we shall, however, inform ourselves fully and communicate to the public.—There is capital and enterprise enough among us to warrant us in assuring our sister counties that Butler will do her share in the proposed construction.

The above was in type for last week; but was crowded out by the Message of the Governor.—Since that time, we have procured the article referred to as mislaid, and it will be found in another column of to-days paper. We bespeak a careful perusal of the article, and think it cannot fail to convince every one of the practicability of the construction of Plank Roads through this region of country. The project is one that is entitled to serious consideration, and worthy the most energetic co-operation of our citizens. We observe that meetings in reference to this subject have been held at various points along the proposed route, and resolutions adopted strongly approving of the suggested improvement. May we not hope that measures will be immediately adopted in this county for calling a public meeting and sending forth an expression of the sentiments of our citizens in regard to a measure so intimately connected with their prosperity?—*Butler Whig*

Hon. James Cooper.

This distinguished gentlemen was elected, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., a Senator of the United States for the term of six years from the 4th of March next. The election of Mr. Cooper will be hailed with unmingled satisfaction by the Whigs of the Commonwealth, and be regarded as a merited tribute to his great abilities as well as his untiring and patriotic devotion to the Whig cause Pennsylvania may well be proud of such a representative. In the National Senate Chamber, our old and injured Commonwealth will now have a voice that will command respect, and guaranty the protection of her interests and rights, which, for a series of years, have been disregarded and trampled upon by men whom she has honored by this high station. Mr. Cooper will prove himself a worthy representative of Pennsylvania, and well fitted by nature and education to be an associate of the noble Whig spirits in the Senate, to whom the country is proud to acknowledge its deep indebtedness for their patriotic labors in behalf of the public weal.—*Butler Whig.*

STATE SENATOR.—We notice with very high gratification that Robert L. Johnston, Esq., of Ebensburgh, is likely to be the Whig candidate for Senator in place of Wm. F. Johnston, elected Governor. We know Mr. Johnston well, and take pleasure in saying that he is one of the most sterling Whigs in all the land—one of the real *Johnson* stamp—and as clever a fellow as old 'Bill' himself. He would make an excellent Senator, and we hope to see him triumphantly elected. But it will require a strenuous effort on the part of the Whigs to carry the election, and be the candidate whomsoever he may be, nothing short of entire cordiality and unanimity, coupled with spirited and energetic action will guarantee success. Let the Whigs of the District bear in mind that the eyes of their brethren throughout the entire commonwealth are upon them and that the most lively interest is every where felt in maintaining the vantage ground so nobly gained when 'Governor Bill' was the candidate.—*Hollidaysburgh Reg.*

ANOTHER GOVERNMENT EXPRESS FOR CALIFORNIA.—Capt. Meade U. S. Navy, proceeds to California in a few days with one hundred picked men. He goes by way of Mexico, with a special protection from the Mexican Minister. Capt. Meade's orders are to proceed to all possible despatch and on his arrival will take command of the U. S. steamer Edith, and act in protecting the interests of the citizens and government of the United States at San Francisco. We understand that the steamer Edith will be used as a depository for gold, in the absence of a mint at California. Every packet leaving San Francisco for Panama will take from the Edith whatever gold she may have on board, and trust it will be conveyed to Chagres and thence to New Orleans with all possible rapidity.—*Philad. Ledger.*

APPOINTMENT OF MR. DARRAGH.—Gov. Johnston has not done a public act, so far as we have observed, since entering upon the duties of the office of Governor that has been unfavorably received by the people, but among them all it will seem not one has been more generally acceptable than the appointment of Cornelius Darragh to the office of Attorney General of the Commonwealth. Mr. Darragh is represented to be, and no doubt is, a sound lawyer, and a very amiable and worthy man, and we all know him to be a sterling Whig. —*Hollidaysburgh Register.*

THE SHIP GREY EAGLE, built at this port, has not yet got off from Philadelphia, for California. She is probably sail on Thursday. Her manifest is 12 feet long and the cargo is valued at $120,000, and she has 35 passengers. The brig Osceola was also detained until yesterday. She has 85 passengers, making 120 in the two vessels. Her manifest of goods shipped is seven feet long, and their value is estimated at $70,000. Her passengers are mostly Philadelphians, and a number of them go with the intention of carrying on the mercantile business, two carrying frames for houses. Upon the deck are two skiffs to start off on a rowing excursion up the Sacramento.—*Bull. Sun.*

CATLIN THE ARTIST.—We have been shown a letter from GEORGE CATLIN, Esq., the artist, who is now in London, stating that the Russian Government has made a proposal to him for the purchase of his *Indian Collection*, and the price specified by the artist is $75,000. The same collection, however, having been offered to the Congress of the United States for $50,000, Mr. Catlin does not feel at liberty to accept the foreign proposal until he has received an answer from his own Government.—*Nat. Intel.*

THE LAHORE DIAMOND.—The Delhi Gazette exults over the capture of the famous Lahore, East India, diamond, which, it says, is the most valuable in the world, and will soon be transmitted to England, as an appendage to the English crown. The pretext for this seizure is an alleged act of treachery on the part of the sovereign of Lahore, a fatherless Indian, toward the English government.

AFFAIRS.—The New York Tribune learns from Capt. Thompson, of the brig L. W. Armstrong, from Aux Cayes, Dec 25, that the difficulty at that place was settled, everything was quiet. A new constitution had been formed.

NEW LINE OF AMERICAN STEAMERS.—James Brown, E. K. Collins, E. Riggs and W. S. Wetmore have announced their intention to apply to the Legislature of New York, at the present session, for an act to incorporate themselves and others under the the name of the "United States Mail Streamers Company, New York and Liverpool Line," with a capital of $2,000,000, for the purpose of running a line of steamers between New York and Liverpool.

MR. CLIFFORD.—We learn from the Pensacola Gazette, that Mr. Clifford, our Minister to Mexico, and family, arrived in that city on the 3d instant, in the revenue cutter Walcott, from Mobile. Mr. Clifford arrived with the expectation of taking passage on one of our national vessels, but there was not one in port. A salute of twenty-one guns was fired by the yard, and returned by the Walcott.

As an illustration of the eccentricities of the cholera, the New Orleans Commercial Times of a late date says that, during the dreadful visit of the cholera in Cuba, on its former appearance, there were official records of 16,000 interments at Havana in ten weeks. One day the number amounted to 900, when a change in the wind and temperature took place, and the following day the deaths were only 200, and the next day after the disease had entirely disappeared, and never returned.

VENERABLE EDITOR DEAD.—The Lancaster (Pa) Examiner announces the death of Col. Christian Jacob Hutter, at Easton, Pa., aged 80. He founded several papers in Lancaster, Allentown, and Easton, continuing as an editor and contributor from 1798 down to 1835. He was for several years a representative in the Legislature also.

GEN. TAYLOR, in his letter to the President, resigning the office of major general in the army, uses the following characteristic language: "I have been called by the people to serve in another capacity, and therefore resign this present commission."

TEXAS.—Letters from the interior of the State speak of the rapid growth of the population, the increasing cultivation of the soil, and the springing up of peaceful, prosperous villages, where a few years ago the prairie dog roved uninterrupted.

Local Matters.

REPORTED FOR THE PITTSBURGH DAILY GAZETTE.

American Colonization.

A Colonization meeting was convened on Thursday evening, in the Second Presbyterian Church, Fifth Street. Gen. Orr was called to the Chair. There was a tolerably good attendance.—Judge Lowrie was nominated as one of the Vice Presidents.

Mr. Riddle was appointed Secretary of the meeting.

The Rev. Mr. Bryan opened the meeting, by invoking the blessing of God on their proceedings.

Rev. William Hall was then introduced to the meeting. He said the object of the Colonization Society was well known. It was designed to form a Republic of free people of color. It was not meant to force people there, but to aid all who might feel disposed to go. The Colonization Society had nothing to do with Slavery. They did not deem it their duty to attack existing institutions; but the slave trade could only be effectually put down by colonization on the Western Coast of Africa. Besides forming a republican government in Liberia, the society designed to Christianize the African. Every intelligent colonist was, *de facto*, a missionary, publishing the gospel to his fellow men, and by aiding this society, the public not only promote political but religious liberty.

In regard to this society, the speaker was of opinion that cotton could and would be raised by the colonists at half the price it now costs, and this would effectually, in time, destroy slavery and all its institutions. The object of the meeting was to excite an interest in the cause of freedom—and it was the best we could do to help both, by contributions and prayers.

Mr. McCandless was next called upon to address the meeting. He confessed his inability to enter into the subject with that degree of energy which he would wish, but would move a resolution, which might form the nucleus of a conversation—at least he could not make a speech. The resolution was—that the Colonization enterprize was one which addressed itself to the patronage and philanthropy of every American citizen. He contended, that it was unfair to tax the colored man, as was done in Pennsylvania—denying him, at the same time, the privilege of voting. This was contrary to the very principles on which our constitution was founded. Taxation and representation were corequal, and the only remedy of slavery he believed was this system of colonization. For that reason, he supported it with all his heart.

Mr. Albert could not understand how there was any patriotism in sending the colored man out of the country in which he was born. The colonization society presumed that the black man was not as good as the white man. This was a sinful prejudice, and ought to be discouraged. It was not according to Christianity to drive a man from his country, whether white or black.—Henry Clay was president of the society, and, being a slave holder, had no sympathies with freedom. The fact of his being the president of this society was sufficient to stamp its character. The speaker broke off in his address very abruptly, and it appeared to be difficult for the meeting to understand his object.

The Hon. Walter Forward next addressed the meeting. He had been a friend to the colonization scheme since its commencement. There had been hostility to the enterprise on grounds which he believed to be entirely fallacious. He knew of no one, either in the north or the south, that pretended to advocate slavery as a blessing. It was the colonization society that first awakened the attention of the public to the subject of Slavery;—and that society had done more in behalf of the slave than had been done by all other classes of society. Mr. Forward delivered a very eloquent address—contending that the colonization society was the only means by which slavery could be extirpated from the United States.

Mr McCandless again briefly addressed the meeting, after which a motion was made and carried, that the meeting adjourn *sine die.*

Dr. Howitz's Hebrew Lectures.

Dr. Howitz has given his course of Lectures in Hebrew to the students of the Western Theological Seminary, and it is simple justice to say, that he has amply fulfilled all that he promised. His familiarity with the Hebrew tongue, and its cognate languages, and with the philosophy of language in general, is extraordinary, beyond all question, and needs no testimonial from me, nor any individual friend, so long and so fully has it been acknowledged by the country at large. His labor in the class room is eminently faithful and assiduous, and, with all, exceedingly vivacious—never dull, and never betraying the ennui or indifference with which eminent scholars often impart the mere elements of language.

ALEX. T. McGILL,
Professor in the Western Theological Seminary, Allegheny City, Pennsylvania.

January 15th, 1849.

TO DR. HOWITZ:

Dear Sir:—Having attended your course of lectures on the Hebrew language, we think it due to you to express our entire approbation of your mode of instruction, and our high estimate of your qualifications as a teacher. Your perfect acquaintance with the Hebrew, and long experience as a teacher, have enabled you to simplify the grammar of the language, and to adapt it to the early apprehension of the student, so that he passes, with comparative ease, from lesson to lesson; and, with very moderate application on his part, possesses at the end of your course of thirty lectures, such a knowledge of the language, as enables him to read and translate it, with the help of a Lexicon. We are of opinion that it would be difficult, perhaps impossible, to devise another system, by which so much knowledge of the Hebrew could be communicated in so short a time. The memory of the student is not unnecessarily burdened; but practising at each lecture what was written by him at the preceding one, he acquires rapidly and with little effort, a familiarity with the principles and peculiarities of the language, and has at the conclusion of the course, a well digested, accurate, and eminently practical system of Grammar, for subsequent reference.

With sentiments of esteem for you personally, and great respect for your professional abilities, we subscribe ourselves, dear sir, Yours, &c.

Signed by.

J. KNOX,
W. HUNTER,
W. S. COURTNEY
J. M. GOSHORN.
P. PRIESTLY,
WM. WILSON.

Dr. J. Howitz will commence another course of lectures the first of next week provided the attendance of a sufficient number can be secured.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 15, 1849.

SENATE

Mr Small, from the joint committee to wait on the Governor elect, made a report setting forth the arrangements made for the inauguration of the Governor, at 12 o'clock to-morrow, which was laid on the table.

Mr Crabb, from the committee on banks to whom was referred the joint resolution offered by Mr. McCaslin on Friday last, in relation to an investigation into the affairs in those Banks asking to be rechartered, made a report unanimously recommending that each branch of the Legislature should act as it might deem fit.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, the further consideration of the bill was postponed till to morrow.

Bills in place.—By Mr Best, to erect a new county of parts of Luzerne, to be called Lackawanna.

By Mr Konigmacher, to equalize the currency of this Commonwealth.

By Mr Brawly, to continue the law graduating lands upon which money is due the Commonwealth.

Mr Lawrence submitted a joint resolution relative to slavery, which was laid on the table.

Mr Crabb read in place a supplement to the act relative to obligors and obligees. Also